

## 17 cases of COVID-19 variant KP.2 detected in Odisha: INSACOG data

**New Delhi/Bhubaneswar(KCN):** As many as 17 cases of COVID-19 variant KP.2 has been detected in Odisha, official data revealed Tuesday. The official data further revealed that as many as 290 cases of KP.2 and 34 cases of KP.1, both sub-lineages of COVID-19 that are responsible for surge in cases in Singapore, have been found in India. However, a source in the Union health ministry told PTI that they are all sub-variants of JN.1 and there “So there is no reason for concern or panic. The mutations will keep happening at a rapid pace and this is the natural behaviour of viruses like SARS-CoV2,” the source said. The source further said



that the INSACOG surveillance is sensitive and is able to pick up the emergence of any new variant and samples are also picked from hospitals in a structured manner to detect any change in the severity of disease due to virus. Data compiled by the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) showed that

34 cases of KP.1 have been found across seven states and UTs with 23 cases registered from West Bengal. The other states are Goa (1), Gujarat (2), Haryana (1), Maharashtra (4), Rajasthan (2) and Uttarakhand (1). As many as 290 cases of KP.2 have been registered with

Maharashtra reporting the highest number at 148, according to the data. The other states and Union territories are Delhi (1), Goa (12), Gujarat (23), Haryana (3), Karnataka (4), Madhya Pradesh (1), Odisha (17), Rajasthan (21), Uttar Pradesh (8), Uttarakhand (16) and West Bengal (36). Singapore is seeing a new COVID-19 wave as the

authorities recorded more than 25,900 cases from May 5 to 11 with KP.1 and KP.2 accounting for over two-thirds of cases in Singapore. Globally, the predominant COVID-19 variants are still JN.1 and its sub-lineages, including KP.1 and KP.2. KP.1 and KP.2 belong to a group of COVID-19 variants scientists have nicknamed ‘FLiRT’, after the technical names of their mutations. The strains in FLiRT are all descendants of the JN.1 variant, an offshoot of the Omicron variant. KP.2 was classified by the World Health Organization as a Variant Under Monitoring.

## Odisha lost 25 years of development under 25-year BJD rule: Amit Shah



**Nayagarh(KCN):** Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah Tuesday asserted that Odisha lost 25 years of development under the 25-year BJD rule in the state, during which various sectors like healthcare, education and infrastructure got “derailed”.

Shah, addressing a poll rally at Nayagarh, also sought clarification from Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on the missing keys of Puri Jagannath temple’s Ratna Bhandar. “Odisha is the most prosperous state in the country, but people of the state are poor. If you want to get rid of

this, you need to vote for (Narendra) Modi ji and make him the PM again. You gave Naveen babu 25 years, but the state lost 25 years of development,” he said at the public meeting. “Odisha’s healthcare, education system and infrastructure got derailed under the BJD rule; only PM Modi can bring these back on track,” he asserted. Shah also said after coming to power, the BJP government will punish those responsible for the missing keys of the Ratna Bhandar. “I want to ask Naveen babu, where are the keys of the Ratna Bhandar and why he has not made public the judicial commission report (on the missing keys)?” the home minister said.

**Nadda, Adityanath, Himanta to address poll rallies in Odisha May 23**

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** BJP president JP Nadda and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma will address election rallies in Odisha May 23, a senior party leader said Tuesday. While Nadda will address four meetings at Karanjia, Dhamnagar, Barchana and Balikuda, Adityanath, who will campaign in Odisha for the first time this election, will address rallies at Chilika and Kulia, BJP’s state unit vice-president Golak Mohapatra said. Sarma, on the other hand, will address rallies in Deogarh, Barbil, Choudwar and Baramba. Senior BJP leader Arun Govil, who is best known for playing Lord Ram in the TV series ‘Ramayana’, will address public meetings in Champua, Telkoi, Bhubaneswar and Dhenkanal May 22. Elections will be held in Sambalpur, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Puri and Bhubaneswar Lok Sabha seats and 42 Assembly segments falling under their parliamentary constituencies May 25.

## “Opposition Leaders Are Having Sleepless Nights”: BJD’s Kartik Pandian Campaigns In Keonjhar



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Senior BJD leader Kartik Pandian on Tuesday hit the campaign trail in Keonjhar Lok Sabha constituency to further strengthen party’s position in the simultaneous elections. The BJD star campaigner addressed massive public meetings in Champua and Karanjia Assembly constituencies under the Keonjhar Lok Sabha segment, seeking support for his party candidates. Coming down heavily on the opposition, Kartik Pandian said the BJP went all the way to High court to Supreme Court to stop the Srimandir Parikrama project, but with the blessings of Lord Jagannath, they failed and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik succeeded in constructing the project. He further said that other states keep reducing the tribal budget, but in Odisha

the Chief Minister keeps increasing the tribal budget all the time. The Chief Minister has a special place for the tribal brothers and sisters in his heart. He has set up Special Development Council (SDC) for the development and preservation of art, culture and places of worship of the tribal. No other state, even the BJP-ruled states, has done this for the tribals, Pandian said. The Chief Minister has also started the LABHA (Laghu Bana Jatya Drabya Kraya) Yojana to purchase forest produce of the tribals at fair prices. Over 50,000 small cases have been removed against the tribals, the BJD leader said. The BJD star campaigner reiterated

that Naveen Patnaik will once again take oath as the Chief Minister on June 9 with the blessings of Mahaprabhu and people of Odisha. After becoming Chief Minister, his first order will be free power supply for 90 per cent population of Odisha, the second order will be the extension of Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) for all and the third order will be pension for Mission Shakti members after age of 60 years, Kartik Pandian said. After seeing the remarkable works of the Chief Minister, the opposition leaders are having sleepless nights. Now they are trying to spread lies and false propagandas, he further said while appealing the people to give their votes in favor of the BJD candidates in the elections.

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** A low-pressure area is likely to form over the Southwest Bay of Bengal around May 22, predicted the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). The system may move north-eastwards initially and intensify into a depression over the central Bay of Bengal by approximately May 24. Alerts for heavy to very heavy rainfall have been issued for Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapada, and Mayurbhanj. Similarly, heavy rainfall is very



likely to occur in one or two places over Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Jajpur and Keonjhar. (The alert will remain valid from May 25 to 0830 hours of May 26). “A low-pressure system

is going to develop in the south Bay of Bengal during 22-23 May. Will it evolve as #CycloneRemal moves to the East Coast? Ocean and atmospheric conditions are

favourable in South Bay, with 2-3 degree Celsius warmer sea surface temperatures and a Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) reaching there,” Roxy Mathew Koll, a climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology wrote on X. He added that sea surface temperature in the south Bay of Bengal has been recorded as 2-3 degrees Celsius warmer than normal for a long time, providing a constant supply of heat and moisture which is essential for the formation of a cyclone.

## Maoist Camp Busted In Nuapada, Huge Cache Of Ammunition, Cash Seized

**Nuapada(KCN):** Security forces on Tuesday busted a Maoist camp and seized a huge cache of cash, arms and ammunition from Shivranyanpur area under Sosenga village panchayat of Komna block near Sunabeda sanctuary in Nuapada district, SP Gundala Reddy Raghvendra informed. The search operation has been launched since 3 am yesterday. Also, there was an



exchange of fire between the Maoists and the SOG Jawans. Afterwards, another SOG team reached the forest. They carried out a search operation and found a Maoist camp there. About 10-12 Maoists hidden

inside the camp started firing at the jawans. In response, the jawans also opened fire. During the exchange of fire, some of the Maoists sustained injuries. The cops seized a huge cache of

ammunition from the camp such as a pistol, Rs 4 lakh, a 5-round revolver, 30 numbers small batteries, Maoist uniform, a radio etc. The search operation is continuing, SP Raghavendra said.

## Stop maligning Tamils for votes, Stalin tells PM Modi over his Ratna Bhandar keys remarks

**Chennai(KCN):** Ruling DMK President and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin Tuesday took strong exception to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s remarks that the missing keys of Lord Jagannath’s treasury in Odisha have gone to Tamil Nadu, alleging it was an attempt at maligning Tamils for the sake of votes. Modi should stop making such maligning remarks against Tamils, he said in

a statement here, a day after Modi’s comments came at an election rally in Odisha. While lashing out at the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD government in Odisha Monday, the PM had said that “even the temple of Lord Jagannath in Puri is not safe in the hands of this government,” expressing concern over the missing keys of Lord Jagannath’s Ratna Bhandar (treasury) for the last six years. Modi had said Odisha wants to know why the



BJD has suppressed the judicial commission report on Ratna Bhandar keys. “The role of the BJD in the case is suspect. The BJP government, after it comes to power June 10 will make the report public,” Modi had said, adding it is said that the Ratna Bhandar key has gone to Tamil Nadu. Taking exception, Stalin alleged Modi was “creating a feeling of enmity between people and anger between states with his hatred speeches.”

Referring to the PM’s comments on the missing Ratna Bhandar keys, he said “it amounts to insulting Lord Jagannath, revered by crores of people, besides insulting and hurting the people of Tamil Nadu who have good relations and friendship with the state of Odisha.” “Can PM Modi disparage the people of Tamil Nadu as thieves stealing the treasure of a temple... doesn’t it

amount to insulting Tamil Nadu. Why such dislike and hatred for Tamils,” the CM asked. People will understand Modi’s “duplicity” of praising the Tamil language and the people while in Tamil Nadu but speaking ill of them while canvassing votes in states like Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha, he said. “The PM should stop maligning Tamil Nadu and Tamils for votes,” Stalin said.

# Kakatpur Constituency : An Electoral Tug-of-War Amidst Party Rifts and Strategic Alliances

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau):** As the forthcoming assembly elections approach, the Kakatpur constituency has become a battleground of strategic maneuvers and shifting alliances with the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress vying for supremacy. In the fray for BJD is Tusar Kanti Behera, who is focused on consolidating his base by rallying dissident BJD party workers. Behera's efforts are aimed at mending internal fractures within

the party and presenting a united front to secure a victory. However, the task is proving to be challenging as the ruling party struggles to reconcile differences among its cadres. On the other side, the BJP candidate Baidhar Mallick is strengthening his campaign by leveraging support from rebel BJD leaders. Notable among his supporters are ex-MLA Surendra Sethy, Dibakar Chhatoi, Kakatpur block chairman Sridhar Nayak, Astarang ex-chairman Sasmita



Chhatoi, and Astarang block chairman Arati Nayak. This coalition of influential figures is bolstering Mallick's organizational might, potentially siphoning off significant votes from BJD's traditional base. Amid this intense rivalry, Congress

candidate Biswabhusan Das (Biswa) is emerging as a potential game changer. With the possibility of BJD votes being split between Behera and Mallick, Das could find himself in a favorable position. Local voter sentiment indicates a growing

undercurrent of sympathy and support for Biswa, positioning him as a strong contender. The division of votes within the BJD camp, exacerbated by the presence of Baidhar Mallick and his band of rebel leaders, is a

significant concern for Tusar Kanti Behera. This internal discord is seen as a critical weakness that could be exploited by both the BJP and Congress. If Behera cannot unify the party workers and mitigate the influence of the rebels, the BJD might face a significant setback in Kakatpur. Conversely, Baidhar Mallick's campaign strategy of aligning with disaffected BJD leaders is proving to be effective in mobilizing grassroots support. This tactic not only strengthens his position but also threatens to

dilute the BJD's voter base, creating a complex electoral landscape. Biswa's strategic advantage lies in the probable fragmentation of the BJD vote. As voters weigh their options amidst the infighting within the BJD and the aggressive campaigning by the BJP, the Congress candidate could capitalize on this division. Voter views suggest that Das is gaining traction and if the current trends continue, he may emerge victorious. The Kakatpur

constituency is thus witnessing a dynamic and unpredictable electoral contest. The BJD's efforts to reunify and present a cohesive campaign, the BJP's strategic alliances with rebel leaders and the Congress candidate's rising popularity all contribute to a tightly contested race. As election day approaches, the ability of each candidate to navigate these challenges will determine the outcome in this politically significant constituency.

# Miraculous Turnover in Nimapara Politics : BJD Stronghold Falters as Sameer Ranjan Dash Joins BJP

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau):** In an unexpected political shift, the Nimapara constituency, traditionally a bastion of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) is witnessing a dramatic change in its political landscape. Sameer Ranjan Dash, the seasoned BJD leader and three-time MLA, has been denied a party ticket for the upcoming election amid allegations of involvement in various misdeeds. This decision has not only shaken the foundations of BJD's dominance in the region but has also catalyzed a significant political realignment. At the same time, BJD named Dillip Nayak, a newcomer from the BJP, as its candidate. With the party organization previously under Dash's control, BJD has taken a huge risk by neglecting him. Following his debarring, Dash, along with a substantial number of his supporters, resigned from



the BJD and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This move has significantly strengthened the BJP's position, particularly boosting the campaign of Pravati Parida, the BJP candidate for Nimapara-Gop. The defection of Dash and his supporters has turned the political tides, creating an unprecedented situation where erstwhile rivals are now allies under the BJP banner. Pravati Parida, who was once Dash's main competitor, stands to benefit immensely from this alliance. With Dash's support, Parida is now in a strong position to

secure a victory in the forthcoming elections. This alliance has not only bolstered her campaign but has also sent ripples through the BJD camp, which now finds itself on the back foot in what was once considered its impregnable territory. The convergence of Dash's influential network and Parida's candidacy has the potential to reshape the electoral dynamics of Nimapara. Dash's loyal voter base, combined with Parida's established presence, presents a formidable challenge to the BJD, which is scrambling to regain its footing. This political

development highlights the fluidity and unpredictability of electoral politics in Odisha. The realignment in Nimapara is a testament to the impact that strategic defections and alliances can have on local political equations. As the elections approach, all eyes will be on Nimapara-Gop to see if the BJP can capitalize on this miraculous turnover and clinch a victory that once seemed improbable. The shift of Sameer Ranjan Dash and his supporters to the BJP marks a significant turning point in Nimapara's political narrative.

# ICAR-CIFRI organized Capacity-building programme on ‘Inland Fisheries Management’

**Kolkata, (KCN):** ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute conducted a 7-day capacity building programme on ‘Inland Fisheries Management’ during 14-20 May 2024, for the fish farmers of Madhepura district of Bihar. 30 fish farmers alongwith one fisheries development officer attended the training program. The training program was sponsored by Directorate of Fisheries, Govt of Bihar. In his inaugural address, Dr. B.K. Das, Director ICAR-CIFRI stressed the need for fishers to learn about inland fisheries management to secure a sustainable livelihood. He urged fishers to use their available resources to maximize outputs and productivity. He also emphasised that each trainee should become a master trainer and train five to seven fishers of his neighbourhood. The week-long training programme covered inland fisheries, and fish farming including pond



management, induced breeding, composite fish farming, ornamental fisheries, enclosure culture, fish health management, and a general overview of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. Participants were also introduced to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), ornamental hatchery units, and fish

feed mill. As part of the field visit of the trainees, local visit of ICAR-CIFA Kalyani Fish Farms, Halishahar Fish Farm, wastewater culture at East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW), Ornamental fish markets, and other locations was organised. The participants received their training certificate from Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI

after completion of training on 20 May 2024. Dr. Das congratulated all the participants on their successful training. Training Programme was coordinated by Mr. Ganesh Chandra and Ms. Anjana Ekka with assistance from Shri Sujit Chowdhury, Dr. Avishek Saha, Shri Manabendra Roy and Shri Kaushik Saha.



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## Did you know AR Murugadoss wanted to cast Salman Khan as lead in 'Ghajini'?

Filmmaker AR Murugadoss wanted Salman Khan in his hit film 'Ghajini'. Pradeep Rawat, who played the villain in the movie, disclosed it in a recent interview.

Actor Pradeep Rawat, who played the primary antagonist in the hit film 'Ghajini', recently disclosed that the film's director, AR Murugadoss, wanted Salman Khan as its lead. Headlined by Aamir Khan, the film also starred Asin in a crucial role.

In an interview with Siddharth Kannan,

Pradeep Rawat, who played the titular character in 'Ghajini', opened up about the making of the film. He said that Murugadoss wanted to make the film in Hindi and desired to cast Salman Khan in it. However, Rawat mentioned that he did not feel Salman was the right choice.

Rawat said, "I thought in my mind 'Salman is short-tempered and Murugadoss doesn't speak in English or Hindi. He didn't even have a personality back then." He further added that he



proposed Aamir's name because he was 'cool-tempered' and 'behaves respectfully with everyone'. "I thought

Aamir would be the right choice for the role because he was cool-tempered and behaves respectfully towards

everyone. In the past 25 years, I have not seen Aamir shout or yell at anyone. He has never disrespected anyone or

used abusive language. So I thought, nature-wise, Salman cannot be handled or there would be unnecessary complications", Pradeep said.

In the same interview, Pradeep also mentioned that Aamir only agreed to do the film because he couldn't say no to him. 'Ghajini' released in 2008.

Meanwhile, Salman has joined forces with Murugadoss for his next film, 'Sikandar'. It also stars Rashmika Mandanna in a key role and is slated for a release in theatres in 2025.

## Zee Rishtey Awards Is Back! Nominations are OUT

After entertaining viewers with stories and characters that have found their place in their hearts, Zee TV is all set to enthrall the audience yet again with its annual celebration of Zee Rishtey Awards. Year after year, the grand extravaganza has celebrated the deeply cherished relationships that the viewers have with their favourite Zee TV characters while awarding the finest work by the actors, directors, producers, creative teams and technicians. However, this year, with Holi just around the corner, what better platform for families to come together and celebrate the festival of colours than Zee Rishtey Awards? So, get set for a splash of vibrant colours as the Zee Kutumb comes together

to celebrate familial bonds with a night full of splendid performances, lively banter, and light-hearted pranks because - BURA NA MAANO, FAMILY HAI!

Zee TV kicked off the festivities by hosting a star-studded Nomination Party which saw everyone's favourite Zee TV faces take to the red carpet in their most glamorous and stylish attires, captivating everyone present. Popular stars like Shabir Ahluwalia, Sriti Jha, Shraddha Arya, Dheeraj Dhoopar, Arjun Bijlani, Arjit Taneja, Neeharika Roy, Nikki Sharma, Paras Kalnawat, Sana Sayyad, Baseer Ali, Shakti Anand, Rohit Suchanti, Aishwarya Khare, Maera Mishra, Krishna Kaul, Abrar Qazi, Rachi Sharma, Avinash Rekhi, Tanisha Mehta, Manasi



Joshi Roy, Navika Kotia, Karanvir Sharma, Aditi Sharma, Richa Rathore, Yesha Rughani, Seerat Kapoor made heads turn at the Zee Rishtey Awards' Nomination Party.

The stars of Zee Kutumb looked stunning on the red carpet with their stylish and glamorous outfits. While the heartthrob Dheeraj Dhoopar stole everyone's heart in his black studded suit, popular actor Shabir Ahluwalia walked the

red carpet in a quirky combination- Blue Jodhpuri paired with sneakers. Renowned actor Avinash Rekhi looked handsome in a black suit, and Tanisha Mehta looked

gorgeous in an all-green Indian ensemble. Manasi Joshi Roy and Navika Kotia also stole the show with their beautiful and elegant looks. Shraddha Arya wowed everyone with her lovely pink saree, and Nikki Sharma looked elegant in her

sea green lehenga. The handsome boys of television, Arjun Bijlani and Arjit Taneja looked dapper in suits. Paras Kalnawat also looked dashing with his co-actors Sana Sayyad and Baseer Ali. Amongst the beautiful ladies, Sriti Jha made heads turn in a red evening gown. Popular Jodi Rohit Suchanti and Aishwarya Khare also graced the red carpet in an all-black and royal blue ensemble respectively.

The Zee Kutumb, then, gathered to witness some wonderful acts. They even indulged in some fun games and engaged in some light-hearted banter during the Nomination Party. With loads of surprises in store for the night, you cannot miss the Zee Rishtey Awards' Nomination Party, when it airs at 5:30 PM on Sunday, 18th February on Zee TV.

Now that the nominations are announced, vote for your favourites by giving a missed call on - 8291829173 for your Favourite Jodi, 8291829174 - Favourite Character - Male, 8291829175 - Favourite character - Female, 8291829176 - Favourite Dharaahik. Viewers can also vote via zra2024.zee5.com.

## Jackie Shroff, Neena Gupta Win Hearts In 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka', Fan Urges Everyone To 'Forget The Archies'

Veteran actor Jackie Shroff has struck another chord with the audience with his family entertainer 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka'. Critics and fans alike are showering love on Jackie for his heartfelt portrayal in this film that explores the highs and lows of life.

Sharing the screen with the talented Neena Gupta, reviews highlight the delightful on-screen chemistry between the two seasoned actors. Critics expressed, "Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta shine as individual performers but

also have great onscreen chemistry. Their random conversations, such as about body hair, are as hilarious as deep ones are heart-touching - Kamath compares his lonely existence to the sea waves crashing against rocks. Jackie is outstanding in a scene towards the end when he has a monologue where he compares human life to a video game."

Another fan added, "A sweet little gem called Mast Mein Rehne Ka released along with Archies. Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta.



Jackie's best performance since Gardish days.." A fan compared it to 'The Archies' and wrote, "Everyone needs to forget about archies and focus on Neena Gupta Jackie Shroff Rakhi Sawant in mast mein

rehne ka." Fans have taken to social media to express their admiration for the legendary actor. It is evident that Jackie Shroff's magnetic presence and nuanced performance have made 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka' a

must-watch for those seeking a heartwarming cinematic experience. The legendary actor continues to captivate audiences with his timeless charm and unmatched acting prowess.

In the film, the two will be seen overcoming loneliness in Mumbai city. "I agree today our life has become difficult. Youngsters are facing a lot of problems...there's so much competition out there but we should not take too much stress in our life. Thoda mast mein bhi hona chahiye (There

should be some fun too)," Neena Gupta told ANI. Echoing the same sentiments, Jackie Shroff said, "One should maintain a perfect balance in life... be healthy... do yoga, love nature... use technology but use it for good...Everyone is dealing with some kind of problem in their life..it all depends on how one reacts to it... Take care of health." 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka' is now streaming on Prime Video.

## Animal: Sara Ali Khan Never Auditioned For Triptii Dimri's Role In Ranbir Kapoor-Bobby Deol's Starrer

Actress Triptii Dimri might have a brief appearance in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest blockbuster 'Animal', but the actress has managed to become the talk of the town for her performance. Her intimate scenes with Ranbir Kapoor in the film have been a topic of debate on the internet with a section of people criticizing the makers for promoting toxic masculinity. While Triptii Dimri has been garnering acclaim for her portrayal in the film, several reports

claimed that Sara Ali Khan had auditioned for the role of 'Zoya' but could not crack it. Putting all the rumors to rest, an industry insider revealed that "Sara Ali Khan never auditioned for Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest released 'Animal'."

For the unversed, rumours of Sara Ali Khan auditioning for the role played by Triptii Dimri in the film made headlines recently. The report claimed that Sandeep wasn't convinced that Sara would be able to pull off



the bold scene in the film. He, however, was impressed by Triptii when she auditioned for the role and cast her in the film, claimed the report.

Sara Ali Khan is among the prominent Bollywood actresses of this

generation. She made headlines with her debut in 'Kedarnath' and has been a part of films like 'Atrangi Re', 'Love Aaj Kal', 'Simmba', 'Coolie No 1', 'Luka', 'Gaslight' among others. She was recently seen in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke'

opposite Vicky Kaushal. She will be next seen in 'Ae Watan Mere Watan', which will premiere on Amazon Prime Video. Triptii Dimri played the role of 'Zoya' in Animal. Though she had a small screen time, her role is one of the most talked-about elements of the film. Triptii Dimri spoke about her intimate scenes with Ranbir Kapoor in 'Animal'. She said that Ranbir and Sandeep made sure that she was comfortable doing the scenes. She also mentioned Ranbir coming and checking up on her

every 5 minutes to ensure that she is not feeling awkward.

Triptii made her acting debut in the comedy film 'Poster Boys' (2017) and had her first lead role in the romantic drama 'Laila Majnu' (2018). She gained acclaim for her performances in Anvita Dutt's films 'Bulbbul' (2020) and 'Qala' (2022), before bagging 'Animal'. She has a film with Vicky Kaushal among her upcoming projects. Released on December 1, 'Animal' is getting an overwhelming response from the audience.



In modern era, though the human being is elated by developing the techno-scientific approaches which prove the agility to create new universe by Big-Bang theory, but knowingly or unknowingly in the name of prosperities he is inviting holocaust in universe. While proving himself as the pioneer of development by utilising natural resources but on other side he is also responsible for the destruction of environment by its ridiculous erratic approaches which is a matter of great concern. Considering the scientific intelligence as above all, the destructive results of imbalance of five elements of universe is experienced predominantly in the earth. Severe devastation will be seen if the situation goes out of control. The natural resources can't be the endless property and hence can be finished in near future which will lead to war in the

society. The safe and balanced approach towards its sustainability can be an emerging challenge in present scenario. The arbitrary misuse of limited stock of natural resources will end up with inviting devastating environmental pollution. The modern developmental legacy needs the most essential approach towards management of wastes. Without this the five essential elements of universe will not be in equilibrium. Globally, every year 2.1 billion tonnes of MSW generated and till 2050 this will reach to 3.8 billion tonnes with an increase of 70%. The total solid waste generated globally is 11.2 billion tonnes which is responsible for 5% of total green house gas pollution. Similarly in India out of 62 million tonnes, 43 million tonnes of solid wastes are collected and disposed of while 30% of it are dumped in landfill. It is estimated that by 2050 solid waste generation will reach to 436 million tonnes which is a matter of great concern. The inappropriate management of solid waste results in soil pollution which affects the fertility. Additionally, the environment is

polluted with pungent smell. The breeding of mosquito, flies and rodents causes serious epidemic. The leachate created due to contact of water with waste pollutes the nearby surface and ground water which poses threats to drinking water and agriculture. The emission of carbon dioxide due to open burning of waste increases the greenhouse gas thereby increasing the global warming. The dumping of plastics in landfill creates pressure on earth which has a chance for probable earthquake. The animal husbandry eats plastics which causes serious health issues and sometimes death. Most of the plastics are nondegradable and hence emit Diethylhydroxylamine which causes cancer, liver disease, loss of weight, infertility etc. Hence it is pertinent to implement 5'R method for safe and effective management of solid waste i.e. Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover. These self-explanatory procedures to be followed hand in hand with government bodies. Every household ought to segregate wastes and to be disposed of as per law. The biodegradable

Dr.Sanjaya Kumar Panda

organic wastes to be collected and used in vermicomposting in every household. This organic fertilizer to utilised in kitchen garden. The government should facilitate subsidy, conduct awareness programmes and implement strict rules for safe disposal of wastes. Latest technologies like GPS, ROBOT and AI should be utilised for effective management. In the universe 71% of water covers the surface of earth with 97.3% is sea water and rest 2.7% is fresh water. Out of this fresh water quantity only 2.9% fresh water is available to us via river, lake, other water bodies and ground water. This little amount of water serves the living kingdom like nectar and hence it is the moral responsibility of all to conserve and protect from pollution. It is estimated that an average of 70% water is polluted and not fit for safe drinking. Everyday 40 million litre of polluted water discharged to water bodies which poses serious threat to middle class groups. The water pollution ends up in reducing 50% of GDP and 16% of agriculture growth rate. It is shameless that India reserves its positions as

3rd out of 134 most polluting countries in world. Hence the purification and treatment of water is the only solution left out for health living. The industrial and sewage water needs to be treated and utilised for agriculture and reuse in industries. The rivers like Ganga, Yamuna and Mahanadi etc which envisages the spirituality must be pollution free for betterment of river bank civilisation. The rural water bodies which are enriched with nutrient due to eutrophication must be treated immediately which will lessen BOD by removal of algae and plankton which will increase the quality of drinking water and also growth of aquatic lives. Air pollution emerges as most troubling issue in the world. The emission of greenhouse gases is a major concern in the planet where China is the most contributing country followed by USA. According to 2015 Paris agreement, the associate countries should reduce the global warming temperature by 2% but rampant violation of treaty increases the global warming by 3%. The effect of global warming clearly experienced with current temperature

exceeds 44 degree in Orissa, the highest in Asia. Survey declares that approximately 6.7 million people die due to air pollution every year across the world, out of which 89% people belong to Southeast Asia and East pacific region. As per WHO 99% of people lives in air polluted environment having cancer, lungs, liver, bronchitis and heart attack diseases. Air pollution increases mainly due to fossil fuels, industrial pollution discharge, wild fires, in-house pollution, transportation, open burning of wastes, microbial decompositions, construction & demolitions, agricultural activities and chemical manufacturing etc. These are all responsible for global warming by emission of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulphur oxide, nitrogen oxide etc. Furthermore, massive use of air conditions, refrigerators produces chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) which perforates Ozone layer. The penetration of UV rays of sun light through the Ozone layer creates panic in eyes and dermatitis issues. Plastic Pollution in pilgrimages, religious

institutions, marine drives, Commercial places poses serious threats to planet. Single use plastic is mostly responsible for pollution. Time is ripening to convert waste to worth. By using advance technologies energy can be produced from plastics and new fancy products can be manufactured by microbial degradation. As per data of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), by 2050 the proportion of plastic will be more than aquatic lives in sea. Therefore atomic irradiation techniques to be adopted to combat plastic pollution. Atomic science and technologies are helpful in identifying and segregating the microplastics. Enzymes can be used for degradation of microplastics. Again, the chemical chain of microplastics can be disintegrated by using fungus. Bibot Robot and floating collectors using air bubble techniques are used for reduction of plastic pollution in sea, thereby increasing the financial and aquatic growth. Planet can be purified by nullifying water, earth and sky pollution. To dream the zero-pollution planet there must be collective responsibilities of whole

world with systematic, disciplined usage of advance technologies. The awareness and educative programmes to be conducted starting from secondary schools, universities and village levels by conducting road side plays, cultural activities, workshops etc. Apart from all these, adoption of common transportation facilities, maintaining simple living, afforestation, solar energy use, avoiding energy losses, no use of plastics, community living styles etc will lessen the burden of environmental pollution by maintaining sustainable environmental equilibrium. On the eve of World Mother Earth Day, each one should swear to protect the earth by reducing at least 60% of plastic pollution by 2040. If it is achieved then the revolution that had been started on 1970 by Gerald Nelson, The American Senator to save the earth will be treated as sustainably successful.

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Reference: Golden Jubilee of Initiation

Acharya Mahashraman: A Beacon of Peace



Many great personalities have been born on the land of India, Acharya Mahashraman is among one of them and increase the glory of India on spiritual front. Carrying forward this tradition of Mahavira, Buddha, Gandhi, Acharya Tulsi and Acharya Mahapragya, he raised himself, did great and rigorous sadhana, gained experience and on the basis of his experience, gave the message of peace, non-violence, love, harmony, and promotes the concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam to the world. Acharya Mahashraman has given a new vision to the fading spiritual tradition of the past. This new vision can be called the beginning of a new man, a new world, a new era. His humility and dedication are giving height to his spirituality. Just like Hanuman's devotion and dedication towards Lord Ram,

Acharya Mahashraman has the same dedication towards his guru Acharya Tulsi and Acharya Mahapragya. The Golden Jubilee of the initiation of Acharya Shri Mahashramanji is being celebrated on a nationwide level on 22 May 2024, i.e. Vaishakh Shukla Chaudas. Acharya Mahashramanji became the epitome of a flawless personality and the secret of this specialty is his strong effort, his dedication, unwavering resolve, unbroken faith and devotion to the goal. Emerson has rightly said that when nature has to accomplish a great task, it creates a genius to do it. Certainly, Acharya Mahashramanji was also born for the accomplishment of some great task. Many such great works are associated with his life; one of the special undertakings among them was the Ahimsa Yatra. In this historical, unforgettable and unique journey of his eight years, Acharya Mahashramanji spread the message of non-violence and peace by walking about seventy thousand kilometers in nineteen states and three neighboring countries including India. He made about one crore people take a pledge to give

up addiction. The reaching of this Yatra to Naxalite and Maoist areas in the adverse circumstances of earthquake and corona in Nepal was a symbol of Acharya Mahashraman's strong determination, strong morale and self-confidence. Acharya Mahashraman's Ahimsa Yatra in remote areas of the country - Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh etc. including neighbouring countries like Nepal and Bhutan and the special emphasis on non-violence in it has proved fruitful for the establishment of non-violence. India has a unique history of padayatras; whether it is the historic yatra to Lanka undertaken by Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram for the victory of truth over untruth or the Dandi March of 1930 that shook the entire British Empire with a handful of salt, Baba Amte's Bharat Jodo Yatra or the Ekta Yatra dedicated to national integrity, communal harmony and international brotherhood, the importance of yatra cannot be denied. In Indian life, padayatra has been accepted as a powerful medium of public relations. These padayatras directly confront the social, cultural and political reality. They

enlighten the public consciousness and give it a turn suitable to the times. Lord Mahavira had sowed the seeds of spirituality in the minds of the people there by roaming in many regions during his lifetime. But in the series of these yatras, Acharya Shri



Mahashramanji has carved new paths. Acharya Shri Mahashraman has come to be known as the "sun who walks on foot" as a result of having undertaken the longest padayatra (foot journey) among all the previous acharyas in a particular period. My first meeting with Acharya Mahashraman as a twelve year old monk in Ladnun was a unique and memorable event of my childhood. But my introduction to his profound thoughts four and a half decades later is an even more unique

-Lalit Garg-

event because his thoughts touched the strings of my mind. When he sheds the light of his transparent vision on the small issues of life, it seems as if the rays of the sun have spread on the fog-filled path. The clouds of the mind are removed and the

thinking, he believes that if anyone can truly represent the world, then only India can do so, because even today non-violence is deeply ingrained in the soul of India. I believe that if India forgets spirituality, it will die a natural death. Acharya Shri

clear sky has risen. Acharya Mahashraman believes that the nation which has forgotten its culture cannot be a truly living and awakened nation. In his view, Indian culture means high culture, culture of sacrifice, culture of restraint and culture of spirituality. He is overwhelmed by the dignity of Indian culture, hence he keeps on telling the countrymen about the great cultural values of India many times. The biggest expectation is that India should learn to evaluate itself and regain its lost prestige. On the basis of this wide and deep

Mahashraman thinks that Indian culture is not only the oldest, but also rich and vibrant, hence we should solve any national problem through our cultural elements, and otherwise mental slavery will not allow us to be as proud of our culture. Explaining the reason for cultural unity in India, the national poet Dinkar said - "Indian culture absorbed other cultures coming from outside on the strength of its coordination power, hence its flow continued." In the context of the same Indian culture, the current experiences of Acharya Shri Mahashraman have

become inspiring, accurate and poignant. India is a land of action, not a land of enjoyment. The civilization that developed here will not be defeated by anyone in the world. If we try to imitate the western civilization, we will be ruined. This does not mean that we should not adopt what is good in it and what we can digest. In his short tenure as Acharya, Acharya Mahashraman highlighted every aspect of the development of human consciousness. He did a unique job of incorporating the tragedy and challenges of the era by selecting such life values from the tradition of Krishna, Mahavira, Buddha, Jesus as well as many saints of the Indian spiritual sky - Adi Shankaracharya, Kabir, Nanak, Raidas, Meera etc. There is no such aspect of life which has remained untouched by his sermons and thoughts. He has elaborately shed light on the deep mysteries of yoga, tantra, mantra, yantra, sadhana, meditation etc. He has also given his revolutionary life-view on many subjects like politics, art, science, psychology, philosophy, education, family,

society, poverty, population explosion, environment, violence, casteism, corruption, political criminalization, foeticide and the global crisis of inflation. When his discourse series based on Uttaradhyayan and Shrimad Bhagwad Gita came out, it initiated a new revolution in the spiritual world. Like Uttaradhyayan, a Jain Acharya has given an accurate and authoritative interpretation of the revered book of Sanatan tradition, Gita, is not only surprising but also inspiring. That is why Acharya Mahashraman is popular and respected among the people as the messiah of humanity. He is such a saint for whom the difference of sect and book does not become an obstacle. Your programs, thoughts and discourses are for the welfare of all. People of every caste, class, region and sect have been benefiting from your life-philosophy and personality.

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# Heartbroken By Plight Of Sandeshkhali Women: Mamata Banerjee In Basirhat

**Basirhat(KCN):** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said she was heartbroken over the plight of women in Sandeshkhali and asserted that the BJP should not have played with the dignity of women in the trouble-torn area as its "conspiracy now stands exposed". Addressing a rally in Basirhat, Ms Banerjee slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for talking to Sandeshkhali protester and BJP candidate Rekha Patra over the phone, alleging that the country has the "worst track record in terms of women's safety and security under the BJP rule". Sandeshkhali falls under the Basirhat Lok Sabha seat in North 24 Parganas district.

"I am sorry for whatever has happened to the women of Sandeshkhali and the way they have been humiliated. I express my sadness from the core of my heart. Nobody should dare to play with the dignity of women," Ms Banerjee said. "People would have never understood how the BJP had hatched the conspiracy, had the videos not surfaced. The BJP should not play with the dignity of women," she said in her first visit to the Lok Sabha seat since the flare-up in January this year. Ms Banerjee's remarks come in the backdrop of multiple purported videos surfacing on social media, which claimed that a local BJP leader made several women of Sandeshkhali sign blank

papers, which were later filled up as complaints of sexual assault against TMC leaders. The Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo said she would soon visit the Sandeshkhali region. "As soon as our candidate Haji Nurul wins Basirhat, my first visit will be to Sandeshkhali. I will go to meet the people there," she said. The riverine Sandeshkhali area, situated on the borders of the Sundarbans, about 100 kilometres from Kolkata, has been on the boil since February with protests over allegations of sexual abuse and land grab against now-arrested TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh and his supporters. "PM calls someone over the phone, holds a tutored conversation, and



circulates that on television. But how many people does he actually talk to like this? It is under his tenure that the country saw maximum crime against women. BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh is the first when it comes to crime against scheduled caste and scheduled tribe," she

said. Ms Banerjee said both her party and the state government have taken immediate action whenever "one or two incidents" have taken place. Since the first week of May, four videos have been released by a portal. In the first one, a man

who claimed to be a BJP mandal president in Sandeshkhali was heard saying that the leader of the opposition in the West Bengal assembly, Suwendu Adhikari, was behind the "whole conspiracy". The second video was about women, who had earlier filed rape

complaints, claiming that they were made to sign a blank paper by local BJP leaders and coerced to go to the police station. In the third one, BJP candidate from Basirhat constituency and Sandeshkhali protestor Rekha Patra was heard saying that she "doesn't know the rape survivors who were taken to Delhi to meet the President." In the fourth video, a BJP leader purportedly said that over 70 women had received ? 2,000 each for taking part in protests against TMC strongman Shahjahan Sheikh who is accused of sexual assault and land grab. PTI could not independently verify the authenticity of any of the videos. Referring to the Calcutta High Court order on

Monday, which has issued an injunction restraining the BJP from publishing advertisements that violate the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) until June 4, the day the Lok Sabha election process ends, the chief minister alleged that the BJP has been spreading canards through misleading advertisements. "As part of Modi Babu's guarantee, they were spreading misleading advertisements in newspapers against us. We made multiple complaints against it stating that it was illegal but there was no action. Yesterday, the High Court also stated that it is indeed illegal. They don't release funds of MGNREGA but spend crores on conspiracy, to buy votes and spread propaganda," she added.

## Scorching Heat Pushes Delhi's Power Demand To All-Time High Of 7.7 Gigawatt

**New Delhi(KCN):** Delhi's peak power demand reached an all-time high of 7,717 MW today afternoon amid intense summer heat, Discom officials said. According to the State Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC), Delhi, real-time data, the peak demand of the city broke all previous records. Delhi's previous all-time high peak power demand was recorded at 7,695 MW on June 29, 2022, officials said. The national capital is reeling under intense heat with a steady temperature rise. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted heat wave conditions in many parts of Delhi and severe heatwave conditions in some areas. It has also issued a red alert for the next four days. According to the seven-



day forecast, the maximum temperature will be in the range of 44 to 47 degrees Celsius. The minimum temperature on Tuesday settled at 30.7 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal, according to the IMD. The maximum temperature of the day is expected to be around 45 degrees Celsius. The discom officials have projected the city's

peak power demand to cross 8,000 MW this summer to top around 8200 MW. On Monday Delhi's peak power demand clocked 7,572 MW – highest ever in May in Delhi. The previous peak power demand for May was 7,438 MW, recorded in 2023, discom officials said. A spokesperson of BSES discoms BRPL and BYPL said the peak

demand was met successfully in their respective distribution areas. On their part, BRPL and BYPL successfully met the peak power demand of 3,404 MW and 1728 MW in their respective areas. He said the BSES has made advance arrangements to meet the soaring power demand through power purchase agreements

and network strengthening through substantial investment. Around 2,100 MW of green power to play an important role in powering Delhi during the summer months, he added. Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) successfully met the peak power demand of 2,225 MW in its distribution area of North Delhi without any outages and network hindrances, said a spokesperson of the discom. The power demand can be attributed to weather conditions that lead residents to use more air conditioning and cooling appliances. Air conditioning can contribute to 30-50 per cent of the total annual energy consumption of any domestic or commercial establishment, discom officials said.

## 'Indulged In Destruction Of Evidence': Court Rejects Manish Sisodia's Bail In Liquor Policy Case

**New Delhi, (KCN):** The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed the bail petition of former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia in money laundering and corruption cases filed by the Enforcement Directorate and the CBI respectively in connection with the alleged liquor scam. Mr Sisodia, 52, allegedly indulged in the destruction of crucial evidence, including electronic evidence, said Justice Swarna Kanta Sharma, who started pronouncing the order at 6:28 pm. The order was read out for 22 minutes. "This court is of the opinion that petitioner has not been able to make out a case for grant of bail in his favour," the High Court said. The High Court said he was a very powerful and influential person within the power corridors of the Delhi government. At the time of his arrest, Mr Sisodia held 18 portfolios and was also a senior leader of the AAP. Mr Sisodia, said the court, used deceptive methods to show that the



Delhi liquor policy had public support but, in reality, the policy was enacted to benefit a few individuals. "This constitutes a form of corruption," the court held. Arvind Kejriwal's government was accused of corruption when it implemented a policy to liberalise the sale of liquor in 2021 and give up a lucrative government stake in the sector. The policy was withdrawn the following year, but the resulting probe into the alleged corrupt allocation of licences has since seen the jailing of two top AAP

leaders. The high court had on May 14 reserved its order on the petitions after hearing arguments on behalf of the AAP leader, CBI and ED. The trial court had recently rejected Mr Sisodia's bail petition in both the CBI and ED cases against him, leading to the present petition before the High Court. Manish Sisodia was arrested by the CBI on February 26 in connection with the liquor policy case. After this, he was arrested in the money laundering case on March 9 by the ED.

## "Beat Drums, Clang Thalīs," PM Tells Varanasi Women How To Boost Polling

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Anti-women" Opposition versus BJP welfare schemes -- this was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pitch to women in Varanasi today. And his special request to them was to ensure maximum possible voting. "Collect 25-30 women and go to the polling stations beating drums, clanging thalis, singing songs. If we can hold 20-25 such processions at each booth before 10 am, the voting figures will shoot up," he told the massive gathering of women this evening. The Prime Minister had gone campaigning today in his constituency, which is voting in the last phase on June 1. At the "Nari Shakti Sammelan", he launched a stinging attack on the opposition Congress and Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party, which are contesting the election as allies.



The Congress, the Prime Minister said, is against reservation, its ally, the Samajwadi Party is lax about law and order. "If something happens, then SP will say 'boys can make mistakes'. Let the boys 'make mistakes' now, Yogi-ji (Yogi Adityanath) would know how to deal with them," he said, recalling the 2014 shocker from the SP's late patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav.

Mulayam Singh Yadav had sparked outrage with his comment questioning the death sentence to three men convicted for two gang-rapes in Mumbai. "Should rape cases be punished with hanging? They are boys, they make mistakes," he had said. "The INDI Alliance's mentality has always been anti-women. They opposed women's reservation. Wherever their government comes

to power, it becomes difficult for women to live. The people of Banaras are familiar with the Jungle Raj in UP and Bihar. It was difficult for our sisters and daughters to step out of the house. Daughters had to leave their studies and sit at home due to safety concerns," he said. His big appeal to the women was through the party's social welfare schemes,

which he said, was saving every family so much money. Housing, health, free food, and subsidised cooking gas – he presented an itemised list of how much a family was saving under each head. He reminded them of the toilets built in every house, free bank accounts and even the free cataract operations for 3 lakh people of the constituency that he had got done as an MP. In an emotive appeal, he said, "For the first time in the past 10 years, women have come to the forefront of the government's policies and decisions. Although it hasn't been discussed much, it is a major factor in India's success story. Tell me, if the home cannot be run without you, how can the country be run without you? This was something that the governments did not understand for 60 years"

## Bengal Pro T20 League set to launch on June 11: player auction concludes successfully

**Kolkata (AMBAR MUKHERJEE):** The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) has announced that the first ever Bengal Pro T 20 League will go underway from June 11, 2024. The inaugural edition of the Bengal Pro T20 League will see 8 Teams fighting in both men and women categories. The eight teams are based on cities and districts of West Bengal, which are Kolkata, Howrah, Diamond Harbour, Medinipur, Siliguri, Murshidabad, Rarh (a region involving Bardhaman & Birbhum districts) and Malda. Rashmi Group owns the Medinipur franchise – "Rashmi Medinipur Wizards". The Lux Industries & Shyam Steel Consortium owns

Kolkata Royal Tigers, while Adamas owns the team Howrah Warriors, while the others claim the remaining teams. The Auction process for all the franchisees to select the players both for the men and women version was scheduled in a very professional way conceptualised on the lines of the IPL format and was completed recently amongst much fanfare and excitement. The main highlights include Anustup Majumdar, Shahbaz Ahmed, Manoj Tiwary, Mukesh Kumar, Abhimanyu Easwaran are amongst the men team captains while notable India women players Deepti Sharma, Dhara Gujjar, Richa Ghosh are among the women leaders.

The eight teams will leave no stone unturned to showcase their skills. The newly formed franchise underscored the team's broader objective of deepening their involvement in the Sports sector in West Bengal, leveraging it as a platform to expand their brand and connect with a wider audience. "We are really happy to have a formidable side both for men and women and we must thank Cricket Association of Bengal for organizing such wonderful and mesmerizing Players Drafting Process so that every Franchise can get a Balance team," stated by the Team Director, Shobhan Bhattacharya, Rashmi Medinipur Wizards, Rashmi Group.

# Odisha BJP Resorted To Violence Apprehending Defeat In Second Phase Poll, Alleges BJD

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** While the second phase of polling in Odisha for five MP seats and 35 assembly seats concluded today, there were reports of violence by Bharatiya Janata Party workers. , while addressing the press at BJD headquarters 'Sankha Bhawan' on Monday said: "BJP has resorted to violence in the second phase of poll, apprehending defeat. He narrated a series of incidents of violence by BJP workers during the polls on Monday. According to him, a stabbing case was reported under the Bargarh assembly

segment, where the accused, Ashok Mahanand, stabbed Biswnath Mirdha. This incident is a personal feud between two individuals and is not politically motivated. But the BJP wanted to make it a political issue and highlighted the same in that manner. According to sources, in Maheswarpinda Booth No 28 and Amurda Booth No 09, Roxa Gram Panchayat, Boudh Block, Kantamal Assembly Constituency, BJP leaders, workers, and supporters of BJP MLA Candidate Saroj Kumar Pradhan have engaged in booth capturing and

rigging. Smt. Kusum Tete BJP MLA Candidate Sundergarh Assembly constituency today 20-05-2024 along with her supporters threatened voters in Ward Number 7 of Sundergarh Municipality booth number 213. Shri Naveen Jain, BJP MLA Candidate for Titlagarh, has been continuously threatening BJD workers as he fears defeat. He is constantly intimidating people to vote in favor of the BJP or face severe consequences. At Atabira assembly constituency, BJP workers disguised as volunteers are coercing disabled voters to



vote for the BJP at Sualkhandta GP, Jogipali polling station, Booth No. 221. Similarly, at Bargaon, under Ainpali GP, Booth No. 212: BJP workers heckled BJD voters and booth agents. Again in Salepali, Areigudi GP,

Booth No. 246: BJP workers manhandled BJD men.

These incidents of violence are deeply concerning and raise serious doubts about the integrity of the electoral process in Odisha. It is imperative that immediate

action is taken to ensure the safety and security of all individuals involved in the election process. We urge the Election Commission of India to enhance security measures and ensure high security for voters to

uphold the principles of democracy and ensure a free and fair election in Odisha.

One particularly alarming incident occurred on the morning of May 20, 2024, in the Padampur assembly constituency. Shri Dayanidhi Suna, a resident of Village Sargibahal, Grampanchayat Sargibahal, was brutally attacked by BJP workers who are known supporters of Gobordhan Bhoy, the BJP MLA Candidate for Padampur. The attack took place near the Panchabhaya Booth, leaving Shri Suna severely injured. Additionally, the BJP workers issued life-

threatening warnings to him. Such acts of violence are completely unacceptable in a democratic society and severely undermine the principles of free and fair elections.

At Negimanda Village under the Bhatli Assembly Constituency, Shri Sananda Sahoo, a resident of Negimanda Village, was kidnapped and brutally thrashed by supporters of Shri Irashis Acharya, the BJP MLA candidate of Bhatli, solely for his initiative to open a Biju Janata Dal (BJD) office in the village, the BJD national spokesperson said.

## Odisha bags maximum medals at IndiaSkills for 2nd consecutive time



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Participants from Odisha shined at IndiaSkills 2024, by bagging the highest number of medals in the national championship for the second consecutive year, an official said Monday. IndiaSkills is the country's biggest skill competition. Odisha secured the first place in the medal tally nationwide, summing up the medals count to 51. The team from Odisha was warmly welcomed upon their arrival at Biju Patnaik International Airport here on Monday. "The dedication, hard work, and triumphs of the participants have made the entire state proud. May they keep shining and inspiring all with

remarkable achievements. Wish them all the best for the future," Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik posted on X and congratulated the winners from the state. Odisha bagged 17 gold, 13 silver and nine bronze medals, along with 12 'Medallion of Excellence' at the IndiaSkills 2024, thus hitting the highest medal tally across the country for the second consecutive time. Out of a total of 64 contestants of Odisha competing across 48 skills in IndiaSkills, 51 participants achieved medals across 41 different skills, the official said. They excelled in 48 skills

such as mobile robotics, information network cabling, industrial control, mobile application development and cyber security. The principal secretary of the Skill Development & Technical Education department, Usha Padhee, along with Rashmita Panda, the chief executive officer of Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) and other officials welcomed the champions at the airport. OSDA chairperson Alka Misra said that under the 'Skilled In Odisha' initiative of the state government, essential measures are taken to expand and globalise the skills of the Odisha youth.

The WorldSkills competition will be held in Lyon, France, in September. After the best performance in IndiaSkills 2024, now Team Odisha's target is to bring laurels for the state at WorldSkills. The IndiaSkills 2024 competition spanned nine centres in four cities across India. Organised by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the event saw the participation of over 900 contestants representing various states and union territories.

## Naveen holds massive roadshow in Bhubaneswar




**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik held a roadshow in Ekamra-Bhubaneswar Assembly

constituency here Monday evening. In a specially designed bus, Patnaik canvassed for BJD MLA and MP

candidates in the roadshow on Lingaraj temple road in Old Town area in the state capital. Many BJD supporters,

including women, congregated on both sides of the road to greet him.

During his brief speech from the top of the bus, the chief minister reminded people of the BJD's promise to provide free electricity to domestic consumers from July and extending benefits of health assurance scheme Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) to all. Patnaik also informed the people about the developmental works undertaken at Jagannath and Lingaraj temples. BJD has fielded Manmath Routray for the Bhubaneswar Lok Sabha seat and sitting MLA Ashok Panda for the Ekamra-Bhubaneswar assembly segment.



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# Nexus Select Malls unveils Purple Weekend across portfolio

Bhubaneswar : As the summer holidays draw near and individuals prepare to embark on a shopping expedition in preparation for their forthcoming sojourns, Nexus Select Malls unveils its latest initiative, "Purple Weekend," a weekend event featuring special offers, unforgettable entertainment, and an unparalleled shopping experience. The endeavor centered around "Savings & Excitement," is scheduled to kick start on April 19th, 2024 throughout all portfolio malls and will mark the beginning of a recurring monthly tradition wherein Nexus Esplanade will curate a unique weekend to present an ample selection of enticing discounts, deals and curated offers from a



diverse array of categories including fashion, food and beverage, electronics, movies, and hypermarket products

with the intention of accommodating each customer. Don't miss out on the inaugural Purple Weekend event! Mark your calendar, gather

friends and family and head to Nexus Esplanade between April 19th to April 21st. As part of the Purple Weekend initiative

Nexus Esplanade will host a variety of entertaining activities to captivate the shoppers during their retail therapy. Marks and Spencer's invites customers to enjoy discounts of up to 50%, while Reliance Trends treats you to an exciting gift with purchases worth 3999 and above. Mia dazzles with flat 50% off on diamond jewelry and 10% off on gold. Helios offers up to 40% off on stylish timepieces, and Carat Lane tempts with a flat 20% off on diamond prices among many other brands offering huge discounts. Consistent with the overarching motif, Nexus Esplanade will embellish itself with a resplendent purple visual aesthetic that further complements indelible shopping experience.

# IDEMITSU Honda Racing India's Kavin Quintal clinches 11th position in hard fought battle at the 2024 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship in China



**NEWDELHI:** AP250 class Race 1 of Round 2: A Consistent performance throughout the race resulted in Kavin crossing the chequered line in 11th position, winning 5 points for the team. Mohsin P finished the race in 20th position. Zhuhai International Circuit (China), 20 April 2024: Making a significant mark

in one of the toughest races of Asia, the IDEMITSU Honda Racing India team rider Kavin Quintal achieved another milestone in race 1 of round 2 of the 2024 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC) in China today. Maintaining steadiness and displaying finesse in an intense race, Kavin Quintal competed well

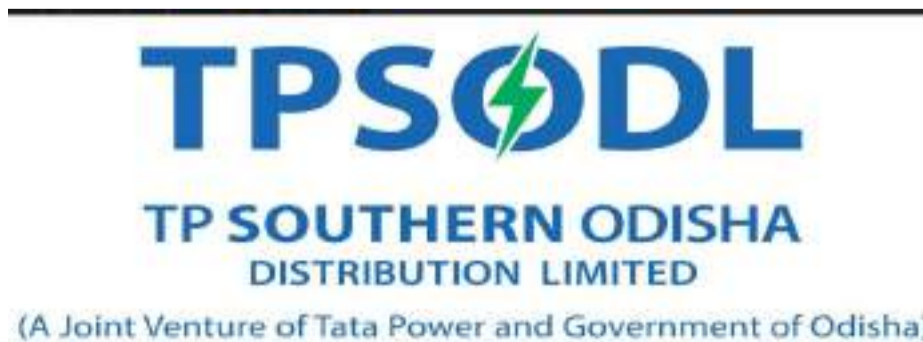
and bagged another TOP 15 finish this season. Displaying his best performance in the race, young rider Kavin Quintal gave strong competition to the international riders. Starting from 15th on the grid, Kavin began advancing in the initial laps. He maintained his composure and a steady pace throughout. In the final laps, he applied his learnings well

and accelerated fast at the opportune moment, crossing the chequered line in 11th position without making any mistakes on the track. He completed the race with a total time of 19:03.094, earning five valuable points for the team. Kavin's teammate, Mohsin P, also showcased his full power on the racetrack today. Starting the race from the 23rd position, he

competed fiercely and maintained his pace well to avoid any mistakes or crashes on the track. He finished the race in 20th position with a total time of 19:25.863. However, at this position, he scored no points for the team. "I am satisfied with my performance today. China's track is new to me, and my focus was to maintain positive momentum throughout. After witnessing multiple crashes on the track, my goal was to finish the race without making any mistakes and earn points for the team. Today, my previous learnings and the guidance from my instructors supported me in meeting all the challenges. With today's score, we are motivated and hopeful for better results tomorrow." I was expecting better results today. In the initial laps, I was confident and throttled well to secure a better position. However, the plan didn't work as per my expectations today. I am happy that Kavin performed well and earned points for the team. Taking today's learnings, I will enhance my strategies for tomorrow's race and expect better results."

# TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

Berhampur, September 2023: TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) is fully prepared to ensure a seamless and uninterrupted power supply during the forthcoming festive season. As part of our commitment to safety, TPSODL has undertaken several initiatives and released essential guidelines for temporary structures and pandals.



festive season. In our pursuit of uninterrupted power supply, TPSODL has deployed dedicated teams from the Fuse Call Centre (FCC) to monitor and maintain seamless electricity provision at all pandals.

These teams will also vigilantly ensure that there is no unauthorized hooking or access to TPSODL lines, guaranteeing a festival filled with uninterrupted joy. TPSODL's 24x7 Call Centre, in conjunction with our Social Media Monitoring

Unit, is tirelessly working round the clock to promptly address and resolve any complaints. In case of emergencies or concerns, we encourage to contact our toll-free helpline at 1912 or 1800 3456 797, or visit the nearest Fuse Call

Centre/office. Mr. Amit Garg, Chief Executive Officer of TP Southern Odisha Distribution Ltd, stated, "We are fully prepared and committed to providing uninterrupted power supply to all pandals during this auspicious festive season. We urge the public to seek proper electricity connections and adhere to all safety measures. In the event of any emergency, please reach out to our toll-free helpline number." TPSODL wishes everyone a safe, joyous, and electrifying festive season.

# Capri Global Capital Ltd announces Stock Split and 1:1 bonus

**Mumbai (KCN):**Board of directors of Capri Global Capital Ltd(CGCL), a diversified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) with a presence across diverse segments like MSME, Affordable Housing, Construction Finance segments among others has approved stock split and 1:1 bonus issue. The company board also approved issuance of Non-Convertible Debentures through Public issue/private placement for an amount up to Rs. 500 crore in tranches.

The Board of directors at its meeting held on January 27 has approved sub-division of one equity share of the face value of Rs. 2 each fully paid-up into two equity shares of the face value of Re. 1 each fully paid-up. Company board also approved 1:1 bonus issue i.e one new fully paid-up bonus equity share of face value of Re.1 each for every one fully paid-up equity share of face value of Re.1. Company has fixed the record date as Tuesday, March 5, 2024, for the stock split and bonus, subject to the approval of shareholders at the ensuing Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024.

For the Q3FY24 company has reported net profit of Rs. 68 crore, rise of 81.7% Y-o-Y from the net profit of Rs. 37.4 crore reported in Q3FY23. Asset under management of the company rise 54.4% to Rs. 13,362.1 crore as on Q3FY24, rise of 54.4% Y-o-Y from Rs. 8,654.5 crore in Q3FY23.



Company has inducted Mr. L V Prabhakar, Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, and Ms. Nupur Mukherjee as additional independent directors on its Board of Directors subject to shareholder approval. Capri Global is a diversified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) with a presence across diverse and high growth segments like MSME, Affordable Housing, Construction Finance segments, and Car Loan distribution. Company also forayed into Gold Loans in Aug 22. Company is promoted by first generation entrepreneur, Mr. Rajesh Sharma and listed on BSE and NSE. With 917 branches in 14 states & UTs across North and West India and over 10,150 employees, company has reported AUM of Rs. 124 billion in Q2FY24. Promoter Group holds 69.89% stake in the company as on 31st Dec 2023. Going forward company is targeting AUM of Rs. 300 billion and earning target of mid-teen ROE over medium term with a strong focus on the business segments including Gold Loan, Affordable Housing and MSME loans. On 16th January 2024, company received a composite Corporate Agency license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in December 2023 to distribute life, general, and health

insurance products. Company has also emerged as the Most Consistent Wealth Creator in the 28th Annual Wealth Creation Study Report (2018-2023) released by Motilal Oswal. It has outperformed the BSE Sensex in all the last 5 years, and has the highest price CAGR of 50%. It is also among the fastest wealth creators in the period. During the period of 2018-2023, company has reported robust CAGR of 26% in Net Profit and 33% in Sales. With the excellent consistent growth in the financials, share price of the company went up by 7.6 times during 2018-2023. In the insurance business foray, company is planning to leverage technology to revolutionize the way insurance products and services are delivered to customers. The Company is planning to use data analytics, artificial intelligence, and blockchain to deliver insurance solutions. This will enable CGCL to automate claims processing and customer support services, thereby reducing the cost of operations while improving customer satisfaction. Hence, the key goal of the Insurtech platform will be to create an ecosystem of insurers who can offer coverage in a more affordable, customer-friendly way.

# BOB Financial and HPCL launch co-branded contactless RuPayCredit Card

**Mumbai:**BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) – a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL BoBco-branded contactless RuPayCredit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as well

as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network. Cardholders of H P C L B o B R u P a y Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points. The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

# Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, Skill Development and Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana. Commending the development, Chairman, SCTE&T and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

