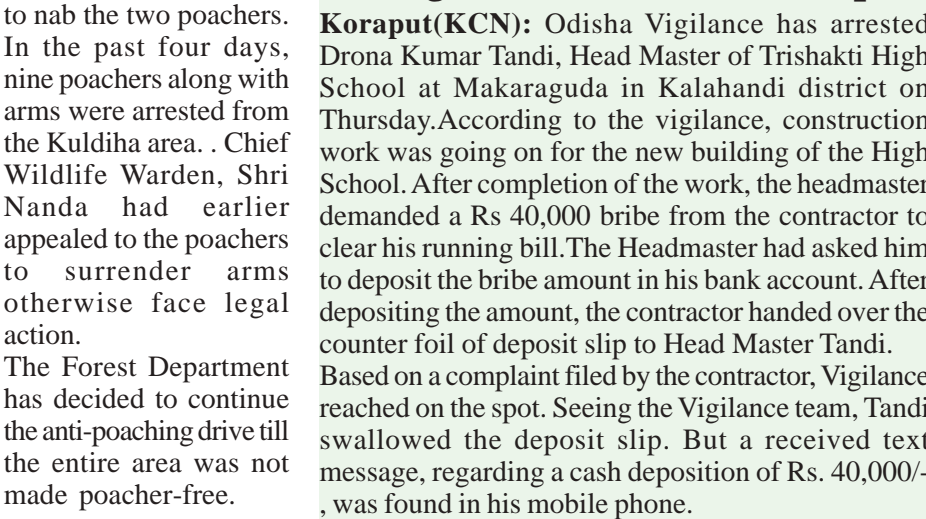
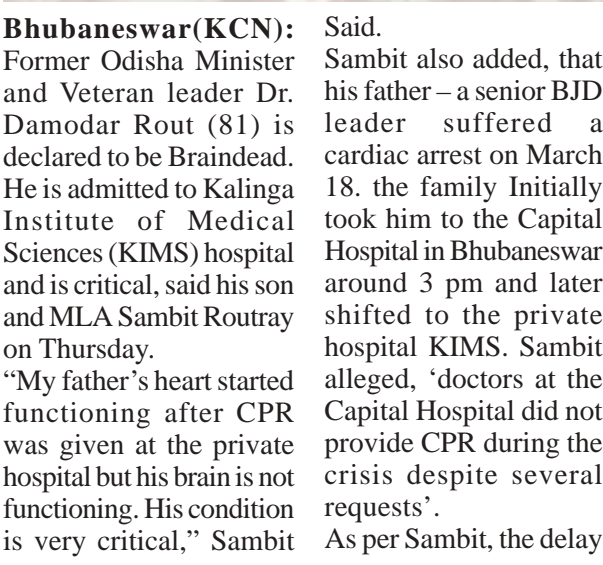


## Nanda On Action Mode

periphery of Kuldih Sanctuary. The drive continues. Salutations to Police, Forest & STF staff involved in the joint operation,” Shri Nanda wrote on social media site X. Speaking to media persons, ACF, Balasore Wildlife Division, Diganta Sovan Chand informed that they have busted a country-made gun manufacturing unit and the person who was operating it was arrested. The man was selling country-made guns and also giving the arms for rent to the poachers. “We are identifying all such persons who are dealing with arms in



# Veteran Leader And Ex Minister Damodar Rout Declared Braindead



of 15 to 20 minutes in shifting his father to a private hospital caused extensive damage due to lack of oxygen supply. Refuting the allegations, Capital Hospital Director Laxmidhar Sahu said, "Dr Rout was provided with the required treatment but his records also showed that he had stage 5 kidney issues. Then he was referred to another hospital as we do not have specialised doctors for kidney-related issues in our hospital. Dr Rout was not in a condition to be treated with CPR. We have done our best for his treatment."

CM Naveen Patnaik made a post on X, "I am concerned to know about the illness of senior party leader and former minister Mr. Damodar Raut. Wishing him good health and a long life."

Electoral Bonds etc. have received many such supports,” said Shah.

Shah said, “Congress did not oppose on the issue of Electoral Bonds. Support based on fundamental issues is a good sign for democracy. There is a need for support based on fundamental issues for the benefit of the country.” It is pertinent to mention here that, earlier Pandian had said: “If both (PM Modi and CM Naveen) come together for a great cause, it doesn’t mean that there is any political equation”.

According to political analysts, both parties are creating a new political equation and deliberately delaying the alliance to take advantage of the situation.



# CUO organizes special lecture on “In Search of a Moral Hero: Case from Odisha

**Koraput, (KCN):** A thought-provoking special lecture titled "In Search of a Moral Hero: Case from Odisha" took center stage on March 20th, 2024, at the Central University of Odisha. Hosted by the Department of Economics at the Central University of Odisha, the event featured esteemed speaker Prof. Patitapaban Das, Professor of Philosophy and Director of IQAC at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack. The program commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Minati Sahoo, Head of the Department of Economics, who introduced the topic. Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, extended his best wishes for the event, setting a tone of anticipation. Prof. N C Panda, Registrar (I/c) & Dean of the School of Languages at the Central University of Odisha, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his address, he commended the interdisciplinary nature of the lecture, emphasizing its significance beyond the realms of economics. He applauded the department for fostering dialogue on philosophical



aspects of life, drawing from both Indian and Western perspectives. During his insightful discourse, Prof. Patitapaban Das underscored the contemporary societal obsession with wealth, highlighting its adverse

personal and societal impacts. He delved into the concept of Purusarthas in Indian tradition, drawing from epics like the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. Through the lens of Odisha's unsung hero, Santhakabi

Bhimabhoi, he elucidated the psychological processes involved in identifying moral exemplars in life. The session witnessed a vibrant exchange of ideas between the speaker and the audience, comprising faculty members, students, and research scholars from various departments. Dr. Prasant Kumar Behera, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, conveyed the vote of thanks, acknowledging the enriching discourse. In a concurrent event, the Department of Economics unveiled its Wall Magazine "The Thinking Tree," inaugurated by the resource person and Prof. N. C. Panda. Ms. Priyanshi Upadhaya, a postgraduate student, led the inauguration, while Ms. Binita Jani delivered the vote of thanks. The event was impeccably coordinated by Ms. Krutideepa Mohanty, a second-year postgraduate student in the Department of Economics, CUO. Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer, ensured the dissemination of event highlights to wider audiences.

## National Seminar on Contemporary Research Methods in Social Sciences Commences at Central University of Odisha



**Koraput, (KCN):** The Department of Economics at the Central University of Odisha kicked off a two-day national seminar on "Contemporary Research Methods in Social Sciences." The event, graced by esteemed dignitaries, aims to foster discussions on diverse facets of social science research in today's context. The inaugural ceremony witnessed Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi extending his best wishes for the success of the

program and delivering the inaugural address remotely. Among the distinguished guests were Prof. N C Panda, Registrar, along with Prof. Prashant Kumar Panda from Pondicherry University and Prof. Minaketan Behera from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Dr. Minati Sahoo, Head of the Department of Economics, commenced the session with a warm welcome, elucidating the seminar's objective to provide a platform for dialogue on contemporary social science research methodologies. Prof. Tripathi lauded the Department of Economics for orchestrating the seminar, emphasizing the pivotal role of research quality and advancement within the university, while also stressing the significance of incorporating India's traditional economic perspectives. The ceremony witnessed the release of a book of abstracts featuring 31 presentations scheduled for the seminar. Prof. N. C. Panda highlighted the paramount importance of research endeavors and

commended the released book of abstracts. Prof. Prashant Kumar Panda and Prof. Behera, in their respective addresses, expounded upon the emerging frontiers in social science research, offering insights from both economic and interdisciplinary perspectives. They underscored the necessity of periodic review and discourse on research within the university framework. Concluding the ceremony, Mr. Biswajit Bhoi, Assistant Professor of the Economics Department, extended the vote of thanks. The event saw participation from faculty members, research scholars from various departments, and officials of the Central University of Odisha, marking a promising beginning for enriching academic discourse in the field of social sciences.

## International Day of Forests at Jindal Stainless

**Kalinganagar, (Sapan Kar) :-** Jindal Stainless Limited commemorated the International Day of Forests today with a series of impactful activities aimed at promoting environmental consciousness and biodiversity preservation in its Jajpur plant. A sapling distribution programme was organised, where saplings of fruit-bearing varieties including mango, jamun, bel, guava and lemon were distributed among the local community members. This initiative



aims to not only enhance green cover but also provide sustainable resources to the community. Further bolstering their commitment to environmental stewardship, the company organised a plantation drive within the plant premises, engaging employees in raising awareness about the importance of afforestation. Senior leadership from the plant actively participated in the event, urging everyone to contribute to the noble cause by planting a tree today.

## Author Sudipta Mishra Has Been Awarded "Sahitya Shiromani" By Grand Queen



**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** Sudipta Mishra was awarded in a major event organised by the team of GrandQueens Club at Suraj Palace, Bhubaneswar. She was felicitated as one of the torchbearers with other

women achievers in their respective fields. GrandQueens Club is Founded by Dr Saurabh Sureka and Rupa Surekaa to uplift women achievers across the world. They have selected 98 awardees from more than 600 nominees. Odisha State President is Munmun Singh. The initiatives by the GrandQueens Club every year create incredible strides on the path of women's empowerment.



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# Movie Review: Kho Gaye Hum Kahan Is Compelling Coming-Of-Age Story In Digital Age

"We are so obsessed staring at the screen these days that we didn't realize life has gone past us," laments Ananya Panday's Ahaana in a poignant moment in Arjun V Singh's "Kho Gaye Hum Kahan." The hustle of living from one post to another, constant life updates, and the thirst for validation from the many faceless followers on social media are perhaps the story of our lives. Debutante Director Arjun V Singh takes us into the world of three best friends. Imaad (Siddhant Chaturvedi) is a stand-up comic with a happy-go-lucky attitude towards every situation, including his dating life. If not on stage, he is busy swiping left and right on Tinder, the dating app. Ahaana (Ananya Panday) is Imaad's flatmate, a whiz who is in a long-term relationship with her boyfriend, whom she

hopes to marry. Then there is Neil (Adarsh Gourav), a gym trainer who aspires to have his studio someday. Like any regular 25-year-old, they are following their passion, working hard, and partying harder. Introspection of life happens over several bottles of beer; they keep no secrets from each other, or do they? Even though their parents don't understand their mindset—Imaad's rich father asks him to start working in the family's business, while Neil fails to understand the penny-pinching mindset of his working-class parents, who tell him that he does not know the difference between need and want. Ahaana, a brilliant professional with fancy degrees and medals to her credit, is a pushover who gets walked over by her boss as well as her boyfriend.



But we live in a world where FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) is a thing. Keeping it private, keeping it real are passé. If it is not on social media, then it may as well not exist. We have given the rite of passage into our lives to strangers and people we are unlikely to meet since a thumbs up or down from

them is what can make or break us. Take Ahaana; her heartbreak after getting dumped by her boyfriend is further amplified when she realizes his new girlfriend has over a million followers. The unsure Ahaana creates a fake account to stalk her boyfriend and starts putting out happy

and sexy touched-up pictures of herself on Instagram to prove her life continues to rock. Imaad, on the other hand, who flits from one fling to another, meets an older and wiser woman (Kalki Koechelin), but being commitment-phobic, continues to see other women. Neil, who is dating his client LaLa (Any Singh), an influencer, cannot understand her obsession with filtered images and wanting to be constantly seen. One day, when he gets a celebrity client who puts out a post with him, seeing his followers climbing up, Neil finds this as a shortcut to success. After all, the many followers on social media are directly proportional to your success. The three sucked into the abyss of the unfathomable digital world see not only their

friendship but their own identity as people being destroyed. Who are we? Are we so desperate to be seen that we can destroy ourselves and those around us? Arjun V Singh gives an impressive and raw narrative of our times. He gets the message across simply: how social media engagement makes us vulnerable to manipulation. Humans are low on emotional quotient but high on compulsive scrolling. Siddhant Chaturvedi is a natural and is on point in his portrayal of Imaad, who is shrouding his emotional baggage under a cocksure attitude. Adarsh Gourav is pitch-perfect as Neil, getting under the skin of his character with ease. Ananya fits in as Ahaana and is relatable in all aspects.

# Sara Ali Khan's Christmas Album From London Features Mom Amrita Singh And Dad Saif

It was indeed a merry Christmas for Sara Ali Khan, who celebrated with her mom Amrita Singh and dad Saif Ali Khan in London (separately). Amrita Singh is in London, accompanying daughter Sara, while Saif is holidaying there with wife Kareena Kapoor and sons Taimur and Jeh. Sara posted pictures from her festivities in London and she wrote, "Missed my baby brother (or not so baby). Thank you Santa for this Merry merry Christmas. Ibrahim Ali Khan, I wish you was here. To have pecan pie and celebrate and spread Christmas joy and cheer...And then eat black cod individually with the OG two who to us are extremely dear but for now these pics I shear



(share)." Sara Ali Khan, who was missing brother Ibrahim big time, shared a picture collage comprising photos of Saif and Amrita. No caption needed. In another Instagram story, the actress wrote, "That's a wrap," adding, "Missing brother Jaan."

Sara Ali Khan has a super busy schedule ahead. She will next be seen in Ae Watan Mere Watan. Her line-up of films also includes Metro... In Dino and Murder Mubarak. Her last project was Zara Hatke Zara Bachke. Sara Ali Khan also had a cameo appearance in

Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani song Heart Throb. She has featured in films such as Kedarnath (her debut movie), Simmba, Love Aaj Kal. She also featured in the Coolie No 1 remake. Sara was also seen in Atrangi Re.

# Suriya Gets Injured On Sets Of Kanguva, Film Shoot Halted



Actor Suriya has been busy with the shooting of his upcoming film 'Kanguva', a Tamil period-drama. The film is directed by Siruthai Siva and the shooting has been taking place at a film city in Chennai. According to TOI report, a grand set has been erected by the makers for the shoot of film. The latest report stated that a rope camera lost

control during the shooting of 'Kanguva' and it fell on Suriya, thus leaving him injured. The report further mentioned that the actor suffered injuries on his shoulder after which the shoot was halt. Fortunately, it was a minor mishap and no major injury was caused to Suriya. According to another report, the actor has

been advised by the doctor for a two-week bed rest. Meanwhile, Suriya was expected to wrap up the film for his portions in 'Kanguva' this month and the entire filming was slated to be over by next month. However, with the latest development, there may be a slight delay in production. 'Kanguva' was announced in August

2022 with the tentative title 'Suriya 42' as it became Suriya's 42nd film in a leading role. The shooting of the film has taken place in Goa, Kerala, Kodaikanal, and Rajahmundry. The official title 'Kanguva' was announced in April 2023. 'Kanguva' stars Suriya in six roles, leading an ensemble cast that includes Disha Patani and Bobby Deol, alongside Natarajan Subramaniam, Jagapathi Babu, Yogi Babu, Redin Kingsley, Kovai Sarala, Anandaraj, Ravi Raghavendra, K. S. Ravikumar, and B. S. Avinash. The film will mark the Tamil debut of Disha and Bobby. It is scheduled to be released theatrically in early 2024 in standard, 3D and IMAX formats. The official release date of the film is yet to be announced.



said, "I have never made a biopic before. But I would often hear about Amar Singh Chamkila through my friends, especially from my production head Rajesh Sharma. He would always say that I should make a film on the singer. In fact, he was the first person who told me about Chamkila." He continued, "Then, I started listening to his music and found many things interesting about him. Finally, six years back, around the release of 'Love Aaj Kal 2', a gentleman called Harpreet, had the rights to the film Chamkila, which was very difficult to get. For some reason, he felt that he should approach me to direct this film." "I did ask him 'why did you come to me to make this film?'. I am not even from Punjab, and he said 'Aap ki film mein Punjab bahut his khoobsurati se dekha ya jata hain' (In your films, Punjab is portrayed beautifully). It took five years because I did not have much knowledge about Chamkila. Then, Covid happened, and I was visiting Punjab with Chamkila at back of my mind. I started listening to the stories of the singer and it got interesting. I had my own view and story to tell through Chamkila and that's when I decided to make the film," he added. Amar Singh Chamkila, with his raw and unabashed lyrics, challenged societal norms and became a voice for the marginalised. His music transcended geographical boundaries and resonated with audiences across generations. His songs, often addressing taboo subjects with unfiltered honesty, remain relevant even today. By immortalising Chamkila's legacy on celluloid, Imtiaz Ali aims to introduce his artistry to a wider audience and pay homage to his contribution to Punjabi music. 'Amar Singh Chamkila' will premiere on Netflix on April 12.



# Has BJP deployed RSS to counter farmers’ agitation?

JAG MOHAN THAKEN



Enraged with the reportedly anti-farmer statement of RSS second-in-command, the farmers’ union have become so furious that they have even rebuked the RSS by stating – ‘the betrayer of freedom struggle, RSS has no right to question the patriotism of farmers.’

Vijoo Krishnan General Secretary and Dr Ashok Dhawale President of All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), on March 18, referred that in the recently concluded Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) at Nagpur, Dattatreya Hosabale, its General Secretary, has denigrated the ongoing farmers’ protests in Punjab and Haryana by terming them as anti-national. Citing media reports, wherein Hosabale, the second-in-command of the RSS, in his official General Secretary’s report, reportedly placed that “disruptive forces” are behind the farm protests.

AIKS alleges that Hosabale also added that there are well orchestrated plans to spread “separatist terrorism” in Punjab under the guise of the farmers’ movement. “This canard spread by the betrayers of the freedom struggle is out of vengeance against the incessant SKM-led united movement of farmers which has forced the Narendra Modi-led BJP Government to withdraw the pro-corporate Farm Acts.”

Farmer unions unearthing the RSS history Roots Unearthing the history of RSS, AIKS, a major body of farmers, divulges that various official inquiry commission reports have identified the nefarious role of the RSS in inciting communal riots. “This very reason led to its ban in 1948 after Mahatma Gandhi’s assassination and in 1992 after the demolition of the Babri Masjid. The role played by the Sangh Parivar functionaries in the 1984 anti-Sikh pogrom as well as in the 2002 Gujarat genocide are well documented. AIKS calls upon all patriotic forces to isolate and expose fascist elements led by the RSS who are spreading canards against the farmers’ movement.”

reportedly anti-farmer stand and statement, All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), a part of Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) has commented that it is of the firm opinion that the audacity demonstrated by Hosabale to demonise the farmers’ movement in general and the Punjab movement in particular is a loyal continuum of the RSS’ trajectory of collaborating with British imperialism and denigrating the greatest anti-imperialist martyrs like Bhagat Singh. AIKS alleges that when the entire country was on the streets condemning the hanging of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, the RSS and other Hindutva outfits were busy denouncing them. The RSS which couldn’t produce a single freedom fighter worth the name opted to belittle the immense sacrifices of these revolutionaries as “failure”, as clearly demonstrated in Golwalkar’s “Bunch of Thoughts”.

AIKS has got outraged to note that the RSS has used the term “disruptive forces” to characterise the patriotic farmers of Punjab and Haryana who are fighting against the corporatisation of agriculture. AIKS alleges that the reality is that it is Hindutva terrorism that is acting as



the most disruptive internal threat to the unity and diversity of the country. Hindutva fascistic politics is closely aligned with international finance capital and big business which is threatening Indian farmers. AIKS reminds that RSS should not forget its history of collusion with the imperialist forces and with imperialist agencies like the CIA. CIA Agent JA Curran, who enjoyed unusual access to the top brass of RSS from 1949 to 1951, in his book had identified RSS as a tool that would help the imperialist block led by the USA to contain the militant peasant and workers’ movement in independent India. By demonising the farmers’ movement against corporatisation, RSS is showing its support for imperialist forces in their project to devour Indian

agriculture.

Haryana SKM has also sharply reacted to the RSS stand and criticised this stating the statement as highly disparaging and outrageous remarks by the RSS in Nagpur branding the farmers struggle of Punjab and Haryana of causing disruption.

SKM leader, Dr. Inderjeet Singh sharing a statement stated that the General Secretary of Rashtriya Pratinidhi Sabha of RSS has in his narrative accused that terrorism and separatism were raising their ‘ugly head’ under the garb of farmers movement in Punjab.

“While taking a very strong view of RSS insinuations in its bid to tarnish the image of the farmers struggle the SKM has recalled the treacherous role of RSS during freedom struggle as a result of that there

is not a single freedom fighter in the ranks of BJP and RSS. True to their pro-British collaborationist historical legacy the BJP is still in alliance with the communal -corporate and corrupt nexus”, divulged Dr. Singh.

Haryana SKM has also called upon all farmers organisations and sections fighting for the defence of their livelihood to expose the real face of RSS among people and teach them a lesson to save the country.

Why the RSS in fray to attack on farmers? It is pertinent to remind that the farmers are on agitational path for not implementing the agreement with SKM dated 9.12.2021 regarding MSP@C2+50% with guaranteed procurement to all crops, Comprehensive Loan

Waiver for farmers despite 1,00,474 farmers committed suicide (2014-2022), Rapid Privatisation of Electricity, Protecting the Ajay Mishar Teni, Union (MoS) Home Affairs- the Killer of Farmers at Lakhimpur Kheri, as alleged by farmers.

In its letter of Resolution issued at Ramlila Ground Mahapanchayat, on March 14, SKM has called a country wide mass protest against BJP under its slogan- ‘EXPOSE, PROTEST, PUNISH BJP / BJP KA POLE KHOLO, VIRODH KARO, SAJAA DO’ and Observe 23rd and March 24 as ‘Save Democracy Day’ in all villages to Protest BJP giving Kheri seat to the alleged killer of Lakhimpur Kheri farmers, Ajay Mishra Teni Union (MoS) Home and expose the Corporate-Criminal-Corrupt nexus under BJP.

Just after two days of farmers’ call, RSS has reportedly denigrated the ongoing farmers’ protests in Punjab and Haryana by terming them as anti-national. But BJP leadership is keeping mum over the farmers agitational program. Then why did RSS react so sharply? Doesn’t it indicate that

BJP has deployed its commanding RSS wing to counter the farmers’ attack on the party? Political analysts deduce that as BJP, being a political party, fears that attacking the farmers directly at this crucial juncture, when the Lok Sabha election clouds are hovering over the country, may further enrage the farmer community and it can harm its vote share. However, how many votes the BJP will fetch, can’t be predicted at this time, because farmers remain farmers till they are in Delhi, as and when they come to their villages they convert into the village groups and vote as per their village politics forgetting what they have undertaken in Delhi. That is why, the farmer unions are keeping the iron hot through their regular agitational programs. How much they will succeed in retaining the farmers as farmers till they press the EVM button, which can oust the BJP from reigning the country. Let us see which way the wind blows.

Senior Journalist, Columnist & Political Analyst  
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# Tips to play safe Holi

Shahnaz Husain



The most awaited summer festival is upon us!

Holi is here and the excitement is at an all-time high because of all the fun that comes along with it. Holi holds a special place in everyone’s heart.

The sacred festival brings an opportunity to connect, rejoice and rejuvenate. Down the ages, people have been delighted to splash colours on their near and dear ones to celebrate the occasion with gaiety and fun. The use of colours during Holi is not just for fun. The traditional Holi colours were extracted from plants like turmeric, neem and Palash and therefore had several positive health benefits. To make sure that Holi 2024 is the happiest for you, here are a few tips. Young babies have very delicate skin and immature immune systems. It is best not to put any colours on babies younger than six

months because of their delicate skin. A red sandalwood tika should be enough to symbolically celebrate the festival.

We often do not pay attention to the protection of our eyes while playing Holi. Avoid wearing contact lenses. The harsh chemicals can cause an infection by smearing your lens. Wear sunglasses/goggles to avoid any sort of optical injuries from any misfired water balloons and to prevent colours from coming in contact with the eyes. Avoid touching your eyes while playing Holi. Do not rub your eyes! Rubbing can aggravate the problems further.

Dress yourself and your kids in full-sleeved clothes to create one more barrier between your skin and the colours. Moisturizing skin with a natural oil-based moisturizer before heading out to play with colours is very important for a smooth, supple and healthy skin. This creates a barrier between your skin and the colours. It also helps the colours to be taken off easily upon washing. Remember to apply sunscreen 20 minutes



before going out in the sun. Use a sunscreen of SPF 20 and above on the neck, arms, and whichever part of your body is exposed to the sun. If your skin is prone to pigmented patches, select a higher SPF. Most sunscreens have built-in moisturizers. If your skin is very dry, first apply the sunscreen, wait for a few minutes and then apply a moisturizer. Apply moisturising lotion or cream on the arms and exposed areas. Apply leave-on conditioner or hair serum on hair before

playing Holi. Oil your hair or wear a bandana/ scarf/ cap to cover your hair. Hair Cream containing sunscreen is also available in the market. Take very little, spread on both palms and massage light into the hair, or smooth palms over the hair. Or, apply pure coconut oil/ mustard oil and massage it lightly into the hair. Oil will make sure your hair doesn’t get too dry and the colour also does not go deep into your hair, causing breakage and dryness. This also provides protection against

colours.

You’ll need to protect your nails too! Paint your nails with two coats of good quality nail paint to prevent your nails from getting stained. This helps to protect the nails from absorbing Holi colours. The real problem is the removal of colours after playing Holi. Rinse the face with plenty of plain water and then use a cleansing cream, or lotion. Apply and massage it on the face. Then wipe off with moist cotton wool. Remember to cleanse the area around the eyes too, using a light touch.

A cleansing gel helps to dissolve the colours and facilitates their removal. To make your own cleanser, take half a cup of cold milk and add one teaspoon of any vegetable oil, like “til,” olive or sunflower oil. Mix well. Dip cotton wool into this mixture and use it to cleanse the skin.

Use ubtan, a pack made with gram flour, curd and turmeric to remove the colour from your skin gently. This pack will not only help to reduce the colour of your skin, but it will also nourish it in the process and keep the damage

away.

Sesame seed (til) oil can be used to remove colours from the body, massaging it on the skin. This not only helps to remove the colours, but gives added protection to the skin. Sesame seed (til) oil actually helps to counteract sun-damage. While bathing, scrub the body gently with a loofah or wash cloth. Immediately after your bath, apply a moisturizer on the face and body, while the skin is still damp. This helps to seal in moisture.

If there is itching, add two tablespoons vinegar to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse. This helps to reduce itching. However, if the itching continues, and there is rash and redness, there may be an allergic reaction to the colour. Consult a doctor as soon as possible.

While washing the hair, first rinse with plenty of plain water to wash away the dry colours and tiny particles of mica. Then apply a mild herbal shampoo, working it into the hair with the fingers. Massage the scalp gently and rinse thoroughly with water again.

Beer can be used as a last rinse. It will soften and condition the hair.

Add the juice of a lemon to the beer. Pour over the hair after shampooing. Leave on for a few minutes and rinse off with plain water. The day after Holi, mix two tablespoons of honey with half a cup of curd. Add a pinch of turmeric. Apply this on the face, neck and arms. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash it off with water. Helps to remove tan and soften the skin.

Within the next few days give your hair a nourishing treatment. Mix one tablespoon of pure coconut oil with one teaspoon of castor oil. Heat and apply on the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Wash your hair after an hour.

Avoid travelling to overcrowded places if you have any chronic respiratory diseases, and celebrate safely at home.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the Herbal Queen of India



## No one can deny importance of being physically fit in enhancing personality and self-confidence across all spheres of life: Manjari Jaruhar

### Rajdhani College organizes Annual Sports Day-2024



**New Delhi, (KCN):** The Annual Sports Day-2024 organized by the Sports Committee, was held on 20th March 2024 at the Rajdhani College Sports Complex. The event commenced with the declaration of its opening by Principal Prof. Rajesh Giri after unfurling the national flag and releasing balloons. He extended a warm welcome to the chief guests, Manjari Jaruhar, former IPS and presently working as an advisor to TCS, and Prof Sarita Tyagi, Head, Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, University of Delhi and all present. Amongst present was Professor Tankeshwar Kumar, Vice chancellor, Haryana

Central University, also graced the occasion as a special guest.

In his address Prof Tankeshwar Kumar highlighted the importance of sports activities in life and significance of health. He appreciated the efforts of all.

Principal specially thanked Prof Nawal Kishore, Dr. Richa Malhotra and all members of Sports Committee for organizing the sports Day. Prof Rajesh Giri emphasized the college's commitment to both academic and sports fields, highlighting the importance of physical activities in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Prof Giri praised the college's sprawling

ground and the variety of activities it offers, providing a platform for students to instill positive energy and keep fit. He focused on the significance of youth engagement in sports, noting that such experiences are remembered for a lifetime, and commended Rajdhani College for its vibrant energy in both academic and co-curricular pursuits. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including Manjari Jaruhar, who expressed her delight at witnessing the day's events. She conveyed her gratitude to everyone involved and emphasized the importance of being

physically fit in enhancing personality and self-confidence across all spheres of life. Manjari stressed that physical fitness contributes to the overall development of individuals and plays a vital role in the nation's progress. Professor Sarita Tyagi, Head of the Department of Physical Education & Sports Sciences, shared her sentiments of being privileged to be part of the event. She highlighted the significance of sports in fostering all-round development and positively impacting lives. Prof. Tyagi described sports as not only a passion but also a profession, emphasizing the career opportunities

in sports management in today's times.

Professor Nawal Kishore thanked the dignitaries for gracing the occasion. As achievers they are an inspiration for all of us. He said that no one loses but one is a winner and other is potential winner.

Since the pre sports day, a series of sports competitions took place, including Badminton, Race, Table Tennis (TT), and Shot Put, tug of war, Musical chair adding to the spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie.

All esteemed faculty members, administrative staff, and all graced the occasion with their presence, further enhancing the event's significance and grandeur. All participated enthusiastically. The event reached its culmination with a grand Prize Distribution Ceremony, where the honorees were recognized for their outstanding achievements. This was followed by a heartfelt Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Richa, Faculty, Physical Education. Dr. Ritu Malik compared the programme.

## "Will Remain A Sevak Till Last Breath Of My Life": Jyotiraditya Scindia



**Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh):** Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has said that his resolution is towards the people of Guna, Shivpuri and Ashoknagar and he has tried to serve people for the last 20 years.

The Union Minister made the remark while speaking to reporters in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district on Thursday.

"Every political party takes their decisions. My resolution is toward the people of Guna Shivpuri and Ashoknagar. I have tried

to serve the people of the entire area for the last 20 years. In the coming time too, going forward with their blessings I will continue to do so," Mr Scindia said.

The Union Minister further said that he is on the path of public service. In the political environment, when elections come, it becomes their religion to take people's blessings, and win people's trust, by fully engaging in the elections. There will be no shortcoming in it nor will there be any shortcomings in

development from his side.

"The Scindia family has always thought of standing with the people of the entire division in times of distress. I was a sevak, I am a sevak and will remain a sevak till the last breath of my life," he added.

"It is not only my responsibility but my duty to carry out development and progress of the region on the basis of a family spirit. Just as my mother and my father had taken a pledge to serve the public, similarly I had also taken a pledge to serve 20-22 years ago and will fulfil it till the last moment of my life," he added. Scindia is contesting in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections from Guna parliamentary seat. The election will be held here in the third phase on May 7 along with seven other parliamentary seats in the state.

## Kerala Has Been Overborrowing In Recent Years, Centre Tells Supreme Court



**New Delhi (KCN):** The Kerala government has been overborrowing in recent years which indicates its financial situation, the Centre on Thursday told the Supreme Court which was hearing the state's suit raising the issue of ceiling on net borrowing. The Kerala government maintained that its finances are "sustainable enough" to bear the overborrowings in the previous years.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and K V Viswanathan was hearing arguments on interim relief in a suit filed by the Kerala government accusing the Centre of interfering in the exercise of its "exclusive, autonomous and plenary powers" to regulate the state's finances by imposing a ceiling on borrowing. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Kerala, said under the constitutional structure, the states have their budget and are entitled to manage their expenditure.

He said as far as the limit of the fiscal deficit is concerned, that is decided by the Finance Commission.

"I (Kerala) am saying I have enough fiscal space

there to borrow...", Sibal said, adding, "I am saying that the state finances are sustainable enough to bear the overborrowings in the previous years and have this borrowing here".

"What I am going to in fact persuade your lordships and demonstrate to your lordships is that whatever we are doing, even if we do the extra borrowing, it is within the limit," he said.

Additional Solicitor General N Venkataraman, appearing for the Centre, claimed before the bench that lots of wrong things have been said by the state. Referring to statistics, the law officer said Kerala has been overborrowing in recent years.

He said while deciding the question of interim relief, the court should keep in mind the financial parameters of the state. The arguments in the matter would continue on Friday.

On March 13, the Centre had told the top court that it was ready to allow the Kerala government to borrow ₹ 5,000 crore, subject to certain conditions, to

deal with the financial issues facing the state as a "very special and exceptional measure". However, the Kerala government had said ₹ 5,000 crore "does not take us anywhere" and the absolute minimum requirement stood at ₹ 10,000 crore.

In an original suit filed under Article 131 of the Constitution, the Kerala government has said the Constitution bestows fiscal autonomy upon states to regulate their finances under various articles, and the borrowing limits or the extent of such borrowings are regulated by state legislation.

Article 131 of the Constitution deals with the original jurisdiction of the top court in any dispute between the Centre and states.

The suit said the ability to determine the borrowing of the state in order to balance the budget and make up for the fiscal deficit is exclusively within the domain of the states.

"If the state is not able to borrow to the extent required based on the budget of the state, the state would not be able to complete its state plans for the particular financial year," it said.

## Successful breeding of hilsa using cryopreserved milt

**Kolkata, (KCN):** ICAR-CIFRI successfully bred hilsa using cryopreserved milt collected from the wild. There is a difficulty in getting both male and female at a time from the wild, so cryopreservation of milt and genebank development of this species is needed. The institute is working for the past 10 years to establish the lifecycle of hilsa in captive conditions in collaboration with other ICAR fisheries



Mixing of cryopreserved milt with egg collected from natural brood



Hatchling (46 h old) obtained from fertilization of egg collected from natural brood and cryopreserved milt

institutes. This time, in another collaboration with ICAR – NBFGR, a methodology for

cryopreservation of hilsa milt has been developed and suitably utilized to produce the

offspring. The technology is first of its kind for hilsa breeding. Hilsa, *Tenualosa ilisha*, is

considered as the most important commercial fish of the Indo – Pacific region and it is the state fish of West Bengal. It is well known for the dietary supplementation of ?-3 and ?-6 fatty acids as well as its unique taste and flavour. The reported work gives a hope that captive rearing of hilsa and associated induced breeding will be feasible in near future through conservation aquaculture initiatives to overcome the issue of low availability of hilsa.

## Freezing Congress Accounts Violation of Model Code: Sachin Pilot



**Raipur (KCN):** Freezing Congress's bank accounts at the time of elections is a violation of the model code of conduct and unconstitutional, and the poll panel should prevent such a move to save democracy, party leader Sachin Pilot said on Thursday.

Talking to reporters at the Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur, he said bank accounts of the BJP, and not the Congress, should be frozen as the ruling party has received "huge money" through

electoral bonds "scam". At a press conference in New Delhi, senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi alleged a systematic effort is underway by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to cripple the party financially as the opposition outfit stepped up its demand for access to its bank accounts to ensure a level playing field in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls.

Mr Pilot, the Congress in-charge for Chhattisgarh, arrived here on a two-day

visit to the state in view of the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

"It is well known how the Centre is treating the main opposition Congress. The acts of sealing Congress' bank accounts, seizing cash from them and deliberately not giving a level playing field to the Congress are all violations of the model code of conduct, morality and the Constitution," he said.

"I request the Election Commission of India to immediately take steps and prevent such acts.

The biggest festival of democracy is elections. Amid elections, sealing bank accounts of the AICC, Youth Congress and NSUI, and acting with vendetta amounts to weakening democracy," maintained the former Rajasthan deputy CM. The entire country is watching how the Centre has been trying to weaken the Congress, especially during elections, said Mr Pilot.

The Congress leader accused the BJP-led Centre of being "egoistic" and indulging in aggressive politics and warned if such acts continue then elections would no longer be independent and fair.

"It is the responsibility of the EC, which is an independent constitutional body, to prevent such acts," said the former Union minister.

On a question on electoral bonds, Mr Pilot said, "The

Supreme Court has declared electoral bonds as unconstitutional. A scam worth thousands of crores of rupees has happened through it. Rahul ji (Congress MP Rahul Gandhi) has said it had become an extortion mechanism. For the first time in the world, such a kind of scam was witnessed wherein government institutions like CBI, ED, IT were used." Mr Pilot said Congress candidates for the remaining five Lok Sabha seats in Chhattisgarh will be declared soon.

A fortnight ago, the opposition party named six candidates, including former chief minister Bhupesh Baghel (Rajnandgaon), in Chhattisgarh, which has 11 Lok Sabha seats. Chhattisgarh will vote in three phases on April 19, April 26 and May 7.



# Farmers lose interest in cultivation

**Jajpur(KCN):** Due to various reasons farmers in Odisha are slowly losing interest in cultivation as a means of livelihood. The total number of farmers who have registered their names for the Rabi season in 17 districts of the state has decreased considerably in comparison to last year. This year 57,804 farmers have registered their names by March 16 while the figure stood at 1,41,461 on the same date last year, sources stated here Wednesday. The neglect of the district administrations in paddy procurement, lack of irrigation facilities, diseases and pest

attacks and other allied problems have pushed the farmers to the edge. As a result they are losing interest in agriculture and cultivation. The state registrar of cooperative societies (RCS) has expressed concern over this declining trend. He has instructed the assistant registrar to conduct a review and find out the reasons as to why the number of registered farmers has decreased substantially. Recently, farmers in Korei block of this district alleged that the paddy crops failed to grow into rice panicle as an unknown pest devoured the roots of the



saplings. Despite urging the administration to look into the matter, there was no help, angry farmers alleged. They added that no one came to their help. This year

14,341 farmers have registered their names in Balasore district, 23,922 in Bargarh, 2,638 in Bolangir, 1,634 in Boudh, 1,205 in Cuttack, 1,370 in Jajpur,

521 in Jharsuguda, 8,027 in Kalahandi, 148 in Khurda, 2,928 in Koraput, 140 in Mayurbhanj, 384 in Nabarangpur, 2,979 in Nuapada, 7,575 in Puri,

4,705 in Sambalpur and 11,137 in Subarnapur district. Incidentally the districts of Bargarh and Sambalpur that are known as the 'rice bowl' of Odisha have seen a

substantial decline in farmer registrations. More than half of the farmers have stayed away. In the industrially rich Jajpur district, the Irrigation department has said that 66,613 hectares out of 1,45,450 hectares of farmlands get water. However, farmers alleged that the figures provided are not correct. They stated that more than half of the identified farmlands do not get water through irrigation. Sources in the Jajpur district administration said that the Irrigation department provides water for only 10,000 hectares during the Rabi season by drawing water from

Brahmani and Kharasrota rivers. They claimed that the rest of the farmlands are get water through lift irrigation, bore wells, WHS and other sources. Also the delay in paddy procurement in the last Kharif season and other irregularities has allegedly turned away the farmers from cultivation. Jajpur district experienced 38 per cent less rainfall in June, 37 per cent in July and 20 per cent in August last year. This affected the growth of crops. A delay of one-and-a-half months in paddy procurement also added to their woes, prompting farmers to look for other means of livelihood.

## Brooms script success story for Karlaghati women

**Sundargarh(KCN):** In the heart of this district, nestled among the lush greenery of Karlaghati, a tale of resilience and triumph is being written by a group of tribal women. Against the backdrop of troubled times and the dwindling of traditional livelihoods, these women have found a sustainable alternative for success, thus becoming beacons of hope for their community. Karlaghati, a remote village under the Kukuridih gram panchayat in Subdega block, has long grappled with the uncertainties associated with agriculture. As farming lost its appeal and the availability of minor forest products declined, the need for innovative livelihoods became urgent. Twenty women from the Karlaghati Vana Surakhya Samiti (VSS) then embarked on a journey to rebuild their economic fortunes. They took to the broom business and it proved very profitable. In a tale of transformation, these enterprising women have not only sustained their



families but have also enhanced economic growth, generating lakhs of rupees through their entrepreneurial endeavours. Central to their success has been the support extended by the Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project-II (OFSDP-II), particularly its revolving fund, which has empowered over 1,400 women across 31 VSSs in the region. Under the mentorship of Digambar Upadhyay, team leader and Manoranjan Mallick, development officer of partner NGO, 'SEWAK', women of Karlaghati navigated successfully the complexities of business planning and market consolidation. Armed

with determination and resilience, they ventured into the market and within a short period, their brooms gained traction, fetching them revenues of Rs 2.20 lakhs in just a year. What sets these women apart is their vision beyond borders. By leveraging their ancestral craft and reaching out to traders from other states, they have elevated their profession into a thriving enterprise. With each phase of growth, they've repaid loans and reinvested in their business driven by the unwavering support of Karlaghati VSS, Sundargarh Forest division, Ujalpur Forest Management department and 'SEWAK'. Sushma

Soreng, secretary of the 'Maria Mahila Self Help Group', embodies the collective ambition of these women. She envisions a future where their business transcends state borders and becomes a symbol of empowerment and economic independence for tribal women everywhere. In the heart of Karlaghati, amidst the rustling leaves and the whispers of resilience, a new narrative unfolds — one of empowerment, ingenuity and the indomitable spirit of tribal women forging their own destinies. The brooms they weave not only sweep away dirt but also usher in a new era of opportunity and prosperity for their community

## 'Customer' kills grocery shop owner in Bhadrak

**Bhadrak(KCN):** A grocery shop owner died after being assaulted by an irate customer here Wednesday. The deceased was identified as Bijay Panda who ran a grocery shop at Patharadi Chowk under Town Police limits here. As he did every day, Bijay opened his shop Wednesday morning at around 10.00 am. Soon, a customer identified as Kamesh, came to the shop to buy certain items,




the total bill for which was Rs 180. However, Kamesh only paid Rs 140. This infuriated Bijay, who demanded that the remaining Rs 40 be paid immediately. A heated argument broke out

between the two during which Kamesh allegedly landed a couple of blows on Bijay and then pushed him. As Bijay fell, his head thudded against the hard floor and he lost consciousness. Locals immediately rushed Bijay to the district headquarters hospital here where doctors pronounced him dead on arrival. The accused Kamesh meanwhile fled the scene and till the time of writing this copy, he is absconding.

Senior police officials visited the spot and initiated a probe. An FIR has been lodged and efforts are on to trace Kamesh and arrest him, police said. A relative of the deceased informed that the accused is a resident of Ward No 2 and is a renowned anti-social. "We have come to know that the accused had abused my uncle (Bijay) and hit him. We want exemplary punishment against the accused," said the relative.

## Sundargarh Collector holds meeting with party leaders

**Rourkela(KCN):** District Collector Gavali Parag Harshad chaired an all-party meeting in Sundargarh Wednesday in presence of other senior administrative officials. The meeting was conducted regarding the upcoming Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the district and the proper implementation of the model code of conduct (MCC). The Collector informed representatives of the various political parties about the number of booths, the number of voters, and the respective returning officers for the Lok Sabha and Assembly seats. Besides, they were informed about the preparations being done by the administration to conduct polls peacefully. The topmost officer of the district stressed on the importance of maintaining the model code of conduct in the district and informed the representatives about the rules of the polls. He also emphasised holding free, fair and peaceful elections in the district. Those present in the meeting were Talsara MLA, Bhabani Shankar Bhoi, BJP district secretary Bhesraj Ratha, member of the party's state legal cell Prabhat Kumar Nanda, district president of Congress Ajit Prasad and Parsuram Saraf, Radha Mohan Patel from AAP and BJD vice-president Jaynarayan Tripathy.



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## Vitesco Technologies aims to achieve 100% carbon neutral production by 2030

Pune :Vitesco Technologies a leading international manufacturer of modern drive technologies and electrification solutions recently celebrated the second anniversary of its Pune facility.Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun, Senior Vice President of Operations at Vitesco Technologies, visited the facility to commemorate the occasion.The facility is spread across 20 acres and contains more than 17580 m2 of manufacturing space, including over 900 employees.

The Pune plant, like all Vitesco Technologies facilities, serves its grid demand entirely through renewable energy sources. Furthermore, the site generates sustainable electricity. All new photovoltaic systems have been built in the

Talegaon facility, generating 03 GWh of electricity from solar energy. The installed capacity is currently 2.6 MW, with the company aiming to increase it to 3.6MW by the end of the year. The facility is also strongly driving automation, digitization, and Industry 4.0, with over 25 cobots and robots installed on the production lines and shopfloor.During his tour of the facility, Dr. Hans-Jürgen BraunHead of Operations at Vitesco Technologies said“We have a clear vision of the key characteristics of the plant of the future, which are sustainable, smart, and predictive. And our plant in Pune already embodies these qualities with highly automized production lines, state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 solutions and a strong

focus on sustainability. But what is most important for me is the highly motivated team, because I genuinely believe that people, not only technology, will shape the plant of the future. I am very impressed with India’s business competency and the employees’ enthusiasm to support us on this journey.

Dr. Braun further highlighted that“The carbon footprint must be dramatically decreased to combat climate change, which is one of the major issues of our time. We must take on responsibility for our environment. As a result, the plant of the future must be climate-neutral in operation. That is why I am proud that the plant in Pune has truly established itself as a driver of sustainability.

## Spice Money nearly doubles its nanopreneur (Adhikari) network hitting 1 million milestone

New Delhi: Spice Money, India’s leading rural fintech that is revolutionising the way Bharat banks, achieved the significant milestone of 1 million Adhikaris (nanopreneurs) in FY22, growing by nearly double over the last financial year. Spice Money’s strategy, to provide the first-of-its-kind zero investment model, continues to yield results and growth in Adhikaris. This network is spread across rural India covering more than 95% rural pincodes, 700+ districts serving a base of over 100 million consumers, through the Spice Money app and web portal.

In FY23 Spice Money aims to expand into other digital and financial services. The company will consolidate its ATM, banking and payments

business, while scaling its enterprise Cash Management Services (CMS) business. The company, additionally, will be introducing a financial products & services marketplace which will offer solutions such as insurance, credit etc. Considering the crucial role agriculture plays in the rural economy, Spice Money will also venture into digital solutions for the industry. With the country emerging from the pandemic, Spice Money will expand its travel tech platform, Travel Union, to offer a first-of-its-kind solution for all travel agents in semi-urban and rural India. Through its phygital super app, the company will disseminate multiple digital services including education, ecommerce

and healthcare to the masses. On this occasion, Dilip Modi, Founder, Spice Money said “FY22 has witnessed commendable growth, with Spice Money showcasing consistent double-digit growth over the past eight quarters.

We continue to remain bullish about rapid adoption of digital services in rural India, as we aim to foray into new business segments in FY23. Spice Money’s phygital super app will further help rural communities get essential services like basic banking, payment services, financial services, travel services and entrepreneur solutions along with healthcare and e-commerce at their doorstep, assisted by Spice Money’s 1 million+ Adhikaris.

## Sterlite Power wins ordersworth INR 1600 crores

New Delhi: Sterlite Power, a leading power transmission developer and solutions provider, has secured multiple orders worth ~INR 1600 croresacross its Solutions business in the domestic and international markets.

The company has secured orders from customers like Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), and West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL) in the MSI (Master System Integrator) segment. The orders are for the installation and supply of high-performance conductors and rectoring solutionsfortransmission projects. In the Products segment, Sterlite Power has acquired strategic maiden orders of EHV cables for state transmission utilities in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka and orders for overhead lines fromlarge and reputed international

customers in North America and CIS regions.

Commenting on the order wins, Mr. Manish Agarwal, CEO – India Transmission Business, Sterlite Power, said, “We are happy to win these new orders across our Solutions business which significantly adds to our robust orderbook. Our integrated model provides us with a strategic advantage in delivering complex projects successfully while also diversifyingour revenue base.”

As part of its Solutions business unit, the company manufactures and sells a diversified portfolio of products, covering high performance conductors, OPGW and EHV power cables, to international customers, including central and state electricity transmission companies, transmission developers and transmission engineering, procurement, and construction (“EPC”)

contractors. Further, its MSI sub-unit is a provider of specialty contracting services, delivering bespoke solutions for the upgrade, uprate and fiberizationof brownfield t r a n s m i s s i o n infrastructure projects. In addition, the company also offers underground EHV turnkey services including cable laying and substation development.

Under its infrastructure business segment, wherethe company bids to develop transmission projects, it has recently won inter-state transmission system projects in J&K as well as north-east India which will play a pivotal role in connecting clean and green power to the national grid. The Kishtwar transmission project is based in Jammu & Kashmir and comprises a 400/132kV GIS substation at Kishtwar and 400 kV Kishenpur - Dulhasti LILO (Line in Line out) transmission line.

## New Guinness World Record for Largest Human Waving National Flag Established by O.P. Jindal Global University & the Flag Foundation of India

**Sonipat, (KCN):** In a record-breaking event, O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) in collaboration with the Flag Foundation of India (FFI), created the largest human waving national flag surpassing all previous Guinness World Records. The event saw the certified participation of 7368 students and staff of JGU which was endorsed by the Officials of the Guinness World Records organization. It was a momentous occasion as all participants enthusiastically gathered in the colours of the Indian flag to mark this unique occasion which included students from all schools and institutes of JGU, staff, faculty, and other officials. The Adjudicator for the Guinness World Records Mr. Rishi Nath, who was present on the campus to certify the event said, “I am delighted to announce that O.P. Jindal Global University in collaboration with the Flag Foundation of India has successfully created the largest human waving flag record with 7368 enthusiastic participants. JGU & FFI is now the record holder for this activity, and I am pleased to endorse their effort that this new record will be a part of the Official Guinness Book of World Records.” The landmark event was organized by JGU in



collaboration with the Flag Foundation of India, a non-profit organization dedicated to rekindling the Indian spirit of nationalism. The Tiranga embodies our modern democratic, secular, and liberal values, which should be embraced by all Indians in their endeavor to build a strong and progressive India, which would take its rightful place in the world. The Founding Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University, Mr. Naveen Jindal and the driving force behind the Flag Foundation said, “I congratulate the Flag Foundation of India and O.P. Jindal Global University who have successfully created a new Guinness World Record for the largest human image of a waving national flag. On 23 January 2004, the

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India ruled that flying of the National Flag is the Fundamental Right of an Indian citizen within the Constitution of India that grants freedom of speech and expression. It is important to display our National Flag not only at significant public buildings but also at our homes to showcase our national pride and unity. When we display the flag, we rise above narrow considerations of religion, caste, language, region, etc. and it reminds us of being, first and foremost, an Indian. At the same time, it represents every Indian religion, language, culture and region and is thus the greatest symbol of our 'unity in diversity'.” Speaking on the occasion, the Founding Vice Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University Prof. (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar said, “This year we mark the

15th anniversary of India’s leading private university. With more than 11,000 students and 1100+ faculty members across all Schools and Institutes, JGU has been a benchmark in transformational higher education which brings international standards of learning and knowledge creation for our students. Establishing the Guinness World Record for the largest human waving national flag is a notable event. It is indeed an occasion that befits our 15th anniversary and marks our commitment to excellence and innovation. The recognition by the Guinness World Records reinforces our commitment to building a robust India through education. The Flag Foundation of India was set up as a registered society, a non-profit body

after Mr. Naveen Jindal won a decade long court battle that enabled all Indians to display our National Flag with honour and pride at their homes, offices, and factories on all days of the year.” Prof. Dabiru Sridhar Patnaik, Registrar, O.P. Jindal Global University said, “Today marks an event which brought together the JGU community as a unified and integrated organization to achieve this landmark record. The recognition awarded by the Guinness World Record organization stands as a testament to strengthen pride in our identity as Indians and our commitment to uphold the values enshrined in the Tricolour which represent the values of Democracy, Inclusivity, Respect and Tolerance across all races, region, or religion.” Maj. General (Retd) Ashim Kohli, Secretary General, Flag Foundation of India said, “By choosing the path of striving to uphold the dignity of the Tiranga, this project aims at regenerating that sense of pride and removing those layers of hesitation which keep us from living a life of a true nationalist. The ‘Flag Foundation of India’ is an attempt to rekindle that spirit of nationalism. We have also installed more than 80 monumental flags across the length and breadth of the nation.

## EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAIT SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

**Singapore:** Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a S\$50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the Airline’s main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around 1,150 customers within

their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The Airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: “Extensive customer

engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy thoughtful curation of product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey.

“Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA’s premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport’s anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore’s future as a pre-eminent global air hub.”

## WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

**Barcelona:** Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education. As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC’s goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge production,

policy dialogue, exchange, and networking. Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called “Universities’ Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective”. Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations’ list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit.

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,



