

Puri (KCN): Thousands of devotees Saturday congregated at the seaside town of Puri in Odisha to witness Lord Jagannath's 'Snana Yatra' or bathing rituals at the 12th-century temple. The sibling deities of Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra and Lord Jagannath, along with Chakraraj Sudarshan, were brought to the 'Snana Mandap' or the bathing altar on the premises of the temple

where 108 pitchers of sacred water were poured on them. While Lord Jagannath was bathed with 35 pitchers of water, Lord Balabhadra was bathed with 33 pitchers, Devi Subhadra with 22 pitchers and Chakraraj Sudarshan with 18 pitchers. The water was fetched from the 'Suna Kua' or the golden well in the temple. The water was added with herbal and aromatic essence before being

poured on the deities at 'Snana Bedi'. The ritual marks the beginning of the annual Rath Yatra festival. Gajapati Maharaja or Puri's titular king Dibyasingha Deb performed 'Chhera Panhara' (sweeping) ritual at 'Snana Mandap' immediately after the bathing ritual, said Pandit Surya Narayan Rathsharma, a researcher of Jagannath culture. After the completion of 'Chhera Panhara', the deities

were adorned with 'Hati Besa' (elephant attire) at the 'Snana Bedi'. The elephant attire and the special costumes on the occasion are traditionally prepared by the artisans at Raghaba Das Mutt and Gopal Tirtha Mutt. As per belief, the deities fall sick due to excessive bathing and are taken to 'Anasara Gruha' (isolation room). The deities would now be quarantined for 14 days at the 'Anasara Gruha'. The devotees

are not allowed to visit the deities during this period. Upon their recovery, the deities reappear before the devotees on the occasion of 'Nabajauban Darshan'. Around 68 platoons (1 platoon comprise 30 personnel) of policemen were deployed and elaborate arrangements were made for smooth 'darshan'. Most of the devotees had glimpse of the deities from 'Bada Danda', the grand road in front of the temple.

New Delhi, (KCN): The Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina called on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at

cooperation, that began with the journey of Bangladesh's Liberation War of 1971. The President was happy to note that under the leadership of Prime

future course of the India-Bangladesh relationship. During a warm and cordial conversation, the two leaders agreed to work together to



Rashtrapati Bhavan today (June 22, 2024). Welcoming Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the President said that she was delighted to meet her again, just a few days after the swearing in ceremony of the new government. She said these regular interactions reflect the enduring spirit of friendship and

Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has made significant economic progress. The President noted that India and Bangladesh are moving ahead rapidly to strengthen their cooperation in various areas and are entering into new sectors also. She expressed confidence that this will chart the

enhance the relationship across all domains including economic ties, development partnership, defense cooperation, energy security, and connectivity. This is the first State Visit hosted by India after the formation of the new government on June 9, 2024.

New Delhi(KCN): The Ministry of Education said Saturday it has constituted a high-level committee of experts led by former ISRO chief K Radhakrishnan to ensure transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations through the National Testing Agency (NTA). The seven-member committee will make recommendations on



reforms in the mechanism of the examination process, improvement in data security protocols and

the structure and functioning of the NTA, the Department of Higher Education in the ministry said. It added that the committee will submit its report to the ministry within two months. Central University of Hyderabad Vice-Chancellor Professor BJ Rao and former director of AIIMS Delhi Randeep Guleria are on the panel.

A portrait of a woman with short, wavy grey hair and glasses, wearing a white sari with a green border. She is speaking into a microphone, with her mouth open and her right hand raised in a gesture. The background is dark.

generally not go for an appeal if the monetary limit is less than the prescribed by the GST Council. The Council has also recommended that the maximum amount for pre-deposit for filing appeal before the appellate authority be reduced from Rs 25 crore CGST and Rs 25 crore SGST to Rs 20 crore CGST and Rs 20 crore SGST, she said.

The Finance Minister also informed that services provided by the Indian railways like sale of platform tickets, facility of retiring rooms, waiting rooms, are exempted from GST. Additionally, she said, the Council has exempted services by way of hostel accommodation outside educational institutions to tune Rs 20,000 per person per month.

monetary limit of Rs 20 lakh for GST Appellate Tribunal, Rs 1 crore for the High Court and Rs 2 crore for the Supreme Court for filing of appeals by the department before these legal forums, she said after the 53rd GST Council meeting held here. The Tax Authority would

New Delhi(KCN): The newly elected BJP Government today demanded the Central Government to set up an AIIMS in Sambalpur to cater the need of Western Odisha people. This demand was raised by Deputy Chief Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo at the Pre-Budget Consultation meeting chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmal Sitharaman to take suggestions of Finance Ministers of all States and Union Territories for the ensuing Union Budget, 2024-25.

A photograph showing three men seated at a long wooden conference table. The man on the left is wearing a white shirt and has a nameplate in front of him. The man in the center is wearing a white shirt with a yellow and orange shawl draped over his shoulders and is also wearing glasses. The man on the right is wearing a light blue shirt and glasses, and is looking down at papers on the table. There are microphones and water bottles on the table. The background shows a wood-paneled wall.

which could be addressed through appropriate measures in the Union Budget, 2024-25 was submitted to Union Finance Minister. However, few of important issues were flagged by Deputy Chief Minister of Odisha. The demands include establishment of a Second AIIMS at Sambalpur. At present, one AIIMS is functional at Bhubaneswar. The Deputy CM sought support of the Union Government for creation of an enabling environment to attract

international investors, semiconductor industries to Odisha, promotion of Odisha as an investment hub, expansion of Paradip port to propel growth in Odisha.

He also urged the Union Finance Minister to provide higher allocation under Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SACI), 2024-25 to further accelerate infrastructure development.

The Centre was further requested to give advance indication of the State-wise annual

allocation under CSS schemes at the time of budget formulation which would enable the States to prepare their Budgets on a realistic basis and ensure timely and effective utilization of funds.

Shri Singh Deo approached the Centre for expeditious completion of National Highways, specifically the Coastal Highway and Capital Region Ring Road (CRRR) projects, in Odisha. The State sought partial support from the Centre for implementation of

Subhadra Scheme for promoting women welfare through entrepreneurship, ease of living, and dignity for them

Sanction of fund for construction of at least 5 lakh houses for rural and urban areas in Odisha under PMAY, the deputy CM told the Union FM. He also sought support of the Central Government for new city development and rapid urbanization in Odisha and addressing power sector issues through inclusion of Odisha DISCOMs under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), financial support for adoption of new technologies such as green hydrogen, and central funding for Green Energy Corridor projects in Odisha.

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): With the Monsoon currently being active over Odisha, some districts are experiencing rainfall, bringing cheers to the face of farmers who were waiting for these spells to start the Kharif cultivation.

While the weather department has predicted heavy rainfall in Kandhamal, Ganjam and Gajapati districts in the coming 24 hours, it has issued a yellow warning for thunderstorms with lightning for the rest of the districts.

The department also forecast thunderstorms with lightning in the state from June 23 to 26. And from June 26, the amount of rainfall is likely to increase. Meanwhile, according to the weather department, Odisha received 39 per cent

less rainfall than normal between the period starting from June 1 to June 22. While the situation was severe in five districts, 17 districts received deficit rainfall ranging between 20 per cent and 59 per cent. Puri received 71 per cent less rainfall than

normal. Similarly, Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Bolangir and Keonjhar got 68 per cent, 63 per cent, 61 per cent, and 60 per cent less rainfall than normal respectively. However, eight districts received normal rainfall.

Dr. Achyuta Samanta Conferred ISTE Lifetime Achievement Award

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The 53rd session of the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE), the premier body of technical education in the country, commenced today at KIIT-DU here with the conferral of the Lifetime Achievement Award to the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta. The conclave is being hosted by the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) and supported by KIIT-DU. The ISTE honorary fellowship was given away on the occasion to the Director of IIT Delhi Rangan Banerjee; Regional Director of VTU Prof Baswaraj Gadgay; Adviser to AICTE Rajendra Baliram Kakde; Senior Advisor to the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority Dr Anil Kumar and Maj. Gen (Retd) Maj Mahesh Kumar Hada. The ISTE Best Technical

University Award was given to the VC of Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai. The ISTE National Award for Best Administrator went to VC of KIIT-DU Prof Saranjit Singh and the ISTE Best Clean and Green Campus Award also went to KIIT-DU. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Samanta reminisced about the long-standing relationship between KIIT, KISS, and ISTE, which spans over 24 years. Reflecting on the journey, he recalled how KIIT and KISS, established in 1997 and granted deemed university status in 2004, had hosted the ISTE convention in 2001 when KIIT was merely four years old. "When we approached the then president of ISTE, everybody was surprised. With much reluctance, they gave me the

opportunity," Dr. Samanta shared. He emphasized how that convention transformed the nature of ISTE conventions, marking KIIT and KISS as significant contributors to the technical education landscape. This year's convention, themed "Viksit Bharat 2047: Alignment with Higher Education Institutions," aims to align higher education with the vision of a developed India by 2047. Dr. Samanta expressed optimism about the growth and development of the Indian education system, highlighting that numerous institutions in India are now achieving world rankings. He underscored the importance of the National Education Policy (NEP), asserting that its proper implementation would be instrumental in realizing the dream of a Viksit Bharat. Dr. Pratapsinh Kakasaheb Desai,



President of ISTE, lauded KIIT's phenomenal growth, describing it as nothing short of miraculous. He acknowledged the strong association between ISTE and KIIT and KISS, noting that this is the fourth time they have hosted the ISTE convention. He praised KIIT's growth as a

model for other organizations and highlighted ISTE's role as the largest organization in technical education, with over 1.30 lakh

engineering and polytechnic faculty members as life members. The session also featured insights from other notable speakers, including the Vice Chancellor of KIIT Prof Saranjit Singh, who stressed the significance of the past 25 years in shaping the vision of Viksit Bharat. He emphasized the need for strategic development plans over the next 25 years to achieve this vision. Executive Secretary of ISTE S M Ali, office bearers and members from across the country are attending the conclave.

Another VoA; Singh Deo

New Delhi(KCN): The new BJP Government has planned to present another vote-on-account before coming up with the full budget for 2024-25. This was informed by Deputy Chief Minister K V Singh Deo today while speaking to the Media here. Shri Singh Deo is in New Delhi to attend State Finance Ministers' meeting on Central Budget for 2024-25 and GST Council meeting. The Deputy CM said the previous Government had presented the vote on an account which will manage State finance till July. "We have to present



another vote on the bill and then we will go for a full budget," he said. He further informed that the State Government will prepare its full fledged budget only after the Central budget is tabled in the Parliament. "We have to consider the

allocations and funds made by the Centre in the budget before preparing our budget," Shri Singh Deo said. He said that Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has asked him to attend the pre-budget and GST Council meeting. Since the Chief Minister would remain busy with the arrangements for the celebration of Snan Purnima in Puri, he could not attend the meeting, he added. When asked about the State's demand to be raised at the meeting, the Deputy CM said he would disclose it to the Media only after attending the meeting.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already committed to make Odisha Number One state in five years. The interim budget was presented with estimating the total budget outlay for the next financial year at Rs 2.55 lakh crore, which is about 11 percent more than the annual budget of 2023-24. As the BJP Government has come to power for the first time in Odisha and it will present its first budget in the Assembly next month, the State will come up with a comprehensive and people-oriented budget.

7 poachers held from Karlapat sanctuary

Bhawanipatna(KCN): Acting on a tip-off, a special team of Forest personnel arrested seven poachers late Thursday night from Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary under South Forest Division in Kalahandi district on charge of poaching. The accused poachers were arrested after being caught red-handed while they were moving in the jungle with firearms and sharp-edged weapons. The accused poachers were identified as Raidhar Majhi, Arakhita Majhi of Nakajhari village, Ganesh Dandasena, Abhi Majhi,



Raiman Majhi, Muni Majhi and Lakshman Majhi of Kadopadar village. Seven guns, seven axes, and a deer horn were seized from

their possession. A case was registered in this connection and the accused were produced in the court. Forest officials said that these

poachers were earlier arrested on a charge of poaching but continued to hunt wild animals after their release on bail from jail.

International Yoga Day is celebrated by the Bharatiya Yoga Sansathan

Bhubaneswar (KCN): On the occasion of International Yoga Day, a special yoga camp has organized at Imfa Park, Shahid nagar, Bhubaneswar in collaboration with Bharatiya Yoga Sansthan and Bharat Petroleum. Yoga is not only a physical exercise but also gives new energy to the body and keeps the body fit. In today's stressful world, the importance of yoga is very relevant. This tradition of yoga,



which comes from the ancient culture of India, should be followed in the world. Mr. Pradeep Pradhan, Head of Indian

Yoga Institute, Impha Park expressed the opinion that through yoga, the body is healthy and life expectancy and strength

are increased. In this event Member of Bharatiya Yoga Sansthan Namitha Pali, Pradyut ji, Avinash, Sanatan, Deepika, Arunji, Sonili, Jyoti, Kandarpji were prominently present and practiced yoga and celebrated International Yoga Day.



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Farah, who was a choreographer in 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai', said SRK wasn't very convinced about his character as a college-goer in the film. She told Radio Nasha, "Shah Rukh ne mar mar ke Kuch Kuch Hota Hai kiya (SRK was reluctant to work in Kuch Kuch Hota Hai), he used to say I am too old to play this college boy and he was 28 or 30 that time." However, when Farah was making a film ('Main Hoon Na'), she wanted to make a young film and that too, with SRK. She, then, redid the whole script, worked it backwards and made him go undercover. In the same interview, the filmmaker recounted how her initial concept for a short film transformed into a full-length feature. She reminisced about how 'Main Hoon Na' originally revolved around SRK breaking into a college drug ring and falling in love with the chemistry teacher.

"Kabirrrrrrr just loved the film, you are such a beautiful storyteller, you brought such an incredible story to life. It was so emotional to see this story and how beautifully you have made this film. (sic)," Katrina wrote on social media. Chandu Champion comes as a relief for filmmaker Kabir Khan, whose last directorial project, 83, could not perform well at the box office.

Rs 39.62 crore. It had an overall 11.71% Hindi occupancy. According to the makers, the film began its theatrical run with Rs 5.40 crore last Friday, June 14, and by its sixth day, it had earned Rs 37.12 crore. The film grew over its extended weekend with positive word of mouth, but Kabir Khan agreed that it had

Akshay Kumar announced the release date of his upcoming film 'Khel Khel Mein'. The movie starring Taapsee Pannu, Vaani Kapoor, Fardeen Khan, Ammy Virk, Aditya Seal and others in key roles, will release on September 6 in theatres. The date is special as it coincides with Akshay's birthday week. On April 27, the film's team shared a picture of the entire star cast on Instagram and announced the release date. The film is directed by Mudassar Aziz. Officially announcing the release date as September 6, their caption read, "Get ready for a rollercoaster ride of laughter, drama & loads of fun! Mark your calendars for September 06, 2024, when

#KhehKhehMein hits the theaters.”

Reportedly, the movie is a situational comedy with three couples. Akshay mentioned in an interview that he is returning to the comedy genre with several films in the pipeline. The plot centers around a group of friends gathering for dinner, during which they unexpectedly reveal secrets about each other.

This film is an official adaptation of the 2016 Italian comedy thriller 'Perfect Strangers.'

Meanwhile, other than 'Kheh Kheh Mein', Akshay Kumar also has 'Welcome To The Jungle,' slated for release during the Christmas 2024 weekend. Next, he will be seen in 'Sarfaraj,' directed by Sudha Kongara and set for a theatrical release on July 12.

Ayushmann Khurrana, Karan Johar team up for spy comedy: Reports

Ayushmann Khurrana is gearing up for his maiden venture with Karan Johar's Dharma Productions in 2024 following the success of 'Dream Girl 2' as per the latest reports. This upcoming project, co-produced by Karan Johar and Guneet Monga, is believed to mark an exciting new chapter in Ayushmann's cinematic journey. As per reports by Pinkvilla, the upcoming film, which is currently untitled, will be helmed by Aakash Kaushik. It promises to offer a fresh take on the spy comedy genre. According to sources, both Karan Johar and Guneet Monga have expressed great enthusiasm for the script.

They believe it strikes a perfect balance between espionage and humor, making it a compelling commercial prospect.

“Karan and Guneet have been very excited about this subject as the script has shaped up well with a perfect blend of

espionage elements with comedy. The script ticks all the boxes of a commercial film as it has scale, thrill, and action.

with a lot of comedy and the trio of Karan Guneet, and Aakash feel that Ayushmann Khurrana fits the

character to the T,” the source said. Adding, the source said, “The film will go on floor in a couple of months and the official announcement with the title is around the corner. The makers are in advanced stages of discussion with Sara Ali Khan to play the female lead.”

Meanwhile, on the work front, Ayushmann Khurrana was last seen in ‘Dream Girl 2. Directed by Raaj Shaandilyaa, the film featured Ayushmann in dual roles alongside a stellar cast including Ananya Pandey as the lead, Annu Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Manoj Singh, Rajpal Yadav, and others.

Paper Leakage: Making a mockery of youth



There is hardly an examination held in our country, where the paper is not leaked. The government has failed to safeguard the sanctity of the recruitment or admission tests, whether at central level or at state level. The honest, unemployed youth or the young generation, everywhere is being cheated and the money is making the mare go. Isn't it the failure of the government or its system? Making the future of the youth bleak, just within weeks two major papers held by the central government were leaked one after the other, what it shows? Accepting the unfair play in NEET and NET examinations and informing about the cancellation of NET examination just held on the previous day, the central government issued a release on June 19 that the National Testing Agency (NTA) conducted the UGC-

NET June 2024 Examination in OMR (pen and paper) mode on 18th June, 2024 in two shifts across different cities of the country. On 19th June, 2024, the University Grants Commission (UGC) received certain inputs from National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit of Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs on the Examination. These inputs prima-facie indicate that the integrity of the aforesaid examination may have been compromised. To ensure the highest level of transparency and sanctity of the examination process, the Ministry of Education, Government of India has decided that the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination be cancelled. A fresh examination shall be conducted, for which information shall be shared separately. Simultaneously, the matter is being handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (C.B.I.) for thorough investigation in the matter. The release further divulged that in the matter pertaining to the N E E T (U G) Examination-2024, the issue related to grace

marks has already been fully addressed. As regards certain irregularities alleged in the conduct of the examination in Patna, a detailed report has been sought from the Economic Offences Unit, Bihar Police. Government will take further action, on receipt of this report. Government is committed to ensure the sanctity of examinations and protect the interest of students. It is reiterated that any individual/organization found to be involved in this matter will face strictest action. The General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, former Union Minister and newly elected MP from the Sirsa Lok Sabha seat in Haryana, Kumari Selja said that while the investigation into the NEET paper leak was still ongoing, the government has now plunged the future of millions of students into darkness by cancelling the UGC NET June 2024 exam due to a paper leak. The hardworking candidates are left with only tears in their eyes. Who will account for their months of hard work? Kumari Selja said that the UGC NET exam was held on June 18 and was cancelled on June 19. Over 11 lakh candidates had applied for the exam,

Jag Mohan Thaken



and 9 lakh 8 thousand 580 candidates appeared. The UGC NET June 2024 session exam was cancelled by the Ministry of Education due to the suspicion of malpractice in the exam. Congress @INCIndia on Thursday alleged, "In the last 5 years, 43 recruitment exam papers have been leaked in the country and these paper leaks have directly affected 1.75 crore candidates. Do PM Modi and the education minister understand what millions of youths and their families go through due to paper leaks and exam cancellations?" Taking a dig at PM Modi, Indian National Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge tweeted on Thursday in Hindi, "What kind of

'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is this, where the paper is leaked every day! How has the Modi government ruined the country's education and recruitment system? Paper leaks, fraud and gross irregularities in NEET, UGC-NET, CUET (Common University Entrance Test) have now been exposed." Kharge further adds, "The shower of knowledge on the students by the head of a government which cannot conduct a nationwide examination without any fraud is dishonesty! Pushing millions of youths into the quagmire of unemployment with false promises, Modi ji was roaming around universities yesterday, under the shadow of the camera!" Aam Adami Party workers

and leaders, while protesting against NEET paper leak in Jalandhar on Wednesday, alleged, "This directly shows failure of BJP govt how Modi govt is messing with lives of hardworking students. But we will continue to do justice to the youth of the country." They demanded the resignation of the Prime Minister and the Union Education Minister over the rigging in the NEET exam. The leaders of 'AAP' said that the rigging in the NEET exam is no less a crime than treason. 24 lakh children have been affected by this. They alleged that there was rigging at two levels in this exam. First, papers were leaked in Bihar and Gujarat and sold for 50-70 lakhs. After this, NTA

wrongly gave grace marks to some students. AAP leaders alleged that the BJP has an old connection with paper leaks. Papers have been leaked 70 times in the last 7 years in BJP ruled states. This is a very big matter. Therefore, this matter should be looked into directly by the Supreme Court. Why the papers leaked out so frequently? The allegation floating in the air is- Money makes the Mare go. Priyanka Chaturvedi, @priyankac19, MP-Rajya Sabha and Deputy Leader-Shiv Sena UBT says, "Bihar's Economic Offence Unit has caught about 12 of those involved in the interstate paper leak of NEET exam and selling it for 30-32 lakhs to students, they have also

given a confessional statement. They have also caught 4 students who have confirmed they bought the entrance test paper. Shamelessly the education minister continues to defend NTA and denies paper leak. Why is Home Ministry also silent?" Priyanka Chaturvedi further adds, "Here's a thread exposing the mismanagement, paper leaks, and rigging of exams conducted by the NTA over the past two years. Read through and reflect on why our government has remained silent on these issues for the last 2-3 years. Besides the NEET 2024 and UGC-NET, so many more examples to show the Education Emergency that this government has forced on the youth of this country and jeopardised their careers by not taking strong action. Shame on the government and the education minister." Will the government curb the menace of paper leakage and take harsh steps by punishing the all involved, whether it's a government agency or an officer?

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Army Vs Air Force - A Better Career Choice

Vijay GarG



To choose the Indian Armed Forces as a career is different from other career alternatives. It is not an easy job. The majority of people that enrol in the Indian Armed Forces do that due to a certain view of nationalism and thinking about the initiative of the Nation. No matter if the person is a soldier, a clerk, a technical assistant, a cartographer, or even a tradesman in the Indian Armed Forces; the majority of them join this with the sense of nationalism. The Armed Forces include the Indian Army, the Indian Navy, and the Indian Air Force. All these three wings have their individual methods of admission and different structures. The Indian Army is in charge of defending the land, honour of the nation against all the external aggression as well as internal disturbances. During the war, the army is liable to protect the country against external violence, whereas, in the peacetime, it offers help to the national authorities in case of natural

calamities, and also helps in maintaining law & order when necessary. The Indian Air Force is liable for country's Air Defense, playing both defensive and offensive roles. **Work Nature** The Indian Army is primarily divided into the Combat Arms and other Services. The Combat Arms include the Artillery, the Infantry, and the Armored Corps and they are responsible for the real combat. The services include Army Ordnance Corps, Army Service Corps, Army Medical Corps, Army Postal services, Intelligence Corps, and Army Education Corps. These services are responsible to make sure continuous stream of essential supplies and ordnance, including food for animal and men, Fuel for the vehicles, ammunition, and tanks. Different branches of the Indian Air Force include Flying Branch, Ground Duty (Administrative), and Technical Branch. Postgraduates that enter into the Air Force are ineligible for the Flying Branch, however, can work in the Ground Duty Branch and the Technical Branch. The Flying branch consists of Fighter Pilots that fly fighter planes or combat carrying missiles and ammunition; Transport Pilots that fly

planes carrying men or materials and the Helicopter Pilots that offer air assistance to the moving Army. The Technical Branch consists of engineering sections and it is liable for the weapons systems and engineering equipment in the Air Force. The Administrative (Ground Duty) Branch consists of all the departments which offer Logistical, Educational, Meteorological, and Administrative help in the technical and flying branches. **Personality** A career being an officer or a soldier needs a special kind of character. The screening tests which the Indian Army organizes are mainly designed for checking a candidate's character. More importance is given to the candidate's character than his physical abilities. The SSB (Services Selection Board) tries and find out if the candidate is having the ability to handle physical and mental pressure. As the life of an officer or a soldier involves war and the cruel realism of it, very few people can handle the physical and mental pressure. These tests, which the SSB organizes, are not physically demanding, but they are meant for evaluating the candidate's psychological character. A successful applicant needs to survive the

mental and physical pressure. The courses of the NDA (National Defense Academy) or the IMA (Indian Military Academy) test candidate's ability to handle the pressure to the extreme. Punishments (that are the only type of ragging permitted in these institutions) are validated by including them as part of their training. They are intended to construct a future officer or soldier's capability to survive and not surrender under extreme physical or mental pressure. There are Multiple Ways through which One may enter the IMA. There is a Direct Entry system where one needs to apply to the advertisements in the March/April or October/November for the admissions in January or July correspondingly. One needs to have an age limit between 19 to 24 years in January/July (depends on the semester or term which you are applying for). One needs to have a degree from a recognized university (minimum Bachelor's degree) at the admission time (January/July). Then one needs to appear in the CDSE (Combined Defense Services Exam) and then go for the UPSC along with SSB interview. There is a university entrance system for the engineering students also. One needs to apply

against the July advertisements for the admissions of subsequent July. The system is relevant for the pre-final year and final year engineering students. One has to be between the age limit of 19-25 years at the admission time if somebody is in the final year and between the age limit of 18-24 years if somebody is in the pre-final year. One needs to appear for the SSB interview and campus interview for this type of entry. The applicant isn't required to sit in the written test. One may also apply whereas in the school, however rather than enrolling for the NDA, one may join in the IMA. It is only valid for the students having Physics, Mathematics, and Chemistry in the 12th class and needs a minimum of 70% total for applying. One needs to reply to the advertisements in May/November for the admissions in January/July correspondingly and one should have an age between 16.5- 19.5 years in January/July. One needs to apply straight to the Recruitment Directorate. The SSC (Short Services Commission) permits the candidates to provide a time duration of five years. When this tenure is ended, one may go to the Permanent Commission. Instead, one may also go for the 5-year expansion and may select to give resignation from the post

during that period. **Air Force Roles** The Air Force focuses completely on the aerial missions, including flying fighter aircraft or offering aerial support to the land-based troops. Though, Air Force officials could also be associated with the launch of rockets and satellites into space for intelligence objectives. Enrolled Air Force persons are normally assigned practical roles like information technology or weapons maintenance services. Both the enrolled persons and officers have to be mathematically expert and technical-minded, despite the positions they assume. **Army Positions** The Army offers possibly the widest range of roles in all the military branches. Officers could take a profession path as infantry, armour, artillery commanders, or aviators. Enrolled troops will have similar roles, even though they won't take flight unless they step forward to warrant the official status. Having the right credentials and education, you may also become the Army physician or attorney counselling commanders and protecting soldiers at the courts-martial. Majority of Army roles are on the battlefield, taking the direct fight with the enemy to secure

vital strategic locations. **Special Operations** The Air Force provides "Army-like" positions with special operations like a 'Tactical Air Patrol Party Specialist'. These experts work on the grounds, entrenched with the Army or Marine forces. Their main role is communicating precise information and coordinates so that pilots can offer precise air support to the ground troops. The Air Force Para Rescue Jumpers are sent to the unfavourable territory to find downed airmen, with the help of battling skills to take everybody home safely. The special troops of the Army include the Special Forces. These units can get assignments, anything from arresting enemy places like an airport or assassinating higher value targets. **Promotion and Advancement** With both branches, getting promotions involves the exhibition of leadership and competence to commanders and supervisors. You are suggested for promotion after passing through the preliminary enlisted ranks, whereas the majority of promotions are automated. Officers have to display adequate leadership and control capabilities to keep progress. In all the military branches, getting passed more than twice

for the advancement is the signal that you wouldn't be considered for higher rankings any further. The Air Force and the Army employ panels for the non-commissioned officers, and their achievements are assessed to decide a d v a n c e m e n t opportunities. **Remunerations** The remuneration with other reimbursements available to the officers may be seen in the Army Pay and Benefits and Allowances. As you can see the compensation is significant both with cash salaries and also additional benefits. **Conclusion** The Army and the Air Force both are gratifying career paths. The Army and the Air Force are having both differences and similarities and a few of them might not be clearly evident. For instance, even though you could think about the Air Force like a military division, which focuses only on aviation, you may also associate with the land-based special operations. If you compare career path alternatives, e d u c a t i o n a l requirements, and average "day in the life," then you can take a more well-versed decision about which is a better career choice for you.

Retired Principal
Educational
columnist
malout,Punjab

HAR KAAM DESH KE NAAM'

10TH INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY CELEBRATIONS



Srinagar, (KCN): The 10th International Day of Yoga (IDY) under the theme "Yoga for Self and Society" was celebrated on 21 Jun 24 at Air Force Station Awantipur. The Yoga was practiced by Vayu Yodhas and their family members. Air Warriors trained as Yoga Instructors with their expertise conducted the

mass yoga event by following the Common Yoga Protocol sequence. Junior Warrant Officer Ved Prakash, Yoga Instructor gave an introductory talk on the importance and health benefits of practicing Yoga. The event involved conduct of various Yogic Kriyas, Meditation exercises,

Sankalpa, Prayer and demonstration. Whole hearted participation by the Station personnel made the event a huge success. Group Captain NK Dubey, Base Commander addressed the gathering and exhorted all personnel to adopt yoga as a part of their daily lifestyle.

SMP, Kolkata Observes International Day of Yoga



Kolkata, (KCN): Today, besides the serene Ganges, keeping the majestic Howrah Bridge behind, the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SMP), Kolkata observed the

International Yoga Day - 2024 at Millenium Park III with a special focus on women participation under the leadership of Shri Rathendra Raman, Chairman, SMP

Kolkata. Shri Samrat Rahi, Deputy Chairman, Heads of the Departments along with CISF officials and other officials from SMP, Kolkata participated in this event.

Income Tax Department Observes World Yoga Day

Kolkata, (KCN): Right in unison with the entire Universe, the World Yoga Day was celebrated at Aayakar Bhawan situated at Esplanade, Kolkata on Friday, June 21, 2024. During the celebration,

the Chief Commissioners', Commissioners' of the Income Tax Department were present. The other dignitaries of the Department alongside the rank and

file were also present and performed the YOGA. The event was a grand success which had created a stir among the others present there and the performances were appreciated by all and sundry.

Celebration of International Day of Yoga at Gun & Shell Factory, Cossipore

Kolkata, (KCN): The 10th International Day of Yoga was celebrated with dedication and enthusiasm at the Gun & Shell Factory (GSF), Cossipore, Kolkata, under the Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd on Friday (June 21, 2024). This year's theme was "Yoga for Self and Society", focusing on the wellbeing of both body

and mind. Early in the morning, senior officers and factory employees under the leadership of Executive Director of GSF, Shri Rajesh Kumar Pandey, IOFS, participated in the yoga camp. Following the protocol of the Ministry of AYUSH, the yoga session was conducted by Shri Subrata Santra, a renowned body builder

and yoga expert, who is also an employee of GSF. Participants practiced various postures, including Siddhasana, Bhujangasana, Dhanurasana and Shalabhasana, among other asanas. Shri Rajesh Kumar Pandey emphasised the importance of practicing yoga throughout the year to maintain physical and mental

health. On this occasion, Shri Pandey also distributed awards to participants of different competitions which were held in the context of celebrations of International Day of Yoga. Separate Yoga camps would be held at GSF premises over the coming week for all levels of employees including industrial workers. Furthermore,

a week-long workshop and awareness camp on yoga techniques has been organized for employees and their families at the residential estate as part of the Yoga Day celebrations. Moreover, as a prelude to the International Yoga Day on June 21, essay writing, slogan writing and yoga competitions were organised at GSF.

ARMY RECRUITMENT RALLY AT ARO BARRACKPORE

Kolkata, (KCN): Army Recruitment Rally will be held to shortlist candidates of districts North 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Bankura and Purulia under Agniveer Scheme from July 11-18, 2024 at Major Dhyan Chand Stadium, Barrackpore Cantt. The proposed rally will shortlist candidates for

regular Army (Soldier Tech Nursing Assistant and Sepoy Pharma category only. Successful candidates of Online Command Entrance Examination (CEE) who were shortlisted post Online CEE have been called up for the Physical Fitness Tests and Medical Examination at Major Dhyan Chand Stadium

Barrackpore Cantt. Admit Cards of the successful candidates have already been sent to their registered Email IDs. Candidates can also download their admit card for the recruitment rally by logging into their profile on Join Indian Army website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in. For any query,

candidates may approach ARO Barrackpore at Contact No.033-29770813 & 033-25452958. Candidates are advised not to handover their original documents to any person during the recruitment process to avoid falling prey to Touts/Agents nefarious activities. Any such incident must

immediately be reported to local police and recruiting staff of Army Recruiting Office, Barrackpore. Strict measures have been implemented to arrest such Touts/Agents and malpractices during Recruitment Rally through local police and civil administration who have been co-opted for the same.

A Silent evening organized by Muk Academy

Kolkata, (KCN): A program of Mime Acting was held under the direction of Muk Academy at Shishir Manch, Kolkata with the support of West Bengal Natya Academy. The program was divided into two phases. In the first episode, Late Mime artist Arunabh Majumdar's Memorial honor was given to Mime artist



Suvendu Mukhopadhyay and Soma Das by veteran Mime artist Mukul Dev. In the second phase, silent dramas 'Dui Bigha Zami', 'Anubhav', 'Akti Gach Akti Pran', and 'Mrityo - Amrito Palash' directed by Mukul Dev were presented. Mau Sen Sharma was the moderator and Chandra Dev was the director of this 45th year program of Muk Academy.

With Shivraj Chouhan's Move To Delhi, Spotlight On Son Kartikey Chouhan

Bhopal, (KCN): With Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the former chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, making to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cabinet and the switch to Delhi, political circles are abuzz about the possible rise of his son Kartikey Singh Chouhan. Mr Chouhan, now Union Agriculture Minister, led a grand roadshow in Bhopal last Sunday. This was followed by a workers' gratitude conference in Bherunda, Sehore, on Friday amid huge buzz that the Minister's son, Kartikey Chouhan, might be fielded from the Budhni Assembly seat vacated by his father.

In Bhopal, Mr Chouhan's roadshow drew massive crowds, underscoring people's love for the leader. Supporters lined both sides of the streets, waved flags and cheered for him.

In Bherunda, Sehore, at a workers' gratitude conference, to celebrate the historic victory of Mr Chouhan in the Budhni Assembly, Kartikey Chauhan, along with his mother Sadhana Singh, thanked the people. Senior Chouhan addressed the gathering through video conferencing. Addressing the workers, Kartikey Chouhan highlighted the overwhelming support from the Budhni Assembly constituency, where his father secured a remarkable victory by 1.5 lakh votes. "The people of Budhni have consistently given their blessings to our leader, making Shivraj ji the MLA six times. He is the only leader whose election is fought by the people of the constituency. I bow at your feet," said the Junior Chouhan, an alumnus of

the University of Pennsylvania Law School. The event was attended by several officials, including the BJP District President. Kartikey Chouhan used this platform to discuss various issues with the workers and reflect on the challenges faced during the 2023 elections. "Many fingers were raised, but we have given a befitting reply to the intellectuals. I do not see any difference between you, me and Shivraj ji. We all have many bodies and one soul," said the son. "In the 2024 elections, everyone put forward their views in the Vidisha p a r l i a m e n t a r y constituency meeting. The results came out, and we registered a victory by one and a half lakh votes," he proudly announced.

Director General of Foreign Trade Discusses new Facilitation Mechanisms for Strengthening Export Market of India in City

K o l k a t a , (KCN):Exports from India have grown considerably in the last two to three years and from the just concluded financial year 2023-24 the export stands at USD 778 billion from USD 776 despite the Red Sea crisis (the Houthi attacks on vessels in the Red Sea after a second freighter sank. Three seafarers were killed in the attack so far), Israel-Hamas war, continuation of Russia - Ukraine imbroglio, such a r e m a r k a b l e performance in export market, is highly appreciable, said Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, the Director General of Foreign Trade under Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry today in Kolkata. Shri

Sarangi was in the city to address an open house with the leading exporters of the city and answer their queries. He pointed out that in 2022-23, the export figure stood at USD 676 billion. The Director General appreciated the growth of export and stated, it indicated higher levels of job creations, development and monetary gains percolating to different levels and with the integration of the international market, more growth in quality and standards required in the international market is achieved correspondingly -in processing, packaging, quality of delivery, timing and the like. He added the Foreign Trade Policy of 2023 based on four pillars- 1. Incentive to



remission, 2. Export promotion through collaboration-exporters, districts, Indian Missions, 3. Ease of doing business, reduction in transaction cost and e-initiatives and 4. Emerging areas- E-commerce Developing Districts as Export Hubs and streamlining SCOMET policy. While speaking to the media-correspondents

present, Shri Garg also mentioned about the facilitation (issuance of E-certificates) to accentuate stakeholders to get Free Trade Agreement benefits. DGFT has till date issued more than 25 lakh certificates of origin, he stated. Shri Garg also mentioned about the implementation of the enhanced electronic Bank Realisation

Certificate (BRC) system- the streamlined process based on electronic Inward Remittance Messages to be transmitted directly by banks to DGFT. Based on this mechanism the exporters are able to self certify their eBRCs. He mentioned the automation schemes developed by DGFT. Accordingly, ad-hoc Input Output Norms are going to be determined

through a rule-based, system-driven process, aimed at improving the ease of doing business for exporters, stated Shri Singh to the media. Shri Sarangi also informed about the e-platforms of trade- an online platform that will facilitate aspiring exporters through guidance and hand-holding in all aspects of trade which will be made

operational soon. The Trade Connect e-Platform will provide tutorials on how to start exporting by providing information of products in demand, markets which where the demand for their products is, buyer events relevant to them and paperwork required to register as an exporter, he said. Apart from the market information, the platform will also have information regarding regulatory matters, export benefits available, tariffs in different countries and opportunities in countries with which India has Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Shri Sarangi pointed out. The portal will also act as a window to explore opportunities through e-commerce and leads generated by Indian missions. It will be a

single, direct intermediary platform between exporters and various government trade related entities including Indian missions abroad. It will also provide authentic sources to buyers to validate Indian exporter profile, he reiterated. Providing e-commerce links will also be done by this platform, said Shri Sarangi. Detailed list of event calendars along with the link is also going to be available in this portal, Shri Sarangi propounded. Besides, in the second phase of the portal, trade finance related services will be available, he pointed out. Phase one will be available within next three months and phase two in October informed Shri Sarangi today at the end.

Vision On Tribal Care

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Minister ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department, Nityananda Gond, while reviewing the various programmes and schemes of the ST, SC Development M&BCW Department today, called for massive awareness programmes to identify young people to be the voice of the deprived and taking various livelihood related programmes to the grassroots. While reviewing the work of ST, SC Development M&BCW Department at SCSTRTI Conference Hall this afternoon, the Minister also asked the officials and staff for all-round

cooperation and make a 100-Day Action Plan and a Vision Document to take the reach of the department to a new level. The Minister also asked the officials of the Department to go for a new scheme to construct Multi-purpose Community Centres for tribal people across the state and Urban Residential Programmes in and around the State Capital to accommodate stay and food for the tribal family members and students. Calling for inclusion of Class XI and XII students under the ANWESHA Scheme to provide quality English medium education for bright tribal boys and girls in urban areas, he also stressed need for



more hostel facilities for SC and OBC boys and girls across the state through State schemes as they are still facing difficulties while availing higher education. He also

emphasized on the Aadhar inclusion of the PVTG groups as Odisha is home to 64 tribal communities and 13 Primitive Tribal Groups. In order to provide the

tribal people an economic boost he also asked the Department officials to make provision for minor forest produce (MFP) procurement at gram panchayat level and

make the GPs serve as procurement units. The Minister was briefed on various schemes, programmes, initiatives and activities undertaken by the ST, SC Development

M&BCW Department by Secretary, Roopa Roshan Sahoo Director Tribal Affairs Indramani Tripathy and other senior officials. During his review, the Minister also suggested that to make the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jati Abhyuday Yojna (PM-AJAY) more people-centric, district level meeting and awareness should also be held at GP-level. Saying that timely disbursement of agricultural inputs must be ensured for livelihood schemes like Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeevika Mission, the Minister asked the senior officials to include more and more PVTG groups through State schemes and Pradhan Mantri Janajati Nyaya Maha

Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN). Terming the unused government buildings (both under State and Centre jurisdiction) as a sheer wastage of the public exchequer, the Minister advised the Department officials to map such structures across the State and use them for the hostel purposes of the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities across Odisha. Praising the Koraput Coffee as a unique tribal product from Odisha, which is gaining worldwide praise from the connoisseurs of quality and organic coffee, the Minister also asked for up-scaling the product so that the tribal groups involved in the processing and cultivation would benefit.

Rice ATM in Bhubaneswar to start within a week

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The state's first rice ATM (Automated Teller Machine) will be set up in the Capital City within a week's time to streamline Public Distribution System (PDS) for ration card beneficiaries, informed Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra, Thursday. Patra, who took a review meeting of the Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare department earlier, said a card will be provided to each ration card beneficiary which can be used to get rice from such ATMs anywhere in the country. Gradually such rice ATMs will be set-up at all district headquarters towns, he said. "Currently, there are



over 50 lakh ghost ration card beneficiaries. Each one of them will be identified and their names will be deleted from the list, and new eligible beneficiaries will be added soon. An order in this regard has been issued to the concerned officials," Patra said. Informing about procurement of paddy,

the minister said the state government will start procuring paddy at Rs3,100 per quintal. "After the Centre hiked the paddy Minimum Support Price (MSP) to Rs2,300, our burden has reduced. We will have to pay only Rs800 more instead of Rs917 per quintal," he said. He said farmers

henceforth will not face any 'Katni Chhatni' issue during the procurement of paddy and the money will be transferred to their accounts within 48 hours of procurement. The minister warned of strict action against millers/dealers on receipt of complaints by farmers.

Monsoon delay worries farmers in Nayagarh

Nayagarh(KCN): Delay in monsoons has affected paddy cultivation and hit farmers hard in this district, sources stated here Thursday. Over 89 per cent of farmlands in the district are yet to be cultivated due to delay in arrival of rains. Farmers said that these days they are frequently witnessing lightning and thunderstorms, but those are not resulting in sufficient rains. The lack of irrigation facilities are worrying them also as they fear that their livelihoods will be affected. Farmers informed that some of them have sowed paddy seeds, but that is only on 11 per cent of the farmlands. Kabuli Pradhan of Balugaon village said they are waiting for rains to arrive. "There has been erratic rainfall last week, but not in a



regular manner, which is so essential for paddy cultivation," he stated. Pradhan said that a few of them had sowed paddy seeds on dry farmlands expecting rains to arrive soon. "However, it now looks that the seeds have gone to waste," he said. Other farmers opined that they were expecting rainfall after the 'Raja' festival, but that too has not happened, leaving them frustrated. Rabindra Barad of Raipur village under Nuagaon block said many like him are spending sleepless

nights due to delay in arrival of monsoons. "Unless it starts raining we cannot cultivate paddy," he stated. Abhimanyu Guman Singh of Chakradharprasad village under Bhapur block said that they will incur heavy losses due to the delay in arrival of monsoons. "We don't know when we can sow the paddy seeds. The delay in monsoonal rains has thrown a spanner in our cultivation plans. We cannot cultivate paddy on dry lands,"

he asserted. His observation was backed by Ganeshwar Mishra of Godipada village under Odagaon block and Gobinda Kahalsingh of Latar village under Ranpur block. "Fear of crop loss is haunting us now," both said. When contacted, chief district agriculture officer Sanjay Kumar Dalei confirmed the situation. He however, said that paddy seeds are available in stores for farmers. Farmers however, pointed out that there will be no takers for the seeds till the rains arrive.



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realme redefines low light photography standards with the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G starting from INR 18,999

Bhubaneswar : realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled the newest addition to their super successful NARZO By realme line-up - NARZO 70 Pro 5G. NARZO By realme is a stylish line of smartphones that delivers a comprehensive user experience. With a rapidly growing user base of over 16 million in India, NARZO By realme represents the next generation of smartphones. These devices are designed with advanced technology and premium features to help users stay ahead of the curve and express their individuality. The new

realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G aims to redefine industry standards for low-light photography, further cementing realme's commitment to innovation and excellence. realme& Amazon have strategically engaged to bring the NARZO By realme line-up and to provide consumers with an enhanced shopping experience. NARZO By realme is exclusively available on Amazon.in and has been committed to bringing advanced technology to its users. In line with realme's dual platform strategy, realme launched its first online store on Amazon in March 2023. The realmeNARZO 70

Pro 5G is a power-packed smartphone with remarkable features designed to enhance your smartphone experience. It boasts India's first 50MP Sony IMX890 Camera with Optical Image Stabilization (OIS) in the segment for capturing stunning, blur-free photos. The smartphone's visual appeal is elevated by the Horizon Glass Design and a 120Hz Ultra-Smooth AMOLED Display that offers vibrant colors and deep blacks. Powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 7050 5G Chipset, it ensures fast performance and supports 5G connectivity for faster internet speeds. First in the segment, realme NARZO 70 Pro incorporates Air Gesture controls, allowing



you to perform various actions without touching the screen. To maintain optimal performance during intense usage, it comes with a 3D VC Cooling System that effectively dissipates heat. The smartphone houses a large 5000mAh battery and supports efficient 67W SUPERVOOC charging technology for

quick power-ups. Lastly, the realme UI 5.0 based on Android 14 offers a smooth, intuitive user interface with several customization options and features for enhanced usability. The realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G is available in two stunning colors: Glass Green and Glass Gold and two storage variants:

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India registers 3, 53,188 unit sales

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022.

The company's total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic.

Commenting on the sales performance in May'22, Mr. Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, "The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May'21 as frequent lockdowns during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon."

TVS Motor Company registers sales of 302,982 units

Hosur: TVS Motor Company sales was at 302,982 units in May 2022. The year-on-year growth is not comparable due to the low base of sales in May 2021 because of the localised lockdown imposed by the Government of India during that period.

Two-Wheeler
Total two-wheelers sales grew from 154,416 units in May 2021 to 287,058 units in May 2022. Domestic two-wheeler sales grew from 52,084 units in May 2021 to 191,482 units in May 2022.

Motorcycle sales grew from 125,188 units in May 2021 to 148,560 units in May 2022. Scooter sales of the Company grew from 19,627 units in May 2021 to 100,665 units in May 2022.

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

premium two-wheelers. We are working aggressively with alternate sources and taking every effort to improve supplies at the earliest. Some improvement has been seen this month. We are optimistic that volumes will revive to normal levels once the semiconductor supplies improve.

The Company's total exports registered sales of 110,245 units in May 2022 as against 114,674 units in May 2021. Two-wheeler exports recorded sales of 95,576 units in May 2022 as against 102,332 units in May 2021.

Three-wheeler of the Company grew by 28% from 12,473 units in May 2021 to 15,924 units in May 2022.

The domestic two-wheeler sales include TVS iQube Electric sales of 2,637 units in May 2022.

Spice Money to enable farmers to withdraw PM-KISAN subsidy through its 1 million Adhikari Network

New Delhi: The Government of India has disbursed PM KISAN subsidy, directly to the farmers' bank accounts benefiting over 10 crore farmers and families who have received a grant of Rs 2,000 each. Spice Money, India's leading rural fintech with 1 million strong Adhikari network covering 18,500 plus pincodes, is assisting the farmers and farmer families residing in the heartlands of the country, to withdraw this subsidy through AePS at their doorstep Adhikari

8GB+128GB, priced at INR 19,999 and 8GB+256GB, priced at INR 21,999

Commenting on the launch, a realme spokesperson said, "Today, we are thrilled to introduce the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G, exclusively on Amazon, a smartphone that is set to redefine low-light photography standards in the smartphone industry. With Narzo By realme, we are committed to pushing boundaries and delivering products that resonate with our young and tech-savvy audience. With the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G, we have introduced cutting-edge technology and

advanced features that will redefine the mid-range segment. We believe this smartphone will further solidify our position as a brand that offers innovative and trendsetting smartphones."

Commenting on the launch, Ranjit Babu, Director, Wireless and Home Entertainment, Amazon India said, "The Narzo series has been highly rated by customers on Amazon.in for its powerful performance, design and value for money. We extend our congratulations to the entire realme team on the launch of the Narzo 70 Pro, a smartphone

Union Bank of India signs MOU with SIDBI for Co-Financing arrangement of MSMEs

Mumbai: Union Bank of India today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for a Co-Financing arrangement for MSMEs. The MoU was signed by Shri Lal Singh, Chief General Manager, Union Bank of India and Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, Chief General Manager, SIDBI. SIDBI is country's principal financial institution engaged in the Promotion, Financing and Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

Under the MoU, Union Bank of India would consider Joint financing/Co-Financing with SIDBI to Projects/Units in the MSME. This MoU would help the Banks to increase their

customer base, while helping the MSMEs to meet their funding requirements. The key highlights of the arrangement include joint identification of viable projects and term loan and working capital financing to MSMEs. Initially the arrangement would be at specific centers and once the arrangement stabilizes at these centers, more locations would be covered.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Lal Singh, CGM (MSME), Union Bank of India, said "MSME is one of the key sectors of our Indian Economy contributing to GDP, Exports, Manufacturing Output, Employment, Women Empowerment etc. MSME is one of the focused areas of the Bank and at Union Bank

that aims to set newer benchmarks in the segment with its cutting-edge camera and stunning glass design. Along with other exciting launch offers, we are happy to announce that customers can also enjoy a hassle-free instant loan within minutes enabling up to 3 months of no-cost installments* on the Narzo 70 Pro, without the need for a credit card using Amazon Pay Later. We are proud of our continued engagement with realme and with the addition of the Narzo 70 Pro, we have further expanded our portfolio of 5G smartphones."

of India, we aim to become Bank of 1st choice for MSMEs. This tie-up with SIDBI aids in realizing the Bank's vision to have increased credit flow to the MSME sector and extend operational convenience to the MSME clientele. Under partnership, Union Bank of India through its Pan India branch network can provide general Banking products like Current Accounts, Savings Accounts, Working Capital facilities and other related services to the MSME Customers of SIDBI."

Also, speaking on the tie-up arrangement, Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, CGM, SIDBI reiterated SIDBI's commitment towards timely financing for MSMEs across all sectors.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR SUB-WAY NEAR NIDHIPANDA BRIDGE STARTED



BHUBANESWAR, (KCN): Railway Minister Kept his promise and was sanctioned fund of rupees 14.7 Crores in September 2023. The construction work for Sub-way near Nidhipanda Railway Bridge started today. Sri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble Minister for Railways during his visit to Balasore on 21st June, 2023 had met the villagers who had a long pending demand for construction of a subway near Nidhipanda Bridge (Br. No. 259).

The Railway Minister discussed the issue with local villagers and assured them to resolve the matter. The 'Designing team' of Railway has immediately prepared the design for Subway which was approved by the competent authority. A fund of Rs. 14.7 crores has been sanctioned in September 2023 by the

Railway Board for construction of Subway near Nidhipanda Bridge of Balasore.

Nidhipanda bridge is an important bridge in Haldipada-Balasore section of Kharagpur - Bhadrak section. One of the spans of this bridge is being used by local people for commuting of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The area gets water logged during monsoon and the crossing under the bridge becomes unapproachable cutting connectivity to villages. In light of these issues, after Hon'ble Minister for Railways instructions, a survey was immediately conducted for provision of alternate, safe arrangement for vehicular traffic as well as pedestrians. A scheme was prepared whereby a subway of size 5m (W) X 5m (H) has been proposed at the

approach of the bridge at Kharagpur end. This subway will be used for passing of all kinds of vehicles including heavy vehicles.

In view of the above, the construction work has been started which will fulfill the demand of local people. Additionally, keeping in mind that the area is prone to waterlogging during monsoon, a second subway is proposed having dimensions of 4m(W)X 2.7m(H) which is about 1.6m above the bed level of the bridge and will act as an all-weather road even in times of heavy water discharges. With the intervention and close monitoring of Hon'ble Minister for Railways, the project and fund of Rs 14.7 crores was sanctioned in September 2023 and work is now started with close monitoring.

RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

Mumbai: RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA's toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL's toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building toy manufacturing in India.

Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started its India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market.

"Keeping with our

honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar India, this collaboration with Plastic Legno's deep experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets," said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited.

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand - Rowan, making RBL one of the leading toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global

footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India's largest chain of toy stores.

"We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno's experience in Toys production and Hamley's commercial outreach, will complement one another to enable the JV Company to achieve greater heights and successes. We have important development plans to implement, always in the spirit of creating a cultural background in this specific sector in India. We are ready for the challenges of the future, but when there is a group like RBL alongside, we are sure that together we can do a great development," said Paolo Sunino, Co-owner, Sunino Group.

Aditya Birla Group formally launches TMRW - a Digital First 'House of Brands' venture in the Fashion & Lifestyle space

Mumbai: Aditya Birla Group today announced the formal launch of its new 'House of Brands' entity- TMRW. This move is in line with the group's strategy to launch and back new-age digital ventures. TMRW, an Aditya Birla Group venture, will create India's largest portfolio of disruptor brands in the fashion & lifestyle space and enable the next phase of direct to consumer (D2C) growth in India, which is poised to be a \$100bn market by 2025. Over the next 3 years, TMRW will acquire as well as incubate 30+ innovative, customer-obsessed brands. The venture will also enable multiple founders to operate within a synergistic 'house of brands' platform that share a common vision and shared capabilities. Aditya Birla Group has appointed ex Facebook & Bain executive, Prashanth Aluru, as the CEO & Co-Founder to lead the build out of this new venture. Prashanth will set-up a nimble and

agile founding team with the right skill sets and capabilities. Prashanth comes with extensive experience in Digital & Technology across strategy, growth and investing. He also brings to the fore rich entrepreneurial experience in helping build and scale new age ventures in Digital & E-Commerce. Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL said, "The formal launch of our D2C business, TMRW, is a key milestone for the company. This venture has the potential to become a significant growth engine by tapping into the new wave of entrepreneurial energy in India. Our aspiration is to build a portfolio of 30+ brands in the next 3 years. With the launch of this venture, we intend to double down on our ongoing program of strategically attracting new pools of capital that are seeking investment in high-growth businesses. We are confident that this

foray will successfully meet the aspirations of digitally native consumers and also create long-term value for investors and other stakeholders." Prashanth Aluru, CEO and Co-Founder, TMRW said, "I am excited to embark on this journey to build TMRW - a long-term enduring platform that will be home to the leading disruptor brands that provide the new age digitally savvy consumer what she is looking for across Fashion & Lifestyle. With the backing of the Aditya Birla Group and the right profile of long-term investors we will bring in, we are confident of powering the growth of several brands that shape the next phase of digital commerce growth till 2030 and beyond. With a new age Digital first DNA, at TMRW, we will jointly create an ecosystem of the most-loved disruptor brands partnering closely with highly competent founders."

Hope, bowlers sink USA in NRR-boosting win

NewDelhi:Shai Hope smashed eight sixes on his way to a 39-ball 82* as West Indies made mincemeat of USA's total of 128. This came after Roston Chase and Andre Russell picked three wickets each to deny USA a competitive total after their steady start in the PowerPlay. USA lost their way from there and never recovered as West Indies galloped to a big, NRR-boosting victory that pushed them up to second ahead of England in the Super-8s table.

In the end, USA were inferior in every department but the stark difference came in the middle overs where they lost as many as five wickets. West Indies meanwhile, raced away in this phase after setting themselves up with a fiery PowerPlay. US were off to a shaky start after Akeal Hosein kept them down to just three singles in the first over and Andre Russell

found the early breakthrough in the second over - getting Steven Taylor caught at backward point. Nitish Kumar decided to find the release against Obed McCoy, who interestingly was instantly impactful when he came on to bowl against Afghanistan a few days earlier. Nitish went inside out over cover, and swung to find the mid-wicket boundary in a 12-run fourth over. Rovman Powell immediately replaced him with Alzarri Joseph, who too was taken apart, in the final over of the PowerPlay conceding 16 runs. Andries Gous took his T20 World Cup 2024 tally past 200 - and that of Nicholas Pooran to the top of the batting charts for the tournament, temporarily. He also earned a reprieve when a thick outside edge flew to the right of the short third fielder, who put in the dive but couldn't hold on.

Gudakesh Motie put a dent in USA's recovery as he trapped Nitish leg before on the second ball after PowerPlay. Captain Aaron Jones walked out spelling more misery for Joseph, tonking him for a six on the roof in his second over. Joseph however, hit back with the wicket of Gous - caught at midwicket. US stuttered further through the middle as Roston Chase arrived and took out Jones on his first delivery, leaving USA four down for 65 in the 10th over. Milind Kumar and Corey Anderson attempted a slow recovery but Chase put an end to that in a double-wicket over. He first had Anderson trapped leg before and then tossed one up to get Harmeet Singh caught at backward point off a leading edge. The downward trajectory of USA's innings continued as they folded for 128 in the final over. Even the 32



runs that came at the death were largely down to one explosive over - off Andre Russell, which fetched 15 runs. Milind and Shadley van Schalkwyk combined to push USA past the 100-run mark in the 16th over before both departed in the space of three deliveries in an eventful 18th over. Ali Khan walked out and tonked a six down the ground and

followed it up with a four. Ali Khan's exploits had to end on 14* off 6 as USA lost their last two wickets at the other end. Russell put the finishing touches, taking his T20 World Cups wickets tally to 27 - the joint-best for West Indies with Dwayne Bravo. Saurabh Netravalkar bowled a tight first over but the West Indian

carnage began right after when Shai Hope carted left-arm spinner Nosthush Kenjige for a six over deep midwicket. That was the first of eight sixes Hope would go on to smash in his 39-ball unbeaten essay. He then went after Netravalkar, Ali Khan and Schalkwyk while Johnson Charles enjoyed from the best viewing deck - the non-striker's

end, occasionally chipping in with a boundary. By the end of the PowerPlay, Hope raced away to 42 off 23 and USA were no closer to a breakthrough. Hope quickly got to his fifty and continued to throw his bat around for quick runs, even as Harmeet Singh earned USA a much-needed breakthrough with the wicket of Charles. That

wicket however, was the only wicket they would pick and was a mere consolation as Nicholas Pooran walked out with the same murderous intent as Hope. Hope meanwhile found another gear to his carnage, smashing three successive sixes of Milind - in the 'V', one over mid-wicket and another over extra cover - in a 22-run over. Pooran gave Hope a break by doing the damage himself in the following over off Schalkwyk, getting 13 off it to push West Indies past the 100-run mark. Three sixes in four deliveries in the 11th over - from Netravalkar - then brought a swift end to the chase with two coming off Pooran's bat and the last - fittingly - off Hope's.

Brief Scores: USA 128 in 19.5 overs (Andries Gous 29; Roston Chase 3-19, Andre Russell 3-31) lost to West Indies 130/1 in 10.5 overs (Shai Hope 82*, Nicholas Pooran 27*) by 9 wickets

MCA plans to revive its T20 league; calls an apex council meet



Mumbai:The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) is planning to revive its Twenty20 league. An emergent Apex Council meeting of the MCA has been called for Wednesday (April 24) to discuss the possibility of restarting the tournament that was shelved five years ago. According to sources in the association, the apex council will discuss the legal implications of reviving the league that was held for two years before it was discontinued in 2019. It was previously called T20 Mumbai and the association's plan is to start afresh with new guidelines. It could be called the Mumbai

Premier League (MPL). Sources say the apex body will see if there will be any legal fallouts if a fresh league with a new structure is started. The organisation of the previous league was outsourced to a company called Probability Sports which held all the rights of the tournament. Said a source in the know: "At that time there were still no Lodha rules and if we were to do it now, we will have to do it all afresh and as per the L o d h a recommendations. It cannot outsource the league's organisation. The MCA has to do it on its own. So we will have to look into all this." Another question before

the MCA is if it were to start afresh, how can it address the previous franchises. In T20 Mumbai, there were eight teams and the MCA now wants to have only six franchises. In the fresh tenders, it may consider whether it should give the first right of refusal to the previous owners or not. The apex council will decide that aspect too. A window has been identified which is immediately after the Indian Premier League (IPL) final on May 26. The MCA window could be between the last week of May and first week of June. "It's still 50-50 whether we can hold it or not. But we will decide tomorrow itself whether we will hold it this year or not," said the source. The eight teams in the T20 Mumbai were Aakash Tigers MWs, Arcs Andheri, Eagle Thane Tigers, Namo Bandra Blasters, North Mumbai Panthers, Sobo Supersonics, Shivaji Park Lions and Triumph Knights MNE.

Here to make a difference in spin department: Mushtaq Ahmed

Dhaka: Bangladesh young leg spinner Rishad Hossain is looking to take a leaf out of Mushtaq Ahmed's book as the legendary Pakistani legspinner will guide the team for the T20 World Cup. BCB recently appointed Mushtaq as the Bangladesh men's national team's new spin bowling coach until the end of the T20 World Cup 2024 in the West Indies and USA. Mushtaq, who replaced Rangana Herath in this position after the Sri Lankan left the job with the BCB last year following the opening Test against New Zealand, arrived in Dhaka on Monday. On Tuesday, Mushtaq came to the BCB premises and introduced himself to some of his charges at the BCB board room in presence head coach Chandika Hathurusingha and other members of the coaching panel. Bangladesh had always gone for orthodox spinner to guide the slow bowlers of the country as they included Daniel

Vettori, Sunil Joshi and Herath in the past and, naturally, Rishad is excited for a wristspinner to take charge now. "I feel lucky that I am getting a leg spinner as a coach. I will try to make the most of it by taking his lessons to my heart," Rishad, who was included in the preliminary squad for Zimbabwe series and looked all set to feature for Bangladesh in the forthcoming World Cup, told Cricbuzz recently. "I have to add variations to my bowling because that is the key to success for any spinner in the modern day cricket and I am sure he (Mushtaq) can show me ways to add more variations in my bowling," he said. "He is a very experienced man and all I want to know is to how I can pick wickets at different junctures of the game, like what kind of mindset should I carry while bowling in different situations," he said. "I would like to know how to read the batter and what should be my plan



of action against different kind of batters and as he is legendary cricketer I am sure he can guide me in this regard," he added. Mushtaq said the major challenge for him is to adapt to the new culture but he added that he is confident about making a difference. "It is very challenging. From a coaching skill point of view, it is totally different to the rest of the world. You have to adopt and be very proactive. You have to understand the cricket here basically. It is always a great

experience to be honest. Coming here, meeting very humble people. As a coach and player, you have to up to the mark. You have to be upright," Mushtaq was quoted in video posted by BCB in their official Facebook page on Tuesday. "I have to believe as a coach. I am here to make a difference in the spin department and I think I can make the difference," he said. "I think I can share my knowledge with the young people and senior players. Hopefully we can make a difference. I believe you

can only coach those teams that are coachable. The young people are very talented cricketers, so we can pass our experience to them. I believe they are a very talented team. They can challenge any team," he said. Mushtaq added that he is looking forward to work with local coaches in the coming days as he feels that every team needs to have spinners who can get wickets in the middle overs of white-ball cricket. "There's always a legspinner, mystery spinner and chinaman in the nets in Asia. I think that's where my experience will come through. Hopefully we can make communication through Bangladesh Cricket Board. We can meet club and first-class coaches," he said. "We can find legspinners and chinaman bowlers. You need to have spinners who can get you wickets in the middle overs of white-ball cricket," he concluded.

India to tour South Africa for short T20I series in November

NewDelhi:India will travel to South Africa for a short four-match T20I series in November 2024, Cricket South Africa and BCCI announced in a joint release. It'll mark the second straight year of the Indian men's team touring South Africa after playing all three formats in 2023-24. The first of the four T20Is is scheduled to be played at

Kingsmead, Durban on November 8. The teams will then move to Gqeberha for the second game on November 10 before rounding off the series in the Highveld with games in Centurion (November 13) and Johannesburg (November 15). The T20I leg of last year's tour ended with a 1-1 scoreline with the game in Durban washed out by rain.

The short assignment for India is sandwiched between their home Tests against New Zealand and their tour of Australia for the Border-Gavaskar series. "I would like to thank the BCCI for their continued support to South Africa's cricket, and world cricket in general," CSA Chairperson Lawson Naidoo said. "Any tour by the Indian cricket team to our



shores is filled with amazing camaraderie and exciting cricket, and I know our fans will be eagerly awaiting this series which will showcase the exceptional talent from both teams." In his statement, BCCI secretary Jay Shah said: "India and South Africa have always shared a deep and strong bond, one that both nations take great pride in. The Indian Cricket Team

has consistently received immense appreciation and love from South African fans, and this sentiment is equally strong among Indian fans towards the South African side. "I am confident that the upcoming series will once again highlight the on-field cricketing excellence and deliver enthralling, high-intensity contests."