

personnel are reported to be safe. Further details are awaited. A search operation is still underway in the area, the police said. Mentionably, security forces April 16 gunned down 29 Naxalites in an encounter in Kanker district of the state, they said.

Central University of Odisha Commemorates 163rd Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore

Koraput, (KCN): The Central University of Odisha honored the 163rd birth anniversary of the esteemed Nobel laureate and cultural luminary, Rabindranath Tagore, through a special event held on 08 May 2024 within its campus. Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University, paid tribute to Tagore by laying flowers at his portrait. Joining him on the dais were distinguished figures, including Prof. Sharat Kumar Palita, Dean of the School of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resources, Dr. Kapila Khemundu, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, and Dr. Kakoli Banerjee, Assistant Professor in

the Department of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resources. Presiding over the ceremony, Prof. Tripathi shed light on Tagore's vision, philosophy, and educational endeavors aimed at fostering the sustainable development of our nation. Quoting from Tagore's renowned work, Gitanjali, he remarked, "The whole world was astonished upon witnessing Tagore's writings in Gitanjali. The Vishwaguru (World Teacher) illuminated the essence of our society and the image of our nation through the verses of Gitanjali in the form of poetry." Prof. Tripathi further emphasized Tagore's visionary establishment of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan,



envisioning a peaceful and developed world grounded in societal values and the advancement of village life. During that era, he depicted Rabindranath Tagore as a remarkable poet, writer, playwright, composer, philosopher, social reformer, and

painter. Prof. S. K. Palita highlighted Tagore's profound contributions to India and the world, particularly through the establishment of Visva Bharati, a distinguished institution of higher education. He also underscored Tagore's

significant connection with Odisha. Dr. Khemundu elaborated on Tagore's educational philosophy, as reflected in the National Education

Policy (NEP) of 2020, while Dr. Banerjee celebrated Tagore's legacy as a prominent environmentalist, captivating the audience

with renditions of some of his popular compositions. Several other esteemed faculty members, including Dr. Sourav Gupta from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Dr. Debashis Karmakar from the Department of Sanskrit, Dr. Partha Pratim Das as a Guest Faculty in Education, Dr. Ganesh Prasad Sahu from the Department of Odia, and Dr. Prasenjit Sinha from the Department of English, also shared insights during the event. Dr. Rudrani Mohanty, Associate Professor and Head of the Department

of Odia Language and Literature, compered the program, while Dr. Chakradhar Padhan, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Hindi, delivered the vote of thanks. The event witnessed the presence of the entire teaching staff of the University, underlining the significance of commemorating Tagore's enduring legacy. Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer, Central University of Odisha, provided coordination and support for the event, ensuring its successful execution and widespread recognition.

ECoR ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY FOR PASSENGERS TOWARDS DIFFERENT DESTINATIONS: More Summer Special Trains from ECoR jurisdiction.

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Aiming to cater to passengers' needs across the country, Indian Railways has announced special train services to avoid rush of passengers in regular trains during summer. These trains will connect important destinations, offering convenience, comfort, and safety for seamless journeys and memorable experiences throughout the season. In view of the above, East Coast Railway had announced Special Train Services towards various destinations of the country from its jurisdiction. This is to cater to the travel needs of passengers from various regions. Passengers can look forward to traveling in comfort and style to ensure a pleasant journey experience. The special summer train services will operate on convenient schedules, offering flexibility to passengers to plan their trips according to their preferences. Whether it's a weekend getaway or an extended holiday, special trains provide the perfect solution for hassle-free travel.

Apart from the Summer Special Trains announced earlier by ECoR, more summer special trains are now being planned to run towards important destinations to cater the travel need of the passengers. These trains are Bhubaneswar-Mumbai LTT, B r a h m a p u r - S e c u n d e r a b a d, Brahmapur-Surat, etc. Apart from this, reviewing the passenger profile, ECoR is also planning to avoid heavy rush of passengers in regular trains and running Single trip Special Trains to important destination points. Passengers may also plan their journey accordingly and may search for Special Trains from their boarding points for their destinations where they can get confirmed tickets for their comfort journey. These trains are Sambalpur-Kacheguda, Khurda Road-S e c u n d e r a b a d, Bhubaneswar-Pune, Bhubaneswar-Mumbai CSMT, Puri-Paldhi, Bhubaneswar-Chennai, Sambalpur-Chennai, B h u b a n e s w a r -

Bengaluru, Brahmapur-Kacheguda, Sambalpur-Bengaluru, etc. 0 8 4 2 0 / 0 8 4 1 9 Bhubaneswar-Mumbai, LTT-Bhubaneswar weekly Summer Special from Bhubaneswar will leave at 2300hrs on every Wednesday between 8th May to 26th June 2024. In the return direction, this train will leave from LTT at 1320hrs on every Friday between 10th May to 28th June 2024. 0 7 0 3 5 / 0 7 0 3 6 S e c u n d e r a b a d - B r a h m a p u r - S e c u n d e r a b a d Summer Special from Secunderabad will leave at 2045hrs on 11th & 14th May 2024. In the return direction, this train from Brahmapur will leave at 1645hrs on 12th and 15th May 2024. 09059/09060 Surat-B r a h m a p u r - S u r a t Special from Surat will leave at 1420hrs on Wednesdays between 22nd May to 26th June 2024. In the return direction, this train will leave from Brahmapur at 0430hrs on Fridays between 24th May to 28th June, 2024. 06107/06108 Chennai

Egmore-Bhubaneswar-Chennai Egmore Special Train from Chennai Egmore will leave at 1030hrs on 11th May & 1st June 2024. In the return direction, this train from Bhubaneswar will leave at 0930hrs on 12th May and 7th June, 2024. 06109/06110 Chennai Egmore-Sambalpur-Chennai Egmore Special Train from Chennai Egmore will leave at 1030hrs on 18th May & 7th June 2024. In the return direction, this train from Sambalpur will leave at 1135hrs on 19th May and 8th June, 2024. As we usher in the summer season, ECoR is delighted to introduce Special Train services to cater to the diverse travel needs of its valuable passengers. Whether it's a pilgrimage, a leisurely vacation or a business trip, ECoR is committed to provide a safe, comfortable and convenient travel experience for all. Apart from running of Special Trains, East Coast Railway has resorted to augmentation of coaches in popular trains having huge demand.

Cops dismantle Andhra health camp in Pottangi

Pottangi, (KCN): The efforts of the Andhra Pradesh government to induct villages under the Kotia panchayat in Koraput district continue. The Andhra government in the past had attempted to do so by offering lucrative sops to residents of various villages in Koraput district. Despite being thwarted on a number of occasions, the Andhra government has persisted with its attempts. The matter came to the fore again when the Andhra government in association with a private firm organised a health camp at Laudi village in Sunki panchayat under this block, Wednesday. With officials busy preparing for the first phase of polls in Odisha next week, the Andhra government used it as an opportune moment to attract the attention of residents who legally belong to Odisha.



However, the plan failed as locals informed the officials of this block. They rushed to the village along with personnel from the Sunki police station and closed down the camp. Andhra officials then played the victim card. They told the crowd which had gathered at the camp that they were being prevented from carrying out a 'humanitarian' duty. They told the villagers that had they been a part of Andhra Pradesh, they would get such benefits on a regular basis. Sources informed Thursday that officials frequently visit villages

under Kotia panchayat to lure residents with welfare and development schemes if they become a part of Andhra Pradesh. They added that many private organisations are aiding the Andhra government in this regard. However, till date, their efforts have failed. In the latest case, healthcare officials arrived at Laudi village in an ambulance (AP-39NP3546). They set up base inside a cultural centre constructed by the Odisha government. They distributed free medicines to people who came to the camp for a check-up.

Everything was progressing smoothly till a team of Odisha government officials arrived at the spot. Among them were BDO Sukant Patnaik, tehsildar Debendra Bahadur Singh Dharua, chief of the community health centre, Dr Bhagabat Mummu and medical officer of Sunki panchayat, Dr Mrigendra Nath Hembram. They were accompanied by cops who shut down the camp. Police then detained the entire Andhra team and sought an explanation from them. The Andhra officials were let off with a strict warning and only after they gave in writing that they will not set foot inside Odisha again without permission. Police have initiated a probe to find out the involvement of locals in the incident and who gave the Andhra team permission to set up the camp at the cultural centre.

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"NEET hurdles Steping stones to medical mastery"

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoon



In life's journey, mistakes often serve as unexpected detours that lead us down uncharted paths. Yet, it is through these detours that we discover hidden treasures of wisdom and resilience. Just as milk transforms into yogurt and cheese, and grape juice evolves into wine, our mistakes have the potential to metamorphose into invaluable experiences that enrich our lives and shape our destinies. Consider the tale of Vincent van Gogh, whose early artistic endeavors were met with indifference and rejection. Despite facing numerous setbacks and self-doubt, he persisted in his passion for painting, ultimately

creating some of the most revered masterpieces in art history. Van Gogh's story serves as a poignant reminder that setbacks and failures are not roadblocks but rather stepping stones toward greatness. Moreover, the world of science is replete with examples of groundbreaking discoveries that emerged from mistakes. In 1928, Alexander Fleming's accidental contamination of a petri dish with mold led to the discovery of penicillin—a serendipitous breakthrough that revolutionized modern medicine. Fleming's willingness to embrace the unexpected transformed his error into a catalyst for innovation and progress. Similarly, the story of Percy Spencer, an engineer working

on radar technology during World War II, highlights the transformative power of mistakes. While conducting experiments with a magnetron, Spencer noticed that a chocolate bar in his pocket had melted. This observation ultimately led to the invention of the microwave oven—a ubiquitous household appliance that has revolutionized cooking and food preparation. "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts." - Winston Churchill. Stephen Hawking, renowned physicist and cosmologist, faced tremendous challenges due to his amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) diagnosis. Despite his physical limitations, he persevered in his scientific pursuits, making groundbreaking contributions to our

understanding of the universe. His resilience in the face of adversity serves as a powerful example of how embracing challenges can lead to extraordinary achievements. Similarly, for students who didn't qualify in the NEET exam, it's important to recognize that setbacks are not indicative of one's abilities or potential. Instead, these setbacks can serve as motivation to work harder and smarter in preparation for the next opportunity. Like Alexander Fleming's accidental discovery of penicillin, success often arises from unexpected sources, and each attempt provides valuable insights and growth opportunities. Indeed, mistakes are not merely failures to be avoided but opportunities to

learn, adapt, and grow. Each misstep serves as a valuable lesson, providing us with insights that guide us toward greater self-awareness and personal development. As American inventor Thomas Edison once remarked, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Edison's perseverance and resilience in the face of adversity epitomize the transformative potential of embracing mistakes. In the pursuit of excellence, it is essential to cultivate a mindset that embraces imperfection and values the lessons learned from setbacks. Rather than succumbing to fear of failure, we must view mistakes as integral components of the learning process. After all, it is not the absence of mistakes

that defines success but rather the ability to rise above them and emerge stronger and more enlightened. The poetry of Allama Iqbal beautifully captures the essence of ambition and perseverance. His couplet "Tu Shaheen Hai, Parwaz Hai Kaam Tera, Tere Aage Asmaan Aur Bhi Hain" (You are a falcon; flight is your vocation: You have other skies stretching out before you) symbolizes the boundless potential within each individual to transcend mediocrity and strive for greatness. Similarly, in another verse, Iqbal contrasts the falcon's ambition with the vulture's complacency: "Parwaz Hai Dono Ki Issi Aik Fiza Mein, Kargas Ka Jahan Aur Hai, Shaheen Ka Jahan Aur" (The vulture

and the falcon soar in the same air, but in worlds apart). This analogy emphasizes that while some may settle for a mundane existence, the Shaheen aspires for grandeur. In the journey toward excellence, embracing mistakes as avenues for growth and learning is paramount. Majorooh Sultanpuri beautifully captured this sentiment: "Girte hain shahsawar hi maidan-e-jung mein. Woh tift kya gire jo ghutno ke bal chale" (only the horseman falls on the battlefield; how will that child fall who crawls on his knees). While setbacks are inevitable, it's our perseverance and resilience that enable us to transcend them and carve our way to success.

Bottom line: let us heed the wisdom of history and embrace our mistakes as opportunities for growth and self-discovery. Just as milk becomes yogurt and cheese, and grape juice transforms into wine, our mistakes have the potential to catalyze our evolution into beings of greater resilience, wisdom, and compassion. So, the next time you encounter a setback or stumble along the path of life, remember that within every mistake lies the seed of transformation and possibility.

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CAN FILM STARS IMPACT VOTERS

Uma Shankar Prasad



In the time of election All the Political parties develop their interest in Film Stars. The Political Parties present the Film Stars at political rallies in order to attract the crowds. But can these Film stars impact the voters to cast their valuable votes in favour of the concerned parties for whom they publicity? But yet the mainstream parties were yet to familiarise themselves with this process of using stars for campaigning. Basically in Mumbai, some party candidates were bound to

know an actor or somebody who did. Politicians in other cities used cash, contacts or favour. In the old days in Uttar Pradesh, for instance, a star was repaid by exempting his films from entertainment tax. Taxes then were not standardised as they are today. The entertainment tax, being a state subject, varied from state to state and ate up a big chunk of a cinema ticket. In national politics, involvement of stars or other film personalities started with nominating them to Rajya Sabha. The people at large and the media usually endorsed such appointments, for nominated star commanded their respect. The first

such star to be nominated to the Rajya Sabha was the late Prithviraj Kapoor in 1952. His third generation is still active in the film industry, though none seems to show an inclination towards politics. The next one to be so nominated was Nargis Dutt. Dara Singh also made it to the Rajya Sabha. People welcomed such nominations. Today quite a few film personalities adorn the Upper House. Nominations to the Rajya Sabha always been an honour but these nominated stars hardly served any purpose for the parties nominating them or for film industry. They basked in the glory of being in Rajya Sabha. Most were not

interested and rarely attended the sessions. The industry was held to ransom in those days by just about every government body that the film industry dealt with. Be it Central Excise, Censor Board or Income Tax. There was red tape in all these departments. For example, a film's release print had to pay excise duty according to the length of the film and most of the films in those days exceeded 16,000 feet! The customs department would only accept the length as certified in the censor certificate! And no star Member of Parliament raised his or her voice against this anomaly. They remained decorative pieces. As election started

politicians thought of a better way to use film celebrities—make them contest lok Sabha elections instead of using them as crowd pullers in election rallies. Sunil Dutta who had contesting from Mumbai. Dutt was an apt choice and he won the election from Mumbai North west and stayed in office for 12 years. There after it was all about star power for that is what worked. Amitabh Bachchan had contesting from Allahabad, Rajesh Khanna from New Delhi but it is obvious that these stars did not have staying power and as their popularity waned, they failed to repeat their success. Now a days voters were becoming more aware of whom to

choose. A transition was taking place. Meanwhile, as against national politics, South India was different. Film Stars did not contest for a party; they formed their own political parties. Here film stars, in people's eyes, are only to God. Fan clubs built temples for their stars. Tamil Nadu was early starter where film personalities took to politics. M. Karunanidhi took over as the Chief Minister (DMK) as its president. M.G. Ramachandran soon parted ways with Karunanidhi and formed (AIADMK). In Andhra Pradesh, it was NTR. Rama Rao, a Telugu Superstars formed Telugu Desam Party (TDP). The power of star was evident

when Amitabh Bachchan was nominated to contest from a very veteran leader H.N. Bahuguna and won by a massive number of votes amounting over 1.85 lakh. Since then a galaxy of stars have been active in politics: Raj Babbar, Satrugan Sinha, Jayabachchan, Vinod Khanna, Dharmendra, Govinda, Hema Maliini, Kirron Kher, Jayaprada, Paresh Rawal and many Odia heroes like Prasanna, Uttam Mohanty, Siddhartha, Anubhab Mohanty and many more. In most cases in National level film stars have felt out of place in politics and have eventually deserted their positions. They

have never made a name as an MP or raised issues that concern the people or their industry (although jaya Bachchan is an exception)—most have a poor attendance record. In present election 2024 Govinda joined the Shiv Sena in the hope of contesting from Mumbai North, Kangana Ranaut contesting from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, Arun Govil has also been contesting from his hometown Meerut Uttar Pradesh. But the impact of these stars how much enchanting will reflect on June 4—2024. Wait and watch.

Columnist, Khordha (63706 75562)

Why don't general masses' woes become Election Issue?



- Lalit Garg -
The third phase of Lok Sabha elections has been completed; as the elections are progressing, the layers of tainted character of politicians and poll candidates are being exposed, in the process. There was a time when people used to follow the conduct of country's leaders in public life. Leaders were also concerned about their image and reputation in the society. But in recent years, leaders of many satraps' families have also entered politics, who in their pursuit of power, kept aside all the morals and decorum. Recently, the serious allegations made against Prajwal Revanna, MP of Janata Dal (Secular) from Hassan seat in Karnataka, of misconduct with

hundreds of women, have shown the nadir point of degradation in politics. Moreover, the Enforcement Department, which is investigating an old case in Ranchi, has recovered Rs 39 crore in cash from the house of a servant working at the house of private secretary of J h a r k h a n d government minister Alamgir Alam. This election involving leaders and tainted candidates tainted with sexual harassment, m i s c o n d u c t, corruption and treason is a serious question on democracy. Our politics is becoming a tragedy. The politicians started doing everything for power and in this race they forgot the ideals of politics, this is why the poison of inequalities and inconsistencies is mixed in the atmosphere of the country, and there is no hope of light from anywhere. We are afraid of the politically corrupt, of those who glorify crime, of those who misuse power, of



those who put the unity and integrity of the country at stake, and of those who tear down women's dignity through sexual harassment and misconduct. The country is faced with a complex mix of sorrow, pain and insensitivity; problems are scary and horrifying in new masks. A lot has changed in the society, including--values, thoughts, life-style, architecture, and a lot more. The election process is i n c r e a s i n g l y becoming very expensive. Being honest is a vice in today's politics. Taking action against crime has become a

sin. Taking interest in religion and spirituality has come to be considered communal. Exposing any irregularity is considered prejudice. Speaking the truth falls into the category of ego-feeding. Candor is impractical. Not supporting corruption is not recognizing the time. It is necessary to discuss these and such basic questions in the context of elections. After all, for how long will these new definitions being coined in the name of political interests continue to push the society and nation in deplorable directions? How long will our country and

our society remain forgotten in the name of the strong storm of evolution? In this grand show of elections, the talk of reform, morality, values and principles is not being heard anywhere? There is no light visible anywhere. It is a very dark and dense night. There is neither self-confidence, nor moral strength. This great sacrifice of elections organized for building a great and strong India is today becoming 'Mahabharata'. How this undertaking of establishing values and standards is becoming a medium to hollow out democracy is a matter

of deep concern and contemplation. A naked dance of character devaluation, economic anomalies and giving support to disparities has started taking place in the elections and every party is displaying its strength in it with great enthusiasm. It is not only about election donations, but also about donations received from foreign countries. Today the question is very big, and that is how to protect Indian politics from direct foreign influence. The allegations against Aam Aadmi Party of taking huge sums of money from alleged anti-India foreign

powers are a challenge to our entire electoral system. Have the people associated with the ruling party, or the opposition parties, or the newly emerging political contenders, and those who talk about ideals, ever given any feeling through their actions that they should be considered as politicians who have risen above limited vested interests? Here the names of the leaders are not that important, nor is the political party important, what is important is the fact that this kind of Kupmandu leadership can overall make the politics of the country shallow. The kind of moral integrity that is required for positive politics and the kind of maturity that is required from politicians for this, the lack of it in the entire opposition parties is creating a painful situation. And we are the ones who are engaged in creating such leaders! Elections are

considered the beginning of the democratic process, but today elections have become a mockery of democracy. The methods adopted in elections are contrary to the basic idea of democracy. Faced with these conditions, Indian democracy, which is said to be the world's best, is today at the crossroads of anarchy; where no path leading from here appears to be safe. The fault of putting it at the crossroads lies much more with the political parties and leaders than with the public, who have weakened it greatly by making it a medium to fulfill personal and party interests. Today these parties, these people have lost the ability to take it out of the current quagmire. Only Kauravas and Pandavas were not affected in the battle of Mahabharata. The sparks of that war had reached far and wide. It is clearly visible that even in this Mahabharata, the so-called anarchist political and

Attracted to foreign education

Dr. Laxman Sahoo



There is much more to the magic of foreign education. Which is attracting students from all over the world, America, Britain, Australia. As a result, a wonderful education industry has been created there. Every year lakhs of Indian students participate in the race to get admission in foreign universities. Most of them dream of studying abroad and settling there. But countless examples of how those dreams are constantly being seen from countries like America, UK, Canada, Australia etc. The latest information from Canada is that hundreds of our students have taken admission in such universities after being lured by fake agents. whose degree is not recognized even in

Canada. The Canadian government itself has admitted that in the past few years, many educational institutions there have accepted more foreign students than needed for the purpose of making money. To deal with the situation, at the beginning of this year, the Canadian government announced to reduce the number of foreign students for the next two years from January. Now even in our India, good education is becoming more expensive day by day. For many people, the cost of education in private schools and colleges is too expensive. But one of the ironies is that people prefer to send their children abroad for foreign degrees. Hence, they are willing to spend ten times more for the same degree or course. A few years ago, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences prepared a report titled 'Realizing Skilling Towards Make in India' on the basis of a survey. It said that every year Indian

parents spend six to seven billion dollars on their children's education. According to another study, on average, students have to spend between 15 thousand US dollars and 50 thousand US dollars annually for their undergraduate studies in Australia, UK and USA. Apart from this, there are other expenses of living, which students do some job or the other to cover. C o m p a r a t i v e l y, education in India is very slow. According to the 'Cost of Education: Springboard for Success' survey conducted by an international bank in 2013, the average annual cost of living and accommodation for a student from India for a 'graduate course' is \$5,643. Out of which only \$581 is paid as fee. On the contrary, these costs are \$42,093 in Australia, \$39,229 in Singapore, \$36,565 in the United States and \$35,045 in the UK. A survey conducted on about 4500 parents in 15 countries also revealed that although India has the cheapest



higher education available, still 62 percent of Indian parents go to USA, UK, Australia etc. for better education. Shipping to Canada and Singapore is important. They are also given an answer as to why they do so in the 'World University Ranking' published by the British company QUS (Quacquarelli Symonds Limited). Not one of the first 200 universities included in this 'ranking' is Indian. IIT Mumbai is ranked 22nd in this list. While IIT Delhi is ranked 235th. Then there is much more to the magic of foreign education than has already been pointed out, which has resulted in the creation of a wonderful education industry. Which is only attracting students from

all over the world, America, UK and Australia. Because of which a wonderful education industry has emerged there. An example can be taken from the American education system. In America, law and medicine are two professions that have huge earning potential. It takes seven to eight years to complete law studies there. Even it takes eleven years to study medicine and become a doctor. One and a half crore rupees have been spent in Indian currency. Harvard and Stanford are considered among the best universities for these two courses. But even with such an expensive education, American or British parents have to take out a bank loan when their home or

business is threatened or their child gets a degree in medicine or MIT. The foundation of preschool education in America is also very strong. Education is free from primary to high school. However, along with the government ie county schools, there are also private schools, which are relatively expensive. But it does not necessarily mean that a county school child can prove superior in any respect to a private school child. It should also be remembered that the higher education system in the US, Singapore and Australia has become an industry for foreign students. About four to five lakh young people from China and India come here every year for higher education. A large

number of students from other countries also go there. Of this, the United States alone earns 25-30 billion dollars every year. In contrast, IITs, IIMs or medical colleges in India, which depend on government aid. Instead of the expected improvement in infrastructural facilities, they are forced to work with minimum facilities and minimum faculty in normal pay scale. The situation is even worse in private colleges in our country, which is better not to mention here. Here the vast courses are conducted only with the help of ad-hoc lecturers. Now there are about four hundred universities and about twenty thousand higher education institutions in our country. More than seven lakh professors are working among them. More than 1.5 crore students study in these educational institutions. But this fact is surprising as to why none of these universities are able to provide that level of education. On the basis of which it can be included among the top

economic forces are trying to show their influence, which will have far-reaching consequences. In these circumstances, 100 universities in the world. The result in terms of quality education that interventions of those who would challenge the story of Mahabharata get higher quality education from foreign universities. India are identified. India needs leaders with a vision's dimensions should be necessary to provide adequate education to the students in the local universities. Otherwise campuses of foreign that today there is no dearth of such a thing which the dream of quality education is about to come true. Which can only be fulfilled at a cheaper rate. When the individual but such foreign campuses are put in the spotlight, it will bring all the benefits including reducing the cost of foreign education. That is why arrangements should be a matter of concern for foreign universities to democratic system. Although in leading universities like Mahabharata, Women's Degree College, political parties have not presented such examples of policies and ideals which indicate that the democratic system

UAE-India CEPA Council & ICC collaborate to enhance economic & trade cooperation

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) and Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), to boost economic and trade cooperation between UAE and India on 9th May 2024 in Kolkata.

The MOU is focused on spreading awareness on various facets of CEPA and emerging trade and economic cooperation scope and opportunities for investors and industrialists, companies in private sector in both nations as well as wider business communities in India and in UAE. UICC and ICC will also engage in information sharing, explore hosting of joint events and facilitate member interactions, promote organisational



roles, and seek opportunities to expand tangible cooperation between the organisation's respective leadership.

Ambassador of the UAE to India, Dr. Abdulnasser Alshaali, emphasized UICC & ICC collaboration will further strengthen economic ties between

UAE and India. He also mentioned both UAE and India are committed to create environment conducive to investments, technological collaborations, and people-to-people exchanges.

Director General of ICC Dr. Rajeev Singh mentioned MOU provide opportunities to create

synergy of wide range of resources available to both the organisations to spread awareness on detailed fine-prints of CEPA for sustainable economic and trade development for long term. UICC established in early 2024 and is dedicated to promoting economic cooperation and trade relations mostly

in private sector between the UAE and India.

CEPA has facilitated easier market access, reduced trade barriers, promoted dynamic exchange of goods and investments, leading to diversified economic cooperation between UAE and India.

In fiscal year, April 2022 to March 2023, bilateral trade between UAE & India grown from USD 72.9 billion to USD 84.5 billion, marking a growth rate of almost 16%. In specific sectors such as gems and jewelry, pharmaceuticals, and fruits and vegetables, saw rises of 64%, 39%, and 35% respectively.

UICC and ICC strategic partnerships will script new and enhanced economic and trade cooperation between UAE & India.

We have to save country from dictatorship: Kejriwal after walking out of Tihar

New Delhi (KCN): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Friday thanked Lord Hanuman as he stepped out of Tihar Jail on interim bail and sought people's support in his "fight against dictatorship".

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor was granted interim bail till June 1 by the Supreme Court earlier in the day. He walked out of the prison in the evening amid dhol beats and sloganeering by AAP workers and leaders. Standing through the sunroof of a car, Kejriwal then addressed AAP workers and supporters amid slogans of 'Jail Ke Tale Toot Gaye, Kejriwalji Chhoot Gaye'.

Beginning with slogans of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', 'Vande Mataram' and 'Inquilab Zindabad', the Delhi chief minister



said, "I am fighting against dictatorship with all my might but 140 crore people (of the country) will have to come together to fight against it."

He further said that he would visit the Hanuman temple at Connaught Place at 11 am Saturday and address a press conference at the AAP office at 1 pm.

"I am feeling great to be with you. I had told you that I would come out soon... First of all, I

want to pay obeisance to Lord Hanuman. I am among you because of the blessings of Lord Hanuman," Kejriwal added.

The AAP leader also thanked people for their love and blessings and asked them to come together to fight against dictatorship.

"I want to thank you all. Crores of people of the country sent their blessings to me. I want to thank the Supreme Court because of which I am here," he added.

"Sufficient Material Against Accused No.1": Court Charges BJP's Brij Bhushan

New Delhi: In a big blow to Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, a Delhi court has ordered the framing of charges against the former Wrestling Federation of India chief in the sexual harassment allegations levelled by women wrestlers. The court has said there is sufficient evidence on record to do so, paving the way for the beginning of the trial against him.

Mr Singh "welcomed" the order, asserting that he was "ready to face it". Friday's order by the Rouse Avenue court comes days after the BJP decided not to repeat Brij Bhushan, who is the party MP from Uttar Pradesh's Kaiserganj, as the candidate from the constituency and decided to field his son Karan Bhushan Singh instead.

The court has ordered the framing of charges against Brij Bhushan under sections 354 (outraging a woman's modesty), 354-A (sexual harassment) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of

the Indian Penal Code. The Delhi Police had filed a chargesheet against under these sections and one additional section - 354D (stalking) - on June 15 last year. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Priyanka Rajpoot said the charges will be framed against Brij Bhushan for sexually harassing five wrestlers and that he stands discharged in the allegations levelled by the sixth.

"This court has found sufficient material on record to frame charges against accused no.1 Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh for the offences under Section 354, 354A of Indian Penal Code regarding victims no. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5," Ms Rajpoot said while pronouncing the order. "This court has also found sufficient material on record to frame charges against accused no. 1 Brij Bhushan Singh for the

offences under Section 506 Part 1 of IPC with respect to victims no.1 and 5," she said.

Charges should also be framed against the former assistant secretary of the Federation, Vinod Tomar, under Section 506, the court said. The neat hearing will be on May 21.

Ms Mallikh had also hung up her boots and said she was quitting the sport after an aide of Brij Bhushan had won the elections for the Wrestling Federation of India in December last year. The sports ministry had later suspended the new managing committee.

Brij Bhushan has consistently denied all the charges. Earlier this month, the BJP nominated the MP's son as the candidate for the Kaiserganj seat and the move led to digs from the opposition as well as a strong statement by Ms Mallikh.

India's Strides In Arctic, Antarctica, Himalayas To Soon Be Taught In Schools

New Delhi: India's strides in research on the Arctic, Antarctica and the Himalayas may soon figure in school textbooks, with the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences reaching out to the NCERT to include the latest developments in its curriculum.

Ministry of Earth Sciences Secretary M Ravichandran said the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has constituted a committee to bring out the importance of research in these areas in school textbooks.

"We wrote a letter to them... they (NCERT) have recently constituted a committee for bringing out importance of the Antarctica expedition, Arctic and also the Himalayas and some other aspects, including climate change. They are working on it," Ravichandran said during an interaction with PTI editors.

The Antarctica



expedition finds mention in NCERT textbooks but the content hasn't been updated for a long time. There is very limited mention of the ongoing research in the Arctic and the Himalayan regions, too.

In a rationalisation exercise post COVID-19, the NCERT dropped topics such as climate change, monsoon and greenhouse effect from textbooks, triggering a controversy.

The council later clarified that the subjects had been dropped to reduce curriculum load in view of

the pandemic and added that the topics would be restored with the release of books based on the new curriculum framework.

These books are currently being worked on and will be available for all classes by 2026. The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences is hosting the 46th meeting of the ATCM, the highest governing body for Antarctica, and the 26th CEP meeting.

The crucial meets will be held in Kochi from May 20-30 where countries engaged in

research in the southern polar region will share the outcome of their scientific pursuits and future plans.

India has two active research stations -- Maitri and Bharti -- in Antarctica. The first research station, Dakshin Gangotri, set up in 1983, had to be abandoned after it sank in the snow.

Thamban Meloth, director of the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), said several students involved in the research have been to

Antarctica in recent years.

"We have not taken any high school students so far but several senior students involved in the research have been to Antarctica," he said in response to a question.

Asked about possibilities of introducing a programme such as Students on Ice for Indian school students, Meloth said, "It is not logistically feasible. It costs around ? 1 crore to send a single person to Antarctica... there are lot of other logistical issues too when it comes to high school students.

The Students on Ice programme is run by Canadian educator and environmentalist Geoff Green, under which high school students from across the globe, accompanied by educators and scientists, get an opportunity travel to Antarctica and the Arctic.

INDIA bloc leaders meet EC over voter turnout data, alleged model code violations

New Delhi (KCN): A delegation of opposition party leaders Friday met the top brass of Election Commission and raised its concerns over the delay in releasing voter turnout figures for the first two phases, and urged them to take action on complaints of model code violations by ruling BJP leaders during the ongoing polls.

Samajwadi Party leader Javed Ali, meanwhile, raised the issue of a "red card" being issued by the Uttar Pradesh Police to people in the state, which they said is stopping many from exercising their franchise.

The delegation included Congress leaders Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Salman Khurshid, TMC's Derek O'Brien, DMK's TR Baalu, JMM's Mahua Majhi, CPI's Binoy

Viswam, and Ali among others.

"We have a very distinguished gathering of INDIA alliance. Each party across India is represented. We spent 45 minute to an hour," Singhvi said briefing the media after the meeting. "Issue number one was one of great trust deficit, question mark and a feeling of alarm and distress that 11 complaints by Congress alone, and complaints by all parties put together against the Prime Minister and Home Minister, starting from early April, have not been addressed," Singhvi said.

"No action has been taken. Look at the oddity - you have sent notices after a long gap and not to the offenders. For the first time in the history of

the Election Commission you have sent notices to the party presidents," Singhvi said, referring to its letter to BJP president JP Nadda over complaints against Modi's Banswara speech.

He said they have not been informed about the response to the EC notice, or about the action being taken. "Why there is a delay?"

"This is an irreversible window, it touched upon level playing field, it touches upon elections, it touches upon democracy and basic structure. Custodian of all these constitutional values is the Election Commission. If they don't act promptly, it will be a complete abdication of Constitutional duty," Singhvi said.

The Congress leader also

hinted that the opposition parties may approach the Supreme Court with the issue.

"It is no joy for us to go to the Supreme Court and get directions saying why don't you decide. This is not the way a Constitutional functionary should function. We are distressed and there is no satisfactory answer why these people are not touched," he said.

Singhvi said the second issue raised was the "non-publication or publication with extreme delay of the voter turnout percentages."

"We made three quick points - the difference of voter percentage increase is 5.74 per cent or 5.5 per cent. The comparable figure in the 2019 election the first three phases was two

per cent, one per cent, two and half per cent, this time it is double," he said.

"We are not given a stamp of approval by the published figures of the EC. We are told to calculate on our own because there is real time data available with the candidate or the voting app. That maybe so, but the stamp of approval of a published absolute figure and a percentage figure by the EC carries its own constitutional weight, we have asked for that," he said.

Amid the opposition's allegations, the Election Commission had asserted last week that booth-wise data of the "actual number of votes polled" is available with the candidates soon after the voting ends.

They said copies of Form 17C, which

contains the number of voter turnout, duly signed by the presiding officer and all present polling agents are shared with all present polling agents.

Singhvi added that the questions are avoidable if the EC acts promptly. "You have to avoid this delay and this huge discrepancy in figures because it raises unnecessary question marks. Did this increase in vote suddenly occur only in those areas where the ruling party had done badly last time, did it occur across all constituencies... these are all avoidable questions because transparency and promptitude by EC will solve them immediately," he said.

Ali meanwhile raised the issue of Uttar Pradesh

police issuing "red cards" to a number of individuals banning them from going near polling booths.

"We have raised this issue in many meetings with the poll panel... in Uttar Pradesh, police is issuing red card to some people and warns them not to come near the booth. You will be surprised to know in one Lok Sabha constituency the red card numbers are ranging from 10,000 to 60,000-70,000," he said. Ali said EC took cognizance and has assured them that no such card will be issued in future. "They accepted this so called red card is unconstitutional."

The meeting came after Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge

wrote to leaders of various opposition parties on the issue of alleged "discrepancies" in the voting data released by the Election Commission (EC).

In an unusual move, the EC on Friday responded to Kharge's letter to fellow INDIA bloc leaders that was also posted on X, and rejected his allegations that the EC had delayed releasing final voter turnout numbers for the first two phases of the Lok Sabha elections.

In a strongly worded letter, the EC said the utterances from president of a national political party is attacking the very credibility of the electoral steps and processes, and can have a negative impact on voter participation.

Anti-liquor drives prove futile as sales up 530 lakh litre in 10 years

Jajpur(KCN): Total prohibition and anti-liquor campaigns have proved to be unsuccessful with liquor sales increasing in the state by an additional 530 lakh litres during the last 10 years. Despite various anti-liquor campaigns and total prohibition programmes being undertaken in the state, reports said liquor sales have gone up exponentially by an additional 530 lakh litres in last 10 years. Growing liquor consumption has resulted in increasing menace of alcoholics and anti-socials. This has also caused a

spurt in road accidents and social unrest while giving rise to immoral acts as well as law and order situations. People have alleged that the state has achieved record liquor sales notwithstanding its development in comparison to other states. According to reports available from the Excise department, 13,832 lakh litre of various types of liquor has been produced from 2014-15 to December 2023. Similarly, 1,950 lakh litre foreign liquor including beer has been purchased for sale in the state. The report states that

1,607 lakh litre of liquor was sold in the state in 2013-14 FY. This includes 596 lakh litre foreign liquor, 850 lakh litre beer and 161 lakh litre country liquor. Similarly, liquor sale has increased to 2,137 lakh litre in 2022-23 FY. This includes 785 lakh litre foreign liquor, 1,210 lakh litre beer and 142 lakh litre country liquor. An official of the Excise department said according to the Excise Policy-2021 a number of foreign liquor shops and country liquor shops have been opened at various markets squares, roadsides, and populated areas in urban



and rural areas of the state. However, many shops are illegally kept open till 11 pm. The Excise

department has shut down many on and off shops which are within 500 metre from the national highways but it

has become difficult to control the mushrooming foreign liquor shops and country liquor shops in civic body areas like municipal corporations, municipalities, NACs as well as in blocks and rural areas. These shops are doing brisk business throwing the restrictions to the wind. The administration has failed to bring them under control. Moreover, many licensed liquor shops have come up during this period near national highways, educational institutions, government offices, cultural institutions, and banks in

alleged violation of Section-34 of the Excise Act. The foreign and country liquor shops have popped up in a majority of lanes and by-lanes in both urban and rural areas. The liquor shop owners are supplying to rural and remote areas of the state expecting more profits. Taking advantage of the situation, unemployed youths are selling liquor illegally to earn a livelihood. The easy availability of liquor has turned many youths and the elderly into alcoholics. Moreover, the rampant supply of drugs like

brown sugar and ganja from West Bengal and other neighbouring states has aggravated the situation. The drug and liquor mafias are carrying out their business with impunity by allegedly greasing the palms of the Excise and police officials as well as politicians. Various anti-liquor and total prohibition campaigns are being carried out in the state but these have proved futile in downsizing the liquor sale. Funds worth over Rs4.69 crore have been spent in these campaigns during the last 10 years but liquor sales are increasing by the day.

Green activists urge candidates to avoid using plastic flags, banners

Berhampur(KCN): As candidates gear up for campaigning in the Odisha Assembly and Lok Sabha elections, green activists in Ganjam district appealed to all political parties to use eco-friendly materials during electioneering. Candidates and political parties are requested to use only eco-friendly campaign materials which can be recycled and to avoid non-biodegradable poll materials like plastic flags, banners and flexes,

said Sudhir Rout, an environmentalist. "In the last several elections, we have seen candidates and political parties use several non biodegradable materials during the campaign. This practice causes harm to the environment," he said. Rout, the director of Aryabhata Foundation, an organisation that works to raise awareness on protection of environment, said much before the poll announcement, that they

had written to the Election Commission to ensure the green protocol in polling stations and counting centres. "We are happy as ECI has directed the election officers to make some eco-friendly polling stations as model booths in districts and asked political parties to adopt eco-friendly measures during the campaign," he said. "We are now appealing to candidates to adopt such a step to protect the environment," he said. Sabuja Bahini, a city-

based organisation which campaigned against nailing banners and flags on trees in the last election, also appealed to candidates to avoid such practice of nailing banners or flags on trees in the elections. Ramesh Chandra Chyau Patnaik, BJD Ganjam district president, said his party does not use the plastic flags during campaigning. "We use party flags made in cotton clothes," he said. Subash Sahu, BJP Ganjam district president also made similar claims.

'Tigresses need proper places to give birth'




Baripada(KCN0: An increase in the population of Royal Bengal Tigers at Similipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district has created happiness in the minds of wildlife lovers. Forest officials have said that if the tigresses in the park get a conducive atmosphere for reproduction, then in the years to come, the population will continue to grow. Currently, the total number of tigers in the park stands at 27, according to the latest census. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests (RCCF) Dr Prakash Chand Gogineni said Tuesday that tigresses are not ready to mate under any circumstance. The first and foremost condition for any tigress is to find a suitable place

where its cubs will be safe and plenty of food will be available. More than the tiger, it is the tigress which is fiercely protective about its cubs. It rears the cubs, provides them with hunting lessons and finally when they mature, the tigress lets them go on their own. It also leaves the male once the cubs are born. Gogineni informed that the Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary had only four Royal Bengal Tigers in 2004. Among them, three were tigresses and the other one was a black melanistic male tiger. One of the tigresses gave birth to melanistic cubs next year after it mated with the male tiger. Out of the 27 Royal Bengal Tigers in

Similipal, 14 are females. Five of the tigresses in the recent past have given birth, though the exact number of cubs born is yet to be ascertained. It just goes to show the importance of a conducive atmosphere for tigresses. Tigers usually have a life span ranging from 14 to 16 years. From the age of 11, they start getting old. A tigress will never mate with an 'old' tiger as the latter cannot hold on to its own territory. Once a tigress turns pregnant, it goes away from the male. The rules of the tiger kingdom are strange indeed. The tigress usually allows those cubs to suckle her who she deems fit will survive the first six to seven weeks.

The weak are neglected and sometimes they die. During the first six to seven months she takes care of the food for the cubs. Then slowly she introduces them to hunting so that by the time they are two years old, they are ready to be on their own. Once the cubs turn into adults, the tigress is ready to mate again and give birth. Prior to that, she will never mate as the cubs cannot fend for themselves. When contacted, former honorary wildlife warden of Similipal National Park, Bhanumitra Acharya said the Forest Department should immediately clampdown on poaching activities in the park. He feels that if it happens, the tiger population in STR will grow substantially in the years to come.



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Modicare Limited launches Blue Light Shield range under its color cosmetics brand, Urban Color London

New Delhi: Modicare Limited, one of India’s leading direct selling companies, recently launched Blue Light Shield, a gender-neutral and efficacious skincare range to combat the harmful effects of Blue Light rays.Owing to the pandemic and the work-from-home culture, the average screen-time has significantly increased, raising concern over Blue Lightray’s adverse effects on the skin. Since it has the ability to penetrate deeper into the skin, excess exposure to Blue Light rays can lead to a number of skin concerns, including premature ageing and hyper-pigmentation. Urban Color London’sBlue Light Shield range leverages innovation and technology to offer the

consumers a ‘Screenguard’ against the high energy Blue Light emitted from digital devices and provides modern day solution to the new-age skin concerns. The range comprises of a meticulously designed five-step regime—Gentle Face Wash, Resurfacing Gel Scrub, Deep Clean Coffee Masque, Reset Serum Oil and Moisturising Crème. The products have been formulated using Urban Color London’s proprietary technology that neutralises effects ofBlue Light rays. The hero ingredient in the range isCarotolino* Active, a combination ofBeta-Carotene, Carrot Root Extract and Carrot Seed Oil that unite in a perfect base to provide complete protection from

Blue Light rays and promoting overall skin health. The range is 100% vegan, paraben &cruelty free and dermatologically tested. Announcing the launch, Mr. Samir Modi, Founder and Managing Director, Modicare Limited said, “Our skin is constantly exposed to invisible Blue Light rays emitted from the several digital devices we use like smartphones, laptops, televisions, tablets etc. Most of us do not even know the implications of this. Blue Light tends to affect our skin's natural barrier function and accelerate signs of ageing. Keeping this in mind, we are launching Urban Color London’s Blue Light Shield range. This is one of the world’s best formulations.

Aditya Aluminium’s ‘Project Sinchai’ in full swing

Bhubaneswar : Aditya Aluminium, an Aditya Birla Group company’s ‘Project Sinchai’ is making a phenomenal difference to 220 people in the rural hinterland of Odisha, enriching their lives. This is a collaborative project. It is implemented in partnership with the Horticulture Department of the Government of Odisha and farmers in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model under the Pradhan Mantri Krishak Sinchai Yojana. Mr. Sameer Nayak, the Unit Head of Aditya Aluminiumsays,“Project Sinchai, launched in January this year, has been greatly welcomed by the farming community of the Sambalpur district. Essentially, it has resulted in a significant rise in the income of farmers. Here 55 farmers within the



proximity of the plant were encouraged to adopt the Sprinkler Irrigation System. Each farmer was given 41 pipes (20 feet/pipe) and 9 sprinklers. It enabled the farmers draw water from the ponds and wells close by. Among its other major advantage is a rise in crop productivity and reduction in water wastage, besides of course the monetary advantages”. “The ease of use has made it the most sought-

after irrigation facility. Envisaged benefits include increase in crop productivity, reduction in water wastage, besides income. Adopting this modern irrigation system, farmers of Rengali Block (Sambalpur) are now growing multiple crops during the rabi season – which was not possible earlier due to lack of irrigation facility. Farmers are reaping a rich harvest”, adds Mr Nayak.

Gagan Bihari Patra, a farmer from Sambalpur district who was finding it tough to look after his family of five due to insufficient income from farming, expresses his gratitude to Aditya Aluminium for introducing him to sprinkler irrigation system through ‘Project Sinchai’ leading to multiple crop farming, a n d i n c o m e enhancement. Patra owns six acres of agricultural land in

which he was cultivating paddy and vegetables during the kharif season. Being rain-fed, it resulted in low productivity. He could not produce anything during the rabi season due to lack of irrigation facilities. Not satisfied with his incomefrom agriculture, he was desperate to explore ways to increase productivity. Project Sichai provided the perfect answer. Many farmers in the locality who faced similar issues, given poor irrigation facilities, lack of modern agricultural equipment and resorting to traditional agricultural practices. Then came the Aditya Aluminium CSR team extending a helping hand to farmers like Patra through Project Sichai and Samridhi.

SpiceJet and Axis Bank launch co-branded credit card

GURUGRAM:SpiceJet, the country’s favourite airline and Axis Bank, India’s third largest private sector bank, have partnered to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card, powered by Visathat will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers. The card comes in two variants – SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black, and is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in India.

Through this collaboration, the two

brands hope to capitalize on the resurgent demand for travel following two years of stagnation caused by the pandemic. Further, with the shared goal of expanding their reach to Tier 2 &3 cities and other synergies, the brandsare committed to serving a much larger populace.

SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage & Voyage Black credit cards were officially launched at Indira Gandhi International airport in the presence of Ajay Singh, Chairman and MD, SpiceJet and Amitabh Chaudhry, MD & CEO, Axis Bank, where they unveiled a special

SpiceJet-Axis Bank credit card livery on a SpiceJet Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

The products are designed to enable customers use the rewards earned on their daily spends for booking flights and add-ons, thus encouraging both travel and digital payments embedded with benefits of SpiceJet’s frequent flyer program, SpiceClub.

Customers can earn benefits up to 7% on the Voyage Black credit card which is a Top-tier offering in the travel credit card segment. In addition, the redemption of earned points does not

have any limitations on blackout dates, festival demand, and are on first-come basis. Cardholders would get exclusive SpiceClub membership with direct entry in either Silver or Gold tiers, and special benefits like complimentary or discounted travel add-ons, priority check-in, SpiceMax upgrade, preferred seat selection, complimentary meal etc.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet, said, “I am delighted to announce the launch of the SpiceJet-Axis Bank co-branded Credit Card. This card will make every customer journey an even

more rewarding one. We are the pioneers of the frequent flyer program for budget airlines in the country and this partnership with Axis Bank significantly strengthens the value offering of SpiceClub. Our association with Axis Bank – founded on the shared vision to offer unparalleled customer experience – is yet another innovative step towards creating a world class travel experience. I hope to see our customers enjoying the benefits of this rewarding collaboration as much as they love to fly with us.”

Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV

Bhubaneswar : Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with Hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, “OK Google” to issue a voice command.

bedrock of our business model. The company paid death claims, maturity and survival benefit payouts of over Rs. 1,877 Cr in FY22 andachieved an impressive claims settlement ratio of 98.7% for FY22, up from 98.5% in FY21. The company expeditiously settled 3,517 Covid related claims worth Rs. 117 Cr. within an average period of 9 working days. Mr. Vohra

further commented, “A death claim is the ultimate test of a Life Insurance product, and it is the ‘dharma’ of a Life Insurer to honour all such claims with speed and accuracy. Wecontinue to be fully committed and financially stable at 235% solvency (against the regulatory requirement of 150%), to meet all customer claims that may arise in the times ahead.”

PARADEEP PHOSPHATES LIMITED INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING TO OPEN

Mumbai: Paradeep Phosphates Limited (The “Company”) to open its initial public offering (the “Offer”) on May 17, 2022. The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer Period is one Working Day prior to Bid/Offer Opening Date, that is, May 13, 2022.

The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ₹39 per Equity Share to ₹42 per Equity Share of face of ₹10 each. Bids can be made for a minimum of 350 Equity Shares and in multiples of 350 Equity Shares thereafter.

The Issue offer comprises (i) fresh issue of equity shares face value ₹10 each share aggregating to ₹10,040

million (The “Fresh Issue”) and (ii) Offer for Sale up to 118,507,493 equity shares by Promoter Selling Shareholders and GoI Selling Shareholder (The “Offer for Sale”).

The Company intends to utilise net proceeds from fresh issue towards (i) Part-financing the acquisition of the Goa Facility; (ii) Repayment/prepayment of certain of our borrowings; and (iii) General corporate purposes.The offer for sale comprises of up to 6,018,493 equity shares by ZuariMaroc Phosphates Private Limited and up to 112,489,000 equity shares by The President of India, acting through

the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India. (The “Promoter Selling Shareholders” and GoI Selling Shareholder)

The Equity Shares offered in this Offer are proposed to be listed on both BSE Limited (“BSE”) and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (“NSE”, together with BSE, the “Stock Exchanges”).

Axis Capital Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, JM Financial Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the Offer.

JSW Infrastructure begins commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Terminal in Odisha

Paradip/ Bhubaneswar : JSW Infrastructure, India’s leading ports company and part of US\$ 13 billion JSW Group, has begun commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Coal Terminal in Odisha. This is a fully-mechanized terminal at Paradip Port Trust with an annual coal handling capacity of 30 million tons . The coal terminal has been built as a cape compliant terminal and will handle cape size vessels once the dredging at Paradip Port is completed. The terminal has capacity to unload 25 rakes per day and can load two vessels simultaneously. The infrastructure of the terminal is built to ensure higher productivity while reducing overall logistics cost to power producers.

The company has invested approximately Rs 1,300 crore to establish this terminal at Paradip Port. Paradip Port Trust awarded JSW Infrastructure to develop a fully-mechanized coal terminal on Build, Operate & Transfer basis for 30 years. Following the commissioning of this coal terminal, JSW Infrastructure’s current cargo capacity crosses 150 MTPA. It aims to have a total cargo handling capacity of 200 MTPA by FY24.

Commenting on its coal terminal at Paradip, Mr.Arun Maheshwari, Joint MD & CEO of JSW Infrastructure said, “Paradip Port continues to be an attractive sea route for coal movement. With the commissioning of this terminal, India can now offer

cape size shipments with efficient operations. During the last few months, steam coal prices globally have witnessed sharp increase forcing thermal power plants and other coal based industryto switch to domestic coal.Start of this coal terminal has come at the right time to fill up the demand gap of domestic coal. Through high productivity and larger shipment size, we hope to reduce overall logistics costs for our coal cargo customers. As the country pursues PM’s vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the total thermal coal demand in India is expected to remain strong and our endeavor would be to maximize fulfilmentby domestic producers.

RELIANCE NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE RECORDS STRONG GROWTH INFY22

Mumbai : Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited, a JV between Reliance Capital and Nippon Life of Japan, announced its financial results for the year ended March 31, 2022. The key performance highlights as on March 31, 2022include: Commenting on the company’s strong performance in FY22, Mr. Ashish Vohra, ED &

CEO, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance said, “FY22 continued to pose its own set of challenges with the outbreak of the second, and then the third wave of the pandemic. We are grateful for the support we have received from our customers, employees, distributors, service providers and their families,that powered our journey of providing maximum value to each

one of our stakeholders.” Mr. Vohra further highlighted that in a volatile economic environment of today, there is a heightened appreciation of Life Insurance for ensuring certainty of life coverage as well as financial i n v e s t m e n t s . These guarantees are designed to drive durable long-term returns and to help customers fulfill their life goals and form the

development, new ventures, production, and technology development.

The founders, faculty and staff are fully committed to its credo: Shaping Lives. E m p o w e r i n g Communities.

With this addition, Sunstone advantage would now be available with B.Com, BCA, B.Tech, MBA-Maritime Management, BBA-Health Care Management, MBA-Health Care Management and MBA courses offered by Centurion University.

Experian launches new cloud-based decisioning solution –PowerCurve® Strategy Management

MUMBAI: Experian, the world’s leading global information services company, has launched a new PowerCurve® Strategy Management solution,a powerful decisioning solution delivered as software-as-a-service via cloud. The solution is designed to help organisations leverage data and make faster, secure, and i n f o r m e d businessdecisions.

PowerCurve® is a unified platform that helps businesses understand and leverage their data across the entire customer life cycle – be it acquisition, retention or growth – to make fast, efficient decisions that support their strategic goals. With the new solution, businesses will be able to swiftly adapt their decision-based strategies at lower operational cost

while harnessing the power of cloud. Neeraj Dhawan, Managing Director, E x p e r i a n India,says:“Financial institutions in India are looking for more agile and scalable decisioning solutions. To fulfil their needs, we have come up with a comprehensive suite of solutions to help businesses make better decisions and stay one step ahead.

