

## 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

segment five times in a row since 2000. Hinjili comes under the Aska Lok Sabha seat and will go to polls May 20. Along with Hinjili, Patnaik, this time will also contest from the Kantabanji Assembly segment in Bolangir district.

## 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 rrammed 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. Two of the four deceased are men, while two others are a 14-year-old boy and a woman, they said. Talking to reporters at the Chandwad hospital, state Tourism Minister Girish Mahajan 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. "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. The seriously injured persons will be given an assistance of ? 5 lakh and other injured will get ? 2 to ? 2.5 lakh aid depending on the gravity of their injuries," he said.

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA TO VISIT AYODHYA TOMORROW



**NewDelhi,(KCN):**The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu will visit Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh) tomorrow (May 1, 2024). During her stay in Ayodhya, the President will make darshan and aarti at Shri Hanuman Garhi Temple, Prabhu Shri Ram Temple, and Kuber Teela. She will also do the Saryu puja and aarti.

## Balasore Records Highest Temperature Of 2024 In Odisha



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The extreme heatwave is gripping over Odisha continuously. Meanwhile, Balasore has recorded highest temperature of 2024 in Odisha. At 2.30 pm, Balasore has recorded 46 degree Celsius, said the regional centre of India Meteorological Department (IMD). Meanwhile, the capital city of Bhubaneswar has recorded 45.4 degrees at 2.30 pm today. This is for the first time in 2024, when Bhubaneswar crossed 45 degrees mark. Keeping the weather condition in mind, the IMD had earlier issued red warning for three cities including Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Balasore. Furthermore, the Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar, issued red warning for districts including Khurda, Bhadrak, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Boudh, Angul and Cuttack.

## ARI, Accomplice Caught Taking Rs 10K Bribe In Bolangir

**Bolangir(KCN):** Odisha vigilance sleuths today apprehended an Asst.Revenue Inspector & In-charge Revenue Inspector and her accomplice in Bolangir district for taking Rs 10,000 bribe. The accused persons have been identified as Reshma Majhi, Asst. Revenue Inspector & In-charge Revenue Inspector, Belgaon RI Circle under Saintala Tahasil, Dist-Bolangir and her accomplice Babulal Nanda (Mantu). Majhi has been apprehended by Odisha Vigilance while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs.10,000 from a complainant through Nanda to forward an enquiry report in a mutation case in favour of the complaint's relative to



Tahasil office, Saintala for issuance of ROR ( Land Patta). The entire bribe money has been recovered from the possession of both the accused persons Majhi and Sri Nanda and seized.Following the trap, simultaneous searches are going on at two locations of Majhi, I/c RI from a DA angle.

In this connection, Sambalpur Vigilance PS Case No. 10 dt.29.04.2024 U/s 7/12 P. C. Act, 1988 as amended by P.C. Amendment Act, 2018 has been registered. The investigation is in progress against both the accused persons and Nanda( Private Person). Further reports are awaited.

## AstraZeneca admits ‘very rare’ side effect of COVID vaccine in UK court

**London(KCN):** UK-headquartered pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca (AZ) has admitted that in ‘very rare cases’ its COVID vaccine can cause a blood clot-related side effect but the causal link is unknown, according to court papers being quoted in the UK media. ‘The Daily Telegraph’ reports that in a legal document submitted to the High Court in London in February for a group action being brought by 51 claimants, AZ admitted that the vaccine developed with the University of Oxford to protect against COVID-19 may cause Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) in “very rare cases”. The AZ Vaxzevria vaccine, also manufactured by



the Serum Institute of India (SII), was known in India as Covishield. “It is admitted that the AZ vaccine can, in very rare cases, cause TTS. The causal mechanism is not known. Further, TTS can also occur in the absence of the AZ vaccine (or any vaccine). Causation in any individual case will be a matter for expert evidence,” the newspaper quotes the legal document as stating. Lawyers acting on behalf of the claimants say they,

or their loved ones, who received the AZ vaccine suffered TTS – a rare syndrome characterised by the concurrence of thrombosis or blood clotting and thrombocytopenia or insufficiency of platelets. The consequences of TTS are potentially life-threatening including strokes, brain damage, heart attacks, pulmonary embolism and amputation. Of the 51 claimants in the

group action being represented by the law firm Leigh Day for damages under Section 2 of the UK’s Consumer Protection Act 1987 against AstraZeneca UK Ltd in respect of injuries sustained as a result of the vaccine, 12 are acting on behalf of a loved one who died. “All of those within the group have death certificates or medical evidence confirming that the vaccine caused the deaths and injuries suffered,” said Sarah Moore, partner at Leigh Day. “It has taken AstraZeneca a year to formally admit that their vaccine has caused this harm when this was a fact widely accepted by the clinical community since the end of 2021. In that context, regrettably, it seems that

AZ, the government and their lawyers are more keen to play strategic games and run up legal fees than to engage seriously with the devastating impact that the vaccine has had upon our clients’ lives,” she said.It is the claimants’ case that the safety of the AZ vaccine fell below the level of safety that persons were generally entitled to expect. AZ has strongly denied the claims.“Our sympathy goes out to anyone who has lost loved ones or reported health problems. Patient safety is our highest priority, and regulatory authorities have clear and stringent standards to ensure the safe use of all medicines, including vaccines,” AstraZeneca said in a statement.

## D(S) suspends Deve Gowda’s grandson over sex scandal row

**S h i v a m o g g a (Karnataka)(KCN):** Former Chief Minister and JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy said that the decision of suspending Prajwal Revanna, his nephew and the grandson of former Prime Minister Deve Gowda, has already been taken by his party. The decision was taken by JD(S) after an alleged sex scandal involving his nephew Prajwal Revanna started doing several rounds in his parliamentary constituency of Hassan. Speaking to media persons in Shivamogga, Kumaraswamy Monday said, “The Congress is conspiring to make it (sex scandal) a big issue. The decision is already made and it has to be discussed in the core committee to be held in Hubballi. The decision is likely to be



announced on Tuesday.” “I had requested former Prime Minister and father HD Deve Gowda in this regard. The decision to expel him (Prajwal Revanna) has been made Sunday already,” he reiterated. “It is not the question of the Deve Gowda family. Do not drag me or Deve Gowda into it. This is the question of an individual, it is not about the family,” Kumaraswamy added. “The guilty should be

punished. Prajwal Revanna’s family is separated. If it would have come to my notice, I would have avoided the embarrassment. I can’t keep track of where one goes during the day,” the former Chief Minister said. “At the same time, let the probe be conducted against the persons, who circulated lakhs of pen drives containing the sex videos. It is said that the case is an old one,” he added. Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister and Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar criticised the BJP for not making its stand clear over the issue of Prajwal Revanna’s alleged sex scandal, adding that “they (BJP) can’t beat around the bush”.



# 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 and 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 progress



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 for securing the 2nd rank based on the second highest CGPA. The IIM Sambalpur Gold Medal for the best all-around performance, based on scholastic achievements,

extracurricular activities, and institutional building activities, was received by Mr Devashish Malkani from Uttar Pradesh. Additionally, for the Executive MBA, the prestigious Chairman's Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance was awarded to Ms Roma Dash from Odisha, recognising her as the 1st Rank holder with the highest CGPA, and the Director's Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance was received by Mr Binaya Bhusan Panda from Odisha, who secured the 2nd Rank with the second-highest CGPA. The ceremony was moderated by Mr. Amrut 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

conducive atmosphere serving as constant motivators. Engaging in co-curricular and extracurricular activities further enriched my journey. To the younger students at NIT Rourkela, I offer this advice: clarity of purpose is essential," said Biswajit Panda. Anushka Sarkar, remembering her days here, said she remained in touch with her department. "It was in NIT Rourkela that I stayed away from home for the first time. The first step of my UPSC journey took shape here when my classmate first told me about the exam," she added. Kasturi Panda, IAS (Alumni, B.Tech 2019) who got AIR-67 in UPSC CSE (2022) also shared a message to the aspirants of NITR as she could not attend the programme due to an urgent assignment.



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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 'Ishq 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'd 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'. He is currently basking in the success of the romantic-drama. He co-starred with Kriti Sanon, who essayed the role of a robot, SIFRA. After witnessing a decent start at the box office, the film picked up pace and crossed Rs 50 crore in India. Recently, Kriti shared whether 'Teri Baaton Mein 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 Hardy 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.

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

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 powerhouse 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

in before. On 21st September, this film will be yours, across the world you'll get to see this thriller come to life and I cannot wait to see what you think!" Kareena Kapoor earlier said, "I am so excited the trailer is finally yours to see! This is the first time audiences will see me in a thriller, playing something gritty like this. Jaane Jaan was a script that I had to say YES to the first time I heard of it. I have always told Sujoy the USP of this film is its cast and I had a superb time working with Jaideep and Vijay. I can't wait for Netflix audiences to enjoy Jaane Jaan."



## 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'.



# Why prestigious Colleges open schools tooool

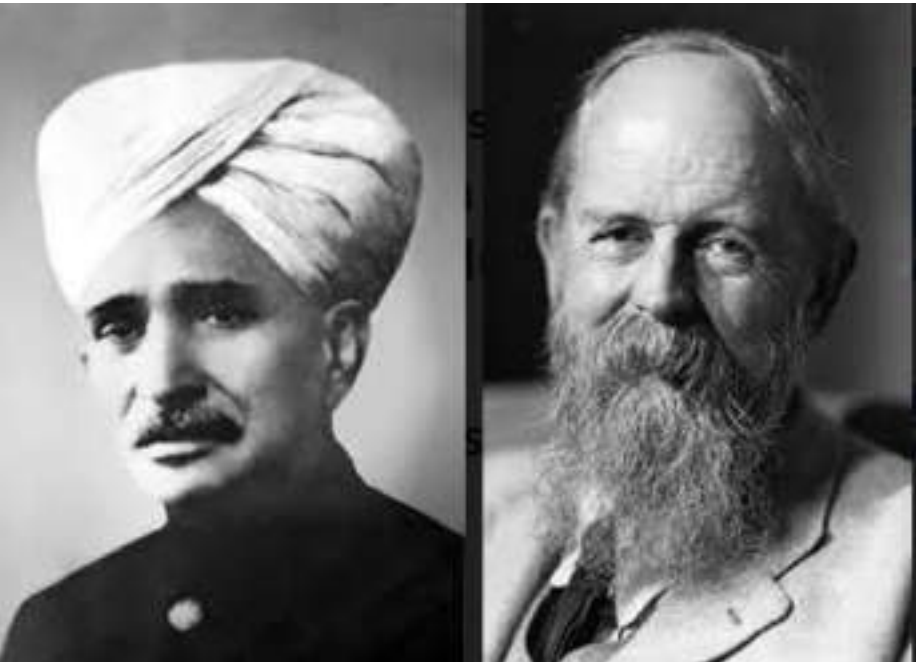
Vivek Shukla



On what basis should a school or college be called excellent? Of course, the sole measure of this can be whether that educational institution has instilled such values in its students that they go on to become better citizens and serve the country and society. Another measure could be whether it (the educational institution) has expanded. By expansion, it means whether it has opened any branches and whether the standard there has also been excellent and high-quality. Undoubtedly, on this front, the name of St. Stephen's College, Delhi, has to be taken.St. Stephen's College was established by the Delhi Brotherhood Society, an organization of Gandhiji's close associate, Deenabandhu C.F. Andrews. C.F. Andrews, despite being a British citizen, was a supporter of India's independence.

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

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. **History of St.**



**Stephen's College** If you ever go to Chandni Chowk in Delhi, then you should have no difficulty in finding Kinari Bazaar there. From there you can reach Katra Khushal Rai in a few minutes. After reaching here, ask someone where St. Stephen's College was? Someone or the other will tell you the way to that ordinary mansion from where the journey of St. Stephen's College started on 1 February 1881. It was then a part of Calcutta University. Looking at the first building of St. Stephen's College located in Chandni Chowk, Delhi, no one can even think

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 Hospital in the capital. After the partition of the

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 Chandiwalla, a close disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. Chandiwalla 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 Chandiwalla 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 Sharan 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

Bruhaspati Samal



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 Coordination Committee,  
Bhubaneswar  
Email:bsamalbr@gmail.com  
Mobile:9437022669**





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

L a t u r ,

**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 hey 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.

## 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 this phase of election. In West Bengal, voting will be done for eight PCs on that date. The Constituencies are, Asansol, Baharampur, Bardhaman-Durgapur, Bardhaman Purba (SC), 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. So far as the number of female electors is considered, it is maximum in Birbhum Parliamentary Constituency. Here, the

number is 9,22,989. The number of third gender voters is maximum in Ranaghat (SC) Constituency. Here the number of such voters is 59. Total 282 third gender electors will exercise their franchises in this phase of poll in these eight Parliamentary Constituencies. 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 Nina 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 a few areas over the southeastern part of the region where normal temperatures are 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 Nino conditions are prevailing at present. ENSO (El Nino-Southern Oscillation) neutral conditions are

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

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

La Nina conditions -- the

antithesis of El Nino -- 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 is low. 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 in the present case have alleged to have made a woman contact the victim/complainant through video calls and messages and got his video clip. They then threatened to make the video viral on social

media.

"Later, the victim was conveyed that the woman who undressed in the video clip had committed suicide," the court said.

"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.

## "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 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.



# 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) Deepti 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.

## Odisha: Mahua flowers worth Rs 1 crore seized; five held



**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 neighbouring Jharkhand. However, they were caught red-handed while shifting the stock at Banpar village." More than 280 quintal Mahua flowers

along with a 16-wheeler truck and four Bolero pick-up vans were seized during the raid, he added. A total of five persons including three drivers were arrested and two vans seized, while two others escaped during the raid. The owners of the vehicles have been detained for further investigation to identify their involvement in this illegal trade. The raid was conducted in view of the upcoming general elections in the state.



**2024-2025**

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# AU Small Finance Bank Launches Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card

Jaipur/ Bhubaneswar, May 8th, 2023: AU Small Finance Bank has partnered with RuPay to introduce the Business Cashback RuPay credit card, an innovative solution tailored to meet the financial requirements of self-employed customers. This latest offering is aimed at providing a diverse range of benefits to small businesses. The Credit Card was launched in the esteemed presence of Mr. Dilip Asbe, CEO of National Payments Corporation of India and Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank. AU Small Finance Bank's Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card simplifies financial

operations for businesses with benefits like upto 2% cashback, 48 days interest-free credit, and instant loans. It also offers fire insurance, burglary, and housebreaking coverage, making it a one-stop solution for businesses. "At AU Small Finance Bank, we understand that the small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of Indian economy and we have been serving this segment since the last 28 years. We are committed to providing innovative financial solutions that cater to the unique needs of this segment and Business Cashback RuPay credit card is a testament to our commitment to the



MSMEs. As the self-employed customer segment is at the heart of our bank, we are focused on adding value to these customers and promoting credit inclusion. Going forward, we shall work towards bringing

customized benefits to MSMEs through our other Credit Card variants too," said Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO of AU SFB. The credit card also provides lifestyle and travel benefits. Their Silver Spoon Dining Program

also offers cardholders up to 30% off at over 300 restaurants, 8 complimentary railway lounge access per annum, and 1%\* fuel surcharge waiver. "I am delighted to attend the launch event and witness the introduction of AU Small Finance Bank's Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card. National Payments Corporation of India is committed to promoting innovation in the banking sector, and this credit card is a clear example of that. AU Small Finance Bank has consistently demonstrated their dedication to excellence and innovation in the banking industry. This credit card is a fantastic solution that empowers

self-employed individuals and promotes financial inclusion. I'm confident that this credit card will be a great success and benefit numerous businesses. Congratulations to AU SFB, keep up the great work," said Mr. Dilip Asbe, CEO, National Payments Corporation of India. AU Small Finance Bank is one of the leading providers of innovative and reliable financial solutions for self-employed individuals and businesses. With an unwavering commitment to excellence and credit inclusion, the bank continuously improves and deepens its services, offering a comprehensive range of benefits.

## Kapil Sharma and his team in Navratna Ayurvedic oil advertisement campaign



**Kolkata (AMBAR MUKHERJEE):** Navratna, the ayurvedic cool oil market leader from the house of Emami Ltd throws up a laughter challenge this summer as Kapil Sharma comes on board the brand along with his eccentric family members Kiku Sharda, Gaurav Gera and Sumona Chakravarti. In a series of new TV ads and digital content, Navratna Oil introduces a burst of cool comic relief with the irrepressible Kapil Sharma and his band of quirky accomplices. Together, they tackle the everyday chaos and challenges encountered by common man as they present Navratna Oil as "Thandak Ka Badshah, Raahat Ka Raja." A two-minute champi (head massage) with Navratna Oil offers relief and relaxation leaving one "thanda thanda cool cool".

Commenting on this unique endorsement association, Mr. Harsha V. Agarwal, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Emami Limited, said, "We are delighted to onboard Kapil Sharma and his quirky team for our brand Navratna Ayurvedic Oil. Humour is well known for being a stress buster and Kapil's brand of humour has been doing just that for over a decade across demographics. The pairing of Kapil Sharma and team with Navratna, which is India's number 1 cool oil that provides relief from daily stress to its millions of consumers, is one of the best fitments that a brand can envisage. To appeal to our evolving target audience, we strongly feel that this new approach of delivering the brand message will work effectively for us." Kapil Sharma, the comedian, actor, singer and anchor said on this occasion, "Navratna Ayurvedic Oil provides effective relief from headache and stress related issues arising from daily life challenges. My team and I also attempt to use humour as a powerful tool towards stress relief by offering a much-needed escape from life's trials and tribulations. There is a natural synergy in what both of us are trying to deliver, thereby offering a perfect fitment for our collaboration. I am pleased to be associated with World's No 1 Cool Oil Navratna. This summer, together we will make every Indian - Thanda Thanda Cool Cool !"

## Tata Power leads EV charging space with a pan-India network; showcases wide-range of hi-tech EZ Charge solutions at Auto Expo 2023

Bhubaneswar: Tata Power, one of India's largest and fastest growing EV Charging solutions provider showcased its wide-range of hi-tech EV charging solutions at the ongoing Auto Expo 2023 in Greater Noida. A first-hand experience of the technology that is driving Tata Power's widespread EV charging network - EZ (read easy) Charge was provided to the visitors, including the award-winning and one of the most downloaded mobile apps for EV charging - Tata Power EZ Charge, which ensures a seamless user experience through features that will help commuters find the nearest charging station, know the real-time availability of charging points, and receive updates on charging status, amongst many others. Information about Tata Power's one of its kind Network Operations Center (NOC) located in Mumbai was also on display. This center aids in the effective operational management of charging stations across India. NOC is integrated with the online platform that supports Tata Power's EZ Charge services, has a real-time communication link with all on-board chargers, and aids in the early detection of tech-related issues. The NOC additionally supports quick problem solving, back-end system support, and proactive planning for charging infrastructure upkeep. Tata Power has also kicked off an ambitious nationwide plan of setting up approx. 25000 electric vehicle (EV) charging points across the country to support faster adoption of e-mobility over the next 5 years.

## Muskaan Litfest for Child Authors showcases young literary talent

Bhubaneswar : Some of the leading social, cultural, corporate and literary organizations of the country came together for the first time to host a unique literature festival - `Muskaan Litfest for Child Authors' - under the Muskaan initiative of Kolkata-based non-for-profit trusts, Prabha Khaitan Foundation and Education for All Trust. The three-day event was held at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) premises in Delhi. Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Dr M u n j a p a r a M a h e n d r a b h a i

Kalubhai, interacted with 30 school-going young authors from all over the country. "Muskaan is a brilliant initiative of PKF to give a platform for the young talented writers to showcase their works and inspire future talents," the minister said. He also gave certificates to the young authors. Ruskin Bond, the most popular, loved and revered author among the children, in a message lauded Prabha Khaitan Foundation for its commendable efforts to promote the habit of reading among children through the Muskaan initiative. The three-

day Litfest (Jan 10-12) was organized in collaboration with IGNCA and in association with India International Centre and Sahitya Akademi as the knowledge partner. Shree Cement supported the event as a part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative. The festival was inaugurated in the presence of Priyank Kanoongo, Chairman, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR). Also present on the occasion were Sachchidanand Joshi, member secretary, the executive and academic head of IGNCA; K N Shrivastava, Director of

IIC, and K Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. "Literature is the mirror of society. It is important to provide child authors the right environment and upbringing to promote literature," Kanoongo said. He asserted that instead of social media, the children should take more interest in writing and literature. The evening was marked by a scintillating cultural programme 'Udaan' conceptualised by Shinjini Kulkarni, Ehsaas Woman of Prabha Khaitan Foundation. Huma Khalil Mirza, Ehsaas Woman of Delhi and Unnati Singh, Ehsaas

Woman of Indore, also chipped in and livened up the show. Teams of women achievers who work to create cultural capital and assets are a part of a Ehsaas Woman network in major cities of India under the aegis of Prabha Khaitan Foundation. Dancer and choreographer Avirup Sengupta, who works with specially-abled children through Prayas Foundation, presented an enthralling performance. The Foundation had flown in children from Kolkata for the special performance. The latest issue of PKF newsletter Prabha, based on the theme of children's literature, was formally released.

## Almonds Food for Fitness

Bhubaneswar : Engaging in exercise promotes a healthful lifestyle, but even when performed correctly, exercise causes fatigue and muscle damage. Recovery from exercise is important because it leads to muscle gain and improved fitness over time. A new study involving people who exercise occasionally (less than three times per week) demonstrated that snacking on almonds reduced feelings of fatigue and tension, increased leg and lower back strength during recovery, and decreased muscle damage during the first day of recovery. David C. Nieman, DrPH, FACSM, Professor and Principal Investigator, Human Performance Laboratory, Appalachian State University, led this novel research, supported with funding from the Almond Board of California. Dr. Nieman's team wanted to see if an almond snack compared to a high-carbohydrate cereal bar snack would improve inflammation and recovery in adults engaging in 90-minute exercise sessions. "What we found tells us definitively that almonds should be added to sports nutrition strategies to help people recover better from exercise," explained Dr. Nieman. "Almonds are food for fitness. Carbs get most of the attention when it comes to fueling for exercise, but almonds offer a nutrition package, including good unsaturated fats, the antioxidant vitamin E, and proanthocyanidins (class of polyphenols, which are protective compounds in plants) that help explain the beneficial outcomes in our study." One serving of almonds (28g) has 13 g of good unsaturated fat and only 1 g of saturated fat.

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mobility over the next 5 years. Greater Noida, January 12, 2023: Taking a leap in the era of sustainability and green mobility, WardWizard, a leading manufacturer of electric two-wheeler Joy ebike, today launched its new high-speed electric scooter 'MIHOS' with Poly Dicyclopentadiene Material (PDCPD) to bring high standards of durability for the riders. Designed and developed by WardWizard's R&D team in Vadodara, MIHOS, is a retro-style electric scooter. It is equipped with advanced technology, and user-friendly features with a vehicle sound simulator for additional safety of the riders on the road. It also features a broad seat for enhanced riding comfort. The production will take place at the company's state-of-

the-art manufacturing facility in Vadodara, Gujarat and the deliveries will commence in a phased manner across the country. Speaking on the launch occasion and the company's prospects, Mr YatinGupte, Chairman & Managing Director, Wardwizard Innovations & Mobility Ltd, said, "Asone of the first promoters of electric mobility in the country, we are committed to building a sustainable environment and greener planet for the generations of today and tomorrow. Our new product MIHOSis designed and developed keeping in mind the aspirations of the customers and market demand. The scooter will not only excite the customers with its retro look and advanced features but will also provide extra safety with

its high standards of durability and comfort across various road conditions. The company is further investing in R&D for creating a holistic e-mobility ecosystem and developing India's first EV ancillary cluster to accelerate the adoption and growth of green mobility in the country. The year 2023 is going to be the establishing year of EV mobility in the country." Making another move in strengthening its product portfolio in the electric motorcycle category, the company also unveiled the concept of its city electric motorcycle 'Rockefeller' at the expo. The concept motorcycle is designed keeping in mind the need of the riders for daily riding. The company is planning to launch the motorcycle by the end of FY'24.



