

Naveen Patnaik files nomination paper from Hinjili Assembly segment for 6th time



Berhampur(KCN): Ruling Biju Janata Dal president and Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik Tuesday filed his nomination papers from Hinjili seat in Ganjam district for the upcoming Assembly elections in the state. Accompanied by ministers and party

leaders including his close aide Kartik Pandian, the chief minister reached the sub-collector's office at Chhatrapur and submitted his papers for the sixth time seeking re-election from the Hinjili Assembly segment. Patnaik has earlier been elected as a legislator from the Hinjili Assembly

Security personnel seize Rs 75 lakh cash at Bhubaneswar airport



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Security personnel at Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar seized Rs 75 lakh cash from two persons during scanning of luggage bags, official sources said Tuesday. The cash was seized in the last two days from trolley bags of two passengers, one was coming from Chennai

while the other one had arrived from New Delhi, the sources said. Official sources said Rs 28 lakh cash was seized from the luggage trolley of a passenger who arrived from Delhi while Rs 47 lakh was recovered from the luggage of another passenger who arrived from Chennai. As the Model Code of Conduct is in force in

view of the ensuing Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Odisha, the CISF officials of the airport informed the matter to the Income Tax department, which has started investigation into the matter, they said. From March 1 to April 17, different enforcement agencies have seized cash, liquor, drugs and other items worth Rs 118.65 crore in the state. The enforcement agencies have seized Rs 2.07 crore cash, liquor worth Rs 18.19 crore, drugs worth Rs 43.69 crore, precious metals worth Rs 7.17 crore and freebies / other items worth Rs 47.44 crore from Odisha, EC officials said.

4 Killed, 34 Injured As State-Run Bus Rams Into Truck In Nashik

Nashik(KCN): Four passengers, including a teenage boy, were killed and 34 others injured after a state-run bus they were travelling in rammed into a truck in Nashik district of Maharashtra on Tuesday, police said. Nine of the injured persons are in a serious condition, they said.

The Maharashtra government announced financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh to the family members of each victim. The incident involving the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) bus occurred close to Aher Vasti near Chandwad town in the district on the Mumbai-Agra National Highway around 9.45 am, they said. "The bus was on its way to Nashik city from Bhusawal in neighbouring Jalgaon district when the



left side of the bus crashed into the truck while trying to overtake it. Almost half the portion of the left side of the bus was damaged in the accident," a police official said. "There were around 45 passengers in the bus. Four of them lost their lives in the accident, while 34 others were injured. The condition of nine of them is stated to be serious," he said. The injured are being

treated at the Chandwad government hospital and other private hospitals, the police said.

"Of the 50 passengers in the bus, four lost their lives and almost all the remaining ones received injuries. If required, patients will be shifted to Nashik or even Mumbai for further treatment," he said.

Giving information about the financial assistance to the victims, he said, "As per the MSRTC rules, ₹ 10 lakh aid will be given to the kin of the deceased.

Talking to reporters at the Chandwad hospital, state Tourism Minister Girish Mahajan said the accident took place due to the negligence of the truck driver as even after giving some space to the bus, which was

overtaking, he turned the truck to the right side. "As a result, the bus got sandwiched between the truck and the divider," he said.

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IIM SAMBALPUR'S 8TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION WITNESSES CONFERRING DEGREES TO 236 GRADUATING COHORTS

Sambalpur, (KCN): IIM Sambalpur, one of the premier management institutions, achieved a significant milestone as the convocation ceremony witnessed the conferral of degrees upon the 8th MBA batch (2022-24) consisting of 236 graduates, and the first batch of Executive MBA (2021-23). The graduation ceremony also featured the recognition of outstanding academic achievements by Priya Pant and Roma Dash, as they secured Chairman's Gold Medals for Scholastic Performance in the MBA and Executive MBA Programme, respectively. It was a matter of pride for IIM Sambalpur and a true testament to women's empowerment to witness two female awardees receiving the first rank in the prestigious awards. Moreover, it is to be noted that out of the top 10 scorers in the MBA batch, 6 of them were from the reserved categories.

Mr. Chandra Shekhar Gosh, Founder, MD & CEO, of Bandhan Bank, presided over the convocation ceremony as the Chief Guest. Mrs,

Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chairman, BOG, IIM Sambalpur & Chairman & CEO, Salesforce India graced the occasion. Prof Mahadeo Jaiswal, Director, IIM Sambalpur, along with deans, faculty members, the graduating students, and their parents were present at the ceremony.

Mrs Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chairman, BOG, IIM Sambalpur and Chairman & CEO, Salesforce India, motivated the graduating students as they embarked on their professional journeys and said, "Self-management is paramount importance for achieving progress in all aspects of life and is the cornerstone of success. Without self-discipline, resilience, and the ability to navigate challenges with equanimity, one cannot truly master self-management." Mrs Bhattacharya further said, "If you cannot lead in times of crisis or step back during periods of steady growth, then you have not yet learned to manage yourself effectively. And without this foundational skill, no amount of management lessons will lead you to

success. Therefore, I urge you to reflect on the importance of managing yourself as you leave here today."

During his keynote address, Mr Chandra Shekhar Gosh, Founder, MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank, shared insights from his life journey and discussed the Human Development Index and its components such as per capita income and education. He also highlighted the challenges faced by individuals at the grassroots level, exemplified by the need to borrow money at exorbitant interest rates due to a lack of access to affordable finance. Mr. Gosh also gave a piece of advice to management passing batch and said, "First, try to find the people who are the best fit for the job, rather than requiring everyone to be highly skilled."

In the welcome address, Prof Mahadeo Jaiswal, Director, IIM Sambalpur, shed light on the achievements of the premier institute over 9 years and said, "This academic year at IIM Sambalpur has been remarkable, progressing

towards the vision of becoming an institute of par excellence. The newly built campus witnessed the establishment of an i-Hub Incubation Center, the 9th Pan IIM World Management Conference, the 100 Cube Startup Conclave, tie-ups with international universities, the commencement of the Delhi Campus and the inauguration of the permanent campus of IIM Sambalpur, among others." Prof Jaiswal further said, "This batch is graduating into an exciting era, while the Indian economy is booming. India's current economic landscape has rich potential, for not only corporate giants but also startups funded by various stakeholders, including the government. India boasts over 98,000 startups and

more than 110 unicorns, showcasing the vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country." Prof. Jaiswal imparted five success mantras to graduating students like embracing an owner mindset and not the corporate slave mindset, adhering to legal & ethical compliance, becoming

problem solvers, taking calculated risks while maintaining professionalism, and learning innovation through technology. During the Convocation Ceremony, out of 236 graduating students, 190 graduating cohorts received their MBA degrees, while 46 Executive MBA students

graduated on this day. A total of five medals were awarded to the meritorious students of the graduating class. In the MBA programme, the prestigious Chairman's Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance was received by Ms Priya Pant from Uttar Pradesh for securing the 1st rank based on the highest CGPA, and the Director's Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance was awarded to Mr Aditya Kumar from Bihar by Mr Binaya Bhushan Panda from Odisha, who secured the 2nd Rank with the second-highest CGPA. The ceremony was moderated by Mr. Amrit Mohanty, CAO-In-Charge, IIM Sambalpur.



NIT Rourkela felicitates alumni who cracked UPSC-CSE



Rourkela (KCN): NIT Rourkela Monday felicitated five of its illustrious alumni who made it to the UPSC Civil Services Examination merit list in a packed Bhubaneswar Behera Auditorium on its campus in Odisha's Rourkela.

Five former students of the premier institute have succeeded in the UPSC CSE for 2023, the result of which was declared April 16. The alumni who have qualified the prestigious exam are Animesh Pradhan (AIR 2), Computer Science and Engineering, 2021; Padmanav Mishra (AIR 176), Electrical Engineering, 2018; Biswajit Panda (AIR 343), Electrical Engineering, 2016; Anushka Sarkar, (AIR 426), MA in Development Studies, 2019 at Department of Humanities and Social

Sciences, and Kallul Hazarika (AIR 992), Mechanical Engineering, 2016 batch.

The event commenced with Dean Himanshu Bhushan Sahu extending a warm welcome to all the successful candidates. On this occasion, K. Umamaheshwar Rao, Director, NIT Rourkela said, "These outstanding individuals have not only made their alma mater proud but also set a shining example for current and future students of NIT Rourkela to aspire for greatness and make meaningful contributions in any field they want to work. I thank all of them for making all of us elevated by their achievements." Thanking NIT Rourkela, second topper Animesh said, "I am extremely thankful to the NIT Rourkela fraternity for giving me the opportunity to share my happiness

and gratitude. I owe a lot of my success to NIT Rourkela for the kind of ecosystem it has. And to the budding aspirants, I would like to emphasise that this won't be an easy ride." Padmanav Mishra, a local youth from Chhend Colony, said, "The diversity of this service is unparalleled and it gives the ability to touch the lives of thousands of people. I feel honoured for all the wishes and blessings from my alma mater. Holding high the name of NITR brings me great happiness and I believe that in the coming years, our institute will ascend to the highest echelons in the nation." "NIT Rourkela is the place where my childhood dream concretised as the place shaped my personality to a great extent with its supportive teachers, inspiring friends, and

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Rohit Saraf, Sanya Malhotra join Varun-Janhvi's 'Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari'

Rohit Saraf and Sanya Malhotra have reportedly joined Shashank Khaitan's upcoming directorial, 'Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari', which will feature Janhvi Kapoor and Varun Dhawan in the lead roles. As per the reports, the two will be seen playing a pivotal role in the film, which is being described as a pure family entertainer with romance in its backdrop. "The premise of 'Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari' is very close to the kind of films that Dharma is

known for as it celebrates love with colour, music, scale, and a strong star cast," revealed a source close to the development. The source further informed that both Sanya and Rohit will share a very interesting dynamic with Varun and Janhvi in 'Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari'. Interestingly, the project also marks the two actors' first project together. "The makers are all set to take the film on floors in a fortnight. Apart from some international



shoots, the journey of 'Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari' begins with a schedule in Mumbai, followed by Rajasthan," the source further stated,

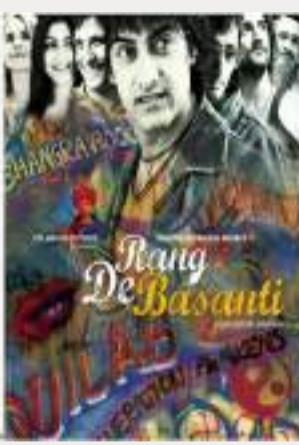
adding that the makers will be shooting for the film until the end of this year. The film was announced on February 22, 2024,

with an Instagram post captioned with, "Your Sunny Sanskari is on his way to get his Tulsi Kumari! This love story wrapped with

entertainment is coming to the big screens! (sic)." On the work front, Rohit is looking forward to the release of his OTT project 'Mismatched 3'. He will also be seen in 'Tishq Vishk Rebound', which is set to have a theatrical release on June 28.

Sanya, on the other hand, will be seen in 'Mrs', which was showcased at the Hawaii International Film Festival 2024, Palm Springs International Film Festival 2024, and Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Shahid Kapoor regrets turning down 'Rang De Basanti': 'Cried reading the script'



Shahid Kapoor is basking in the success of his latest film, 'Teri Baaton Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya'. While speaking about the film and his career to Neha Dhupia, Shahid made a rather shocking revelation. He shared that he was offered a part in the 2006 hit film 'Rang De Basanti', which he eventually declined due to date issues. Headlined by Aamir Khan,

'Rang De Basanti' starred an ensemble cast including Siddharth, Atul Kulkarni, Sharman Joshi, Kunal Kapoor and Soha Ali Khan, among others. It was helmed by Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra. Shahid recently appeared on Neha Dhupia's talk show, No Filter Neha Season 6, where he revealed that the makers of the film had approached him for the role

of Karan Singhania. The role was eventually played by Siddharth. Sharing why he turned down the offer, Shahid said, "I regret not doing the film. They wanted me to play the role of Siddharth. I cried while reading the script and loved it, but unfortunately, I couldn't make time for it." Meanwhile, work-wise, Shahid was last seen in the film 'Teri Baaton Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya' would have a sequel.

Dunki Review: Shah Rukh Khan, Rajkumar Hirani's Film Will Open Your Heart To Love And Emotions



"The Donkey Route," better known as Dunki Marna, is a colloquial term for illegal migration. This has been and is the story of many, setting off on a journey for a better future or opportunities, far away from the land they called home. Rajkumar Hirani, the master storyteller, who has a knack for picking stories from the hyper-competitive educational system in "Three Idiots" or blind faith in "PK," now addresses the plight of the many migrants, the hopefuls who find themselves in hopeless situations, way worse than the one they left behind. The director, back on screens after five years, collaborates with Shah Rukh Khan, giving us a thought-provoking narrative. Meet Hardyal Singh Dhillon, aka Hardy (Shah Rukh Khan), who helps the Laltu threesome of Mannu (Taapsee Pannu), Buggu (Vikram Kochhar), and Balli (Anil Grover) fulfill their

lifelong dream of going to England. But getting a visa and going through the so-called legal route is far more arduous than they imagined. They decide to go "dunki" and are willing to put themselves through the most dangerous situations just to set foot on the land of promise, England. But is it really what it seems? Driven by the images and tales of the picture-perfect postcard life of the many who had preceded them, they push their way halfway around the globe. From Pakistan to Afghanistan, Iran to Turkey, Portugal, and finally England. This is where reality bites! "God has created the world for all," says

Taapsee's Mannu. "Why can't we share a bit of the same? Why don't you give us a chance to work and help you," says Hardy. As Hardy tells a judge that he has no fear in his own country, all he wants is for people to get a chance to fulfill their dreams wherever. Open your hearts, don't judge people for where they come from, is the message loud and clear! A world that has divided humanity based on ethnicity and religion, where many are willing to forsake their identities for a few dollars more. Dunki comes packed with Hirani's signature style, blending a strong message with humor and moving images. There are no chest-

thumping or long-winding monologues. Vicky Kaushal, The Scene-Stealer Shah Rukh Khan is the star of the show and is equally complemented by Taapsee Pannu, who endears as Mannu and the rest. However, the scene-stealer is Vicky Kaushal, who has a cameo but brings out his character Suki's pathos poignantly. The first half is hilarious, though a bit slow. The film gains momentum in the second half and will move many who will be able to identify with the scenario. After all, there is no place like home, good, bad, or ugly; it's where we belong and it belongs to us.

Alaya F on 'Bade Miyan...' box office failure: 'Didn't bother me because...'

Actor Alaya F, who featured in Ali Abbas Zafar's 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', has reacted to the underwhelming box office performance of the latest theatrical release. During an interview, she mentioned that the film's failure at the box office didn't affect her.

Alaya F starred in the actioner alongside AKshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff and Manushi Chhillar. Speaking about the film's box office failure with News18, Alaya said, "It didn't bother me because I feel that I got a lot from the film. I managed to reach a new audience who perhaps didn't know of me. When you're making a film of that scale and an action masala one at that, the reviews aren't going to be all about critical acclaim."

She added, "The main review for a film like this will always come from the audience. It received a mixed reaction from the audience and I can't tell them what they should watch and what they shouldn't." Opening up about her character in the film, Alaya said, "My character was viewed in two ways. Either people thought that she was the most irritating character to ever grace action, or they thought she was the most endearing character."

She continued, "I chose to do the character in a certain way. I was well aware of the fact that she wouldn't be everyone's cup of tea. Sometimes, certain scenes after editing end up looking differently onscreen and that's something out of my control. I gave my heart and I did what I thought was the best."

Written and directed by Ali Abbas Zafar, 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' is a high-octane action thriller. Prithviraj Sukumaran plays the antagonist. The film also features Manushi Chhillar, Alaya F, Ronit Roy Bose and several others in pivotal roles. Sonakshi Sinha appears in a cameo. The film clashed with Ajay Devgn's 'Maidaan'.



Jaane Jaan New Poster Out: Kareena Kapoor, Vijay Varma, Jaideep Ahlawat Raise Curiosity

Makers of the upcoming thriller film 'Jaane Jaan' on Sunday unveiled a new poster. Taking to Instagram, the OTT platform Netflix shared the poster which they captioned, "Every story has 2 sides, but this one has 3. Unravel the mystery of #JaaneJaan on 21 September, only on Netflix!" The new poster features the lead cast of the film Kareena Kapoor Khan, Vijay Varma and Jaideep Ahlawat. Helmed by Sujoy Ghosh 'Jaane Jaan' is all set to stream on the OTT platform Netflix from September 21. Recently the makers unveiled the

film's official trailer which received massive responses from the fans. Jaane Jaan's trailer gives a glimpse into all the mysterious happenings in the chilly and pine-tree-covered Kalimpong, as it delves into the complex intertwined relationships and secrets. Maya (Kareena Kapoor Khan), Naren (Jaideep Ahlawat) and Karan (Vijay Varma) navigate through a web of emotions and unforeseen circumstances as they cover up and uncover clues in a bid to outwit each other. Brace yourself for a journey that will evoke both love and thrill and keep you on the edge of

your seat as you witness massive performances, all through the lens of Sujoy Ghosh. Talking about the trailer launch of the film, Director and Writer, Sujoy Ghosh earlier said, "I am so excited that the audiences finally get to see a glimpse of Jaane Jaan, a film extremely close to my heart. Set in Kalimpong the film sees a love story, a criminal investigation, a budding attraction, mastermind plotting and the will to do anything for love. Essayed by my dream cast of Kareena, Jaideep and Vijay, all in roles so different from what they have been seen

Why prestigious Colleges open schools tooo!

Vivek Shukla



He also taught at St. Stephen's College. Now his college has expanded. It has not opened any other college. Actually, now the Delhi Brotherhood Society has opened St. Stephen's Cambridge School in a rural area called Rai on the border of Delhi and Sonipat in Haryana. This means that this school will spread the light of knowledge away from the glitz and glamour of cities and metropolises. Surely this should be the goal of every educational institution. The more good schools open in the villages of India, the better it will be. Now, many schools, colleges, and universities are opening in our big cities, but there is a need to open more and more schools in rural areas, which have quality faculty and all other facilities available there.

A few days ago, the results of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination were declared. The entire media kept interviewing the successful candidates. Like in previous years, this time too, many students from St. Stephen's College of the capital cracked the

History of St. Stephen's

UPSC exam. Anshul Bhatt, a student of St. Stephen's College, secured the 14th position in the merit list. From World Bank President Ajay Banga to Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das, all hail from St. Stephen's College. India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has also studied at St. Stephen's College. It has produced countless stars from the former President of the country, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed to ex President of Pakistan, Zia Ul Haq. It is impossible to count them.

Chhotu Ram and St. Stephen's

In the early days of St. Stephen's College, Chaudhary Chhotu Ram also used to come from the present day Haryana to study in Delhi. He later became known as the messiah of farmers. Even now, the rural population of Haryana, Delhi, and western Uttar Pradesh consider Chaudhary Chhotu Ram as their messiah. See the coincidence that now his educational institution has knocked in his state. Obviously, the people of the rural area will also benefit from this.

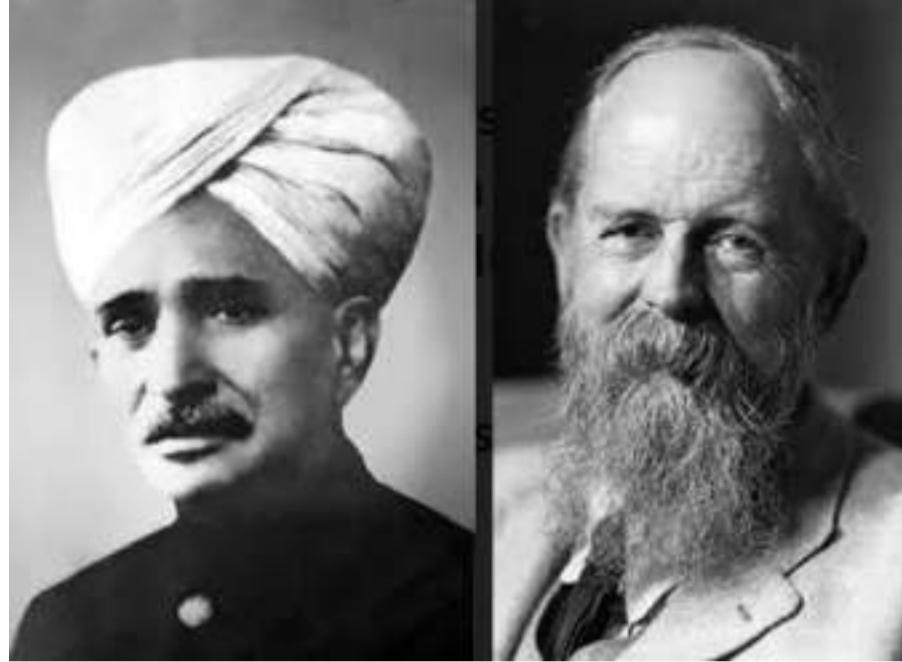
that St. Stephen's College, which started from here, will start touching the heights. The journey that started more than 140 years ago has now expanded. St. Stephen's Cambridge has opened.

According to Brother Solomon George of Delhi Brother Society, "It is important to know that the Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ was established in Delhi in 1877. It is related to Cambridge University. It later changed its name to the Delhi Brotherhood Society. It also established St. Stephen's College located in Chandni Chowk, Delhi, no one can even think

country, this hospital had treated lakhs of Hindu and Sikh refugees who came looted and beaten from across the border."

Importance of Accessible Quality Education

One thing is very clear that it is very important to make quality education accessible to all. For this, it is necessary that educational institutions established for years and decades should expand rapidly. They should turn to the rural areas of the country. Provide quality and affordable education there. The basis for opening a school or



college should not be to fill your pockets. Those who are earning a lot in the name of education are truly insulting Mother Saraswati.

Examples of Philanthropic Education Initiatives

I would like to mention here the name of Brij Krishna Chandiwala, a close disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. Chandiwala met Gandhiji for the first time in 1918. Then Gandhiji had come to Delhi. After that, he remained with Gandhiji as his lifelong disciple. He also gave the last bath to Gandhiji's body on the night of 31 January 1948. Brij Krishna Chandiwala established Janaki Devi College in the capital in 1959 in the name of his mother and social worker Smt. Janaki Devi Ji. This college has made an unprecedented contribution in making lakhs of girls literate till now.

It would be appropriate to discuss Indraprastha Hindu Girls School here. This girls' college of the capital started in 1904. It is considered to be one of the first girls' colleges in North India.

Kamla Nehru, famous sarod player Sharana Rani Backliwal, Kapila

Vatsyayan etc. had studied in this. The management of this school itself opened Indraprastha College in the capital, which has recently completed its 100-year journey.

How can it be that the founder of Ramjas College, one of the oldest colleges of Delhi University, educationist and philanthropist Rai Kedar Nath, is left out? He established Ramjas College and many schools in the name of his father Lala Ramjas Mal. Rai Kedar Nath was also a Sessions Judge of Delhi. He left his job and dedicated his life to spreading the light of knowledge. It is said that he himself used to carry bricks on his head during the construction of the buildings of his schools. Children from all over the country come to study in Ramjas College and schools.

A school is also run by Delhi University. It is in the university campus itself. He celebrated his 75th anniversary some time ago. How nice it would be if a school was run by Delhi University in some rural area.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor

Struggle has no end for workers: Thought of May Day



The International Labour Day, also known as May Day, is a global celebration of the labour movement and the achievements of workers. Its roots can be traced back to the late 19th century when workers around the world began to organize and advocate for better working conditions, fair wages, and the rights of labourers.

The origins of International Labour Day can be found in the struggle for the eight-hour workday. During the Industrial Revolution, workers often endured grueling conditions, including excessively long hours with minimal pay. In the United States, the movement for an eight-hour workday gained momentum in the late 19th century, culminating in the Haymarket affair of 1886 in Chicago. On May 1st of that year, workers staged a nationwide strike demanding an eight-hour workday. The protests escalated, leading to a violent confrontation between police and demonstrators, resulting in several deaths and injuries. Despite the tragic outcome, the Haymarket affair galvanized the labour movement and inspired future generations of workers to fight for their rights. Following the events of the Haymarket affair, the International Socialist Congress declared May 1st as International Workers' Day to commemorate the struggle for the eight-hour workday and honour the sacrifices made by labour activists. Since then, International Labour Day

has been celebrated annually in countries around the world, serving as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for workers' rights and social justice. The significance of International Labour Day extends beyond its historical origins. It serves as a rallying point for workers to unite and advocate for their interests. From the early labour movements to present-day labour unions and organizations, International Labour Day provides a platform for workers to voice their concerns, raise awareness about labour issues, and push for meaningful change. One of the key aspects of International Labour Day is its emphasis on solidarity among workers, regardless of their nationality, occupation, or background. The celebration transcends borders and brings together people from diverse walks of life who share a common goal of achieving social and economic justice. By fostering solidarity and collective action, International Labour Day empowers workers to confront systemic injustices and strive for a more equitable society.

Moreover, International Labour Day serves as a reminder of the progress that has been made in advancing workers' rights and improving working conditions. Over the years, labour movements have successfully campaigned for important reforms, such as the establishment of minimum wages, workplace safety regulations, and the right to collective bargaining. These achievements demonstrate the power of organized labour to effect positive change and improve the lives of millions of workers worldwide. However, while much progress has been made, the struggle for workers' rights is far from over. In

many parts of the world, workers continue to face exploitation, unsafe working conditions, and inadequate wages. Additionally, the rise of globalization and technological advancements has presented new challenges for the labour movement, such as precarious employment and the erosion of traditional job security. In Indian context, the condition of labour is complex and multifaceted, influenced by various socio-economic factors, historical legacies, and governmental policies. While significant progress has been made in certain areas, challenges persist, particularly regarding informal employment, low wages, inadequate social security, and workplace safety issues. Here's an overview of the condition of labour in India: A substantial portion of India's workforce is engaged in the informal sector, which lacks job security, social benefits, and legal protections. Informal workers, including agricultural labourers, construction workers, street vendors, and domestic workers, often face exploitation, low wages, and precarious working conditions. They are more vulnerable to economic shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, due to their lack of social security and access to healthcare. Despite economic growth and development, wage levels for many workers remain low, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, construction, and informal manufacturing. Minimum wage laws exist, but enforcement is often weak, leading to widespread non-compliance by employers. As a result, many workers struggle to meet their basic needs and are unable to lift themselves out of poverty despite their labour. Workplace safety and

health standards are often inadequate in India, especially in sectors like construction, mining, and manufacturing. Workers are exposed to hazardous conditions, leading to accidents, injuries, and occupational illnesses. The lack of enforcement of safety regulations and the absence of mechanisms for redress exacerbate the risks faced by workers. Child labour remains a significant issue in India, despite legislative efforts to eradicate it. Millions of children are engaged in hazardous occupations, depriving them of education, health, and a childhood free from exploitation. Poverty, lack of access to education, and societal attitudes contribute to the persistence of child labour in various industries, including agriculture, manufacturing, and domestic work. Gender disparities persist in the Indian labour market, with women facing discrimination, unequal pay, and limited access to formal employment opportunities. Women are overrepresented in informal and precarious jobs, such as domestic work and agriculture, where they often lack legal protections and face exploitation. Gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace further exacerbate the challenges faced by female workers. India has comprehensive labour laws (now proposed to be implemented as Labour Codes) aimed at protecting the rights of workers, including provisions for minimum wages, working conditions, and social security. However, enforcement of these laws is often weak, with inadequate resources, corruption, and bureaucratic hurdles hindering effective implementation. As a result, many workers are unable to access their rights and seek redress for labour

violations. Internal migration for employment is widespread in India, with millions of workers migrating from rural to urban areas or across state borders in search of livelihood opportunities. Migrant workers often face exploitation, discrimination, and precarious living conditions in destination areas, highlighting the need for policies to protect their rights and ensure their social and economic integration. While India has made strides in improving the condition of labour, significant challenges remain in ensuring decent work, fair wages, and social protection for all workers. Addressing these challenges requires concerted efforts by governments, employers, civil society, and international organizations to strengthen labour laws, enhance enforcement mechanisms, promote decent work, and safeguard the rights and dignity of all workers, especially the most vulnerable.

It is worth mentioning here that the Trade unions play a crucial role in advocating for the rights and interests of workers and ensuring justice in the labour sector. Their responsibilities extend beyond mere representation of their members to actively engaging in collective bargaining, promoting social dialogue, and advocating for legislative reforms. The primary responsibilities of trade unions are to negotiate with employers on behalf of their members to secure better working conditions with healthy and safety workplaces, to protect the job security of workers by advocating against unfair dismissals, layoffs, and outsourcing practices, collective bargaining for fair wages that reflect the value of labour and enable workers to meet their basic needs and maintain a decent standard of living, extension of social security benefits to all workers, including access to healthcare, unemployment insurance, retirement pensions, and disability benefits, reasonable working hours and improved benefits. Through collective bargaining agreements, trade unions strive to ensure that workers are treated with dignity and respect in the workplace. The Trade unions may engage in political advocacy and lobbying efforts to influence government policies and legislation that impact workers' rights and interests. They have to campaign for labour-friendly laws, regulations, and social policies that promote decent work, economic justice, and social equality. But unfortunately, the proposed labour codes by the Indian government aim to streamline and modernize labour laws, consolidating existing legislation into four codes to simplify compliance and improve the ease of doing business. While proponents argue that the codes will promote flexibility, boost employment, and enhance labour market efficiency, there are concerns about their potential impact on workers' rights and welfare. The proposed codes seek to introduce greater flexibility in labour regulations, allowing for easier hiring and firing practices, contract labour arrangements, and fixed-term employment contracts. While this flexibility may benefit employers by reducing labour costs and administrative burdens, it could also lead to increased job insecurity and precarious work arrangements for labourers, particularly those in the informal sector. The codes aim to rationalize wage and social security provisions, including minimum wages, social security benefits, and welfare schemes. While this could result in more uniformity and clarity in wage and benefit structures, there are concerns about potential reductions in wage levels and social security coverage, particularly for vulnerable workers in low-wage sectors. Consolidating labour laws into four codes is intended to simplify compliance for employers and reduce regulatory burdens. However, there are concerns that simplification may come at the expense of workers' rights and protections, with potential loopholes and ambiguities in the codes that could be exploited by unscrupulous employers to circumvent labour standards and evade responsibility. The proposed codes allow for greater use of fixed-term employment contracts and contract labour, which could lead to the contractualization of labour and erosion of permanent employment opportunities. This could undermine job stability, bargaining power, and social protections for workers, particularly in sectors where temporary or contract labour is prevalent. The codes introduce changes to the process of collective bargaining and unionization, including stricter requirements for union registration and greater restrictions on strike actions. These changes could weaken the bargaining power of trade unions and limit workers' ability to negotiate for better wages, working conditions, and benefits through collective action. The proposed codes aim to strengthen health and safety regulations in the workplace, including provisions for occupational safety and health standards, welfare facilities, and grievance redressal mechanisms. While this could improve workplace safety and address issues of occupational hazards and accidents, effective enforcement and implementation will be critical to ensure meaningful protection for workers. A significant proportion of India's workforce is employed in the informal sector, where labour regulations are often poorly enforced, and workers lack formal protections and social security benefits. The proposed codes may have limited applicability to informal sector workers, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation, unsafe working conditions, and inadequate wages. Thus, while the proposed labour codes by the Indian government aim to modernize labour laws and promote ease of doing business, their impact on labourers will depend on the balance struck between flexibility for employers and protection for workers' rights and welfare. Effective enforcement, social dialogue, and stakeholder consultation will be essential to ensure that the codes promote inclusive and sustainable growth, while safeguarding the rights and dignity of all workers in India. In conclusion, International Labour Day is a testament to the resilience and determination of the labour movement in its quest for justice and equality. From its humble beginnings as a protest for the eight-hour workday to its role as a global celebration of workers' rights, International Labour Day remains as relevant today as it was over a century ago. As we commemorate this day, let us honor the legacy of those who fought for the rights of workers and recommit ourselves to the ongoing struggle for social and economic justice for all.

**General Secretary
Confederation of Central
Govt. Employees and
Workers
Odisha State
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Bhubaneswar
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The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar & Dr. Sudesh Dhankhar interacting with students of The Kulish School at Jaipur, in Rajasthan

We Don't Send Dossiers On Terror, We Attack Them On Home Turf: PM Modi

Latur, Maharashtra(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that unlike the practice during Congress regime of sending dossiers to Pakistan after the Mumbai terror attacks, the BJP-led government hits terrorists on their home turf.

"During the Congress regime, the news headlines were about India handing over another dossier to Pakistan about terror activities. It used to be big news. Some of our friends in the media used to clap after any such dossier was sent," PM Modi said at an election rally in Maharashtra's Latur.

"Today, India doesn't send dossiers. Aaj Bharat ghar mein ghus ke marta hai (Today, India eliminates terrorists on their home turf)," PM Modi said.

"The headlines in Naya Bharat are: Mission LOC, India punishes Pakistan through surgical strikes," PM Modi said.

PM Modi also claimed that the INDIA bloc has come up with a "formula" whereby the parties in the opposition alliance will get



the PM's post for one year each if they come to power." With such a system, the good of the country cannot be expected, PM Modi said.

"Some people want to make the PM in installments. They have decided to have a PM each year," he said. PM Modi said Congress destroyed India's economy during its regime.

Targeting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, PM Modi said, "When I speak of 'EK Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', the Prince of Congress suffers from fever". "Those who looted the country are behind bars. Those who looted the

country will have to pay back. And this is Modi's guarantee," he said.

"The people of our country have always been hardworking and talented, but the Congress party committed the sin of crushing their dreams," he said. The Congress thought about only one family, but Modi thinks about every family of Bharat, the Prime Minister said.

"In 2014 and 2019, you gave us a huge mandate. We utilised it not to

snatch anything from anyone, but to provide benefits and ensure welfare. Ours is a

government that truly

gives strength to social justice," PM Modi said.

"Ran Out Of Patience": Amethi Congress Wants Candidate Announced, ASAP



Amethi(KCN): The Amethi unit of Congress, tired of waiting for the announcement of a candidate, is holding a protest at the Uttar Pradesh constituency that has enjoyed VIP status for decades. Slogans of "Amethi mange Gandhi parivar" were raised by Congress workers sitting on a protest outside the party office today. The Congress is yet to announce candidates for the two prestige seats -- Amethi and Raebareli. Elections in Amethi --

held once by Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi and before that, his brother Sanjay Gandhi -- is due on May 20, the fifth phase. Just four days are left for filing of nomination.

In 2019, Rahul Gandhi, a three-time MP from Amethi, lost the constituency to the BJP's Union minister Smriti Irani. Ms Irani filed her nomination from the constituency yesterday, expressing confidence about a second consecutive term.

The Congress, though, has been unable to decide on a candidate for either seat. Rahul Gandhi has already contested from Kerala's Wayanad, which sent him to the Lok Sabha in 2019.

There was hope that the party would pick a candidate once the election in Kerala is over, but there has been little progress on that front over the last four days. Sources in the party said a decision could be taken in another day or two.

Court Rejects Bengal Ex-Minister Partha Chatterjee's Bail In School Jobs Case

Kolkata(KCN): The Calcutta High Court on Tuesday rejected a bail prayer of former West Bengal minister Partha Chatterjee in a money laundering case initiated by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with its probe into money trail in a primary school jobs case. ED officials had on July 22, 2022, arrested Chatterjee in connection with alleged irregularities in recruitment of teaching and non-teaching staff in West Bengal government-sponsored and aided primary schools. Justice Tirthankar Ghosh rejected the bail prayer of Chatterjee, who has held several portfolios, including Education from 2011 to 2021, in the West Bengal cabinet. Chatterjee and his alleged close aide Arpita Mukherjee were arrested by ED in connection with its probe into the money trail in the alleged illegal recruitments. The ED has claimed to have recovered ₹ 49.80 crore in cash, apart from jewellery, gold bars from flats owned by Mukherjee and documents of properties and a company in joint holdings. The former minister's lawyers prayed for his bail claiming that the investigation has been completed and that he is over 70 years old and suffers from a number of ailments.

8 PCs of West Bengal Going for Poll on May 13

Kolkata, (KCN): Ten States and Union Territories including West Bengal will be undergoing the fourth phase of General Election on May 13, 2024. Total 96 Parliamentary Constituencies (PCs) will be going for polls in West Bengal on May 13, 2024. However, the number of male electors is maximum in Ranaghat (SC) Parliamentary Constituency. Here the number of male voters is, 9,59,308. So far as the number of female electors is considered, it is maximum in Birbhum Birbhum, Bolpur (SC), Krishnanagar and Ranaghat (SC). There

are 56 Assembly Constituencies in these eight PCs.

Total 14,53,00,17 electors will exercise their franchises in these eight constituencies in West Bengal on May 13, 2024. However, the number of male electors is maximum in Ranaghat (SC) Parliamentary Constituency. Here the number of male voters is, 9,59,308.

There are a total of 1,55,07 Polling stations in these eight Constituencies. The polling stations are maximum in Bardhaman-Durgapur Parliamentary Constituency. Here the number is 2039.

Above-Normal Monsoon Rainfall Predicted In South Asia: Report

New Delhi(KCN): Above-normal rainfall is expected during the 2024 southwest monsoon season over most parts of south Asia, the South Asian Climate Outlook Forum said today.

The forecast follows the prediction of above-normal rain in the monsoon season in India on the back of favourable La Niña conditions, expected to set in by August-September.

"Above normal rainfall is most likely during the 2024 southwest monsoon season (June-September) over most parts of south Asia, except some areas over northern, eastern, and northeastern parts of the region, where below-normal rainfall is most likely," the South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF) said.

Above-normal maximum and minimum



temperatures are predicted over most parts of south Asia during the season, except some areas over northern, eastern, and northeastern parts of the region, where below-normal rainfall is most likely. This regional climate outlook for the 2024 southwest monsoon season has been developed by all nine

National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of south Asia with support from international experts at the 28th session of SASCOF-28, conducted online. SASCOF said moderate El Niño conditions are prevailing at present. ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) neutral conditions are

expected in the first half of the monsoon season. Thereafter, La Niña conditions may set in by the second half.

El Niño conditions -- periodic warming of surface waters in the central Pacific Ocean -- are associated with weaker monsoon winds and drier conditions in India.

La Niña conditions -- the

antithesis of El Niño -- are the dominant factor in the likelihood of "above-normal" rainfall during the monsoon season, DS Pai, a senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD), told PTI.

Positive Indian Ocean Dipole conditions, favourable for the Indian monsoon, are predicted in the later part of the season. Additionally, the snow cover in the northern hemisphere winter and spring snow cover extent generally have an inverse relationship with the subsequent southwest monsoon rainfall over south Asia.

Earlier this month, the IMD said the seasonal rainfall in India will be on the higher side of 'above-normal' and pegged it at 106 per cent of the long-period average (87 cm).

"Sextortion A Significant Social Menace": Delhi Court Denies Bail To 3 Accused

New Delhi(KCN): Sextortion is a significant social menace and such cases pose a serious challenge to law enforcement due to their cross-jurisdictional nature, the Delhi High Court has said while refusing to grant anticipatory bail to three accused.

Justice Amit Mahajan, in an order released on Tuesday, said victims often suffer severe psychological trauma and flagged concerns about privacy and dignity in such cases.

"Sextortion represents a profound violation of privacy and is a significant social menace. It involves the exploitation of obtained intimate images and videos to extort money or favours from victims, often leading to severe psychological trauma," the judge said.

"This cyber-enabled crime not only undermines individual dignity but also poses serious challenges to law enforcement due to its clandestine and cross-jurisdictional nature," Justice Mahajan said, adding a bail order "cannot be granted



routinely" in such matters.

In the present case, an amount of ₹ 16 lakh was extorted from the complainant by persons posing as police officials and YouTube officials

after he received a WhatsApp video call from an unknown woman who recorded their "private" call. Money was extorted from him on the pretext of removing the video from social media platforms as well as by threatening to implicate him in the alleged suicide by the woman in the video.

The prosecution opposed the pleas for pre-arrest bail by three applicants, stating that all the accused were active

members of an organised crime syndicate being run

for carrying out an organised crime of sextortion.

The court, in the order, observed that the investigation has unearthed multiple complaints, which revealed the habitual engagement of the accused in such criminal practices and the scale of operation, at this stage, seemed to be "humongous".

"The accused persons posed themselves to be police officials and forged ID Card. During the analysis on the National Cyber Reporting Portal, a total number of 10 complaints have been found, in which innocent people have been cheated by the same accused persons through the same modus operandi thereby indicating that the present case is not a one-off instance," added the court.

Dismissing the anticipatory bail

applications, the court stated that the material presented by the prosecution established the *prima facie* involvement of the accused.

The SIM cards of the applicants were used in more than 50 different devices within a span of two years and the digital records and communication linked them to the alleged offence, added the court. It said there were disclosure statements of a co-accused which required investigation, and since the applicants failed to cooperate with the investigation, granting anticipatory bail to them would undoubtedly impede further investigation.

"Dismantling such a complex modus operandi, which is alleged to have been used by the applicants and the other accused persons, by its very nature, requires thorough investigation and custodial interrogation which ought not to be curtailed," the court stated. "An order of bail cannot be granted routinely so as to allow the applicant to use the same as a shield," it said.

Poultry biz goes haywire in Odisha's Kendrapara

Kendrapara(KCN): With the lone chick-producing farm located inside the veterinary hospital here lying closed for the last 12 years, poultry business in Kendrapara district has slipped into the hands of big companies.

These big companies, who own or control everything except the farms, call the shots in the poultry business. Poultry meat is sold for around Rs 220-350 per kg in hundreds of shops spread across the district. However, poultry farmers have failed to make any gains as they earn only peanuts from the business due to large-scale interference of big companies. Despite the demand for poultry meat witnessing a sharp rise in the state, the farmers

here have failed to reap any benefit.

In the absence of administrative control, the farmers have no way other than depending on these big companies for their survival. Owing to administrative apathy and lack of foresight, an incubator purchased for Rs 11 lakh and a generator to maintain uninterrupted power supply have been gathering dust with no effort being made for the revival of the defunct chick-producing centre established at an investment over Rs 1 crore.

As much as 97 per cent of the poultry meat consumed by people is produced by a farmer under contract with a big company. These poultry farmers are the last



independent link in the company-owned supply chain. In this scenario, the company owns every link of a product's supply chain from start to finish. This has happened as the state government has failed to regulate the big companies.

Sources said the state government is providing loans to women self-help groups (WSHGs) and youths to run poultry farms. Loans are provided through banks under its ambitious Mission Shakti scheme. This has encouraged

women and youths to start poultry businesses. However, poultry farmers have been trapped by these big companies who are supplying them with poultry feeds, chicks and medicines. As a result, the farmers, instead of making profits, are facing losses. The situation has remained unchanged despite a rise in the price

of poultry meat all over the state. This has disappointed those who have started poultry farms to earn a livelihood. Poultry farmers Kalia Samantaray of Indupur, Subhasis Jena of Kansar village, Ramakant Mallick of Pakhar village and Sheik Hassan of Barimula village alleged that the state government has no role in regulating the market price of poultry products leaving the rein in the hands of the big companies. It is alleged that big traders from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and only a couple of local firms have monopolized the poultry trade in the state. The companies sign a contract with the independent farmers while the latter spend only on the construction of farms, houses, water and power supply and manpower required to run a farm. In exchange, they supply farmers with poultry feeds, chicks and medicines on time. After raising the chicks, the farmers get only Rs 3-5 per kg of poultry meat irrespective of the market price at that time as they cannot sell their products in the market directly. Company employees collect the fully-grown chickens and sell them both outside and inside the state. These companies charge exorbitant prices for their products if the farmers are unwilling to sign an agreement with them. In such a scenario, poultry farmers have asked the state government to intervene and bail them out of this situation.

When contacted, Chief

District Veterinary

Officer (CDVO) Deepi

Mohapatra said that the

state government has

launched various

schemes providing

subsidies for the benefit

of the poultry farmers.

They can enroll in these

schemes and reap the

benefit. However, no

legal action can be taken

as the farmers are

entering into contracts

with these big

companies. However,

efforts are on to revive

the chick-producing

centre, she added.

Odisha: 37 candidates in fray for May 13 elections to four LS seats

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Thirty-seven candidates are in the fray for the elections to four Lok Sabha seats in Odisha for which voting will be held May 13, EC officials informed.

The nomination process for Nabarangpur, Berhampur, Koraput and Kalahandi Lok Sabha segments started April 18 and the last date was April 25. The papers were scrutinised April 26, while Monday was the last day for withdrawal of nominations.

The EC officials Monday said that the nominations of 38 candidates remained valid during the scrutiny. Of them, one candidate in Koraput withdrew his nomination. Now, 30 men and seven women candidates are in the fray for the May 13 phase of polls in Odisha. While 11 candidates are contesting for the Kalahandi seat, four for the Nabarangpur constituency.

Similarly, 10 men and one woman candidates are contesting for the Berhampur seat and seven men and four women candidates are in the race for the Koraput constituency.

Twenty-eight Assembly segments, located under these Lok Sabha constituencies, will also go for voting May 13, while polling for the remaining Lok Sabha and Assembly seats will be held May 20, 25 and June 1. The nomination process for the May 20 poll in the state is underway.

Many senior leaders from different parties, including BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra from the Puri Lok Sabha seat, former Union Minister Dilip Ray from the Rourkela Assembly segment, state minister Ranendra Pratap Swain from the Athagarh Assembly seat, BJD leader Sanjay Das Burma from Satyabadi Assembly seat have filed their nomination papers, holding big processions. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and BJD organisational secretary

Pranab Prakash Das are scheduled to file their nominations for the Hinjili Assembly constituency and for the Sambalpur parliamentary seat respectively April 30. Patnaik will file his nomination for the Hinjili Assembly segment for the sixth time, while Das is contesting the elections for the first time against Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. Apart from Hinjili, the CM is also going to contest for the Kantabanji Assembly seat in western Odisha.



Keonjhar(KCN): The district Excise enforcement squad and mobile unit nabbed five persons along with seizure of five vehicles loaded with huge quantities of Mahua flower worth over ₹1 crore during a raid at Banpar village under Town police limits in Keonjhar district, Monday.

The Excise personnel arrested three drivers and two helpers of the seized vehicles and detained the vehicle

owners for investigation. The accused persons were identified as Ramjee Kuanwar of Bihar, Gura Munda of Dhrupada village, Giridhari Naik of Janardanpur, Raja Munda of Judiasahi under Town police limits and Sabyasachi Munda of Katha Karanjia under Sadar police limits. Two of them on board the vehicles fled the scene during the raid, police officials said.

As per the direction of Keonjhar Excise

Superintendent Pradipta Kumar Das, a raid was conducted with participation of all staff. District mobile unit official Chandan Kumar Mandal said, "The vehicles were transporting Mahua flowers from Raipur area to East Singhbhum in neighboring Jharkhand. However, they were caught red-handed while shifting the stock at Banpar village." More than 280 quintal Mahua flowers

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Samson, Chahal return; Rinku not picked for T20 World Cup

New Delhi: Shivam Dube and Yuzvendra Chahal have been named in India's 15-player squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup, set to be played in the West Indies and the USA. Meanwhile, Sanju Samson and Rishabh Pant are the two wicketkeepers named in the provisional squad announced by BCCI on Tuesday (April 30). Pant made a comeback to competitive cricket recently following a car accident in late December 2022 which kept him out of the game for a year and a half, and has scored 251 runs in 11 IPL games so far this season at a strike rate of 158.57. Meanwhile, Rinku Singh, who had established himself as the most reliable and destructive finisher in the country over the last one year, hasn't found a place in the 15-player squad. He has been named in the travelling reserves



alongside Shubman Gill, Avesh Khan and Khaleel Ahmed. The 26-year-old southpaw averages 89 and boasts of a strike-rate of 176.23 in 11 innings since making his T20I debut last August, but has endured a rather underwhelming IPL campaign this year by his standards. In 9 innings for KKR in the ongoing tournament, he has scored only 123 runs at a strike rate of 150. Squad: Rohit Sharma (Captain), Hardik Pandya (Vice Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant

(WK), Sanju Samson (WK), Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohd. Siraj. Rinku's place has been taken up by Shivam Dube, who has impressed with his improved showing against pace in the ongoing IPL. The hard-hitting left-hander may have not had the opportunity to display his skills with the ball, but has hammered 350 runs at a strike rate of 172.41 in nine games so far in the tournament. With only one half-century and a strike rate of 133.09, he is yet to stamp his

opportunities he got with the national side over the last one year. Chahal, who has bagged 96 wickets in 80 T20Is, last featured in a T20I in August 2023 and has been out of reckoning in the national side across formats. However, a splendid run in the ongoing IPL, where he has picked 13 wickets in 9 innings, at an economy rate of 9.00 while batters have largely dominated, has pushed his case. Similarly, his Rajasthan Royals captain Sanju Samson finds a place back in the national side following a run of consistent scores at a brisk rate in the tournament. Samson has been on the fringes of the national side since making his T20I debut in 2015, featuring in only 25 games, the last of which came in January 2024. With only one half-century and a strike rate of 133.09, he is yet to stamp his

authority in international T20s. The left-arm spin trio of Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav join Chahal to form the four-man spin attack, while the selectors have picked only three frontline pace options - Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Arshdeep Singh. The rest of the squad is along expected lines. Hardik Pandya has been named as deputy to Rohit Sharma, with Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav being the other batters in the team. India will kickstart their campaign against Ireland on June 5 at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York, which is set to host three of India's four group stage games. India will then face Pakistan and USA at the same venue on June 9 and 12 respectively before travelling to Lauderhill to face Canada on June 15.

Shah Rukh Khan surprise bear hug to Sourav Ganguly after KKR vs DC



Kolkata: KKR owner

Shah Rukh Khan gave a brilliant surprise to DC director of cricket Sourav Ganguly after their match in the Indian Premier League on Monday, 29 April. After the conclusion of the game, SRH snuck up behind Ganguly and gave him a bear hug. The moment was caught by a fan inside the Eden Gardens and turned out to be one of the best moments of the game. Ganguly and Shah Rukh Khan go back a long way. The 'Prince of Calcutta' was the icon player for KKR in the inaugural edition of the tournament.

The association however did not last long as Ganguly was sacked by KKR due to poor outings two years in a row. Ganguly had fallen out with Australian coach John Buchanan and was forced to exit the team. The bad blood was washed away long back as Ganguly helped KKR in their logistics during the

IPL when he was the president of the Cricket Association of Bengal and later the Board of Control for Cricket in India. After his tenure at the BCCI, Ganguly has been associated with DC as the head of cricketing development and overlooks both men's and women's sides. Ganguly got loud cheers at the Eden Gardens, whenever his face was shown on the big screen. When Shah Rukh Khan hugged Ganguly after the game, the moment reminded many of the charismatic duo and their days during the early years of the Indian Premier League. KKR recovered from their unexpected defeat against PBKS to beat DC by 7 wickets in the IPL 2024 on Monday, April 29 at the iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata. It was a rather one-sided affair as the Knights romped home with 21 balls to spare. With the win, KKR

tightened their grip on the top four and took one more step towards qualifying for the playoffs. The Capitals, on the other hand, are in dire straits as they find themselves in a must-win position from here on.

The gamble to bat first backfired as DC could only post 153 for 9 on the board. Prithvi Shaw hit Mitchell Starc for 3 fours in the first over, but Vaibhav Arora removed the big fish in the very next over. From there on,

Delhi completely lost their way.

The KKR opening batters, Phil Salt and Sunil Narine, came out firing

on all cylinders. The duo

plundered 79 in the powerplay and brought the required run-rate down to below a run-a-ball. Salt, the leading run-scorer for the Knights, racked up his half-century off 27 balls. Salt finished with 68 off 33 helping KKR to their 6th win of the season from 9 games.

KKR's Varun Chakravarthy wants bowlers to stop 'crying' about Impact Player rule

Kolkata: KKR beat DC

by 7 wickets at the Eden Gardens to firm their place in the second position in the Indian Premier League table. The game was one of the rare ones in the IPL 2024 where the 200-run barrier was not breached in either innings, with the KKR bowlers running through the DC side in the first half of the game. Mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy was named the player of the match for his 3/16 spell.

Speaking at the post-match press conference, Chakravarthy spoke in detail about the Impact Player rule and said that the other bowlers should stop crying about it. RCB's Mohammed Siraj has been vocal about the rule and has argued that it is making the life of bowlers and all-rounders difficult in the IPL. Critics have also questioned the need for the rule as it is not followed in international cricket.

"Somewhere we have to accept that this IPL is different and we have to move on. The Impact Player was there last season, main thing is teams have used it better this season. They want to charge from first, how much ever the bowlers cry,

"The last match was a very hard pill to swallow. We had conversations with the management, the bowling coach. SRK came to me yesterday and spoke to me personally, he said 'whatever is happening in the IPL, do not take it personally, don't self-doubt yourself,' Chakravarthy revealed Shah Rukh Khan's heart-warming gesture after the PBKS game.

The spinner said that one of the main reasons behind difficulty in

bowling was the

humidity in Kolkata as it

has been very difficult to

grip the ball.

"The fingers have

started to sweat in this

high humidity, it was not

the case in the last few

years, but I don't want to

use that as an excuse," concluded Varun.

Happy Birthday Rohit Sharma: A look at the Indian captain's career as 'Hitman' turns 37



astounding performances have won the hearts of millions worldwide. Known for his double centuries in One Day Internationals, Sharma is the only player to score three pulls in the format, a remarkable feat that stands testament to his batting prowess. On a global platform, his stellar performances include his impressive

209 against Australia in 2013, an astonishing 264 against Sri Lanka in 2014, and an equally fantastic 208 against Sri Lanka in 2017. He has scored over 10,000 runs in ODIs, comprising 31 centuries and 55 fifties, with a stunning average surpassing 49. In T20 Internationals, he has hit five centuries, the most by any player in the

shorter format of the game. His IPL career is equally illustrious. Rohit Sharma made his debut in the inaugural season of IPL in 2008 with the Deccan Chargers before moving to Mumbai Indians, where he continues to lead and proves instrumental in their triumph. Under Sharma's leadership, Mumbai Indians secured

Keep dreaming: Rafael Nadal pumped up after marathon win vs Cachin in Madrid Open



that playing in his front of his home crowd was a privilege, but he doesn't want to look too far ahead for now. "Now I'm enjoying. Let's see how I wake up tomorrow, no? I don't

know. Day by day... I'm enjoying the fact that I'm playing at home means everything to me. Just trying my best to keep dreaming. Tomorrow is another day to keep dreaming and playing in

front of this amazing crowd. It's everything," Nadal said in the on-court interview. Nadal admitted that he had his fair share of ups and downs against Cachin. Nadal dominated

in the first set and threatened to finish the match in a hurry. However, Cachin somehow held on in the tie-breaker of the second set and took the match in the deciding set. Once Nadal took an early break in the third set, he did not look back.

Nadal said that some unpredictable brand of tennis helped him have the last laugh over his opponent from Argentina. "Some moments were good. Some moments not good. I found a way to be through. In the 3rd set even with some mistakes I was able to be a bit more unpredictable. That changed the match," Nadal added.

New Delhi: Rafael Nadal said that he wants to "keep dreaming" and take one step at a time as he restamps his authority on the tennis world. On Monday, April 29, Nadal pulled off a thrilling win over Argentina's Pedro Cachin in the Round of 32 of the Madrid Open. The veteran fought hard for 3 hours and 4 minutes before winning the match 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-4 at the Manolo Santana Stadium.

The 22-time Grand Slam-winner will next be up against the Czech Republic's Jiri Lehecka in the pre-quarters on Tuesday, April 30. The 23-year-old Nadal said