

## Modi hints at 'conspiracy' behind Naveen Patnaik's 'deteriorating' health; CM says 'I am in perfect health'

**Baripada (KCN):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday hinted at a "conspiracy" behind the "sudden deterioration" of the health condition of Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and said if the BJP formed the government in the state, it will constitute a special committee to probe the facts.

"Is the lobby that is currently running the Patnaik government on his behalf responsible for it?" Modi said while addressing election rallies in Mayurbhanj and Balasore Lok Sabha seats in Odisha.

Reacting strongly, Patnaik said: "Let me assure the PM that I am in perfect health and I have been campaigning

in the state for the last month. He has stated publicly earlier that I am his good friend. All he had to do was pick up the telephone and ask me about my health. But a number of BJP people from Odisha and Delhi are spreading rumours about my health."

Patnaik also posted on X that "4.5 crore people of Odisha are my family. My dear mothers, the youth must give a proper response to this disrespect by voting June 1st."

Modi, in his rally just days ahead of the last phase of the Lok Sabha election, also said that well-wishers of Naveen babu are worried over his deteriorating health condition.

"It has been worsening

over the last one year. Is there a conspiracy behind this? Is the lobby that is currently running the Patnaik government on his behalf responsible for it? If the BJP forms the government in Odisha after the ongoing Assembly elections, it would constitute a special committee to ascertain the reason behind the deterioration of Patnaik's health," Modi said.

He also added that the "mystery behind Naveen babu's deteriorating health condition should be revealed as the people of the state have the right to know the reason."

The PM's remark on Patnaik's health condition came a day after Assam Chief



Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma alleged that bureaucrat-turned-politician Kartik Pandian was "controlling" even the hand movements of the Odisha CM. Sharing a video showing Patnaik's hand shaking while delivering a speech at a meeting and Pandian putting it on a table, Sarma said in a post on X, "This is a deeply distressing

video." He further wrote that Pandian is even "controlling the hand movements of Shri Naveen babu." Pandian, who hails from Tamil Nadu, has studied in Delhi and started his career as a Punjab cadre IAS officer, but shifted to Odisha cadre after marrying an Odia woman. The BJP has been calling him an "outsider" in Odisha's

politics. In response to Sarma's comment, Patnaik in a video message Tuesday said, "I believe the BJP which is known to make non-issues into issues, are discussing my hands. This will certainly not work." Modi also said: "Entire Odisha wants an Odia chief minister. The people of Odisha have decided to put a full stop to the 25-year rule of the BJD in the state." Along with the elections to 21 Lok Sabha seats, polls are also being conducted for the 147-member Odisha state Assembly. The Prime Minister said after a gap of five decades, a full majority government would be formed at the Centre for

the third consecutive term and asserted that under his rule, India's economy rose from the 11th position to the fifth in the last 10 years. "Ten years ago, nobody thought terrorism could be stopped in India but we have shown it by protecting our major cities from blasts. No one thought peace would return to Jammu and Kashmir but people there are now celebrating Republic Day and voting in large numbers," he said. India's missile prowess has exponentially increased in the last 10 years and the country is now exporting BrahMos missiles to other countries, he said and added that "Chandrayaan has

reached a place where no country has ever reached". Attacking the BJD government, he said: "Wherever you step in Odisha, there is natural wealth but the state remains poor because it was first looted by the Congress and then by the BJD for the last 25 years." "People of Odisha know that voting for BJD would mean wasting their vote. They don't trust it anymore... you gave 25 years to the party, and it deceived you, looted you and kept you underdeveloped," he added. The BJP-led government at the Centre is working for the welfare of tribals and his government declared the birthday of Birsa Munda as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas', Modi said.

## Constitution, democracy will be at risk if BJP returns to power: Kharge at Odisha rally

**Balasore (KCN):** Launching a scathing attack on the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge Wednesday asserted that if the saffron party returns to power, both democracy and the Constitution will be at risk.

Speaking at an election rally in Odisha's Balasore parliamentary constituency, Kharge emphasised, "In this election, if you don't defeat the BJP, then both

our Constitution and democracy will be at risk, along with your future."

He also highlighted concerns about the country's reservation policy for SC, ST and OBCs being endangered if the BJP assumes power.

Kharge further criticised the current government, stating, "Under the present rule, youth are suffering the most. Unemployment rates are high and there is a crisis across the nation. However, Modiji seems

indifferent to these issues. His sole focus is on retaining power." Questioning Modi's unfulfilled promises, Kharge remarked, "Modi had pledged to deposit Rs 15 lakh in the bank accounts of every person by bringing back

black money, doubling farmers' income, and providing two crore employment opportunities to youth each year. Where are these promises?" The Congress president also expressed dismay over the handling of

issues such as the unrest in Manipur, accusing Modi of neglecting the situation and prioritising his political interests instead. Alleging an alliance between the BJP and BJD in Odisha, Kharge remarked on their apparent separation, stating, "Earlier, the BJD would yield to whatever the BJP wanted. Now, they have temporarily parted ways, but only time will tell how long this broken alliance will endure."

## India successfully test fires Rudra M-II missile off Odisha coast

**Balasore (KCN):** India Wednesday successfully flight-tested the RudraM-II air-to-surface missile off the coast of Odisha, defence sources said.

The flight test met all the trial objectives, validating the propulsion system and control & guidance

algorithm, they said.

RudraM-II is an indigenously developed solid-propelled air-launched missile system meant for the air-to-surface role to neutralise various types of enemy assets. The missile was flight-tested from the Su-30 MK-I platform of the

Indian Air Force (IAF), they added.

The performance of the missile has been validated from the flight data captured by range tracking instruments like electro-optical systems, radar and telemetry stations deployed by Integrated Test Range,

Chandipur at various locations, including the on-board ship, officials said.

Several state-of-the-art indigenous technologies developed by various DRDO laboratories have been incorporated into the missile system. Defence Minister

Rajnath Singh congratulated all DRDO and IAF on the successful test flight of RudraM-II. The successful test has consolidated the role of the RudraM-II system as a force multiplier to the Armed Forces, he said.



from the BJP. He pointed out, for the first time in 70 years leaders of the BJP were openly saying that they will replace the constitution if they win. Gandhi accuses Modi of dividing people and making them fight against each other in the name of religion, region, caste and state. He said, "Modi wanted the rule of just 22-25 people in the country whom he was serving and to whom he had handed over all the assets including the ports, airports, infrastructure and power projects among other things."

The senior Congress leader announced that like Modi made just 22 billionaires, the Congress party will make crores of millionaires (lakhpati). He said there was an economic idea behind

providing cash assistance to the poor and the youth as it will jumpstart the economy. Explaining the idea behind the direct cash assistance scheme, Gandhi said, while Modi gave lakhs of crores of rupees to few billionaires who spent all this money

in places like the US, the UK, Germany or Dubai, the money that will go into the hands of the poor, the youth and the farmers will be spent locally, which will make the economy moving. Centring his speech around farmers loan waiver, legal guarantee

## Odisha govt asks collectors to take measures for heatwave conditions



**Bhubaneswar (KCN):**

The Odisha government Wednesday asked all district collectors to take precautionary measures as the IMD has predicted heatwave conditions in several districts of the state.

In a letter to all collectors, Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) Satyabrata Sahu said the maximum day temperature would be more than 40 degree Celsius at many places in the interior districts. The maximum temperature is likely to be above normal by 2 to 3 degree Celsius in a few districts in coastal Odisha, he said.

As per IMD's prediction, heatwave conditions would prevail in Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Nuapada, Sonepur, Boudh, Kalahandi and Kandhamal districts Wednesday.

Similarly, hot and humid weather conditions would prevail at some

places over the districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, and Gajapati during the day.

Till 11.30 am Wednesday, the highest temperature of 42.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Jharsuguda, followed by Sambalpur (42.2), Hirakud (42), Rourkela (40.8) and Keonjhar (40.5). At least three places in Odisha—Boudh (45.9 degrees), Sonepur (45.3) and Titlagarh (45 degrees) — had recorded a temperature of 45 degrees or above Tuesday.

## No power on earth can change or replace Baba Saheb's constitution: Rahul Gandhi

**Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), May 29:** While addressing an election rally at Ludhiana, Punjab in favour of Congress' state president and its Lok Sabha candidate Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said, this constitution had been given by the leaders like Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others and it guaranteed the rights of people including the right of reservation. But, he assured, no power on earth can change or replace the constitution. The former Congress president said that these elections were being fought to save and protect the constitution which was under threat

PCC president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring telling people that he was going to be their long-term asset and they must ensure his victory at all costs. He said, immediately after the INDIA government takes over, poor families will be identified and each family will receive Rs 8500 every month. Similarly, for the fresh graduates and diploma holders there will be a scheme, 'pehlri naukri pakki', under which they will get a guaranteed apprenticeship for one year with an assured income of Rs one lakh for that period.

He added, the minimum daily wages will be increased to Rs 400 per day from the current Rs 250 per day. He also announced that the Asha and Angawadi workers' income will be doubled. He said, this will create demand for goods which will lead to production and manufacturing by factories. This, he pointed out, will generate jobs and youth will get employment. He said, the INDIA government will open the doors of the banks for the medium and small industry which had been destroyed by Modi's policies of demonetization and wrong implementation of the GST.

The senior Congress leader reiterated that the INDIA government will scrap the Agnipath scheme as it was an attack and insult on the jawans and the armed forces. Gandhi also expressed concern over the problem of drugs in Punjab, saying it needs to be dealt with firmly.

# Desires

By Aparna Nayak

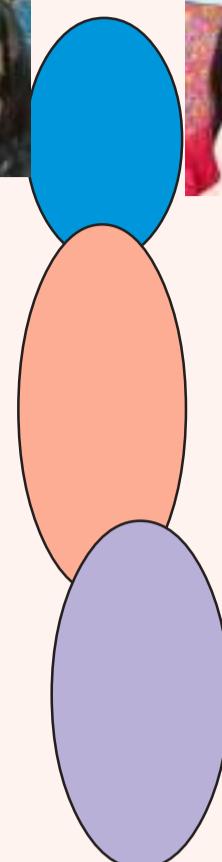
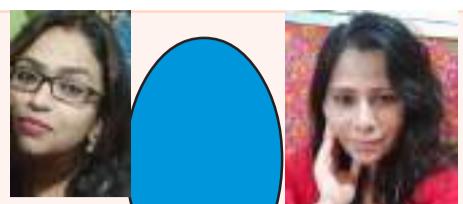
Because of you, in gardens of blossoming  
Flowers I ache from the perfumes of  
spring.

I have forgotten your face, I no longer  
Remember your hands; how did your lips  
Feel on mine?

I have forgotten your love, yet I seem to  
Glimpse you in every window.

Because of you, the heady perfumes of  
Summer pain me; because of you, I again  
Seek out the signs that precipitate desires:  
Shooting stars, falling objects."

Main Sagar Pan Road, No.-3, Balaji  
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110046



# Tree at my Window

By Anupama Bhuyan

Tree at my window, window tree,  
My sash is lowered when night comes  
on;

But let there never be curtain drawn  
Between you and me.  
But tree, I have seen you taken and  
tossed,

And if you have seen me when I slept,  
You have seen me when I was taken  
and swept

And all but lost.

That day she put our heads together,  
Fate had her imagination about her,  
Your head so much concerned with  
outer,

Mine with inner, weather.  
"Sai Bithi", 7D/1354, Sector-9, CDA,  
Cuttack, Mob. : 9937581707

# To Run Free

By Dr. Samrat Kar

We shared a brief  
sliver of time,  
You and I  
That will forever hold  
In a white-knuckled grip  
You asked for nothing more than to be loved  
And you returned that love tenfold  
I will always remember  
That day that your eyes  
Lost their sparkle,  
The day we had to face a harsh reality,  
The day we had to truly show our love



As we said our last goodbyes  
Your tail thumped the table  
and for a brief second I swear I saw that old  
glimmer

I like to think it was a thank you  
For letting you run free once again.  
President, Rotary Club of Mid Town,  
Cuttack ,  
Mob. : 9132433333

# INDIAN ARCHITECTURE AND ART

The most well-known example of Indian architecture is the Taj Mahal, built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan to honor his third wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It combines elements from Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Indian architectural styles. India also has many ancient temples.

University in Canberra, told Live Science. "If I were to find one of these modern Indian instruments in an Irish archaeological excavation and I didn't know what I was looking at, I would likely assume it was a Late Bronze Age Irish artifact." The sari can trace its origins back to Ancient



India is well known for its film industry, which is commonly referred to as Bollywood. The country's movie history began in 1896 when the Lumière brothers demonstrated the art of cinema in Mumbai, according to the Golden Globes. Today, the films are known for their elaborate singing and dancing as well as their elaborate action sequences.

Indian dance, music and theater traditions span back more than 2,000 years, according to Nilima Bhadbhade, author of "Contract Law in India" (Wolters Kluwer, 2016). The major classical dance traditions — Bharata Natyam, Kathak, Odissi, Manipuri, Kuchipudi, Mohiniattam and Kathakali — draw on themes from mythology and literature and have rigid presentation rules. A study published in April 2016 in the Journal of Indian Ocean Archaeology found that some Indian horns have many similarities with horns made in Ireland. This research may suggest that the two countries may have exchanged ideas and techniques in making musical instruments during the Bronze Age.

"Some horns are frankly shockingly similar, to the point where it is like witnessing time travel," study author Billy Ó Foghlú, an archaeologist and doctoral student at the Australian National

India, but has changed with passing generations and new manufacturing techniques. (Image credit: Tuul & Bruno Morandi via Getty Images) Indian clothing is closely identified with the colorful silk saris worn by many of the country's women. The origins of this garment go back to Ancient India and evolved over time to include more expensive fabrics and adornments as they came to the country, according to "The Times of India". A traditional piece of clothing for men is the dhoti, an unstitched piece of cloth that is tied around the waist and legs. Men also wear a kurta, a loose shirt that is worn about knee-length.

For special occasions, men wear a sherwani or achkan, which is a long coat with a collar having no lapel. It is buttoned up to the collar and down to the knees. A shorter version of a sherwani is called a Nehru jacket. It is named after Jawaharlal Nehru, India's prime minister from 1947 to 1964. He actually preferred the achkan, according to Tehelka, an Indian newspaper. The Nehru jacket was primarily marketed to Westerners and made famous by The Beatles and The Monkees as well as being worn by a number of James Bond villains.

# Tree at my Window

By Anupama Bhuyan  
Tree at my window, window tree,  
My sash is lowered when night comes  
on;

But let there never be curtain drawn  
Between you and me.  
But tree, I have seen you taken and  
tossed,

And if you have seen me when I slept,  
You have seen me when I was taken  
and swept

And all but lost.

That day she put our heads together,  
Fate had her imagination about her,  
Your head so much concerned with  
outer,

Mine with inner, weather.  
"Sai Bithi", 7D/1354, Sector-9, CDA,  
Cuttack, Mob. : 9937581707

## Quotation of the Day

**A new day always  
comes with new  
hopes, new  
opportunities,  
and new lives.**

— DEBASISH MRIDHA

## End of an Era : Reader's Digest Closes Its Pages After 86 Years

Prasar Khuntia



fairness, coupled with its ability to distill complex topics into accessible formats earned it a loyal readership that spanned generations.

Despite its enduring popularity, "Reader's Digest" struggled to adapt to the rapidly changing media environment. The digital revolution fundamentally altered how content is consumed leading to a

cost of paper, printing and distribution also surged adding to the financial burden.

The closure of "Reader's Digest" is more than just the end of a magazine, it represents a significant cultural loss. For millions, it was more than a source of information—it was a companion. Families shared its stories at dinner tables and its articles often sparked important

While "Reader's Digest" may no longer be on newsstands, its legacy will endure. The values it stood for—truthfulness, integrity and a dedication to uplifting journalism will continue to inspire both readers and writers. The archives of "Reader's Digest" remain a treasure trove of literary and journalistic excellence, a testament to its pivotal role in shaping



May 3, 2024—A poignant moment for book lovers and magazine readers around the globe as the venerable "Reader's Digest" announced the cessation of its publication. After an illustrious run of 86 years, this iconic magazine celebrated for its compact size and insightful content is closing its pages for good. The decision was driven by insurmountable financial pressures marking the end of an era for one of the most beloved magazines in publishing history.

Founded in 1922 by DeWitt Wallace and Lila Bell Wallace, "Reader's Digest" quickly became a staple in households worldwide. Known for its broad array of content—ranging from personal anecdotes and health tips to in-depth reports and inspiring stories "Reader's Digest" was a beacon of quality journalism. It held a unique position in the media landscape combining the allure of a literary magazine with the practical utility of a guidebook.

Throughout its history, "Reader's Digest" maintained a reputation for honesty and integrity. It was a publication that readers trusted implicitly, a rarity in an era where media often faced skepticism and scrutiny. The magazine's commitment to truth and conversations. Its "Drama in Real Life" feature, chronicling real-life survival stories was particularly beloved and will be sorely missed. This event also signals a broader trend in the publishing industry. Traditional print media, despite its best efforts continues to face existential threats from digital innovations and changing consumer behaviors. The closure of a publication as storied and influential as "Reader's Digest" underscores the need for the industry to find new models of sustainability.

The author is a journalist and columnist

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## Exclusive: Imran Khan says 'Ranbir Kapoor and I never bought into ugly reports'



Actor Imran Khan recently opened up about his relationship with colleague and Bollywood star Ranbir Kapoor. The two had made their debut around the same time. On work front, Imran was last seen in 'Katti Batti'.

Colleagues Imran Khan and Ranbir Kapoor were considered two of the most sought-after actors after their debut in 2008 and 2007, respectively. Constant comparisons between contemporaries were not unusual and both Imran and Ranbir were not strangers to this. In

an exclusive chat with IndiaToday.in, Imran recalled his conversations with Ranbir during the time and said while various reports always pitted them against each other, they never bought into the 'ugliness' of it all. Imran Khan said, "It's unfortunate. And it always leaves a very unpleasant aftertaste because that's never how I viewed it. From my conversations with Ranbir back then, I remember he never bought into that sort of thing, either. My recollection of him is

that he took the craft very seriously. He's a cinephile and he was also not engaging in that thing."

"This is just the spicy stuff that they like to talk about in the gossip magazines. I recall there were a couple of particularly ugly things that would come out. And we would always make it a point to kind of reach out and say, 'Hey, listen, aise aise hua hai [this has happened], are we cool?'"

Both Ranbir Kapoor and Imran Khan had even appeared on Koffee With Karan episode together during Season 3. Meanwhile, Imran Khan is currently developing two scripts, but is yet to sign any movie.

Imran Khan was last seen in the 2015

release, Katti Batti, with Kangana Ranaut.

## 'Roya Jab Tu' song: 'Mr and Mrs Mahi's' soft ballad will move you to tears



A new song from Mr and Mrs Mahi is out, called Roya. A soft moving ballad, it has been composed, written and sung by the versatile Vishal Mishra. As one can gleam from the music video, the track appears in the movie when Janhvi Kapoor and Rajkummar Rao's relationship is experiencing some issues.

Speaking about the song and what truly makes it

special, Vishal Mishra said, "Roya Jab Tu" is a comforting presence for the void in our hearts. It's that soulful companion that stays with you and heals your sorrows."

Mr and Mrs Mahi is being touted as a romantic drama, where cricket clashes with romance.

Filmmaker Karan Johar, who is bankrolling the film, had previously spoken about the movie

and said, "Some films are more than just stories. They are so much more than celluloid love. They talk to the viewer about dreams and how often people closest to us can come in the way of our dreams. Mr and Mrs Mahi is exceptionally close to our hearts."

Helmed by Sharan Sharma, Mr and Mrs Mahi will release in cinemas on May 31.

## Shah Rukh Khan's Jawan Becomes First Film To Cross USD 16 Million At Box Office In UAE



The suspense will soon be over as the title for India's biggest Air Force action film will be unveiled tomorrow. The Hindi-Telugu film, also stars Manushi Chhillar as a radar officer. VT 13, inspired by true events, will take us through the biggest and the most deadly attacks witnessed by India and the victory of our Indian Air Force over their enemies by demonstrating strong courage to protect their country. The highly anticipated film is produced by Sony Pictures International Productions and Sandeep Mudda from Renaissance Pictures, co-produced by Nandakumar Abbineni and God Bless Entertainment and is written by Shakti Pratap Singh Hada, Aamir Khan and Siddharth Raj Kumar.

It's almost a month since Shah Rukh Khan's action-entertainer 'Jawan' has been released but its craze among the audience doesn't seem to settle down at any cost. One after the other, the film is creating new records at the Box Office not just in India but also across the world. Having set its strong feet in different parts of the world, 'Jawan' has now made a distinctive mark in the UAE market as well, as the film has emerged as the #1 Indian film in the Middle East with its phenomenal collection figures.

Talking about the same, Nelson D'Souza, Vice President International Distribution, said, 'Jawan' has been received



exceptionally well in international markets and continues to perform exceptionally well, becoming the first Indian film to cross USD 16 Million in the Middle East, and emerging as the #1 Indian Film while raking in an outstanding 44.43 million in overseas till date. The film has become the

first film to cross the whooping collection of USD 16 Million and has made it the #1 Indian film in the Middle East. Well, among many, this is indeed yet another example of its success and the unprecedented love that the film is receiving from the audience. Well, as we see, Jawan is constantly on the rise, it would be interesting to see how the film will create more records in the future.

'Jawan' is a Red Chillies Entertainment presentation directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan, and co-produced by Dunki! - Nelson D'Souza, Vice President, International Distribution. 'Jawan' is spreading its magic in the UAE market. The film has become the

## Rajkummar Rao's 'Srikanth' Continues A Successful Run At Box Office, Inches Closer To Rs 45 Crore



Rajkummar Rao has proven himself to be the most power packed performer in Bollywood with his latest release 'Srikanth', which is continuing to keep the audience engaged and entertained. The film, which is nearing Rs 45 crore mark at the box office, is definitely enjoying a thunderous run by keeping the ticket counters ringing. Rao has proven his versatility by pulling off the role of a visually impaired industrialist, turning the theatres into stadiums. While Rao is basking in the success of 'Srikanth', he is already gearing up for the release of his next 'Mr and Mrs Mahi'.

May is surely turning out to be Rao's month. While 'Srikanth' saw Rajkummar Rao playing the role of

Srikanth Bolla, 'Mr and Mrs Mahi' will see him in a lighthearted role of Mahendra Mahi. From playing a challenging role in 'Srikanth' to transforming into 'Mahendra Mahi', Rao has proven his range as an actor, and has left the audience mighty impressed. With two releases in May, a few more heading to theatres later this year and several projects in shooting phase, Rao has proven to be the busiest actor of the season!

The actor's 'Mr and Mrs Mahi' is slated to hit the theatres on May 31. He will reprise his role of 'Vicky' in the horror comedy 'Stree 2'. The actor will also be seen in 'Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video' with Triptii Dimri, which is set to release later this year.

# Need to revisit ILO's Philadelphia Declaration



Eight decades back, the Philadelphia Declaration adopted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in its 26th Conference on May 10, 1944 which became an integral part of its revised constitution in 1946 Montreal General Conference still stands as a landmark document in the history of international labour rights and social justice. Against the backdrop of World War II, with the horrors of global conflict and the devastating impacts on workers and societies fresh in mind, the Philadelphia Declaration emerged as a visionary call for a new world order founded on principles of social justice, human dignity, and international cooperation. Emphasizing the inherent dignity of labour and the essential role of work in fostering human well-being and placing human

beings at the center of economic and social development with a call for policies and practices that prioritize the welfare of workers and their families, the Philadelphia Declaration asserts, inter alia that (i) labour is not a commodity to be bought and sold but rather a means through which individuals can realize their potential and contribute to the common good of society, (ii) freedom of expression and of association are essential to sustained progress; (iii) poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere; (iv) the war against want requires to be carried on with unrelenting vigour within each nation, and by continuous and concerted international effort in which the representatives of workers and employers, enjoying equal status with those of governments, join with them in free discussion and democratic decision with a view to the promotion of the common welfare and most importantly; (v) all human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal opportunity.

With a profound commitment to the promotion of social justice as a fundamental precondition for lasting peace and prosperity, it recognizes that enduring peace can only be achieved through the establishment of social and economic conditions that guarantee basic human rights, fair wages, decent working conditions, and social security for all individuals. Emphasizing the inherent dignity of labour and the essential role of work in fostering human well-being and placing human beings at the center of economic and social development with a call for policies and practices that prioritize the welfare of workers and their families, the Philadelphia Declaration asserts that labour is not a commodity to be bought and sold but rather a means through which individuals can realize their potential and contribute to the common good of society.

## Bruhaspati Samal

Underscoring the importance of international cooperation in addressing global challenges and advancing shared goals of social justice and economic progress, it emphasizes the need for solidarity among nations and peoples, recognizing that the well-being of workers is interconnected across borders and that solutions to complex social and economic problems require collective action and mutual support. In practical terms, the Philadelphia Declaration served as the foundation for the ILO's post-war agenda, leading to the adoption of the ILO Constitution and subsequent conventions and recommendations aimed at promoting labour rights, social protection, and decent work worldwide. It laid the groundwork for the establishment of international labour standards and mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing compliance, thereby providing a framework for promoting social justice and human rights on a global scale.

underscores the notion that labour transcends mere commodity exchange by fostering reciprocal relationships and collective flourishing. Despite being adopted in 1944, it remains profoundly relevant and valid in today's world. The fundamental importance of social justice as a prerequisite for peace and prosperity remains as relevant today as it was in 1944, as societies around the world continue to grapple with issues of inequality, poverty, and discrimination. The declaration's call for the protection of basic human rights, fair wages, decent working conditions, and social security resonates strongly in today's context, where millions of people still lack access to these fundamental rights. Recognition to dignity of labour by the Declaration underscores the importance of creating decent work opportunities and protecting workers' rights in today's rapidly changing labour market. In an increasingly interconnected world, where issues such as climate change, migration, and global health crises require collective action, the Declaration's call for solidarity among nations and peoples remains as relevant as ever. In today's world, where precarious employment, informal work, and labour exploitation remain widespread, the declaration's vision of decent work serves as a guiding principle for efforts to address these challenges and promote inclusive and sustainable development.

In summary, the Philadelphia Declaration of the ILO remains valid today because it speaks to universal values of social justice, human dignity, and international cooperation that transcend time and place. Its principles provide a timeless framework for addressing contemporary challenges and advancing the well-being of workers and society as a whole.

**General Secretary**  
**Confederation of**  
**Central Govt.**  
**Employees and**  
**Workers**  
**Odisha State**  
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# Summer Beauty

## Shahnaz Husain



The prediction is that glowing skin, created with highlighters, will be in. Leave out the glitter where highlighting is concerned, but use the

on the skin will be trending during the summer of 2024. The skin's pH balance and normal oil-moisture barrier are very important

For the day, go for reddish shades that move towards pink, or try fuschia, or coral red. Models are wearing chocolate brown too. For

prediction is that the trend may be to put the hair up in buns, chignons, or even topknots. The spiky bun may also be a trend, with some ringlets framing the face. The classic ponytail has been dictating trends for some time now. For summer the ponytail will continue to be popular. A high ponytail will be trendy, with part of the hair wound around it. With ribbons or other hair accessories, a ponytail can provide a touch of glamour. One can have a ponytail for a formal or an informal look. The prediction is that braids are also going to be in. Micro plaits will be trendy. Colouring the hair may also have a new trend of mixing two colours. Fringes will become shorter.

When I was a PG student of the same Department of Botany, I had the opportunity to come in close contact with him; as one of our most revered teacher. I used to often go to his laboratory and whenever, he was there, he always gave his cordial smile and asked me about my work and future plans. In spite of being so busy as an outstanding scientist of Plant Science in post independent India; he was so humble and down to earth, that is quite unimaginable in today's selfish society. I pay my tribute to this great Son of India.

**Thanking you**  
**Sincerely yours**  
**Saikat Kumar Basu**  
**378, Prince Anwar Shah Road**  
**Kolkata 700045**  
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**Sir,**  
The monsoon has not yet arrived but some of the southern states especially Kerala and Tamilnadu are witnessing heavy torrents for the past few days putting day today life completely out of gear and along with it problems created by sudden rain floods and diseases making life disastrous. Precautions taken can mitigate rain woes. Along with flash floods on streets falling of trees also cause sudden mishaps and even turn out to be life takers.

Trees no doubt offer shade and do function as "oxygen givers", but at the same time they pose heavy disaster and are a menace to the public if their growth is unchecked. Planting trees and saving trees is good but when the same turn out to be a threat to human life the same protectors turn out to be killers. Definitely the authority concerned or the organisation that took the job to plant them will have to either prune or cut them to avoid mishaps. Organisations and departments while planting trees must definitely bear in their mind that with the planting of saplings in the name of celebrations and functions their work is not over, truly it is their task to see that the growing saplings do not turn out to be "death causing green monsters" especially during rainy season as most of these green giants fall down partially or fully during heavy downpour causing severe damage to life and property.

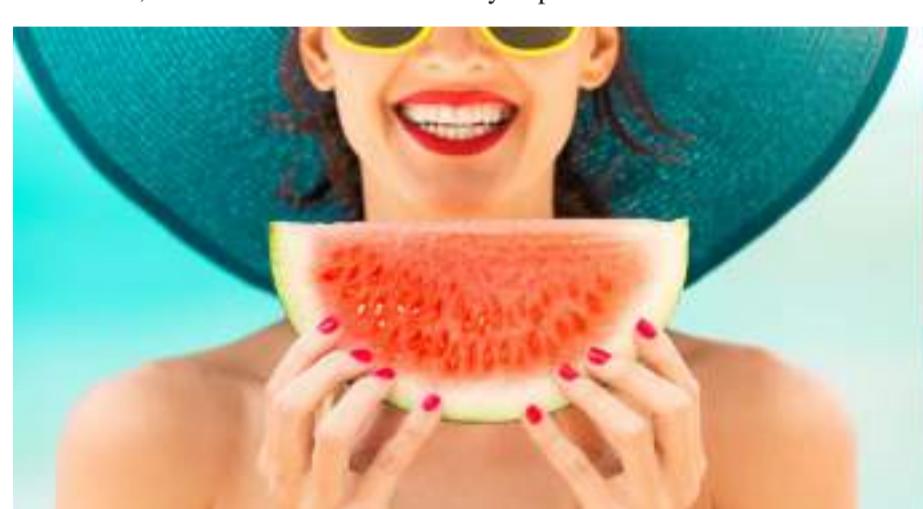
The lackadaisical attitude and the "perennial ignoring" attitude of the authorities to check the growth of trees end up in severe destruction to the life of citizens, vehicle's and property. Let us not turn shady trees into 'shady green monsters'.

**M PRADYU**  
**KANNUR**  
**Geeth thalikavu kannur 670001.**

highlighter on the high points of the face, like cheekbones, and brow bones. Go for a neutral and natural blush, to emphasize the highlighted areas of the face. There are some new popular products in skin care, like Serums and Face Oils and these will influence summer trends. A serum is in the form of a liquid and is different from a moisturising lotion. It does not moisturise the skin but is designed for many other functions, like age control, removal of pigmented patches or spots, brightening the skin, improving skin texture, protection of the skin and hair, etc. It forms a protective layer over the skin and hair. Products that are gentle for the good health of the skin. Skin care products that are free from parabens, sulphates and mineral oil are already preferred and people will move away from acid peel treatments. There will be an increase in awareness of sun protection. So, an increasing rise in the use and sale of sunscreens, sunblock products and protective creams is expected. The dramatic red for lipsticks will be very much the trend. To make sure your lips stay vibrant all day, try using a lip liner to create a base, then fill in with your hot summer favourite shade. Nothing screams summer better than bright and bold lip shades like coral, hot pink, and orange.

summer nude shades in lipstick will be trendy. A sheer shade is good for the day. Black-lined eyes continue to be in and so is liquid eyeliner. In fact, liquid eyeliner is best for achieving a dramatic look for the eyes. Go for grey or brown eye shadow and apply a line of black eyeliner close to the lashes on the upper lid. It is also expected that French Manicure may be back. But, instead of the long white tips for nails, the minimal trend may take over and a narrow tip of colour may become the new trend. Putting the hair up will also be in vogue, especially for summer. Where hairstyles are concerned, the

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



## The Heated 18th Lok Sabha Elections: A Turning Point for India?



**Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETHI):** As the 18th Lok Sabha elections near their final phase, the country is abuzz with speculation about whether Delhi's seat of power will see change or continuity. The answer will be revealed after June 4. This election season has not only gripped the entire state of Bengal but has also left a mark on every citizen across the nation.

Voters from diverse backgrounds, regardless of religion or caste, have exercised their right to vote in a largely peaceful manner. However, this election presented significant challenges for the Election Commission of India (ECI). Ensuring a terrorism-free, peaceful, and fair election was their paramount goal. Additionally, the ECI closely monitored the

campaign expenditures of candidates, enforcing strict spending limits. Each candidate was permitted to spend up to ₹95 lakhs, a regulation aimed at curbing excessive financial influence on the electoral process. Despite these measures, political analysts have raised concerns about the nature of this year's election. They argue that the campaign period was marred by the excessive use of offensive language by political figures. The hostile and disrespectful rhetoric exchanged between candidates created a divisive atmosphere, tarnishing the political decorum of the country. This trend, they warn, could set a harmful precedent for future generations.

A further cause for concern is the educational background of many candidates. A report from the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) revealed that among the 8,360 candidates contesting the 543 seats, 121 candidates have no formal education. Additionally, 359 candidates have only completed up to the fifth grade, while 647 have studied up to the eighth grade. On the other end of the spectrum, 1,502 candidates hold graduate or higher degrees, with 198 possessing doctorate degrees. The ADR and National Election Watch have also highlighted the increasing intersection of wealth and criminality in politics. Their analysis of the affidavits from 1,618

candidates revealed that 252 candidates have criminal cases against them, with 32 facing charges related to murder. In terms of wealth, the second phase of the election saw 390 crorepati candidates, with the average asset per candidate being ₹5.17 crores. Notable among these are Congress candidate Venkatramane Gowda from Mandy, Karnataka, with declared assets worth ₹622 crores, Congress's DK Suresh from Bangalore Rural with ₹593 crores, and BJP's Hema Malini from Mathura, who has assets worth ₹278 crores.

The 18th Lok Sabha elections are a critical juncture for India. The blend of peaceful voting by the populace, the challenging role of the ECI, and the complex dynamics of candidate profiles paint a vivid picture of contemporary Indian democracy. As the nation waits for the final results, the hope is that the elected representatives will honour the democratic values and work towards a progressive future.

## BJP will initiate steps to transform Bengal into a Prosperous State : PM Modi



**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi stressed BJP government in Center will make efforts to transform Bengal into a well developed prosperous state of India. Shri Narendra Modi mentioned BJP will work to heal and restore bruised dignity and pride of people of Bengal. Shri Narendra Modi was addressing public rallies in Kolkata and in nearby areas on 28th May 2024 as a part of BJP campaign for ongoing Loksabha election 2024 for Parliamentary constituencies going to poll on final phase of election

on June 1, 2024. Prime Minister's meetings and road show was had seen large and widespread participation of people. Prime Minister called upon people of Bengal to elect candidate of a party whose government can give Bharat strong visionary leadership to the nation, lead Bharat to new heights of growth and development and prosperity.

Prime Minister Shri Modi highlighted role of Bengal and Bengali community during freedom struggle, leadership role of Bengal in economic development of India in pre and post independence as well as

decline in economic growth and development over last decade. Shri Modi listed series of local state government policy deficiencies which are hampering and stifling economic growth and development of West Bengal over the last decade. He also stressed people of Bengal are not getting benefits of many welfare schemes of Government of India due to State Government's non-cooperation including Ayushman Bharat Health scheme. Prime Minister Shri Modi called upon people of Bengal to vote without fear and proactively participate in celebration

## Mr. Santanu become Krushnaprasad Block HSC topper



**PURI, (KCN):** Mr. Santanu Jena of Mirjupur village of Krushnaprasad Block of Puri district becomes HSC topper of the block in 2024. He was reading in Balunkeswar High School, Prijipur. The family belongs to Mr. Santanu and his mother. He lost his father in the year 2008. Mother Ms. Swaranalata Jena took care of the child and tried to meet every needs of her son. The child Mr. Santanu identified as children in need of care and protection as per the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2015. Since the child got sponsorship support from District Child Protection Unit, Puri and the Officials of DCPU keeping regular follow up and support to the child in

order to his progress in education, health, nutrition etc. Several times Mr. Santanu attended different life skill programmes, career counseling programme etc organized by DCPU. The child is sober, simple and diligence. He concentrates and read for 8hrs in a day. Mr. Santanu appeared HSC examination in 2024 and

become topper of the block. He says we have no mobile to use. Due to concentration and hard working, I reached here and secured 90.3percentage of mark. Mr. Santanu says I would be an Indian Administrative Officer. He says I got the success because of cooperation extended by District Child Protection Unit, my school teachers, relatives, volunteers. Earlier the child got success in NRTS, Pathani Samanta Medhabruti, TE&SCERT and other merit scholarships. Dr Ajit Kumar Mohapatra, Chairperson CWC and Mr. Manoj Kumar Tripathy, DCPO, Puri conveyed best wishes to the child for his success.

**New Delhi (KCN):** The Supreme Court has rejected a plea filed by a woman seeking permission to terminate her over 25-week pregnancy, but refrained from making public the reasons for its decision to protect her privacy. A vacation bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Satish Chandra Sharma perused a report filed by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi which was asked by the top court last week to ascertain the physical condition of the woman and her foetus. "We have perused the report dated May 24, 2024 submitted by All India Institute of Medical Sciences. We

are not quoting what is mentioned in the report for protecting the privacy of the petitioner. "But in the light of the report, we cannot permit termination of pregnancy in the facts of the case. The report shall remain on record in sealed envelope. The writ petition is rejected," the bench said in its order passed on May 27. While hearing the plea on May 21, the top court had asked the AIIMS to submit a report before it by May 24 regarding the "physical health of the petitioner as well as of the foetus and its impact on the former's unwanted pregnancy". It had passed the order on a plea of the woman who claimed she came to know about her pregnancy only on May 17. "She has come all the way from Dubai and is currently staying in a hotel here. She is not that financially strong," her counsel had told the top court on May 21 and urged the bench to allow her to terminate her pregnancy.

Under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act,

aborting a foetus that is

more than 24 weeks old

can be allowed only in

cases of substantial foetal

abnormality as diagnosed

by a medical board or if

an opinion is formed in

good faith for the purpose

of saving the life of the pregnant woman.

## Pakistani woman married to Kashmiri man wishes to meet PM Modi



**Srinagar, (Aasif Malik)** : Batool Ajaz, who hails from Karachi, Pakistan and married to a Kashmiri man, is enthusiastically passionate to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi. She lauded PM Modi for rolling out youth-oriented schemes and bringing employment to their doors in Jammu and Kashmir. Speaking exclusively to Kashmir News Service (KNS), Batool Ajaz who runs a venture with her husband under the title "Jazzba - Foods and Spices" said she has started work after ten years of her marriage. "Though I have a Masters degree but initially I used to remain away from

contributing my role in my husband's business. But with the passage of time, I started to contribute and now is a part of the venture," she said. Batool helps her husband in the venture

and cooks various food items with an aim to boost the business in the region. She is participating in exhibitions and erecting stalls there, exhibiting the quality of her products. Lauding the efforts of government, Batool

expressed satisfaction over support of J&K government provided to their venture. She also appealed youth and young entrepreneurs to utilize their energy in positive ways and earn livelihood from multiple schemes introduced by Government of India in Jammu and Kashmir. "Our venture is going good. I am highly thankful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who took keen interest in rolling out youth oriented schemes in J&K. Further I'm passionate to meet PM Modi, but at the same time I am well aware of his busy schedules. I know there is a protocol including security one due to which my meeting to PM Modi is not possible," Batool held. She also lauded overwhelming response of Kashmiri's, saying "Wherever I reached with my business I got heart warming response from people of Kashmir". (KNS)

**New Delhi:** Sixteen cars were gutted by a fire that broke out at a civic authority-run parking lot in east Delhi's Madhu Vihar area on Wednesday, officials said. No one got injured in the incident that was reported at 1.17 am. Nine fire tenders were pressed into service and they controlled the blaze in four hours, an official from Delhi Fire Service (DFS) said. Police have registered a case and further investigation has been launched. The cars belonged to the locals who used to park their vehicles in the parking lot on rent basis,

the officials said. Earlier, the officials said that 17 cars were gutted but Madhu Vihar SHO Rajesh Sinha later confirmed that 16 vehicles were damaged in the fire. "Some vehicles were damaged but we managed to save the rest. There were no injuries in the incident," DFS officer Yashwant Meena said. According to a police officer, it is suspected that the incident could be a result of some fire in the bushes in the area. A case is being registered and further probe is underway. "The parking facility is close to Delhi Jal Board

# Ganjam suffers due to lack of industrialization

**Berhampur (KCN):** Over five lakh residents in Ganjam district have migrated in the last couple of decades due to lack of industrial development, sources said Tuesday. They said that both the Centre and successive state governments are responsible for the migration of residents of the district. Despite the state being ruled by both Congress and non-Congress governments, this district have never benefitted, the sources who belong to a number of trade and labour unions pointed out.

Locals informed that this district is predominantly agriculture-oriented where cultivation is the mainstay of the

residents. However, none of the governments in the last 50 years has taken any steps for establishment of agriculture-based industries despite presence of a conducive atmosphere and necessary infrastructure. Cases in point is the Aska cooperative sugar mill built in the British era. It is in sick condition and is in urgent need of revival. A cooperative cotton mill was running in the district but is now shut. Locals pointed out that during election campaigns, various parties blame each other for the impasse in industrialisation. They also promise to revive the sick industries. However, once the elections are



over, the vows are forgotten. The Centre-owned Indian Rare Earths Ltd (IREL) was established long back near the district headquarters of Chhatrapur. The rare

black sand produced by

Centre and the state government have failed to transform it into an all-weather one. Hence

locals are losing out on work, sources added.

During the UPA government, the Centre

project is still stuck in the survey stage. Had the Centre taken steps for construction of the tracks, it would have ushered employment for thousands and would have connected many tribal-dominated villages in both Ganjam and Rayagada districts, locals opined. Development of the railway tracks would have also enabled Nalco to send its products to Gopalpur port through wagons. This would have facilitated industrial growth, locals opined. The lack of industrial growth is having an adverse impact on the economy of the district, they added.

## Mystery shrouds death of former sarpanch in Angul

**Chhendipada (KCN):** Mystery shrouds the death of a BJD leader and former sarpanch whose body was found lying near the basil plant on the ground floor of his residence at Jereng Dehuri Sahi village under Jarpada police limits in Angul district in the wee hours of Tuesday. The deceased was identified as Bibhuti Gadnaik, who had reportedly gone to sleep on the roof top after having his dinner at house Monday night. The matter came to the fore after Jarpada police seized the mutilated body of Bibhuti lying near the basil plant during daybreak, Tuesday. Family members cried foul over his death with his son Bikash Ranjan



Gadnaik alleging that his father had been murdered over past political enmity. He complained to the Jarpada police station. Jarpada IIC Nirmala Gochhayat and SDPO Ramakant Mahallik reached the spot and conducted a probe. A scientific team was also pressed into service. However, DIG Uma Shankar Das, who is also the SP in-charge of Angul, rejected the charges at a press conference held

Tuesday. He said the preliminary inquiry was not indicative of murder. Police registered a case of unnatural death and intensified probe into the case. The actual reason behind the death of the BJD leader could be ascertained only after the availability of the post-mortem report, the DIG said. Moreover, the investigation will also focus on the murder charges brought by the family members.

## BJP govt will take oath in Odisha June 10: Himanta



**Patkura / Kakatpur (KCN):** Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma Monday claimed that a BJP government will take oath in Odisha June 10. Lok Sabha and Assembly elections are being held simultaneously in Odisha.

“As per my prediction, we (BJP) have got almost a majority in the first three phases of Assembly election in Odisha. Only very few seats are left to form a government and that will be filled up June 1,” he said while addressing election rallies at Patkura and Kakatpur.

Three phases of polling for the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections in the state is over. The fourth and final phase will be held June 1 for six Lok Sabha constituencies and 42 Assembly segments.

“I would like to say one thing the BJP government will take oath June 10. We have to send Pandian (BJP leader Kartik Pandian)

back to Tamil Nadu June 11,” he said.

If the state gets a good government then Odisha can become the number one state in the country.

“Today, the youth of Odisha are migrating to other states due to unemployment. On the other hand, one lakh government posts are lying vacant in the state and the Odia youth are not being employed in local industries”, Sarma said.

He claimed after the BJP government is formed in Odisha, the

one lakh vacant posts will be filled up within a year.

The natural resources of Odisha are being transferred to outsiders, he alleged. Slamming the BJD government’s 5T (transformative initiative) model of governance, the senior BJP leader said, “One ‘T’ means teamwork. Is there any teamwork in Odisha? The elected MLAs, MPs and ministers don’t have any power to exercise. Here only a team exists...that is in

between Pandian and his wife and only one T, which stands for Tamil Nadu.”

Neither the state cabinet nor any officer has the power in Odisha. Only two persons (Pandian and his wife) have all the powers, Sarma alleged.

Alleging that Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik was being “held hostage” by Pandian, Sarma appealed to Patnaik to come out alone to get respect from people.

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# Ather Energy announces its new family-oriented scooter, 'Ather Rizta'

Bhubaneswar: Ather Energy, one of India's leading electric vehicle manufacturers, announced on Friday the upcoming launch of its new family-oriented electric scooter, named "Rizta." Breaking away from their sporty and youthful design ethos, seen in the 450 Series, the Rizta aims to cater specifically to the needs of families. Rizta has been spotted testing in Bengaluru a couple of months ago. In a previous tweet by Tarun Mehta, co-founder & CEO of Ather Energy

in November, he highlighted that Ather Energy will be launching a larger, family-friendly scooter that's comfortable, safe, spacious, and affordable. The excitement has soared now that Tarun has dropped a video teaser in his latest tweet, unveiling the family scooter name, Rizta. In his post, Mehta revealed the Rizta has been in development since 2019, with Ather's teams reportedly incorporating "ground breaking integrations" that promise



to elevate the ride experience for families. The scooter will be unveiled at the Ather Community Day Celebration 2024.

According to the announcement, the company aims to begin deliveries of the scooter in the next six months.

In the tweet, Tarun Mehta said: "With Rizta, we will be taking a big leap in comfort and safety. Our teams have been working

on this for a while (this one has been on and off the table since 2019!) and have pulled off some amazing integrations that are industry-first and will make your ride experience way better. Rizta will also continue to maintain the same quality and reliability that Ather's other products are known for. We will be unveiling 'Ather Rizta' at ACDC 24 - Ather Community Day Celebration 2024. You will hear about it soon!"

Talking about Rizta in a tweet, Swapnil Jain, Co-founder & CTO of Ather Energy said, "When we

started Ather the team believed, you need to be your own customer first. Most of us were below 25 years of age building the first made in India EV and were crazy about vehicle dynamics. Every single choice from mid mount motor, to aluminium cast chassis to dual disc brakes, were all focused on building the best handling vehicles. That was the Ather 450X for you. It did exactly what we intended. It is the best handling scooter and it was built for us. We are now all 30+ and have family. So we set out

again to build for us. Introducing Ather Rizta. A family vehicle built with the same passion, but this time towards comfort and safety! Because now Family comes first!"

As the electric scooter industry witnesses a surge in demand, Ather's strategic move shows a responsiveness to diverse consumer needs, as they extend their expertise in electric scooters to meet the demands of families.

## Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital successfully treated 33-year-old suffering from a rare case of Salivary Gland Cancer

**Bhubaneswar / Cuttack :** Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, Cuttack, treated 33-year-old Reema (name changed), hailing from Western Odisha, from Parotid Gland Carcinoma, a rare form of cancer that occurs in the salivary glands situated right below the ear lobes. The cancerous gland was resected by conducting an advanced form of Total Parotidectomy Surgery on the patient while preserving her facial nerves, which are responsible for facial expressions. This incredible feat was achieved by Dr Manjunath NML, Senior consultant Surgical Oncologist and his team at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack.

Reema suffered from unexplained excruciating pain continuously on the face and earlobes for a period of 8 months. In order to get relief from the pain, she visited neurological specialists and physicians from multiple hospital where she was misdiagnosed for other neurological diseases and was treated with analgesics, as they failed to diagnose her actual condition.

She consulted the doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, who discovered a vague swelling near the earlobes and with suspicion of a tumour. Imaging of the parotid gland was conducted to check for any malignancy and it was discovered that she had a parotid lobe tumour in the

junction between the superficial lobe and the deep lobe, right behind the mandible or the lower jaw bone. Nerve sparing total parotidectomy was conducted using advanced form of equipments such as surgical loupes, nerves monitoring devices and Vessel Sealer, which helped surgeons achieve an absolute haemostasis or minimal blood loss during the surgery. This four- and half-hour surgical procedure was conducted by preserving the facial nerves that passes through the superficial lobe and deep lobe and any implication on the facial nerves would lead to disfigurement of the face, paralysis on one side of the face, lack of expressing emotions, inability to close the eyes and move the eyebrows.

Elaborating the complexities of the surgery, Dr Manjunath NML said, "This is a unique and a rare case among young women, where we usually witness just one or two cases per year. This was one challenging case, as the cancer tumours were adjacent to the facial nerve and we had to carefully dissect them without causing any hindrance or impact to the nerve. With the advanced facilities at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack, we were able to resect the tumour successfully and witness a big smile on the patient's face."

Post her successful surgery, while thanking her doctors, Reema

said, "For the past eight months, the events that occurred to me because of this condition are unexplainable. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Manjunath and the entire team for the timely help in relieving the pain I was enduring and helping me recover back from this deadly tumour. Also I was worried about my facial expressions when doctors explained me about the tumor in relation to facial nerve and need for its removal if required. Thanks again to the entire team for helping me to get rid of this bad tumor with my smile intact" (with a big smile on her face).

Speaking at the launch

## ROYAL ENFIELD LAUNCHES THE MOST AWAITED ADVENTURE TOURER - THE ALL NEW HIMALAYAN

**Bhubaneswar(KCN) :** The perfect balance between capability and usability, Royal Enfield today launched its adventure tourer that is built for all roads, and for no roads, the all-new Himalayan at the brand's biggest motorcycling festival, Motoverse 2023. Unveiled for the world at EICMA 2023 earlier this month, the all-new Himalayan is now available for bookings in retail in India starting today, and will be available across Europe starting March 2024. The motorcycle will be available at a starting price of £5,750 in the UK and 59,000 across Europe. In India, the Himalayan will be

available at a special introductory price of INR 2,69,000 till December 31, 2023. The all-new Himalayan is launched with a robust lineup comprising 3 distinct variants - Base, Pass and Summit and a palette of 5 colors inspired by the elements of the Himalayas- Kaza Brown (base variant), Slate series comprising Poppy Blue & Himalayan Salt (Pass-mid variant) and Hanle Black & Kamet White (Summit-top variant). The Asia-Pacific region and Americas will soon experience the Himalayan's adventure-ready prowess, solidifying Royal Enfield's commitment to global riders.

Speaking at the launch

## Ashok Leyland reaches yet another milestone, showcases 'CNG engine H series' at EXCON

**Chennai:** Ashok Leyland, the flagship Company of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer today showcased 'CNG engine H series' at the ongoing EXCON 2022, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Based on strong leverage of Auto BSVI engine development, the CNG engine H series (4 and 6 Cyl) is designed for off highway / CEV clients, and this product will be the first of its kind in the

CEV / mining and off highway segment. The H series CNG engine has a number of features, including ECU-controlled gas leak detection; improved cold start capability; enhanced lower end torque and flat torque from 1200rpm to 2000rpm; gear-based torque control for better fuel economy; durable engine valves and valve seats for CNG operation; proven, durable engine for CEV application; turbocharged engine

provides higher torque, fuel efficiency, better drivability, and transient response; maintenance-free engine. The CNG engine H series also fulfills CEV V standards without SCR or DPF, and features proven multipoint sequential gas injection for dependable performance; a 500 hours oil drain interval; and the maximum power in the sector.

Sharing his views, Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman, Ashok Leyland said,

"Ashok Leyland's expertise in engineering has paved the way for the company to establish itself as a key player in the CNG engine sector, and we aspire to continue to do so by expanding our portfolio of CNG Engines and technology solutions. Ashok Leyland aims to make India's CNG engine sector self-reliant, and to be one of the leaders in the "Make in India" narrative."

Present at the event Dr N Saravanan, CTO, Ashok Leyland said,

## Symphony, in partnership with AEEE, invests in the 'SAHARA Programme'

**Bhubaneswar :** Symphony Ltd., in partnership with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), initiated the first-of-its-kind pilot programme "SAHARA", an initiative for Supporting Affordable Heat Action for Resilient Academic Institutions in India by deploying Evaporative Air Coolers. It is envisioned to enable a pathway to achieve Thermal Comfort for a Billion Lives (TCBL). This initiative aims to mainstream energy efficient, affordable and sustainable cooling solutions in India's academic institutions to bring a paradigm shift in the ecosystem level and enable TCBL. With around four trillion-

Area Director, Indian Hotels Company Limited.

The SUP Challenge will assess the volume of single-use plastics waste reduced through piloting and scaling ventures' innovations along with environmental impact avoided, such as waste diverted from landfills, incineration or avoided entirely. Additionally, the challenge will guide startups to fine-tune their business cases for F&B industry and insights derived from their pilots will contribute to a study around understanding the environmental impacts of alternatives to single-use plastic packaging.

## AIC-GIM Foundation, Climate Collective and the Taj Hospitality

### Brand collaborate on a Global Single Use Plastics Challenge

**Panaji:** The consumption of Single Use Plastics (SUP's) in the food and beverage industry grew dramatically during the Covid-19 outbreak and is now expanding at a 2.5-fold rate. With the aim of reducing single use plastic from the F&B industry in Goa, Atal Incubation Center Foundation at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM) in partnership with Climate Collective Foundation and IHCL's Taj hospitality brand is bringing the Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Challenge.

The SUP challenge is inviting innovations to reduce single use plastic from the F&B

sector. The selected solutions will get the opportunity to test their ideas in Goa with the Taj hotel network of Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL). "As a company, we want to put a strong emphasis on sustainability as a way of life for everyone, which thus culminates in the adoption of a variety of sustainable business methods. We are happy to collaborate with AIC-GIM Foundation and Climate Collective Foundation for the Global SUP challenge which will reduce the usage of Single Use Plastics across our properties in Goa" said Mr. Vincent Ramos,

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# BCCI, Gautam Gambhir discuss India coach role

**Kolkata:** Coincidentally or not, Kolkata Knight Riders' coaches and mentors have been eagerly sought after by international cricket boards. There are some facts, however, that are incontrovertibly accurate.

Trevor Bayliss won KKR two IPL titles, in 2012 and 2014, and was negotiating for an extension when England and Wales Cricket Board's Director of Cricket Andrew Strauss approached him with an offer. Initially, the Australian said no, but it is believed that Strauss made a second approach, this time with an offer Bayliss could not refuse. "The offer was too good to resist, and Bayliss accepted it," said a source who knew about the happenings of the time.

Matthew Mott, once an assistant coach of the Knight Riders, was appointed head coach of the white-ball side by the ECB. Mott will be with Jos Buttler's team during their title defence at the upcoming T20 World Cup. Then after the Knight Riders made the



IPL final in 2021, the ECB enticed coach Brendon McCullum to take up the role of head coach of its red-ball team in 2022.

And now comes the Gautam Gambhir saga. The former India cricketer, who mentored KKR's third title triumph this week, is considered a frontrunner to the post that is expected to be vacated by Rahul Dravid at the end of next month's World Cup. The buzzword inside the coach selection circle is 'desh ke liye karna hai'. Both the BCCI and Gambhir share the belief that 'we must do it for

the country.' And the conversation between Jay Shah and Gambhir is understood to be centred around this idea.

It is obviously not as easy for Gambhir to take over as India coach as it was for him to move from the Lucknow Super Giants to the Kolkata Knight Riders. Gambhir is believed to be weighing all options. As a successful television expert and now an equally successful coach and mentor, Gambhir has many career opportunities. The India job will not permit him to engage in multiple

professional roles - double dipping as they say -- which he can do in other professions. Moreover, the India job requires close to 10 months of travel, a significant challenge for someone with a young family. Gambhir is believed to have taken five breaks during his two-month stint with the Knight Riders. However, the India job has its own profile, charm, and stature. For someone known to take a no-nonsense, aggressive approach in his career, the role could be professionally gratifying. Besides, once he is done

with the India job, he can always come back to KKR who will be ready to roll out the red carpet and welcome him back.

Gambhir has told people close to him that he is considering the approach. Even Shah Rukh Khan is aware of this. Monday was the last day for sending in the application for the post and it is likely he has formally applied for the role, although there is no confirmation as yet from any quarters.

As reported on Sunday, a very high-profile owner of an IPL franchise, who is very close to the BCCI top brass, told Cricbuzz that Gambhir's appointment is a done deal and the announcement will come soon. A high profile commentator, who is very clued to the happenings in the BCCI said efforts are being made to rope in Gambhir. The fact that an announcement has not yet come suggests that negotiations are underway on multiple fronts -- between the two parties and, perhaps, with some others too.

Some of Australia's Test regulars could feature in this series by skipping the Pakistan ODIs and T20Is with the dates clashing. From India's perspective, some of their players from the Test squad might also feature in the series. The first game will be played from October 31 to November 3 at the Great Barrier Reef Arena in Mackay before the teams move to Melbourne to play at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground, which will also host the fourth Test of the Border-Gavaskar series. India's senior side, who will enter the series on the back of Tests against

New Zealand and Bangladesh, will take on the same India A squad in an Intra Squad match after the conclusion of the 'A' series. The Intra Squad match is scheduled to be played at the WACA in Perth from November 15-17. "Hosting those A matches at the upgraded Great Barrier Reef Arena and the MCG give these 'A' matches significant status and will provide great opportunities to players from both sides to put up their hand for selection," Peter Roach, CA Head of Cricket Operations and Scheduling said.

## Australia A to host India A ahead of Border-Gavaskar series



New Delhi: India A and Australia A will be involved in a couple of four-day games later this year, ahead of the Border-Gavaskar Test series. Cricket Australia have also confirmed that both these games will be granted first-class status. The series will serve as an ideal preparation for the home side before they host India in a marquee five-match series. Australia have already lost the last two series at home to India and will be aiming to reverse their fortunes this time around.

## MLC gets List A status, eyes expansion to 10 teams

**New Delhi:** USA's flagship T20 tournament, Major League Cricket (MLC) is eyeing a possible expansion to 10 teams. The MLC announced it will be expanding to an 8 team tournament within the space of two seasons and add two more to make it a 10 team franchise tournament eventually. The first season was played out in a single round robin format within 6 teams consisting of 19 games in a 3 week window.

While the second season will see an increase of 6 games, the league is further expected to grow with a home and away format in the future. In a 10 team league, the actual number of games are set to spike up to close to 100 games.

In a major shot in the arm for the MLC, the ICC put its weight behind this \$120m fledgling league by imparting a List A status to its games.



"With an unforgettable summer of cricket on our doorstep, we're ready to capture the hearts of American sports fans with our thrilling, adrenaline-charged game that is the most exciting emerging T20 tournament across the globe" added Srinivasan. The prospects of MLC propelling itself to be a 10 team tournament is seen as a bit unsettling to the English game. In its full glory MLC, may ultimately carve out a 10 week window for itself to accommodate the home and away format for all of its 10 teams. As it

stands, the MLC is well placed in a buffer between the IPL and the Hundred in the cricket calendar. With American and English summers overlapping, there is a high chance the MLC and competitions like the Blast and Hundred duel it out to attract and reserve top talent within their windows.

Meanwhile, the American cricketing juggernaut has rolled along quietly on and off the field. The success of the inaugural season of the MLC has stimulated sponsorship from industry leaders like Cognizant and Stake. It is understood that the title sponsor Cognizant has pledged in close to \$2m for the upcoming season. Furthermore, the USA men's historic series win over Bangladesh in the build up to their first world cup augurs well for American cricket, which finds itself in the midst of a T20 revolution.

Djokovic spoke about watching Rafael Nadal's match at the Chatrier on Monday. Novak Djokovic began his title defence at Roland Garros with a comfortable victory over seasoned Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert in the men's singles first round on Tuesday. Djokovic needed 2 hours and 31 minutes to outclass the World No. 142 and local hero 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-4 in front of a packed Philippe-Chatrier crowd in Paris.

Novak Djokovic was made to work hard in the second set as Pierre-Hugues Herbert, a former top 40 player, raised his game and put pressure on the Serb. While Djokovic breezed through the first set after converting a break early in the match, the 24-time Grand Slam champion was in a spot of bother when he dropped serve and was dragged to a tie-breaker. Djokovic,

however, raised his game in the second-set tie-breaker, winning it with ease.

Djokovic let out a roar after the second set tie-breaker, acknowledging the fact that he was made to work hard. Pierre-Hugues Herbert did not throw in the towel as he kept fighting in the third set and was level at 3-3. However, Djokovic pulled away and broke Herbert's serve when the Frenchman was serving to stay in the match.

Djokovic, who had to wait until the third day to get his campaign going in Roland Garros, will be delighted with the first-round test. Notably, Djokovic was in the stands at the Philippe-Chatrier on Monday to watch Alexander Zverev's first-round win over 14-time champion and the King of Clay -- Rafael Nadal. Djokovic on Tuesday thanked the late evening crowd for staying back and cheering the two players on the court. The 24-time Grand Slam champion extended his record to 72 out of 74 matches in the first round of Grand Slam tournaments. It was also Djokovic's 2nd win over Herbert as he continued his perfect run against the Frenchman, who showed signs of improvement. Djokovic will face Spain's World No. 63 Roberto Carballes Baena in the second round. Baena defeated Constant Lestienne of France in his first-round match in four sets on Tuesday. Djokovic will be looking to shake off his recent form and go all the way and win his fourth Roland Garros crown. The Serb, who won as many as 3 Grand Slam titles in 2023, is yet to reach the final of a tournament in the ongoing season.

## Sanju Samson confident of good show in T20 World Cup after IPL heroics: I am ready for it

**New Delhi:** T20 World Cup 2024: India wicketkeeper Sanju Samson is confident of a good showing with the bat in the upcoming ICC event. Samson had a fantastic run in the IPL 2024 with 531 runs in 15 matches.

Team India keeper-batter Sanju Samson shared the emotional journey leading up to his selection in India's 15-man squad for the upcoming ICC Men's

T20 World Cup, starting on June 1 in the USA and the West Indies. Samson revealed that he has avoided using his phone for the past 2-3 months to focus entirely on cricket, aiming to secure a spot in the T20 team. Leading the Royals in IPL 2024, Sanju Samson amassed 531 runs in 15 innings at an average of 48.27 and a strike rate of 153.47, finishing as the fifth-leading run-getter in

the tournament. Samson, who made his India debut in 2015, has had a stop-start international career. However, Samson impressed everyone with his stellar show in the recently concluded IPL and was named as one of the keeper-batters in India's squad for the 2024 T20 World Cup. "It [World Cup selection] was very emotional one. It was something which I didn't



expect much actually to be very honest. I knew that I was not very close to being selected. I knew that I had to do something really special in this IPL to get there. That's where I decided, I have to put my phone away. I think I am totally cut out from my phone. My phone is off from last 2-3 months. I have to completely focus on my game. I have to completely give myself the best chance to go out

there and perform and win games for my team, so that it can help me get into the Indian team for the World Cup. Getting selected to the world's best T20 team and that also for a World Cup actually deserves something special," the Indian stumper went on to add, Sanju Samson said in a video shared by Star Sports.

"I am ready for it and I really feel I can contribute

well for my country" - @IamSanjuSamson Getting selected for the World Cup is one thing, but performing on the big stage is something entirely different. Sanju Samson, however, is confident that after clearing the selection hurdle, he can be of great use to the team in the upcoming ICC event. With a renewed focus and determination, Samson believes his dedication and preparation will allow him to contribute significantly to India's success on the global stage. "I knew I had it in me. It's all about believing in my own self, believing that things can change, believing that if I do justice to my own talent, to my own potentialâ€œ I think I can be really useful for my country as well on the world's biggest stage. I think I am ready for it and I really feel that I can contribute well for my country," Samson added.