

BJP Retains Arunachal Pradesh, SKM Sweeps Sikkim

New Delhi (KCN): The BJP on Sunday returned to power in Arunachal Pradesh, while the ruling Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) secured a second term in Sikkim. Voting was held for 60 assembly seats in Arunachal Pradesh and 32 assembly seats in Sikkim on April 19.

According to the Election Commission, the BJP returned to power in Arunachal Pradesh for the third time in a row after winning 46 seats. Results were declared on Sunday for 50 of the 60 assembly seats as the ruling party had already won ten seats unopposed. Chief Minister Pema Khandu was one of the ten party

candidates who won unopposed earlier.

The National People's Party (NPP) won five seats, while the People's Party of Arunachal got two seats and the NCP secured three. The Congress could manage only one seat, and Independent candidates emerged victorious in three constituencies.

In Sikkim, the SKM led by Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang won 31 seats, while the SDF won one seat.

The BJP retained power in Arunachal Pradesh for the third straight term by winning 36 seats, five more than the magic figure of 31 in the 60-member state Assembly, for which elections were

held April 19. The counting of votes is still underway in 24 centres in 24 districts across the northeastern state.

BJP candidates are leading on nine other seats — Along (East), Anini, Basar, Kalaktang, Kungtang, Mechuka, Miao, Namsai, and Nari Koyu (ST).

The National People's Party (NPP) candidates won three seats and are leading in two seats while the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) candidates won one seat and are leading in two seats.

The People's Party of Arunachal (PPA) candidates won two seats — Doimukh and



Mebo.

Independent candidate Wanglam Sawin has won the Khonsa (East) seat while two other Independent candidates are leading in two other seats — Nampong and

Thrizino-Buragaon. The Opposition Congress, which fielded candidates in 19 seats, is leading in the Bameng seat only. After the ruling BJP won 10 seats unopposed,

East.

Besides Chief Minister Pema Khandu was elected unopposed from the Mukto Assembly seat and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein from the Chowkham (ST) seat, the other eight BJP nominees who have been elected uncontested are Dasanglu Pul (Hayuliang-ST), Dongru Siongju (Bomdila), Techi Ratu (Sagalee), Hage Appa (Ziro-Hapoli), Jikka Tako (Tali), Nyato Dukam (Talih), Mutchu Mithi (Roing), and Techi Kaso (Itanagar). The five-year tenure of the outgoing 60-member Arunachal Pradesh Assembly expires June 2.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Pawan Kumar Sain said that the counting of votes started at 6 a.m. simultaneously in 24 counting centres (48 counting halls) in 24 districts under tight security measures. After counting the postal ballots, the counting of votes polled in the EVM (Electronic Voting Machine) started. More than 2,000 officials have been appointed for the counting while the Election Commission has appointed 27 observers to supervise the process. A total of 489 micro-observers have also been appointed for the purpose.

Will win at least 12 Lok Sabha seats, 110 Assembly constituencies in Odisha: BJD



with a two-thirds majority in the Assembly. Like in 2014 and 2019, this time as well the exit polls will be proved wrong," BJD spokesperson Sasmit Patra said.

"Based on our surveys, analysis and feedback from the ground level, we expect to win at least 12 Lok Sabha seats and 110 seats in the Assembly... we will form a strong and stable government in the state," he said.

Some exit polls have awarded 15 seats to BJP and five to BJD in Odisha.

Senior BJD leader Kartik Pandian said in a post on X, "Everybody has seen how inaccurate exit polls made by some national level organisations in air-conditioned rooms are. The exit polls of 2024 will just be a repeat of the previous exit polls." BJD MLA Padmanabha Behera said, "Exit polls are not exact results.

We will perform very well and form the government in the state. Naveen Patnaik will take oath as the chief minister June 9."

BJD MP Manas Mangaraj said in an X post, "No matter what exit polls are, I am confident that the public has approved our honesty, hard work and dedication."

Senior Congress leader and MLA Taraprasad Bahinipati said that the party will improve its performance and is likely to win four to five Lok Sabha seats in the state.

Congress had won nine Assembly seats and one Lok Sabha constituency in 2019.

Senior BJD leader and Union minister

Dharmendra Pradhan claimed that the exit polls have reflected the reality and that the BJP will win 15 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

BJP state president Manmohan Samal said, "People of Odisha want a change and there will be a change in the government."

In 2019, exit polls had predicted 12-15 Lok Sabha seats for the BJP and 6-8 for BJD, whereas the saffron party had won eight seats and the ruling party in the state had bagged 12. In 2014, while exit polls had predicted 13 seats for BJD and five for BJP, the saffron party had bagged only one while the ruling party in the state had won 30 seats.

A total of 17 people are currently undergoing treatment in various hospitals in Puri, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

A source said that four firecracker traders were detained from the Nimapara area in connection with Chandan yatra firecracker explosion incident. The traders are being interrogated by police, the source added. It can be mentioned here that a total of 30 people were injured in the explosion that happened during Lord Jagannath's

'Chandan Yatra', a ritual, on the night of May 29. According to the official said.

Additional Chief Secretary of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Satyabrata Sahu, who is also the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC), has started a probe into the incident. Meanwhile, Puri Police said it registered a suo motu criminal case and an investigation is underway.

Expressing apprehension on free and fair vote counting, SKM writes letter to ECI

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), June 2: Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), National Coordination Committee, in its letter to Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner of India has expressed its apprehension on free and fair vote counting to just held Lok Sabha elections for which counting is going to be done on June 4.

Sharing the gist of the letter SKM through its release on June 2, wrote, "On behalf of the farmers across India, we wish to bring to your kind attention our apprehension on any eventuality of tampering with the counting process - scheduled for June 4, 2024, to subvert the people's verdict to help the present regime to cling on power."

SKM further added that unlike the past elections, the farmers of India had directly opposed the election campaign of the BJP against the gross betrayal in implementing

the written agreement with SKM especially regarding MSP and loan waiver and to expose its corporate policies. The massive and peaceful protest helped to rally the farmers, workers and all poor sections mainly around their burning livelihood issues as well as protection of the Constitutional principles of democracy, secularism and federalism. Thus, the electoral fight got abridged between the BJP and the people at large.

Reminding its year-long agitation, SKM stated, "The 13 month long massive farmers struggle against the 3 corporate farm acts - with the active support of the trade unions and other sections - witnessed the sacrifice of more than 750 farmers' lives as well as the heinous murder of 4 farmers and a journalist by and at the behest of the current regime. The BJP had spewed venom



The letter stated that SKM had twice publicly requested the ECI to take punitive action and put a six years ban to contest elections on those including Narendra Modi, whoever violated the law. Unfortunately, the ECI adhered to the reticent way of inaction, delaying action and finally concluded it with 'giving advice' to the law breakers. Thus, the failure of ECI in upholding constitutional responsibility allowed BJP's divisive ideology

to prevail and influence the people at large during the election.

Sharing the contents of SKM's letter with our representative, SKM leader and National Vice-President of All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), Dr. Inderjeet Singh quotes, "The soft handling and resultant failure to restrain the Prime Minister has lent serious doubts in the minds of the people at large about the entire election process as a 'favour' to the BJP in its

efforts to hang on power."

AIKS leader adds that it is worth mentioning that the people, particularly those belonging to minority communities and the political parties in the opposition have maintained highest serenity and accountability to preserve peace and harmonious milieu across the country even in the context of such extreme provocation.

SKM also alleged that the ECI did not ensure transparency in conducting press briefing, providing poll data and there were serious discrepancies in the provided data. Later, the ECI released constituency wise data of vote polled after the entire issue had been brought to the attention of the Supreme Court. This was never the conduct of the ECI in the past.

SKM, continuing its allegation, wrote, "The caretaker government, without prior permission of the ECI, had arrested the elected Chief Minister of Delhi to incapacitate the opposition pre-poll alliance. Later, the Supreme Court of India provided interim bail to the Delhi CM. The bank accounts of the political parties in the opposition were suspended. In both the incidents, the ECI was silent. The police and Intelligence Bureau also targeted the farmer leaders of Punjab for protesting peacefully against BJP."

The release further added that the removal of the Chief Justice of India from the committee to appoint the members of the election commission of India had been morally incorrect. Such a series of omissions have created distrust among the public on the neutrality of the ECI and created serious apprehensions on the potential of the present

Residential exposure cum training program for the fish farmers of Gajapati district, Odisha

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Gajapati district is located to the south-east of Odisha, and the Mahendranataya River flows through it. Though the district is located on the hilly terrain of the Eastern Ghats, it has enough potential for fish culture. After seeing the potential water resources, a 4-day residential exposure cum training program on "Inland Fisheries Management" was conducted for fish farmers of Gajapati district, Odisha, from May 28th to 31st, 2024. Sponsored by the Development Foundation NGO, the program aimed to elevate the knowledge and skills of rural farming communities. A total of 23 fish farmers, including 2 assistant fisheries officers (AFO), participated in the training program to

acquire knowledge for maximum output, sustained livelihoods, and higher profitability through fish culture. The program was inaugurated by Dr. Srikanta Samanta, HOD, FRI Division, ICAR-CIFRI. He underlined in his inaugural speech that in order to secure their sustainable means of livelihood, fishermen must increase their understanding of inland fisheries management. The growth of inland aquaculture in Odisha's Gajapati district has a lot of potential for better livelihoods. ICAR-CIFRI aimed to bridge the farmers' gaps in understanding, proficiency, and perspective about the management of inland fisheries through this training program. Aspects of the fisheries sector that were covered



in the course included pond construction and management, composite fish culture, nurseries and rearing ponds management, induced fish breeding, feed ingredients and their

preparation, fish health management, socio-economic aspects, prawn culture for improving livelihood, ornamental fish farming, natural fish food organisms in inland open waters, and basic water quality management in open waters. The trainees were taken to the ICAR-CIFRI, Kolkata Center, as part of their exposure visit programme. Along with receiving hands-on training in a multitude of need-based subjects, such as basic water quality parameters, preparing fish feed using locally sourced ingredients, identifying fish pathogens and appropriate remedies, etc., they were also exposed to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), Bio-floc units, ornamental hatchery

units, and feed mill. The feedback session's benchmark was the trainees' overall satisfaction with their expanded knowledge, which they planned to use for their own water resources. In his concluding remarks, Dr. B. K. Das, the Director of the institute, advised the farmers to combine more productions using the knowledge they had gained from this training. The training program was coordinated by Dr. Dibakar Bhakta and Dr. Pritijyoti Majhi, with assistance from Shri Sujit Choudhury, Shri Manabendra Roy, Dr. Avishek Saha and Mrs. Ambily M. N.

EC asks Cong's Jairam Ramesh to share details of claim on Amit Shah calling up DMs before counting day

New Delhi (KCN): The Election Commission (EC) sought factual information from Congress leader Jairam Ramesh Sunday on his claim that Home Minister Amit Shah has called up 150 district magistrates and collectors ahead of the June 4 counting of votes for the Lok Sabha polls.

In a letter to Ramesh, the poll panel has asked him to share details regarding his claim by 7pm Sunday. The EC has referred to his post on X, June 1, in which the Congress general secretary had alleged that "the outgoing Home Minister has been calling up DMs/ Collectors. So far, he has spoken to 150 of them.



This is blatant and brazen intimidation, showing how desperate the BJP is...." The process of counting votes is a sacred duty cast upon every returning officer and such public statements "tend to put an element of doubt and thus, deserves to be addressed in larger public interest", the EC has told Ramesh.

It has also told the Congress leader that when the Model Code of Conduct is in force, all officers are under the deemed deputation of the commission and they report directly to the poll watchdog for any directions.

"However, no DM has

reported any such undue influence as alleged by you...." the EC's letter to Ramesh has stated. "It is requested that details of 150 DMs to whom such calls have been allegedly made by the Home Minister along with the factual matrix/basis of your information are shared by 7pm today — June 2, 2024, so that appropriate action can be taken," it has told the Congress leader.

It has said that being a responsible, experienced and very senior leader of a national party, Ramesh must have made such a public statement ahead of the counting day on the basis of facts or information he believes to be true.

Election Over And Bail Not Extended, Arvind Kejriwal Back In Tihar Jail

New Delhi (KCN): Lok Sabha elections over, and with it his interim bail, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal surrendered in Tihar jail this evening. His route was circuitous. Starting from his home around 3 pm, he went to Rajghat to pay his respects to Mahatma Gandhi, then to Hanuman mandir and then party headquarters. The last stop was the jail, which he left 21 days ago after getting interim bail from the Supreme Court. Speaking to party workers at the Aam Aadmi Party headquarters today, Mr Kejriwal thanked the Supreme Court. He said interim bail had been fruitful.

"I did not waste even one minute of the 21 days. I campaigned for all parties. I campaigned to save the country. The country is important, Aam Aadmi Party is second," he said, tagging it an "unforgettable" experience.

"The best thing that happened during this campaign was that Prime Minister Narendra Modi admitted that he did not



have even an iota of evidence against me," Mr Kejriwal added. He also accused the Central government of dictatorship, questioning how the Chief Minister of a government that had a sweeping majority could be put in jail without evidence. "This is dictatorship. I will put anyone I wish in jail and send a message to the whole country that when I can put Kejriwal in jail, I can put anyone in jail," he added.

The AAP chief was accompanied by his wife Sunita Kejriwal, and party leaders including Delhi ministers Atishi, Kailash Gahlot and Saurabh Bharadwaj, Rajya Sabha MPs Sanjay Singh and Sandeep Pathak, and leaders Durgesh Pathak, Rakhi Birla and Reena Gupta. Mr Kejriwal, accused in the Delhi liquor policy case, has been in jail since April 1 till he got relief from the Supreme Court. His stay in Tihar was marked by a massive row over his diabetes and medication, with the Chief Minister and his party alleging that the authorities had withheld medication since his

arrest. The Enforcement Directorate alleged that Mr Kejriwal ate food that was inappropriate for diabetics.

Mr Kejriwal, who had asked for an extension of his bail on health grounds yesterday but got no immediate relief, said today that he was unsure what sort of treatment he would receive this time.

"I don't know what these people will do to me... We are disciples of Bhagat Singh, we are going to jail to save the country... When power becomes dictatorship, jail becomes a responsibility," he added.



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'Mr and Mrs Mahi' box office Day 1: Rajkummar- Janhvi's film opens with Rs 6.85 crore

Helmed by Sharan Sharma, Rajkummar Rao and Janhvi Kapoor's 'Mr and Mrs Mahi' hit theatres on May 31. On its opening day, the sports drama earned Rs 6.85 crore.

'Mr and Mrs Mahi', starring Rajkummar Rao and Janhvi Kapoor, released in theatres on May 31. On Day 1, the romantic sports-drama opened to Rs 6.85 crore net in India. The film is directed by Sharan Sharma.

According to industry tracking site Sacnilk.com, 'Mr and Mrs Mahi' earned Rs 6.85 crore and had an overall Hindi occupancy of 56.15 per cent. Filmmaker Karan Johar, who is bankrolling the film, had previously spoken about the movie and said, "Some films



are more than just stories. They are so much more than celluloid love. They talk to the viewer about dreams and how often people closest to us can come in the way of our dreams. Mr and Mrs Mahi is exceptionally close to our hearts."

A section of our review of the film read, "The film's lengthy and slow first half focusses on building the plot, showcasing how the young couple chose their parents' dreams over their passion for cricket. Rajkummar's character, Mahendra,

gets ample moments to express his frustration and struggles. In contrast, Janhvi's character, Mahima, amusingly conceals her aspirations until a twist later in the film."

The film marks Janhvi and Rajkummar's second collaboration after 'Roohi'.

Global Star Priyanka Chopra Starts Shooting For Her Next 'The Bluff'

Actor Priyanka Chopra is in Australia for the shoot of her new project 'The Bluff'. On Friday, Priyanka took to Instagram, shared a picture of her script and expressed excitement about the shoot. "It begins..." she captioned the post. One can also see "Om" written on the script.

'The Bluff' is being directed by Frank E Flowers. Recently, Priyanka dropped a video with her daughter Malti Marie. The video began with Priyanka's flight landing in Australia. It then gave a glimpse of her daughter looking outside the airport.

Set in the 19th century Caribbean, 'The Bluff' follows a former female pirate (Priyanka) who must protect her family when the mysterious sins of her past catch up to her, as per Deadline. The movie is produced by Russo Brothers' banner AGBO Studios and Amazon MGM Studios. Priyanka also serves as a producer on the film. This will be Priyanka's second project with The Russo Brothers after she starred in their Amazon Original series 'Citadel'.



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



Ali Abbas Zafar recently talked about why he chose to retain the iconic title 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' for his upcoming film, much to the curiosity of fans and critics alike. The director, who is known for delivering blockbuster hits, has recently stirred up excitement among Bollywood enthusiasts for his upcoming action thriller, starring Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff and Prithviraj Sukumaran. In a recent interview, Zafar shed light on the reason behind his decision to retain this classic title for his action-packed spectacle. The title 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan,' was originally associated with the 1998 comedy film starring Amitabh Bachchan and Govinda. Speaking about the same, Ali told

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

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

Further speaking about the film he said, "Jackky called me one day I was shooting in Abu Dhabi, and he said that I have something to offer you.

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

So I said ok, tell me what is that? He said, do you like making action films? I said yes. I like making action films. So just imagine if, in an action

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

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

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

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

Raashii Khanna reacts to 'Yodha's' underwhelming performance at box office



Raashii Khanna reacted to the underwhelming performance of 'Yodha' at the box office. The film, which also features Sidharth Malhotra, was a highly anticipated film and generated considerable buzz prior to its release. However, not every film achieves the desired commercial success, despite the talent and efforts invested in its making.

'Yodha' failed to make a significant impact at the box office and struggled to attract audiences to theatres, resulting in disappointing ticket sales and overall lacklustre performance in terms of box office revenue. Now in an exclusive interview with India Today.in, Raashii Khanna opened

up about her thoughts on the underwhelming performance of 'Yodha' at the box office. The actor acknowledged the disappointment surrounding the film's reception but remained optimistic about the creative journey and the experience gained through the project.

She said, "Maybe there's somebody who loves it, then somebody who hates it. There'll always be all kinds of people, but obviously, we want, when the film is released, a lot of people should like it. I think the challenge has been to bring them to theatres still, because now everyone knows that the film will be released on OTT. So that is a challenge that even

people face. I also sometimes do it, but that's also because I am always occupied. But I know people, in general, are very occupied today, so bringing them to theatres is a problem. I don't think 'Yodha' is a bad film at all, so that's fine. I think every film has its destiny, and you just learn from it and then move on to your next. That's all we

can do."

Even though the film couldn't work commercially, Raashii was praised for her performance. Speaking about it, she said, "You

love the fact that it has received love because that's what you work so hard for. But apart from that, my job is always to deliver my best and to see that the audience is enjoying my part as well. Because if a film works, but you don't work, then that's sad in a way. So I'm really happy with the reactions I'm getting. I'm really happy that people are really loving me, coming back into Hindi films, and seeing me on the big screen. I was also very, very happy to see myself on the big screen in Hindi. This is amazing.

It was a very nice moment and a very nice feeling that I had."

Yodha released in theatres on March 15.

Condonation of delay in filing Appeals Part 1



Adv. Narayan Jain & CA Dilip Loyalka

In practical like sometime delay is caused in filing appeal in ITAT and other forums. The ITAT may admit an appeal or permit the filing of a Memorandum of cross objections after the expiry of the prescribed period, if it is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not presenting it within the prescribed period. It is advisable that a petition for condonation of delay mentioning the reasons should be filed before the ITAT and if the same is supported by evidence or with an affidavit, it will be better. Regarding condonation of delay, one can rely on the following decisions-

1. Collector Land Acquisition v. MST. Katiji and others - [1987] 167 ITR 471

adopted on principle as it is realized that:

Ordinarily a litigant does not stand to benefit by lodging an appeal late.

Refusing to condone delay can result in a meritorious matter being thrown out at the very threshold and cause of justice being defeated. As against this when delay is condoned the highest that can happen is that a cause would be decided on merits after hearing the parties.

"Even day's delay must be explained" does not mean that pedantic approach should be made. Why not every hour's delay, every second's delay? The doctrine must be applied in a rational common sense and pragmatic manner.

When substantial justice and technical considerations are pitted against each other cause of substantial justice deserves to be preferred for the other side cannot claim to have vested right in injustice being done because of a non-deliberate delay.

There is no presumption that delay is

occasioned deliberately or on account of culpable negligence, or on account of malafides. A litigant does not stand to benefit by resorting to delay. In fact he runs a serious risk.

It must be grasped that judiciary is respected not on account of its power to legalize injustice on technical grounds but because it is capable of removing injustice and is expected to do so.

Making justice-oriented approach from its perspective, there was sufficient cause for condoning the delay in the institution of the appeal. The fact that it was the State which was seeking condonation and not a private party was altogether irrelevant. The doctrine of equality before law demands that all litigants, including the State as a litigant, are accorded the same treatment and the law is administered in an even handed manner."

2. Collector Land Acquisition v. MST. Katiji and others - [1987] 167 ITR 471 (SC) : Delhi Sales Tax

XXX page J-70 - The following observation of Justice M.P. Thakkar in the above decision is very relevant-

3. Senior Bhosale Estate (HUF) v. Assistant CIT- [2019] 112 taxmann.com 134 (SC): If revenue did not expressly refute stand taken by assessee that they had no knowledge about passing of order of Tribunal, dated 29-12-2003, until June, 2008, assessee's delay of 1754 days in filing appeal before Bombay High Court against Tribunal order was to be condoned.

4. State of UP v. Bahadur Singh & others [1983] 142 ITR 745 (SC) Where the explanation for delay is convincing and reasonable, a writ petition cannot be dismissed merely on the ground that the same was filed after a long delay.

5. Anil Soni v. ITO [1990] 52 Taxman 48, 49 (J&K) Laches is not absolute bar if the Court is otherwise satisfied with the justness of the petitioner's claim that relief can be granted to

petitioner who approaches the Court even somewhat belatedly.

6. Bharat Auto Center v. CIT [2006] 200 CTR (All.) 289: [2005] 149 Taxman 228 (All.) -An important legal point relating to jurisdiction of the assessing authority was involved, the assessee sought legal opinion of several counsel which took a long time and then a writ petition was filed but subsequently appeal was filed.

Aforesaid reasons have been held to be sufficient cause for the delay.

7. United India Insurance Co. v. Union of India and others [2005] 274 ITR 255 (Raj.) -Where appeal is on the basis of reversal of a judgment on which A.O. relies while framing the assessment, the delay should be condoned.

11. Aakash Lavish Leisure (P.) Ltd. v. ITO [2019] 103 taxmann.com 248 (SC) - Illhealth of the Chairman is a reasonable cause for condoning delay.

12. Emons Organics Ltd. v. DCIT [2020] 113 taxmann.com 269 (Chd-Trib) [2020] 180 ITD 762 (Chandigarh-Trib.): Where company was defunct and director was suffering with life threatening disease and company existed on

affidavit to this effect is filed by the assessee.

9. E Governance Society v. CIT [2019] 102 taxmann.com 222 (Himachal Pradesh) - Where assessee sent documents to counsel to file appeal, but counsel had taken no steps, delay in filing appeal was to be condoned though there was some negligence on part of assessee in following up matter

10. A lacrity Housing Ltd v. ACIT [2010] 327 ITR 139 (Mad.) - Where delay was caused due to strike in factory, the delay should be condoned.

11. Aakash Lavish Leisure (P.) Ltd. v. ITO [2019] 103 taxmann.com 248 (SC) - Illhealth of the Chairman is a reasonable cause for condoning delay.

12. Emons Organics Ltd. v. DCIT [2020] 113 taxmann.com 269 (Chd-Trib) [2020] 180 ITD 762 (Chandigarh-Trib.): Where company was defunct and director was suffering with life threatening disease and company existed on

strength of one semi-literate employee, there exists reasonable cause of condoning delay.

13. Smt. Samanthapudi Lavanya v. ACIT [2021] 127 taxmann.com 188 (Visakhapatnam-Trib.); Green Line Punjab v. Income-tax Officer (TDS) [2023] 146 taxmann.com 475 (Delhi): Where assessee was under bonafide impression that its appeal had been filed by accountant, but came to know fact of not having filed appeal when there was pressure from department for payment of demand, delay of 492 days in filing appeal was to be condoned.

(Contd.
2)

Narayan Jain and Dilip Loyalka are authors of famous books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice". mEmail: npjainadv@gmail.com

"Our Land, Our Future": A Challenging call for Environmental Stewardship

Bruhaspati Samal



attention on a particular environmental concern, rallying individuals, communities, and governments worldwide to take collective action. For example, in 2021, the theme for World Environment Day was "Ecosystem Restoration," emphasizing the urgent need to revive and protect degraded ecosystems. In 2022, World Environment Day focused on "Eco-Conscious Consumption," urging individuals to reduce their ecological footprint by making sustainable choices in their daily lives. The theme for World Environment Day 2023 was solutions to plastic pollution under the campaign 'Beat Plastic Pollution'. While the toxic smoke produced by the plastic due to combustion is one of the gravest threats to the planet, the micro-plastics find their way into the food we eat, the water we drink and even the air we breathe posing a threat to our health. Realising this threat from plastic pollution, a concerted effort is needed from governments, companies and other stakeholders to manage and solve this crisis. And now in 2024, World Environment Day campaign focuses on land restoration, desertification and under the slogan "Our land. Our future". According to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, up to 40 per cent of the planet's land is degraded, directly affecting half of the world's population

and threatening roughly half of global GDP. The number and duration of droughts have increased by 29 per cent since 2000. Expressing serious concern on the issue, the environmentalists opine that without urgent action, droughts may affect over three-quarters of the world's population by 2050. Land restoration is a key pillar of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), a rallying call for the protection and revival of ecosystems all around the world, which is critical to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. While land restoration can reverse the creeping tide of land degradation, drought and desertification by boosting livelihoods, lowering poverty, building resilience to extreme weather on one hand, it can increase carbon shortage and slow climate change on the other. Restoring just 15 per cent of land and halting further conversion could avoid up to 60 per cent of expected species extinctions. But we must also end the drivers of land degradation, drought and desertification, such as climate change. Last year, temperatures records were shattered. Much of the world felt the impacts, not just in heat but in storms, floods and drought. Animals and plants are becoming extinct thousands of times faster than they have done in the last 500 million years. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), if we don't do something about it now, within a century we will

have lost 67% of the currently endangered fauna and 99.9% will be in serious danger of extinction. According to a study conducted by the University of Aarhus in Denmark in 2018, the damage will be so devastating that the planet will need 3 to 5 million years to recover. The effects of development, agriculture and industrial livestock farming, forest destruction and CO2 emissions, among other actions, are speeding up the loss of biodiversity due to global warming, desertification and the pollution of oceans and rivers. Restoring land without tackling climate change would be like giving with one hand and taking away with the other. So G20 nations must show leadership across the whole climate agenda – as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country of the 2024 World Environment Day global celebrations has done and continues to do on land restoration. There is real hope. Countries have promised to restore one billion hectares, an area larger than China. If they deliver, this will be huge. Through World Environment Day and through hosting the UN Convention to Combat Desertification's conference of the parties this December, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia can build momentum and action towards these restoration goals, slow climate change, protect nature and boost the livelihoods and food security of billions of people around the world.

and storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Ecosystems with high biodiversity and intact habitats are better able to adapt to changing conditions and recover from disturbances. By conserving and restoring natural habitats, we can enhance their capacity to sequester carbon and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Landscapes hold profound cultural and spiritual significance for communities around the world. They are repositories of traditional knowledge, cultural practices, and spiritual beliefs passed down through generations. Indigenous peoples and local communities have deep connections to the land, which forms the basis of their identities, livelihoods, and cultural heritage. Preserving land and respecting indigenous rights are essential for maintaining cultural diversity and promoting social cohesion. Sustainable land management practices are essential for promoting biodiversity not only enriches our lives aesthetically but also contributes to ecosystem resilience, providing buffers against environmental disturbances and supporting ecosystem services such as pollination, pest control, and nutrient cycling. Preserving biodiversity is essential for maintaining the stability and productivity of ecosystems. Landscapes also play a crucial role in regulating the Earth's climate. Forests, grasslands, and other vegetated areas act as carbon sinks, absorbing

change, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks. Ecosystems with high biodiversity and intact habitats are better able to adapt to changing conditions and recover from disturbances. By conserving and restoring natural landscapes, we can enhance the resilience of ecosystems and communities, reducing vulnerability to environmental risks. The Vedas and Puranas also do teach us how to regard the environment and use conservation ethics in routine life. The Atharva Veda says, "Mata Bhumi Putroham Prithivy" which means the earth is our mother and we are her children. In Ramacharitamanas, it is said, "Kshiti jal pawak gagan sameera, Panch rakshit ati adham shareera" It means adham shareera (our body) comprises panch (five) tattva (elements) namely, the earth, water, fire, sky and wind. Moreover, ancient Hindu mythology believes that the Shrutis, means the whole Universe is made up of Panchmahabutas (five great elements) composed of Prithvi (Earth), Jala (Water), Agni (Fire), Vayu (Air) and Ether (Aakash). Expressing the earth, water, fire, air and ether as the visible form of nature, Lord Krishna in Bhagavad Gita (Chapter 7: 4-10) says that He is the taste of living waters, the light of the sun and the moon, Pranab(Om), the sacred word of the Vedas, sound in silence, heroism in men, pure fragrance of the earth, brightness of the fire, intelligence of the

intelligent and beauty of the beautiful. Since all these abiotic factors are responsible for making our body and the Universe where the Lord exists, it is our responsibility to preserve these factors which may make both our body and environment clean and healthy. As stewards of this precious inheritance, we bear the responsibility of ensuring its preservation for future generations. "Our Land, Our Future" encapsulates the essence of environmental stewardship. World Environment Day serves as a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness between humanity and nature. It calls upon us to recognize the intrinsic value of our planet's ecosystems and to take meaningful action to safeguard them for future generations. By celebrating World Environment Day and embracing its themes of awareness, action, and solidarity, we can work together to build a more sustainable and resilient world for all living beings. Let us seize this opportunity to make a positive impact and leave a legacy of environmental stewardship for generations to come.

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PM meeting on review of Post Flood Situation/cyclone "Remal", in New Delhi

"Worried About Situation In Sandeshkhali": Bengal Governor On Post Poll Violence

Kolkata(KCN): West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose on Sunday said he was worried after getting reports about post-poll violence in Sandeshkhali, and asked Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to intervene immediately and restore peace there.

Speaking to PTI, Mr Bose said that he has written to Ms Banerjee asking her to inform him about the action taken against those involved in the incidents of violence in Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district.

"I am a bit worried about the situation in Sandeshkhali. From the inputs I have received, I have come to know about incidents of attacks on the women of Sandeshkhali within hours after the polling was over yesterday. I have written



to the Chief Minister about the steps taken in this regard," Mr Bose said.

"If such attacks continue and the inhabitants are tortured, I will open the doors of the Raj Bhavan for them to come and stay here. They will be provided safe shelter here," he added.

In less than 24 hours after the election was over, trouble-torn Sandeshkhali on Sunday witnessed another round of skirmishes between

women and the police when the personnel went there and detained one person in connection with attacks on policemen the previous night.

Women in Agarhati village in Sandeshkhali got involved in a fight with the Rapid Action Force (RAF) personnel, fell tree trunks, and blocked roads when the police went there in search of a few persons who had allegedly attacked them, a senior police officer said.

KCR's Party Wins Legislative Council Bypoll In Telangana



Hyderabad(KCN): The opposition BRS led by former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao on Sunday won the bypoll to the Telangana Legislative Council from the Mahabubnagar Local Authorities' constituency. BRS candidate Naveen Kumar Reddy secured 762 votes, while Congress nominee M Jeevan Reddy got 653 votes. An independent candidate got one vote.

The total number of valid votes polled in the by-election was 1,416. The victory in the by-poll came as a morale booster to the BRS after its shock defeat in the Legislative Assembly polls last year. The bypoll outcome is

seen as a setback for the ruling Congress as Mahabubnagar is the native district of CM A Revanth Reddy. The polling for the by-election was held on March 28. Though the counting of votes was supposed to be taken up on April 2, it was postponed to June 2 as the model code of conduct is in force for the Lok Sabha polls. The bypoll was necessitated due to the resignation of Kasireddy Narayana Reddy after he was elected as Congress MLA in the Legislative Assembly elections.

Expressing happiness over his party's victory, he said,

"India Played Constructive Role": Centre On Historic World Health Assembly Move

New Delhi(KCN): India played a key role in helping countries agree to the adoption of International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) to protect against future pandemics, said Apurva Chandra, Union Health Secretary on Sunday.

In a historic move, the 77th WHA on Saturday agreed to the amendments to the IHR 2005, based on 300 proposals made by member countries after the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the negotiation process for the amendments witnessed several deadlocks by various countries.

"India played a

constructive role in the

crafting of the

Instrument, which seeks

to operationalise equity,

necessary for an

equitable response by



developing countries to Public Health Emergencies," said the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

In a bid to finalise the

package of amendments to IHR, on May 28,

Apurva Chandra, who led the Indian delegation in Geneva, put forward a

proposal in the form of a

White Paper "to establish a single drafting group".

It called the group to "be

co-chaired by one Bureau member from the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) and the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) respectively, to consider the matters related to some of the most critical agenda items -- the proposed amendments to the IHR (2005), followed by

consideration of procedural matters on way forward related to INB negotiations on the Pandemic treaty".

The health ministry said

that the "proposal" was

approved by all member

states by consensus,

leading to the adoption

of the amendment of

IHR (2005) on June 1.

The amendments

include improving

countries' ability to

prepare for and respond

"With the revision of the International Health Regulations, an incredible milestone has been reached," Chandra said.

"This is a further step towards equity and the creation of an umbrella of solidarity that will help protect the world from future pandemic threats. This is a gift to our children and grandchildren," he added.

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad along with his wife reached the house of World Peace Harmony Chairman Dr. Haji Shakeel Saifi.



Garbage piles up in Silk City as BeMC, agencies shirk duty

Berhampur(KCN): Despite tall claims of various steps being taken by the Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) for adequate waste management, garbage is piling up in many wards of the civic body on account of abject failure on the part of agencies hired to maintain proper cleanliness, sources said Saturday. Things have come to such a pass that life has become miserable for the denizens of the Silk City.

As per sources, cleaning operations are being carried out by private agencies on behalf of the civic body which has earmarked an annual budget of

Rs29.42 crore towards the works. Private agencies such as Pratyush, Safai Abhiyan and PMR have been entrusted with the city's sanitation responsibilities. The Silk City is divided into five zones and 42 wards for efficient management of civic affairs. Currently, 132 garbage collection vehicles and 1,336 sanitation workers are employed for waste collection and management. After the removal of dustbins, garbage is now being collected at designated spots and transported to five collection points in the city. From there, the waste is transported to Mohuda for disposal



after its segregation into dry and wet categories.

Additionally, GPS devices have been installed on garbage collection vehicles, which provide real-time

data to the sanitation department about their routes and collection details. However, the ground realities paint a different picture. For instance, in Ward No. 28, near Gosani

Nuagaon overbridge, waste has piled up, turning the area into a dumping yard. Residents have alleged that sanitation workers are dumping all the waste collected from the ward at one spot. Furthermore, reports said there have been several complaints of non-collection of garbage by the agencies entrusted by the BeMC.

Even though established rules require the agencies to collect garbage from designated points, violations have been reported including instances of irresponsible burning of garbage piles. This has caused severe inconvenience to locals owing to emanating smoke and odour. Repeated complaints to the BeMC authorities have not led to any effective action, they added.

When asked, BeMC Deputy Commissioner Ashirbad Parida said agencies are being directed to immediately clean areas where garbage has been accumulating. However, the effectiveness of these directives remains questionable.

4 buses gutted in Rayagada' Bissam Cuttack

Bissam Cuttack(KCN): Four private buses were gutted in fire at the Biju Patnaik bus stand under this block in Rayagada district Saturday afternoon. Two fire engines were pressed into service to contain the blaze. According to reports, six buses belonged to a single owner were parked inside the bus stand out of which four caught fire.

While the exact reason behind the fire has not been ascertained, it is suspected that some



miscreants could have

set the buses on fire due to past enmity.

On being informed, local police reached the spot and started an investigation.

Odia Minor Girl Labourer Rescued From Railway Station In Karnataka



Nuapada(KCN): A missing minor girl who had gone to Karnataka

for labour work with her relatives was rescued from railway station in

Karnataka. The girl hails from Rundi village under Boden

block in Nuapada district of Odisha. As per reports, went missing after getting separated from her relatives at Kulbarga railway station in Karnataka. Later, she was rescued by the railway police. The Raghavendra city police contacted Kulbarga District Child Welfare Committee and arranged for return to her village. Adding support to the Nuapada District Child Welfare Committee, three officers came and handed over the minor girl.

Bahanaga Train Tragedy: One year on, painful memories and scars still fresh after catastrophe



Similarly, those, who lost their loved ones, are yet to come to terms with life. The memories of the deadly train mishap are still fresh in the minds of the Bahanaga residents. "I cannot forget the day in which the triple train crash occurred. Within moments, the lives of several families changed as a lot of them lost their

loved ones. We have witnessed the cries and horrific scenes after the accident," said a local resident. Deepak Ranjan, who played a crucial role in the rescue operation on the day of the incident, said that, "I was thinking about the train mishap yesterday. We had swung into action during the golden hour. I want to



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Modicare Limited launches Blue Light Shield range under its color cosmetics brand, Urban Color London

New Delhi: Modicare Limited, one of India's leading direct selling companies, recently launched Blue Light Shield, a gender-neutral and efficacious skincare range to combat the harmful effects of Blue Light rays. Owing to the pandemic and the work-from-home culture, the average screen-time has significantly increased, raising concern over Blue Light's adverse effects on the skin. Since it has the ability to penetrate deeper into the skin, excess exposure to Blue Light rays can lead to a number of skin concerns, including premature ageing and hyper-pigmentation. Urban Color London's Blue Light Shield range leverages innovation and technology to offer the

consumers a 'Screenguard' against the high energy Blue Light emitted from digital devices and provides modern day solution to the new-age skin concerns. The range comprises of a meticulously designed five-step regime—Gentle Face Wash, Resurfacing Gel Scrub, Deep Clean Coffee Masque, Reset Serum Oil and Moisturising Crème. The products have been formulated using Urban Color London's proprietary technology that neutralises effects of Blue Light rays. The hero ingredient in the range is Carotolino* Active, a combination of Beta-Carotene, Carrot Root Extract and Carrot Seed Oil that unite in a perfect base to provide complete protection from

Blue Light rays and promoting overall skin health. The range is 100% vegan, paraben & cruelty free and dermatologically tested. Announcing the launch, Mr. Samir Modi, Founder and Managing Director, Modicare Limited said, "Our skin is constantly exposed to invisible Blue Light rays emitted from the several digital devices we use like smartphones, laptops, televisions, tablets etc. Most of us do not even know the implications of this. Blue Light tends to affect our skin's natural barrier function and accelerate signs of ageing. Keeping this in mind, we are launching Urban Color London's Blue Light Shield range. This is one of the world's best formulations.

Aditya Aluminium's 'Project Sichai' in full swing

Bhubaneswar : Aditya Aluminium, an Aditya Birla Group company's 'Project Sichai' is making a phenomenal difference to 220 people in the rural hinterland of Odisha, enriching their lives.

This is a collaborative project. It is implemented in partnership with the Horticulture Department of the Government of Odisha and farmers in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model under the Pradhan Mantri Krishak Sichai Yojana.

Mr. Sameer Nayak, the Unit Head of Aditya Aluminium says, "Project Sichai, launched in January this year, has been greatly welcomed by the farming community of the Sambalpur district. Essentially, it has resulted in a significant rise in the income of farmers. Here

55 farmers within the



proximity of the plant were encouraged to adopt the Sprinkler Irrigation System. Each farmer was given 41 pipes (20 feet/pipe) and 9 sprinklers. It enabled the farmers draw water from the ponds and wells close by. Among its other major advantage is a rise in crop productivity and reduction in water wastage, besides of course the monetary advantages".

"The ease of use has

made it the most sought-

Gagan Bihari Patra, a farmer from Sambalpur district who was finding it tough to look after his family of five due to insufficient income from farming, expresses his gratitude to Aditya Aluminium for introducing him to sprinkler irrigation system through 'Project Sichai' leading to multiple crop farming, and income enhancement. Patra owns six acres of

agricultural land in which he was cultivating paddy and vegetables during the kharif season. Being rain-fed, it resulted in low productivity. He could not produce anything during the rabi season due to lack of irrigation facilities. Not satisfied with his income from agriculture, he was desperate to explore ways to increase productivity. Project Sichai provided the perfect answer.

Many farmers in the locality who faced similar issues, given poor irrigation facilities, lack of modern agricultural equipment and resorting to traditional agricultural practices. Then came the Aditya Aluminium CSR team extending a helping hand to farmers like Patra through Project Sichai and Samridhi.

SpiceJet and Axis Bank launch co-branded credit card

GURUGRAM: SpiceJet, the country's favourite airline and Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector bank, have partnered to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card, powered by Visathat will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers. The card comes in two variants – SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black, and is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in India.

Through this collaboration, the two

brands hope to capitalize on the resurgent demand for travel following two years of stagnation caused by the pandemic. Further, with the shared goal of expanding their reach to Tier 2 & 3 cities and other synergies, the brands are committed to serving a much larger populace.

SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage & Voyage Black credit cards were officially launched at Indira Gandhi International airport in the presence of Ajay Singh, Chairman and MD, SpiceJet and Amitabh Chaudhary, MD & CEO, Axis Bank, where they unveiled a special

SpiceJet-Axis Bank credit card livery on a SpiceJet Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

The products are designed to enable customers use the rewards earned on their daily spends for booking flights and add-ons, thus encouraging both travel and digital payments embedded with benefits of SpiceJet's frequent flyer program, SpiceClub.

Customers can earn benefits up to 7% on the Voyage Black credit card which is a Top-tier offering in the travel credit card segment. In addition, the redemption of earned points does not

have any limitations on blackout dates, festival demand, and are on first-come basis. Cardholders would get exclusive SpiceClub membership with direct entry in either Silver or Gold tiers, and special benefits like complimentary or discounted travel add-ons, priority check-in, SpiceMax upgrade, preferred seat selection, complimentary meal etc.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet, said, "I am delighted to announce the launch of the SpiceJet-Axis Bank co-branded Credit Card. This card will make every customer journey

an even more rewarding one. We are the pioneers of the frequent flyer program for budget airlines in the country and this partnership with Axis Bank significantly strengthens the value offering of SpiceClub. Our association with Axis Bank – founded on the shared vision to offer unparalleled customer experience – is yet another innovative step towards creating a world class travel experience. I hope to see our customers enjoying the benefits of this rewarding collaboration as much as they love to fly with us."

Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV

Bhubaneswar : Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with Hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, "OK Google" to issue a voice command.

JSW Infrastructure begins commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Terminal in Odisha

Paradip/ Bhubaneswar : JSW Infrastructure, India's leading ports company and part of US\$ 13 billion JSW Group, has begun commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Coal Terminal in Odisha. This is a fully-mechanized terminal at Paradip Port Trust with an annual coal handling capacity of 30 million tons. The coal terminal has been built as a cape compliant terminal and will handle capesize vessels once the dredging at Paradip Port is completed. The terminal has capacity to unload 25 rakes per day and can load two vessels simultaneously. The infrastructure of the terminal is built to ensure higher productivity while reducing overall logistics cost to power producers.

The company has invested approximately Rs 1,300 crore to establish this terminal at Paradip Port. Paradip Port Trust awarded JSW Infrastructure to develop a fully-mechanized coal terminal on Build, Operate & Transfer basis for 30 years. Following the commissioning of this coal terminal, JSW Infrastructure's current cargo capacity crosses 150 MTPA. It aims to have a total cargo handling capacity of 200 MTPA by FY24.

Commenting on its coal terminal at Paradip, Mr. Arun Maheshwari, Joint MD & CEO of JSW Infrastructure said, "Paradip Port continues to be an attractive sea route for coal movement. With the commissioning of this terminal, India can now offer

cape size shipments with efficient operations. During the last few months, steam coal prices globally have witnessed sharp increase forcing thermal power plants and other coal based industry to switch to domestic coal. Start of this coal terminal has come at the right time to fill up the demand gap of domestic coal. Through high productivity and larger shipment size, we hope to reduce overall logistics costs for our coal cargo customers. As the country pursues PM's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the total thermal coal demand in India is expected to remain strong and our endeavor would be to maximize fulfillment of domestic producers.

RELIANCE NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE RECORDS STRONG GROWTH IN FY22

Mumbai : Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited, a JV between Reliance Capital and Nippon Life of Japan, announced its financial results for the year ended March 31, 2022. The key performance highlights as on March 31, 2022 include: Commenting on the company's strong performance in FY22, Mr. Ashish Vohra, ED &

CEO, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance said, "FY22 continued to pose its own set of challenges with the outbreak of the second, and then the third wave of the pandemic. We are grateful for the support we have received from our customers, employees, distributors, service providers and their families, that powered our journey of providing maximum value to each

one of our stakeholders." Mr. Vohra further highlighted that in a volatile economic environment of today, there is a heightened appreciation of Life Insurance for ensuring certainty of life coverage as well as financial investments. These guarantees are designed to drive durable long-term returns and to help customers fulfill their life goals and form the

bedrock of our business model.

The company paid death claims, maturity and survival benefit payouts of over Rs. 1,877 Cr in FY22 and achieved an impressive claims settlement ratio of 98.7% for FY22, up from 98.5% in FY21. The company expeditiously settled 3,517 Covid related claims worth Rs. 117 Cr. within an average period of 9 working days. Mr. Vohra

further commented, "A death claim is the ultimate test of a Life Insurance product, and it is the 'dharma' of a Life Insurer to honour all such claims with speed and accuracy. We continue to be fully committed and financially stable at 235% solvency (against the regulatory requirement of 150%), to meet all customer claims that may arise in the times ahead."

PARADEEP PHOSPHATES LIMITED INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING TO OPEN

Mumbai: Paradeep Phosphates Limited (The "Company") to open its initial public offering (the "Offer") on May 17, 2022. The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer Period is one Working Day prior to Bid/Offer Opening Date, that is, May 13, 2022.

The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ?39 per Equity Share to ?42 per Equity Share of face of ?10 each. Bids can be made for a minimum of 350 Equity Shares and in multiples of 350 Equity Shares thereafter.

The Issue offer comprises (i) fresh issue of equity shares face value ?10 each share aggregating to ?10,040

million (The "Fresh Issue") and (ii) Offer for Sale up to 118,507,493 equity shares by Promoter Selling Shareholders and GoI Selling Shareholder (The "Offer for Sale").

The Company intends to utilise net proceeds from fresh issue towards (i) Part-financing the acquisition of the Goa Facility; (ii) Repayment / prepayment of certain of our borrowings; and (iii) General corporate purposes. The offer for sale comprises of up to 6,018,493 equity shares by Zuarimaroc Phosphates Private Limited and up to 112,489,000 equity shares by The

President of India, acting through the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India. (The "Promoter Selling Shareholders" and GoI Selling Shareholder)

The Equity Shares offered in this Offer are proposed to be listed on both BSE Limited ("BSE") and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE", together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges").

Axis Capital Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, JM Financial Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the Offer.

Sunstone expands its presence in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Sunstone, one of India's leading higher education service providers with presence across 25 cities in 30+ institutions, expanded its network of campuses with the onboarding of Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha.

Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM)

is duly recognized as a pioneer in 'Skill Integrated Higher Education'. Its unique model lays specific emphasis on creating sustainable livelihoods on a national scale in challenging geographies

through education that results in employability and sparks entrepreneurship. This model has been recognized by multiple Governments (Central and State), International Organizations such as UNESCO and the World Bank as well as Policy Think-tanks such as the Niti Ayog.

Centurion University has continually strived to be a best-in-class human resource development hub that builds employable, enterprising and society centric youth through industry relevant education, skill

development, new ventures, production, and technology development.

The founders, faculty and staff are fully committed to its credo: Shaping Lives. Empowering Communities.

With this addition, Sunstone advantage would now be available with B.Com, BCA, B.Tech, MBA-Maritime Management, BBA-Health Care Management, MBA-Health Care Management and MBA courses offered by Centurion University.

Experian launches new cloud-based decisioning solution – PowerCurve® Strategy Management

MUMBAI: Experian, the world's leading global information services company, has launched a new PowerCurve® Strategy Management solution, a powerful decisioning solution delivered as software-as-a-service via cloud. The solution is designed to help organisations leverage data and make faster, secure, and informed business decisions.

PowerCurve® is a unified platform that helps businesses understand and leverage their data across the entire customer life cycle – be it acquisition, retention or growth – to make fast, efficient decisions that support their strategic goals. With the new solution, businesses will be able to swiftly adapt their decision-based strategies at lower operational cost

while harnessing the power of cloud. Neeraj Dhawan, Managing Director, Experian India, says: "Financial institutions in India are looking for more agile and scalable decisioning solutions. To fulfil their needs, we have come up with a comprehensive suite of solutions to help businesses make better decisions and stay one step ahead."



T20 World Cup: Co-hosts USA clinch historic come-from-behind win vs Canada

New York: Co-hosts USA scripted an incredible comeback win in the opener of the T20 World Cup. Aaron Jones and Andries Gous hit counter-attacking knocks to chase down 195 runs vs Canada. Co-hosts USA were off to a superb start in the T20 World Cup 2024 with a counter-attacking win against Canada in the opener of the tournament. Playing in Texas on Sunday, 2 June (IST), USA rattled Canada with the batting might, chasing down 195 runs in just 17.4 overs. USA were pegged back for the majority of the game after Canada put in a dominant total in the first innings. The neighbours started off well with the ball as well, removing two USA batters in the first 7 overs of the game. However, Aaron Jones and Andries Gous hit back with two incredible counter-attacking knocks in the final 10 overs, to take to game away from the visiting side. Both Gous and Jones scored their respective half-centuries on the day. Jones reached his fifty in just 22 balls, the fastest ever by any USA player in the T20I format. Gous on the other hand reached his milestone in 39 deliveries with a

brilliant six and a four in the 14th over of the game.

Vice-captain Jones, who had said that USA wanted to play with a fearless attitude in the pre-match press conference, walked the talk. Coming into bat at 42/2 in the 7th over, Jones absolutely smashed the Canada bowlers between the 11th and the 15th over. 87 runs were scored in those 5 overs, at a run rate of 17.40, which dazed Canada.

"I don't think it is easy to put it into words. Happy to get my team over the line. I thought anything under 200 is chaseable.



We wanted to play aggressive cricket. I think I go through my process while I practice. To be honest, when my team is under pressure it gets the best out of me," Jones said after the match.

The Canada bowlers lost their lines and lengths, bowled no balls, while fielders dropped easy chances, simply because, the two USA batters smashed the daylights out of them.

The partnership finally came to an end in the 16th over of the match, after the duo had already stitched a match-winning partnership of 131 runs. After Gous' dismissal, Jones and Corey

Anderson remained unbeaten till the end and helped USA win the game by 7 wickets. Aaron Jones' innings was a freak of nature. The right-hander slammed 10 sixes in his innings, the joint second-highest number of sixes hit by a batter in an international T20 game. Jones matched the record of legendary Chris Gayle, who also holds the record for the most sixes hit in a single T20I innings - 11. Wicketkeeper Shreyas Movva also chipped in with a cameo of 32 off 16 balls. However, that was not enough on the day as Jones made things look ridiculously simple on Sunday, 2 June.

It was fitting that Jones finished the match with a massive six through the cow corner and remained not out at 94 off just 40 balls. Canada skipper Sad Bin Zafar told the broadcaster after the match that they were very happy going into the second innings of the game after scoring 194 runs. Navneet Dhaliali and Nicholas Kirtan hit respective half centuries to drive Canada's total. Wicketkeeper Shreyas Movva also chipped in with a cameo of 32 off 16 balls. However, that was not enough on the day as Jones made things look ridiculously simple on Sunday, 2 June.

Injured Shoriful doubtful for Bangladesh's opening fixture

NEW YORK: Bangladesh received a huge blow ahead of the ICC T20 World Cup as their premier pace bowler Shoriful Islam received six stitches on his left hand after sustaining an injury during their warm-up game against India at New York on Saturday. It is understood that he will require at least one week to recover and is doubtful for the opening game against Sri Lanka, scheduled in Dallas on June 7.

Shoriful, who was the most successful bowler for Bangladesh against

India in New York giving away 26 runs in 3.5 overs for one wicket, could not complete his allotted four overs as he sustained the injury on his left palm when Hardik Pandya got under an yorker bowled by the left-arm pacer and hit it straight back at the bowler. Shoriful was taken out immediately from the ground as his palm seemed to have swollen following that instant impact by the ball and later found out six stitches between palm and the index finger were needed.

If Shoriful fails to recover in time for the entire tournament, then that will be a huge blow for the Asian side as he is one of the leading bowlers in the country alongside Mustafizur Rahman, Taskin Ahmed and Tanzim Shakib. Bangladesh opted to carry two travelling reserves including pacer Hasan Mahmud as the team management wanted to have a back-

up for the injured Taskin, who is expected to be available ahead of the opening game against Sri Lanka. In case Shoriful fails to return during the tournament, Hasan might be included in the 15-member squad. The Bangladesh Cricket Board is yet to announce anything official about Shoriful's injury. Bangladesh failed to capitalize on their only warm-up match against India as they were beaten by 60 runs at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York on Saturday.

New Delhi: Star India batter Virat Kohli received the ODI Cricketer of the Year 2023 award ahead of India's T20 World Cup 2024 campaign. Kohli was the leading run-scorer of the ODI World Cup 2023 with 765 runs to his name.

Star India batter Virat Kohli received the ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year 2023 Award on Saturday, June 1 ahead of India's T20 World Cup 2024 campaign. The 35-year-old was nominated for the accolade alongside his teammates Shubman Gill, Mohammed Shami, and New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell.

World Cup. As a result, Kohli became the first player in the history of the game to win the coveted award thrice surpassing MS Dhoni and AB de Villiers' feat of winning it twice. The ICC shared a video of the former India captain posing with the trophy and the ODI team of the year cap as he took part in the pre-tournament photoshoot. Notably, Kohli had a phenomenal year with the bat in ODIs in 2023 finishing as the

Dinesh Karthik announces retirement from representative cricket

New Delhi: Dinesh Karthik officially announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on Saturday (June 1). Karthik last played for Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the IPL 2024 Eliminator last month, and last represented India in the 2022 T20 World Cup group game against Bangladesh. "I've been

overwhelmed by the affection, support and love I have received in the last few days. My deepest gratitude and sincere thanks to all the fans who have made this feeling possible," Karthik said in his retirement note posted on X. "Having given it plenty of thought for some time now, I have decided to move on from playing

wicketkeeper-batter later confirmed the same to Cricbuzz, in an exclusive interview. Karthik played 26 Tests, 94 ODIs and 60 T20Is for India in a career spanning nearly two decades since he first represented the country in the 50-overs format against England at Lord's in September 2004. A career that

remained largely overshadowed by MS Dhoni, Karthik's chances were few and far between though. However, he reinvented himself as a white-ball finisher, earning a national recall for the 2022 World Cup on the back of a stellar IPL season with RCB that year.

Pant's performance a strong takeaway from India's lone warm-up game

New Delhi: During the Indian team's recent net sessions at Cantique Park, Long Island, Rishabh Pant took a proactive approach by engaging with local spinners, inquiring about their PowerPlay field. He then set the field accordingly and went after them methodically and aggressively. This calculated approach was evident during India's warm-up game against Bangladesh at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in Long Island, New York, on Saturday morning.

Pant exhibited his boundary-hitting skills by attacking Bangladesh spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Mahmudullah, smashing them for four sixes before the team management called him back to the dressing room. He was retired out after scoring 53 runs (31

balls), which included four fours and four sixes. Pant's performance is a strong takeaway from India's lone warm-up game ahead of the Twenty20 World Cup here in the US and the Caribbean. His knock may have conclusively settled the debate over the keeper-batsman role during the World Cup.

Pant has sealed his place in the XI ahead of Sanju Samson, who missed yet another opportunity to prove himself at the international level, even though this was not an official Twenty20 International match per se.

Samson is likely to warm the bench of the dugout unless there are fitness issues for Pant going forward. As the World Cup games approach, it is now almost certain that there will be a direct swap in the XI between Virat Kohli and Samson.



the lineup could be the role of a finisher if the team loses Pandya. Neither Jadeja nor Axar Patel manage to inspire much confidence on this score. Rinku Singh would have perfectly fitted that role but he did not do himself any favours by having a poor IPL. They fell back on Dube, who actually struggled on a drop-in

pitch that was quite up and down. The Mumbai and CSK batter will have to step up under pressure. India will be hoping he will not have a World Cup like Deepak Hooda did the last time around. Understandably, at the international level, no one makes a strategy in one practice game and it is obvious that the team management has already decided what it would do.

In the build-up to the championship, there had been significant chatter over the drop-in pitches, but they haven't raised much concern. Although the bowlers are likely to find them more favourable than the batters, the pitches passed the test on Saturday. Additionally, the ground is huge with long dimensions on either side of the square leg boundary. One side of the square stretches to 77 meters and the other to 65 meters, depending on the pitch picked for a given match. The sight screens positioned nearly 65 meters away imply a higher likelihood for the boundary-line catches. Furthermore, with all matches scheduled for a 10:30 am start, the possibility of early morning moisture cannot be discounted. Despite conditions favouring the bowlers, the Indian team posted a commendable total of 182 for five. Bowlers, especially Arshdeep Singh, would have relished the conditions. A significant positive for skipper Rohit is the extraction of three overs from Shivam Dube, marking it a