

3-Tier Security At Odisha Counting Centers, Strong Rooms For Poll Results

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The results for the simultaneous polls held in Odisha for 21 Lok Sabha seats and 147-member state Assembly are set to be declared on Tuesday. The simultaneous elections were held in four phases between May 13 and June 1. Re-polling was also held at two booths under the Kantamala Assembly segment in Boudh district on May 23.

Following the guidelines of the Election Commission of India, adequate security arrangements have been made across the state for smooth counting on Tuesday. Police sources said the



EVMs have been safely stored in the strong rooms at 69 locations (78 buildings) across the state, which are under CCTV surveillance and being guarded by the

Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel.

The counting will be held at 168 centers, one each for 147 Assembly segments and the 21

Parliamentary constituencies in the state.

A three-tier security has been put in place at each of the strong rooms where the EVMs have

been stored and at the counting venues across the state. As many as 78 platoons of CAPF personnel are guarding the strong rooms and counting centers as the first layer. Similarly, 78 platoons of Special Armed Force of Odisha Police and an adequate number of cops of the respective district police force have been deployed as part of the second and third-tier security arrangements to ensure peaceful and flawless counting of votes. Several platoons of additional CAPF forces have been deployed at the counting centers as well.

Governor Raghubar Das dissolves Odisha Assembly

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Governor Raghubar Das dissolved the Odisha Legislative Assembly Monday, a notification issued by the Parliamentary Affairs Department of Odisha Government read. The Odisha Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in virtual mode earlier today, recommended to Governor Das to dissolve the Assembly, a day before the counting of votes in the state for simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. Monday was the last Cabinet meeting of the fifth term of the BJD government in the state. Official sources said the dissolution of the Odisha



Assembly was the only agenda item of Monday's Cabinet meeting. Odisha went to the polls in four phases starting from May 13 to elect 147 Assembly and 21 Lok Sabha members. In the last Assembly, the 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.

Will start process of holding assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir very soon: CEC Rajiv Kumar



New Delhi(KCN): The Election Commission (EC) Monday said it will start the process of holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir very soon.

Addressing a press conference here, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar said the EC was very enthused by the voter turnout in Jammu and Kashmir during the Lok Sabha elections, which showed the eagerness of the people to participate in the democratic process.

"We will very soon start the process of Assembly elections in J&K. We are very enthused. It is one of the most satisfying moments," the CEC said.

The voter turnout in Jammu and Kashmir during the Lok Sabha elections was 58.58 per cent, the highest in four decades. The voter turnout in Lok Sabha seats in the Kashmir valley was 51.05 per cent, he said.

While announcing the schedule for the Lok Sabha elections in

March, Kumar had said that holding Assembly and parliamentary elections simultaneously was not practical due to logistical and security reasons.

Whenever Assembly elections are held in Jammu and Kashmir, they will be the first since the August 2019 abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and the division of the erstwhile state into two union territories.

The electoral exercise in Jammu and Kashmir is usually spread over a month.

Following a delimitation exercise, the number of Assembly seats in the union territory has gone up from 83 to 90, excluding those allocated to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

In December, the Supreme Court had directed the poll panel to hold Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

Odisha: OJEE 2024 results announced

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha Joint Entrance Examination (OJEE)-2024 results were declared Monday.

Sagarika Dash has topped the list in B.Pharm. Biltu Mandal has topped the examination in LE-TECH (DIP) category. Suryakant Prusty has topped in MBA and Brahmananda Moharana is the topper in MCA/MSC (Comp SC).

This year the OJEE was

conducted from May 6 to May 10 at different examination centers across the state.

Candidates can visit the

official OJEE website (www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com) to check their results and download their rank cards.

at one or two places over Subarnapur, Boudh, Bolangir, Bargarh, Nuapada and Kandhamal districts. In the same timeframe, hot and humid weather conditions are very likely to prevail at one or two places over Subarnapur, Boudh, Bolangir, Bargarh, Nuapada and Kandhamal districts. Since Friday, a total of 99 suspected sunstroke deaths were reported by different districts. After post-mortem and inquiry, 20 were confirmed as sunstroke deaths, while two deaths happened due to other causes, according to the statement issued by the state's Special Relief Commission.

Heatwave in these Odisha districts likely till June 6



three days as the state was reeling under intense heatwave conditions, an official statement said.

Since Friday, a total of 99 suspected sunstroke deaths were reported by different districts. After post-mortem and inquiry, 20 were confirmed as sunstroke deaths, while two deaths happened due to other causes, according to the statement issued by the state's Special Relief Commission.

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.

Sensex, Nifty race over 3% to record highs as exit polls predict massive win for BJP-led NDA

Mumbai(KCN): Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty rallied more than 3 per cent to close at lifetime highs Monday following across-the-board buying as exit polls predicted a massive win for the BJP-led NDA in the general elections.

The 30-share BSE Sensex soared by 2,507.47 points or 3.39 per cent to settle at a new closing peak of 76,468.78, marking its biggest single-day gain in three years. During the day, the barometer jumped 2,777.58 points or 3.75 per cent to hit a record intra-day peak of 76,738.89.

The NSE Nifty climbed 733.20 points or 3.25 per cent to

finish at 23,263.90. During the day, it soared 808 points or 3.58 per cent to hit a fresh intra-day all-time high of 23,338.70. A sharp rally in blue-chip stocks Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank and State Bank of India propelled the indices to lifetime high levels. Strong GDP data also added to the buoyancy in equity markets.

Shares of all Adani Group companies continued their sharp rally Monday, with Adani Power surging nearly 16 per cent, in line with a massive surge in the equity market. Among sectors, PSUs, Power, Utilities, Oil, Energy, Capital Goods, and Realty indices

soared up to 8 per cent. Exit polls Saturday predicted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will retain power for a third straight term, with the BJP-led NDA expected to win a big majority in the Lok Sabha polls. The counting of votes will take place June 4. "The markets opened at new highs today largely because of Exit polls predicting landslide victory for the BJP-led NDA. This will result in a positive surprise of policy continuity with higher seats for the NDA government," SAMCO Mutual Fund Fund Manager & Head of Equity Research Paras Matalia said.

Among the 30-Sensex

companies, NTPC, State Bank of India and Power Grid jumped over 9 per cent each. Larsen & Toubro, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, UltraTech Cement, Mahindra & Mahindra, IndusInd

Bank, ICICI Bank and Tata Steel were the other big gainers. Sun Pharma, HCL Technologies, Asian Paints, Nestle and Infosys were the laggards. Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, "Exit poll has activated the optimism of a memorable win for the ongoing government, PSUs had a humongous rally, in anticipation of the continuation of the reform gains, triggering further re-rate."

India's economy grew by 8.2 per cent in the fiscal year that ended in March, cementing the country's position as the fastest-growing

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. Balakoteswar Babu were also present during the programme.

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How Employers can foster a positive workplace environment



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

Vijay GarG



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.

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



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.

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.

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

Idiot Syndrome profoundly affects individuals mentally,



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

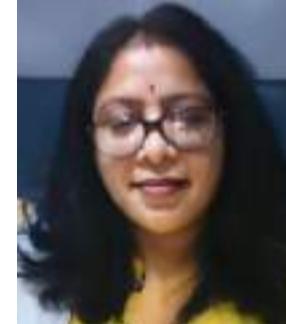
information that they need without having to do much work and research. While this is really helpful in many ways, it has created an unfavourable situation when it comes to healthcare. People, nowadays, are seeking help from the internet to find answers to their health conditions and are falling prey to self and wrong diagnosis. This is what the Idiot Syndrome is all about.

Idiot Syndrome profoundly affects individuals mentally,

patients to cope. However, encountering conflicting or alarming information can increase anxiety and uncertainty, leading patients to make impulsive decisions about their treatment.

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



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

Story Telling

Nirupama Bhuyan

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

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

thrive 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.

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Socioeconomic Decline of Jalangi River Fishers: A Perishing Gangetic Floodplain

Dr. B. K. Das, ARS



The Jalangi was once a majestic flowing river through the districts of Murshidabad and Nadia, West Bengal, providing a livelihood support to more than 1200 fisherfolks along the river. Over the years, the river has faced significant threats due to rapid urbanization, industrialization, and agricultural expansion. The discharge of jute retting and agricultural runoff has severely degraded the water quality, endangering both aquatic life and human health. Additionally, encroachments along the riverbanks, illegal sand mining, and siltation have exacerbated erosion and habitat loss, further deteriorating the riverine condition. In January and May, 2024, research survey teams

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,

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 Jalangi fisherfolks.

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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 biogeochanical, 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.

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.

*Former Professor of Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, currently at Berhampur, Odisha

Lok Sabha Final Today, Who Will Blame the EVM?

Vivek Shukla



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

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

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. Scorpios 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



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

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

such rigorous scrutiny of EVMs, it's impossible to appease those who refuse to trust them. Meanwhile, predicting accurate exit polls in a complex and diverse country like India is not easy. However, the 2024 Lok Sabha election will be remembered for the lack of meaningful discussion on fundamental issues like corruption, health, and

Kishor have been highly controversial. He claimed that the Congress would not win 100 seats in the Lok Sabha elections. He claimed that the BJP would either retain or exceed its seat count from the 2019 general elections. Those who dismissed Kishor's claims have fallen silent after the release of exit polls. Most exit polls



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



Medinagar (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," Medinagar Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Kumar Ashish told PTI. The entire area is reeling

"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.

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

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 deposited 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.

The counting of the votes

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, 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

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, murram, 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 murram, 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 murram 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 murram from large areas of the land and smuggling it, sources added. They further said that murram 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 murram 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

2024-2025



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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,

acknowledging

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, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

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

their in-warranty products on Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple 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.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry.

The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a

beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' - The Journey of a Young

Woman - the show encapsulated the journey of a

woman from post adolescence to her nuptials,

navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey

was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers.

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, 31'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 Risda Cement Plant, Chhattisgarh and Nimbol Cement Plant, Rajasthan

Bhubaneswar : Nuvoco Vista 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 Risda 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), 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.

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

in our commitment to sustainable cement manufacturing and reducing 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 on 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.

Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water wants to drive

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) and Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) 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, SCTEVT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS). Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEVT 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."



The drop-in first impressions: Deadly mix for pacers, docile for spinners

New Delhi: After the first game here in New York, the verdict on the much-talked-about drop-in pitches could well be this: They present a strange and rather bizarre mix. The bounce and carry are distinctly present, along with some seam movement, and the long boundaries provide an additional advantage to the bowlers. This combination creates the perfect cocktail for the bowlers. However, surprisingly enough, there is not much spin. Typically, balls that seam also tend to turn too, but this was not the case here. Now, India have packed their squad with four spinners. One may not be totally wrong to recall what Rohit Sharma said about four spinners. "I don't want to go into too much

detail on it because I'm sure all the opposition captains will be listening to this. I'll give you a short answer: I definitely wanted four spinners. We played a lot of cricket there. We know what the conditions are like. The match starts at... 10, 10:30. So, there is a little bit of a technical aspect involved in this." So, have they got it wrong? Not necessarily. It might still make perfect sense. This squad wasn't selected for the group stage or even the Super Eight games; its aim is the semifinals and final, which they need to nail them. The selectors clearly expect the team to reach the knockouts, and why not, given their recent performances in ICC events? This squad is designed for the pitches in the West Indies, not in the USA. There is a school of thought that the balance of this World Cup side is a little skewed, but India are clearly preparing for the type of pitches they will encounter when it really matters. One can guess who the fourth spinner is among Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, and Yuzvendra Chahal. It could be Axar, may have been chosen for his batting depth. In fact, Axar could end up being the central figure. If he bats well, it is unlikely that the team will bring a leg-spinner (Chahal) into the XI.

Back to the drop-in pitches where India will play three games, including the blue-riband contest against Pakistan. These pitches offer a

lethal mix of bounce and seam, coupled with long boundaries. Towhid Hridoy played a good shot off Axar Patel that would have cleared the fence in the IPL, but he was caught by Jadeja in the deep, showing the impact of the long boundary. Soumya Sarkar was caught behind by Rishabh



Pant off Arshdeep Singh off. Rahul Dravid would undoubtedly provide the best advice to his batsmen, but prima facie, the optimal approach here seems to be capitalizing on the bounce to one's advantage - opting for cut and upper cut shots

instead of pulls against the pacers. If the delivery is on the leg side, then help it along, as Rishabh Pant did against Soumya Sarkar. It makes it easier with the bounce. Suryakumar Yadav executed a similar shot in that region, which proved to be effective as well. Cut shots are indeed effective here, and upon executing them, the ball races off the bat like a "Tracer Bullet," as Ravi Shastri would aptly describe it in the commentary box. Suryakumar Yadav exhibited this against Shakib al Hasan. Additionally, the paddle sweep towards fine leg presents another viable option due to the bounce but prudence would require one to be vigilant enough to evade the short fine leg fielder. The ball

tends to carry easily to that fielder here, unlike on Indian and the IPL pitches. "You can also play the sweep and reverse sweep on the bounce. And keep going square off the wicket for one or two bounce boundaries (hitting it flatter) rather than sixes. You can also very easily go inside out instead of down the ground for four, given no spin and it makes it a much easier shot with the bounce available to the spinner." Once you do that the bowler will naturally try and bowl fuller and then you can go down the ground for six. But while attempting this you will have to go with an angled bat, not a straight bat, as Hardik did and Surya didn't in his dismissal," says a famous coach who has been working for an IPL franchise for over 15 years.

Pat Cummins set to play for San Francisco Unicorns in MLC



New Delhi: In a bumper signing, Australia Test and ODI skipper Pat Cummins is set to feature in the second season of MLC. The 31-year-old will turn out for the San Francisco Unicorns, a franchise sharing a strategic relationship with Victoria's first-class set up in Australia. Cummins is expected to fill in the leadership vacuum at the Unicorns after Aaron Finch's retirement.

With this MLC stint, Cummins takes a big step into the T20 franchise world, after just leading Sunrisers Hyderabad to the final of IPL 2024. The Australian captain

has also featured in the Big Bash. Cummins, has been on the road with Australia and the Sunrisers since mid-February. The three-week MLC stint which commences 5 days after the end of the World Cup will wrap up a grueling cricketing odyssey for Cummins, which he embarked on with the tour of New Zealand in February.

Quite pertinently, he has previously shown no temptation to throwing his hat in the T20 franchise circuit. The fact that Cummins has handpicked MLC is increasingly a stamp on the league's growing

eminence in world cricket. The weight it now pulls in the T20 circuit to attract the A-listed stars is conspicuous. Cummins joins fellow Aussies Travis Head, Glenn Maxwell, Spencer Johnson, Steve Smith and Jake Fraser McGurk for the second season of the MLC. It is understood that Mitchell Marsh, Marcus Stoinis, and a host of other Australians from the Australian world cup squad are also expected to make a dash to state side.

The second season of MLC gets underway on July 5 with a double header. The defending champions MI New York and Seattle Orcas will kick off proceedings in a finale rematch of the previous season in Morrisville, following which Texas Super Kings will take on the LA Knight Riders in a home game at the Grand Prairie Stadium in the Dallas Metro area.

Wiese's 9 off 8 balls took the teams to a Super Over, where he walked out to bat with Erasmus. Oman preferred to rely on their strike bowler Bilal Khan than going with Mehran who brought them to this situation in the first place. Bilal started with a wide yorker that Wiese cut behind point for four. He then tonked a full-toss for a six over long-on before Erasmus wrapped up the 21-run over with two successive fours. Wiese wasn't done for the day yet as he came back to defend those runs successfully, even dismissing Naseem Khushi. His mix of yorkers and change of pace blunted Oman, as they could only score 10 runs.

Left-arm quick Ruben Trumpelmann bowled two full, swinging deliveries and got two wickets for them as he trapped opener Kashyap Prajapati and captain Aqib Ilyas leg before on the first two balls of the match. In his next over, he had the other opener - Naseem Khushi mistiming a big hit to Namibia captain

Gerhard Erasmus at mid-off. No.4 batter Zeeshan Maqsood pushed hit four fours to push Oman ahead in the remainder of the PowerPlay. Oman's hopes of continuing to recover from the early setback was wrecked early by left-arm spinner Bernard Sholtz. He trapped Maqsood leg before in the seventh over, sending the batter back with a review. Khalid Kail and Ayaan Khan then attempted recovery, which lasted until the 12th over before Erasmus saw the back of the latter. Oman got their first six of the innings in this phase but it was only

one of two boundaries they hit in the middle-overs. Wiese picked his third wicket. Namibia lost Michael van Lingen on the second ball of the chase when he played a ball from Bilal Khan onto his stumps. Second-wicket pair of Nikoala Davin and Jan Frylinck made a solid, measured start to shield their side from a collapse like the one Oman had. The slow surface had something for the spinners as left-arm spinner Shakeel Ahmed got the ball to turn and bounce. Davin looked for a shift in gears and hit offspinner Aqib Ilyas for a six over long on. Ilyas dismissed him off the next ball, which he tossed up and lured Davin into mistiming another big hit. Ilyas also saw merit in using more of his slower bowlers and brought in left-arm spinner Zeehan Maqsood. Jan Frylinck and Erasmus combined to make slow progress in chase before Ayaan Khan, another left-arm spinner, broke the stand in the 15th over.

David Wiese orchestrates Namibia's thrilling Super Over win



'Never had any doubt' - Chase on WI's tricky win



New Delhi: West Indies allrounder Roston Chase revealed that he had no doubts his side would get past the finishing line against Papua New Guinea in their T20 World Cup opener in Guyana. The hosts found themselves in a spot of bother in the run chase after PNG finished with a below par 136/8. From 61/1 at one stage, the home side was reduced to 97/5 and at that point, they still needed 40 from the final 4 overs. However, PNG couldn't pull off the upset as Chase managed to get the job done alongside Andre Russell.

"For me it was just to take a bit of time to get in because watching on all the batters that today

took a while to before they really got the pace of the wicket and in terms of playing the strokes," Chase said on his unbeaten 42. "So, it was just that for me and then backing myself in the end to really take it deep. And then, as you said, put my foot on the gas. Obviously, we had the likes of (Romario) Shepherd and (Andre) Russell to come, so I never had any doubt that we would be able to get away the ball in the end. So that was just my mindset."

Chase also mentioned that he entered the World Cup full of confidence having batted well recently in the series against South Africa and for West Indies A during

their recent tour of Nepal. And he attributes that confidence to the hard yards he has put on. "I am full of confidence even before this knock," he remarked. "I mean, I had a good series against South Africa then I was on the A-team tour in Nepal and had a good series there and then I mean I've been putting in a lot of work back home and obviously in the camp before the South Africa series so it's just for me to just go there express myself when I get the chance and put everything that I put into practice into the game and entertain." "A lot of hard work, sweat, tears, just putting in the hard work. And obviously, believing. I

think that's the main reason. I mean, you can do all the hard work and have everyone rooting for you, but if you don't have that self-belief, you're not going to achieve. So, I just think that it's for me to back any hard work that I did and also believing in my ability that when I get out there that I was showing my (skill)." Meanwhile, PNG captain Assadullah Vala admitted that he was happy with the fight put up by his side but rue the lack of runs that could have made life even more difficult for the hosts. "I think we didn't play the crucial

moments the way we wanted," he said while reflecting on the game. "They had batsmen towards the end, which we didn't. I think we missed out on a few runs towards the end as well. But I think credit to them. "They got a lot of experience. So, I think we played really well. We executed our skills really well. Just couldn't execute towards the end when we were put under pressure but really happy with the overall performance of the boys. Something we can learn from and move forward. I think we came up against a really good side and I'm happy that we put in a really good show today."

Despite the loss, Vala found positives in a few individual performances. "I think Sese Bau batted really well," he noted. "The number four batsman he scored a 50 today. Yeah, and John Kariko, the left-arm spinner bowled really well. I think, Alei up front with the new ball. There was a lot of stuff that we did really well. I think a lot of positives to take out from the game today. I think the overall performance was really good but just the key moments that we just couldn't put the nail in the coffin. But I think as I said before the effort was outstanding, we kept fighting against a really good side so happy really happy."