

Governor Raghubar Das dissolves Odisha Assembly

A bronze statue of a man in a long coat, standing on a pedestal in front of a building with columns. The statue is positioned on the right side of the image, and the building is on the left. The statue is a full-length figure, and the building has a classical architectural style with columns.

ruling BJD had 114 members, the BJP had 22 members, and the Congress had a strength of nine members. Both the CPM and an Independent candidate had one member each in the Assembly.

Heatwave in these Odisha districts likely till June 6



An investigation is underway in the rest of the cases, it added. Prior to this, 42 suspected sunstroke deaths were reported, and of them, six cases were confirmed, and it was found that another six deaths happened due to other causes, the statement said.

The deaths were mostly reported from Bolangir, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Sonepur, Sundergarh and Balasore districts.

major economy in the world. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo and Hong Kong settled with gains while Shanghai ended lower. European markets were trading in positive territory. US markets ended mostly higher Friday. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 1,613.24 crore Friday, according to exchange data. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.18 per cent to USD 81.26 a barrel. The BSE benchmark climbed 75.71 points or 0.10 per cent to settle at 73,961.31 Friday. The Nifty advanced 42.05 or 0.19 per cent to end at 22,530.70.

SDC For Advertisements

New Delhi(KCN): The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Writ Petition Civil No. 645/2022-IMA & Anr. Vs. UOI & Ors. has issued directive in its Order dated 07.05.2024, that all advertisers/Advertising Agencies must submit a 'Self-Declaration Certificate' (SDC) before publishing or broadcasting any advertisement. Following the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directive, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has introduced a new feature

on the Broadcast Seva Portal of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) for TV and Radio Advertisements and on Press Council of India's portal for Print and Digital/Internet Advertisements. The certificate, signed by an authorized representative of the advertiser/advertising agency, needs to be submitted through these portals. The portal will be activated on 4th June, 2024. The Self-Declaration Certificate is

required to be obtained by all advertisers and advertising agencies for all new advertisements that will be issued/telecast/aired/published on or after 18th June, 2024. A buffer period of two weeks has been kept for providing sufficient time to all stakeholders to familiarize themselves with the process of self-certification. Ongoing advertisements do not require the self-certification currently. The self-declaration certificate is to certify that the advertisement



(i) does not contain misleading claims, and (ii) complies with all relevant regulatory guidelines, including those stipulated in Rule 7 of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 and the Norms of Journalistic Conduct of Press Council of India. Advertiser must provide proof of uploading the Self-Declaration Certificate to the relevant broadcaster, printer, publisher, or electronic media platform for their records. As per the

Hon'ble Supreme Court's directive, no advertisement will be permitted to run on television, print media, or the internet without a valid Self-Declaration Certificate. The Hon'ble Supreme Court directive is a step towards ensuring transparency, consumer protection, and responsible advertising practices. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting urges all advertisers, broadcasters and publishers to adhere to this directive diligently.

Summer Camp by ECoRSA concluded



Bhubaneswar(KCN):The month-long Summer Camp organised by East Coast Railway Sports Association (ECoRSA) concluded today at Railway Indoor Stadium, Bhubaneswar. Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast

Railway was the chief guest during the closing ceremony of the summer camp. He encouraged the participating children for their performance during the camp. He also distributed prizes to the children for their performance. The camp was organised

with the aim to enhance the physical, mental and moral abilities of the children. The children in the camp were trained in Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball, Swimming and Tennis. A total of 130 nos. of children of railway employees and non-railway persons

participated in the camp. Shri Mohesh Kumar Behera, AGM/ECoR, Shri V. R. Lenin, ECoRSA President and Shri A. K. Samal, General Secretary among others were also present during the closing ceremony of the camp.

Dept of Geology of Kakatiya varsity inks MoU with Bourntec Solutions Pvt Ltd.



Hanumakonda, June 3 (KCN): Department of Geology of Kakatiya University and Bourntec Solutions Pvt Ltd., Hyderabad, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the Telangana State Secretariat on Monday. The MoU was signed by Registrar of the University Prof. Perati Malla Reddy and the Company's CGO G Yugender Reddy in the presence of Incharge Vice

Chancellor Vakati Karuna. Speaking on the occasion, Head of the Department of Geology Prof R Mallikarjuna Reddy said that the MoU would be a component of the university-industry cooperation programme and added that the MoU would facilitate Bourntec Solutions Pvt Ltd to collaborate with the University to provide teaching staff and students with training in cutting-edge GIS

technology. Stating that the company will provide students with training in GIS and related fields and open doors to long-term job opportunities, Prof Mallikarjuna Reddy said, "During training, Bourntec will provide expertise to the University to educate theory and practicals in GIS and related fields. The training and internship programme will begin with the start of the MSc Geology 3rd semester and will

continue until the end of the fourth semester. Bourntec will select the required number of students for the internship programme following the training. During the internship, students will be paid a stipend of Rs. 7000 for the first twelve months." President of Bourntec Solutions Pvt Ltd Srujana Guduru and GIS experts V. Venugopal and T. Balakoteshwar Babu were also present during the programme.



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How Employers can foster a positive workplace environment



Happiness stems from feeling a deep level of contentment across various parts of one's life. Though tough to consistently maintain, it creates something to strive for and that is what most of us chase through our lives. How does one ensure they're happy with and at work? Is it a binary process? Who can enable workplace happiness? Let's try and answer some of these questions. Let's attempt to answer some of these questions. Being happy at work is a journey. Personal growth, monetary satisfaction and feeling

challenged are some of what most employees across the world say they look for when they choose employers. Making sure these three aspects coincide, sustainably happen and continue to motivate performance and alignment is challenging. But not impossible. The easiest to achieve from this trifecta is ensuring personal growth for well-intended employees in the workplace. It is an investment in the future of the organization to spend time and effort coaching and mentoring employees and promoting growth within the organization. Looking for top performers in specific areas externally is neither sustainable nor necessary in most cases if we are able to achieve internal coaching strategies that push people to be their best selves.



Creating challenging work is the next thing an organization could aim for to help with ensuring happier employees. Work can and will get into a monotonous routine with time and this could lead to feelings of boredom or mediocrity that employees will associate

to being unhappy. Ensuring the business is doing well, steady and work is getting more meaningful and careful with timely interventions and checkpoints is one way of achieving this. Giving different opportunities to different people is another way. While this may not be

practical and shouldn't be chased aggressively, it is a good practice to see if internal job postings can be opened to existing employees to apply for as well. The change can make a difference and help the business succeed too. The third aspect of what we hear often is being

satisfactorily compensated. This can be a little tricky. Compensation and creating monetary benefits depend on more external and uncontrollable factors than internal. However, the intent should always be to fairly compensate, incentivize good

performance, pay for potential and employ fair means of arriving at these decisions. Perceived bias in the system or process makes the feeling of being "unhappy" amplified and results in loss of high performers, alignment with the organization's vision and general positive environment at the workplace. Having thought about these three areas, one should also consider softer aspects of fostering a happy workplace environment. There are many ways to do this. Creating spaces in the office that enable serendipitous conversations to occur or having an office that is stress-free interactions for different teams. Doing it casually would yield better results than calendarizing it down to the T which can make it feel more like a checkbox item than a

well-intended downtime for employees. The most powerful way to ensure employees feel happy at the workplace is to listen. To listen without judgment and to make minor adjustments when one discovers limitations in the current system is another strong way of fostering positivity in the workplace. The collective responsibility of ensuring happiness at the workplace cannot lie with a single entity. The commitment to create and maintain this sentiment must occur across leadership teams, HR groups and even peers. Happiness is a state of mind and it is not unachievable. Like all things, it takes effort, consistency and a single minded focus.

Educational columnist
Malout, Punjab

IDIOT Syndrome

Dr. Samrat Kar



Kaushik Singh (45), a postgraduate, had a breathing problem. He contacted a doctor last week who told him that he was suffering from asthma. The doctor recommended him steroids, but Kaushik, who had read about its side effects online, refused to follow the treatment. At an event hosted by King George's Medical University KGMU's respiratory critical care department on the eve of World Asthma Day experts discussed about a syndrome called Internet Derived Information Obstructing Treatment citing an example of Kaushik. The Internet is a boon in today's time with everything being available to us in a few searches. Topping with AI, the audience can access all kinds of information that they need without having to do much work and research. While this is really helpful in many ways, it has created an unfavourable situation when it comes to healthcare. People, nowadays, are seeking help from the internet to find answers to their health conditions and are falling prey to self and wrong diagnosis. This is what the Idiot Syndrome is all about.

Idiot Syndrome profoundly affects individuals mentally,

fostering a mindset where patients begin to distrust medical professionals and opt for self-medication. In addition, this behaviour can significantly impact their health and disrupt ongoing treatment plans. Accessing health information online can be beneficial for understanding and clarifying symptoms quickly. However, it can also be dangerous and misleading. Incorrect self-medication and unnecessary medical tests are common outcomes of relying solely on internet searches for medical advice. Risk of Relapse or Progression: Many medical conditions require ongoing treatment to manage symptoms, prevent relapse, or slow disease progression. Discontinuing treatment based on Internet information can increase the risk of relapse or progression of the underlying condition, leading to worsened health outcomes over time. Delay in Seeking Help: If patients stop their treatment without consulting a healthcare professional, they may delay seeking help when their condition worsens. This delay can result in missed opportunities for early intervention and treatment adjustments that could have improved outcomes. Psychological Impact: Living with a chronic or serious medical condition can be stressful, and seeking information online is a common way for

patients to cope. However, encountering conflicting or alarming information can increase anxiety and uncertainty, leading patients to make impulsive decisions about their treatment. What is the collective noun for idiots? - Answers.com., Appendix: Glossary of collective nouns by subject and 29 of the most obscure collective nouns ever all agree on "a thicket of idiots." Collective nouns has "a bunch of idiots." I would use "a thicket of idiots." What is idiotic Behaviour? : showing complete lack of thought or common sense : foolish. an idiotic question. found his excuses idiotic. 2. dated, now offensive; see usage paragraph below : characterized by extreme intellectual disability. Signs you are suffering from Idiot Syndrome, Strong feeling about having a serious illness despite having minor symptoms. Spending hours on online search for medical information. Feeling distressed based on the information found online. Idiot stands for 'Internet Derived Information Obstruction Treatment.' It happens when people rely on online information instead of seeking proper medical advice, often resulting in wrong self-diagnoses and harmful self-treatment.

Psychiatrist, The Brain Foundation, Purighat Road, Cuttack, Mob. : 9132433333



The power of story is the most important tool in your arsenal. If done well and done correctly, the power of a great story can have a massive effect on the audience and define you as an influencer. It can inspire, enliven and create instant rapport. It can move an audience to take action and it can change lives. The Takeaway. Stories can educate and inspire us and even change minds and attitudes. A well-told, authentic story can make you more trustworthy and encourage others to

connect with you. Some signs of spirituality can include: Asking deep questions about topics such as suffering or what happens after death. Deepening connections with other people. Experiencing compassion and empathy for others. Experiencing feelings of interconnectedness. Feelings of awe and wonder. The benefits of storytelling with your child Cultural understanding. Telling stories allows children to experience different worlds, countries, and traditions, Communication, Curiosity and imagination, Focus and social skills. They help

Nirupama Bhuyan

people imagine something that they haven't thought of before, or help them see what they want in a new light. Stories help people believe in possibility, help them recommit to their vision, and inspire them to take action. The Power of Positive Storytelling - Boost positivity and your team's story skills at the same time. Everyone thrives amongst positive and encouraging stories but they're often in short supply, especially at work. Our brain's negativity bias conspires against it. Through storytelling, children learn how to pay attention and listen actively to the person talking. They learn to be

more patient as they listen to others speak. It also opens their eyes to other people's thoughts and understanding how each and every person's opinion vary. The Importance of Storytelling and Story Creation - Paths to Stories help us understand others and ourselves. We feel empathy with the characters we encounter in stories. This ability to learn from stories is a skill that will help our students throughout their lives. In addition to academic goals, stories enrich lives and provide guidance to living. They take you to their world where you can feel what all they are going through and with

other characters in the story. Motivational or literary stories help you understand the mind of people around. They can comprehend their thinking and feel emotions better. Storytelling is not just entertainment. It's a fundamental. Storytelling is a fundamental part of being human. Stories let us share information in a way that creates an emotional connection. They help us to understand that information and each other, and it makes the information memorable. Ex. District Coordinator (Education), Sri Satya Sai Seva Sangathan, Kendrapara District, Odisha, Mob. : 9937470980

Socioeconomic Decline of Jalangi River Fishers: A Perishing Gangetic Floodplain

Dr. B. K. Das, ARS



of National Mission for Clean Ganga, under Ministry of Jalsakti, Govt of India under the guidance of Dr. Basanta Kumar Das, Director, ICAR - Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, highlighted the impending ecological crisis and underscoring the urgent need for remedial measures to protect this vital waterway. The case study examines the critical condition of the Jalangi River stating the reasons behind the deterioration

of the river. The interaction with the localities revealed that excessive anthropogenic pollution, especially dumping of plasticisers and garbage in the river had led to shallow water levels and thereby causing the significant decline of fish stocks. It was discovered that many fishers have been engaged in fishing activities for decades, often following an ancestral occupation. Many began fishing as early as 10-15 years old. The largest group,

38% of the fisherfolks, have up to 30 years of experience, while 26% have more than 10 years of experience. Hence, due to the erratic condition of the river, the daily catch of fishers has drastically declined, averaging a hauling of only 400-800 gms per fisherfolks. This results in an average daily income of Rs. 200 - 3500/month, placing them in a precarious financial crisis with the growing market rates. Consequently, fishers are increasingly pursuing alternative activities to

supplement their income. The current socio-economic status of the river is petrifying, and thus, necessary steps must be taken to revive the fisheries and socio-economic conditions of the Jalangifisherfolks.

Director ICAR - Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute Manirampore, Barrackpore, Kolkata 700120 Mob. No. + 91 9437080411 (Odisha)

Revitalizing the Ganga: Integrating Riverscape Approaches

Prof (Dr.) S N Tripathy*



Rivers are vital natural resources that significantly contribute to human well-being by maintaining the structure, function, and integrity of the landscapes through which they flow. Among these rivers, the Ganga holds immense geographical, environmental, socio-economic, cultural, and religious importance in India and beyond. This transboundary river traverses five states in India and Bangladesh, covering a total stretch of 2,525 kilometers. Forming one of the largest basins in the world, the Ganga River basin represents 26% of India's landmass and supports approximately 43% of the country's population. For millions of Indians living along its course, the Ganga is a lifeline, meeting their daily needs. Despite its religious and cultural prominence, the Ganga has suffered from fragmentation and degradation over the ages, remaining neglected for a long time.

Since human activities heavily influence all global rivers, rehabilitating a river to a more natural state is demanding. Enhancing the river's naturalness is a common goal of rehabilitation projects, which has become a crucial element of enhancement ethology. The increased understanding of fluvial ecosystems has shifted river conservation and restoration strategies. Functional perspectives of river restoration aim to regain the full suite of biogeochemical, ecological, and hydrogeomorphic processes constituting a healthy river. River dynamics, including meandering, sediment transport, and scouring, depend on hydraulic properties such as horizontal and vertical stress and spatial and temporal variations in discharge. Effective programs for the environmental rehabilitation of aquatic ecosystems require tailored restoration approaches based on sound scientific knowledge of processes and mechanisms, drawing from previous successful interventions. Maintaining riparian vegetation is crucial as it supports multiple processes vital to the

formation, availability, and arrangement of instream habitats and keeping water quality and instream habitat conditions. Riparian management standards, such as the adoption of buffers to maintain streamside vegetation, are essential in this context. Globally, rivers have been degraded over centuries due to various factors, limiting their ecological health and value. This includes the Ganga River in India. A riverscape approach can provide relevant information on riverine resources needed in river restoration programs. A conceptual riverscape model is proposed to rejuvenate the holy Ganga River in India through forestry interventions, considering ecological processes, landforms, communities, and the environment within the extensive Ganga basin. The selected riverscape area includes zones extending 5 kilometres and 2 kilometres on either side of the Ganga River and its important tributaries, respectively, across five stakeholder states: Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. The width of the riverscape is measured from the maximum bank line in recent years on



either side of the river in the concerned state. However, all micro-watersheds in the hills of Uttarakhand, the river's origin, are included in the riverscape area up to Haridwar. The riverscape, a mosaic of different land uses, including natural ecosystems, rural and agricultural ecosystems, and urban built-up environments, has developed over the last 30 years due to river meandering. Using geospatial modelling and GIS data on land use patterns, soil erosion rates, and topography slopes, the riverscape area was classified into high, medium, and low-priority areas for implementing forestry interventions. Forestry interventions were then planned and carried out in three identified landscapes: Natural

(forests), agricultural (agroforestry), and urban, alongside conservation activities. These interventions are expected to increase water recharge and reduce sedimentation loads in the Ganga River and its tributaries, contributing to the river's ecological health and sustainability. The ecological health of Indian rivers and their tributaries has significantly deteriorated due to high pollution loads, excessive water abstraction for irrigation, and river modifications. Climate change and an increase in extreme weather events further disturb water cycles and threaten the stability of water flows. Riverscape approaches are becoming essential for addressing explicit and accurate stream ecology concepts and exploring

new frontiers in river research and management with the aid of data collection and analysis advances. Longitudinal changes from the river source to its mouth, vertical interactions (riverbed/aquifer), and lateral exchange processes across floodplains play a significant role in alluvial river landscapes. Forestry plantations and soil and water conservation measures proposed and executed in delineated riverscapes of Indian rivers are expected to have long-lasting impacts on river rejuvenation programs. Forests serve as nature-based solutions for water-related natural hazards. The hydro-geological conditions and groundwater regime in the Indo-Ganga-Brahmaputra basin indicate the existence of large

quantities of fresh groundwater, often replenished annually due to high rainfall and good recharge conditions. However, aquifers are depleted over time in regions where groundwater use exceeds natural recharge rates and requires interventions. Rejuvenation of aquifers can play a crucial role in river rejuvenation; thus, artificial recharge or augmentation of natural surface water movement into groundwater reservoirs through suitable civil structures at specified points in delineated riverscapes will increase aquifer capacity in Indian river basins. Given the strong linkages between forests and water, forestry interventions in the Ganga riverscape will likely increase water recharge and decrease sedimentation loads in the river and its tributaries. A conceptual riverscape model has been developed to rejuvenate the Ganga River through forestry interventions, considering ecological processes, landform mosaics, communities, and the environment within the Ganga basin's extensive landscape. The selected riverscape area includes zones extending 5 kilometres on either side of the Ganga River and 2 kilometres on

either side of its significant tributaries, spanning the five stakeholder states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. The width of the riverscape is based on the maximum bank line in recent years in the concerned states. All micro-watersheds in the Uttarakhand hills, where the river originates, are included in the riverscape area up to Haridwar. The Government of India is committed to an ambitious goal of rejuvenating all significant rivers in the country. However, more than one intervention can be needed to solve the problem, and stakeholders must recognize that water availability will be insufficient to meet rising demands. Consequently, a combination of different interventions is required. A riverscape approach, combined with forestry interventions as applied in the Ganga River, could apply to other major river rejuvenation programs in India, offering innovative ways to understand, conserve, and restore riverine ecosystems nationwide.

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Lok Sabha Final Today, Who Will Blame the EVM?

Vivek Shukla



The festival of Indian democracy, which has been ongoing for nearly two and a half months, concludes tomorrow (Tuesday) with the announcement of the Lok Sabha election results. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar announced the Lok Sabha election schedule on March 16th. The voting process took place in seven phases, stretching from April 19th to June 1st. Now, the time has come for the counting of votes. It is hoped that the results will be accepted without any questioning. Naturally, the Lok Sabha election results will reveal the accuracy of exit poll predictions and other forecasts. However, is there any guarantee that defeated parties and candidates will not blame the EVMs for their loss? Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has made serious accusations against Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He claimed that Shah had contacted 150 district magistrates

and collectors via phone. The Election Commission, taking the accusation seriously, has asked Ramesh for evidence. Jairam Ramesh claimed on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter) that "The outgoing Home Minister is calling District Magistrates/Collectors. He has spoken to 150 of them so far. This is blatant and shameless intimidation, and shows how desperate BJP is." Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi has also stated that if the elections are conducted honestly, the BJP will not win more than 180 seats. In recent times, a section of the population in India has emerged that is chronically dissatisfied. They remain in a blame game mode all the time. Don't be surprised if losing candidates blame the EVMs for their loss after the Lok Sabha results are announced. It is clear that they cannot accept defeat under any circumstances. In their frustration, they shamelessly point to the EVMs as the reason for their loss. These pessimistic and frustrated elements remain silent when they win. Overall, the accusations regarding EVM manipulation have been unfounded and

baseless. Those who question the credibility of EVMs shamelessly demand that elections be conducted using ballot papers. Advocates of ballot papers forget the chaos during elections in the era of ballot papers. There



was widespread voter fraud. The truth is that no one can manipulate EVMs because they are not connected to the internet. They are stand-alone, hard-wired devices. This makes online hacking impossible. Those who claim that elections conducted through EVMs are rigged should remember that the process of assigning

EVMs to polling booths is intricate. First, the Lok Sabha constituency is determined, followed by the assembly constituency, and finally, the polling booth. This is a lengthy process. Furthermore, the polling officers are informed

about the specific EVMs assigned to them only a day before the election. The EVM consists of two machines: one for ballot and one for control. A third unit, the VVPAT, displays a slip to the voter, providing confirmation that their vote has been cast correctly. Before the start of the voting process, polling officers conduct a mock poll in

front of election officials representing all contesting parties. Following this process, the candidates' polling agents provide the polling booth's chief officer with a certificate confirming the correct mock poll. Even after

education. Political analysts, journalists, and political activists started announcing potential election outcomes at least 15 days before the results. The predictions made by election strategist Prashant

have projected the BJP to cross the 350-seat mark. However, from Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, various leaders are calling the exit polls fake. The truth will be revealed after the vote count today. Meanwhile, renowned astrologer, columnist, and author Pandit J.P. Trikha has made his prediction after extensive research on the Lok Sabha election results. Pandit Trikha says, "My astrological studies clearly indicate that the BJP, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be the party with the most seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections." According to Pandit Trikha, "Mr. Narendra Modi's moon sign is Scorpio. He was born on September 17, 1950. He is ruled by Mars. Scorpions are very intelligent and shrewd, and they possess leadership qualities. They are born leaders. Modi Ji has proved this repeatedly." Before conducting exit polls, agencies deploy their personnel outside polling booths. These personnel question voters after they cast their ballots about who they voted for. The data

collected is then analyzed in depth. Long-time observers of Lok Sabha and Assembly elections claim that every election is unique. The issues at stake in two different elections are different. Amidst the scorching heat that engulfed a large part of the country, millions of voters exercised their franchise, ensuring the success of the democratic festival. However, the intense heat led to the death of a significant number of government employees. The Election Commission needs to consider holding future Lok Sabha elections in more conducive weather conditions. It must also be acknowledged that the level of accusations and counter-accusations during the election campaign descended to the gutter level. While debate, argument, dissent, dialogue, and discussion are crucial in a democracy, unfortunately, critical issues were overlooked during the election campaign. Ends.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor



The Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Prof. (Dr) Atul Goel in a group photograph during the "Infectious Disease, AMR and One Health Dialogue" between India and Denmark, in New Delhi

32 Wild Monkeys Drown In Irrigation Well While Quenching Thirst In Jharkhand



Medininagar (Jharkhand)(KCN): As many as 32 wild monkeys were suspected to have drowned in an irrigation well in Jharkhand's Palamu district during their bid to quench their thirst, a forest official said on Monday.

It took place in Sorath village in Panki block and the corpses were found

on Sunday, but officials were yet to ascertain the exact date of the incident.

"A total of 32 wild monkeys were found dead in an irrigation well in Sorath... the corpses were fished out," Medininagar Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Kumar Ashish told PTI. The entire area is reeling

under heatwave conditions, with temperatures hovering around 44-45 degrees Celsius.

"Sources of water in the area have almost dried up... wild animals are coming to villages to quench their thirst... these monkeys apparently drowned during their bid to quench

their thirst," Ashish said. The well in which the monkeys died had ample water, he said, adding autopsy was conducted but the reports were yet to be received.

A few days ago, three jackals wandering in search of water in Chainpur forest died in a well, he said.

Last week, four persons died of sunstroke in Jharkhand while 1,326 others were admitted to the hospital amid sweltering heat in most parts of the eastern state.

All district hospitals and other medical facilities have been asked to set aside air-conditioned rooms and empty beds for heatstroke patients, officials said.

"Respond Or...": Election Body On Jairam Ramesh's Allegations

New Delhi: Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh's request for a week's time to file evidence to back up his allegations against Union minister Amit Shah, has been rejected by the Election Commission. He has been given time till 7 pm today to file his response, along with evidence that Mr Shah had called up and intimidated district officers ahead of tomorrow's counting of

votes. The Commission had earlier said they had received no complaints on the issue from any district magistrate or other officials. Mr Ramesh had sought a week's time to file his rebuttal.

"Your allegation that attempts have been made to influence the District Magistrates of around 150 Parliamentary Constituencies, who are also the ROs/DEOs, has serious connotation and

direct bearing on the sanctity of the counting process, scheduled for tomorrow," the Commission said in its response.

"As mentioned in Commissions letter dated 02.06.2024, no DM has reported any such undue influence as alleged by you. Therefore, the Commission hereby outrightly rejects your request for time extension," the letter read.

In absence of a response by due time, "it would be presumed that you have nothing substantive to say in the matter" and the Commission would take appropriate action," the letter read.

As the election ended on Saturday, Mr Ramesh, in a post on X, accused Mr Shah, the BJP's chief strategist, of calling up and intimidating collectors and district magistrates.

Telugu Actor Hema Arrested In Connection With Bengaluru Rave Party Case

Bengaluru(KCN): The Central Crime Branch probing the Bengaluru rave party case arrested Telugu film actress Hema following interrogation on Monday.

The rave party was organised on May 19 at a farmhouse near Electronic City.

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) had summoned Hema to its office on Monday. Sources said she deposed before her interrogators wearing a burqa to hide her identity. As her replies were not satisfactory, she



was arrested.

The rave party was organised on the pretext of a birthday party where most of the people had come from neighbouring Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, according to

CCB sources.

There were a few people from Bengaluru as well, they added.

Based on a tip-off, the CCB raided the location and collected the blood samples of those who

attended the party.

The blood test reports later confirmed that 86 people, including Hema, had tested positive for narcotics, police sources had said.

According to sources, a total of 103 people participated in the party. The participants included 73 men and 30 women. Police seized MDMA (Ecstasy) pills, MDMA crystals, hydro cannabis, cocaine, high-end cars, DJ equipment including sound and lighting worth ? 1.5 crore during the raid

Central Forces Will Remain In Some States To Prevent Post Poll Violence: Election Body

New Delhi(KCN): In a bid to prevent post-poll violence, the Election Commission (EC) has for the first time decided to continue with the deployment of central forces in some states even after the expiry of the Model Code of Conduct period, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar said on Monday.

He said while the EC believes that there would be no post-poll violence, to prevent any flare-up, the election body has, for the first time, decided to deploy central forces even after the provisions of the model code are lifted following Tuesday's



counting of the votes cast in the Lok Sabha polls.

The states where the central forces would continue to be deployed include Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Manipur, Mr Kumar said. "Wherever we think there is a possibility (of

violence)," he told a press conference here.

Sources had said on Saturday that the EC has provided central forces to various states beyond the June 4 counting day to prevent any untoward incident, based on the assessment provided by the states as well as

central observers.

Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have been provided with security forces for 15 days after the counting day.

Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh have been provided with security forces for two days after the counting day, the sources had said.

Along with the Lok Sabha election, Assembly polls were also held in Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

The counting of the votes polled in the Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh Assembly elections took place on June 2.

Day Before Lok Sabha Poll 2024 Results, Ex Judges' Letter To President Murmu

New Delhi(KCN): Seven former high court judges on Monday wrote an open letter to President Droupadi Murmu urging her to follow the "established democratic precedent" and invite the largest pre-poll alliance to form the government to preempt horse trading if the 2024 general elections lead to a hung Parliament. The retired judges also urged Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud and the chief election commissioner to uphold the Constitution by ensuring a smooth transition of power, if the present ruling dispensation loses people's mandate. The open letter is signed

by six former Madras High Court judges G M Akbar Ali, Aruna Jagadeesan, D Hariparanthaman, P R Shivakumar, C T Selvam, S Vimala and former judge of Patna High Court Anjana Prakash. They said there was "genuine concern" that if the present ruling dispensation loses people's mandate, the transition of power may not be smooth and there could be a constitutional crisis.

Concurring with the May 25 open statement of Constitutional Conduct Group (CCG) of former civil servants, the former judges said, "We are constrained to agree with the scenario

envisaged in the above statement: 'In the event of a hung parliament, onerous responsibilities will be placed upon the shoulders of the President of India.

"We are sure that she will follow the established democratic precedent of first inviting the pre-poll alliance that garnered the largest number of seats. Also, that she would endeavour to preempt the possibilities of horse-trading...." It also urged the CJI and the CEC to uphold the Constitution in such an eventuality and ensure smooth transition of power.

"We, former high court judges, having no affiliation to any political party, but strongly



committed to the ideals enshrined in the Constitution, and to the values of electoral democracy, write this open letter from a deep anguish at the recent and present goings-on

with regard to the parliamentary elections of 2024," the letter, issued to media on June 3, said.

"Several events over the past weeks are making for a very grim storyline; one that may possibly end in a

violent conclusion. These are genuine apprehensions in the minds of the vast majority of our people. Reputed civil and human rights organisations and activists have also echoed the same apprehension," it said. It said the Election Commission's refusal to disclose the exact number of votes cast in each booth of every constituency and to make form 17(C) of conduct of election rules available to the public, along with the minimal action taken against hate speech targeting minorities and opposition parties by senior leaders of the ruling party, are major

concerns.

The letter said the Supreme Court, being the final authority to defend and protect the Constitution and democracy, should be ready to take "proactive action to prevent any potential catastrophe or to address any monstrous situations that may arise during counting and declaration of results." "We, the people of India as citizens of a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic hereby call upon the Supreme Court to ensure the presence and attendance of the top five esteemed justices of the Supreme Court even during the

period of the ongoing summer vacation and be available to respond in the event of any constitutional crisis that might emerge in the present situation," the letter said.

It said the former judges hoped that their apprehensions were wrong and the elections would end smoothly but they believed that prevention is better than cure.

"We therefore, seek in humility to remind each of the authorities and institutions charged with the integrity of the process of democratic government formation of their paramount duty to abide by and uphold the Constitution," it added.

Rampant illegal mining funding poll expenses

Jajpur(KCN): Illegal mining of various minerals are growing rampant by the day in this district as the Lok Sabha and the Assembly elections approach. It has been alleged that illegal mining is being carried out to fund the campaigns of candidates belonging to various political parties including the ruling one. This district has rich deposits of minor minerals like black stones, murrums, sand and laterite stones. More than a year back, the Odisha government had transferred the management of minor minerals from the Revenue to the Mining department. Many alleged that since then illegal mining of these

minerals have grown manifold. The Mining department has leased out 35 of the 90 black stone quarries on lease. However, black stone is being extracted rampantly from the remaining 55 quarries. Also murrum, sand and laterite stone quarries are being plundered on a regular basis. According to sources, all this is allegedly happening in connivance with officials of the Revenue and Mining departments and police. Sources said that the Dharmasala tehsil area is known as the storehouse of black stone. They alleged that more than 10,000 tonne of black stone are being smuggled from Aruha hill under this tehsil on a



daily basis. The miscreants are using sophisticated and high-powered equipment to extract black stone. Four concretebreaker machines and over 40 Hyva trucks are being

used for the mining and smuggling of stones. Sources added that a similar modus operandi is being followed at the Dankari, Rahadpur, Lunibar, Bichhakhandi and Anjira hills in the

district. Experts observed that black stones worth Rs 500 crore have been smuggled from these areas in the last 12 months. Satellite

mapping of the areas will reveal the true picture, they said. Sources pointed out that illegal mining and smuggling of murrum are also taking place

daily. A case in point is the 15 acres of government land provided to industrial firm 'VCI Chemical Industries Private Ltd' a few years back. However, the firm never set up its unit. Currently, miscreants are smuggling murrum from large areas of the land and smuggling it, sources added. They further said that murrum worth `50 lakh has been smuggled and a major amount of the money is being used to fund the election expenses of some candidates. On being tipped off, officials of the Mining department inspected the land in question recently. However, the reason

they gave for not taking any action is deplorable. They said that since the extraction and smuggling of murrum happen during the night, they can't take any action. Similarly, it has been alleged that on average 50 trucks of laterite stones are being smuggled from the district daily. The stone-laden trucks pass by the Bairi police station but the cops have so far not taken any action, sources said. When contacted, Deputy Director Mines (DDM), Jayaprakash Nayak said that illegal quarries are being raided regularly and fines are being collected. He, however, could not throw any light as to when such activities will stop.

RGH overcrowded, UHM hospitals empty

Rourkela(KCN): During any high-profile health emergency, the burden always comes to the already overstretched Rourkela Government Hospital (RGH). This pressure will possibly be reduced if all the hospitals under the Urban Health Mission (UHM) share the burden of RGH. However, this is not happening. There are 10 such hospitals, all strategically located in different parts of the district like Bandhamunda, Panposh, Koel Nagar, Chhend, Basanti Colony, Baughat, Sector-6 and 16, Fertiliser Township and Gopabandhupalli. The sole purpose of these hospitals is to cater to those staying close to these hospitals or in the periphery. Most of these are well-maintained and manned by regular staff. However, the irony is these are unable to reduce some of the burden of RGH. "It is a fact that these are not so well-equipped like RGH but have more than the



basic facilities. Still, these hospitals have failed to attract patients thereby increasing the burden on us," said a doctor at RGH. The in-charge of Urban Health Mission Dr Pushpamitra Mishra, who superannuated Friday, said, "Actually we have been able to lessen the dependency on RGH. We may not have indoor facilities here but we have two observation beds which are operational." Another health expert at RGH said, "People do not prefer these hospitals. In fact, during the diarrhoea outbreak, there was provision of beds at Panposh UHM hospital.

But people did not go there. The main problem is lack of adequate number of doctors and other paramedic staff there." Besides, the patients are not ready to consider consulting AYUSH doctors, observed another doctor. These hospitals are all neat and clean. Basic facilities like blood tests and dressing of wounds are also available. However, for more specialised treatment one will have to go to RGH. Patients are visiting RGH for minor diseases instead of going to these health centres. "We receive patients with common fever, cold and

cough. They could easily avail the services at the UHM hospitals, but they don't go there," said a doctor at RGH. His suggestion was to spread more awareness regarding these hospitals at the local levels through ASHAs and ANM professionals. "They are the people who are always in touch with these people and they believe them. If we are availing the services of the retired doctors at RGH why not hire many such professionals living in the city for these hospitals. Perhaps then only the burden here will reduce," he suggested.

Kalimela CHC Doctor goes missing

Malkangiri / Kalimela(KCN): A doctor posted at the Kalimela community health centre (CHC) in this district has been allegedly kidnapped by Maoists from his official residence, late Saturday night, sources stated here Sunday. The physician has been identified as Dr Amlan Kumar Bhoi, a native of Kandhamal district. He joined the hospital five months back. The matter came to the fore after the authorities of Kalimela CHC complained to the Kalimela police station. Locals and employees at the health centre informed that they found Maoist posters inside the residence of the doctor. They said that the posters indicate the involvement of the Maoists in the alleged abduction of the




doctor. Officials of the Kalimela police station, however, rejected the claims made by the locals. They said they are looking into all possible angles. Police also did not rule out the involvement of a particular family in the incident. They said that the mobile phone of Dr Bhoi was found inside the hospital while, his bike was stationed in front of his residence. Sources said that some people brought an ailing woman

of Kota area in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh to the hospital, Friday night. However, by the time she reached the hospital, she had already breathed her last. The doctor then informed the Kalimela police station. On being informed police reached the health centre and seized the body. This led to a heated argument between the doctor and the family members of the deceased as they wanted the body without delay. Police are apprehending that those

persons might have kidnapped the doctor. Kalimela SDPO Sachin Patel visited the hospital and the doctor's official quarters and has initiated a probe. However, they are yet to find any clue. Malkangiri SP

Nitesh Wadhvani also stated that the doctor may have gone somewhere on his own without informing anyone. "At this point, we haven't found any clue regarding the involvement of Maoists," he said. When contacted, chief district medical officer (CDMO) Dr Prafulla Kumar Nanda said that he had rushed the district public health officer Dr A Hussain to Kalimela to look into the matter.



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Jindal Stainless wins International Safety Award from the British Safety Council for the fifth time in a row



Bhubaneswar : Jindal Stainless, India’s largest stainless steel manufacturer, has been awarded the coveted International Safety Awards in the ‘merit’ category by the British Safety Council for the fifth consecutive year. The company was conferred with the honour for its safety

initiatives implemented at its manufacturing plants in Jajpur, Odisha, and Hisar, Haryana. Senior Vice President and Unit Head, Hisar, Mr Vijay Kumar Bindlish; Head, Environment, Health and Safety, Hisar, Mr Sudhir Kumar; Head, Fire and Safety, Jajpur, Mr Manoj Bal; and Vice

President, Hisar, Mr Deepak Jain received the award on behalf of the company in a physical ceremony held in Mumbai. Commenting on the achievement, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, Mr Abhyuday Jindal, said, “Winning this award for the fifth time in a row reflects our company’s consistent dedication to

the safety of its employees that goes beyond merely following the protocol. It reflects our commitment to fostering a culture of safety where everyone feels empowered to identify and address potential risks. We are proud of this achievement, but more importantly, recognitions such as this motivate us to continuously set higher standards for safety in the future.” Jindal Stainless’ efforts to uphold the highest safety standards have been instrumental in achieving this award for the fifth year running. The company remains

steadfast in its pursuit of achieving zero accidents and strives to continuously elevate its safety protocols. The British Safety Council’s International Safety Awards are a hallmark of excellence, a c k n o w l e d g i n g companies that prioritise the well-being of their workforce. In 2024, a total of 1,251 applications were received for these awards. The winners include organisations from diverse sectors from around the globe viz. the UK, Africa, Asia, China, Europe, India, the Middle East, Turkey, and the Republic of Ireland.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

look for avenues of investment. Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon’ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL. On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Choose Bold. Choose Water.” Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water promotes hydration for better celebrations.

Bhubaneswar : Did you know, it takes about an hour to process a standard unit of alcohol, which is generally 10 grams? *As part of its ongoing commitment to promote responsible consumption, and drinking better, not more, Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water has launched its latest campaign, “Choose Bold. Choose Water”, which emphasizes on the importance of staying hydrated when consuming alcohol. Through this campaign, the company aims to promote responsible drinking with a simple yet compelling narrative: Often, choosing water is the bold choice. Harking back to the Diageo motto of “Drink better, not more”, Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water through this campaign and its social engagement is playing an active role in the prevention and reduction of harmful



use of alcohol, while also driving awareness on mindful consumption and encouraging individuals to stay hydrated during social occasions. The latest campaign film shares the importance of timely water breaks during moments of alcohol consumption to take care of one’s body. Talking about this campaign, Ruchira Jaitly, Vice-President, Marketing & Portfolio head, Diageo India said, “At Diageo, we believe in drinking better, not more. A good way to do this is by ensuring hydration during drinking occasions. Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water wants to drive

recognition for this important and yet often ignored message with the Choose Bold, Choose Water campaign. By focusing the conversation on hydration and building the recognition for taking a break for the same, we want to foster a culture where our consumers celebrate life responsibly, and we are proud to be able to lead this conversation.” As one of the prominent packaged drinking water brands, Royal Challenge aims to set a positive example for consumers and to shape behaviour by promoting responsible drinking by choosing hydration for moderation.

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

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

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, “This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry.

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

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