

Surama Padhy; New Speaker



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Senior BJP lawmaker Surama Padhy was unanimously elected as new Speaker of the State Assembly.

Shrimati Padhy, a two-time MLA from the Ranpur in Nayagarh district, was the lone candidate for the post. She was elected unopposed as there was no other candidate filed nomination for the Speaker post.

Pro-tem Speaker Ranendra Pratap Swain announced her election and handed over the charge to her in the

special session of the Assembly.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Deputy Chief Ministers – KV Singh Deo & Pravati Patnaik, Leader of Opposition Naveen Patnaik, Congress MLA Taraprasad Bahinipi and other members of the House escorted the new Speaker to her chair. Shrimati Padhy is the second woman to become Speaker of the House after Pramila Mallick of BJD.

"I express my heartfelt gratitude to all for electing me as the

Speaker of this August House. I hail from a humble family and never thought of occupying such a prestigious post and responsibility. I am overwhelmed. It is our combined responsibility to maintain the dignity of this House. Therefore, I seek your cooperation. I will do my best to maintain neutrality with the cooperation of all," Shrimati Padhy said. The Chief Minister congratulated Surama Padhy on being elected as the Speaker of the 17th Odisha Legislative Assembly and expressed

hope that she would maintain the dignity of the house and run it with impartiality. Majhi further said, "We are all committed with dedication to serve the people of Odisha," and appealed to the members of the house to extend their cooperation and support to the Speaker and maintain the decorum and dignity of the House. Leader of Opposition Naveen Patnaik said, "I am sure that during your tenure as Speaker, you will uphold the dignity of this August House. I also hope that the members

will cooperate in the smooth functioning of the House."

A two-time MLA, Surama Padhy was first elected to the State Assembly from the Ranapur Assembly seat in the 2004 elections and served as the Minister of State for Cooperation from May 18, 2004, to March 9, 2009, in the BJD-BJP coalition government headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

A Master's degree holder in Home Science and a Law graduate, she joined the BJP in 1988 and served as the State BJP Mahila Morcha President from 1998 to 2000. She subsequently became the BJP Mahila Morcha National President for two years starting in 2002. The BJP, which formed the government in Odisha for the first time, has a clear majority of 78 MLAs and the support of three Independents in the 147-member House. The BJD has 51 members, while the Congress has 14 MLAs and the CPM has one member.

Odisha Governor, CM Majhi greet President Murmu on birthday



Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Odisha Governor Raghubar Das and Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Thursday extended their greetings to President Droupadi Murmu on her 66th birthday.

"May she be blessed with good health and fortitude as she continues to guide our nation with grace and wisdom," the governor said in a post on X.

The chief minister in a post on X extended his heartiest birthday greetings to the President, who is the pride and glory of Odia people. He also prayed before Lord Jagannath for her long and healthy

life.

"Heartiest birthday greetings and congratulations to Honourable President Droupadi Murmu. Wishing you a healthy and long life," former chief minister Naveen Patnaik said in a social media post.

"Jai Jagannath! Today I visited the Jagannath temple in Delhi and prayed for the welfare

of all countrymen and that our country continues to set new standards of progress," the president's office said in a post on X, in Hindi, along with pictures of the visit. Murmu was born on this day in 1958 at Upabeda village in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. She was sworn in as the 15th President of India July 25, 2022.

Schools will revert to usual timings from June 22: Odisha govt



Bhubaneswar(KCN):

All schools in the state will revert to their regular timetable from June 22, Odisha government said Thursday.

In a statement, the School and Mass Education department said schools will operate from 6:30am to 10:30am

June 21 due to hot and humid weather conditions forecast by the IMD.

Most schools reopened June 17 and 18 after summer vacations. School and Mass Education Minister Nityananda Gond had earlier said decisions

regarding school reopening and timings would be reassessed

based on prevailing weather conditions.

He emphasised that district collectors were instructed to decide on school reopening or schedule changes for classes 1 to 12 in government, aided, and private schools, considering local weather conditions.

"Morning classes can be conducted from 6.30 am to 10.30 am if weather

is favourable," he had told reporters. The India Meteorological Department forecast continued hot and humid weather in some districts until June 21, with a gradual decrease in day temperatures expected by 2-3 degrees Celsius over the next three days as the southwest monsoon advances across more parts of the state.

Another diphtheria patient dies in Odisha; toll rises to 6



Bhubaneswar(KCN):

The diphtheria death toll in Odisha rose to six with one more patient

undergoing treatment at MKCG Medical College and Hospital in

Berhampur succumbing to the disease, an official said Thursday. Earlier five people have died due to diphtheria in Rayagada district over the last one week. Of them, four died at home and one in the hospital, health officials said.

Reddy Clears Coal Hurdle



New Delhi(KCN): G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister for Coal and Mines held a meeting with the officials of Coal Ministry to review the management of captive and commercial coal blocks. The Minister has stressed upon close coordination with all the stakeholders including State Government and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for early resolution of the issues to ensure faster clearance so as to operationalize the allotted coal blocks in least possible time. Highlighting the need for higher production of coal to reduce imports so as to achieve 'Aatmanirbarta in coal' Minister directed that necessary institutional strengthening may be supported at state level. All coal block alloctees

should be facilitated on regular basis so that coal mines can be operationalized at the earliest.

So far, Ministry of Coal has allocated/auctioned 161 coal mines with peak rated capacity of 575 MT. Out of which 58 mines have received mine opening permission and 54 mines are into operation. Last year these mines have produced total of 147 MT of coal, which constitutes 15% of the total coal production of the country.

The captive/commercial coal miners are primarily large sized consumers including NTPC, West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBDCL), Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Karnataka Power

Corporation Limited (KPCL), Vedanta, Hindalco, Adani, etc. Therefore, higher production by these companies would ease out pressure on the demand of coal from CIL which will have cascading effect on the Auction prices of coal. With higher production from captive/commercial coal blocks, the premium on auction will come down. Therefore, coal would be made available at cheaper rates to the different consumers in the country. This will help in checking the

inflation as coal is the primary source of energy not only for power but all other sectors including steel, fertilizers, aluminum, cement, paper, sponge iron etc.

Shri Reddy further directed that the detailed exploration should be carried out on the faster pace, more and more blocks should be offered in the subsequent rounds of auctions, so that more and more investors participate. It is highlighted that in coal block auctions the technical eligibility does not require any prior experience of coal mining. Any company who has financial strength can participate, as the coal mines are now being auctioned for the purpose of sale of coal, which is without end use restriction. Any

investor can participate in the coal mine auctions and coal produced in such mining is free to be sold in the open market for any purpose including for export.

Aligning with the vision of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to achieve energy independence by 2047 and Aatmanirbarta in coal, the Minister has advised all stakeholders to work hard and to achieve at least 175 Mt coal production during this year from the captive/commercial coal blocks showing a growth of 19 %.

Union Minister Shri Reddy will launch the 10th round of commercial auction of coal mines tomorrow, 21st June 2024, setting tone for faster pace for coal block auction and operationalization.

"Forming High-Level Committee, Won't Spare Anyone": Minister On Exams Row



New Delhi(KCN): Under fire for the irregularities in NEET and the cancellation of the UGC-NET exam, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has said that a high-level committee will be formed and that the interest of the students is the first priority of the government.

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Over 30 lakh candidates appeared for the exams, both of which were conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA), and the minister's comments came on a day when students held protests in various parts of the country, including outside Mr Pradhan's home in Delhi. Some were also detained.

Patna(KCN): Amid the massive row surrounding the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test, NDTV has accessed scorecards of four Bihar students who allegedly accessed the question paper before the exam. Two of these scorecards tell quite a story.

Anurag Yadav, who is among the four people arrested in the alleged paper leak case, has told the police that he was prepping for the medical entrance test in coaching hub Kota when his uncle

Sikandar -- also arrested -- asked him to return to Samastipur and assured that the exam is "sorted". He has said that he received some questions and their answers the night before the exam. These questions featured in the actual paper the next day, he has said.

Anurag's scorecard issued by the National Testing Agency shows that he has scored 185 marks out of 720. His total percentile score is 54.84 (rounded off). But a look at his scores in

individual subjects throws up a bizarre mismatch of numbers. Anurag scored 85.8 percentile in Physics and 51 percentile in Biology. But his chemistry is as low as 5 percentile. With the 22-year-old admitting that he got the questions a day before the exam, these scores suggest that he did not get enough time to memorise the chemistry answers. Anurag's all-India rank is mentioned as 10,51,525 and his category rank as an OBC candidate is 4,67,824.

Sikandar Yadav has told the police that he got four students in touch with Amit Anand and Nitish Kumar -- also arrested -- for the question papers. Amit and Nitish, he has said, asked for ? 30-32 lakh rupees per student. "I told them I have four students taking the test. Out of greed, I told each student that they need to pay ? 40 lakh for the question paper," he has reportedly told police. While Anurag has been arrested, the other three have been questioned.

85 In Physics, 5 In Chemistry: Scorecard Of NEET Aspirant Arrested In Leak Case

It is said PM stopped Ukraine-Russia war but is unable to stop exam paper leaks: Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi(KCN): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Thursday launched a scathing attack on the Centre over the alleged irregularities in NEET and cancellation of UGC-NET and said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has 'psychologically collapsed' post-elections and will struggle to run a government like this. Addressing a press conference here, he also said the main reason for paper leaks is that educational institutions have been captured by the BJP and its parent

organisation RSS and paper leaks will not stop unless that is reversed. Gandhi said the basic concept of Modi has been demolished by the opposition in the just-concluded elections and had it been a prime minister like Atal Bihari Vajpayee or Manmohan Singh, who believed in humility, the government would have survived.

Noting that there are interesting times ahead, he said Modi's top priority now is to get his Speaker in Parliament and is not bothered about NEET, because of which lakhs of

students are suffering. "We have a government now and a prime minister who will find it very difficult to function. The prime minister is physiologically broken. He has collapsed psychologically. He will struggle to run a government like this," Gandhi claimed. "The silence is because the prime minister is crippled. Right now the prime minister's agenda is the Speaker. He is not bothered about the NEET. He wants that his government should scrape through and he gets his Speaker's post. That's where his mind is

right now," he said. Gandhi said Modi's idea to run a government is to generate fear and frighten people and to make people not speak, but now people are not



scared of him. He said the main reason for the paper leaks is that educational institutions have been captured by BJP and its parent organisation RSS and paper leaks

will not stop unless that is reversed.

Taking a dig at Modi, Gandhi said, "It was being said Prime Minister Modi stopped the Ukraine-Russia War and Israel-Gaza

war, but he is either not able to stop exam paper leaks or doesn't want to."

He also said that the Opposition will raise the exam paper leaks issue in Parliament, asserting it will pressure the government to take action and bring the guilty to book.

A massive row has erupted on the medical entrance exam NEET over alleged irregularities, with the issue now before the Supreme Court. Wednesday night, the Union education ministry ordered the cancellation of the UGC-NET following inputs that the exam's integrity may have been compromised and handed over the matter to the CBI for an investigation.

All India Bank Officers' Confederation Vows to Protect Public Sector Banks at 13th Triennial Meeting

Kolkata, (ABHIJIT SETH): The All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC), West Bengal State Unit, recently held its 13th Triennial State Council Meeting at the Derozio Hall, Presidency University, Kolkata. The event underscored the union's unwavering commitment to protecting Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). In his inaugural address, Shri Rupam Roy, General Secretary of AIBOC, delivered a fervent critique of the government's policies, which he claimed were detrimental to the interests of PSBs and the common man. He congratulated the West Bengal State Unit for its robust participation and praised it as one of the most dynamic affiliates of AIBOC, leading the charge in advocating for the common man and the banking industry. Public Sector Banks, Shri Roy emphasized, have been instrumental in

implementing government schemes such as Jan Dhan Yojana, Mudra loans, PM Svanidhi Yojana, and Aadhar Seeding. These banks have significantly contributed to strengthening the economy and ensuring the safety and security of citizens' hard-earned money. Despite their crucial role, PSBs are being targeted by the government for privatization, a move vehemently opposed by AIBOC. Shri Shubhajyoti Chattopadhyay, Secretary of AIBOC (West Bengal State Unit), welcomed the distinguished guests, dignitaries, and members, acknowledging their widespread attendance. In his address, he criticized the government for its handling of inflation, high unemployment, and income inequality. He highlighted the post-nationalization era of PSBs, which brought financial soundness and

stability to the economy, providing affordable loans to farmers, students, and small traders. Shri Chattopadhyay called for unity among all sections of society to resist the privatization of PSBs. Shri Sanjay Das, former Secretary of AIBOC (West Bengal State Unit), commended the efforts of the State Unit in the Bank Officers' movement and denounced the Central Government's policies leading to unemployment and income disparity. He emphasized the need for civil resistance against the privatization of Public Sector Undertakings. Shri Srijan Paul, General Secretary of the All India Regional Rural Bank Officers' Federation, addressed the specific challenges faced by RRBs. Shri Sudip Dutta, Convenor of UFBU, West Bengal, stressed the importance of collective action against the government's privatization initiatives. The meeting was also graced by the presence of former State Secretaries

Blackbucks Back In Balukhand



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Wildlife, Susanta Nanda has unveiled another wildlife conservation program in the State.

In a major conservation move, the State Wildlife Organization in the Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change has reintroduced rare blackbuck in Puri's Balukhand-Konark wildlife sanctuary where the species once thrived.

"Puri Balukhand Sanctuary will be home to BlackBucks again. It had gone

locally extinct from the area for the last two decades. As part of the species recovery programme, Blackbucks are being re-wilded from Nandankanan & translocated from wild from over populated Ganjam landscapes," Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Wildlife, Susanta Nanda said on X. "As per the species recovery programme of the Union government and the State government, effort is being made to recover the locally extinct animals. After getting permission from the Union

government, we have transferred some Blackbucks from Nandankanan Zoo to the Balukhand Wildlife Sanctuary," he added. According to officials, six female and four male Blackbucks were reintroduced in the wildlife sanctuary. The animals will be kept in quarantine inside a special enclosure in the 30-hectare forest area.

After being kept in quarantine for a month, the health conditions of the animals will be examined. A special team will keep a watch on the blackbucks during the quarantine period, the officials said. The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has

approved the blackbuck introduction programme. The Forest Department will introduce a total of 25 blackbucks from Nandankanan and six from Betonati in Balukhand in a phased manner.

The Bhetnoi landscape in Ganjam holds the state's single population of the schedule-I animal that prefers plain land with ample water sources. In last year's count, the blackbuck population in the district stood at 7,743. Due to very severe cyclone, Phailin the blackbuck population completely vanished from the Balukhand division.

Apart from natural calamities, construction activities near the habitat, depletion of meadow, hunting by stray dogs, poaching and road accidents led to the extinction of blackbucks.



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'Kakuda': Sonakshi Sinha set to venture into horror-comedy with upcoming film

Sonakshi Sinha will star in the upcoming horror-comedy 'Kakuda,' directed by Aditya Sarpotdar and produced by RSVP. The film will also feature the likes of Ritesh Deshmukh and Saqib Saleem.

Ritesh Deshmukh and Saqib Saleem will also play pivotal roles in the film.

Sonakshi Sinha is all set to venture into the horror-comedy genre with 'Kakuda'. Produced by RSVP and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Aditya Sarpotdar, the film promises a laughter riot with a twist of fear. Along with Sonakshi, the film will also feature Ritesh Deshmukh and Saqib Saleem, and is set to premiere soon on

ZEE5. Set in the village of Ratodi in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura district, 'Kakuda' revolves around a peculiar ritual that has plagued the village for years. Each house in Ratodi has two similar-looking doors—one normal-sized and one smaller. Every Tuesday at 7:15 pm sharp, the smaller door must be opened, or the wrath of Kakuda will be unleashed upon the man of the house.

But the questions loom—Who is Kakuda? Why does he punish the men in the village? How will the villagers break free from this curse? As the tagline warns, "Ab Mard Khatre Me Hai!" (Now the men are in danger).



Ronnie Screwvala, founder of RSVP, expressed his excitement, saying, "We are thrilled to partner with ZEE5, India's leading streaming platform, for our unique horror-comedy 'Kakuda' starring Ritesh Deshmukh, Sonakshi Sinha, and Saqib Saleem. We are confident that 'Kakuda' will resonate with Indian audiences,

delicate balance between fear and laughter. It's a challenging task to make viewers simultaneously scared and amused, but with 'Kakuda,' I am confident that we have hit the right chord yet again." He added, "I am thrilled to have worked with an exceptionally talented cast, including Ritesh Deshmukh, Sonakshi Sinha, and Saqib Saleem. Director Aditya Sarpotdar shared his enthusiasm for the project. He said, "As a filmmaker and a fan of the horror-comedy genre, I find it incredibly fascinating to explore the

'Kakuda' hasn't been announced yet.

'Fateh' Actor Sonu Sood Receives Deepfake Video From Follower; Urges Fans To Be Aware Of Cyber Criminals



Actor Sonu Sood was in for a rude shock when he received a screen recording of a deep fake video call from a follower recently. In the deep fake video call featuring Sood, the impersonator interacted with a family in need of funds for medical treatment, assuring them of financial assistance. The actor-philanthropist took to his social media handle to voice his concerns about cybercrime.

The post read: "My film FATEH is inspired by real life incidents involving Deep Fake and fake loan apps. This is the latest incident where someone tried to extract money from an unsuspecting family, by chatting with them through video call pretending to be Sonu Sood. Many innocent individuals fall into this trap. I request all of you to be vigilant if you receive such calls. #fateh"

Interestingly, inspired from such events, the actor turned writer and director for his new thriller, Fateh. Sood wrote the story after one and a half years of research and interviews with victims, cybercrime police officers, and ethical hackers. He essays the role of a tech-savvy investigation agent who is on a mission to protect the country from cybercrime.

Grammys Reduce Nominees From 10 to 8 In Top 4 Award Categories

Grammys has announced to reduce the number of nominees in four of its award categories - Album, Song, Record of the Year, and Best New Artist - from 10 to 8, Variety reported on Friday. An announcement in this regard was made after the Recording Academy updated its rules and guidelines following its semiannual board of trustees meeting. The number of nominees for those categories was increased from eight to ten in November 2021, just before the nominees for 2022 were announced -- a surprising and perplexing turn of events, given that such changes usually occur after the annual board meetings, Variety reported. While three new award categories were announced earlier this week, the reduction in the number of nominees in four award categories was announced on Friday. An Artificial Intelligence (AI)-related rule was also introduced, effectively stating that only human creators are eligible for awards; however, as with all things AI, the vast possibilities that the technology makes possible in this still-developing area necessitate an extensive series of caveats, Variety further reported. While Recording Academy CEO Harvey Mason Jr. stated at the time that the change was "an incredible opportunity for us to honour more artists and shine a light on more great music, and potentially offer a greater chance for more genres of music to be honoured", some speculated that it was done to ensure Taylor Swift received a best new album nomination for her album 'Evermore' and thus increase the chance that she would appear on the show and boost its rating, as reported by Variety.



The upcoming comedy film 'Wild Wild Punjab', starring Patralekhaa, Varun Sharma, and Jassie Gill, has locked in its release date. The film is set to debut on

OTT on July 10. The film also stars Sunny Singh, Manjot Singh, and Ishita Raj. The central theme of the film revolves around the idea that

friendship has the power to heal heartbreaks, making it a film targeted at all those with broken hearts. 'Wild Wild Punjab'

Aayush Sharma Shares BTS Video Of His Hardcore Workout On The Streets Of Azerbaijan



Having recently wrapped the Azerbaijan shoot schedule of his upcoming film AS04, Aayush Sharma shared a throwback video of his last-minute grind to ace the perfect body shot physique to shoot a shirtless scene.

Aayush recently announced the wrap of his straining schedule packed with action in Azerbaijan, which also included a body shot flaunting his washboard abs and toned muscles. The actor shared a video presenting the grind needed minutes before the main shot, to define the abs and muscles more prominently. Ever since his jaw-dropping transformation from the lean, guy-next-door look from his debut film to the beefed up, toned,

physique with washboard abs for Antim: The Final Truth, Aayush Sharma has bagged his permanent spot amongst the fittest actors of the business. Further surprising everyone with his muscular build, Aayush Sharma regularly treated his

fans and followers with glimpses into his rigorous workout routine as he gears for his upcoming film AS04. Launching debutante Sushri Mishra with AS04, Aayush Sharma also roped in veteran South Indian actor Jagapathi Babu for the film.

Produced by KK Radhamohan, under the banner of Srisathyasai Arts, the yet untitled action entertainer AS04 stars Aayush Sharma as the lead, co-starring debutante Sushri Mishra. Directed by Katyayan Shivpuri, the film is slated for release in 2023.

Yoga: Nurturing a Brighter, Healthier and Peaceful Tomorrow



In recent decades, the practice of yoga has transcended its origins in ancient India to become a global phenomenon celebrated for its holistic approach to health and well-being. As we mark International Day of Yoga in 2024, it is an opportune moment to delve into how the philosophy of yoga can contribute to building healthier and more peaceful societies, with a focus on India's pivotal role in promoting these ideals worldwide.

Yoga, often misunderstood as merely a set of physical postures, encompasses a comprehensive system of practices that integrate the body, mind, and spirit. Rooted in ancient texts like the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, yoga emphasizes ethical conduct (yamas and niyamas), breath control (pranayama), meditation (dhyana), and ultimately, self-realization (samadhi). These principles not only enhance physical health but also promote mental clarity, emotional stability, and spiritual growth.

Scientific research supports the myriad health benefits of yoga. Studies have demonstrated its efficacy in reducing stress, anxiety, and depression, while improving cardiovascular health, flexibility, and immune function. For instance, research published in the International Journal of Yoga highlights yoga's ability to lower cortisol levels and mitigate stress responses. Such findings underscore yoga's potential as a preventive healthcare tool in combating modern-day ailments. A 2020 study published in Frontiers in Psychiatry found that yoga significantly reduces symptoms of anxiety, depression, and stress, leading to its adoption in mental health treatment protocols worldwide. Another meta-analysis published in Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine found that yoga interventions were effective in improving symptoms of depression and anxiety across diverse populations.

Beyond individual health benefits, the philosophy of yoga fosters qualities essential for building a peaceful society. By encouraging compassion, empathy, and non-violence (ahimsa) towards oneself and others, yoga promotes harmonious relationships and social cohesion. In a world rife with conflicts and divisions, the principles of

yoga offer a pathway to transcending differences and embracing unity amidst diversity. Mahatma Gandhi, one of India's most revered leaders, exemplified the principles of ahimsa and satya (truthfulness) in his advocacy for non-violent resistance. His philosophy of "ahimsa paramo dharma" (non-violence is the highest duty) resonates deeply with the foundational teachings of yoga. Gandhi's legacy serves as a testament to the transformative power of yoga in fostering social justice, equality, and peaceful coexistence.

India, as the birthplace of yoga, holds a unique responsibility in disseminating its teachings globally. Recognizing the universal appeal and relevance of yoga, the United Nations declared June 21st as International Day of Yoga in 2014, with overwhelming support from member states. This annual observance has since grown into a global celebration, bringing together millions of people from diverse cultures and backgrounds. India's proactive role in promoting yoga on the world stage underscores its commitment to fostering global health and well-being. The government of India, through initiatives such as the Ministry of Ayush and the International Day of Yoga, has spearheaded efforts to popularize yoga as a tool for preventive healthcare and holistic

wellness. By organizing mass yoga sessions, workshops, and educational programs, India continues to inspire individuals and communities worldwide to embrace yoga as a way of life.

The global adoption of yoga is reflected in staggering statistics. Approximately 300 million people practice yoga worldwide. In 2015, India set a Guinness World Record for the largest yoga class, with 35,985 participants performing yoga together on the International Day of Yoga in New Delhi. In the United States, over 55 million individuals practice yoga, a significant increase from 20.4 million in 2012. India, as the birthplace of yoga, has around 260 million practitioners, constituting 20% of its population. The global yoga market was valued at approximately \$80 billion in 2020, projected to reach over \$215 billion by 2025. The number of yoga studios and online classes has

surged, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, contributing to this growth. Yoga's integration into healthcare and wellness programs is increasing. In the United States, around 9.5% of adults practice yoga, with many healthcare providers recommending it for conditions such as hypertension, anxiety, and chronic pain. The UK's National Health Service includes yoga in its recommendations for mental health and well-being. Originating in ancient India, yoga is deeply rooted in Hinduism and other spiritual traditions. Its spread globally has sometimes resulted in cultural appropriation, where aspects of yoga are used without understanding or respect for their cultural significance. This can dilute yoga's authenticity and spiritual essence. Unlike regulated healthcare professions, yoga teaching lacks standardized credentials or licensing requirements globally. This absence of regulation means anyone can teach yoga without proper training, potentially compromising the safety

contemporary world. The mainstream popularity of yoga has led to its commercialization, with many studios and brands focusing more on physical postures (asanas) rather than its deeper spiritual and philosophical aspects. This trend risks reducing yoga to a marketable fitness system rather than a holistic system for well-being. Originating in ancient India, yoga is deeply rooted in Hinduism and other spiritual traditions. Its spread globally has sometimes resulted in cultural appropriation, where aspects of yoga are used without understanding or respect for their cultural significance. This can dilute yoga's authenticity and spiritual essence. Unlike regulated healthcare professions, yoga teaching lacks standardized credentials or licensing requirements globally. This absence of regulation means anyone can teach yoga without proper training, potentially compromising the safety

and effectiveness of yoga practice. As yoga adapts to modern contexts, there is a risk of losing the integrity of its traditional teachings. Emphasis on physical fitness and quick results may overshadow deeper philosophical aspects like mindfulness and ethical conduct, essential to yoga's holistic approach. The production and disposal of yoga mats, clothing, and props contribute to environmental issues. Many yoga products are made from synthetic materials, highlighting the need for sustainable practices and eco-friendly alternatives in yoga communities. Despite proven benefits in managing chronic conditions, yoga's integration into mainstream healthcare systems remains limited. Collaboration between yoga professionals and healthcare providers is essential to validate and integrate yoga as a complementary therapy. With yoga's evolution and adaptation to diverse cultures, preserving its authenticity and respecting its origins are crucial. Practitioners and teachers must educate themselves about yoga's cultural roots and uphold its traditional teachings with integrity and respect.

As we commemorate World Yoga Day in 2024, let us reaffirm our commitment to harnessing the philosophy of yoga for building a healthier and more peaceful society. India's role as Viswaguru, or world teacher, extends beyond promoting physical well-being to nurturing the spiritual and emotional health of humanity. By embracing the timeless wisdom of yoga, we can cultivate inner harmony, foster compassion, and promote a culture of peace that transcends borders and unites us in our shared humanity. In the words of Swami Vivekananda, "The whole world is the playground of God. Where should we go to seek God? He is in every breath of our life, in every bit of our work, in every thought of our mind." Let us integrate the philosophy of yoga into our daily lives, embody its principles of unity and compassion, and collectively strive towards a brighter and more harmonious future for all.

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Bruhaspati Samal



Yoga : A powerful medium for women empowerment and world peace



The 10th celebration of International Yoga Day will be celebrated in India as well as in most of the countries around the world on 21st June 2024 with a new theme- 'Yoga for women empowerment'. This year the theme of Yoga Day is based on women to promote the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual well-being of women by using yoga as a tool. This will ensure that women are healthy, confident and play a leading role in society. Yoga is being made a medium to connect human beings. In 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had proposed to celebrate Yoga Day in the United Nations meeting, after which it was announced on 11 December 2014 to celebrate 21 June every year as International Yoga Day. Due to India's efforts regarding the importance of yoga, countries around the world started celebrating Yoga Day at the world level. Through Indian Yoga and Meditation, India is succeeding in achieving 'Vishwa Guru'

status and a unique identity in the world. That is why International Yoga Day has been accepted by the whole world. The vision and efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has created an unusual atmosphere for the international acceptance of Yoga Day. Today every sphere of life is surrounded by problems due to pandemic, Great War, terrorism, rising inflation, poverty, unemployment, due to which every person and family is

means to establish balance in life and it is the science of oneness with God and the universe. Realization of self is the task of life, the goal. This realization can neither be attained by discourse, nor can it be attained by intellect, nor by listening a lot, for that it is necessary to have self-realization and this realization happens only to the one whose conscience is pure and selfless.

The pure conscience is the mirror in which the vision of the soul, the manifestation of nature and the vision of the self are seen. In a pure conscience, the intellect remains heavenly and clean, the mind as pure as the Ganges, the mind as steady as the light of a motionless lamp without wind, and the entire consciousness flowing like rivers to meet the ocean. Just as one's face is visible in the mirror only when the mirror is clear and stable, similarly the Supreme power of self is visible only through a pure conscience. Yoga is such an effective form of exercise, through which balance is created not only in the parts of the body but also in the mind, and soul. This is the reason that apart from physical ailments, mental problems can also be overcome by yoga.

The importance of yoga, which is found in our Vedas or even earlier

literature, today the same yoga is gaining its fame all over the world and due to the corona crisis, the usefulness of yoga has increased more than before. Seeing its benefits, everyone seems to be adopting it in their rushing life and life crisis caused by epidemics, war, violence, economic instability and terrorism. Slowly, but people are understanding that by doing yoga, not only the biggest diseases can be driven away but also happiness can be brought in their life, life can be balanced. Work-efficiencies can be increased, peace and harmony can be established. Yoga is the only way for physical, mental and spiritual peace of health. But in the occult age, the history of yoga is hidden in the infinite depths of time. By the way, some people also believe that the science of yoga is older than the Vedas. In

the excavations done by the Archaeological Department of Harappa and Mohenjodaro, many such sculptures have been found in which Shiva and Parvati are shown performing various yogasanas. Swami Vivekananda, who promoted Indian Yoga to the world, says - "A pure heart is the best mirror for the reflection of truth. That's why all spiritual practice is for purifying the heart. When it becomes pure, all the truths are reflected in it at that very moment. Unholy imagination is as bad as unholy acts."

Modern materialistic and convenient life is pushing man towards disturbance, imbalance, tension, fatigue and irritability, due to which the disorder is increasing. Yoga is such a powerful medicine that keeps the mind cool and the body fit to keep such heterogeneous and discrepant life healthy and energetic. The pace of



in the Vedas about the ascetics since ancient times. Sculptures depicting yoga and meditation were also found in the Indus Valley Civilization. In Hinduism, Yoga civilization was adopted by sages, monks and yogis from the very beginning, but not much time has passed since this method has spread among the common people. However, knowing the glory and importance of yoga, it is being adopted extensively for a healthy lifestyle, mainly because of its positive effects in busy, stressful and unhealthy routines. Yoga is necessary for us to stay healthy. Through yoga, you can benefit from many diseases like asthma, diabetes, blood pressure, and arthritis. Yoga removes stress and gets good sleep, appetite is good, not only this, digestion is also improved. Body fat can be reduced only through yoga. When man takes shelter of yoga to solve his physical, mental and spiritual problems and get their solution, then he connects with yoga, makes relationships, tries to bring it into life. But when one starts knowing something about it, knowing it steps in the process of action, then it reaches the limit of use. By making the role of this experiment an integral part of life, we can give a new

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The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu celebrated her birthday with cheerful staff of Mitti Cafe, non profit organisation providing sustainable livelihoods to persons with disabilities.

BOBBY CHAKRABORTY'S LIFE CHANGING 420TH ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN AT BDM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Kolkata, (KCN): Bobby Chakraborty, a senior actor/activist/acting coach of repute from Kolkata- India, has been changing young lives for the better, through his award winning, global, free of cost, preventive awareness program for youth, against all sorts of addiction and harmful social trends, for over a decade now, titled 'I am the King of my Mind'. On June 19th he conducted his 420th session at BDM International School, which was also his 20th session in this school. The school administration and the socially responsible Principal Smt. Madhumita Sengupta, unlike many, believe in addressing these pertinent issues of smoking, alcoholism, smart phone addiction, online gambling, use of

a bussive language, indecent behaviour online to grab eyeballs, to young minds, as soon as possible, before the damage has been fatally done. This powerful and motivational session of Bobby, attended by over 500 enthusiastic students of grades IX and X, was perfectly coordinated by senior teacher Pritha Mukherjee Madam, Jaya Madam and Aratrika Madam, under the guidance of The Principal. The mind bending interactive session ended with every student and teacher shouting out the mantra to lead a healthy life 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND', with Bobby, at the top of their voices, with their hands raised, promising never to surrender to the dark forces of the society.

Tamil Nadu hooch tragedy: Death toll rises to 40; govt, BJP announce compensation

Chennai (KCN): The death count in the hooch tragedy in Tamil Nadu's Kallakurichi district is steadily climbing while those battling for life in the hospitals are complaining of vision problems. According to reports, the number of persons who have lost their lives consuming the killer drink has touched 40 and over 100 persons are undergoing treatment in various hospitals with many battling for their lives. Chief Minister MK Stalin Thursday morning announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each to the 34 families who had lost their loved ones. In a statement issued here, he also said the government has also appointed a one-man

commission under retired High Court Justice B. Gokuldas to look into the issue and recommend measures to prevent such occurrences in the future. He said the orders have been issued to pay Rs 10 lakh to the families of the dead and Rs 50,000 out of the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to those getting treated in the hospitals. He said four persons have been arrested in this connection and action will also be taken against those who had supplied methanol for making the illicit liquor. The CM said the CBCID (Crime Branch-CID) has been asked to investigate the source of methanol. According to him, action has been taken against

the police officials concerned and the District Collector has been transferred. Meanwhile, Stalin's son and Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin visited the affected people in the hospital and later distributed the Rs. 10 lakh compensation to the families who had lost their loved ones. Meanwhile, AIADMK General Secretary and former Chief Minister K Palaniswami demanded the resignation of Stalin accepting responsibility for the death of several people after consuming the illicit liquor. He alleged that the illicit liquor was being sold in the centre of the Kallakurichi district with the authorities turning a blind eye.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA VISITS PANDIT DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

New Delhi, (KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu visited Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities in New Delhi today (June 20, 2024) where she spent time with Divyang children and students and witnessed a cultural performance by them. She also visited the renovated Prostheses and Orthosis Centre and interacted with the patients.

Addressing the gathering, the President said that the progress of a country or society can be measured by the sensitivity shown by the people of that



country or society towards the Divyangjan. She stated that sensitivity and inclusivity have been integral parts of our culture and civilization. The President said that no physical condition can be a barrier to living a normal life when our efforts are inclusive and sensitive to the needs of Divyanjan. She was happy to note that Divyanjan are scaling new heights in every field with their skills and talent. She cited examples of sportspersons like Deepa Malik, Arunima Sinha and Avani Lekhara and social workers like K.S. Rajanna and said that all

such people are examples of the fact that with dedication and determination, one can overcome every kind of physical limitation.

The President was happy to note that the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities has been working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities for the last several decades. She appreciated all the people associated with the Institute for working towards the socio-economic empowerment of Divyanjan.

Killing of Two Foreign Terrorists in Rafiabad a 'Major Success' for Security Forces: Army



Handwara, (KCN): Security forces claimed a significant victory by eliminating two foreign terrorists in a gunfight in the Hadipora area of Rafiabad, located in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

"Over the past few weeks there has been constant information of the movement of a terrorist group in the Sopore-Rafiabad area of Baramulla District. On 19th June 2024, specific intelligence was received through JKP that two terrorists were holed up in a house in Hadipura village of Rafiabad area," an Army officer said while addressing press conference.

"Consequently, Indian

Army, JKP and CRPF launched a joint operation, swiftly cordoning off the area," he said, adding that following standard procedures, civilians were safely evacuated from adjacent houses and the area was secured.

He said that the target house was thoroughly cordoned off and on the search being commenced, terrorists opened fire on the security forces. "In the ensuing fire, two terrorists

were neutralized," the officer said.

He also said that the killed terrorists have been identified as Usman and Umar, both of Pakistan Origin and associated with LeT. "Usman has been active

Frozen Shrimp and Frozen Fish, Major Export Items USA & China Remain Top Markets

India's Seafood Exports Touch All-Time High by Volume in FY 2023-24

Kolkata, (KCN): India's seafood exports touched an all-time high in volume during the financial year 2023-24 despite various challenges in significant export markets. India shipped 17,81,602 MT of seafood worth ₹60,523.89 crore (US\$ 7.38 billion) during 2023-24.

Frozen shrimp remained the major export item in quantity and value, while the USA and China became the major importers of India's seafood. During FY 2023-24, the export improved in quantity terms by 2.67%. In 2022-23, India exported 17,35,286 MT of seafood worth ₹63,969.14 crore (US\$ 8,094.31 million). "India recorded an all-time high export in terms of volume by shipping 17,81,602 MT of seafood worth US\$ 7.38 billion, despite the several challenges in its major export markets like the USA, EU & the UK," Shri D V Swamy, Chairman, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), said.

Frozen shrimp, which earned ₹40,013.54 crore (US\$ 4881.27 million), retained its position as the top item in the seafood

export basket, accounting for a share of 40.19% in quantity and 66.12% of the total dollar earnings. Shrimp exports during the period increased by 0.69% in quantity terms.

The export of frozen shrimps during 2023-24 was pegged at 7,16,004 MT. The USA, the largest market, imported (2,97,571 MT) of frozen shrimp, followed by China (1,48,483 MT), the European Union (89,697 MT), Southeast Asia (52,254 MT), Japan (35,906 MT) and the Middle East (28,571 MT).

The export of black tiger (BT) shrimp increased by 24.91%, 11.33% and 8.28% in quantity, value and US\$ terms, respectively, in 2023-24. BT shrimps were exported to the tune of 38,987 MT worth ₹2855.27 crore (US\$ 347.84 million). China (including Hongkong) turned out to be the major export destination for Black Tiger shrimp with a share of 28.43% in terms of US\$ value, followed by the USA (18.21%), European Union (18.06%) and Japan (13.12%). Scampi exports have shown a positive trend of 6.42%, 23.22% and 18.96% in quantity, value and US\$ terms, respectively, in 2023-24. The Vannamei shrimp

exports have grown in 2023-24 by 0.33% by volume; however, they declined by 11.56% from US\$ 4809.99 million to US\$ 4253.86 million.

Frozen Fish, the second largest exported item, fetched ₹5,509.69 crore (US\$ 671.17 million), accounting for 21.42% in quantity and 9.09% in US\$ earnings. This year, the export of frozen fish increased by 3.54% and 0.12% in quantity and value terms, respectively; however, it declined by 2.31% in US\$ terms.

Fish and shrimp- meal & feed- non-edible dried items, the third most prominent item in the export basket, earned ₹3684.79 crore (US\$ 449.17 million), accounting for 15.89% share in quantity and 6.08% in dollar earnings, showing an increase of 15.99%, 34.07% and 31.52% by quantity, value and US\$ terms. Exports in this group were exported to the tune of 2,83,019 MT. Unit value growth observed in this group was 13.38%.

Frozen squid, the fourth largest export item, fetched ₹3061.46 crore (US\$ 373.40 million), accounting for a 5.25% share in quantity and 5.06% in dollar earnings. The

share of 34.53% in terms of US\$ value. Exports to the US increased by 7.46% and 1.42% in quantity and value terms; however, they declined by 3.15% in US\$ terms. Frozen shrimp continued to be the principal item exported to the US, with a share of 91.90% in US terms. Exports of black tiger shrimp to the US increased by 35.37% in quantity terms and 32.35% in value in US terms.

China (excluding Hong Kong and Taiwan) emerged as the second largest seafood export destination country for India in terms of US\$ with an import volume of 4,51,363 MT worth US\$ 1,384.89 million, accounting for 25.33% share in quantity and 18.76% in US\$ terms. Exports to China grew by 12.80% in quantity; however, they declined by 0.88% in value and 4.21% in US\$ value. Frozen shrimp, the major item of exports to China, had a share of 32% in quantity and 55.11% in US\$ value, while frozen fish had a second most share of 36.83% in quantity and 21.56% in terms of US\$ value out of the total exports to China.

Rickety Nagavali bridge on NH-326 a ticking time bomb

Rayagada(KCN): Travelling on the Nagavali bridge which is termed as the lifeline of Rayagada district has turned into a nightmare for commuters as it is in a rundown condition allegedly due to lack of proper maintenance and upkeep. The bridge on Nagavali river at Jaykaypur, a part of National Highway-326, is now in a rickety condition and the possibility of collapse of the dilapidated bridge cannot be ruled out with rainy season ahead. The bridge, connecting Rayagada with Bhubaneswar, Ganjam, Gajapati, Kalahandi and

Kandhamal districts, serves as a major link for commuters. However, notwithstanding its unsafe conditions, hundreds of passenger buses, goods trucks, small cargo vehicles and two-wheelers ply on the bridge for their destinations on a daily basis. Lack of timely repair has made the bridge unsafe for the commuters. The situation has come to such a pass that one can sense the bridge shaking vigorously during the movement of the heavy vehicles. Residents alleged that potholes have appeared on the bridge and iron rods



used for its construction are protruding out of the surface turning the bridge into a deathtrap for the commuters. The district administration is holding meetings to combat possible floods and cyclones in the upcoming monsoon season; however it has completely forgotten to repair the bridge for safety of the commuters, locals and

commuters alleged. Residents have demanded for repairing of the bridge time and again but the concerned officials are yet to take stock of its condition, let alone make any effort for its

repair. This has sparked resentment and anger among the residents in the area. The bridge was submerged during the severe flood in Nagavali river six years back.

However, neither the district administration nor the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is taking any preventive measures or repairing it for safe commuting. Meanwhile, lifespan of the bridge has come to an end but the district administration is yet to declare it as unsafe. People risk their lives while travelling on the bridge and nobody knows when someone will meet with an accident, Sandhya Kulaka of Rayagada town said. The two-wheeler riders often have to face harrowing times as their vehicles break down or the tyres gets punctured due to presence of large number of potholes on the bridge, a local Jitu Mandangi said. Residents have demanded the NHAI to intervene and immediately repair the bridge failing which it might collapse anytime soon. When contacted, Superintendent Soumajini Sethy refused to speak on the issue. Efforts to contact Rayagada MLA Appala Swamy Kadra for his comment on the issue failed to yield any result as he did not respond to the call of this correspondent.

Jute cultivation struggles for survival in Kendrapara

Kendrapara(KCN): Kendrapara district is known for the cultivation of fibre crops. However, jute cultivation is inching towards extinction due to the apathetic attitude and negligence of the Agriculture Department. Farmers in the district were cultivating jute, mesta and sesbania (Dhanicha) crops on 2,152 hectare land in 2005. The presence of favourable climatic conditions, suitable soil and proper publicity boosted the cultivation of these crops. As a result, the cultivation expanded to 8,000 hectares of farmland by 2015. This paved the way for the establishment of a jute research centre on 46 acre land at Jajanga near the district headquarters town.

However, the research centre soon got into problems and stopped selling seeds in 2019-20. Left with no other option, farmers have been buying the seeds from the open market. However, after the seeds turned out to be of sub-standard quality, the farmers are now turning to other crops to eke out a living. Jute is a long, soft and shiny bast fibre that can be spun into coarse and strong threads. It is one of the most affordable natural fibres and second only to cotton in the volume of production and variety of use. The



farmers sell jute fibre, sweet jute leaves and Kaunria sticks in the local market. However, cultivation of jute is on the wane in Kendrapara district due to a lack of proper sponsorship from the state government. This has delayed the supply of jute, mesta and sesbania seeds to the farmers. Niranjan Parida of Kansar panchayat under Kendrapara block said the soil of Kendrapara district is suitable for jute and mesta cultivation. Sesbania if sown at the same time as paddy crops helps increase soil nutrients and also brings down pest attacks on paddy crops, a farmer leader Gayadhar Dhal said adding that the farming season starts from Akshaya Tritiya but the Agriculture Department's failure in supplying paddy and sesbania seeds to the farmers from the start of the festival is quite unfortunate.

Maheswar Sethi, a farmer of Chatarachakada village under Derabish block, said jute seeds were sold at Rs 40 per kg in 2015 while the price has now increased to Rs 90 per kg in the open market. This has come as a blow to the jute farmers. Ramamani Samal, member of a women self-help group at Paripangara village, said the Centre has banned single-use plastic since 2015. This announcement has come as a boon for artisans like her involved in jute-based cottage industries. The unit manufactures various jute-based products but the profit margin is declining as it has to pay more for purchasing the raw material from outside the state. The decline in domestic jute production due to lack of seeds has hit them hard, she said adding that jute cultivation needs to be promoted so that they can purchase the fibre at a nominal price. She demanded the state government intervene and promote jute cultivation in the district through sponsorship. Senior citizen Banambar Sahu said the district lacks major or small industries and agriculture is the mainstay of people. Farmers are turning away from jute cultivation due to lack of sponsorship from the state government. When contacted, district agriculture officer Manoj Chand said the Odisha Seeds Supply Corporation (OSSC) had supplied jute, mesta and sesbania seeds in 2015. Over 7,000 farmers purchased the seeds and cultivated them on their farmlands. Meanwhile, the OSSC has stopped procuring jute and mesta seeds and stopped the supply to the farmers who require 30 quintal seeds per year. However, this year they have received 120 quintal of sesbania seeds only

Diphtheria spread takes lid off Health officials' blunder

Rayagada(KCN): Health officials have not conducted vaccination in Munushpadar and 11 other villages under Dangasil panchayat in Kashipur block of Rayagada district where diphtheria has claimed the lives of five kids and affected many. This was confirmed by Public Health Officer Dr Mamata Choudhury during a district-level meeting on disaster

mitigation, Tuesday. Earlier, it was alleged that diphtheria could spread in Munushpadar village as children had not been vaccinated. She said that children were required to be given DPT vaccines but no vaccination was conducted in as many as 12 remote villages including Munushpadar. This happened as Health personnel did not visit Munushpadar village

located in a remote region. Chatters were buzz that a host of diseases had been spreading in various parts of the district at different points of time due to the negligence of the Health department. Sources said MLA Appala Swamy Kadra visited Munushpadar village and took stock of the situation after diphtheria started spreading in the

village. He alleged, that not a single child has been given a vaccine under the government's vaccination programme. The Health Department came on its toes after the startling revelation of the MLA. A probe was conducted which nailed the lies of the Health department's tall claims of total vaccination under Mission Indradhanush.



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CarDekho's launches 2nd Mega Refurbishment Centre for Used Cars

New Delhi : CarDekho, India's leading auto-tech company, has opened its mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai for Used Cars. This is the company's second mega refurbishment centre in the country after NCR. The Mumbai centre will take full control of the refurb process and set quality benchmark through advanced state-of-the-art infrastructure while optimising cost through scale of operations. The company plans to open 20 such refurbishment centres across India in near future.

With 1000 cars monthly refurbishment capacity, the centre will employ 100+ employees once fully operational. As a result of having best-in-class inhouse refurbishment centers, CarDekho ensures that all vehicles sold on its platform are of the

highest quality.

CarDekho offers a 7 days 'No Questions Asked' money-back guarantee on all cars where customers can test-own the car and return it if not satisfied. Also included are 6 months of warranty, and complementary Pan-India roadside assistance (RSA) for all car buyers. A free insurance package and RC transfer are also included with the car.

Sharad Saxena, CEO - Used Car Business, CarDekho Group, said, "The opening of our mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai marks another milestone for the company in its quest to provide the best pre-owned vehicles to its customers. The cars refurbished at this centre will carry CarDekho's trust that offers reliability, affordability and unmatched satisfaction.

This centre integrates the Group's best know-how and reinforces our vision to disrupt the personal mobility space in India. We want our customers to live our promise of 'Bharosa Kar Ke Dekho'."

The refurbishment centre is equipped with State-of-the-art Brake, Suspension & Side Slip Tester, Hitech Pneumatic Tools & Equipment, 3D Wheel Alignment, Wheel Balancing, mechanised Tyre changing, Air Conditioning Service, Injector & Spark Plug Cleaning and a fully mechanised Bodyshop with Electric Dent Pullers, Double action sanders with vacuum extractors, Infrared Heating Machine & full functional heated Downdraft Paint Booth along with inhouse paint mixing facility for high-quality painting.

Flipkart clocks over 200 Million Fashion products in the Spring-Summer

Bhubaneswar: As the Spring Summer season 2022 draws to a close, Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has recorded a sale of over 200 million fashion products across close to 19,200 pin codes. The Spring Summer Season also played a key role for customers and sellers and saw close to 175,000 fashion sellers participating. These sellers came from not just metros but from tier 2 and tier 3 towns as well. Customers shopped for fashion and lifestyle products including sarees, men's t-shirts, watches, sunglasses, women's kurtis and footwear, from national, international and homegrown fashion brands.

The season saw customers shopping for fashion products from across the country including metros and a majority of these customers also from tier 3, 4 and 5 cities shop for fashion products from cities like Ranchi, Ernakulam, Kanpur, Medinipur, Cuttack to

name a few; and a substantial number of the overall customer base were first-time fashion shoppers.

Sandeep Karwa, Vice President, Flipkart Fashion, said, "We are extremely delighted with this overwhelming response from the customers, who consistently choose Flipkart for all their fashion and lifestyle needs. This year's spring-summer season saw a resurgence in consumption on the back of renewed economic recovery post-pandemic and we are pleased that lakhs of sellers saw a phenomenal response during this season. It is also a testament to our efforts to bring unparalleled value in fashion shopping to our customers. With a range of technology-led innovations that are making shopping experiences personalised and seamless for our customers, we are bringing India and Bharat closer ushering in considerable growth opportunities for lakhs of

Ayush Baid, a Flipkart Fashion seller who sells Women's ethnic wear from Surat, Gujarat, said, "We have grown on Flipkart by 500% during the spring-summer season and this was possible due to the technology and power of ecommerce. Growth on Flipkart has led to the overall growth of the company."

Harish Dadwani, a Flipkart Fashion seller partner from Agra, Uttar Pradesh, said, "It has been 4 years since I joined ecommerce and through the Flipkart platform have seen a growth of over 10X since then.

I had launched several new products in the spring-summer collection which has seen a 50X growth spike. I am very positive to set new milestones and garner new opportunities in the coming years and feel that I can achieve much more through ecommerce, technology and Flipkart."

for coding among the youth. We were thrilled to see how the four finalists solved all the 10 problems, which has never happened before. I am happy to see CodeVita is encouraging youngsters to write good code and apply it to solve challenges.

The winner claimed the grand prize of \$10,000, while the first and the second runners-up were awarded \$7,000 and \$3,000 respectively. In a first, the third runner up, Michal Stanik from Czech Republic, was also recognized by TCS with a prize of \$1,000. Moreover, all four winners earned an internship opportunity with TCS' Research & Innovation organization. Registration for Season 11 of TCS CodeVita will commence soon. "Season 10 of CodeVita has been remarkable in harnessing the passion

Odisha records 20x growth in job applications in the last 90 days

Bhubaneswar: As one of the fastest-growing states in terms of economy in India, Odisha has been witnessing a steady growth in job opportunities across sectors and industries and has emerged as a popular destination for job seekers. apna.co - India's largest jobs and professional networking platform - recorded 20x quarter on quarter growth in job postings in the state's capital, Bhubaneswar in the previous quarter. The platform has also noted increased job openings for multiple roles in the last three 90 days.

After recording an economic rating higher than India's GDP, Odisha has become a promising destination for employers to invest in, strengthening the state's economy and creating more job opportunities. apna has become a trusted partner for various popular companies such as Zomato, Bharti AXA, Burger King, TeamLease, Byjus, and Delhivery amongst others in the state to fulfill their hiring requirement. In the last quarter, there has been an increased hiring momentum for roles such as telecallers/BPO, sales, computer/data entry operator, delivery persons, and business development executives amongst others. The capital city continues to be one of the top commercial hubs in Eastern India.

With more than 25 percent female users from Bhubaneswar, apna has become a default partner for women to build their professional networks and participate in helping India unlock its economic potential. According to the platform, there has been a quarter-on-quarter increase in women joining the workforce from the state and participating in uplifting Odisha's economy. Telecalling and business development have consistently been the most popular role amongst women in Bhubaneswar followed by data entry operators. Interestingly, women also opted to get on the field by joining the sales workforce for various organizations after COVID cases dropped drastically.

Commenting on the growth, Manas Singh, Chief Business Officer, apna.co said, "Odisha is witnessing tremendous growth in the past quarter, emerging as one of the key markets with a rise in both workers and employers on apna. We will continue creating more hyperlocal opportunities to help accelerate the economic growth of Bhubaneswar."

FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

Bhubaneswar: FURO Sports Shoes, (from the house of Red Chief Shoes), is thrilled to announce its much-coveted collaboration with the Bollywood Superstar, Shahid Kapoor. Shahid's youthful and sporty personality of an affable boy gels with the aspiring core values and ethos of FURO Sports Shoes. Shahid appeals to a wider audience across all age groups. While his exceptional fitness lifestyle, dancing prowess, and romantic-action-oriented movies attract the youth, his responsible family guy persona connects with relatively mature age groups as well. Mr. Manoj Gyanchandani (Managing Director) expressing his views on the collaboration, shares, "We are extremely honored to welcome Shahid Kapoor as the newest FURO family member. We couldn't have asked for a better partner in 2022 who comes with such high credible energy which is much needed in such dynamic times to inspire the youth towards athleisure lifestyle. We look forward to a successful partnership with him and hope to have a mutually beneficial long-term relationship."

Mr. Rahul Sharma, (Marketing Head) further shared "To continue leveraging our association both in mass media & digital platforms - Shahid would be part of our forthcoming Brand campaigns, which are back to back lined up starting few weeks from now."

BOB Financial crosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (Bank) that issues and manages Bank of Baroda Credit Cards, has crossed the 1 Million Credit Cards mark.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Bank of Baroda Credit Cards have grown 9X over the last four years - from 0.12 million cards in March 2018 to over 1.1 million cards in March 2022. Further, the monthly spends on credit cards have grown 10X over the same period - from Rs.80 crore in March 2018 to Rs.830 crore in March 2022.

In CY2022, cobranding with IRCTC, HPCL, Defence Services, and partnerships with fintechs have been some of the key initiatives in the ongoing transformation journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shailesh Singh, MD & CEO, BFSL said, "In 2017, we started on a journey of transforming BOB Financial into a leading credit card issuer in India. Crossing the 1 million credit cards mark is an important milestone. However, while we celebrate this achievement, our ultimate aspiration is to become one of the largest Credit Card issuers in the country, serving customers of every demographic and socio-economic classification."

BFSL has been focusing on investing in people, processes and technology to enhance customer experience.

Blood donation camp organised by Tushi motors

Bhubaneswar, (KCN):

Tushi Motors, recently recognized by Maruti as a Royal Platinum Dealer for Arena for the third consecutive year and an Omega Dealer for NEXA in its inaugural year of operation, organized a blood donation camp in collaboration with the Commissionerate Police Bhubaneswar-Cuttack and the Indian Red Cross Society. Held at Tushi Motors' meeting hall in Mangalabag, Cuttack, the camp began at 9:30 am and saw participation from around 100 donors. The donors included Tushi Motors' staff, customers, and community members, all coming together to support this noble cause.

Prominent attendees included Preeti Pallavi Patnaik, Managing Director, and Anshuman Patnaik, Director of Tushi Motors. Esteemed dignitaries like Sri Sanjeeb Panda, IPS (Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack), Sri Prakash R, IPS (DCP, Cuttack), Sri Biranchi Narayan Adhikari (DC Transport, Cuttack), Sri



Anil Kumar Mishra

(Addl. DCP, Cuttack), Lalitendu Mohanty (DC cum joint Secretary, IRCS), Sri Girija Shankar Chakrabarty (ACP Zone II, Cuttack), Sri Pardip Kumar Rout (ACP Zone-III, Cuttack), Sri Krushna Chandra Sethy (ACP Zone-V, Cuttack), Sri. Swastik Panda (ACP Zone-VI, Cuttack) and other high-ranking officials also participated. The camp aimed to support the Indian Red Cross Society's blood supply efforts and promote blood donation awareness. Preeti Pallavi Patnaik expressed gratitude for the strong turnout,

thanking the Red Cross and local police for their support. The event underscored Tushi Motors' commitment to social responsibility and community service. "We are grateful for the overwhelming support from our staff, customers, and the community. This blood donation camp is a testament to our collective effort to give back to society," said Ms. Preeti Pallavi Patnaik, MD. The event highlighted community spirit, with volunteers from diverse backgrounds contributing to its success. The blood collected will aid those in medical emergencies, potentially saving many lives.

Ambuja Cements introduces Cool Walls, a special product that keep homes cool in summers and hot in winters

Mumbai : Ambuja Cements Ltd, one of India's most sustainable cement manufacturers, is now offering an innovative green solution for constructing strong walls. Ambuja Cool Walls is a unique wall solution that keeps the house cool during summer and retains

temperature to make the house warmer in winter. Ambuja Cements is among the first Indian cement companies to offer this unique block and mortar solution to individual house builders.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product made with an innovative heat-barrier technology that is far superior to any other products available in the market. The 'heat barrier technology' of this product helps to maintain inside temperature of any house lesser by 5°C as compared to external temperature. These innovative heat barrier technology,

consistent quality and enhanced strength (>5 MPa) are the main differentiators of this product.

Ambuja Cool Walls is an innovative solution to the problem faced by traditional construction with non-sustainable products. The challenge poised by traditional construction today are efflorescence on walls, termite attack, water absorption and highly prone to earthquakes. Ambuja Cool Walls along with unique jointing mortar makes the wall stronger and eliminates the problem faced by traditional construction practices. This helps the consumers in cost saving on electricity due to thermal insulation, low frequency of repeat painting because of no efflorescence, lesser repeat maintenance and lower construction cost. Additional benefits include noise reduction, high fire resistance etc.

This Diwali, brighten up your health by adopting these 5 habits

Bhubaneswar : Consider

presenting them with assortments of nutrient-rich almonds that not only reflect your affection but also promote their well-being during this festive season. Almonds make for a perfect, healthy gift option, especially during festive seasons like Diwali. Moreover, their versatility allows for various creative gifting options, from beautifully packaged almond assortments to homemade almond-based treats. While traditional sweets hold a special place in our hearts during this festive season, gifting a pack of nutrient-dense almonds can be a thoughtful gesture that not only aligns with the spirit of giving but also promotes a healthier

lifestyle. Almonds, known for their rich reserves of essential nutrients such as vitamin E, magnesium, and healthy fats, offer a convenient and delectable way to boost one's overall well-being. By making the conscious switch to include almonds in your fitness routine you can get a quick energy boost before a workout or as a replenishing source of nutrients afterward, almonds offer sustained energy and aid in muscle recovery, helping you achieve your fitness goals more effectively. Almonds serve as an excellent pre- or post-workout snack, you can have them in between meals as well without compromising on your taste and nutrition.

IIT Delhi Student Wins Coveted TCS CodeVita Season 10

MUMBAI: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), announced the winners of Season 10 of its flagship global coding contest, TCS CodeVita, at a virtual grand finale. CodeVita, holder of the Guinness World Records™ title as the world's largest computer programming competition, has been inspiring students across the world to build and test their coding expertise for the past 10 years. The contest promotes programming as a sport and encourages participants to pit their skills against each other and solve intriguing real-



Holders England flex all-round game to down West Indies

New Delhi: Defending champions England signalled their credentials for a third title with a dominant display in St Lucia, where they downed fellow two-time winners West Indies by eight wickets in the teams' first Super 8 contest. Jos Buttler's side first restricted a power-packed line-up to 180 on the tournament's best batting surface so far and then mowed down that score with 15 balls to spare courtesy a blazing knock from Phil Salt, who continued to enjoy batting in and against the West Indies. After scoring two tons in a five-match series late last year, Salt finished with an unbeaten 87 tonight, an assault that also included a 30-run takedown of a Romario Shepherd over.

In the death overs of West Indies' innings. The hosts were setup to post a total around the 200-mark as they had done two nights ago against Afghanistan at this very venue. But having got to 137 after 15 overs, they

just about tumbled to 180. England produced three boundary-less overs in this phase with Adil Rashid and Jofra Archer bagging the big wickets of Nicholas Pooran and Andre Russell, denying West Indies of their biggest hitters in this phase.

England's bowlers began well after opting to bowl, the first two overs going for just 13 runs. A change of bats did the trick for Brandon King, who picked up a fullish delivery from Reece Topley and deposited it into the stands beyond mid-wicket. An inside-edged boundary for opening partner Johnson Charles made it two boundaries for the over and got the hosts purring. Each of the next three featured two boundaries as West Indies raced past 50 in the PowerPlay. But they lost Brandon King in the process when he appeared to have suffered a groin strain while twisting to hit a full Sam Curran delivery through the off-side.



Nicholas Pooran began well in the post-PowerPlay phase, pulling a four off Topley and then swinging Mark Wood across the line for a six. But England hit back through spin and Adil Rashid and Moeen Ali bowled two overs for just 10 runs. Charles, who got stuck on a run-a-ball 30, attempted to break free and swung a six off Rashid but an attempted encore in the next over from Moeen resulted in a catch to long-on and his dismissal for 36. England

bossed this mini-phase of the game with the leggie Rashid giving away just 19 from his three overs. But captain Rovman Powell turned the tide of the contest with his powerful hits down the ground. First Moeen Ali was launched straight over his head for six. When Sam Curran tried to bounce him, Powell swivelled across to pull an 89-metre six. For the 15th over, Buttler rolled the dice and brought Liam Livingstone into the attack. Powell went after Livingstone's legspinners

and deposited him for three straight sixes. Livingstone though got the crucial wicket with his final delivery when Powell edged a sledge to short third-man to fall for a 17-ball 36 (5x sixes). England rode on that big wicket of Powell to peg their hosts further back. Jofra Archer struck with his plan of angling the ball across Pooran and had the belligerent batter nicking one to the keeper. Rashid then finished his outstanding spell (1-21) by getting Andre Russell

away for a six. Between all of this, Akeal matched Rashid from earlier in the game and bowled his three overs for 19. He should have had Salt on 7 but Pooran put down a sharp catch behind the stumps. Like England, West Indies began well in the first part of the middle overs. Gudakesh Motie bowled a tight seven over and then Powell made the surprise call of bowling offspinner Roston Chase against two right-handers. But the offie held his own excellently, even finding some drift away from the batters. He trapped Buttler in front of the stumps with a full ball that the England captain got himself into a tangle trying to step out to. Moeen Ali walked in at No.3 and took on his match-up, Motie, for a pair of fours before Andre Russell bounced him out. Jonny Bairstow got running with a pair of boundaries off Chase and Motie before taking down a wayward Joseph for a six and a four in a 14-run over. Bairstow raced away to 46 off 21 and nearly caught up with Salt after taking down Akeal's last over for 16 runs. This included a powerful sweep for four before the wind came to his rescue and carried a top-edge past midwicket. England needed 40 to win from the final five overs and Salt razed off 30 of those runs in the 16th over bowled by Shepherd. A thump over extra cover brought him his half-century before he sent a full ball straight over the bowler's head for a six. Shepherd went short and Salt ramped him over the keeper's head before duly dispatching a slot ball over long-off for six. Shepherd turned to a slower short ball which Salt pulled away powerfully for six before rounding off a magnificent over by putting away a full toss for four. The end came soon enough.

Brief scores: West Indies 180/4 in 20 overs (Rovman Powell 36, Nicholas Pooran 36; Adil Rashid 1-21) lost to England 181/2 in 17.3 overs (Phil Salt 87*, Jonny Bairstow 48*; Roston Chase 1-19) by eight wickets.

'Anything from here for us is bonus': Hathurusingha tries to rid Bangladesh of pressure

New Delhi: Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha insisted that he and his team were not losing their sleep about playing the semifinal and are happy to emerge out of a tough group to progress to the Super 8s. The experienced coach also urged his charges to play with freedom here on as he feels anything they will achieve in this second stage of the T20 World Cup was a bonus for them.

Hathurusingha was determined not to saddle his team with expectations with the burden of expectations as they prepare to take on Australia at Antigua on June 21. "When we came into the tournament, our first target was to get into this Super 8. So, I think we achieved that with great... what can I say, our bowlers kept us in the game? So, we played the



conditions really well, used the conditions in our favour," Hathurusingha told reporters on Wednesday (June 20). "So going forward for us, being here, we're very happy to be here. And then anything from here for us is bonus. So, we play with a lot of freedom. And we are going to challenge all three teams the best we can," he said. Hathurusingha, however, was quick to clarify that playing with freedom didn't mean players deviating from their roles

in the team. "This game, why we start playing this game? To enjoy. So that fact of enjoyment, we don't take it away from the players," he said. "How big is the game? That doesn't mean that they have free license to go and do whatever they want. They have a particular role to play in the team and to do that role is yes, they have freedom and then enjoyment always, whether we play for your country or club cricket... that's why we are talking about," he added.

Justin Sammons named Zimbabwe head coach



New Delhi: Justin Sammons has been appointed as the head coach of the Zimbabwe senior men's team, Zimbabwe Cricket announced on Wednesday (June 19) following a board meeting.

Sammons's appointment as full-time head coach comes more than six months after Dave Houghton stepped down from the role in the wake of Zimbabwe failing to qualify for the Men's T20 World Cup 2024. Sammons will be supported by former Zimbabwe cricketer Dion Ebrahim, who joins the team as the assistant coach.

After Houghton's resignation, Walter Chawaguta was with the team as interim head coach during their tour of Sri Lanka in January this year. Stuart

Matsikenyeri served in a similar capacity for the Zimbabwe team during their tour of Bangladesh in May. Sammons had earlier been part of South Africa's high-performance programme and has worked with several domestic teams. He was also the batting consultant of the South Africa team between 2021 and 2023. Ebrahim, who represented Zimbabwe in 29 Tests and 82 ODIs, later pursued a coaching career in New Zealand and was also involved with the Black Caps. The

rest of the support staff for the Zimbabwe team will be appointed in consultation with Sammons, ZC revealed.

"We are delighted to confirm Justin as Head Coach of the Zimbabwe Senior Men's National Team," said ZC chairman Tavengwa Mukuhlani. "He brings a wealth of coaching experience and a reputation of identifying, nurturing and developing some of the best young talent in South Africa. His hard-working and passionate approach as well as sense of values on and off the pitch make him the ideal person to take us forward."

South Africa find batting feet to down plucky but tone deaf USA

New Delhi: South Africa emerged from the batting gloom that hasn't helped them stay unbeaten for five matches in this edition of the men's T20 World Cup, their longest winning streak in the history of the tournament, to overcome a plucky United States in North Sound on Wednesday.

Quinton de Kock's 40-ball 74 was his first effort of 50 or more in nine T20I innings, and followed four trips to the crease in which he had scraped together 48. Challenging batting conditions in those

first four games was part of the reason for his lean run. As he told a television interviewer after the match: "It's nice to get a decent pitch finally." De Kock and Aiden Markram shared 110 off 60, South Africa's only century stand in the 19 T20Is they have played since October 2022. Midway through the 12th over they had already surpassed their previous best total in this tournament. They settled on 194/4 - the highest score made in the 18 men's T20Is played at North

Sound, the joint fifth-highest of the T20I World Cup, and South Africa's biggest in seven games in the format. Only 19 times in the 101 T20Is in which they have batted first have they scored more runs. But the success was not unqualified. De Kock's dismissal in the 13th over was followed by David Miller's and Markram's, the three wickets falling for 15 in 17 balls. Miller suffered just his second first-baller in all of his 106 T20I innings. It mattered little in terms of the bigger picture. The Americans showed fight

without dragging the match close enough to a contest often enough to concern South Africa. Five overs in the second half of their innings earned 10 or more runs each, but they went into that phase needing

ninth wicket, limited the margin of South Africa's win to 18 runs. The Americans' 176/6 was their fifth-highest total in the 32 T20Is they have played and their second-highest against full member opponents. Even so, something was missing from the US' performance. The omission was at once tangible and not, and maybe not an issue for many among the resolutely cricketminded. But this is a World Cup. It is about representation and how teams that brand themselves as national

present themselves. That brings us to Willie Mays, the Say Hey Kid, who said goodbye on Tuesday, aged 93. Sadly the US team did not wear black armbands, or do anything else, to mark the moment. Mays was, essentially, AB de Villiers. But better. He was among the greatest players ever to grace any era in any sport anywhere. Only five MLB players have hit more than Mays' 660 home runs, and two of them were drug cheats. Just six scored more runs, also including a drug cheat.



more than two runs a ball. Andries Gous hit Anrich Nortje for a four and two sixes in a 15th over that sailed for 19. Gous also hammered two of the three sixes that boomed in the 19th, bowled by Harmeet Singh for the