

Odisha CM Hikes Remuneration, Meeting Allowances Of Panchayati Raj Representatives

presented Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridors as an example of development in the last 10 years. This separate track for goods trains improves speed and is important for agriculture, industry export and business. In the last 10 years, this freight corridor connecting the east and west coasts, has been almost completed. Today about 600 kilometers of freight corridor has been inaugurated, and the Operation Control Center has been inaugurated in Ahmedabad. Due to the efforts of the government, the speed of goods trains on this corridor has now more than doubled, he said. He further said that an industrial corridor is being developed in the entire corridor. Today, Railway Goods Shed, Gati Shakti Multimodal Cargo Terminal, Digital Control Station, Railway Workshop, Railway Loco Shed, and Railway Depot have also been inaugurated at many places.

CM Naveen Patnaik Inaugurates KIMS Rural Hospital & Kalarabank Smart Village

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday inaugurated the newly constructed KIMS Kalarabank Rural Hospital in Cuttack district and launched the Kalarabank Smart Village. Speaking on the occasion, the CM said every individual must do something for their village and their birthplace as he lauded the efforts of the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta who has dedicated himself to doing everything possible for his village and birthland. Every life is valuable to us. This is our mantra in the health sector, the CM said. He



said that the Odisha Government aims to provide high-quality health services to the people of Odisha with the support of institutions like KIMS. In his welcome address, Dr Samanta said, that under the leadership of the Chief Minister, Odisha has moved forward in all fields starting from education

and health. "Providing urban facilities in every village is the goal of the Chief Minister and inspired by this, we have inaugurated the KIMS Rural Hospital in Kalarabank, while the construction of KIMS Rural Hospitals in 19 locations in Odisha has begun". Similarly, in the smart village of Kalarabanka,

all kinds of urban facilities such as primary school, Kalunga English Medium School (Residential), Kalarabanka High School (Residential), +2 Higher Secondary School, Park, Public Library, ATM and locker facilities in nationalized banks, post office, police station, spiritual centre, community hall, drinking water facilities, temples,

paved roads, streetlights, Mission Shakti centre, etc., are available. Health insurance and Wi-Fi facilities are also provided for the villagers. Dr Samanta mentioned that while 350 individuals

have been directly employed, more than 100 have got indirect employment. Talking about the upcoming hospitals, he said each hospital will have 100 beds and

construction of each of them is estimated to cost 50 crores. These hospitals will be air-conditioned and will offer state-of-the-art healthcare services. Each of the rural hospitals will employ 150 young men and women and all of them will be functioning under the aegis of KIMS Bhubaneswar. Cuttack Sadar MLA Chandrasarathi Behera stated that due to the Chief Minister's vision, Odisha has made progress in all sectors including education,

health, industry, and agriculture. He mentioned that the works of Dr Samanta have set examples not only for Kalarabanka but for everyone. He also praised his work in the fields of health and education in Odisha. The programme was attended by 5T and Naveen Odisha Chairman Karthik Pandian, Cuttack Collector Vineet Bharadwaj and more than 2000 people from the Manpur Panchayat and surrounding regions participated in this event.

Nayab Singh Saini takes oath as Haryana CM with five Cabinet colleagues

New Delhi, (KCN): First-time BJP MP Nayab Singh Saini was sworn in as the Haryana Chief Minister on Tuesday, along with five Cabinet colleagues. Saini's name was unanimously decided during the party's meeting after incumbent Manohar Lal Khattar and the entire cabinet, comprising three members of Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala's JJP -- stepped down in the morning. With a stronghold over the OBC community that comprises eight per cent in the state, Saini, who touched the feet of Khattar before and after taking the oath in Hindi, will be the Chief Minister for seven months till the state goes to the polls. The Saini caste has a sizeable population in Kurukshetra, Yamunanagar, Ambala, Hisar, and Rewari districts. Kanwar Pal Gujjar, Mool Chand Sharma, Ranjit Singh Chautala, J.P. Dalal, and Banwarilal took oath as ministers. Governor Bandaru Dattatreya administered the oath of office to them at a ceremony in Raj



Bhavan in Chandigarh. However, former Home and Health Minister Anil Vij was conspicuously absent from the oath-taking ceremony that started 20 minutes before the scheduled time. Vij left the morning meeting as soon as Saini's name was proposed. The outgoing Cabinet comprised 14 ministers, including Khattar and three members of the JJP. In the 90-member Haryana Assembly, the BJP has 41 MLAs, while the JJP has 10. The ruling combine also enjoys the support of six of the seven independents, taking it past the halfway mark of

45 seats. As per sources, Khattar will be contesting the Lok Sabha elections. He is expected to be fielded from Karnal. Khattar's own man Sanjay Bhatia -- also a Punjabi face who won by a margin of 6.5 lakh votes in 2019, the second-highest victory margin in the country, may replace Saini as the party's state chief. In 2019, the BJP had won all the state's 10 seats. Political observers told IANS that Saini's elevation to the top post is being seen as to consolidate the non-Jat and OBC votes. Also, it is an attempt to counter anti-incumbency against Khattar, who has been at the helm since 2014. In

the caste politics of Haryana, the Jat -- a landowning community that accounts for around 25 per cent of the state's population -- support is largely divided among the Congress, the Jannayak Janata Party, and the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD). BJP insiders say apart from being an OBC and close to Khattar, old association with the RSS also helped Saini to reach the helm. "It is a BJP's strategy to secure the support of sub-castes within the other backward castes," a BJP leader told IANS. Saini, a Lok Sabha MP from Kurukshetra who won the seat with a hefty vote margin of over 3.83 lakhs, was appointed as state BJP chief last October. Born in 1970, Saini entered politics almost 30 years ago. He was elected as an MLA from Narayangarh in the 2014 Assembly polls. He was inducted into the Cabinet in 2016. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, Saini contested and won from the Kurukshetra constituency, defeating Congress's Nirmal Singh by a huge margin.

Cyclonic circulation over north Coastal Andhra Pradesh becomes less marked; IMD's latest forecast for Odisha

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The cyclonic circulation over north Coastal Andhra Pradesh and the neighbourhood has become less marked. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Tuesday predicted that the maximum or the day temperature in several parts of Odisha is expected to witness a rise in the next 48 hours. As per the IMD's latest forecast, the maximum temperature is likely to rise by 2 to 4 degrees Celsius during the next two to three days and no large change is expected thereafter. Similarly, the minimum temperature is likely to rise by 2 to 4 degrees during the next two



days and no large change is expected thereafter at many places over the districts of Odisha. Meanwhile, several parts of Odisha are also likely to experience rainfall activities as well. Weather Forecast Day 3 (Valid from 0830 hrs IST of 14.03.2024 to 0830 hrs IST of 15.03.2024) Light to moderate rain/thundershowers very

likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Bhadrak. Day 4 (Valid from 0830 hrs IST of 15.03.2024 to 0830 hrs IST of 16.03.2024) Light to moderate rain/thundershowers very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of North Coastal Odisha, Nayagarh, Khordha, Angul, Dhenkanal,

Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Deogarh. Day 5 (Valid from 0830 hrs IST of 16.03.2024 to 0830 hrs IST of 17.03.2024) Light to moderate rain/thundershowers very likely to occur at a few places over the districts of North Coastal Odisha, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal. Day 6 (Valid from 0830 hrs IST of 17.03.2024 to 0830 hrs IST of 18.03.2024) Light to moderate rain/thundershowers very likely to occur at a few places over the districts of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak and at one or two places over the districts of Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Kendrapara.



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Vidya Balan, Triptii Dimri join Kartik Aaryan for 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' shoot

Vidya Balan is quite thrilled and excited about beginning her next adventure, 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' with Kartik Aaryan and Triptii Dimri. The actor shared a video from the upcoming film's mahurat ceremony. Directed by Anees Bazmee, Vidya Balan will reprise her role as Manjulika. After the phenomenal success of 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2', Vidya Balan, Triptii Dimri and Kartik Aaryan started shooting for the sequel on March 9. Vidya shared a video to announce the same on

Monday. Alongside the video, she expressed her excitement in the caption. She wrote, "Super thrilled to kickstart this spooky yet hilarious journey of #BhoolBhulaiyaa3 with the super talented @kartikaaryan and @tripti_dimri, the visionary @aneesbazmee and the man who made this all possible #BhushanKumar! Can't wait for #Diwali2024 (sic)." Anees Bazmee is directing the project. The film is touted to be bigger than ever with OG



Manjulika aka Vidya Balan returning to the 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa' franchise after garnering

critical appreciation for her performance in the 2007 film, starring Akshay Kumar.

Before the official announcement, India Today.in exclusively shared, "The makers are

leaving no stone unturned to ensure that 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' raises the bar for the audience as well. The film will see Vidya Balan return as Manjulika after the first film. Vidya was offered the part, and she was really kicked about getting into the character of Manjulika once again." Not just Vidya, the film will see Triptii Dimri in a pivotal role. The announcement was made in February with a guessing game for fans. 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' will reportedly release on Diwali 2024.

Salman Khan teams up with director AR Murugadoss for his next



After the phenomenal success of his latest film, 'Tiger 3', Salman Khan announced that he is set to collaborate with director AR Murugadoss for his next film. In a note shared by the actor on social media, he wrote that the film will release during Eid 2025. Salman Khan shared the announcement on his official X handle on Tuesday, March 12. He

wrote, "Glad to join forces with the exceptionally talented, @ARMurugadoss and my friend, #SajidNadiadwala for a very exciting film!! This collaboration is special, and I look forward to this journey with your love and blessings. Releasing EID 2025 (sic)." Salman Khan always has something special to excite his fans. Yet

again, the superstar is all set to come back on Eid 2025. This time, he teams up with director A.R. Murugadoss and producer Sajid Nadiadwala. This is indeed the biggest announcement of this year that is worth creating waves among the fans. Salman Khan has a long standing collaboration of

delivering blockbusters with producer Sajid Nadiadwala with films like 'Judwaa', 'Mujhse Shaadi Karogi', and 'Kick', just to name a few. After 'Kick', the audience were waiting for this collaboration to happen. On the other hand, A.R. Murugadoss is the name behind superhits like, 'Ghajini', 'Holiday: A Soldier Is Never Off Duty', and many more in the Tamil film industry. AR Murugadoss made his Hindi debut with 'Ghajini', which crossed Rs 100 crore at the box office. This announcement is indeed the biggest one that has come this year. We eagerly anticipate seeing what this exceptional trio of Salman Khan, A.R. Murugadoss, and producer Sajid Nadiadwala will create with their collaboration.

Pakistani actor Mahira Khan ties the knot for second time, groom Salim Karim gets emotional. Watch first wedding video

Pakistani actor Mahira Khan, known for her roles in Raees and Humsafar, has tied the knot for the second time. Several pictures and videos of the actor have emerged online. Mahira got married to businessman Salim Karim. Taking to Instagram, Mahira's manager Anushay Talha Khan shared a video as Mahira walked down the aisle towards Salim. The groom was seen wiping his tears in the clip. Salim also walked towards her and lifted her veil. An emotional Salim kissed Mahira's forehead and hugged her. The bride was also seen getting emotional as she wrapped her arms around Salim. For her special day, Mahira wore a pastel lehenga with a veil. She also opted for matching diamond jewellery. Salim was seen in a black sherwani and a blue turban. The duo got married in Murree, Pakistan, in an outdoor ceremony. Reacting to a video shared on Instagram, a fan wrote, "I love this so much. Mahira is normalizing



things that might look basic from a privileged background but I hope this gives hope to a woman rethinking marriage." "Awww congratulations to her. May Allah bless her with a beautiful married life with her husband," commented a fan. A person wrote, "That's just graceful. Hope they find comfort." "Awww the groom is crying. Such men still exist," said another fan. "Aww super cute mashAllah. Many congratulations to the happy couple," read another comment. "She's looking absolutely gorgeous," read a comment. As per Tribune.com, Mahira had earlier

confirmed dating Salim while speaking with Samina Peerzada. In 2022, when Mahira was asked if she was in love, she smiled and nodded her head. "Yeah, I think I am in love. I don't know, I am so shy about it," Mahira had said. She had also confirmed that he wasn't from the industry. Mahira will be seen with Fawad Khan and Sanam Saeed in the Netflix series Jo Bachay Hain Sang Samait Lo. The show, an official adaptation of Farhat Ishtiaq's bestselling 2013 Urdu-language novel, is the streamer's first Pakistan-themed original, reported

Variety. The story revolves around Sikandar, a Harvard law student who experiences a life-changing incident that makes him keep others at bay, and Liza, a talented artist who is bursting with life but has had a troubled past. Jo Bachay Hain Sang Samait Lo will also feature Ahad Raza Mir, Hamza Ali Abbasi, Bilal Ashraf, Maya Ali, Iqra Aziz, Hania Aamir, Khushaal Khan, Nadia Jamil, Omair Rana and Samina Ahmed. Momina Duraid serves as the showrunner of the series, which is being shot in Italy, the UK and Pakistan.



universal." Kofuku focuses on people and their perspective towards life. It is based around Adah Sharma's, Sadaf, who comes to a remote hill station from an urban city and meets a visually impaired stranger in a Mussoorie cafe who shows her around. As she intended to permanently bid goodbye, the stranger changes her mind with an insight into his life and its philosophies. Adah Sharma recalled her role and said, "Sadaf is someone I don't actually identify with a lot. I am someone who's a little more grateful (towards life) but it was interesting to play her because she is someone who can see but she is not looking in the right place for happiness. She is basically living her life with eyes shut." "Jatin is playing someone who is visually impaired but he can see so much more than someone with 6/6 vision. She goes to make a decision in her life but it's Jatin who stops her. "Sometimes you meet people and realise there are so many ways in which you can be living your life differently. We all try to do different things to be happy. You think accumulating a lot of wealth will make you happy, someone might think having a lot of movies will make you happy, or starting a business will. Happiness is actually within you. Similarly, our film is very simple. It's conveying the same message." Jatin Sarna went on to weigh in, "The grass is always greener on the other side. The film also talks about focusing on what you have rather than looking at others' plates. We just want to achieve this and that in life. In that race, we forget to live life. Life is uncertain, especially after what we have seen during covid. After working on this film, my perspective towards life has changed. One should just make peace with life and enjoy, this is my take from the film." Adah and Jatin were clearly more invested in the film, not just professionally but also on a personal level. When asked about their shoot time together, Jatin had only great things to tell about his co-star and team. "Our producer, Pradeep is such a sweetheart. He made sure we got everything on the sets that was

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Ramakrishna Paramhansa

Rajat Kumar Bose



achieved through multiple ways.

One of the ways he adopted was from Radha Sampradaay. This cult believes that there is only one God in the Universe and that is Krishna. There is only one man in the Universe and that is Krishna. Everyone else is female. So everyone who does Sadhana under this cult, becomes a woman, a lover of Krishna. Ramakrishna Paramhansa started the Sadhana and he got so involved in it, that he started believing on a molecular level that he is a woman. He started acting like a woman, walking, talking, eating, and behaving like a woman. His devotion and his belief were so strong,

Ramakrishna Paramhansa believed strongly in the fact that enlightenment could be achieved through various methods and that a person can follow any religion and still achieve enlightenment. It happens very rarely that a person achieves enlightenment and stops there, goes back and tries all different ways to it, just to ensure and prove that enlightenment can be



that his body started reacting similarly and he started developing breasts. This is why his chest area looks like that of a woman in his pictures.

It is said that

everything that gets manifested physically, is first conceived mentally and this was proven on a miraculous level by this incident. Modern science does state that every man

has female genes in them and those aren't just fully developed. But this was a live example of the fact and was shocking yet mesmerizing for those who witnessed it.

This was his level of devotion, his level of dedication towards serving the world, that he tried every way, and gave his whole self to it. He would dive straight into the ocean of spirituality and devotion without worrying about a helmet or safety gear.

Ramakrishna emphasised God-realisation as the supreme goal of all living beings. Ramakrishna taught that kamini-kanchana is an obstacle to God-realization. Kamini-kanchan literally translates to "woman and

gold." Ramakrishna looked upon the world as Maya and he explained that avidya maya represents dark forces of creation (e.g. sensual desire, selfish actions, evil passions, greed, lust and cruelty), which keep people on lower planes of consciousness. These forces are responsible for human entrapment in the cycle of birth and death, and they must be fought and vanquished. Ramakrishna practiced several religions, including Islam and Christianity, and taught that in spite of the differences, all religions are valid and true and they lead to the same ultimate goal—God.

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Indian Muslims and the CAA: Debunking Misconceptions

INSHA WARSI

Indian Muslims are protected by Constitutional Safeguards. CAA does not affect Indian Muslims. There is need to debunk misconceptions on CAA as well as sensitise on Constitutional Safeguards provided to Indian Muslims of all sects of Islam present in India. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA) was passed by the Parliament of India on December 11, 2019. This legislation brought significant changes to the Citizenship Act, 1955, introducing an expedited pathway to Indian citizenship for religious minorities facing persecution in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. Specifically, the CAA extended this opportunity to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians from these countries, provided they arrived in India before the end of December 2014.

It is crucial to examine the underlying context and realities surrounding this CAA, to understand its potential impact on Muslim community. Firstly, it is important to acknowledge that countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, which are mentioned in the CAA, are predominantly Muslim nations. In these



countries, religious minorities, including Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians, often face persecution and discrimination due to their minority status. The CAA seeks to provide a pathway to Indian citizenship for these persecuted individuals, acknowledging their vulnerability and the need for protection. The objective is to provide a secure and inclusive environment for these communities within India's borders.

Secondly, India is a nation with a vast Hindu population and a vibrant democracy that upholds the principles of inclusivity and secularism. Indian Muslims constitute the largest religious minority in the country and enjoy numerous rights and protections provided by the Constitution. It is important to note that the rights and freedoms enjoyed by Indian Muslims are guaranteed by the country's democratic framework, ensuring equality before the law and the right to practice their religion freely. Thirdly, it is essential to recognise that the number of individuals from these religious minority groups granted Indian citizenship under the CAA is relatively small. In fact, only 4,844 foreigners have been granted Indian citizenship in the past five years (the government told the Lok Sabha on Feb 08, 2022) through this process. Furthermore, it is important to note that no Muslims have been persecuted or forcibly expelled from the country under the guise of the NRC or CAA. Lastly, Indian Muslims should not harbour unnecessary fears or apprehensions regarding the CAA. India has a strong track record of upholding democratic values, freedom of speech, and the rights of minorities. It is essential to trust in the robust legal system and the commitment of India to safeguard the rights and interests of all its citizens.

The CAA has been a subject of intense debate and concern, particularly among Indian Muslims. While concerns and apprehensions persist, it is essential for Indian Muslims to trust in India's robust legal system and its commitment to safeguard the rights and interests of all citizens. It is crucial to foster constructive dialogue, dispel unfounded fears, and maintain faith in India's democratic principles, religious freedom, and the protection of minority rights. By promoting understanding and engaging in open discussions, India can continue to strengthen its inclusive and harmonious society, ensuring the well-being of all its citizens, including Indian Muslims. While all the above arguments can be negated by hate mongers, there is no counter to the argument that India has always believed in the principal of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam' and nobody can shake this deeply entrenched cultural value.

(The author is a researcher in areas of Francophone and Journalism Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia)

Tributes pour in for Editor-in-Chief (Urgent Times) Chandrakant D. Bhatt

Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit



He was a very intelligent, bold and a professional journalist who was able to understand the complexities of the environment.

Late Chandrakant Bhatt's journalism journey began in 1985 starting with a small 4 page Urgent Times from Sagawara. Today Urgent Times a Hindi language daily newspaper and is best known for its powerful editorial commentaries and readers' opinions. Urgent Times, under the supervision of late Chandrakant Bhatt has now become one of the leading sources to acquire mass information about Rajasthan..

Bhatt's loss was irreparable for Dungarpur and B a n s w a r a m e d i a fraternity and that he was an outspoken and fun loving gentleman and someone who strengthened the journalist association in both the district. It will be

A Pall of gloom has descended upon the journalists in Dungarpur and Banswara District following the untimely demise of their beloved colleague Chandrakant D. Bhatt on 4th March '24 originally resident of Chitri was a powerful and a noted journalist. The condolence messages on the sad and untimely demise of Chandrakant Bhatt, Editor-in-Chief, printer, publisher and owner of a noted Urgent Times are continuously pouring in. The friends, well-wishers and readers of Urgent Times are in a state of shock over Bhatt's demise and term it a great loss to the state in general and field of journalism in particular.



difficult to fill the vacuum created by his demise. We remember him as a very active and diligent journalist who worked to bring information from remote corners of the state. His passing away will leave a void amongst the journalist fraternity of Dungarpur District.

Dungarpur and Banswara have lost an

experienced journalist and a great personality. He was a fearless journalist. He was an encouragement as well as an inspiration for budding journalists. His contribution to the society as a journalist was commendable. He was an institution in himself who worked wholeheartedly for almost every section of

the society without considering caste, religion and colour. The Urgent Times newspaper that he gave to the people of Rajasthan is not a one-day newspaper but an all-time newspaper. Dungarpur and Banswara have lost a gem in the field of media and their loss can never be compensated.

Chandrakant Bhatt was one of the few journalists from Dungarpur and Banswara who had a strong presence in Rajasthan. His demise is an irreparable loss for the entire Dungarpur and Banswara district. His service towards the society will always be remembered. As a journalist he always promoted social issues. He was the pioneer of Rajasthan media. He made important contributions in understanding the political and social development in Rajasthan. He will always be remembered for his sharp editorials and fascinating reports in

Urgent Times, through which he highlighted the problems of the common man in Dungarpur and Banswara districts. He will always be remembered as a gentleman who endeared himself to a large number of people due to his simplicity, affable manners and lively and futuristic outlook dominating the Journalism horizon of Dungarpur & Banswara Region for nearly 20 years with magnanimity and grace. His contributions would remain an inspiration for all of us for many decades and his name will always live in our hearts.

I salute his dedication, professionalism and humility, which has made him an inspiring role model for his fellow journalists.

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DRUG ABUSE & ITS CONSEQUENCES

Dr. Samrat Kar



uninvited) which you want to dispense with but it will not just go away. One has to make concerted and determined efforts in getting rid of this disgusting guest. Unfortunately it has been a common experience that when one falls prey to these habits; one is really ensnared. A way out is a little difficult. Mere sight of these intoxicants is enough to distract us from our actual path and envelop us lock stock and barrel into it. Man falls from one abyss to another without any redemption in sight. Though redemption may be there for those who want to sincerely leave this obsession - for that to happen determined effort is needed.

How this habit is formed? It starts with just

for the sake of fun. It may be in some innocuous parties / get together that a person gets a feel of it. Or some fair weather friend may lure us into the trap by initially spending money and thenceforth becoming a continuous habit; so much so that the friend who initiated the person concerned may also take advantage of this addiction to the hilt.

Frustration in resolving the intricacies with regard to love and relationship, Sudden failure or persistent losses incurred in business deals, Financial stringency, Not getting employment despite requisite qualifications, Offspring not able to come to the expectations despite best efforts, Incompatibility between the spouses, Lack of proper parenting

in the formative stages.

A time comes when this prisoner of bad habits just is not having anything left - not merely monetarily but also physically. The result of this is body afflictions with disastrous consequences. Drug Use in Children / Adolescents. Drug abuse starts in the early stage itself. It starts on experimental basis and then becomes a solid habit. It is sad that the use of drug like heroin and amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) is resorted to by below the age group of 25! Even alcohol; tobacco consumption; amongst this age group is on the ascendancy. Then the high use of intravenous drugs and needle sharing is the result of debilitating diseases like HIV/AIDS.

This age group is most impressionable. In this age group the child has to make a solid foundation / base for his future life - acquiring education; pursuing some vocation or avocation and finally having a life partner for a happy married life. But as the individual has got nothing to bank on; he resorts to crimes for quelling his habit.

Withering of Family Fabric. Family is the sacred institution where husband and wife pool their personal resources and make concerted efforts that this institution runs and runs purposefully for the welfare of the whole family. While one member of the family sweats and the other one fritters away the hard earned resources in alcohol or drug abuse then there are fissures in the family unity. There may be

constant bickering between spouses and family development as a unit is just shattered. How long this family fabric could work in unison?

S u i c i d a l Tendencies. The sad part of the consequence of drug abuse is that it acts as a depressant - divesting the person concerned of fighting spirit. A time comes when that person loses will to live and that is the sad end of the commentary of life for that individual. Enemy of Spirituality. Those who are afflicted with the abhorrent habit of drug abuse just are seen to be repulsed from the spiritual way of life.

**Psychiatrist, The Brain Foundation,
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Cuttack, Mob. : 9132433333**

Letter to Editor

Dear sir,
Political gimmick

The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) has been perceived as a 'political gimmick' strategically timed before the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Critics question the timing, suggesting that if the Union government was genuinely committed to the CAA, it could have been notified earlier. The sudden notification just before the elections raises suspicions regarding its true intent. Moreover, there is skepticism about the CAA being used as a tool to deceive the public, especially considering the complexities of granting citizenship. The assertion is clear: discrimination based on religion or caste is unacceptable, and the CAA's potential for such discrimination is troubling. The issue extends further as questions arise about the inclusivity and effectiveness of the CAA. People wonder whether the CAA portal will genuinely accommodate individuals from all religions, or if it will perpetuate biases. Additionally, there is irony in the ruling party questioning the citizenship of individuals who supported them in elections. This contradiction highlights the political dynamics at play and underscores the need for transparent and equitable citizenship policies.

**Vijaykumar H K
Raichur, Karnataka**

UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS CONFERS HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF CIVIL LAW ON PRESIDENT

New Delhi, (KCN): The University of Mauritius conferred Honoris Causa Degree of Doctor of Civil Law on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu today (March 12, 2024). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that universities like the University of Mauritius are not just ladders to the dreams of aspirational youth; they are sites where the future of mankind is forged. She added that she was especially honoured to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Civil Law from this prestigious University. She

expressed confidence that it will inspire all young people, particularly young women, to discover their unique passion and pursue their dreams. President Murmu spoke of her personal experience of the transformative impact of the power of education, noting that it is education that takes us from vulnerability and deprivation, to opportunities and hope. The President said that the Government of India has made it a priority to educate and empower youth to lead India into the



'knowledge economy' of tomorrow. She expressed confidence that India's forward-looking new National Education Policy will tap into India's demographic dividend to become a power house of innovation that enhances the well being of humanity. The President said that in this exciting journey into the future, India looks forward to partnering its special friends, like Mauritius. She was happy to note that each year, 400 Mauritian students are trained in India under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)

programme and about 60 Mauritian students receive scholarships to pursue higher education in India. The President said that India sees Mauritius as a close maritime neighbour, a cherished partner in the Indian Ocean Region, and a key player in its Africa outreach. Noting that robust people-to-people linkages have been the very foundation of the special friendship between India and Mauritius, she expressed confidence that the youth of Mauritius and India will continue to deepen this special partnership.

Upgrading of knowledge and skills of the fishers of Katihar district, Bihar



Kolkata, (KCN): Katihar district is located in the plains of Northeastern part of Bihar State and was historically a part of the Mithila region. The district has rich aquatic resources in the form of ponds and tanks, mauns (floodplain wetlands) and derelict water bodies that can provide avenues for basic livelihood options through scientific interventions. In view of this, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, organized a 7-days comprehensive training programme on Inland Fisheries Management for fish

farmers of Katihar District, Bihar from 5-11 March 2024 at Barrackpore. The aim of the training programme was to educate fish farmers about the principles and practices on fish culture and proved to be instrumental in equipping fish farmers with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively manage inland fisheries resources. A total of 30 fish farmers took part in the training programme. In the inaugural session, Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI addressed the participants and

encouraged them to acquire knowledge about fish farming through residential training. Dr. Das also urged farmers to utilize their underutilized water resources, including backyard ponds and derelict water bodies in a scientific manner that provides sufficient scope for improving their livelihoods. During the training, the farmers were trained on various aspects of inland fisheries management such as pond construction and management, induced breeding and hatchery management, composite fish culture including

fish disease management, brood stock management, integrated fish farming, fish feed management and ornamental fish farming including the economic evaluation of fisheries enterprises. Further, field exposure visits were conducted to East Kolkata Wetland and ornamental fish market, Kolkata, ICAR-CIFA field station, Kalyani and a visit to Halisahar fish farm, Kolkata. In the laboratory, there were practical training sessions on field water quality parameters, fish feed preparation and management including

visits to the Ornamental fish culture unit and biofloc functional unit at the CIFRI, HQ. In the valedictory session, the farmers expressed their great satisfaction with this training programme and expressed their views with admitting their upscaling of knowledge which would help immensely in utilizing resources in a scientific manner. Dr. Srikanta Samanta, HOD, FRAI, Dr. S. K. Manna, HOD, REF and Dr. R. K. Manna, HOD, RWF attended in the valedictory session and shared their views with the farmers. The training programme was organized under the guidance of Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI and coordinated by Dr. Aparna Roy, I/C T & E Cell and Mr. Pranab Gogoi with the technical assistance of Mr. Sujit Chowdhury, Dr. Avisekh Saha, Mr. Loknath Chakraborty and Mr. Manabendra Roy. The lesson learned during the training programme intended to inspire and guide fish farmers to effectively manage their resources to achieve optimal production and productivity.

Hilsa Seed Ranching Program at Gaziapara: ICAR-CIFRI's Sustainability Concern



Kolkata, (KCN): On March 12, 2024, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute undertook a Hilsa seed ranching program at Gaziapara, located on Malda-Jharkhand border. This initiative is a part of CIFRI's continuous efforts to replenish Hilsa stocks in inland waters, addressing the decline in Hilsa populations due to overfishing and habitat degradation. The program initiated the release of 10,000 Hilsa spawn and 350,000 fertilized Hilsa eggs into the river, aiming to boost the natural population of this economically and ecologically important species. This endeavor represented a significant step towards sustainable fisheries management, aligning with

conservation principles and local livelihood support. Hilsa, known for its unique taste and nutritional value, has seen dwindling numbers in recent years, prompting the need for interventions such as the one undertaken by CIFRI. By introducing spawn and eggs into suitable habitats, the institute aims to increase the survival rate of young Hilsa and enhance their chances of growing to maturity. The selection of Gaziapara for the ranching program is strategic, considering its ecological characteristics favorable for Hilsa breeding and growth. This area provides an ideal environment for the hatchlings to thrive,

contributing to the restoration of the natural balance and biodiversity of the riverine ecosystem. The CIFRI's Hilsa seed ranching program is a testament to the institute's commitment to research-based interventions for the conservation of inland fisheries resources. It underscores the importance of adopting scientific approaches to fishery management, ensuring the sustainability of fish stocks while supporting the livelihoods dependent on them. This initiative not only marks a significant milestone in Hilsa conservation efforts but also sets a precedent for similar interventions across other regions facing challenges in fishery resources management.

"Not Even A Drop": Siddaramaiah On Releasing Cauvery Water To Tamil Nadu



Chamarajanagar (KCN): Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday dismissed as a lie the opposition BJP's charge that Cauvery water is being released to Tamil Nadu even though Bengaluru is reeling under an acute water crisis. Terming it a lie, Mr Siddaramaiah said not a single drop of water will be given to Tamil Nadu.

"All that is a lie. Who will let the water flow, that too in this situation? We will not give even a drop of water to Tamil Nadu without retaining water for our consumption," the chief minister told reporters here. He said that neither Tamil Nadu asked for it nor anyone directed Karnataka to release water to the neighbouring state.

"Why will we give them (Tamil Nadu) water when they have not asked for it? Where do we have water to give them? There is no question of giving them water even if Tamil Nadu asks for it or the Centre or anyone else directs us to release water," Mr Siddaramaiah said. The Leader of Opposition R Ashoka on Monday accused the Karnataka government of having released Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. He demanded that the state government immediately stop releasing water to the neighbouring state and respond to the plight of the people of Bengaluru.

SBI Sends Electoral Bonds Data To Poll Panel Day After Supreme Court Rap

New Delhi (KCN): The State Bank of India on Tuesday evening submitted data about electoral bonds to the Election Commission of India, in line with a stern order from the Supreme Court. The data will be collated and released by the poll panel - which has confirmed receipt of the data - by 5 pm Friday, as ordered. The bank's Chairman and Managing Director, however, has not yet filed the affidavit confirming compliance with the court order. This, NDTV has been told, is ready and will be submitted Wednesday. The Supreme Court on Monday nixed a plea by the State Bank of India - the country's largest bank



- to extend the March 6 deadline to release this data. A bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud came down strongly on the bank for "willful disobedience" of orders, and warned it of contempt proceedings. "While we are not inclined to exercise contempt jurisdiction at

this time, we place SBI on notice that this court may be inclined to proceed against it for willful disobedience if it does not comply with directions by timelines indicated in this order," the court had said. The bank argued it would take considerable time to collect, cross-check and release the

data, which was stored in two "silos" to maintain confidentiality of both sides. "We need a little more time to comply. We were told this is supposed to be a secret," the bank said, and asked for time till June 30. That deadline is well past the completion of the 2024 general

election. In response the Supreme Court pointed out donor details were available at the SBI's Mumbai branch, and the bank just had to "open covers, collate details and give information". "We had not told you to do the matching exercise. We have asked you for a plain disclosure," the Chief Justice rapped SBI. Last month, in a landmark verdict, the Supreme Court held the electoral bond scheme to be "unconstitutional" and said it violated citizens' right to information. The SBI had been directed to reveal data by March 6 and the poll panel to make this information public by March 13.

Cong Slams BJD BJP CM Opens Ananda Bana

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Congress party, which had conducted a sarcastic wedding ceremony of the BJP and the BJD a few days ago, on Monday organised another sarcastic 'Anna Prasanna' ritual of 10 toy children born to the BJD and BJP.

The Congress party has organized the Anna Prasanna' ritual here at Master Canteen Square to criticize its opposition parties—BJD and BJP. Dr.Kumar said 10 children born to BJD and BJP and they have been named today. The children named after are chit fund scam, mining scam, gunda (goon), mask scam, Tamilian, land grab, unemployment, selling of government jobs, electricity bill



irregularities and inflation.

More than 60 lakh families have been affected due to chit fund scam. However, due to the nexus between BJP and BJD, the victims could not get justice. Even after years of investigation, the CBI has not yet submitted the

final charge sheet, he said.

Similarly, the Central Government has not ordered a CBI probe into the mining scam in Odisha even after the recommendation of Shah Commission, Dr.Kumar said. He said the BJP had promised to provide 2

crore employment each year while the BJD had promised to give employment to 2 lakh youths every year. However, both the parties have failed to fulfil their promises. The price of essential commodities like cooking gas, petrol, diesel, cooking oil, dal, etc has

been hiked during the last 10 years, he added. Reacting to the allegations of Congress, state BJP spokesperson Biranchi Tripathy said, "The Congress party has organized such drama to show its existence in media ahead of elections. However, the people are aware about their drama and have shown them their right place." BJD has not yet reacted on the issue.

Similarly, senior BJD leader Prasanna Acharya said the Congress has failed to please the people of Odisha even after remaining in power for a longer period. Now, the party has died. As the Congress doesn't have an issue, they are organizing such entertainment shows, Acharya said.



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today launched the 'AMA BHOOMI' initiative (Assuring Mass Access through Bhubaneswar Open Space Ownership and Management), while inaugurating Ananda Bana at Shankarpur in Bhubaneswar.

This is a 5T initiative taken up by the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) with an objective to create and maintain open spaces promoting

well-being, sustainability, and a resilient urban landscape in the state capital. Ace Mandarin, Balwant Singh, VC BDA has worked tirelessly to set up this green initiative.

Minister Ashok Panda, Chief Secretary P K Jena, ACS Forest & Revenue Satyabrata Sahu, VC BDA and OMC MD Balwant Singh, Mayor Sulochana Das and others graced the occasion.

The strategic creation and maintenance of open

spaces will not only enhance the quality of life for residents but also serve as a crucial environmental intervention, fostering a more climate-resilient environment by mitigating urban heat island impacts and increasing the city's green cover and blueways.

It beckons a transformative era for Bhubaneswar, promoting well-being, sustainability, and a healthier future.

Nandakanan Welcomes Assam Guests

Bhubaneswar(KCN): PCCF Wildlife Susanta Nanda is happy as Nandakanan is executing Fourth Animal Exchange Program during this Fiscal.

Shri Nanda, who chalked a Master Plan for Nandan Kanan has been in connect with several other leading Zoos in the country and Exchange Program is executed with speed and care. Nandakanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar is all set to welcome Great White pelican, Himalayan griffin vulture and Gangetic Softshell turtle from Assam under animal exchange programme. The animals will be brought from Assam State Zoo and Botanical Garden, Guwahati, Forest Department officials said.

A team of Forest Officials and Veterinary doctors began their visit to Assam zoo to receive the animals this morning. It is expected that these



animals shall be brought to Nandakanan by March 21.

The five member team includes Dr T. Vikram, Veterinary surgeon, Arup Kumar Rout, Forester, Brajakishore Sahoo, Animal Keeper, Sapan Kumar Das (Outsourced Staff), Umesh Kumar Bhoi (Outsourced staff). As approved by Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, Nandakanan Zoological Park will bring two Gangetic Softshell turtles, two Great White pelican, two Himalayan

griffin vulture, two Greater Adjutant stork from the Assam State Zoo and Botanical garden, Guwahati.

This will add two new species to animal collection (greater adjutant stork and Himalayan griffin vulture). Gangetic soft shell turtle is bringing to pair the existing single one, Zoo officials said.

To infuse new bloodline to the existing stock, bringing a great white pelican will be helpful,

they said.

In exchange Nandakanan will give some of its surplus animals to Assam zoo which includes two Painted stork, one Mandarin duck, two Spot billed pelican, two Blackbucks, 10 Back headed ibis.

This is the fourth animal exchange programme Nandakanan is executing this financial year, for improving the animal stock as per the approved master plan, they informed.

CM Releases KALIA Money

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Ahead of elections, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday released financial assistance of Rs 1293.75 crore to the beneficiaries of Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme.

While making the payment, the Chief Minister said that every farmer's family should live with respect and become strong so that they can contribute to the development of the State. Shri Patnaik also noted that education not only strengthens a person but the whole family and the society.

This substantial financial boost is aimed at enhancing agricultural livelihoods and fostering the overall well-being of farmers throughout Odisha.

The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said 46 lakh beneficiaries were paid Rs 2,000 each under the scheme. The financial



assistance of Rs 933 crore was deposited in the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

Additionally, a sum exceeding Rs. 360 crores was disbursed to 18 lakh eligible landless agricultural households, providing one-time additional financial support of Rs. 2,000 to those who have already received all three installments of their livelihood cash support under the scheme (i.e. Rs. 12,500 in total). In total, Rs. 1293.75 crore was released on this day to more than 64 lakh KALIA beneficiaries.

Highlighting the scheme's uniqueness, Patnaik emphasized its

role in providing timely financial aid to farmers during the agricultural cycle, thereby serving as an initial investment for cultivation purposes.

CM Shri Patnaik also inaugurated the KALIA Centers in all the 30 districts to provide agriculture related technical advice to the farmers. Patnaik had earlier announced the extension of the KALIA programme for three more years while the state government will spend Rs 6030 crore for this.


Furthermore, the provision of KALIA Scholarships for the children of beneficiaries signifies the government's

commitment to holistic socio-economic development.

Meanwhile, 5T secretary VK Pandian noted that the farmers in Odisha has got financial assistance of Rs 13793 crore under the KALIA scheme during the last five years

Since its inception, KALIA has demonstrated its efficacy in uplifting the socio-economic status of farmers. The scheme's inclusiveness, facilitated by direct benefit transfers (DBT) to beneficiaries' bank accounts, has played a pivotal role in breaking the cycle of dependency on non-institutional finance and moneylenders.

By disbursing over Rs. 1293.75 crore in KALIA assistance, the Chief Minister reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to agricultural prosperity and the welfare of farmers in Odisha.



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Bharat SaaS Yatra Commences Journey from Bhubaneswar, Celebrating India's SaaS Industry Rise

Bhubaneswar, (KCN)-The Bharat SaaS Yatra, a groundbreaking initiative dedicated to celebrating and nurturing India's dynamic Software as a Service (SaaS) sector, officially commenced its journey from Bhubaneswar today. With a resolute mission to inspire and empower the next wave of SaaS entrepreneurs nationwide, this transformative endeavour will traverse through 20 cities, orchestrating immersive SaaS exhibitions to showcase the extraordinary journey and accomplishments of India's SaaS ecosystem. The momentous inauguration ceremony was organised in association with Startup Odisha for Odisha chapter, gathering over 100 prominent individuals and industry stakeholders. Dr. Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman of Startup Odisha, presided over the inaugural event held at Srusti Academy of Management, Bhubaneswar. Against the backdrop of Odisha's flourishing entrepreneurial landscape, with over 1800



emerging startups, the commencement of the Bharat SaaS Yatra signifies a significant milestone in the state's startup ecosystem. Among these burgeoning ventures are notable SaaS startups like Bookingini, Typoof, Retrod, Fydo, and Goodmeetings.ai, underscoring the vibrancy and innovation deeply ingrained within Odisha's startup ecosystem. India currently hosts approximately 7000 SaaS companies, generating an impressive revenue of

\$12-13 billion. To support and amplify this momentum, the Bharat Startup Yatra has forged partnerships with several State Govt agencies like Startup Odisha, SaaS BOOMi, Upekkha, and other ecosystem players from SaaS. Their collective aim to catalyze more individuals to venture into the SaaS domain as well as honor the contributions of industry pioneers. With a shared vision of establishing India as a global leader in product innovation, this initiative stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration for aspiring entrepreneurs nationwide. The journey

ahead will be documented in various forms, including podcasts, interviews, shorts, and culminating in a documentary for OTT platforms like Netflix and theatrical screenings in PVR cinemas. Reflecting on the occasion, Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman of Startup Odisha, remarked, "The Bharat SaaS Yatra marks a pivotal moment in our journey towards fostering a thriving startup ecosystem in Odisha. We are proud to be the first destination for the Yatra, which will undoubtedly ignite the aspirations of countless

entrepreneurs across the nation." Sri Maneru, Founder, Bharat SaaS Yatra expressed excitement, stating, "We are thrilled to embark on this transformative journey from the vibrant city of Bhubaneswar, which boasts one of the most proactive startup missions in Odisha. Through the Bharat SaaS Yatra, we aim to celebrate the resilience, innovation, and collective spirit of India's SaaS community, while paving the way for a future filled with limitless possibilities."

Workshop on causes and Diagnosis of Bleeding



Bhubaneswar: Apollo Hospital Hematology Department is organizing one workshop on diagnosis and management of Thrombotic disorders under the aegis of herpetology. On 2nd Nov,

2023. The Diagnosis of these disorders is very important which affects people of all ages. Making proper diagnosis and giving appropriate treatment will save many lives particularly the young. All the laboratory

tests for making proper diagnosis is available in Apollo Hospital, Bhubaneswar. These tests are hardly available in few laboratories in odisha. Under one roof in Apollo Hospital, Bhubaneswar all the facilities are also available for this disorder for diagnosing and treating these cases. We are happy to hole this workshop and bring awareness among the medical fraternity of odisha.

Texmaco-SSFMPL JVSecures for Arun-3 Hydroelectric Power Plant Project in Nepal

Kolkata: Texmaco-SSFMPL JV, a collaborative effort led by Texmaco, has recently secured al contract with Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Arun-3 Power Development Company Limited (SAPDC) for the construction of the Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant, a 900MW run-of-the-river hydropower project presently under development in Nepal. The Texmaco-SSFMPL JV, entrusted with an order valued at Rs 179.89 crore from SJVN Arun-3 Power Development Company Limited, is poised to play a pivotal role in advancing this crucial project. The scope of work encompasses an array of responsibilities, including procurement, fabrication, shop assembly, painting, testing, transportation, supply, erection, site testing, and commissioning of the Pressure Shaft Steel Liner. This significant task involves the installation of two lanes of Pressure Shaft Steel

Liner with a substantial diameter of 5500mm, two bifurcations, four branches with a diameter of 4000mm each, along with all necessary accessories. The total estimated tonnage for this undertaking stands at a formidable 4700 metric tonnes. The Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant, administered under the build, own, operate, and transfer (BOOT) model, is a collaborative endeavour between India's SJVN and the Government of Nepal. SAPDC, a wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN, will oversee the plant's operation for a period of 25 years, which excludes the initial five-year construction phase. Following this operational phase, ownership of the power plant will be transferred to the Nepal government. One of the most salient features of this agreement is the substantial benefit it bestows upon Nepal. Over the initial 25 years of commercial

operations, Nepal will receive 21.9% of the electricity generated by the Arun-3 power plant as free power. This underscores the exemplary cooperation between India and Nepal in harnessing the potential of renewable energy resources and reaffirms their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations. On the joint venture, Sudipta Mukherjee, Deputy Managing Director, Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd., said, "Texmaco-SSFMPL JV is honoured to be entrusted with the responsibility of contributing to the Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant project in Nepal. We are committed to delivering excellence in every aspect of our work and in advancing renewable energy solutions. This venture exemplifies our dedication to sustainable progress."

FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

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

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

BOB Financialcrosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

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

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

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

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

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

TSJU calls for ban on advertisements to politically aligned media outlets

Hyderabad, March 12 (KCN): The Telangana State Journalists Union (TSJU) convened its State executive meeting at the State office located at RTC Chowrasta, here on

as State Secretary, and Papani Nagaraju as Treasurer. During the meeting, the executive resolved to establish the Indira Gandhi Mutually Aided Co-operative Housing Society as an

demand for the government to refrain from issuing advertisements to media organizations aligned with political parties. The State executive committee pledged to actively



Tuesday. In a session chaired by Naragouni Purushotham, vice-presidents of the National Union of Journalists India (NUJI) unanimously elected the State executive. Esteemed journalist Murhu Chandramohan was elected State President, with Tokala Anil Kumar assuming the role of General Secretary, Kommala Vasu Kumar

affiliate of the Union. Additionally, plans were made to hold general meetings and elect committees in the remaining 15 districts, complementing the existing 18 district working groups. A State Mahasabha, following the District Mahasabha, will be convened to elect a comprehensive State executive committee. The TSJU also voiced its

advocate for this cause. Furthermore, the group commended the developmental efforts of the recently formed People's Government, led by Chief Minister Enumula Revanth Reddy. In a move to support local newspapers lacking advertising support from the previous administration, plans were made to provide a panel for their benefit.

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

Mumbai : Ambuja Cements Ltd, one of India's most sustainable cement manufacturers, is now offering an innovative green solution for constructing strong walls. Ambuja Cool Walls is a unique wall solutions that keeps the house cool during summer and retains inside temperature to make the house warmer in winter. Ambuja Cements is among the first Indian cement companies to offer this unique block and mortar solution to individual house builders.

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

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

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

Also it enables speedy construction and reduces project completion time by ~30%.

Ambuja Cool Wallsis a sustainable product as it consumes large volume of fly ash in its manufacturing. The walls does not require curing during construction and thus saves 5000 liters of water for a 1000-square feet house.Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and MD & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said, "Ambuja Cements has always pursued innovation to provide customers with eco-friendly solutions for a better and a greener future. It's our endeavorto provide world class solutions to customers in India. Ambuja Cool Walls is a testimony to our commitment to provide sustainable, high strength and durable solutions to our customers".

KiiT International School becomes the only school from Odisha to win at Toycathon

Bhubaneswar: The revered founder of KiiT International School, Shri Achyuta Samanta, has always inspired and encouraged the youth to think outside the box. This motivation has led to an immense achievement for the school. Agame, 'Untold Stories', designed by Shree Roy, a 10th Grade student of KiiT International School, has been selected as one of the top 7 winning games at Toycathon, an inter-ministerial initiative of GOI, in association with AICTE. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mona Lisa Bal, Chairperson, KiiT International School said, "This is an extremely proud moment for KiiT International School family. I congratulate Shree for her endeavours. This is an accomplishment not just for

her but the entire school. We always nurture our students to think beyond their textbooks and take interest in activities outside their classroom. I am glad that this morale-boosting has steered us to achieve this greathonour. I firmly believe that these leaders of tomorrow can drive us towards a better tomorrow with proper education and guidance."

Shree's game 'Untold Stories' is a multiplayer game where one must answer questions about India's heritage to move on to the next level. With this game, Shree intended to revive the art and culture of India. With modernization and technology, most youngsters are glued to their smartphones and the internet. Shree designed this game with the help of the

school's research wing, Inspirin, in a pursuit to move them away from this exposure while enhancing their knowledge on India's art, history, and culture. From over 14 lakh online entries, 200 games were chosen for the physical edition of Toycathon. Untold stories was the only winner from Odisha among the top 7 felicitated games.

Under the 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' initiated by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, Toycathon is conceived to challenge India's innovative minds to conceptualize novel Toy and Games based on Bharatiya civilization, history, culture, mythology and ethos.

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