

Bhubaneswar(KCN): As many as 17 crorepati candidates are in the race for four Lok Sabha constituencies, which will go for election in the first phase in Odisha on May 13, according to a report of ADR

28.70 crore) and Bharatiya Bikash Parishad nominee for Berhampur, Rajendra Dalabehera (Rs 10.30 crore). SUCI(C) candidate for Koraput MP seat, Pramila Puiri is the crore. All four candidates of BJP and BJD nominated for the LS seats are crorepatis while three crorepati candidates of Congress are also in the race. Besides, four independent candidates, one from qualification of graduate or above. One candidate has declared himself to be just literate. Out of 37 candidates, only seven are female. Besides, 10 (27%) candidates have

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to lead a roadshow in Bhubaneswar May 10, party leader Aparajita Sarangi said Saturday. In a post on X, Sarangi, the MP of Bhubaneswar, urged the people to

Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, and Koraput will go to the polls May 13, while Bhubaneswar will vote May 25. Police said elaborate security arrangements have been made in Bhubaneswar for the PM's latest visit. DCP Prateek Singh said the PM will land at the Bhubaneswar airport at 9.30 pm Sunday, and then he will head to the Raj Bhavan where he will spend the night.

nominees of different Assembly seats were present at the meeting. Both Pandian and Majhi came down heavily on the opposition and alleged that BJP leaders were opposing several welfare schemes and also Shree Jagannath Temple heritage corridor project. The BJD leaders told the people about the state government's flagship schemes like school transformation, Mission Shakti, Kalia Yojana for farmers, Mamata Yojana for pregnant women, renovation of temples, mosques, churches and improvement of place of worships of tribal people.

national security is concerned, Jaishankar said adding that, for Modi the country is first and also its security, be it cross-border terrorism or any security threat to the country. On cross-border terrorism, he said we were tolerating it till Modi but after Modi in 2014 things have changed and we have made it clear that we will give a fitting and appropriate response to the cross-border terrorism, citing the example of the Balakote strike.

To a question, the Union Minister said Odisha has to be led by someone who has come from the grassroots level.

Code Violation Slur On IFS

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Alleging violation of code of conduct by a senior IFS Officer, the Governing Biju Janata Dal (BJD) today demanded action against the Officer for allegedly helping BJP nominee for Sambalpur and Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in this election. Holding a press conference here, BJD National Spokesperson Sasmit Patra said the IFS Officer was serving as an OSD to Union Minister Shri Pradhan when he was holding the Petroleum Ministry from 2014 to 2019. “Both Shri Pradhan and the IFS Officer have developed a close relation during



the tenure. Now, the Officer, who is serving as the Consul General of India, New York (USA), took one month leave and landed here at Sambalpur to support Pradhan,” Dr Patra alleged. Stating such a scenario has never been witnessed in the history of Odisha till now, the BJD MP said, the Officer is providing entire

back-end support to Pradhan and looking after his campaigning. “We have filed a complaint petition before the Election Commission on April 24, 2024 against the IFS Officer for his misconduct and violation of poll norms. We had demanded an examination of his call records and movement,” Dr Patra

said. The BJD has also submitted a copy of the petition to the Ministry of External Affairs and Cabinet Secretary. “We have written a letter for the second time to the Chief Election Commissioner on April 26, 2024 to the ECI. Till now, we have not received any reply to the petition by either of the Central

authorities,” he said. Later, on April 28, the BJD submitted a memorandum to the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Odisha about the matter. Alleging that this move of the senior IFS Officer is against the MCC and Peoples’ Representation Act, the BJD leader said, “Is the law different for the IFS Officer and Pradhan? Will the law take another turn, as he is very close to Union Minister Shri Pradhan.” He informed me that the BJD will again move to the CEO against the IFS Officer today.

Debasis Left BJP; Joins Cong



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Ahead of twin elections to State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha, former minister and four-time MLA Debasis Nayak today joined the Congress within three months after joining the BJP. Shri Nayak formally joined the Congress here in presence of Odisha Congress in-charge Ajoy Kumar at Congress

Bhawan. On February 25 this year, Shri Nayak had joined the BJP after resigning from the ruling BJD. As the BJP denied him ticket in this Assembly poll, he switched over to Congress now. The Congress party is likely to nominate him from the Bari Assembly seat replacing the existing candidate, sources said. Nayak is a four time

MLA from Bari Assembly constituency in Jajpur district. Debasis was first elected to the State Assembly from Bari seat in 2000 and was re-elected thrice from the same Assembly segment in 2004, 2009 and 2014. The BJD denied him a party ticket in 2019. He also served as a Minister in Naveen Patnaik’s Cabinet during 2004 to 2008.

AMRI Hospital, Bhubaneshwar, Launches Liver Clinic, Offering Complimentary Consultations on Inaugural Day

Bhubaneshwar, (KCN):AMRI Hospital, a leading healthcare institution in Eastern India, announces the launch of its Liver Clinic on May 8th, 2024. As part of their commitment to community health, the hospital is hosting a special event- a free registration and consultation Liver health check-up camp in its premises on the inaugural day. Liver transplant cases in India have been steadily increasing over the years, with statistics showing a rise in demand due to various factors such as liver diseases, hepatitis, and lifestyle-related issues. According to

recent data, India conducts thousands of liver transplants annually, making it one of the leading countries in the field. “Liver transplantation stands as the definitive solution for End Stage Liver Disease. Timely consultation and surgery are pivotal for its success. We encourage everyone to seize this opportunity by visiting our liver clinic at AMRI Hospital Bhubaneswar for a complimentary consultation on the inaugural day,” remarked Dr. Rajasekhar K, Consultant Liver Transplant Surgeon. Liver health is essential for overall well-being as

the liver plays a vital role in detoxification, metabolism, and nutrient storage. Getting vaccinated against hepatitis viruses, and getting regular check-ups can help prevent liver diseases and ensure optimal liver function. Dr. Pratap Behera, Senior Consultant in Medical Gastroenterology at AMRI Hospital, Bhubaneswar, emphasised the crucial role of liver health, stating, “Our liver plays a vital role in maintaining overall health. Simple lifestyle adjustments, such as adopting a balanced diet, regular exercise, and moderating

alcohol consumption, can significantly mitigate the risk of liver diseases. Let’s prioritize liver health and wellness, setting the standard for healthcare excellence in our region.” Dr. Gyanranjan Rout, Consultant in Medical Gastroenterology at AMRI Hospital, Bhubaneswar, highlighted the prevalence of liver ailments, expressing concern, “Chronic liver diseases silently impact a significant portion of the population, often leading to severe complications. Join us May 8th onwards for consultation with dedicated team focused on nurturing your liver health. Take proactive steps toward a healthier liver.”

Odisha: Soumya Patnaik contests as independent from Ghasipura

Bhubaneswar, May 4(KCN): Khandapada MLA Soumya Ranjan Patnaik has made his decision to contest from Ghasipura constituency in Keonjhar district as an Independent candidate. His decision has sparked interest and curiosity, especially given the historical context of the Ghasipura seat as the traditional stronghold of



Congress leader Niranjan Patnaik, who happens to be Soumya Ranjan’s elder brother. During a recent visit to the

Ghatagaon Maa Tarini temple, Patnaik had said that he had received a proposal from the BJP to contest from Ghasipura. However, the BJP on Thursday nominated Shambhunath Rout from the seat. As the election approaches, the political landscape in Ghasipura promises to be interesting. Soumya’s decision to

contest as an Independent candidate adds unpredictability in Keonjhar politics. Meanwhile, Niranjan Patnaik, Soumya’s elder brother and former PCC president, is contesting from the Bhandaripokhari assembly seat in neighboring Bhadrak district. It remains to be seen how this electoral battle unfolds in the coming days in Ghasipura.

Rourkela: Youth goes missing in Brahmani River

Rourkela, May 4(KCN): In a tragic incident, a youth has gone missing in the River Brahmani on Saturday while he was bathing in the Tarakera Dam along with his two friends. One was rescued by the locals whereas another friend’s body was reportedly fished out from the dam. Sources said three friends were taking their bath in the Tarakera Dam in the afternoon.



Meanwhile, they went missing in the dam due to strong current of water. On being aware of the incident,

locals rushed to the spot and managed to rescue one of the victims. However, two others were

swept away and went missing. Later locals with the fire service personnel’s aid fished out a body from water.



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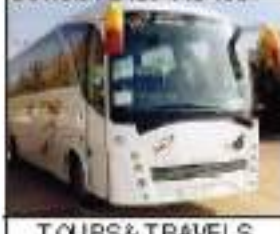
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Saurabh Shukla-Directorial Dry Day Is The Comedy Drama You Need To See - Here's How You Can Watch it

Jitendra Kumar-starrer 'Dry Day' is a powerful and emotional story that delves into the complexities of addiction, love, and the extent of a man's sacrifices for his family. Directed by Saurabh Shukla, and produced by Monisha Advani, Madhu Bhojwani, and Nikkhil Advani, under the banner of Emmay Entertainment, the comedy drama features Jitendra Kumar, Shriya Pilgaonkar, and Annu Kapoor in pivotal roles. The film is set to premiere exclusively on Prime Video in India and across more than 240 countries and territories worldwide

on December 22. Dry Day is the latest addition to the Prime membership. Prime members in India enjoy savings, convenience, and entertainment, all in a single membership for just ₹1499/year. Dry Day is a story of an imperfect hero who challenges societal conventions, rebelling against norms out of love for his unborn child. The trailer of this comedy-drama intricately explores the societal impact of alcoholism, presenting a thought-provoking narrative rooted in social relevance. Speaking about the film,



Director Saurabh Shukla said, "The movie is a social satire presented with a hilarious tragic-comedy of errors with lots of drama and emotions. Dry Day gives an important and relevant message about alcoholism and I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to craft this film, aiming to

entertain and enlighten the audiences. It brings me immense joy to partner with streaming service Prime Video, Emmay Entertainment, and a talented bunch of actors, collectively breathing life into a compelling and beautiful narrative." "Dry Day is a captivating blend of comedy and

drama, offering a rollercoaster of emotions," shares actor Jitendra Kumar. "It was an exhilarating experience playing the character of Gannu in the movie. Getting into the skin of this intriguing character was like adding a new skill to my toolbox. The character's struggle of defying all odds in pursuit of trust adds depth to the narrative of the film. I'm excited for audiences to witness this unique journey on screen. The film's fusion of heartwarming moments and compelling storytelling is something I can't wait for people to experience and appreciate."

Playing the role of Nirmala, actor Shriya Pilgaonkar shares, "The experience of working on Dry Day has been wonderful and enriching in so many ways. It's a film that will entertain you and emotionally strike a chord as well. I really enjoyed building that relationship between Nirmala and Gannu. The story of our film is all about the transformative power of love and it will also draw your attention to certain important societal issues. I'm so grateful to have got the opportunity to collaborate with Saurabh Sir and the wonderful team at Emmay Entertainment."

Jee Le Zaraa: Real reason behind Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt starrer's delay revealed and it's not date issues

Jee Le Zaraa is one of the most talked about movies starring Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt. The movie was announced a couple of years ago and there has been much excitement around the same as it is. Farhan Akhtar along with Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti are making this all-female road



trip movie happen but there have been a lot of hiccups already. Whether Jee Le Zaraa is being shelved or not, has Priyanka Chopra said no to the script, etc. have grabbed headlines in the last couple of days. But fresh reports revealing the real reason for the delay have surfaced. A lot of fans have questioned Farhan Akhtar about the delay of Jee Le Zaraa which is supposed to star Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt in the lead. There have been numerous reasons that have surfaced for the delay in making of the new movie. Recently, reports surfaced talking about Priyanka Chopra opting out of Jee Le Zaraa because she did not like the script. She was supposed to come down to India during Parineeti Chopra's wedding and sign the contract which did not happen. But that's not the case, as per a report in Koimoi.com, Priyanka is very much a part of the movie. She has not opted out of the project nor has she said 'no' to the script

Sushmita Sen says her father was 'not happy' about her wearing a swimsuit at pageant, stopped speaking with her because she decided to pursue showbiz



Sushmita Sen created history when she became the first Indian to win the Miss Universe pageant back in 1994. While Sushmita has always spoken about how supportive her family was, in a recent interview, she opened up about how her father did not speak to her when he learnt that she would be participating in Miss India. Even when she had to wear a swimsuit for one of the rounds in the pageant, her father was quite upset about it. Talking to Mid-Day, Sushmita said that she was all of 18 when her life changed, and at that point, her father wanted her to be an IAS officer. "My father wanted me to be an IAS officer, so I was studying

accordingly. When the bomb was dropped on my father that she is going to Miss India, my father didn't speak to me for a bit," she said. Sushmita said that when she entered the world of pageants, her father was quite concerned as she had not even finished her graduation at that point. "I never went to a college and graduate, which was a big problem for my father because he

always said, 'Beta, do whatever, just have a degree'," she recalled. Recalling the time she had an "emotional moment" with her father, Sushmita shared that he wasn't too happy about the fact that she would be wearing a swimsuit on stage. "I remember having this very emotional moment with my father when I promised him, I said 'Baba, I have to wear

a swimsuit, it is a part of the show. I cannot not wear it but I promise you I will add respect to it. It won't be crass.' He was not very happy with that, but when I won Miss India and I told my father that I will represent my country, that, for my father, being a defence person, he had balled his lungs out," she recalled. In 1994, the Miss Universe pageant was held in Manila, The Philippines, and while her mother and brother had traveled with her, her father was in India and watched the show on television. Sushmita Sen said that he watched the delayed broadcast with the rest of the country.

Mission Raniganj: Akshay Kumar, Parineeti Chopra's Romantic New Poster Released

Akshay Kumar's 'Mission Raniganj: The Great Bharat Rescue' is all set to arrive in theatres this week. The film, a survival drama, is one of the highly anticipated films to come out this year. It is based on a true event that occurred at West Bengal's Raniganj in 1989 when almost 65 workers found themselves trapped inside a coal mine. The heroic engineer - the late Jaswant Singh Gill played a vital role in rescuing the trapped miners from the mine. While the film is only 4 days away from its release, Akshay Kumar took to his X handle to share a new poster showing the romantic side of his character Jaswant Gill. Actress Parineeti Chopra plays his love interest in the film. In the poster, Akshay looks dapper in khakhee pants, brown jacket and a turban with his arm around Parineeti's shoulder. The actress is seen dressed in a pastel green saree with a shy expression on her face. "There's nothing more #Keemti than love @ParineetiChopra,



here's a gift for your special day, coming tomorrow! Watch the story of Bharat's true hero with #MissionRaniganj in cinemas on 6th October," Akshay wrote sharing the still. The makers, pooja Entertainment also shared a powerful poster of the film that featured an ensemble cast including Parineeti Chopra, Kumud Mishra, Pavan Malhotra, Dibyendu Bhattacharya,

Rajesh Sharma, Virendra Saxena and Shishir Sharma with the lead actor Akshay Kumar. The makers of 'Mission Raniganj' dropped the film trailer recently. Akshay, who is seen playing the late IIT Dhanbad engineer Jaswant Singh Gill, is seen racing against time to rescue the trapped miner from the flooded coal mine. Akshay Kumar, who plays Jaswant Singh Gill

in the film, completely shines in the trailer. His looks have bedazzled everyone. His steadfast determination and courage as Gill to rescue the miners trapped in the coal mine is the highlight of the film. The 'Khiladi' actor once again proved that no one can showcase a real-life story better than him on the big screen. The trailer also highlights Jaswant Gill's innovative rescue

technique, which is being used for the first time ever. The trailer also shows Parineeti Chopra in the role of Gill's wife. The immensely talented supporting cast features Kumud Mishra, Rajesh Sharma, Pavan Malhotra, and Ravi Kishan. All in all, the film promises to have impactful and poignant performances by an ensemble and talented cast.

Vashu Bhagnani Presents, A Pooja Entertainment Production - 'Mission Raniganj' has been produced by the powerhouse team of Vashu Bhagnani, Jacky Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, and Ajay Kapoor, and directed by Tinu Suresh Desai. This cinematic marvel is set to hit theaters on October 6, 2023.

THE POWER OF A JUDICIAL AUTHORITY TO REFER A DISPUTE TO ARBITRATION



The basic object of arbitration is to resolve the claim between the two or among the parties to an agreement for dealing with a business or any other commercial purpose. If two or more than two parties start a business basing on an agreement so that there would be no dispute for claiming the benefit uniformly or as per the agreement. If the agreement for business contains an arbitration clause then there would be no quarrel or dispute. For resolving the dispute through a legal process, an Arbitration Act was introduced in the year 1940. Subsequently the said Act became updated and a new Act was introduced by the Parliament not only to resolve a domestic dispute but also the dispute accruing out of an agreement basing on 1996 and therefore, taking into account the Model Law and Conciliation Rules adopted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the President on 16th January 1996 promulgated the Arbitration and

Conciliation Act, 1996. As per the Advanced Law Lexicon, Arbitration means any arbitration whether or not administered by a permanent arbitral institution. Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 empowers a court to refer parties to arbitration where there is an arbitration agreement. It is pertinent to mention here that a reference is made by a court to an arbitration under Section 89(1)(a) of the CPC if the contesting parties mutually agree to refer the matter for adjudication by the arbitrator. It is permissible on the part of the court to refer the matter to Arbitration and the freewill, volition and without consensus of the parties as per the Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. A right in turn is exercisable against the world at large. The said Act of the year 1996 contains various provisions to resolve the issue of a claim of dispute and pragmatically it is felt that the dispute can be resolved only through the Arbitration Act including the dispute at International level also. Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 contemplates that a

judicial authority before which an act is brought in a particular forum. The said section contemplates as under: "8. Power to refer parties to arbitration where there is an arbitration agreement. (1) A judicial authority, before which an action is brought in a matter which is the subject of an arbitration agreement shall, if a party to the arbitration agreement or any person claiming through or under him, so applies not later than the date of submitting his first statement on the substance of the dispute, then, notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of the Supreme Court or any Court, refer the parties to arbitration (2) The application referred to in sub-section (1) shall not be entertained unless it is accompanied by the original arbitration agreement or a duly certified copy thereof. (3) Notwithstanding that an application has been made under sub-section (1) and that the issue is pending before the judicial authority, an arbitration may be commenced or continued and an arbitral award made." The Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 deals with the power of

Mr. RadhaShyam Jena
a reference for arbitration on the basis of an application moved by the Defendant before the Civil Court to decide on the following issues:

"(i) Whether there is an arbitration agreement between the parties;

(ii) Whether all the parties to the suit are parties to the arbitration agreement;

(iii) Whether the disputes which are the subject-matter of the dispute fall within the scope of the arbitration agreement;

(iv) Whether defendants had applied under this section before submitting his first statement on the substance of the dispute; and

(v) Whether the reliefs sought in the suit are those that can be adjudicated and granted in an arbitration."

The significance of this section is not intended to restrain the arbitration proceedings before an arbitral tribunal or an arbitrator. The application of the Section 8 is absolutely essential where there is an agreement between the parties. In the case of Atul Singh & Ors. Versus Sunil Kumar Singh & Ors. (2008) 2 SCC 602, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that it is absolutely essential that there should be an arbitration

agreement between the parties. In that case there was no document as defined in Section 7 of the 1996 Act which might contain the signature of the Plaintiff and the Defendant. As per the fact of that case, the Hon'ble Supreme Court at paragraph 19 has held as under:

"There is no whisper in the petition dated 28-2-2005 that the original arbitration agreement or a duly certified copy thereof is being filed along with the application. Therefore, there was a clear non-compliance with sub-section (2) of Section 8 of the 1996 Act which is a mandatory provision and the dispute could not have been referred to arbitration. Learned counsel for the respondent has submitted that a copy of the partnership deed was on the record of the case. However, in order to satisfy the requirement of sub-section (2) of Section 8 of the Act, Defendant 3 should have filed the original arbitration agreement or a duly certified copy thereof along with the petition filed by him on 28-2-2005, which he did not do. Therefore, no order for referring the dispute to arbitration could have been passed in the suit."

In the case of Ravi Prakash Goel Versus Chandra Prakash Goel (2008) 13 SCC 667, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that where a dispute is referable to an arbitration, parties cannot be compelled to take recourse to Civil Court. In the said case on the basis of the pleadings, the Hon'ble Supreme Court framed the following questions: "(a) Whether right to sue for rendition of accounts survives on the legal representative of a deceased partner, are the legal representatives not entitled to invoke arbitration clause contained in the partnership deed? (b) Whether the arbitration can be commenced by the heirs after the death of partner especially where the dispute had arisen already during the lifetime of the partner? (c) Whether in view of Section 46 read with Section 48 of the Partnership Act as well as Section 40 of the Arbitration Act, 1996, the petitioner was entitled to claim appointment of arbitrator under the arbitration clause of the partnership deed and the Chief Justice of the High Court erred in overlooking those provisions?" While resolving the said questions, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has glaringly held that the Petitioner/Appellant has

possessed a legal and enforceable right to invoke arbitration clause and more application under Section 11 of the Arbitration Act, 1996 before the High Court for appointment of an arbitrator. In the light of the provision under Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has glaringly held that the term "dispute" must be given its general meaning under the said Act. The arbitration agreement entered into by and between the parties is of wide amplitude. The arbitration agreement brings within its fold a dispute of any nature whatsoever. It is in broadest term. As per the facts the Respondents had made payments without prejudice to their rights and contentions. Payments were made keeping in view the on-going business relationship between the parties. Out of five post-dated cheques, two were dishonoured but despite pendency of the suit, payments had been made to satisfy the claim of the Appellant in respect of the cheques which were dishonoured. Sufficient explanation has been observed by the Respondents, therefore, certain contingencies of events are not in dispute. Admittedly the Appellants' claim is not confined to the question

regarding non-payment of the amount under the two dishonoured cheques. Thus, there existed a dispute between the parties. The Section 8 of the Act is peremptory in nature. In a case where there exists an arbitration agreement, the court is under the obligation to refer the parties to arbitration in terms of the Arbitration Agreement.

The scheme of the Act indicates that a clash between the Section 8 and 16 is resolved in the manner that if a party approaches the Civil Court, the arbitration clause is put forth as a bar. The Civil Court shall decide upon the arbitration clause. However, if it finds that a dispute is not covered under the Arbitration Clause include process to decide the dispute. The Section 16 of the Act deals with the competence of the arbitral tribunal to rule on its jurisdiction. Therefore, it is pertinent to mention here that during the pendency of arbitration, civil court has no jurisdiction to entertain a petition and decide the nature of dispute raised therein.

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Cancer is the second-leading cause of death worldwide

Amit Baijnath Garg

-According to the WHO, India has the highest number of cancer patients in the world after America and China. In the year 2022, 1.93 crore new cancer patients were reported in the world, out of which more than 14 lakh are Indians. Due to the annually increasing cancer cases in India, their number is expected to increase by 57.5 percent by 2040. About 15 lakh cancer-related cases are reported every year in India.



According to the new report recently released by the Lancet Commission regarding cancer under non-communicable diseases i.e. NCDs, the cases of breast cancer are continuously increasing worldwide and by 2040, 10 lakh women are expected to die from it every year. The report also said that in the last five years till 2020, about 78 lakh women were diagnosed with breast cancer, while in the same year about 6.85 lakh women died from this disease. The report says that on an average, one in every 12 women worldwide is at risk of developing breast cancer before the age of 75. Researchers estimate that 23 lakh cases of breast cancer were reported worldwide in 2020, which may increase to

more than 30 lakh by 2040.

In fact, cancer is the second-leading cause of death worldwide. According to the World Health Organization, India has the highest number of cancer patients in the world after America and China. In the year 2022, 1.93 crore new cancer patients have emerged in the world, of which more than 14 lakh are Indians. Not only this, due to the annually increasing cases of cancer in India, their number is expected to increase by 57.5 percent by 2040. In India 7.70 lakh patients have died due to cancer in the year 2020, 7.89 lakh in 2021 and 8.08 lakh in 2022. The total number of cancer cases in the country was 14.61 lakh in the year 2022. Whereas in 2021 it was 14.26 lakh and in 2020 it was 13.92 lakh. One in 10 people in India fights with cancer in their lifetime and one in 15 dies from the disease. About 15 lakh cancer-related cases are reported every year in India.

After all, what is cancer? Actually, the abnormal and dangerous condition occurring in the body, in which there is abnormal growth of cells, is called cancer. Continuous division of cells in our body is a normal process, over which the body has complete control, but when the body has no control over the cells of a particular organ, they start growing abnormally and take the form of a tumour. This is what is called cancer. Most cancers occur in the form of tumours, but in the case of blood cancer, there is no tumour. One thing that is also worth mentioning is that not every tumour is cancer. In India, six types of cancers are prevalent, which include lung cancer, oral cancer, stomach cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer and colorectal cancer.

In simple words, cancer is an abnormal condition in the body, in which cells start growing abnormally and a lump of increased fat is formed, which can be called a tumour. This can

happen in any part of the body. Generally, there are two types of tumours occurring in cancer. First is benign tumour and second is malignant tumour. Malignant tumours spread to other parts of the body, while benign tumours do not. Symptoms of all cancers vary according to its type and location, but there are some other symptoms that can be seen such as sudden loss or increase in body weight, feeling very tired and weak, formation of lumps in the skin or change in complexion, digestive problems, constipation or diarrhoea, change in voice, pain in joints and muscles, time taken for wounds to heal, loss of appetite, swelling in lymph nodes etc.

Although there is no known cause of cancer, some substances called carcinogens are one of the major causes. These factors increase the chances of getting cancer. Among the major risk factors for cancer, long-term consumption of tobacco or its products like

cigarettes, gutkha or chewing gum can cause lung or mouth cancer. Drinking alcohol for a long time promotes liver cancer. It also increases the risk of cancer in many other parts of the body. Genes are also a major cause of cancer. If someone in the family has a history of cancer, the chances of getting this disease are higher. Viruses that are responsible for cancer include hepatitis B and C, which are responsible for up to 50 percent of liver cancers. Also, human papilloma viruses are responsible for cervical cancer in 99.9 percent of cases. Unhealthy foods or refined foods, which are low in fiber, increase the chances of colon cancer. Exposure to radiation due to frequent X-rays also increases the risk of cancer. Stages

Most cases of cancer involve tumours and are divided into four stages based on severity. First stage 0, there is no cancer in this stage, but some abnormal cells may be present in the body,

which can increase the chances of cancer at any time. In the second Stage the cancer tumour is small. In this, cancer cells are spread in only one area. In the third stage, the size of the tumour in the body becomes larger and the cancer cells spread to nearby organs and lymph nodes. In the fourth stage, cancer is in its last stage. It is also called metastatic cancer. This stage can prove fatal. In this the cancer has spread to other organs.

Treatment
Cancer is treated based on its type, stage and location. These doctors decide which treatment is right for cancer. Generally, cancer is treated by surgery, non-surgery, hormone therapy, immunotherapy, chemotherapy and stem cell transplant etc. In cancer treatment, abnormally growing parts of the cells are removed through surgery. This is done by biopsy technique when the tumour is easily accessible. If the cancer has not spread to other parts, then surgery is the

best option. Radiation therapy is a non-surgical procedure, which directly affects the cancer cells. In this, abnormally growing cells are destroyed with the help of gamma radiation. Chemotherapy is done in several stages to treat cancer. In this, the growing cancer cells are destroyed through special types of drugs. Immunotherapy strengthens the immune system to fight cancer cells. Cancers affected by hormones are treated through hormone therapy. Prostate cancer and breast cancer improve significantly with this therapy.

Prevention
After all, how to prevent cancer? To avoid cancer, you can prevent cancer by changing your lifestyle, adopting a healthy lifestyle and reducing risk factors. These include avoid alcohol consumption, avoid smoking, eat fiber rich diet, avoid consuming too much fat, take all vaccines regularly, avoid stress, keep getting BMI checked and maintain a healthy lifestyle in all

circumstances. At the same time, due to improvements in therapy, the survival rate after childhood cancer has increased, which is now more than 80 percent on average in America. Scientists are trying to learn more about the genetic causes of cancer and the special characteristics of the cells. These discoveries will improve cancer diagnosis and treatment. Overall, it can be said that continuous abnormal growth of cells in the body takes the form of cancer. Sudden weight gain or loss, change in skin colour, lump etc. are some symptoms of cancer, everyone should consult a doctor as soon as they are indicated. By adopting a healthy lifestyle, the risk of cancer can be avoided and one can remain healthy.

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India and Sweden Forge Ahead in Clean Technology at Kolkata Workshop



Kolkata(-ABHIJIT SETH): A vital workshop on innovative clean technologies marked a significant advancement in the India-Sweden bilateral relationship, as it was hosted recently at the Hotel ITC Royal Bengal in Kolkata. The event, part of the ongoing India-Sweden Innovations' Accelerator (ISIA) program, brought together

a Swedish delegation and Indian industry leaders to explore and expand upon the possibilities in clean energy technologies. The workshop, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry - Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre (CII-GBC) in collaboration with Business Sweden and the Swedish Energy

Agency, provided a platform for over 60 participants including industry leaders, government officials, and tech innovators. The event featured presentations from nine Swedish companies, focusing on sectors such as green energy, green financing, electric vehicle transition, water conservation

technologies, and energy storage solutions. Lisen Stenberg, the International Business Developer and Country Manager - India for the Swedish Energy Agency, emphasized the achievements of the ISIA program, now in its 12th year. Stenberg detailed the program's history, notably its role in introducing over 70 Swedish clean-tech companies to India, facilitating more than 250 sustainable projects across the country. She also highlighted the LeadIT initiative, started by Sweden and India at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019, aimed at achieving net-zero emissions in heavy industries. Pawan Tahlani, Head of Business Sweden in New Delhi, spotlighted the robust collaboration

between the two countries, underscoring shared goals for providing sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy solutions. He pointed out the strategic frameworks and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed between the two nations, focusing on energy and environmental cooperation. The workshop not only shed light on the innovative technologies from Sweden but also opened up avenues for future partnerships, aiming to drive a sustainable transition within the Indian industry. Both nations continue to pioneer significant efforts towards this end, marking a promising path for clean technology collaboration and a sustainable future.

Station Master Dozes Off On Duty, Delays Patna-Kota Express Train Near UP

New Delhi: The Patna-Kota Express train waited for a green signal for about half an hour at Udi Mor Road station near Etawah in Uttar Pradesh on May 3 as the station master fell asleep on duty.

Taking serious note of the incident, the Agra Division, under which the station falls, has asked the station master to explain the reason for negligence which could have resulted in an untoward incident.

"We have issued a charge sheet to the station master and disciplinary action is being taken," Agra Railway Division PRO Prashasti Srivastava told PTI. Railway officials said the Udi Mor Road station is a small but important station before Etawah as trains going towards Prayagraj from Agra as well as Jhansi pass from this station.



According to sources, the loco pilot of the train had to blow the horn multiple times to wake up the station master and make him turn on the green signal for the train to pass.

"The station master has admitted his mistake and apologised for the lapse. He said that he was alone at the station as the pointsman who was on duty with him had gone for track inspection," a source said.

"Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Tej

Prakash Agrawal has taken serious note of the incident as his focus is on improving punctuality. He has been insisting on and encouraging employees to improve punctuality which has resulted in achieving 90 per cent punctuality recently. "However, dereliction of duty on the part of the station master has not only ruined others' hard work and dedication but also posed grave risk to train operations," the source said.

Arvind Kejriwal, Wife Sunita In AAP's List Of Star Campaigners For Lok Sabha Polls



New Delhi(KCN): Aam Aadmi Party on Saturday issued a list of 40 star campaigners for Lok Sabha polls in Delhi and Haryana, featuring party convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal who is in judicial custody and his wife Sunita Kejriwal. AAP's star campaigners' list also included the names of jailed AAP leaders Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain, as well as Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. Sunita Kejriwal has already taken the reins of party's campaigning for the polls, attending roadshows in support of party's Lok Sabha candidates in Delhi and Gujarat. Recently she attended roadshows along with AAP candidates in East Delhi, West Delhi and

Bharuch and Bhavnagar constituencies in Gujarat. She is scheduled to attend a roadshow in support of AAP candidate from South Delhi seat Sahi Ram Pehalwan on Sunday, party leaders said. She will also hold roadshows in Punjab and Haryana under the party's campaign 'Jail Ka Jawab Vote Se' centred around the arrest of the Delhi chief minister by Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering case on March 21. The CM is currently held in Tihar Jail in connection to the case. AAP's other star campaigners for the polls include Rajya Sabha MPs Sanjay Singh and Raghav Chadha -- who is currently abroad for

an eye treatment. Rajya Sabha MP and national general secretary organisation Sandeep Pathak as well as all Delhi government ministers, including Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj, Gopal Rai, Kailash Gahlot were among the star campaigners. Prominent party leaders and ministers of AAP-ruled Punjab also figured in the star campaigners list. AAP is contesting four of the seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi and its candidates have filed their nomination papers. The party is contesting Kurukshetra seat in Haryana and Bharuch and Bhavnagar in Gujarat. Despite an alliance with Congress in Delhi, Haryana and Gujarat, the AAP is independently contesting all the Lok Sabha seats in Punjab.

"Those Who Can't Take Care Of Own People...": Arvinder Lovely Jabs Congress

New Delhi(KCN): After joining the BJP today, former Congress Delhi chief Arvinder Singh Lovely said that he had resigned last Sunday from the Congress post but till date no response has been received from party leaders.

"I had resigned last Sunday and till date no response has been received from the party. So those who cannot take care of their own people, how will they take care of the people of Delhi?" Mr Lovely said.

He also mentioned that he met all his colleagues and thousands of Congress workers after resigning, who said to him that he should not sit at home but continue his fight for the people of the Delhi.

"We are not just five,



now this convoy is very big who have decided that they will fight for the people of Delhi by staying in BJP. I joined Congress at the age of 18. At that time, when we heard former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's speech in which she said "Mere khon ka katra-katra desh ke liye hai".

Today, when we have joined BJP, the Congress party has come from 'Katra-Katra' to 'Tukde-Tukde'. We felt that if any party is fighting for the country then we should contribute to it and strengthen that strong leadership," Arvinder Singh Lovely added.

Meanwhile, along with Lovely, former Congress MLAs Raj Kumar Chauhan, Naseeb Singh and Neeraj Basoya and former Youth Congress President Amit Mallik also joined the BJP. Arvinder Singh Lovely resigned from the Delhi Congress chief on April

28 and wrote a letter to Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge citing that he was against the alliance between Congress and AAP in Delhi.

"The Delhi Congress Unit was against an alliance with a party which was formed on the sole basis of levelling false, fabricated and malafide corruption charges against the Congress Party. Despite that, the Party made a decision to ally with the AAP in Delhi...", he said in his letter.

Voting for all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi is scheduled to take place on May 25, during the sixth phase of the ongoing general elections. The counting for all seven phases is scheduled for June 4.

"Getting Great Response Due To People's Love For PM Modi": BJP Candidate Ujjwal Nikam

New Delhi,(KCN): Lawyer Ujjwal Nikam, who has been fielded by the BJP from the Mumbai North Central Lok Sabha seat, on Saturday said the process to extradite accused persons to the country was a long and expensive one and emphasised the need to overcome the problem. Talking to PTI on the sidelines of his campaign, Ujjwal Nikam also said the foray into politics was the second innings of his life and dubbed it a move from the court of law to that of the people.

"Extradition is a long and expensive process. Foreign courts decide on basis of their law on extradition after assessing and evaluating our evidence. There is need to overcome this. I am studying the issue and will speak more on it,"



he said. Hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the lawyer-turned-politician said the he had increased India's stature in the world and that he had plans to roll out several welfare schemes apart from massive betterment in

infrastructure. "Earlier I was working in the court of law. Now I have decided to work for the common man as per the ideology of the BJP. I have joined politics because through it one can do a lot of good for the common man the way

PM Modi has been doing for the past 10 years," he asserted.

"I am only 10 days old in politics. So initially it was difficult but after seeing the love and affection the common man has for the PM, I know they (people) are looking at me to

represent them in the next Modi government," Ujjwal Nikam claimed.

On criticism from some quarters of a few provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, which will replace the Indian Penal Code and come into force from July 1, being draconian, Ujjwal Nikam said he would express his views after getting elected, adding that "certain provisions need more attention".

Ujjwal Nikam said he was touring the constituency and studying its geographical and other issues and asserted rehabilitation of slums in the vicinity of the airport is one needs that needs quick resolution.

"I am getting a great response due to the love people have for the prime minister," Ujjwal Nikam said.

Tiger Population On Rise

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With Tiger Population on rise, Susanta Nanda, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW) is on Cloud 9. Shri Nanda, an ardent wildlife lover has been hyperactive in protection of wildlife in the State. Thanks to his leadership in wildlife management, the latest Report on All Odisha Tiger Estimation reveals total Tiger number at 30 with 8 cubs of less than one year. The State of Odisha is a part of Central Indian and Eastern Ghats

Landscape and the forest cover accounts for 33.50 Percent of the state's total geographic area (India State of the Forest Report, 2021). There is one national park, one proposed national park and nineteen wildlife sanctuaries in Odisha. As per the All India Tiger Estimation (AITE), 2022 report, minimum 17 tigers were camera trapped in Odisha, which was largely confined to Similipal Tiger Reserve. In order to keep a close track of its tiger population and develop appropriate management strategy,

the All Odisha Tiger Estimation (AOTE), 2023-2024 was conducted, which spanned across 47 forest divisions, aimed at much more intensive state-level tiger monitoring.

A State-level field survey was conducted to look for tiger signs such as pugmarks, scrapes, scats, rakes, urine spray, vocalization and livestock depredation. Sites where the direct and indirect signs of tigers were found with certainty, were intensively camera trapped to arrive at the



minimum number of unique adult tigers based on their distinctive stripe pattern. Camera trap image based identification of tigers is a scientifically accepted methodology and is also used in the All India Tiger Estimation exercises. A total of 27 unique adult tigers were camera trapped in Odisha

during the AOTE exercise, comprising 14 females and 13 males. Evidence of another 3 adult tigers were also seen in the Similipal tiger reserve, which have not been camera trapped.

With 24 adult unique tigers, Similipal Tiger Reserve currently holds the largest share of the state's tiger

population. Similipal currently holds all the adult female tigers of the state.

In total, 13 adult tigers (seven females and six males) were found to be pseudomelanistic in Similipal, and no other wild habitat in the world has pseudo-melanistic tigers.

Seven cubs which were of less than 1 year also photo-captured in Similipal. Apart from Similipal, the Hirakud Wildlife Division and Paralakhemundi Territorial Forest Division, each holds one adult male tiger.

Another adult male tiger

was also found to utilize Greater Similipal tiger Landscape.

The tiger abundance has increased in Odisha from the previous estimate of AITE, 2022. Similipal Tiger Reserve, which currently harbors 27 unique adult individuals, has also witnessed an increase from 16 tigers captured through Camera Traps in 2021-2022.

This growth has resulted from strict management actions and scientific conservation practices. The images of eight unique tiger cubs during

AOTE, 2023, indicate a recovering population in Similipal landscape. Similipal is the only place on earth to boast the pseudomelanistic tigers. The presence of three unique adult male tigers camera-trapped in Hirakud Wildlife Division, Paralakhemundi Territorial Division, Keonjhar Territorial and Keonjhar Wildlife Division looks promising and provides hope for a better future for tigers in these habitats. Apart from these regions, there is excellent potential for tiger recovery in Satkosia Tiger Reserve and Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary.

Neglected Mahurigarh fort inches towards extinction



Berhampur(KCN): The historical Mahurigarh fort, the seat of erstwhile Mahuri royals near Aska in Ganjam district, is on the verge of extinction due to lack of proper upkeep and government apathy. Ganjam district is full of antiquities. Mahurigarh fort is one such monument which mirrors the rich cultural heritage of the district.

However, it is fast fading into oblivion. Academics and historians lament that the medieval era Mahurigarh fort, which once stood as the silent witness to the attack launched by the East India Company, is now in ruins. Mahurigarh is located on the outskirts of Berhampur under Kukudakhandi block of Ganjam district. The distance of Mahurigarh is around 15 km from Berhampur town and 8 km from Kanishi on National Highway-16. It came into existence when Puri royal Purushottam Dev returned home after victory in Kanchi war. He stopped mid-way and donated land there to all his sardars (army commanders) and directed them to become kings. His two commanders Somaraj and Bhimaraj received Mahurigarh as their province to rule. The


royal province was named as Mahurigarh as the two commanders played 'Mahuri' (a piece of musical instrument) during the war. Somaraj was anointed as the king of the princely state while Bhimaraj was anointed as his 'Thata Raja' (deputy) in 1450. The Mahuri royal lineage consisted of Somaraj, his son Purushottam Singh, Purushottam's son Dhruva Singh and his descendants. The Mahuri princely state, consisting of 411 villages and seven forts, was spread over 521 square mile area. The seven forts are Mahudagarh, Satapahandi, Pandiajholi, Nuagaon, Nalihada, Dengapadar and Narayanpur. Mahurigarh or Mahuda was the capital of the princely state. Mahurigarh, ruled by the Mahuri royal family for six generations, had a Jagannath temple and many historical relics and antiquities apart from the royal palace. However, bad days followed soon as the French army attacked Mahurigarh in 1755. The Mahuri royal fought with the French army and managed to save his fort.

Later, the army of East India Company attacked Mahurigarh and tried to capture it in

1765. The East India Company pulled down several temples and mutts during the war to inflict humiliation on the Mahuri royals. Back-to-back battles pushed the Mahuri royal into distress while disputes within the royal family aggravated the problems.

According to historians, the then Mahuri royal Harihar Narendra Dev was assassinated by his brothers, December 10, 1782. Family disputes and enmity weakened the royal family and it became difficult to collect revenue from the people in the kingdom. As a result, the then British government auctioned the princely state as it failed to deposit Rs 60,000 towards outstanding revenue to the British treasury in 1832-33. There was no end to the Mahuri royal family's woes as the princely state had to face a drought from 1837 to 1840. The unending hurdles forced the Mahuri royal family to shift their base to Berhampur from Mahuda. As a result, the historical Mahurigarh was pushed to obscurity and left abandoned. The then British government took over

the governance of Mahurigarh and paid some allowances to the Mahuri royal and asked them to live at Berhampur. This is the reason behind the destruction of Mahurigarh, noted historian and researcher Anantram Kar Koundinya said. Mahurigarh has turned into a haunted house with wild shrubs and creepers growing all over the fort. Locals said that the place is visited by historians, researchers and people from various parts of the state during the picnic season. The state government has declared 21 sites in the district as tourist sites. However, it is yet to give tourist site tag to the historical Mahurigarh. The Berhampur University is conducting research on various subjects but has forgotten to take note of Mahurigarh. Professor Geetanjali Das, Vice Chancellor of Berhampur University, assured to review the matter and take steps to find if there is any rock edict and matter of interest regarding Mahurigarh. When contacted, Collector Dibyajyoti Parida said steps will be taken to protect the historical Mahurigarh.



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Dr Tripathy further added that it is time to make detailed eye check-ups a part of mandatory paediatric examinations.

CT impact: PSL to clash with IPL next year as PCB identifies April-May window

NEWDELHI: Pakistan Super League (PSL) will clash with Indian Premier League (IPL) next season. The overlap of the schedule has become unavoidable in view of the Champions Trophy that Pakistan will host in February-March 2025. The tentative window allocated for the PSL 2025 is April 7 to May 20, the dates during which the IPL runs. This year, the IPL started on March 22 and will conclude on May 26. Cricbuzz reported on February 9 about the potential disruption of schedule for three domestic leagues - in UAE (ILT20), in South Africa (SA20) as well as Pakistan.

On Saturday, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) held a meeting with the six franchise owners of the PSL to look ahead for the coming season. "Due to the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 being held in the traditional event window, the event window for the 2025 event will be 7 April - 20 May," the PCB said in a statement.

The meeting decided that Karachi, Lahore, Multan, and Rawalpindi will host matches with each side playing, at least, five matches on home ground. The PCB will continue to explore additional venues, the board said, adding, "The



four playoffs proposed to be staged at a neutral venue."

It will be for the first time that the dates of the IPL and the PSL will be clashing. The viewerships of the leagues may not exactly be affected but the clash may have an impact on the participation of foreign players. The overlap of windows has been avoided since the start of the PSL nine years ago. The PSL was held from February 17 to March 18 this year. But the February-March window of next year has been allocated to the Champions Trophy, which is scheduled to start mid-February, new dates had to be identified for the PSL, considered the second best franchise-based league after the IPL.

"At the back of this meeting, and in relation to the most suitable window for HBL PSL 2025 and beyond, the PCB will share further data with the franchise owners so that they can discuss amongst themselves, make a more informed decision and share their ideas and thoughts at the General Council meeting. We look forward to working closely with the franchisees to make timely decisions for the future trajectory of one of Pakistan's biggest brands," PCB Chief Operating Officer Salman Naseer said.

Stumbling CSK gear up for another PBKS challenge



NEWDELHI: Dharamsala has an iconic importance in the annals of Chennai Super Kings' long and distinguished IPL history. Facing a must-win game at this venue back in 2010, MS Dhoni famously bailed the side out in a dramatic last-over finish to send Chennai into knockouts. Ultimately, they'd go on to win the first of their five IPL titles. Fast forward 14 years later and CSK once again find

themselves in a spot of bother heading to Dharamsala. It's not yet panic stations as it was in 2010 but with the playoffs race heating up considerably, the defending champions know that more slip-ups will put their qualification hopes in jeopardy. After a promising start to the season with four wins in six games, CSK slipped to three losses in their next four games, including two at home in

Chepauk. After the high-flying success in 2023, the batting approach this year has come under scrutiny with the over-dependence on Shivam Dube clearly visible during the middle overs phase. The powerplay hasn't been explosive either as Ajinkya Rahane's form remains a concern.

Skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad's excellent form is a relief but CSK need to sort out the tempo of

crucial contributing factor. In contrast, Punjab Kings are riding a wave of confidence. After registering the highest-ever T20 run chase at the Eden Gardens against KKR, beating CSK at Chepauk was just the tonic they needed to gather steam towards the business end of the tournament. They might be a volatile unit, more so in the batting department, but when they come off, PBKS are a very hard team to stop. A lot of their initial worries in the tournament boiled down to the top-order failure and inefficiency in death bowling. It meant that the uncapped players in Shashank Singh and Ashutosh Sharma had to do the heavy-lifting, which they did with aplomb. The return to form of Jonny Bairstow has given a massive boost to the batting line-up with Rilee Rossouw also doing his bit reasonably. This has allowed the middle order to function with relative ease.

NEWDELHI: Mitchell Starc doesn't expect the upcoming T20 World Cup in West Indies-USA to be anywhere close to the high-scoring tournament that the ongoing Indian Premier League season is turning out to be. With nearly two-thirds of IPL 2024 completed, high scores have been the trend with the 200-run mark no longer a safe metric for teams batting first. The 250-run mark that was only breached once prior to this season has been taken down multiple times with Sunrisers Hyderabad daring to even get close to the unprecedented 300-run mark. Starc, however, feels that the ICC showpiece event will have a better balance between bat and ball, and he had an explanation for this.

"There's no Impact Player rule (in international cricket), so whether that affects the scores is yet to be seen," said Starc. "I think it probably will. People talk about the balance of the team when you can't just bring someone in. Your all-rounders come back into play. Captains have to think a bit tactically, too, when you have just 11 players. It's been interesting

to experience it first-hand in the IPL."

The impact player rule that came into existence from the 2023 IPL season has constantly attracted divided feedback. While it has allowed a plethora of uncapped talents to get a window of opportunity to showcase their skills, the 12 vs 12 battle hasn't gone down well with the pundits of the game. If the first season was about the teams testing the waters, this year has seen the batting approach go through the roof in terms of intent. On Friday, the rule came to KKR's aid as they sent out Manish Pandey as the Impact Player with the side struggling at 57/5, thereby holding back Andre Russell and Ramandeep Singh for the back end.

It was a gamble from the visitors who were clearly planning to use a bowler in that slot for later in the game. But with the game situation demanding flexibility in the approach, KKR opted to tweak their tactics and sent in the Karnataka batter to weather the storm. It worked a treat as Pandey combined with Venkatesh

Iyer for a decisive 83-run stand that gave Kolkata the platform towards a strong total. Starc did concede that the batters have upped the game but did underline the role of the Impact Player in this.

"The Impact Player rule changes things a fair bit. Everyone gets to bat a lot deeper having a batting and a bowling XI. There's a lot made of that rule throughout the tournament and there's been a lot of high scores, which is the nature of the wickets and the grounds we play on here. When you have batters and batting allrounders come in at Nos. 8 or 9, it's a long batting line-up."

"There's no fear in the powerplay when all you have to do is to clear the infield and score runs. Certainly, there has been some really good batting, don't get me wrong, it's not just the rules that play a part there. There's been some fantastic scoring, some fantastic partnerships and some individual brilliance with the bat."

On this occasion, their skill was better than ours: Stokes

New Delhi: Ben Stokes, the England captain, heaped praise on the Indian spin trio of R Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav for using the conditions to their advantage and ensuring his team's batters were challenged after India secured a five-wicket win in Ranchi to gain an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series. The three Indian spinners combined to bag 15 of the 20 English wickets in the Test.

"It's always disappointing being on the losing team," Stokes admitted on Sunday. "Looking back at when we had our chance to bat yesterday, cricket is always skill against skill. Ashwin, Jadeja and Kuldeep and the conditions we found ourselves in against them

were very, very challenging. When India have a sniff in conditions like that, any team is going to find it hard to not only keep the scoreboard ticking but rotate the strike. You've got to give them a lot of credit for the way in which they bowled in very favourable conditions. On this occasion, their skill was better than ours yesterday."

England had India on the mat after piling on 353 runs in the first innings and then reducing the hosts to 177 for 7. However, Dhruv Jurel - playing his second Test - took the contest away from the visitors with a well-compiled 90. To give him company, were No 9, 10 and 11, none of whom have great credentials with the bat. Despite that,

England took a 46-run lead in the first innings, but lost the momentum in the second innings with the bat, folding up for 145 on Day 3, which turned the course of the contest. However, Stokes doesn't want to pin the blame on the team's batting failure in the second innings alone. "You can say everything is a missed chance when it doesn't go well but I think you've just got to give so much credit to the way India's spinners bowled in that very, very crucial period of the game. It was very obvious they sensed an opportunity to really put us under pressure. When you've got three world-class spinners operating in conditions like that, you know you're going to be up against it. That period yesterday after lunch



just because the pitch was assisting spinners. "Nothing is impossible, I wouldn't say that. But it was high on impossible to operate how we wanted to. But one thing is that we don't tell people how to go out and play. What we do is give people the freedom and the confidence to go out and assess the way they think is best for them, but also for the team, in every single situation. It was very, very tough yesterday."

"I thought Foakes read the situation very well, dragging the game out as long as he could while ticking the board over because every run was going to be crucial. We obviously would have liked more but the longer that game drew out, it gave us more of an

opportunity to exploit a pitch that was always going to get harder to bat on." It is the first Test series loss for England under the Stokes-McCullum leadership. England's over-aggressive intent at times backfired for them during the series and led to a wave of criticism, none more than Joe Root's dismissal on the third day of the Rajkot Test, when he mistimed a reverse scoop to the slip fielder. Despite the loss, Stokes believes there is little reason to backtrack from their method of playing cricket which has not only brought the team tremendous success so far but also entertained the audiences.

"That is something will be said, that we have lost our first series. I am not

particularly bothered about that saying in itself. Obviously we want to win every game we play, and win every series. This is the first we have lost, but we will be involved in plenty more series going forward. A lot of talking point are after the fact of them happening. That is something I have come to terms with, something the team has come to terms with. "But the way we play is pretty simple. You can have it all taken away from you at the click of a finger so why not enjoy every opportunity you have to play, and make sure you are doing it with a smile on your face regardless of what is happening. It is a very short career so why not make it as enjoyable as you can."