

KLF Corner Unveils the Legacy of 'Nandini Satpathy: The Iron Lady of Orissa' at Oxford Bookstore Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, May 11, (KCN): Today, Oxford Bookstore Bhubaneswar was abuzz with literary enthusiasts and admirers alike as it hosted the much-anticipated book launch and discussion on "Nandini Satpathy: The Iron Lady of Orissa" penned by acclaimed author Pallavi Rebabpragada. The event, organized by the Kalinga Literary Festival's monthly community literary event, KLF Corner, marked a poignant tribute to the indomitable spirit and legacy of Odisha's first lady Chief Minister, Smt. Nandini Satpathy. The discussion was moderated by Educationist and VC of DN Wisdom Tree Global School Panchami Manoo Ukil.

"Nandini Satpathy embodies a strong definition of feminism, navigating a life of contrasts as a political figure seeking support from the masses while challenging patriarchal norms. Her journey reflects the complexities of advocating for ideologies like communism and feminism, which often invite collective suspicion. Despite experiencing the highs and lows of power, from close proximity to the Prime Minister to contesting MLA elections, she maintained an impressive record of never losing an election," said Pallavi.

Pallavi said further, "Nandini's political journey mirrored the turbulence of her friendship with Indira Gandhi. United by fate and bound by a deep sense of affection and loyalty, they formed a steadfast duo amidst the storms of politics. However, dynamics of relationships change from time to time."

"Nandini Satpathy's indomitable spirit and dedication to championing social



justice and political reform make her an enduring inspiration for the younger generation, demonstrating the power of perseverance, principled leadership, and fearlessness in the pursuit of positive change. I believe she is the perfect example for GenZ. And this generation must know about her."

Eminent personalities, including Tathagata Satpathy, and numerous others, graced the

occasion with their presence, lending an aura of reverence and intellectual fervor to the proceedings. The insightful discussion delved deep into the life, achievements, and enduring impact of the formidable leader, shedding light on her unparalleled contributions to the socio-political landscape of Odisha and beyond.

Shri Rashmi Ranjan Parida, the founder and director of Kalinga

Satpathy: The Iron Lady of Orissa' is a humble tribute to our first lady Chief Minister of Odisha, Smt. Nandini Satpathy. Her dedication to Odisha is unmatchable, and through this book, we aim to immortalize her remarkable journey and unwavering commitment to public service."

"Nandini Satpathy: The Iron Lady of Orissa" promises to be a compelling narrative that not only celebrates the life of a visionary leader but also serves as a poignant reminder of the power of perseverance, integrity, and leadership in shaping the destiny of a nation.

The event was executed and managed by Ms. Debamitra Mishra (Coordinator, Kalinga Literary Festival), Mr. Ved Prakash Nayak (Coordinator, Kalinga Literary Festival), Mr. Jagadish Behera (Manager, Oxford Bookstore Bhubaneswar).

Erased from history's annals, Nandini Satpathy, Odisha's inaugural female Chief Minister, dubbed the Iron Lady of Orissa, emerged from a lineage of activists and intellectuals. During the 1940s, she, a diminutive figure in a starched cotton saree, faced imprisonment for dismantling the Union Jack from Ravenshaw College's apex.

Thus commenced her formidable journey.

Ascending swiftly, she entered the esteemed halls of the Rajya Sabha

at a tender age of 31, later serving as the I&B minister under Indira Gandhi.

Despite her closeness to the PM, her dissent during the Emergency led to her political downfall. As Chief Minister, she enacted progressive reforms but faced backlash, ultimately fading into political obscurity amidst personal tragedy.

International Nurses Day Celebration Observed at KIMS



Bhubaneswar, May 11 (KCN): KIMS Bhubaneswar along with its sister concern Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences (KINS) commemorated International Nurses Day on the eve of the global observance, highlighting the indispensable role of nurses in the healthcare sector and the challenges they face. This year's celebration was notably vibrant as it marked the golden jubilee of the observance dedicated to acknowledging the contributions of nurses worldwide.

In a series of addresses, KIMS officials emphasized the vital roles nurses play and the urgent need to enhance nursing education and practice in India. KIMS Medical Superintendent Prof R C Das underscored the necessity for India to upscale its nursing workforce to meet World Health Organization standards by 2030. "Without nursing, hospitals cannot grow and expand. The skills and knowledge of nurses have expanded; they must continue to increase their skills and care," Das stated.

Highlighting the emotional and economic value of nurses, Pro-VC, School of Medicine Prof C B K Mohanty described nurses as "the economic power of care." He added, "You the saviors save lives with compassion and empathy. Your service will be reciprocated by the public and remembered by family members of the patients." However, Mohanty also pointed out the significant challenges in nursing education, such as the scarcity of platforms for practical training which hinders the production of qualified nurses.

KIIT Vice Chancellor Prof Saranjit Singh urged nurses to carry out their duties with "a lot of warmth and a smiling face." He highlighted the need for substantial investment in the healthcare sector in the coming years, emphasizing that the growth of healthcare hinges significantly on the enhancement of nursing services. The highlight of the celebration was the presence of the National Florence Nightingale Award, 2021 Khulana Barik of Jagatsinghpur, whose inspiring address left a deep imprint on the nurses and officials present. Top of Form Awards were given away to nurses on the occasion in different categories. KIMS Principal Brig. Prof. Dr AP Mohanty, KIIT Registrar J R Mohanty, KINS Principal Prof Niyati Das and others also spoke.

Rajnath says time has come for BJD's exit in Odisha

Ranpur (KCN): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Friday said the atmosphere in Odisha is indicating that the time has come for the exit of BJD in Odisha. Addressing an election meeting christened as "Vijaya Sanklap Samavesh, Rajnath said the Congress had ruled Odisha for 50 years while the BJD for 25 years but now the people of the state have made up their minds to bring a change, vote for BJP and make an exit for the BJD. Singh came down heavily on the Congress for making baseless allegations that if BJP is voted to power again at the centre, democracy

will be murdered and the constitution will be changed and amended. The Defence Minister said when a BJP candidate won unopposed in Surat, the Opposition Congress described it as a murder of democracy. It was rather the Congress party which murdered democracy by imposing an emergency and toppling elected state governments in the country by a record 136 times using Article 356 during their tenure. Rajnath said the BJP has decided to implement one nation and one election in the country and favoured simultaneous elections to

both Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the country so that it would not only save the time of the people but also the resources. "The Defence Minister further said the Opposition parties are misleading people stating that if the BJP voted to power and crossed the 400 mark in the Lok Sabha election, it would change the constitution. Rajnath said he wanted to clarify that it was rather the Congress which had amended the Constitution 80 times and even attempted to change the preamble of the constitution in 1976. Stating that "BJP does what it says, Rajnath said

since 1951, the Jan Sangh time we had decided that when we will have a majority in both the houses of Parliament we will abrogate article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and we did it. Similarly, we had announced in 1984 that a Ram temple would be built in Ayodhya and we did it by shifting the Ramlala to the new temple, he said. The Defence Minister appealed to the people to vote for Sambit Patra contesting the Puri Lok Sabha so that he would take up your plights and problems in the parliament and also Surama Padhi contesting the Ranpur Assembly seat as BJP candidates.

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Manoj Bajpayee is a formidable force in 'Bhaiyya Ji' trailer

Manoj Bajpayee plays 'Bhaiyya Ji' in his upcoming film, seeking revenge for his brother's death. The film, produced by his wife Shabana Raza Bajpayee, marks The film is a revenge drama, featuring Bajpayee in intense action scenes 'Bhaiyya Ji', directed by Apoorv Singh Karki, hits the theatres on May 24. Manoj Bajpayee returns in as 'Bhaiyya

Ji' in his upcoming film's trailer, which released on May 9. The actor plays the titular character, who avenges his brother's death in this crime drama. The film is produced by his wife Shabana Raza Bajpayee, along with Vinod Bhanushali, Kamlesh Bhanushali, Samiksha Oswal, Shael Oswal, and Vikram Khakhar. The trailer of Manoj Bajpayee's upcoming



film, 'Bhaiyya Ji', released on May 9. It also marks the actor's 100th project. Manoj appears in a desi avatar, killing, beating

and punching those who killed his brother. The trailer provides a sneak peek into the actor's intense action scenes, building

anticipation for the film's release.

Manoj Bajpayee is joined by Suvinder Pal

Vicky of 'Kohrra' fame, who plays the antagonist. The film also stars Zoya Hussain, Vipin Sharma, and Jatin Goswami in key roles.

Sharing the 'Bhaiyya Ji' trailer, Manoj Bajpayee wrote,

"Bhaiyyanahi Bhaiyya Ji! Aa gaye hain, apne pratishodh ki jhalak

lekar (Bhaiyya Ji, not just Bhaiyya! Here we are, bringing a glimpse of our revenge.)"

Manoj Bajpayee's first-look poster from 'Bhaiyya Ji' was unveiled in March. The actor's rugged look from a still from the film offered a glimpse into the world of the revenge drama.

Directed by Apoorv Singh Karki, 'Bhaiyya Ji' hits the theatres on May 24.

Sanjay Kapoor on 'Merry Christmas' wink scene: 'Made all the difference'

Actor Sanjay Kapoor, in an exclusive conversation with IndiaToday.in, delved into the hilarious wink scene from 'Merry Christmas' and its impact on the film's tone, alongside discussing his approach as a director's actor. His performance in the film

garnered widespread acclaim from both audiences and critics alike. Kapoor highlighted how a small difference in a scene can make a lot of change and cited the example of 'Merry Christmas'. He said, "It's a combination of the content and the director.

Sometimes even a correct close up, highlighting a specific emotion on the actor's face can make a huge difference to the whole scene. For example, in 'Merry Christmas' there is a lift scene where I take off my wedding ring, and I'm pretending to tie my

shoe lace. In the same scene, I look at Albert (Vijay Sethupathi) and wink. If that wink was not done, the impact of the scene would have only been 50 per cent." He also talked about how a good actor and a good director complement each other. "That wink made so much of a difference in the

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

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

(share)."

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

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

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

Suriya Gets Injured On Sets Of Kanguva, Film Shoot Halted



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

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

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

'Kanguva' was announced in August 2022 with the tentative title 'Suriya 42' as it became Suriya's 42nd film in a leading role. The shooting of the film has taken place in Goa, Kerala, Kodaikanal, and Rajahmundry. The official title 'Kanguva' was announced in April 2023.

'Kanguva' stars Suriya in six roles, leading an ensemble cast that includes Disha Patani and Bobby Deol, alongside Natarajan Subramanian, Jagapathi Babu, Yogi Babu, Redin Kingsley, Kovai Sarala, Anandaraj, Ravi Raghavendra, K. S. Ravikumar, and B. S. Avinash. The film will mark the Tamil debut of Disha and Bobby. It is scheduled to be released theatrically in early 2024 in standard, 3D and IMAX formats. The official release date of the film is yet to be announced.

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

"We are so obsessed staring at the screen these days that we didn't realize life has gone past us," laments Ananya Panday's Ahaana in a poignant moment in Arjun V Singh's "Kho Gaye Hum Kahan."

The hustle of living from one post to another, constant life

updates, and the thirst for validation from the many faceless followers on social media are perhaps the

story of our lives.

Debutante Director Arjun V Singh takes us into the world of three best friends. Imaad (Siddhant Chaturvedi) is a stand-up comic with a happy-go-lucky attitude towards every situation, including his dating life. If not on stage, he is busy swiping left and right on Tinder, the dating app. Ahaana (Ananya Panday) is Imaad's flatmate, a whiz who is in a long-term relationship with her boyfriend, whom she hopes



to marry. Then there is Neil (Adarsh Gourav), a gym trainer who aspires to have his studio someday. Like any regular 25-year-old, they are following their passion, working hard, and partying harder.

Introspection of life happens over several bottles of beer; they keep no secrets from each other, or do they? Even though their parents don't understand their mindset—Imaad's rich father asks him to start working in the family's business, while Neil fails to

understand the penny-pinching mindset of his working-class parents, who tell him that he does not

know the difference between need and want. Ahaana, a brilliant professional with fancy degrees

and medals to her credit, is a pushover who gets

walked over by her boss as well as her boyfriend.

But we live in a world where FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) is a thing. Keeping it private, keeping it real are

passé. If it is not on social media, then it may as well not exist. We have given the rite of passage into our

lives to strangers and people we are unlikely to meet

since a thumbs up or down from them is what can

make or break us. Take Ahaana; her heartbreak after

getting dumped by her boyfriend is further amplified

when she realizes his new girlfriend has over a million

followers.

The unsure Ahaana creates a fake account to stalk her boyfriend and starts putting out happy and sexy touched-up pictures of herself on Instagram to prove her life continues to rock. Imaad, on the other hand, who flits from one fling to another, meets an older and wiser woman (Kalki Koechlin), but being commitment-phobic, continues to see other women. Neil, who is dating his client LaLa (Anya Singh), an influencer, cannot understand her obsession with filtered images and wanting to be constantly seen.

The Bollywood Showdown in Delhi: Kaka vs. Shotgun



Advani's victory over Rajesh Khanna in 1991 was narrow, with a margin of less than 1500 votes. Recalls noted journalist Aroon Kumar of Hindustan Times, "Even though Advani ji had managed to win that contest, it was Rajesh Khanna who won the hearts of people. He really worked very hard in his first attempt in election. He even humbled Advani ji from couple of assembly seats like Minto Road and Goal Market."

Even after so many years, Delhi recall the image of Rajesh Khanna assisting Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi as they cast their votes on May 20, 1991, at a polling booth in Nirman Bhawan. This became Rajiv Gandhi's last photograph, as he was assassinated the following day.

"With Advani's departure, the BJP nominated Shatrughan Sinha for the by-election. Despite their thick friendship, Shatrughan Sinha accepted the challenge, setting the stage for a high-profile campaign. While the by-election's outcome held little significance for the central government, it captured significant media attention," says Pritam Dhariwal, noted political activist.

Kaka's triumph and a broken friendship

From the outset, it was evident that Rajesh Khanna had gained an edge over Shatrughan Sinha. He diligently connected with voters through door-to-door campaigning, demonstrating his commitment and making promises to the public. Despite this, some voters and political analysts remained sceptical that Rajesh Khanna would

admitted that the defeat led to irreparable damage in their relationship. Recalls writer Sunil Negi, who was the media manager of Rajesh Khanna when he was fighting the Lok Sabha elections, "Rajesh Khanna was very bitter with his Bollywood colleague for fighting against him. Honestly, he had never forgiven him for fighting



abandon his constituency once he would be elected. Notably, the Congress initially intended to field Rajesh Khanna from Thane in the 1991 elections, with Ambika Soni being considered for the New Delhi seat. His eventual nomination surprised many.

Despite the doubts, Rajesh Khanna convincingly won the by-election. However, this victory came at the cost of his friendship with Shatrughan Sinha, who

against him. Rajesh Khanna snapped all ties with Sinha."

Before moving to a government bungalow in 54 Lodhi Estate, Rajesh Khanna resided in Som Vihar and Vasant Kunj, maintaining close contact with his constituents and journalists. He earned the affection of Delhi's residents.

Delhi has undergone significant transformation between 1992 and 2024. Two generations have

emerged, and Shatrughan Sinha's political journey has seen him transition from the BJP to the Congress and now the Trinamool Congress. As he walks through the streets of New Delhi, the memories of the 1992 by-election are likely to resurface, reminding him of his friend and rival, Rajesh Khanna, whose legacy lives on in

Hindi at the United Nations General Assembly on October 4, 1977. This was a significant moment as it was the first time Hindi was used on such a global platform.

Following the end of the Emergency, a non-Congress government came to power for the first time. However, the Janata Party government collapsed, leading to Chaudhary Charan Singh becoming Prime Minister with Congress support. This support was short-lived, and President Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy dissolved the Lok Sabha, paving the way for fresh Lok Sabha elections.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee contested the prestigious New Delhi seat on a Janata Party ticket, as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had not yet been formed then. Political observers were of the view that Atal Behari Vajpayee would easily be elected from the New Delhi seat. He had won from here in 1977 too when he defeated Congress candidate Shashi Bhushan. This time Congress fielded C.M. Stephen, a relatively unknown figure in the capital but a prominent leader of the Kerala Congress and a former Leader of the Opposition.

C.M. Stephen's Campaign

Tall dhoti clad, Stephen campaigned extensively in New Delhi, connecting with voters in Hindi through translated speeches. He used to address in his native language. His speeches were translated there and then. He focused on the concerns of central government employees, a significant voting bloc in New Delhi, and promised to work for their interests. C.M. Stephen was a strong advocate for workers' rights. Although relatively unknown in New Delhi, his impactful campaign and focus on local issues nearly led him to victory against a stalwart like Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

According to Congress activist Rajesh Sharma from Minto Road, "I vividly remember Stephen sahab also addressed the issue of rising onion prices, a major concern at the time, promising to control them if Congress came to power."

While Vajpayee was initially expected to win comfortably, Stephen's strong campaign made the election a close contest. Vajpayee ultimately won by a narrow margin of about 5,000 votes, with Stephen even securing

victories in certain areas of New Delhi. Once noted Delhi based journalist A.R. Wig had said that "When the RSS realised that Vajpayee might lose, it unleashed a whispering campaign on the day of polling. A Swayamsevak would stand in the queue and say a bit loudly, 'CM Stephen is a good candidate. But he has one problem. He needs beef even for his breakfast!'. Those who hear him would ask, 'Oh, is a beef-eater?'. Needless to say, Stephen lost by a narrow margin!"

Stephen's impressive performance earned him a Congress ticket for the Gulbarga Lok Sabha by-election in Karnataka, which he won and subsequently became the Minister of Communications.

Vajpayee, after the close call in 1980, shifted his focus away from the New Delhi constituency, contesting from Gwalior and later Lucknow. In conclusion, the 1980 Lok Sabha election in New Delhi highlighted the unpredictable nature of politics and the importance of connecting with voters at the grassroots level, regardless of language barriers.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor

MILK FOR HAIR AND SKIN



Milk, a common household item, has been used for many centuries as a natural beauty product. Its benefits for skin have endured the test of time.

Milk consists of nourishing and moisturising properties. It helps in maintaining the health of your skin. It also helps in treating most of your skin concerns.

It's packed with vitamins A and D, as well as lactic acid. Some of these components are popular skin care additives. Drinking milk can also contribute to healthy, radiant skin.

Milk is considered a miracle drink to control melanin production and to achieve a fair, glowing

and flawless complexion. It is one of the most nutrient-rich foods which is packed with proteins, enzymes, vitamins, minerals and lactic acid that works effectively for lighter, blemish and acne-free skin. Milk helps to nourish and soften the skin. It contains many Vitamins and minerals which are very necessary for healthy skin. Milk also contains alpha hydroxy acid, which actually helps to reduce blemishes and has an anti-tan effect on the skin. Cotton wool soaked in cold milk can be used to wipe the skin to remove tan and soothe the skin. Cold milk applied daily, using cotton wool, not only helps to soothe the skin but also keeps it soft. It also makes the skin colour lighter over a period of time, if used daily. It would suit normal to dry skin.

If you have a sunburn, applying milk to your skin can provide relief. The proteins in milk form a protective layer on the skin, reducing

pain and redness associated with sunburn.

Turmeric and Raw Milk Face Pack ---- Take: 2 tablespoons of raw milk and 1

teaspoon of turmeric powder. Apply the mixture on the face and wash it after 15 minutes. Use it twice a week. It will lighten your skin and give radiant look.

Turmeric is known for its anti-inflammatory and brightening properties. When combined with the moisturizing effect of

raw milk, add half a tablespoon of glycerine into it and mix it up. Apply on the face and lips with a cotton ball, and let it dry for 30 minutes. Wash your face with fresh water. It will result in smooth and glowing skin and your skin will remain moisturised throughout the day.

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SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

Milk also contains lactic acid, which nourishes and moisturises the skin and helps to delay the visible signs of ageing. Milk can be added to

face, avoiding the lips and area around the eyes. Wash it off after 20 to 30 minutes. Raw milk should be used on the face for beauty care. Boiling the milk

with cleansing your skin using a face wash. Dip a cotton ball into milk and apply it gently to your face. Gently massage the milk into your skin in circular motions. Allow it to sit for 10-15 minutes. Rinse your face with lukewarm water and pat dry.

Milk for Hair ---- Hair is also made up of a protein matter called keratin. Therefore, protein in milk is beneficial for the hair, in terms of adding strength and body. Milk also contains fats, which help to soften and smoothen the hair. It is of particular benefit to dry hair, as well as hair that has been subjected to chemical treatments. Milk also contains vitamins and minerals, which are nourishing for the hair. Many of them are powerful antioxidants and nourish the hair follicles.

Milk can be applied on the hair to nourish and soften it and also to give it a healthy lustre. If the hair has been subjected to sun-

damage, applying milk would help to nourish, soften and restore health to it.

After your shampoo, rinse the hair with milk and leave on for 5 minutes. Then rinse off with plain water. It would help to add body and shine to the hair.

For extremely dry hair, add a little milk to egg yolk and apply on the hair half an hour before shampoo. This is a wonderful nourishing treatment for dry hair. The hair looks soft, smooth and shiny. A pre-shampoo treatment can also be done with a hair pack containing powdered milk. Add a little water to make a thick paste. Apply it on the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the pack better.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India



"In 2 Months, Yogi Adityanath Will...": Arvind Kejriwal's Big Claim If BJP Wins

New Delhi(KCN): Arvind Kejriwal, addressing his first press conference since leaving jail, said that the Bharatiya Janata Party will not only imprison Opposition leaders but also leaders from their own party. Mr Kejriwal claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started a "one nation, one leader" mission and he will soon end the political career of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath too.

"Politics of Advani, Murli Joshi, Shivraj Chauhan, Vasundhara Raje, Khattar, Raman Singh has been finished, Yogi Adityanath is next. If he (PM Modi) wins, he will change UP Chief Minister within two months," Mr Kejriwal said.

"Our country is very old, whenever a dictator tried to take over, the people



uprooted him. Today again a dictator wants to end democracy. I have come to beg from 140 crore people," he added. In his speech, he singled out PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah as engineers behind a power takeover within the BJP, referring to how the BJP changes chief ministers in many states

before assembly elections to "clip their wings". He also warned that all the opposition leaders including Chief Ministers Mamata Banerjee, and MK Stalin would be sent to jail in case the BJP-led NDA comes to power after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "They will send

Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, Uddhav Thackeray (UBT Chief) and other opposition leaders will all be in jail," Mr Kejriwal said.

On Friday, the Supreme Court granted the Delhi Chief Minister interim bail to campaign for the Lok Sabha elections. Questioning the arrest just before the elections, the court directed the Enforcement Directorate to investigate Mr Kejriwal after voting ends.

"For one-and-a-half years he was there... he could have been arrested before or after (the election) also. Whatever it is, 21 days here or there should not make any difference," the court said. Mr Kejriwal's release has been cheered by the opposition INDIA alliance, of which the Aam Aadmi Party is a key member.

"In 5 Years, We Will...": Congress Chief's Big Promise For 'Make In India'

New Delhi(KCN): Mallikarjun Kharge, the president of the Indian National Congress today said that his party resolves to make the country a manufacturing hub by raising the share of manufacturing from 14% to 20% of GDP in the next five years.

Writing about making (manufacturing) in India on his official X handle, Mr Kharge tweeted, "Congress resolves to make India a manufacturing hub by raising the share of manufacturing from 14% to 20% of GDP in the next 5 years."

Lauding the Congress's regime, Mr Kharge claimed that the nation's manufacturing share of GDP was higher compared to the rule of the BJP.

"It is thus no surprise that in the last 25 years, India's manufacturing share of GDP has been higher during the Congress rule. On the contrary, in the last 10 years (2014-24), the share of manufacturing



has stagnated at just 14%", he claimed. Mr Kharge also said, "Congress is determined to make India the manufacturing powerhouse that produces goods and services for itself and the world." The Congress leader also said that the party's immediate objective will be to restore a healthy, fearless and trustworthy climate for businesses. Elaborating on the party's goal, Mr Kharge said that the Congress government in 1991 abolished industrial licensing and controls. "The independent regulatory regime that was put in place has deteriorated into a system of overt and covert controls," he added.

"We will conduct a comprehensive review of the current rules and regulations and repeal or amend them in order to restore freedom to industry, business and trade," Mr Kharge said.

Describing the Congress' ambition, Mr Kharge said that the party will aim for India to attain a position of leadership in multiple industries such as steel, metals, garments and textiles, cement, automobiles, electronic goods, pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, petroleum products, chemicals, and mining rare earth and critical minerals.

Putting forward RBI's data on stalled projects, Mr Kharge said that Congress will revive those projects by taking the help of the private sector. "According to the RBI, nearly 60% of the large central government

Mr Kharge also

mentioned about introducing an employment-linked incentive scheme. He added, "We will introduce a new employment-linked incentive (ELI) Scheme for corporates to win tax credits for additional hiring against regular, quality jobs."

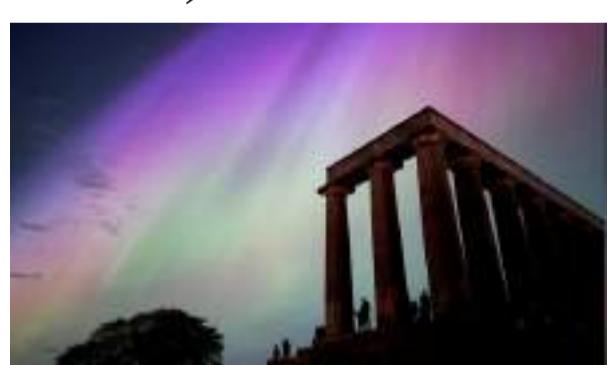
Reiterating the party's opposition to monopolies and oligopolies, Mr Kharge said, "Congress will create a level playing field for all businesses. We are opposed to monopolies and oligopolies. We will strengthen the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to ensure that India will be an open and competitive economy."

The Congress President also talked about strengthening AI and robotics and said, "We will encourage and support the use of Artificial Intelligence, robotics, etc. which will create new and frontline jobs. At the same time, we will ensure that there are more job opportunities in sectors that use conventional technology."

Powerful Solar Storm Hits Earth, Could Disrupt Communication, Power Grids

Washington: The most powerful solar storm in more than two decades struck Earth on Friday, triggering spectacular celestial light shows from Tasmania to Britain -- and threatening possible disruptions to satellites and power grids as it persists into the weekend. The first of several coronal mass ejections (CMEs) -- expulsions of plasma and magnetic fields from the Sun -- came just after 1600 GMT, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s Space Weather Prediction Center.

It was later upgraded to an "extreme" geomagnetic storm -- the first since the "Halloween Storms" of October 2003



caused blackouts in Sweden and damaged power infrastructure in South Africa. More CMEs are expected to pummel the planet in the coming days. Social media lit up with people posting pictures of auroras from northern Europe and Australasia. "We've just woken the kids to go watch the Northern Lights in the back garden! Clearly visible with the naked eye," Iain Mansfield in Hertford, England, told AFP.

That sense of wonder was shared in Australia's island state of Tasmania. "Absolutely biblical skies in Tasmania at 4 am this morning. I'm leaving today and knew I could not pass up this opportunity," photographer Sean O'Riordan posted on social media platform X alongside a photo.

Authorities notified satellite operators, airlines, and the power grid to take precautionary steps for potential disruptions caused by changes to Earth's magnetic field. Elon Musk, whose Starlink satellite internet operator has some 5,000 satellites in low Earth orbit, described the solar storm as the "biggest in a long time."

"Starlink satellites are under a lot of pressure, but holding up so far," Musk posted on his X platform. Unlike solar flares, which travel at the speed of light and reach Earth in around eight minutes, CMEs travel at a more sedate pace, with officials putting the current average at 800 kilometers (500 miles) per second. The CMEs emanated

from a massive sunspot cluster that is 17 times wider than our planet. The Sun is approaching the peak of an 11-year cycle that brings heightened activity.

Mathew Owens, a professor of space physics at the University of Reading, told AFP that how far the effects would be felt over the planet's northern and southern latitudes would depend on the storm's final strength.

"Go outside tonight and look would be my advice because if you see the aurora, it's quite a spectacular thing," he said. People with eclipse glasses can also look for the sunspot cluster during the day. In the United States, this could include places such as Northern California and Alabama, officials said.

"Name All Districts Of Odisha": PM Modi's Dare To Naveen Patnaik

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during a public meeting in Odisha's Kandhamal, issued a bold challenge to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. PM Modi urged Mr Patnaik to name all the districts of Odisha without the aid of written notes. This challenge, as PM Modi framed it, was a litmus test of Naveen Patnaik's intimate knowledge of the state he governs.

"I want to challenge 'Naveen Babu' as he has been the CM for such a long, ask 'Naveen Babu' to name the districts of Odisha and their respective capitals without seeing them on paper. If the CM cannot name the districts of the state, will he know your pain?" the Prime Minister said.

Highlighting what he perceived as a lack of trust by the state government in the people's capabilities, PM Modi emphasized the need for transparency and empowerment. He criticized the incumbent administration, suggesting that such mistrust was stifling Odisha's development potential.

PM Modi spoke about the state's vast potential for tourism and its significance in the



economic landscape. Drawing parallels to historic events like the Pokhran nuclear test, PM Modi underscored India's capabilities and the need to harness them for progress.

Further addressing the crowd, PM Modi promised to uplift the living conditions of the people, drawing from his own humble beginnings. He rallied for support, portraying the upcoming elections as a pivotal moment for Odisha's trajectory.

"Odisha offers me immense love and support. I will repay every ounce of your trust by selflessly serving the country. 26 years ago, Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji conducted the Pokhran test today. The nuclear test filled Indians all over the world with pride. That was the first time India made the world

aware of its capabilities. Whereas, Congress keeps threatening its own people. They create fear psychosis in the minds of Indians by reiterating, 'Pakistan is a nuclear power,' he said. Odisha will hold Assembly elections and Lok Sabha elections in four phases from May 13 to June 1, with vote counting scheduled for June 4.

In the 2019 Assembly election, Biju Janata Dal (BJD) won 112 out of 146 seats, while Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) won 23 seats and Congress won 9. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the BJD won the majority of seats in the state, while the BJP and the Congress brought up the rear. The BJD won 12 seats, the BJP finished a close second at 8, and the Congress bagged just a lone seat.

PM To Quit At 75, Says Arvind Kejriwal. No Such Rule, Responds Amit Shah



New Delhi(KCN): Home Minister Amit Shah today returned fire at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief's swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi is setting the ground for Mr Shah to take over as Prime Minister in future.

Mr Kejriwal in his first press conference a day after being released from jail attacked PM Modi as someone who wants "one nation, one leader", alluding to the BJP's push for 'one nation, one election' system.

"These people ask INDIA bloc about prime ministerial face. I ask BJP who will be their PM? Modi ji is turning 75 on September 17 next year. He himself made the rule in 2014 that people aged 75 will be retired. They retired LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Sumitra Mahajan," Mr Kejriwal said.

"He will retire next year. He is seeking votes to making Amit Shah the Prime Minister. Will Amit Shah fulfil Modi ji's

guarantee?" said the AAP chief who got interim bail till June 1 to campaign for the Lok Sabha elections, already three of the seven phases completed.

Responding to Mr Kejriwal, the Home Minister told reporters the Delhi Chief Minister is hugely mistaken that PM Modi will step aside when he hits 75.

"I want to say this to Arvind Kejriwal and company and INDIA bloc that nothing as such (75-year-old limit rule) is mentioned in the BJP's constitution. PM Modi is only going to complete this tenure and PM Modi will continue to lead the country in future. There is no confusion in the BJP," Mr Shah said.

The Home Minister also questioned Mr Kejriwal's "misplaced confidence" and pointed at the interim bail as a temporary relief, but not something that frees the Delhi Chief Minister from the liquor policy case, in which former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has also been

jailed. "Arvind Kejriwal has been given interim bail to hold election campaigns. He prayed in front of the Supreme Court that his arrest was wrong, but the Supreme Court did not agree to it. The interim bail has only been given till June 1 and on June 2, he has to surrender in front of the agencies," Mr Shah said.

"If Arvind Kejriwal considers this as a clean chit, then his understanding of the law is weak," he added.

As part of the interim bail, Mr Kejriwal cannot go to his office, sign official documents, or visit the Delhi secretariat. He has to take permission from the Lieutenant Governor for any urgent documents that need to be signed.

The Supreme Court said the Lok Sabha elections has prompted the consideration of interim bail as at this stage, it is not possible for the court to either conclude the arguments or pronounce the verdict on his petition challenging his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Pregnant woman walks 4 km to reach hospital



Bhawanipatna(KCN):

A pregnant woman had to walk for 4 kilometre to reach hospital Friday as the 108 ambulance failed to reach Paradangaguda village under Chancher panchayat of Bhawanipatna Sadar block in Kalahandi district as it lacks a motorable road. As per reports, Mande Majhi, wife of Libri Majhi, experienced labour pain Friday morning following which her family members called the ambulance. However, the ambulance could not reach the

village and stopped at Gudanga, a place 4 km away from the village. Bereft of options, the pregnant woman had to walk for 4 km with the help of family members and the local ASHA to reach Gudanga where the ambulance was waiting. She was then admitted to the district headquarters hospital at Bhawanipatna where she gave birth to a girl child in the afternoon. With the polls scheduled for May 13 in the area, locals have raised questions about various government projects following the pathetic incident.

Drop in turtle numbers sparks concern



Kendrapara(KCN):

The decline in the number of Olive Ridley turtles for mass nesting at Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary near Bhitarkanika National Park in this district for the last two years has sparked concern among the environmentalists, sources said Sunday. According to an official report, 5.11 lakh Olive Ridley turtles had laid eggs at Gahirmatha in 2022. The number decreased slightly, to around five lakh in 2023. However, this year the drop in the number of turtles visiting the sanctuary is alarming. According to official estimates, only three lakh turtles have arrived at Gahirmatha. This massive decline in numbers has sparked fears of drastic climate changes or some massive natural disaster in the offing. Hemant Kumar Rout, secretary of 'Gahirmatha Marine Turtles and Mangrove Protection Committee', environmentalists Kshitish Kumar Singh and Srikant Nayak said there are several reasons behind the decrease in numbers. They pointed out that erosion and loss of land mass is one of the main reasons behind the

decrease in several turtles visiting the sanctuary. As the land is being gobble up by the sea, the nesting places of the turtles are also being reduced. Hence many turtles are staying away from the sanctuary, pointed out Nayak. Rout on the other hand, added that the only way to stop the erosion is through a plantation of mangroves. "However, awareness programmes about the importance of mangroves and the plantation drive have not been properly implemented," he pointed out. The three informed that the mushrooming prawn gheries in Bhitarkanika National Park have a role to play in soil erosion. They said that the chemical laced water released from these gheries acts as a 'killer'

for whatever little mangrove plantation is there. The toxic water also affects the turtles and hence it may be another reason why a lesser number of turtles are visible in Gahirmatha this year. Fishermen and changes in climate are the other main reasons why there is a decrease in the number of turtles. Despite bans, fishermen enter prohibited areas inside the sea. In the process, many turtles die after getting entangled in the nets, the three opined. They also pointed out that earlier the turtles used to lay eggs in March, but this year they have done so in April. This time shift is proof enough that some climatic change is affecting the visiting turtles, the environmentalists pointed out. They

Forest officials toil to prevent wildfires, 'poaching' of trees



Rourkela(KCN):

The alertness of the Forest department has prevented major fires in jungles and 'poaching' of trees this summer, officials informed here Friday. They said there is a new trend to set forests on fire and then cut down the half-burnt trees to sell those as timber outside the state. Hence, officials of various Forest divisions are keeping a close watch on all the ranges, especially those in the Bonai division. "Earlier there used to be illegal poaching of wild animals.

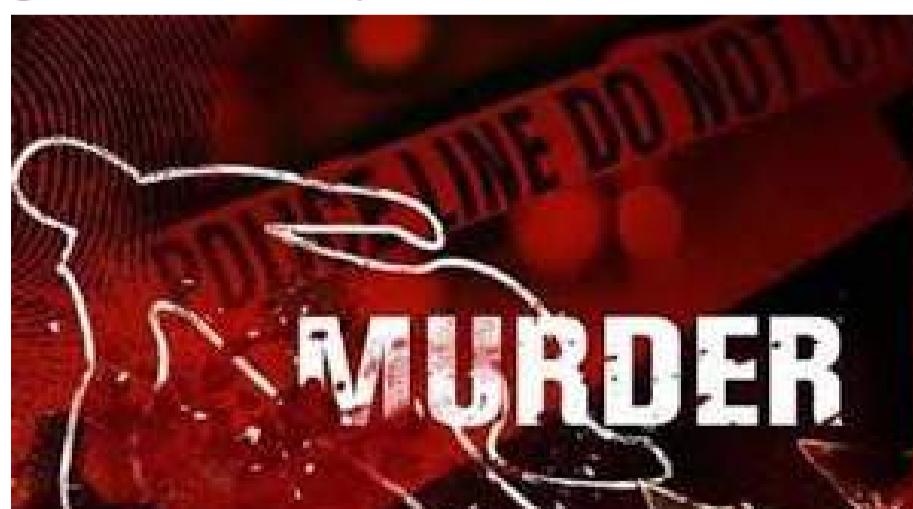
Now miscreants are targeting the trees, as plenty of costly teak is easily available. We have to be on our toes always

to prevent it," said an official. "We are determined to stop the smuggling of teak and other forest produce," he added. A Forest Department official working in the Sole and Jarda ranges informed that miscreants are responsible for more than half of the reported cases of forest fires. "The modus operandi is

quite simple. Set a part of the forest on fire and then cut the half-burnt trees and smuggle them out. Hence we have to continuously monitor all the ranges," he stated. An official informed that they received inputs from sources that 22 people including women were clearing a patch of the forest in Bonai range Tuesday on the pretext of

creating agricultural land. "It was just an alibi," said range officer Kailash Kissan. "We rushed to the spot and found that valuable trees were being felled. Among them were mango, sal, jamun and arjuna trees. All the 22 were arrested and we seized sophisticated cutting equipment from them," informed Kissan. In another incident,

Woman 'kills' son for stealing money



Kalimela(KCN):

In a shocking incident, an eight-year-old boy died after being allegedly kicked in the chest by his mother at Tumbaguda village under police limits in Malkangiri district Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Rohit Padami, son of Muka Padami of the same village. It has been stated that Rohit used to steal money regularly. There used to be frequent quarrels between him and his mother Wagi on this issue.

Infuriated at the wrongdoing of her son, Wagi landed a hard kick on the chest of Rohit, Saturday night. The

minor boy collapsed on the spot immediately. Initially, Wagi thought that Rohit had fallen asleep. Only Sunday morning family members discovered that Rohit had died. On being informed, officials from the

Kalimela police station reached the spot and initiated an investigation into the incident. A forensic team was also pressed into service. Later Wagi was detained after her husband officially complained to her.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

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Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon

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Balasore School triumphs as State Champions in Intach's National Heritage Quiz.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The Indian National Trust for Art and Culture Heritage (INTACH), Odisha Chapter, held the Finals of the State level inter-school quiz competition on 15th Oct 2023 at the Blossoms School, Bhubaneswar. The INTACH National Heritage Quiz is the biggest event of its type held on a pan-India level. It is an effort to raise awareness and cultivate affection for cultural and architectural heritage. The Quiz was based on the heritage and culture of India, and aimed to increase awareness about our glorious nation among

school children. Students from classes 7th to 10th were eligible to participate in teams of two. In an exciting showcase of knowledge and heritage, the State Final Round saw the emergence of St. Thomas Convent, Balasore as the victor, securing their place in the next round which is the National Level Quiz. The questions asked during the quiz comprised from various topics like India's heritage, history, crafts, art forms, architecture, wildlife sanctuaries, National parks, cultural heritage, art forms, dances etc. with a special focus

Aryashree Das Adhikari and



Dibajoti Das from St. Thomas Convent Balasore were the first and the team from Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya were runners up. They will go to New Delhi for the National Finals to be held in November.

Anil Dhir, Convener of INTACH's Bhubaneswar Chapter, said that the Heritage Quiz was a part of INTACH's initiative for heritage awareness among School children. Amiya Bhushan Tripathy IPS (Retd), State Convener of Intach gave away the prizes and certificates to the participants.

CM Naveen Launches 32 Industrial Projects Worth Rs 6,993 Cr, To Generate 24,508 Jobs

Bhubaneswar (KCN): In a significant milestone in the journey of Odisha's economic advancement, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated nine industrial projects and performed a groundbreaking ceremony of 23 industrial units. These Inaugurations & Groundbreaking are statements of the Chief Minister's vision for faster conversion of investment intents to grounding.

These projects with a total investment of Rs 6,992.94 Crore and employment potential of 24,508 are spread over

14 districts i.e., Bolangir, Boudh, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Khurda, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Subarnapur & Sundergarh. Speaking on this occasion, the Chief Minister said, "Our industrial portfolio is expanding with the inclusion of new age and employment-intensive sectors such as green energy equipment manufacturing, textiles, tourism, etc. The continuous improvement in the Ease of Doing Business ranking of the state, coupled with a

Industries.

Dalmia Bharat Celebrates Empowerment of 18000 women on International Day of Rural Women

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Dalmia Bharat Group, India's leading conglomerate with businesses in cement and sugar, announces the successful empowerment of 18000 women on International Day of Rural Women. Through the establishment of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), these women are provided essential skill training and access to vital resources for sustainable livelihood development. In collaboration with various organisations like NRLM, NABARD, etc. Dalmia Bharat organizes various training initiatives like micro-enterprise development, handicraft production and others in both farming and non-farming sectors. All these activities are conducted in communities settled around their regions of operation across 12 states in India. These initiatives aim to upskill rural women to empower them, diversify their income sources and provide access to formal credit systems. Two notable initiatives in Odisha include Project Hastakala – upskilling women artisans and enterprise development via mushroom cultivation in communities surrounding its facilities in

Cuttack, Rajgandpur, and Lanjiberna Mines. Dalmia Bharat has enabled over 10,000 women in Odisha to become financially independent earning a monthly income ranging from Rs.4000 to Rs8000, significantly improving their individual well-being and the ability to support their families. Commenting on the company's initiatives on International Day of Rural Women Mr. Ashok K. Gupta, CEO, Dalmia Bharat Foundation said, "Rural women in developing countries play a vital role in food security and economic development but face severe marginalization, including limited land ownership, higher illiteracy rates and unequal earnings compared to men. Dalmia Bharat is dedicated to uplifting marginalized rural women through holistic programs that bolster their income while managing household responsibilities. Our commitment aligns with UN Sustainable Goals, promoting self-reliance and gender equality for an inclusive and sustainable India, where empowered women drive community and national development."

Project Hastakala is an 'earning with joy' skill

development programme where women are trained in the unique tie & dye batik products. This project is conducted in tribal areas of Jhagarpur & Katang panchayat in Odisha.

After witnessing immense success at national exhibitions, Dalmia Bharat introduced the SADRILE brand for promoting the handmade batik products like bedsheets, handkerchiefs, scarves etc. through multiple marketing platforms. Another successful initiative includes enterprise development through mushroom cultivation. Dalmia Bharat actively facilitates training programs and market linkage support for SHG women, equipping them to earn an additional monthly income of Rs. 5000 by establishing their own cultivation units.

International Day of Rural Women, observed annually on 15th October, celebrates the vital role of rural women in agriculture, food security, and rural development. It highlights the need to empower them, address inequalities, and aligns with global goals for gender equality and sustainable development.

The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education.

As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge production,

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

expressed how Amrita is

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

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

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

Airtel Xstream Fiber unlocks its NEW All-in-One plans

Bhubaneswar: To serve the needs of premium households who want the next generational connectivity and entertainment experience, Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier communications solutions provider, has once again raised the bar in the home broadband segment with the launch of three new all-in-one plans built for the evolving entertainment needs of today's connected homes.

Vir Inder Nath, CEO – Homes, Bharti Airtel had

this to say: "Our new plans are built for India's emerging entertainment needs. Through these bundle offers we plan to offer our discerning customers great value, convenience and unlock a multi-faceted digital experience."

Increased broadband consumption in Indian homes has given rise to the phenomena of hybrid viewing, where families are looking to consume OTT content on the TV screen along with linear TV without the hassle of managing multiple subscriptions and devices. Airtel's plans are the first of their kind in terms of catering to the evolving entertainment needs of the whole family and come with: Subscription to 17 premium OTTs to go with unlimited data. This includes Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ Hotstar and Airtel Xstream Premium ((SonyLiv, Lionsgate, Hoichoi and 11 more OTTs). 350+ TV channels covering the best of linear TV. Airtel 4K Xstream TV Box* that allows you to enjoy OTT and linear TV content with a single device and single remote.

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

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

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

education, exchange, and networking.

Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called "Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective". Adding to his views, Swami Amritaswarupananda

explained how Amrita is

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

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Impassioned in yellow

NEWDELHI: There is something odd about this list. There's a forced alliteration - Madras has been Chennai for 28 years now. Beyond that, it is also a strange combination of retirement venues for an iconic Indian cricketer who clearly paid little heed to where he signed off his Test and ODI careers. But while Melbourne and Manchester unwittingly played hosts to the last first-class and list A games of MS Dhoni's career, it is fervently hoped that Chennai will become the T20 representation on that list. "The last ODI that I played in India was in Ranchi. Hopefully my last T20 will be in Chennai. Whether it's

next year or in five years' time, I don't know," Dhoni said at an event hosted by the Chennai Super Kings to felicitate their title win in 2021.

Seven months later, even as CSK's title defence went up in smoke amid a botched captaincy transfer, he remained steadfast. "It will be unfair to not play in Chennai and say 'thank you'... It won't be nice to the CSK fans," he told Ian Bishop at the end of a forgettable 2022 season, one confined to stadiums in Mumbai and Pune.

As a semblance of normalcy returned in post-pandemic India, the soundtrack for Dhoni's farewell tour has gathered decibels for the better part of the last two years, with hope that the

crescendo and the drop - as they call it in the music world - will be reached in Chennai. Ideally on May 26, with title No.6 in tow. But because sport doesn't always make time for fairy-tales, or even designed alliterative symmetry, this mutual exchange of 'Thank You's' between a man and a city could come two weeks earlier - this Sunday against the Rajasthan Royals.

Dhoni is a practical man and not usually drawn to sentimentality. His 90-Test career ended with a small media release from the BCCI office when only minutes earlier, in a press conference at the MCG, he spoke at length about PETA, cosmetic surgery and Dobermann's tails while discussing his team's lower-order. His



India career too was officially marked closed not with fanfare, but with a song and montage reel on Instagram more than a year after he'd last turned out in the national team colours. For a former India captain said to be famously unstirred by the emotional upheavals of the role, this valedictory feel to his final lap in cricket and the desire to sign off in Chennai might

seem out of character. But it isn't quite the case. For it is in the yellow of CSK that Dhoni has most often broken kayfabe and detached himself, even if briefly, from his equanimous persona. He was already one of only two World Cup-winning captains for India in 2010 when he guided CSK to a third IPL semi-final with one of his characteristic final-over finishes in Dharamsala.

As thrilling as his takedown of Irfan Pathan was, that game was marked for posterity by what followed the winning runs. Dhoni mouthed off and aggressively punched his helmet grill even as non-striker Albie Morkel reached out for a hug. A year later, he would hit a World Cup-winning six at the Wankhede Stadium and celebrate it with a bat twirl and a sideways bob towards the stumps. Even on the sidelines of the sport, CSK brought forth a slightly different Dhoni. In 2016, at the jersey launch event for his new franchise, Rising Pune Supergiant, Dhoni shed all political or marketing correctness by invoking the suspended CSK. "I would be lying if I say I have moved on,"

he said. "After eight years of IPL, it feels very different to play for any other team. All of a sudden if you want me to say that I am very excited to play for a new team, don't give credit to CSK and the fans for the love and affection... it will be wrong." And straight after his somewhat troubled stint with Pune, where he was replaced as captain, he made one of his rare appearances on Instagram, modelling a yellow t-shirt bearing the word 'Thala' (leader) and the No. 7. For CSK, Dhoni has crossed boundaries to remonstrate with umpires and fought back tears at pre-season dinners. In 2018, he choked midway through his speech when talking about the team's return from suspension. "What's important is we go through everything with a smile on your face..." he paused as Suresh Raina filled the silence by stepping up to the dais with a bottle of water. During the closing moments of last year's final at Ahmedabad, he was captured with his head bowed and eyes shut in seeming prayer as Mohit Sharma began his run-up towards Ravindra Jadeja. As CSK celebrated their fifth title with Dhoni seemingly finishing off in style once again, he revealed to Harsha Bhogle that he wanted to try and go through the grind one more time, 'as a gift' to his fans, who had lapped up the rough bits with the big hits and stayed through the course.

Anderson to retire after Lord's Test against West Indies



LONDON: James Anderson, the highest wicket-taking paceman in Test cricket, has announced that the first Test against West Indies to be played at Lord's from July 10, will be his final Test appearance.

"Hi everyone. Just a note to say that the first Test of the summer at Lord's will be my last Test," Anderson wrote in an Instagram post. "It's been an incredible 20 years representing my

country, playing the game I've loved since I was a kid. I'm going to miss walking out for England so much. But I know the time is right to step aside and let others realise their dreams just like I got to, because there is no greater feeling."

"I couldn't have done it without the love and support of Daniella, Lola, Ruby and my parents. A huge thank you to them. Also, thank you to the players and

coaches who have made this the best job in the world."

"I'm excited for the new challenges that lie ahead, as well as filling my days with even more golf," he added. "Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the years, it's always meant a lot, even if my face often doesn't show it."

Anderson, who made his Test debut for England in May 2003 against Zimbabwe,

became the first fast bowler to reach the milestone of 700 Test wickets in the fifth Test against India in Dharamsala earlier this year. He is nine wickets away from surpassing Shane Warne as the second highest wicket taker in Test cricket.

Anderson has picked up 32 five-wicket hauls and three 10-wicket hauls, with a best of 7 for 42 (vs West Indies at Lord's in 2017) and 11 for 71 (vs Pakistan at Trent Bridge in 2010). He has scored 1353 runs with one half-century - 81 against India at Trent Bridge in 2014.

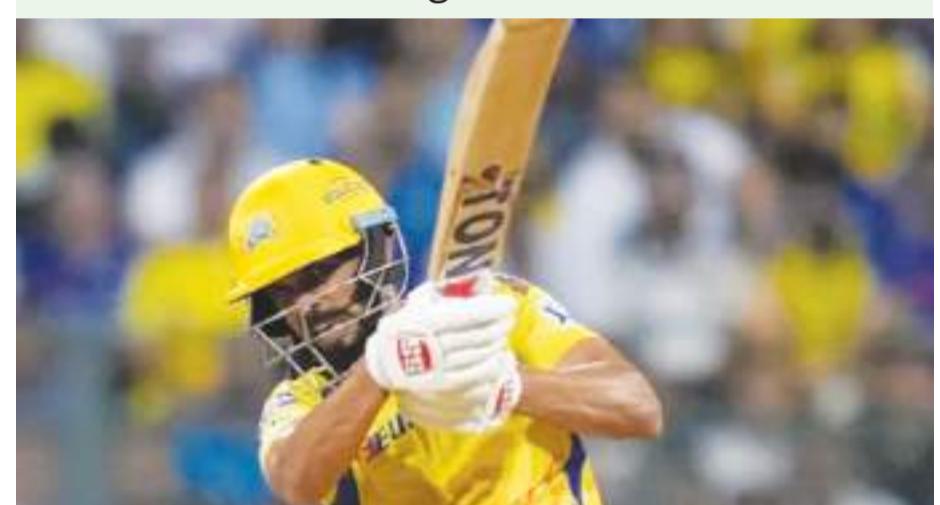
According to a report on The Guardian, Anderson recently had a conversation with Test head coach Brendon McCullum who flew down to England to tell the senior pacer that the team was looking to the future.

Anderson, almost 42 years, has not had too many fitness issues but was used sparingly by

England in the Tests against India, bowling only 110 overs across four Tests (seven innings) in which he picked up 10 wickets. He didn't have a great Ashes last year, averaging 85.40 for his five wickets in four Tests. Stuart Broad, who played 138 matches with Anderson, retired after the final Ashes Test in 2023 having crossed 600 Test wickets during the series.

Broad later revealed to Daily Mail that he had an understanding with Anderson that they would not retire at the same time. "It was like an unwritten clause in a contract that Jimmy and I never wanted to finish at the same time. We always wanted an overlap one way or the other, a crossover of knowledge, not 300-plus matches of Test experience disappearing out of the changing room."

Ruturaj Gaikwad becomes fastest Indian to 2000 IPL runs during 69-run knock



New Delhi: CSK captain Ruturaj Gaikwad scripted history during his blazing 69-run knock in the IPL 2024 match against MI at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday. Ruturaj broke LSG captain KL Rahul's record to become the fastest Indian batter to score 2000 runs in the Indian Premier League. Gaikwad's remarkable achievement unfolded during a group clash against Mumbai in Match 29 of IPL 2024 at the iconic Wankhede Stadium.

Remarkably, all of Gaikwad's IPL runs have been scored donning the yellow jersey of Chennai. His contribution to the team's success is evident not only in his individual records but also in his role as the sixth batter to cross the 2,000-run mark for the franchise. Alongside cricketing stalwarts like Suresh Raina, MS Dhoni, Faf du Plessis, Michael Hussey, and Murali Vijay, Gaikwad's name now stands as a testament to his consistency and impact in the IPL arena. With an impressive average and strike rate, coupled with 15 half-centuries and a century to his name, Gaikwad's journey in the IPL continues to inspire fans and teammates alike.

A slice of luck and a rude awakening

New Delhi: There is a sense of endlessness in Shamar Joseph's follow-through. At its peak, like in Perth earlier this year, it took a full turn and ended at long on. It's as unrestrained as the smile he flashes or the pace with which he leaves a cricket ball.

In the middle of his opening over, Joseph had sprinted all the way to the point region with hands on his head and a hapless smile on his face. A chance to bag his first wicket in the Indian Premier League had just been put down despite an impressive diving effort by Yash Thakur at short

fine leg. By the 13th over of the run chase, he was sitting in the dugout wearing a dejected look. "It's the first time I've seen him quiet in four weeks," Justin Langer, LSG's head coach, noted in jest.

That wasn't the case an hour earlier. There was a spring in his stride, a smile to boot and pace to rattle the batters. All of it vanished in a space on one legitimate delivery. Off what was supposed to be the last delivery of his first-ever over in the IPL, he had failed to keep any part of his boot behind the popping crease. The umpire

stretched his arm, the loudspeaker blared and Joseph was back to his bowling mark, still beaming after having missed out on his maiden wicket.

A slower ball away from the batter's arc that followed was a declared wide, the next one - an off-cutter - went across the batter and the keeper for another wide with a four. And then came another no-ball. The fast and entertaining over that had the batters being pushed on the backfoot and unable to middle the ball eventually ended with Phil Salt smashing a free-a six down the ground for a six.



experience of four white-ball games to boot, and pre-game nervousness to accompany, he crumbled under pressure.

For as disconsolate as the

eventual figures of 0 for 47 read, to go with three no-balls and seven wides, there were deliveries that left the batters uncomfortable. Some zipped past them, some gave hope of a dismissal, and some took the edge. At its best, Joseph's follow-through stretched as far as backward point in part to celebrate when Shreyas Iyer was adjudged caught behind (only for the decision to eventually reverse on review). But for the pacer from Baracara whose cricket career had reached Bengal, it was also a rude welcome to the miseries of high-profile T20 cricket, like many fast bowlers have experienced in the past. On the other hand, Salt, who survived the early chance against Joseph, ensured that he could cash in on it. If the playing 'V' needed a definition, he designed it within the first three balls of the third over off Krunal Pandya - a lift over the bowler's head, a swipe through midwicket and a drive through extra cover, all for boundaries. He played those shots with such authority that Krunal, who has been extremely effective in the middle overs this season, wasn't brought back into the attack again even as the game kept slipping away from LSG.