

Kashmir Sewa Sangh Calls for Special Status for Downtown Srinagar, Demands CBI Inquiry into Waqf Land Corruption, Launches Empowerment Initiatives for Women and Youth.

Srinagar, (Aasif Malik): Firdous Baba, President and Founder of Kashmir Sewa Sangh (KSS), addressed a press conference today, calling for immediate attention to the long-standing socio-economic challenges faced by downtown Srinagar. Baba urged the government to grant special status or a dedicated aid package to the region, which has suffered from neglect for over three decades. He stressed the need to improve local resources, such as agricultural land and create economic opportunities, particularly for women and youth. "We have witnessed the struggles of downtown Srinagar for more than 30 years. Without access to essential resources like agricultural land and sustainable avenues for growth, residents—especially women and youth—are left with limited prospects for a better future," Baba stated. We earnestly appeal to our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to approve a 200 crore rupee package for Srinagar's downtown area. We believe only Prime Minister Modi can address our needs, as we have lost faith in Kashmir's current government. They have

shown no interest in this issue, often making lofty statements while prioritizing the interests of themselves, their families, and close associates over the genuine needs of the people. In addition to advocating for government intervention, Baba called for a comprehensive investigation into the management of Waqf Board lands, highlighting concerns of corruption and resource mismanagement. He specifically requested a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry to ensure transparency and accountability within Waqf institutions. A recent publication by KSS executive board member and National Convener of Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM) Shahid Sayeed, titled Waqf Bill 2024: Respect for Islam and Gift to Muslims, further underscores these issues. Launched by Cabinet Minister for Minority Affairs Kiran Rijju, the book sheds light on the corruption and mismanagement within the Waqf Board and serves as an invaluable resource for policy makers, stakeholders, journalists and the public. New Community Projects for Women, Youth and

Local Development KSS is rolling out several community-driven initiatives aimed at uplifting the most vulnerable sectors of downtown Srinagar, particularly women and youth. Key projects include the establishment of a charitable hospital to improve healthcare access for underserved populations and a free coaching center designed to help local youth, particularly women, prepare for competitive exams such as UPSC, NEET, and JEE. Baba emphasized that these initiatives will empower the next generation of young people, particularly women, equipping them with the skills and education necessary to thrive in a competitive world. "Our goal is to build an inclusive future where every young person, regardless of gender, has equal opportunities to succeed," Baba stated. "The youth of Srinagar, especially our women, are the backbone of our community. By providing them with education, skills, and support, we are laying the foundation for a prosperous future." Focusing on Social Upliftment and Empowerment of Women and Youth KSS's initiatives are



focused on key sectors critical to the region's development, including education, sports, youth empowerment, women's welfare, road safety, culture, tourism, and the support of local artisans, particularly women artisans from downtown Srinagar. Baba emphasized the importance of a multifaceted approach to creating a thriving, self-sufficient community and called on both the government and international stakeholders to support these efforts. Today's press conference underscored KSS's commitment to addressing the urgent needs of downtown Srinagar, particularly the upliftment of women and youth, while calling for immediate government action and broader international collaboration. KSS Expands to a Global

Platform for Solidarity Looking ahead, Firdous Baba shared KSS's vision for expansion beyond India's borders. "We plan to collaborate with communities in over 32 countries, including the US, UK, and Australia, to build an international platform that supports the people of Kashmir and advocates for the empowerment of women and youth," Baba announced. KSS Takes Strict Action Against Misguided Elements In his address, Baba also made it clear that any individuals involved in fraudulent or misleading activities under the guise of KSS would face

immediate dismissal. He emphasized that the organization would not be held accountable for any actions taken by people misrepresenting its name. At Sunday's press conference, Eliza Izhar, National Executive Member (Education) of Kashmir Seva Sangh (KSS), and Nasir Ali Khan, National Executive Member (Road Safety), spotlighted key issues in Kashmir's education and road safety sectors, underscoring KSS's commitment to urgent reforms. Nasir and Eliza both raised serious concerns about the corruption and irregularities within the Waqf Board. They

emphasized the need for transparency and called for a thorough investigation into its operations. Both proposed a comprehensive audit of Waqf properties to ensure that they are used in the right manner and contribute to the welfare of the community. Furthermore, Nasir and Eliza highlighted the importance of prioritizing the development of the Muslim community through the Waqf Board. They focused on issues such as education, healthcare, the upliftment of women and youth, as well as the pressing issues of unemployment and drug abuse. They argued that addressing these challenges through the proper utilization of Waqf properties could lead to significant improvements in these areas. By creating job opportunities and support systems for those struggling with addiction, the Waqf Board could play a key role in tackling these critical issues. They stressed the need to use Waqf assets for the overall welfare of society, ensuring a better future for all sections of the

community. Eliza highlighted the dire state of Kashmir's educational infrastructure, condemning the lack of basic facilities and qualified staff as detrimental to students' futures. She criticized the Education Ministry's inaction and urged prioritization of education to offer Kashmiri youth better opportunities. Nasir addressed road safety concerns, detailing KSS's 150 awareness programs and the need for government action on poor infrastructure and lax traffic law enforcement. Both leaders stressed the necessity of public support and government accountability to bring meaningful change. Meanwhile, there was a serious discussion on driving licenses and road safety, which was highlighted as a major issue in Kashmir. Additionally, the matter of "No school van for school bus" was raised, and a request was made to the LG to pay attention to the safety of school children and the people of Kashmir.

Children's Day Celebrated by NINL

Kalinganagar(KCN): As part of a volunteering activity, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL), in collaboration with Tata Steel Foundation (TSF), celebrated Children's Day with 45 children from Anganwadi and TSF Tribal Language Class of Dhenkisal village under Shalijanga Gram Panchayat under Danagadi block on Thursday. The celebration provided a fun-filled day of activities and encouragement for the young participants.



During the celebration, the employees distributed study materials and snacks, bringing smiles and boosting the spirits of the children. They also engaged with the children through motivational talks designed

to inspire their educational pursuits. On Wednesday, another volunteering initiative was undertaken by Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) in Shalijanga village where an awareness programme on

'Domestic and Fire Safety' was organised for the local women. More than 50 women participated in the training session that aimed to empower the local women with knowledge and skills to prevent accidents and respond effectively to emergencies. During the programme, employees of NINL gave various insightful inputs on the importance of domestic safety and urged the villagers to adopt preventive measures.

Disbursement of assistance to beneficiaries under Construction Labor Welfare Scheme in Sambalpur

Sambalpur(KCN): Recognizing the unique contribution of workers in the development process, Odisha state government is taking various measures for their safety and welfare. In this context speaking during Nirman Sramika Kalyan Jojana disbursement program organized at Tapaswani Hall, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has advised the workers of Sambalpur district to register their names in the list of construction workers to get government support from birth to death. He said this while participating in the program of distribution of aid to the beneficiaries under the 'Construction Workers Welfare Scheme' on behalf of the District Labor Office in Sambalpur on Monday. In this programme, more than Rs. 1 crore 20 lakhs have been distributed to the labor beneficiaries for education, marriage, maternity, natural death, accidental death and bowel movement assistance and BOC-I



Let there be a plan to increase the number of registration of qualified construction workers in Sambalpur - Dharmendra Pradhan

cards have been distributed to 200 eligible construction workers. About 312 labor beneficiaries of Sambalpur district will benefit from this program organized by the state government today. On this, Mr. Pradhan said that according to the state government, all unskilled, skilled, semi-skilled, physical laborers, and observation workers are included in the Orissa Construction and Other Construction Workers Act. The construction workers registered in the state will get educational assistance of Rs.20,000 to Rs.40,000, marriage grant of

Rs.50,000, maternity grant of Rs.10,000, natural death grant of Rs.3 lakh, accidental death grant of Rs.6 lakh and endometrial grant up to Rs.5,000. Assistance is being provided. However, the registered number of construction workers in Sambalpur is about 62 thousand. Considering the construction and industrial infrastructure in Sambalpur, this number should be approximately 3 lakh. However, with the support of the district administration plan to increase the number of construction worker

brothers and sisters. The Union Education Minister has advised the district administration to plan for organizing special camps everywhere. Working on Sabka Saath- Sabka Vikash, Sabka Biswas and Sabka Prayas, the Modi government is committed to social security of workers, upliftment of their dignity and welfare schemes. Shri Pradhan thanked the State Government, District Administration and Sambalpur District Labor Department for organizing this distribution program today. Shri Ravi Narayan Nayak, Minister of State Rural Development, Panchayatiraj and Drinking Water Department was present in this program.

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Indian Railways ensured lakhs of families celebrate Chhath together

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



Transportation plays a pivotal role in the development of any nation. The railway administration's meticulous planning and execution during festive seasons significantly benefits the public, and their efforts merit widespread appreciation. Indian Railways is a statutory body under the ownership of the Ministry of Railways of India that operates India's national railway system. It manages the fourth largest national railway system by size with a track length of 132,310 km, running track length of 106,493 km, and route length of 68,584 km. With more than 1.2 million employees, it is the world's ninth-largest employer and India's second largest employer. The Indian Railways has done a laudable job in carrying passengers and freight from one to the other corner of the country to earn adulation of the people from different walks of life.

Trains continue to serve as a crucial mode of long-distance travel in India. The railway administration's adept handling during this festive period ensured smooth travel for passengers, with facilities at crowded stations efficiently managed to accommodate the surge in travelers. To address the anticipated crowds at railway stations, additional staff were deployed at high-traffic locations, bolstering operational efficiency and public safety. Train schedules were meticulously planned to minimize delays and ensure a seamless travel experience. Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with Railway Board Chairman Satish Kumar, personally oversaw the daily arrangements to ensure flawless execution. Railway Board Chairman Satish Kumar, speaking to the media, stated, "We have deployed over 500 special trains to manage the increased passenger flow as people travel to and from their hometowns following the Chhath Puja festival." The board announced that the passenger surge typically commences after sunrise on November 8, necessitating additional

train services from high-demand regions like the Samastipur and Danapur divisions. On November 8 alone, 164 special trains were available to handle the anticipated influx. The board further detailed that 160 special trains were scheduled for November 9, followed by 161 on November 10, and 155 on November 11. This four-day initiative aimed to effectively manage the seasonal increase in travelers and ensure sufficient seating capacity for all. This announcement follows a record-breaking achievement on November 4, when Indian Railways transported 120.72 lakh passengers in a single day. This included 19.43 lakh reserved passengers and 101.29 lakh unreserved, non-suburban passengers. Additionally, suburban services reached new heights, carrying 180 lakh passengers on the same day, marking the highest single-day passenger count of the year. The Railway Board highlighted that this volume surpasses the combined populations of Australia and New Zealand, underscoring the critical role of Indian Railways in accommodating India's



substantial travel demands during peak periods. Throughout the broader festive season, including Durga Puja, Diwali, and Chhath Puja, Indian Railways has played a vital role in facilitating nationwide travel. Rail services transported 65 lakh passengers through 4,521 special trains,

ensuring smooth journeys for millions. To meet ongoing demand, Indian Railways has operated an average of 175 special trains per day in the days leading up to Chhath Puja, allowing travelers to reach their destinations with convenience. Indian Railways implemented a comprehensive plan to

ensure safe and comfortable travel for passengers heading home for the Chhath Puja celebrations. To handle the festive rush, the Railways deployed over 160-170 special trains on major routes from cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai, and Bengaluru to high-demand destinations such as Bihar

and Uttar Pradesh. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with Railway Board Chairman Satish Kumar, visited New Delhi Railway Station to inspect passenger facilities and travel arrangements amidst the festive rush. This initiative aimed to ensure smooth operations and effective crowd management as large numbers of passengers traveled home to celebrate the festival. During his visit, Minister Vaishnaw interacted with passengers waiting on the platforms, most of whom provided positive feedback and expressed satisfaction with the crowd management efforts of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and other officials. Passengers appreciated the ease of reaching their platforms and praised the efficient organization by the authorities. Speaking to the media, Vaishnaw commended railway officials for providing a seamless travel experience and maintaining orderly movement for passengers. The railway minister emphasized Indian Railways' extensive efforts to manage the surge in travel demand during the Diwali and Chhath Puja rush. Approximately 7,435 special trains were

introduced this year, a significant increase from last year's 4,500, underscoring the commitment to safe and comfortable journeys during peak festive travel days. Dilip Kumar, Executive Director of Information and Publicity for the Railway Board, reported that additional coaches were added to accommodate increased passenger numbers, while stations implemented enhanced security measures, including CCTV surveillance, to ensure the safety of travelers. Key stations such as New Delhi, Anand Vihar, Ahmedabad, Surat, and Bandra implemented special arrangements to facilitate smooth entry and hassle-free boarding for passengers. The seamless travel experience during this peak festive season, when demand for train services was at its highest, exemplifies Indian Railways' dedication to providing passengers with safe and comfortable journeys.

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Animal models of Long Covid: A hit-and-run disease



The severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic has caused more than 7 million deaths globally. Despite the presence of infection- and vaccine-induced immunity, SARS-CoV-2 infections remain a major global health concern because of the emergence of SARS-CoV-2 variants that can cause severe acute coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) or enhance Long Covid disease phenotypes. About 5 to 10% of SARS-CoV-2-infected individuals develop Long Covid, which, similar to acute COVID 19, often affects the lung. However, Long Covid can also affect other peripheral organs, especially the brain. The causal relationships between acute disease phenotypes, long-term symptoms, and involvement of multiple organ systems remain elusive, and animal model systems mimicking both acute and post-acute phases are imperative. Here, we review the current state of Long Covid animal models, including current and possible future applications. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has caused more than 770 million infections and more than 7 million documented deaths globally, reconfirming the dreadful consequences of sudden zoonotic virus emergence events on human morbidity and mortality, as well as on the global economy. The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with other viral outbreaks, has

also blurred the historic distinctions between "acute" and "chronic" disease states, either with or without ongoing virus persistence in immune-privileged sites. Even in the absence of evidence of viral persistence in the case of COVID-19, hit-and-run disease phenotypes have emerged, perhaps associated with dysregulated reparative functions or remodeled immune cell responses that program long-term immunopathological disease outcomes across organs (1). These chronic disease features have resulted in unexpected health care challenges for disease control and quality-of-life outcomes in survivors globally, requiring new mitigation efforts. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has also demonstrated that preparing for current and possible future infectious disease threats requires thoroughly engaged public-private partnerships to elucidate the mechanisms and host response patterns that drive the transition between acute and long-term chronic disease outcomes and to rapidly realign pandemic preparedness from the current reactive response platform into one that is proactive. More than 65 million people are predicted to suffer from Long Covid symptoms globally (2). Treating these manifestations is challenging because of the presence of preexisting conditions, disease heterogeneity, different clinical care regimens, and case definition ambiguities. Moreover, the treatment regimens needed to demonstrate clinical improvement are often difficult to quantify, challenging treatment performance in more than 110 ongoing Long Covid clinical trials (3). Highly refined animal models of human Long Covid represent a high priority requirement for

identification of molecular mechanisms and correlates of chronic disease improvement. Here, we discuss the current state and future directions of Long Covid animal models. CORONAVIRUSES CAUSE DISEASE IN MAMMALS Coronaviruses are a large group of enveloped viruses. Coronaviruses encode a single-stranded positive polarity RNA genome of about 30,000 nucleotides (nt) in length, surrounded by a helical nucleocapsid and a lipid envelope that minimally encodes a 23-kDa membrane (M) glycoprotein, the envelope (E) structural protein, and a large 180-kDa spike glycoprotein (S). Coronaviruses primarily infect mammals and birds, often causing severe acute gastrointestinal or respiratory diseases, although others can cause chronic inflammatory syndromes systemically or in the brain (4). Coronaviruses that target the respiratory tract, including sarbecoviruses [e.g., severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV) and SARS-CoV-2] and merbecoviruses [e.g., Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS)-CoV], often infect epithelial cells in the nose and the conducting airways, as well as cells in the gas exchange region of the lung, which can result in surfactant loss, atelectasis, hypoxia, pneumonia, acute lung injury, and death (5). In addition to acute symptoms, coronavirus infections may progress to long-lasting chronic immunopathological diseases in the brain and other organs, even after live virus clearance (6). Four contemporary human coronaviruses (HCoVs)—HCoV-229E, HCoV-OC43, HCoV-HKU1, and HCoV-OC43—are recognized as causing mild disease in most human populations, and long-term persistence of viral RNA has been detected in

brain autopsy samples (7). More recently, emerging coronaviruses have resulted in severe life-threatening illness with high mortality rates ranging from 1 to 35%, usually with more severe consequences in older adults and immunosuppressed individuals. In the 21st century, two distinct group 2b sarbecoviruses (SARS-CoV 2003 and SARS-CoV-2 2019) and one group 2c merbecovirus (MERS-CoV) have caused outbreaks and pandemics of severe, life-threatening illness in human populations. Zoonotic reservoirs have revealed the presence of numerous group 2b, group 2c, and group 1 coronavirus strains that are also poised for emergence, roughly defined as being able to (i) use human receptors, such as angiotensin 1 converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) or dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP4), for docking and entry; (ii) replicate efficiently in primary human cells; and (iii) cause severe disease in humanized mice. Given that some serological studies predict about 50,000 introductions of zoonotic sarbecoviruses into human populations in Southeast Asia each year (14), the dire global health consequences of emerging coronaviruses cannot be understated. LONG COVID IN HUMANS Although most survivors recover from acute SARS-CoV-2, others develop long-term chronic disease sequelae resulting in clinical symptoms in the brain and lung, manifesting as brain fog, confusion, shortness of breath, cardiac complications, and loss of quality of life for months to years after primary infection. In addition, breakthrough SARS-CoV-2 infections are associated with increased chronic disease risk (15). Although typically associated with severe acute

infection, mild infections may also progress to chronic outcomes even in young children and healthy adults (2). The long-term global health and economic impact of these chronic disease endotypes remains high. Early during the COVID-19 pandemic, a subset of patients presented with various symptoms that persisted long after the acute phase (post-acute sequelae of COVID-19). Over time, survivors and clinicians recognized that some patients reported a plethora of persistent disease symptoms in the brain, lung, kidneys, and other organs. Now, Long Covid is recognized as a multisystemic condition with more than 200 identified symptoms that occur at least 3 months after infection and that may resolve with or without recrudescence or continue for years (2, 16). Symptoms range from shortness of breath, anosmia, chronic fatigue, and cardiovascular conditions to neurological, cognitive, and psychiatric sequelae; severe chronic headaches, confusion, and brain fog; and chronic bowel manifestations and other organ abnormalities. Repeat infections are frequently associated with either increased disease manifestations or the emergence of Long Covid symptoms in previously healthy individuals. In addition, breakthrough SARS-CoV-2 infections are associated with increased chronic disease risk. Symptoms can fluctuate, complicating clear definitions of Long Covid and resulting in a frustrating ordeal for patients as well as medical professionals. A Long Covid disease definition has recently been published by an expert working group for the National Academy of

Sciences. Among the possible long-term manifestations of SARS-CoV-2, a causal relationship between acute viral respiratory infection and post-acute pulmonary sequelae is most plausible, likely mediated through acute virus replication leading to tissue damage, elevated cytokines, and immune-mediated pathology. It is also clear that, preexisting conditions, age, obesity, sex, and repeat infections may influence the onset, magnitude, duration, and severity of Long Covid phenotypes in patients. Cross-organ communication networks appear to promote, regulate, and influence the magnitude and maintenance of long-term disease outcomes, especially between the lung and central nervous system (CNS) compartments. Respiratory conditions are a common phenotype in individuals with Long Covid, some of whom develop organizing pneumonia with or without pulmonary fibrosis months to years after acute infection. Females generally experience more severe manifestations in the brain and lung, although cohort variation as a function of sex have also been widely reported. African American, Hispanic, and Native American populations exhibit disproportionate burdens of chronic disease after SARS-CoV-2 infection. Likewise, females and older adults are more prone to suffer chronic disease manifestations. Long-term disease phenotypes have also been demonstrated in the kidney, heart, and other organs after infection with SARS-CoV-2 or other coronaviruses. Survivors from both the 2003 SARS-CoV and 2012 MERS-CoV epidemics had persistent disease phenotypes including fatigue, shortness of breath, reduced quality of life, and cognitive or behavioral

disorders. Because robust acute SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV mouse and hamster models have been reported, opportunities exist to evaluate, compare, and contrast the underlying mechanisms by which merbecovirus infection elicits chronic disease phenotypes in the lung and other organs. An unfortunate lack of robust mouse models for contemporary human coronavirus has restricted our understanding of acute and chronic disease phenotypes and should be recognized as a potential important future direction for the field. LONG COVID ANIMAL MODELS Current definitions of Long Covid include evolving phenotypes, because different organ-specific sequelae may present with a spectra of disease manifestations. Because the molecular drivers for Long Covid disease phenotypes in the lung and CNS remain poorly defined in human populations, robust animal models are key for understanding the basis of disease progression and outcomes as well as for testing or developing therapeutics. For the purposes of this Review, acute infection in standard laboratory animals is defined by disease features seen through day 15 and associated with live virus clearance, subacute infection occurs between days 15 and 30, and chronic disease occurs beyond 30 days after viral infection in the absence of detectable live virus. It is recognized that some, but not all, patients (or animal models) may present with low amounts of viral RNA but not live virus, especially in immune privileged sites. Mouse models Mice are the most widely used small mammalian model in virus acute and chronic disease research. Their small size; short reproduction time;

and the extensive list of related cell biology, genetic, and immunological tools and reagents make the mouse the most versatile and cost-effective mammalian model organism. Despite some profound differences in rodents and humans, in the context of SARS-CoV-2, many disease determinants, genetic susceptibility loci/genes, and phenotypic outcomes are highly reproducible between the two species. In addition to a plethora of studies comparing host responses across highly pathogenic respiratory viruses (1), common susceptibility loci and prioritized gene candidates exist between mice and humans, allowing for the study of conserved host genes on both acute and chronic disease outcomes. Modeling viral acute and chronic infection outcomes and pathogenesis across species, where host genetic variation and anatomical structure are not fully shared, complicates animal model development that fully phenocopies human outcomes. However, two general strategies with a high degree of success have been used to enhance reproducibility across species: (i) modifying the host receptor to allow for efficient virus docking and entry into murine target cells or (ii) adapting human virus strains to replicate efficiently in murine hosts by serial passage in vivo. For respiratory viruses, humanized mice implanted with human lung or other tissue provide a complementary platform for study

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Jealousy- Visiting from multiple perspectives

Saikat Kumar Basu



In classical literature and socio-cultural studies, jealousy is often defined as a complex emotional response that arises from a perceived threat to one's social, romantic, or personal relationships. This emotion typically encompasses feelings of insecurity, fear, resentment, and a desire to protect or possess what one values deeply. From the perspective of pure literature, jealousy has traditionally been depicted as a powerful, consuming force that drives individuals to extreme actions, often leading to moral or tragic consequences. Examples from classical works include Othello by Shakespeare, where jealousy leads to destructive betrayal and loss, or the Iliad, where Helen's relationships spark envy and rivalry among powerful leaders. This

depiction often shows jealousy as irrational yet deeply human, a force that can override logic and royalty. Socio-culturally, jealousy reflects societal values around ownership, honor, and fidelity. For example, in many traditional societies, jealousy was tied to the preservation of family honor and social status. In patriarchal contexts, male jealousy was often linked to control over a partner's fidelity, emphasizing property-like dynamics in relationships. In communities, jealousy could also arise from competition over social standing, possessions, or power, leading to rivalry. Across cultures, jealousy has also been understood as a form of social control, intended to maintain established norms and deter deviations from social expectations, such as infidelity or perceived betrayal within alliances. THIS he classical literary and socio-cultural definition of jealousy presents it as

an intense, socially grounded emotion that surfaces in response to real or imagined threats to personal bonds and social order. This interpretation highlights jealousy's role as both a reflection of personal insecurity and a mirror of societal expectations. In the context of mental health, jealousy is an emotional response that typically arises from perceived threats to a valued relationship or from feelings of insecurity, fear, or loss. This feeling often involves comparing oneself to others or feeling envious of others' achievements, relationships, or qualities. While jealousy is a common, natural emotion, it can become problematic when it becomes persistent, intense, or irrational, leading to significant distress or conflict in relationships. Chronic or extreme jealousy may be associated with issues like low self-esteem, anxiety, or certain personality disorders. It can contribute to obsessive thoughts, distrust, and controlling behavior, which may

strain personal and professional relationships. Managing jealousy often involves therapy, where individuals work on building self-worth, improving communication skills, and developing healthier coping mechanisms for insecurity. Jealousy can have complex effects on individuals, often impacting both mental well-being and behavior. This emotion often triggers feelings of anxiety, insecurity, anger, or sadness, which can lead to emotional distress. It may cause people to obsess over comparisons and perceived inadequacies, leading to low self-esteem. Chronic jealousy has been linked to increased stress, depression, and anxiety. It can make a person more self-critical or prone to rumination, keeping them locked in a cycle of negative thinking. Jealousy can affect personal relationships by creating distrust, tension, or conflict. It can lead to controlling or possessive behaviors, which can harm relationships and push people away.

When jealousy consumes attention, it can make it hard to focus on personal goals or responsibilities, impacting productivity, especially in competitive environments like work or school. On a positive note, jealousy can sometimes push individuals to recognize areas for self-improvement, leading to growth if channeled constructively. It can highlight unmet needs or goals, prompting positive change if approached healthily. Ultimately, jealousy can become either a destructive or constructive force, depending on how it's managed. Recognizing it as a natural emotion and understanding its roots can help transform it from a harmful influence to a motivator for personal growth. Handling jealousy on a personal level can be challenging but is very achievable with self-awareness, reflection, and intentional action. Learning to manage jealousy takes time and patience. Remember that you're allowed to feel this way, and with consistent practice,

you can transform jealousy into a tool for self-awareness and growth. Here are steps to help you work through feelings of jealousy and use them for personal growth: 1. Acknowledge Your Feelings: recognize and admit to yourself that you're feeling jealous without judging yourself. Jealousy is a natural emotion, and it's okay to feel it. The important thing is what you do with it. 2. Identify the Root Cause: Take some time to understand what's causing your jealousy. Is it a fear of missing out, insecurity, or a desire for something that someone else has? Knowing the root cause can help you address the underlying issue rather than just the surface emotion. 3. Challenge Negative Thoughts: Jealousy often comes with negative, self-defeating thoughts. When you notice yourself comparing, remind yourself that everyone's journey is unique. Try replacing these thoughts with positive affirmations about your own strengths and progress. 4. Focus on Self-Improvement: If your jealousy stems from wanting something that

someone else has, ask yourself if you can work toward achieving it. Set personal goals and make a plan to improve in areas that are meaningful to you, whether they're related to career, relationships, or personal growth. 5. Express Gratitude: Practicing gratitude can shift your focus from what you lack to what you already have. Regularly remind yourself of the things you value in your life and celebrate your own successes, no matter how small they may seem. 6. Limit Comparisons: Social media and constant exposure to others' curated lives can fuel jealousy. Try reducing time on platforms that trigger comparison, or unfollow accounts that make you feel inadequate. 7. Channel Jealousy Into Inspiration: Rather than viewing others' success as a threat, see it as proof that certain achievements are possible. Let their accomplishments inspire you to pursue your own dreams, and learn from their journeys if applicable. 8. Communicate Openly (If Appropriate): If jealousy is affecting a

relationship with someone close, consider having an honest conversation about it. When shared thoughtfully, your feelings can sometimes strengthen trust and understanding. 9. Work on Building Self-Confidence: Often, jealousy is linked to insecurity. Building self-confidence can make you feel more satisfied with who you are and less likely to compare yourself negatively to others. Engage in activities that make you feel accomplished and practice self-compassion. 10. Seek Support if Needed: If jealousy feels overwhelming or hard to manage alone, consider talking to a friend, family member, or therapist. Sometimes an outside perspective can help you see things more clearly and give you strategies to manage your emotions.

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Why Mercedes cars matter in Weddings

Vivek Shukla



The fat marriage season is in full swing in Delhi-NCR as well as across the country. What is really noteworthy in this year's wedding season is that the five-star farm houses and hotels seeing a lot of sleek Mercedes cars are being parked there. Some of them are adorned like brides. Three or four of these luxury vehicles arrive daily, rented by grooms' families for a specific purpose. Why the fanfare? Well, the groom arrives in style, seated in the Mercedes, as the wedding procession dances its way towards the wedding venue. From inside the car, the groom enjoys the spectacle, basking in the rhythm of the drums. Upon arrival, the groom steps out of the car with an air of royalty. The gleaming car is then parked, ready to be re-decorated with flowers

and balloons, filling the air with sweet fragrance. The Mercedes, after fulfilling its role, departs for its next grand journey, guarded by a driver and a couple of attendants. Owning these prized vehicles comes at a steep price. For a 12-hour rental or a 100km drive, a Mercedes or BMW will set you back Rs.25,000. If your budget allows, a Mercedes S-Class can be rented for a staggering Rs.55,000. According to Amritpal Singh Mann, Chairman of Mann Travel Agency, a company specializing in renting luxury cars and buses, the demand for these vehicles skyrockets during the wedding season. This November alone, they've booked over two dozen cars, with many more inquiries and negotiations in progress. This trend, though not new, has gained momentum in recent years. Mann Travel Agency has previously catered to high-profile events like the G20 summit and Mukesh Ambani's family wedding, supplying dozens of luxury cars

and buses. Mann's company was among the few companies hired by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to provide



brands like Mercedes, BMW, Audi, Toyota, Lexus among others during the G20 summit. G20 guests, except for heads of states, were provided Mercedes GLS, Mercedes S Class, Mercedes E Class, and Maybach with trained drivers by Mann's company. Pandit J.P. Sharma 'Trika', a renowned Vastu and Astrology expert who attends 15-20 weddings a season, reveals that

Mercedes cars are not just for grooms. Many guests arrive in these opulent vehicles, indicating a booming

parking always sees some luxurious cars adorned for the special occasion. The groom arrives in his chosen

the cars, which often face the brunt of overzealous wedding guests, with some even



chariot, later driving away with his newlywed bride. Says Santokh Chawla, "We give our space on rent to people to organise their weddings. I also see the groom coming to the wedding venue in big and lovely cars. Yes, Merc is their first choice." However, rental companies are clear about their terms. They emphasize that no damage is allowed to

attempting to dance on the car's roof. Any damage incurred must be compensated by the renter. Meanwhile, luxury car sales are on the rise. Aided by growing class of high disposable income consumers, India's top two players in this segment registered their best-ever first-half-year sales in calendar year 2024. Leading luxury car seller Mercedes-Benz

recently announced that it retailed a record 9262 units in the January-June 2024 period, registering a 9% YoY growth. For Mercedes, the SUV segment continued to top customer preference with 55% penetration to overall sales. It also witnessed robust demand for its top-end vehicle portfolio with Maybach range growing the highest at 108% in H1 2024. BMW had recently reported a strong performance in the first half of 2024 (January – June). BMW Group India delivered 7,098 cars (BMW and MINI), up 21% year-on-year, in the country and 3,614 motorcycles (BMW Motorrad). BMW sold 6,734 units and MINI 364 units. "In 2024, BMW Group India is making great strides in implementing its strategy by achieving new heights in business performance and customer delight. The strong affinity for our vehicles is driven by our competitive edge in exclusive mobility paired with unmistakable driving pleasure and best-in-class

innovations," informs an official of BMW. Audi retailed 1,431 vehicles in this year's second quarter (Q2) that ended in June, a 37% growth over the preceding three months. In a related development, smaller cities such as Surat and Ludhiana have broken into the ranks of the top 10 markets for luxury cars in India in the past decade as economic expansion spawns an emerging class of young, successful entrepreneurs who aspire to showcase their growing wealth. Mumbai and Delhi retained their places as the top markets for brands such as Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Audi although their share has declined in the overall pie, according to senior executives at the car companies. Clearly, one section of the Indian society is earning well and they want to splurge too on weddings and other happy occasions. Naturally, the likes of Amrit Mann and Santokh Chawla would be feeling happy.

**Author and columnist
9818155246**

What We Promise, We Do: Kejriwal

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), November 18: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) National Convener Arvind Kejriwal said, “What we promise, we do.” Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann were campaigning for the AAP candidate in Barnala on Saturday. Both leaders addressed a large public rally and appealed to people to elect Harinder Dhaliwal.

While addressing the people, AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal said, "Two and a half years ago, the people of Punjab were troubled by their huge electricity bills. We promised that we would waive all your old bills and ensure that your future bills would be zero. We have fulfilled that promise. Now people's electricity bills are coming to zero."

"We also promised that we would provide free medical treatment. Today, across Punjab, Aam Aadmi Clinics are opening, where medicines and tests are free. At the same time, all government hospitals are being improved and treatment is free there as well. We are also

improving government schools."

"In the past two and a half years, about 48,000 young people have received government jobs. In every village of Punjab, around 4 to 5 youngsters have gotten jobs. No one had to pay a single penny, nor did anyone need any recommendations. In the previous governments, it was impossible to get a government job without recommendation or bribery."

"We have regularized many temporary employees and the process is ongoing for the rest. Now government employees are not found on water tanks; they are found at their workplaces."

Kejriwal said, "Barnala is the capital of the Aam Aadmi Party. In all the elections since the formation of the party, the people of Barnala have always elected AAP. With your blessings, Bhagwant Mann reached Parliament twice. This time, you elected Meet Hayer. In both the 2017 and 2022 assembly elections, you elected the AAP candidate. This time, please elect our candidate, Harinder



Dhaliwal. He is your own person, he comes from among you, and he will always be available for you whenever needed."

He added, "When your Member of Parliament, your MLA, and the state government all belong to the same party, Barnala's development will accelerate. But if an MLA from any other party wins, he will only fight with us, and no work will be done because the state government belongs to the Aam Aadmi Party. Our MLA will focus only on working."

He continued, "Before 2022, Barnala did not see proper development for 35 years because the government in Punjab belonged to another party, and Barnala had an MLA from another party. They kept fighting with each other. But when the Aam Aadmi Party government

came to power in 2022, and Barnala also got an AAP MLA, Meet Hayer, development began. Before, farmers here did not get canal water. Our government started supplying water from the Harigarh canal to the farmers here, and now water is reaching every field." After the reclining of the Barnala water distributory with concrete, 20% of the water will be saved, which will be given to the farmers in the villages.

"In addition, during our government's two and a half years, we have built community centers, libraries, ponds (Chappar), dharmshalas, schools, stadiums, and playgrounds. We are also repairing streets and drains. Work on a large stadium is underway in Sanghera and will be ready soon."

"We have approved projects worth 87 crore rupees for drinking water and sewage. From now on, there will be no shortage. 25 crore rupees have been allocated for repairing all damaged roads, and the beautification of major squares in the city is also in progress. Preparations are underway to make Barnala Ring Road a four-lane. The work will begin soon."

"Moreover, the Civil Hospital is being improved, and all its shortcomings are being addressed. A trauma centre will also be established there. Furthermore, the government will identify land in Barnala to create an industrial focal point, which will create thousands of jobs. But these projects can only

be completed when the MLA belongs to the Aam Aadmi Party."

On this occasion, Bhagwant Mann said that the people of Barnala have always given me love, I have a close connection with this place.

While addressing the people, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said, "Arvind Kejriwal has changed the direction of politics in the country. He and his wife were both Income Tax Commissioners. But they left their jobs for the country. We used to clean our homes with a broom, but now we are using that broom to clean the entire country."

"Mann said, 'Our broom has already swept through many states. We have governments in Punjab and Delhi. Our MLAs have won in

Gujarat, Goa, and Jammu. In Chandigarh and Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh, our Mayor has been elected. In just ten years, the Aam Aadmi Party has become a national party."

Mann added, "The people of Barnala have always given me love and blessings. I have a close connection with them. This was part of my parliamentary constituency. The people here helped me lead in both the 2014 and 2019 elections."

Attacking opposition candidates, Mann said, "Don't trust these people. They change parties faster than the weather changes. Kewal Dhillion lost from Congress, and now he is contesting under the BJP's flag. There's no telling when he will switch sides again. They want to win elections with money, but they have money, and we have the love of the people. They are under the wrong impression that they will win because of money."

He further stated, "After AAP's arrival, even BJP and Congress have started talking about work. Because of us, they had to change their manifesto. Earlier, they

never contested elections on issues like schools, hospitals, electricity, water, and employment. Mann added, "Just this morning, I arrived from Chandigarh after handing over appointment letters to about 1,700 Punjab Police constables and sub-inspectors. We have already given over 48,000 government jobs."

He added, "We still have two and a half years of our government, and many more good things will happen. For Barnala's development, please vote for the Aam Aadmi Party. Our button is the first one, and the AAP candidate should come first. Do not look at any other party. They will stop the work. Dhaliwal is your own; he is from the village. The others live in Panchkula and Chandigarh. After the elections, you will have to search for them, but you won't find them. So don't vote for them."

Mann also attacked Captain Amarinder Singh, saying, "People made him Chief Minister, but he closed the doors of his house in Chandigarh, and then in 2022, the people shut his doors from the outside. He never met the common people, which is why he lost his political relevance in Punjab."

Third International Friendship Sculling Regatta to be held to celebrate "Power of Friendship" in Kolkata

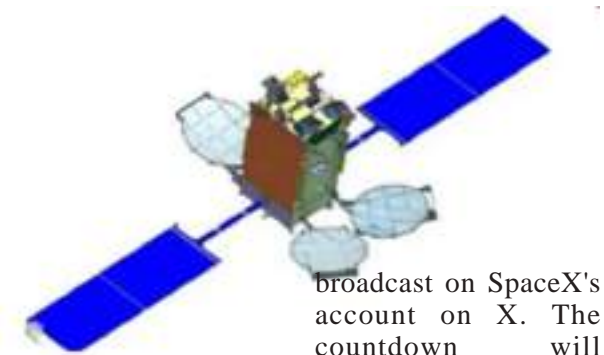
Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): Third International Friendship Sculling Regatta will be held to celebrate "Power of Friendship" from 26th to 30th November 2024 at Calcutta Rowing Club, Rabindra Sarovar, Kolkata. This was announced by Shri Chandan Roy Chowdhury, Honorary



Secretary & Chairman Organising Committee of International Friendship

Regatta- 2024 . 100 rowers are expected to participate in this international rowing event. Rowers are coming from UK, New Zealand, apart from Indian Army and various clubs across India. Some of the rowers had participated in Olympic, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games .

Musk's SpaceX To Launch Tonight ISRO's Advanced Satellite For Enabling In-Flight Internet



New Delhi (KCN): At the stroke of midnight on Tuesday, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s most sophisticated communications satellite, which will provide broadband services in remote areas and in-flight Internet in passenger aircraft, will set off for its 34-minute journey into outer space onboard Elon Musk-owned SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.

Named GSAT N-2 or GSAT 20, the 4,700 kg fully commercial satellite will be launched from Space Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral in Florida. The launch pad has been hired by SpaceX from the US' Space Force, a special branch of the country's armed forces that was created in 2019 to secure its space assets. The mission life of GSAT-N2 is 14 years. The launch will be

broadcast on SpaceX's account on X. The countdown will commence at 11.46pm on Monday and the lift-off will begin at 12.01 am on Tuesday. In case the launch is interrupted for any reason, it will take place at 3.03 pm on Tuesday. The launch window (within which the launch has to be completed, else the next window is utilised) is roughly one hour and 50 minutes.

This is the first time that ISRO is launching a satellite on a SpaceX rocket through its commercial arm New Space India Limited (NSIL). This is also the first time ISRO has built a satellite that only uses the advanced Ka band frequency - a range of radio frequencies between 27 and 40 gigahertz (GHz), which enables the satellite to have higher bandwidth. Indian space officials are already stationed at Cape

Canaveral ahead of the launch. They have sought a dedicated launch and that there will be no co-passenger satellites on the flight.

For the satellite launch, a standard Falcon 9 B-5 rocket, which is 70 metres long and weighs around 549 tonnes, will likely be used during lift-off. It has been designed as a two-stage rocket - a launch vehicle in which two distinct stages provide propulsion consecutively in order to achieve orbital velocity. The rocket can lift up to 8,300 kg to the geosynchronous transfer orbit and 22,800 kilograms to the low earth orbit.

Falcon 9 is a partially reusable rocket and SpaceX asserts "this will be the 19th flight for the Falcon 9 first stage booster supporting this mission. After stage separation, the first stage will land on a drone ship, which will be stationed in the Atlantic Ocean."

After the satellite is placed in orbit, India's Master Control Facility a part of ISRO at Hassan will take control of the satellite and then raise the satellite to its final home 36,000 kilometres above India.

"Ready To Deliver On Common Understandings Between PM Modi-Xi Jinping": China

New Delhi, (KCN): PM Modi-Xi had endorsed the agreement on patrolling and disengagement along the LAC. (FILE) Beijing: China on Monday said it stands ready to deliver on important common understandings reached between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping during the recent BRICS summit leading to a thaw in the relations frozen for over four years due to a military standoff in Eastern Ladakh.

"Recently, President Xi Jinping met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the margins of the BRICS summit held in Kazan," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian told a media briefing here while responding to a question on the likelihood of a meeting the two leaders on the sidelines of G20 summit in Brazil.

"China stands ready to work with India to deliver on the important common understandings between



the leaders of the two countries, step up communication and cooperation and enhance strategic mutual trust," he said, adding that he has no information on the specifics of the meeting of the leaders and officials.

At their Kazan meeting, the two leaders endorsed the India-China agreement on patrolling and disengagement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh and issued directions to revive various bilateral dialogue mechanisms,

signalling attempts to normalise ties that were hit by a deadly military clash in 2020.

In the nearly 50-minute meeting held on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit at Kazan, PM Modi underscored the importance of properly handling differences and disputes and not allowing them to disturb peace and tranquility in border areas and that mutual trust, mutual respect and mutual sensitivity should remain the basis of the relations.

Xi said China-India

relations are essentially a question of how the two large developing countries and neighbours, each with a 1.4-billion-strong population, treat each other.

China and India should maintain a sound strategic perception of each other and work together to find the "right and bright path" for big, neighbouring countries to live in harmony and develop side by side, he said.

The ties between the two Asian giants nosedived significantly following the

fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

On Oct 21, India and China firmed up an agreement on patrolling and disengagement of troops along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, in a breakthrough to end the over four-year standoff. Both leaders also instructed the Special Representatives on the India-China boundary question to meet at an early date and to continue their efforts to address the issues related to the Line of Actual Control (LAC). India's Special Representative for the dialogue is NSA Ajit Doval while the Chinese side is headed at the talks by Foreign Minister Wang Yi. The Special Representatives mechanism was constituted in 2003. The two sides held 20 rounds of talks since then. The last meeting was held in 2019.

Gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's Brother Anmol Bishnoi Arrested In US: Sources

New Delhi: Anmol Bishnoi - the younger brother of notorious gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, who runs a global criminal syndicate despite being in jail - has been arrested in the United States, sources told NDTV Monday evening.

Bishnoi is wanted in connection with several high-profile cases, including the murder of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala in 2022 and the killing last month of ex-Maharashtra minister

Baba Siddique, as also the firing outside actor Salman Khan's Mumbai home in June this year. Bishnoi, 50, was taken into custody earlier today, sources told NDTV.

Earlier this month Mumbai Police's Crime Branch began the extradition process to bring him back from the US. A special court in Maharashtra issued a non-bailable warrant for his arrest.

A Red Corner Notice was issued by global law enforcement agency



Interpol.

Bishnoi, from Punjab's Fazilka, was earlier believed to be in Canada after fleeing India on a fake passport. He also faces two cases filed by the

National Investigation Agency - India's anti-terror unit.

The NIA had added him to its most-wanted list and offered a reward of ₹ 10 lakh for his arrest.

The Bishnoi gang - which shot to the spotlight after the murder of singer Moosewala - made headlines again this year after the firing incident outside Salman Khan's home on the night of April 14.

Security was tightened at his house after the

incident as threats continued to pour in - in the name of Lawrence Bishnoi - over the 1998 blackbuck hunting case. The Bishnoi gang is also being probed for the murder of politician Baba Siddique - known to be close to Salman Khan - last month.

Also, in 2022, the Bishnoi brothers - among others - were accused of being part of a conspiracy to raise funds and recruit youth for "terrorist acts" in Delhi and other parts of the country.

Fresh excavations at Ratnagiri soon

Jajpur(KCN): Ratnagiri Buddhist monastery in this district is expected to see fresh excavation efforts soon that would bring to light untapped aspects of the historical site. This was recently informed to the media by Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) Puri Circle head and Archaeology Superintendent Dibishad Brajasundar Gadnayak. Stating that preliminary surveys are underway, Gadnayak said the initial planning is expected to restart November 20. Students from the History departments of Utkal University, Sambalpur University, and Assam's Cotton University will actively participate in various stages of excavation. During

discussions, Gadnayak stated that Lalitgiri, Udayagiri and Ratnagiri are part of the 'Diamond Triangle' Buddhist circuit, alongside Lalitgiri and Udayagiri. Unlike other sites where monastic ruins like Chaitya Griha (prayer hall) have been discovered, Ratnagiri's main assembly hall remains concealed underground, awaiting exploration. Initial efforts will focus on excavation of the rear portion of the ancient Mahakal Temple near Ratnagiri Mahavihar-2 site. Gadnayak believes the principal worship hall may lie buried below the surface. The excavation, expected to proceed over an extended period in



phases, will aim to uncover the mysteries of this ancient monastic complex. Provisions such as drinking water, restrooms and

washrooms are limited at Ratnagiri. So, additional support facilities will be arranged for on-site workers and researchers, he said.

Artifacts dating back to approximately 1,600 years ago were first unearthed at Ratnagiri. In 1903, a preliminary survey of the site was

conducted by the then SDO of Jajpur Manmohan Chakraborty. In 1958, ASI initiated excavations, leading to discoveries of more than 3,000 rare

artifacts now housed in the Ratnagiri Museum. Despite logistical challenges, the site was thoroughly explored by ASI officer Debala Mitra from Kolkata until 1962. She faced serious challenges like crossing two rivers and a nullah to reach Ratnagiri. She stayed there for four long years till 1962 and discovered over 3,000 artifacts buried in the ground. Excavations yielded numerous votive stupas (pillars), an ancient seal and other artifacts, inscribed with 'Sri Ratnagiri Mahavihara Arya Bhikshu Sangha', which led to the identification of Ratnagiri as a historic

Buddhist university. Subhendu Kumar Bhuyan, a member of the District Cultural Council, remarked that this resumed excavation, occurring nearly 24 years after previous efforts, promises to bring untapped aspects of Ratnagiri's history to light. Insights from the findings will contribute to further studies and broaden historical understanding of Buddhist heritage in the region. The initial establishment of the ancient Ratnagiri monastic site dates back to the 5th century, with significant development occurring until the 7th century.

Odisha Nariseba Sangha celebrated Chacha Nehru Jayanti and Children's Day.

CUTTACK,(KCN): On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, Odisha NARI seva Sangha organized a function under the chairmanship of Sangh President Dr. Pratima Mohapatra at Asha Aswasana Vidyalaya near the samaj office. First, floral wreaths were placed on Nehru's photo. Sangh secretary Ava Kanungo and Organizing secretary Meera Beura explained the meaning of Children's Day to the children by discussing the life of Chacha Nehru. The members are cut a cake for the children and distributed sweets. Sangh Member Dr. Prabhavati Panda, Namita panda, Treasurer Nayan Tara Nanda,



Kalyani Sahu, Shupreeti Das, Bani Nirmalya were present and encouraged

the children by talking story. School Principal Bhanumati Rao gave the

vote of thanks. And other teachers cooperated in the program.

Migrant worker turns inspiring farmer in Nuapada




Nuapada(KCN): Once struggling to make ends meet, Chakradhara Sahu, a resident of Saipala village under Sadar block in this district, used to work as a migrant labour as lack of resources stood on his way of cultivating the ancestral land effectively. However, with guidance and support from Agriculture department, he revitalised his farm through water conservation initiatives and modern practices. And, now he has set an example for others by becoming a progressive farmer. District Collector Madhusudan Das, during an awareness drive for migrant workers, visited Chakradhara's integrated

farming system (IFS) on his farmland and expressed happiness over his efforts. According to sources, Chakradhara and his family used to migrate to other states for work due to insufficient resources to cultivate their ancestral land. However, with encouragement and guidance from local agriculture overseer Rukmini Arukh and government support, he revitalised his farm by adopting modern practices. Recognising his determination, various departments extended their support. The Agriculture department provided high-quality seeds for crops like paddy, green gram, black

gram, pulses like arhar and groundnuts, while Livestock department supplied goats, poultry, ducks and cattle. Horticulture department contributed banana, mango, guava and strawberry saplings. Fisheries department and Krishi Vigyan Kendra facilitated fish farming and other advanced techniques like drip irrigation, vermin compost and sweet corn farming. All these government assistance instilled hope in the minds of Chakradhara and changed his fate for better. With renewed energy, Chakradhara now earns around Rs 4-5 lakh from his farm per annum and has become

an employer, providing livelihoods to others in his community. His family helps him in farm works, and he credits his success to the unwavering support from the agriculture and allied departments, as well as the district administration. District Collector Das believes Chakradhara's story is a beacon of hope and an example for other farmers to emulate. If others follow his path, the district can soon eliminate migration woes, he added. Chakradhara, elated by the recognition, views this as an opportunity to inspire thousands of farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices and lead a dignified life in their homeland.



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Trans-National Tripartite MoU on Global Women Safety

New Delhi : Violence and Crimes against women is a serious Societal Bane across the World and much needs to be done to negate this growing trend through Awareness, Training and Skilling through a Collaborative Approach.

Colonel Rohit Dev, CBO, IISSM, who has been instrumental in curating this niche Partnership. The objective of this MoU is to establish collaboration and long-term commitment to promote mutually

research activities, conduct Seminars, Conferences and Meetings on relevant issues and promote opportunities for mutual benefit and larger good of society and women across the world. This Partnership has



In a first, entities from India and Nepal joined hands to take on the responsibility to Enable and Empower Women across the Globe. Women's Revolution Private Limited (Womentor) with Fight Back Private Limited (FightBack) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Institute of Security and Safety Management (IISSM) at New Delhi. This MoU was signed by Mr Vikrant Pandey, Managing Director, FightBack, Mr Anuj Sharma, Director, Womentor and Prof. Santosh Kumar, CEO, IISSM, in presence of

beneficial opportunities and it seeks to develop programmes and undertake research activities for the benefit of women, children, marginalised people and specially-abled persons; also engaging men, boys and other stakeholders. To achieve its objective, the three parties, besides conducting training in Risk Assessments, Audit, Training Programs of diverse nature, honing vocational skills etc have also agreed to explore avenues to promote institutional exchanges by inviting scholars and designated participants for programmes, lectures or

immense potential to foster conducive environment with help of Govts, Inter-Govt Agencies, NGOs and Institutions for promoting Women Safety across the globe, through behavioural impact of all stakeholders, including men, under the ambit of “Global Best Practices”. Shri RK Sinha, Ex-Rajya Sabha MP and Executive Chairman of IISSM conveyed his best wishes to this Partnership and expressed satisfaction that this Partnership has come through at a time when crimes against women and children are at rise and much needs to be done to empower women and build conducive and safer environment too.

Bajaj Allianz Life launches world’s first music video ‘Superstar After Retirement’, created by retired senior citizens

Pune: Bajaj Allianz Life, one of India’s leading private life insurers, launched a world’s music video “Superstar After Retirement”, created by retired seniors showcasing their creativity and fulfilling their life goals. Retirees including ex-bankers, ex-entrepreneurs, ex-educator, ex-engineers and other professionals,

are seen unleashing their hidden talents like singing or dancing, and attempting to live their second innings with utmost zeal and passion. For most individuals, their dreams and desires take a backseat as they strive to ensure financial security and stability for their families. Commenting on the initiative, Mr.

Chandramohan Mehra, Chief Marketing Officer, Bajaj Allianz Life, said “Aligned to the brand purpose of enabling LifeGoals, we launched Superstar After Retirement initiative to encourage retired senior citizens to rediscover their talents and explore a world full of possibilities and freedom.

RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

Mumbai: RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA’s toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL’s toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building toy manufacturing in India. Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started it’s India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market. “Keeping with our

honourable Prime Minister’s vision of Atmanirbhar India, this collaboration with Plastic Legno’s deep experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets.” said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited. RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand – Rowan, making RBL one of the

leading toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India’s largest chain of toy stores. “We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno’s experience in Toys production and Hamley’s commercial outreach, will complement one another to enable the JV Company to achieve greater heights and successes. We have important development plans to implement, always in the spirit of creating a cultural background in this specific sector in India. We are ready for the challenges of the future, but when there is a group like RBL alongside, we are sure that together we can do a great development.” said Paolo Sunino, Co-owner, Sunino Group.

Tata Steel Kalinganagar: Nine Years of Growth and Positive Impact on Odisha

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): For nine years, the Tata Steel Kalinganagar plant has been a beacon of progress in Odisha, transforming the industrial landscape and significantly impacting millions of lives. The state-of-the-art facility, one of India’s largest steel plants, is a testament to successful industrial development, seamlessly integrating economic

safety standards are maintained, making Kalinganagar one of the safest steel plants in the world. “Tata Steel has implemented numerous community development initiatives to ensure the plant’s positive integration with the local population. These initiatives include extensive skill e n h a n c e m e n t

India’s largest blast furnace with a volume of 5,870 m3, a new feather has been added to its cap. The facility has state-of-the-art features for extended campaign life and an eco-friendly design to optimise the steelmaking process. In a first for Tata Steel, a dry gas cleaning plant has been installed to maximise energy recovery from by-product

the Phase II expansion at Kalinganagar include a Pellet Plant, Coke Plant, and Cold Rolling Mill – each incorporating advanced technologies and sustainable practices. The Tata Steel Kalinganagar plant incorporates modern technologies focused on value-added products, operational efficiency, and a significant reduction in carbon

commitment to boosting private investment in India, aligning with the nation’s vision for self-reliance and sustainable industrial growth. The plant’s positive economic impact is undeniable. Local communities have seen increased opportunities for employment and skill development, leading to improved standards of living.



growth with social responsibility and environmental stewardship. The Kalinganagar plant is not just an industrial complex; it is a key contributor to the region’s socio-economic development. Tata Steel has invested significantly in community development programmes focusing on education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities – positively impacting over 2 lakh people in the surrounding areas. The success of Tata Steel Kalinganagar is also deeply rooted in its workforce. Tata Steel’s ‘Safety First’ culture ensures that the highest

programmes, livelihood initiatives, health projects, and infrastructure projects designed to improve the quality of life for nearby communities with ongoing dialogue to address any concerns. The company is committed to responsible resource management and environmental protection, adhering to stringent environmental standards and investing in sustainable practices to minimise environmental impact”, says Rajiv Kumar, Vice President Operations, TSK. As part of the plant’s Phase II expansion, the commissioning of the

gas. An evaporative cooling system is being employed for the first time in an Indian blast furnace, optimising space footprint while lowering specific water and power consumption by approximately 20% compared to conventional designs. The blast furnace will also have a zero-process water discharge plan with rainwater harvesting. Key facilities planned for

footprint. The Phase II expansion at Kalinganagar will take the total capacity at the site from 3 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 8 MTPA. With the Phase II expansion, Odisha has emerged as the largest investment destination in India for Tata Steel, with a total cumulated investment of over Rs 100,000 crore in the last 10 years. The expansion of TSK underscores our

While challenges related to large-scale industrial projects naturally exist, Tata Steel is actively engaging with stakeholders, including the Odisha Government and local communities, to foster a collaborative environment that prioritises holistic, sustainable development. The coming years promise continued growth and a positive impact for Kalinganagar.

Spice Money to enable farmers to withdraw PM-KISAN subsidy through its 1 million Adhikari Network

New Delhi: The Government of India has disbursed PM KISAN subsidy, directly to the farmers’ bank accounts benefiting over 10 crore farmers and families who have received a grant of Rs 2,000 each. Spice Money, India’s leading rural fintech with 1 million strong Adhikari network covering 18,500 plus pin codes, is assisting the farmers and farmer families residing in the heartlands of the country, to withdraw this subsidy through AePS at their doorstep Adhikari outlet. The PM Kisan Scheme, a central sector scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India, became operational on December 1, 2018. Under this scheme, income support of ₹ 6000 per year, divided into

three installments, is directly transferred to the bank accounts of landholding farmer families, consisting of the husband, wife, and minor children. Speaking on this, Sanjeev Kumar, Co-Founder & CEO, Spice Money, said, “At Spice Money, we have been striving to solve the problem of access to banking & financial services in rural India. As the 11th installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi is rolled out, our 1 million Adhikaris operating across 18,500 pin codes, will be an enabler in ensuring easy access and withdrawal of this subsidy to the rightful 10 crore beneficiaries of this scheme. Farmers and farmer

families will no longer have to travel large distances to bank branches or just let the money lie idle in their accounts in times of need. Our Adhikaris, trusted banking partners in their communities, will be there at the villages to help farmers withdraw their money, with the help of AePS, thereby providing much-needed safe and secure access to the subsidy amount.” Spice Money has been spearheading the efforts towards bridging the financial services gap in rural India by providing banking and financial services to the remotest corners of the country, across 700 districts and 5,000 blocks, thereby revolutionising the way Bharat banks.

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India registers 3, 53,188 unit sales

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022. The company’s total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic. Commenting on the sales performance in May’22, Mr. Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, “The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May’21 as frequent lockdowns in wake of second wave marred the performance during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon.”

Commissions India’s Largest Fleet of Electric Lithium-Ion Forklifts

New Delhi: Vedanta Aluminium, India’s largest producer of aluminium, has commissioned India’s largest electric fleet of 27 forklifts, powered by lithium-ion batteries. Done in partnership with GEAR (Gemini Equipment and Rentals Private Limited) India, this sets the ball rolling

on Vedanta Aluminium’s plans to decarbonize its industrial vehicle fleet. All 27 forklifts arrived last month and are being operationalised at the company’s aluminium smelter at Jharsuguda, in Odisha, which is the world’s largest single-location aluminium smelter, ex-China.

Further, as testimony to its endeavours towards increasing gender diversity in core manufacturing operations, Vedanta Aluminium is recruiting and training women to operate these top-of-the-line forklifts. The company has previously hired transgender employees as forklift operators in its

aluminium operations at BALCO in Chhattisgarh. These electric forklifts make use of the cutting-edge ‘Smart Fleet Management’ system to help ensure the highest levels of safety at site. The Smart Fleet Management system uses IOT (Internet of Things) technology to integrate the data collected

by intelligent terminals and provide Vedanta Aluminium insights on a real-time basis with respect to forklift speed, access to operate, collision avoidance, optimization analysis for operational efficiency and equipment maintenance, among others.

that while India remains a formidable opponent, his team has the potential to achieve something special. "I feel like we're on the journey to becoming a great team. We're not there yet, there's a bit of work to do, but we have the opportunity to do something pretty special this summer."

India, currently ranked No. 2 in the world, will be looking to bounce back from a 3-0 series whitewash to New Zealand on home soil, with their batters particularly vulnerable to spin. As the rivalry between Ashwin and Lyon continues, cricket fans can expect another thrilling chapter in one of the most enduring duels in modern Test cricket.

winning 26 of his last 27 matches and capturing eight titles, including the ATP Finals. His win in Turin also marked his 70th victory of the season, making him the first player since Ivan Lendl in 1986 to win the ATP Finals without dropping a set.

Fritz, who had an impressive run to the final, will nonetheless be ranked a career-high fourth in the world following the tournament. "I just want to say congrats to Jannik and his team. Insane year, honestly. It's really impressive," the 27-year-old said. "Thank you to my team for putting up with me. It's been a great week for me. I felt the love all week long."

Earlier in the day, Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz triumphed in the doubles final, edging Marcelo Arevalo and Mate Pavic 7-6(5), 7-6(6) to become the first German duo to win the ATP Finals doubles title.

over the shop. You can see those nerves coming through. But in this guy's case, his temperament stood out."Whenever the chips were down, even in that series against England (earlier this year) he stepped up to the plate. So I like what I saw and I'll be quite prepared to give him a go if he's in good nick. Jurel looked a class above in the only tour game that he played against Australia A, contributing scores of 80 and 68 in a low-scoring clash. The former head coach of the Indian team was of the opinion that the 23-year-old looked composed enough to win a fourth Test cap in Perth.