

Rashtriya patrakaar Mahasangha Demands fourth pillar status for media on Constitution Day



Bhubaneswar(KCN): A huge signature campaign has been started at the State Headquarters today, at the call of the Rashtriya Patrakaar Mahasangha, New Delhi, near Master Canteen Chowk, demanding fourth pillar status for media on the occasion of

Constitution Day. Supporting this campaign, more than 100 media representatives from major trade unions registered in the state, organisation of united working journalists, the Indian Media Council, the Odisha Media Council, Council, as well as ISFMN, NMC, and many media organizations including the Digital Media Federation have joined hands and raised their voices to fulfill our demands. Not only in Bhubaneswar, similar campaigns have been conducted by the state branches of the Rashtriya

Patrakaar Mahasangha in most of the state capitals of the country. National President Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray, who led the campaign, addressed the media workers and said that there is a lot of buzz everywhere about the media as the fourth pillar,

but unlike the other three pillars, the media workers have been deprived of all basic amenities for 75 years because the media has not been given any constitutional dignity. Therefore, this forum will work on all the problems of journalists. In a memorandum, the Central

Government and His Excellency the President have been informed and expressed the hope that efforts will continue for a speedy resolution. National President Pabitra Mohan Samantray, Rajnikant Samantray, Vice

President-IMC, Sanjay Das, President, OUWJ, Prasanna Mohanty-General Secretary, Pradyuman Dash-Treasurer, Prasanna Prusty, Avinash Mishra-President, OPS, Sanjay P. R. D. - President, OMC, Senior Journalist

Surendra Sahu, Parameswar Dash-President, Kalinga Media Association, Sr journalist Subodh Kanungo have contributed significantly to this public signature campaign. Media Coordinator Priyabrat Nayak informed in a press release

CM Majhi bats for disaster-resistant sustainable infrastructure in Odisha



Bhubaneswar(KCN): With Odisha frequently getting affected by natural calamities such as cyclones, floods and droughts, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday urged the Centre to build disaster-resistant sustainable infrastructure in the state for its overall development, an official release said.

Majhi held a meeting with members of an inter-ministerial central team, which winded up its three-day visit to the state to assess the damage caused by Cyclone Dana.

The seven-member central team headed by

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, PK Rai, during the tour, visited the worst-hit Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Balasore districts to assess the damage. During the discussion, Majhi emphasised the development of sustainable infrastructure for disaster management along with assistance for restoration following Cyclone Dana. Stating that Odisha has been facing various natural disasters such as cyclones and floods every year, Majhi said, "While the government is successful in saving the lives of the people, various infrastructures

are extensively damaged and a huge amount of money has to be invested for reconstruction." Therefore, there is a need to develop disaster-resistant sustainable infrastructure, he said. The Chief Minister emphasised measures such as laying underground electricity cables in coastal districts, construction of embankments along the coast and large-scale afforestation. He also proposed the setting up of a modern disaster management center in Bhubaneswar and that the Union government provide necessary support in this direction. Participating in the discussion, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari said that the economic development of Odisha can be accelerated only if a sustainable infrastructure is created.

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Rai praised the state government for good management of Cyclone Dana.

Gopabandhu Jana Arogya Yojana, the flagship healthcare scheme of the state government. The state government has also provided Rs 1,750 crore for the scheme for Special Central Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure. The scheme is aimed at boosting capital expenditure by the states. An additional amount of Rs 1,196 crore is provided in the supplementary budget for the organisation of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas which is going to be held in Bhubaneswar in January next year. Similarly, Rs 299 crores has been allocated in the current financial year for the deployment of the Central Armed Police Forces in the state. The government in this supplementary statement of expenditure has allocated Rs 125 crore for the organisation of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas which is going to be held in Bhubaneswar in January next year. Similarly, Rs 299 crores has been allocated in the current financial year for the deployment of the Central Armed Police Forces in the state.

The government has earmarked Rs 1,056 crore towards the state's share in the National Health Mission (NHM) programme. The government has made an additional allocation of Rs 644 crore for the implementation of

Loans to Public Sector Units under the state Energy Department. The state government has also provided Rs 196 crores towards transfer to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as per the State Finance Commission (SFC) award in the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2024-25. Meanwhile, Rs 338 crore is provided under the Madhubabu Pension Yojana in the supplementary budget presented in the state

Assembly Tuesday. The government also allocated Rs 51 crore for Installation of CCTV Surveillance System in police stations and outposts. It is pertinent here to mention that the state government has received severe criticism for the absence of CCTV cameras at many police stations following the alleged assault on an Army officer and his fiancée at Bharatpur Police Station in Bhubaneswar. The state government has provided Rs 120 crore towards Disaster Risk Mitigation in the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2024-25 for the modernisation and extension of Fire Services. The state government asserted that the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2024-25 is FRBM compliant as the provision is made against resource backup in the form of either adjustment against savings/surrender or additional revenue. "The capital outlay for the year 2024-25 will exceed 6% of GSDP including the Supplementary provision. This will help in boosting the economic growth and at the same time enable the State to carry forward different developmental and welfare programmes," states the state government in the supplementary budget.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA graces commemoration of 75 years of adoption of the Constitution

Celebrations of 'Samvidhan Divas' have helped in increasing awareness among our youth about our founding document, the Constitution: President Droupadi Murmu



New Delhi(KCN): The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu graced the commemoration of 75 years of adoption of the Constitution in the Central Hall of Parliament House today (November 26, 2024). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that 75 years ago, on this very day, in this very Central Hall of the 'Samvidhan Sadan', the Constituent Assembly, we, the people of India, adopted, enacted and gave to ourselves this Constitution. The President said that our Constitution is the strong foundation stone of our democratic republic. Our Constitution

ensures our collective and individual dignity. The President said that on completing the 75 years of Independence, all the citizens celebrated 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. On 26th January, next year, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Republic. Such celebrations provide us with opportunities to take stock of the journey so far and plan better for the journey ahead. Such celebrations strengthen our unity and show that we are all together in our efforts to achieve the national goals.

The President said that in one sense, the Constitution of India was the outcome of nearly three years of deliberations by some of the greatest minds. But, in the true sense, it was the outcome of our long freedom struggle. The

ideals of that incomparable national movement came to be enshrined in the Constitution. Those ideals have been captured succinctly in the Preamble of the Constitution. They are justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. These ideals have defined India since the ages. The ideals highlighted in the Preamble of the Constitution complement each other. Together,

they create an environment in which every single citizen finds an opportunity to flourish, contribute to society, and help fellow citizens. The President said that our Constitutional ideals get strength from the active participation of the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary as well as all the citizens. The Fundamental Duties of every citizen have been clearly mentioned in our Constitution. Protecting the unity and integrity of India, promoting harmony in the society, ensuring the dignity of women, protecting the environment, developing a scientific temper, safeguarding public property and taking the nation to higher levels of achievement are included among the Fundamental Duties of the citizens. The President said that in accordance with the spirit

of the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary to work together to make the lives of common people better. She noted that the aspirations of the people have found expression in the many legislations enacted by the Parliament. She said that during the last few years, the Government has taken many steps for the development of all sections of the society, especially the weaker sections. Such decisions have improved the lives of the people and are providing them new opportunities for development. She was happy to note that with the efforts of the Supreme Court, the judiciary of the country is making efforts to make our judicial system more effective. The President said that our Constitution is a living and progressive document. Our farsighted Constitution-makers had provided for a system of adopting new ideas, according to the needs of the changing times. We have achieved many ambitious goals related to social justice and inclusive development through the Constitution. With a new approach, we are earning for India a new identity in the comity of nations. Our Constitution-makers had given a Directive for India to play an important role in promotion of international peace and security. Today, besides being a leading economy, our country is playing this role very well as the 'Vishwa-Bandhu'. The President said that in the Constitutional journey

of nearly three-quarters of a century, the nation has succeeded to a remarkable extent in showing those capacities and developing those conventions. She emphasised that the lessons we have learnt should be passed on to the next generations. She noted that the celebrations of 'Samvidhan Divas' every year since 2015 have helped in increasing awareness among our youth about our founding document, the Constitution. She urged all the fellow citizens to inculcate the Constitutional ideals in their conduct; follow the Fundamental Duties and move forward with dedication towards the national goal of building a 'Viksit Bharat' by the year 2047.

Achyuta Samanta Awarded 61st Honorary Doctorate



Bhubaneswar, November 26(KCN): Well-known social worker, educationist, and Founder of KIIT & KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta, was conferred with his 61st honorary doctorate by UPES University, Dehradun. The degree was awarded during the 22nd convocation ceremony of UPES University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, on 26th November 2024.

The recognition is a testament to Dr. Samanta's significant contributions to society through education. The university highlighted his exceptional efforts in these areas while bestowing the honour. Receiving his 61st honorary doctorate, Dr. Samanta said, "For the last 33 years, I have been working relentlessly for the people in society. This 61st honorary doctorate will be remembered by me for all times to come." Lord Karan Bilimoria, CBE, DL, a Member of the House of Lords in the UK, was also presented with an Honorary Doctorate during the ceremony.

Dr. Samanta has been honored with multiple honorary doctorates from esteemed universities and institutions across the globe in recognition of his outstanding contributions to social service and education.

FLOUR MILLEX-DIRECTOR ARRESTED FOR MISAPPROPRIATION OF GOVT. MONEY

Sambalpur(KCN): Anil Kumar Beriwal, Ex-Director, M/s Ghanteswari Flour Mill Pvt. Ltd., Sambalpur who was charge sheeted by Odisha Vigilance for misappropriation of Govt. money over Rs.4.48 crore was arrested today in connection with the case and forwarded to judicial custody. The case relates to a

criminal conspiracy by four officials of Sambalpur District Cooperative Central Bank Ltd. (SDCC Bank) with M/s Ghanteswari Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd. by abusing their respective official position, showing undue official favour to M/s Ghanteswari Flour Mill Pvt. Ltd., Sambalpur in sanctioning and disbursing of loan, and thereby causing a pecuniary loss of Rs.4,48,14,358/- to the Bank as well as to the public exchequer. For this, all the four officials of SDCC Bank with M/s Ghanteswari Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd. represented by the Director Sri Anil Kumar Beriwal were charge sheeted by Odisha Vigilance U/s 13(2) r/w

13(1)(d) PC Act, 1988/420/120-B IPC. However, as accused Sri Anil Kumar Beriwal repeatedly evaded attending the court during trial, an NBW was issued by Hon'ble Spl. Judge Vigilance, Sambalpur on 19.11.2024 and today Sri Anil Kumar Beriwal was arrested and forwarded to the Court of Spl. Judge Vigilance, Sambalpur.

TPWODL Announces 'Pay & Win' Winners for October 2024

Sambalpur(KCN): TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL) organized a press conference today and declared winners of the 'Pay & Win Scheme' for the month of October 2024 through online. The press conference was held at the head office of TPWODL Commercial Department, Sambalpur. Shri Parveen Kumar Verma, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, along with other heads of departments were also present on the occasion. It is an important responsibility of the consumers to pay the monthly electricity bill for the improvement of

electricity service in Western Odisha. Millions of consumers pay their electricity bills on time every month. Through this scheme, those consumers are given a small gift as a reward from the company and other consumers are encouraged to pay the monthly electricity bill within the stipulated time. The implementation of this scheme by TPWODL started from August 2024. According to the rules of the scheme, three consumers are selected for each sub-division by automated computer generated lucky-draw. From the above number 81,718 consumers from Bolangir circle, 32,533 from Bargarh, 99,336 from Kalahandi, 1,81,938 from Rourkela and

and they are rewarded with a smart phone as the first prize, a Saregama Karma as the second prize and a solar lamp as the third prize. It is worth mentioning that, 5,18,257 consumers from across western Odisha were eligible under the scheme for the month of October 2024. Out of which 171 consumers were selected as winners from 57 sub-divisions through automated computer generated lucky-draw. All those winners will be invited to the nearest TPWODL office in the next few days and awarded. The names of all the customers will also be available on the company's website soon.

Awareness program on yoga at Barhampura, Sambalpur



Sambalpur(KCN): A yoga awareness program was organized by the Sambalpur Yoga Family on Sunday at Barhampura Sports Complex under Sambalpur Municipal Corporation. This program was presided by Sudhir Mishra and organized by Sujata

Swain. Yoga guru Tike Lal Bhoi made people aware of the importance of yoga. Members of the organization, who have benefited physically and mentally by regular yoga practice shared their experiences. Many people who had failed in general treatment speaks about the benefits they

got after yoga practice. Many expressed their views that daily yoga practice has also changed their lifestyle. Pradipta Susari, Ashok Sahu, Vikas Tripathi, Vivekananda Acharya, Rakshi Mishra, Pragya Hota, Manas Panigrahi, Shashikant Jena, Manoj Panda, Uditra Tripathi, Narendra Patel, Rajendra Bagh, Kshetish Vishal, Gopalakrishna Padhi, Biranchi Nayak, Harihar Mishra, journalist Bhavanish Bhoi were instrumental in organizing the program. The Yoga family has been asked to continue working for a healthy and peaceful life along with the propagation of Yoga.

Ward level Stakeholder Consultations towards developing the City Drainage Master Plan: Sambalpur Municipal Corporation.



Consultations. The final 2024. Participants of these focus group discussions were concerned SMC Officials

including Ward Officers, Slum Development Associations (SDA). Ved bhusan, Commissioner, Sambalpur Municipal Corporation said "We wanted to develop a two-way process to gather input from citizens directly alongside the technical data gathered through field level surveys with a goal to generate mass awareness, understand beneficiary perspectives, and create strategies to

prepare an inclusive Drainage Master Plan for the city". "SMC is inviting its citizens, city-based Associations, Social Organizations, SDAs, Media Persons and others concerned from all Wards to provide further suggestions if any on developing the Drainage Master Plan on 28th November 2024 (Thursday) from 11 AM to 1.30 PM at SMC Grievance Cell" he added.

Neelachal Ispat's Expansion Incorporates Water-Smart Technology for Better Conservation

Kalinganagar, (KCN)

:- Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) is expanding its capacity from 1 MTPA to 9.5 MTPA to improve Jajpur's industrial landscape and the district's prominence in India's steel long product market. The expansion plan includes the implementation of many state-of-the-art

technologies to make the production process more sustainable and environmentally friendly. This expansion plan for NINL's steel plant at Duburi, in Odisha's Jajpur district, will set a new benchmark for sustainable water usage in steel industry. The Company is implementing advanced water conservation technologies

to significantly improve water efficiency. Water for NINL's expanded capacity will be sourced from nearby water sources, utilising existing infrastructure to minimise environmental impact. Stormwater will be utilised extensively, and excess water will be discharged only intermittently in accordance with Central

Pollution Control Board guidelines. The planned ZED system encompassing rainwater harvesting and advanced sewage treatment for water recycling. Dry gas cleaning in the blast furnace and steelmaking units will further reduce water usage, as will investments in technologies to recycle water used in various process plants.



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Director Madhur Bhandarkar: Unsure how industry will react to 'Wives of Bollywood'



Director and producer Madhur Bhandarkar opened up about his new project, Wives of Bollywood, to India Today Digital. The cast details of the same are yet to be announced. National Award-winning film director and producer Madhur Bhandarkar, who is known for making hard-hitting films often inspired by real life events, is all set for his next. Madhur, who is known for films such as Fashion, Heroine and Page 3, among many others, exclusively spoke to India Today Digital about his next project which, too, is set around the lives of people from the

entertainment industry. Madhur shared, "My audience has a certain kind of expectation from me. They are very well aware that if I'm working on a film, I will make sure to bring out some sort of an 'expose' on my subject matter. Not just that, every time I'm spotted anywhere even talking to people, they assume I'm doing my research because I probably might be making a film on that subject matter. I'm definitely someone who gets into every big and small detail of the topic I decide to make a film on. This time around, my next film is about the real life of Bollywood wives. I

have decided to title my next film as Wives of Bollywood and I have had this title with me for a very long time." Madhur further added, "I have always been fascinated by this subject and I feel that this would be interesting even for my audiences. Originally, this title was mine only.

knows what goes behind stardom, the situations they have to encounter, how these wives take their husband's stardom and how they deal with the scandals and the gossip surrounding their husbands. Not just that, even how these wives take the hits and flops of their husbands."

"I have a marathon script around this topic but by now I have already revisited the script four to five times and have made changes and channelised a lot of newer elements into it. I feel this film of mine will definitely be an eye-opener for the audiences. I don't know how the film

fraternity will react to it, but it's going to be a very gritty and hard-hitting film as I have taken inspiration from a lot of real Bollywood wives and added fiction to that, yet ensuring it stays close to reality. I am hoping that just like my other films such as Fashion, Page 3 and Corporate was appreciated by the people from our industry, they would hopefully not get disturbed or upset by Wives of Bollywood because if you have applauded my that kind of cinema and put me on a pedestal, then you should surely appreciate this subject too," the filmmaker concluded.

Kartik Aaryan eyes Cocktail 2, discusses Luka Chuppi 2 with Dinesh Vijan: Report

Kartik Aaryan and Dinesh Vijan reportedly had a discussion about their respective films where they began talks about the possibility of making Cocktail 2 and Luka Chuppi 2. Here's all about the latest buzz. Actor Kartik Aaryan is looking at multiplying his success after Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, and is actively discussing projects with various filmmakers. He was recently spotted at the Maddock Films office, and now the buzz suggests that he met director-producer Dinesh Vijan and expressed his wish to headline Cocktail 2 and

Luka Chuppi 2. A report in Bollywood Hungama mentioned a source confirming that Kartik and Dinesh had a creative meeting about their respective lineup of films, and they discussed the possibility of a potential collaboration. Kartik, who seems to have proven his hold over franchise films, reportedly mentioned that he loved Cocktail and would be excited to front its part two. The source said, "Kartik in particular enquired about the possibilities of Cocktail 2 with him in the lead, as he is a big fan of the first film, especially the

part of Deepika Padukone. The conversation ended on an open-ended note with the hope of teaming up on a project soon. Dinesh Vijan is also excited to partner with Kartik Aaryan, after the success he has

achieved through his own efforts with the Bhool Bhulaiyaa franchise." Kartik's heartland drama, Luka Chuppi, which also starred Kriti Sanon, was successful at the box office, and the duo also spoke

about making part two of the same title. The report mentioned, "Luka Chuppi is a big hit, and they have also given thought to Luka Chuppi 2. We will get a clear idea in the next month, but both Dinesh Vijan and Kartik

Aaryan are very keen to partner and take forward a franchise, as Bhool Bhulaiyaa has proved how strong a combo - franchise + Kartik is in the modern world." Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, which is still running in theatres, has surpassed Singham Again at the box office. There's a strong buzz in the trade section about Kartik's potential at driving franchises on his own, and being a legit crowd puller at the ticket window. The actor himself is aware of the same, and has started thinking about taking this success ahead with more commercial hits.



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

Veteran actor Jackie Shroff has struck another chord with the audience with his family entertainer 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka'. Critics and fans alike are showering love on Jackie for his heartfelt portrayal in this film that explores the highs and lows of life. Sharing the screen with the talented Neena Gupta, reviews highlight the delightful on-screen chemistry between the two seasoned actors. Critics expressed, "Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta shine as individual performers but

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

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

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

'Mast Mein Rehne Ka' is now streaming on Prime Video.



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

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

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



claimed that Sara Ali Khan had auditioned for the role of 'Zoya' but could not crack it. Putting all the rumors to rest, an industry insider revealed that "Sara Ali Khan never auditioned for Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest released 'Animal'." For the unversed, rumors of Sara Ali Khan auditioning for the role played by Triptii Dimri in the film made headlines recently. The report claimed that Sandeep wasn't convinced that Sara would be able to pull off

the bold scene in the film. He, however, was impressed by Triptii when she auditioned for the role and cast her in the film, claimed the report. Sara Ali Khan is among the prominent Bollywood actresses of this

generation. She made headlines with her debut in 'Kedarnath' and has been a part of films like 'Atrangi Re', 'Love Aaj Kal', 'Simmba', 'Coolie No 1', 'Luka', 'Gaslight' among others. She was recently seen in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke' opposite Vicky Kaushal. She will be next seen in 'Ae Watan Mere Watan', which will premiere on Amazon Prime Video. Triptii Dimri played the role of 'Zoya' in Animal. Though she had a small screen time, her role is one of the most talked-about elements of the film. Triptii Dimri spoke about her intimate scenes with Ranbir Kapoor in 'Animal'. She said that Ranbir and Sandeep made sure that she was comfortable doing the scenes. She also mentioned Ranbir coming and checking up on her

every 5 minutes to ensure that she is not feeling awkward. Triptii made her acting debut in the comedy film 'Poster Boys' (2017) and had her first lead role in the romantic drama 'Laila Majnu' (2018). She gained acclaim for her performances in Anvita Dutt's films 'Bulbul' (2020) and 'Qala' (2022), before bagging 'Animal'. She has a film with Vicky Kaushal among her upcoming projects. Released on December 1, 'Animal' is getting an overwhelming response from the audience.

Indian Rivers Need Protection for their Survival

The rivers in India, which have historically been lifelines of its civilization, are in a dire state due to pollution, overextraction, and ecological mismanagement. India's rivers are on the brink of ecological collapse. Addressing these issues requires stricter enforcement of environmental laws, community involvement, sustainable water management practices, and greater political commitment. Without immediate action, the degradation of rivers will have severe implications for health, livelihoods, and biodiversity. A detailed investigation of the unprecedented challenges faced by rivers across India is presented below:

1. Severe Pollution: Factories discharge untreated waste directly into rivers. For instance, the Yamuna and Ganga are heavily contaminated with chemicals and toxins. Cities and towns along riverbanks dump untreated sewage into rivers. According to studies, around 70% of India's surface water is polluted. Rivers are choking on plastic and garbage, further degrading water quality and harming aquatic life.

2. Declining Water Flow: Excessive water withdrawal for agriculture, industry, and drinking water has reduced the flow of many rivers. Rivers like the Cauvery and Godavari often run dry in stretches.

The Himalayan rivers such as the Ganga and Brahmaputra are impacted by the retreat of glaciers due to climate change, threatening their perennial flow.

3. Encroachments and Sand Mining: This depletes riverbeds,

causing erosion, disrupting ecosystems, and lowering groundwater recharge. Construction on riverbanks narrows rivers, restricts flow, and increases the risk of flooding.

4. Loss of Biodiversity: Polluted and disrupted ecosystems have led to the decline of native aquatic species. Iconic creatures like the Ganges river dolphin are now endangered. Dams and barrages have fragmented river ecosystems, blocking fish migration and altering sediment flow.

5. Religious Practices: Rituals such as idol immersion, cremation, and offerings contribute to pollution, despite efforts to promote eco-friendly alternatives.

6. Climate Change: Altered rainfall patterns lead to more intense floods and prolonged droughts, exacerbating the stress on rivers.

Rising temperatures increase evaporation, reducing water levels.

7. Ineffective Policies and Implementation: Despite programs like Namami Gange aimed at rejuvenating rivers, the results have been limited due to corruption, lack of coordination, and inadequate enforcement of laws.

8. Urbanization and Industrialization: Rapid urban sprawl has overwhelmed river systems, particularly in metropolitan areas like Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Mumbai, leading to the loss of natural floodplains and increased contamination.

Plight of Cauvery Let us take the case of the river Cauvery for an example. Saving Cauvery is urgent; otherwise a civilisation will be lost for all time to

come; and to save Cauvery means to save the Kodagu forest. This has been found that between March and May this year, Kodagu was facing a drought like situation and water had become a scarce commodity, more precious than gold. The underlying reason is that the catchment of the Cauvery has been unable to hold water. There are multiple reasons for this but chiefly it includes a complete degradation of the Cauvery's catchment, Kodagu's newly-established plantation economy, change in land-use patterns along the river, tourism, climate change and illegal sand mining. Paddy farming has become unviable in the region as the cost of production for the crop has risen. Consequently, the numerous rice paddies which have dotted the region since centuries, are now diminishing. For instance, in 2010-11, 35,000 hectares (ha) of land in the catchment of the Cauvery and its tributaries like Hemavati and Lakshmantirth were under paddy cultivation. By 2018, this had reduced to 27,000 ha. These paddy fields had acted as natural feeders to the Cauvery. With paddy farming decreasing, the vacant land has either been diverted for non-agricultural use or for a plantation economy. The area under plantations of crops such as coffee, palm oil and areca nut has increased in the state. However, the problem with these industry-driven plantations is that unlike traditional trees, they don't have deep root and hence, cannot hold soil or water. A whole lot of traditional trees like Nandi, Rosewood, Jackfruit and all varieties of bamboos have been removed for

Saikat Kumar Basu and Uma Shankar Singh

cultivation of coffee. Another problem is the development of infrastructure and urbanisation in the catchment. This report states that Kodagu lost around 3,000 ha of tree cover in the last 17 years. The impacts of decreasing tree cover are now visible as the Cauvery dried up in March-May.

Save Our Rivers
Saving Indian rivers from degradation requires a multi-pronged approach involving policy reforms, community participation, and scientific interventions. Here are key strategies:

1. Reduce Pollution: Implementing of stringent regulations on industrial effluents, untreated sewage, and agricultural runoff entering rivers. Increasing the number of sewage treatment plants (STPs) and ensure they operate at full capacity will be very important. Reducing plastic pollution by banning single-use plastics and promoting alternatives is the need of the hour. Using organic farming techniques and controlled application of fertilizers and pesticides for reducing chemical runoff to the riverine and freshwater water ecosystems are urgently needed.

2. Afforestation and Riverbank Protection

Planting trees along riverbanks and creating green buffers to prevent soil erosion and regulate water flow are necessary for survival of our rivers. Maintaining thick natural vegetation belts along riverbanks for ecological balance is also important.

3. Restoration of the Natural Flow: Ensuring Minimum Environmental Flow (E-Flow) and

regulating dam operations to allow adequate water flow downstream for ecological sustenance. Removing illegal encroachments and clearing illegal constructions blocking natural river channels and floodplains can speed up the river flow.

4. Rejuvenation Projects: Adopting to Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) is a sustainable strategy for successful river conservation initiatives. Holistic planning at the watershed level to address issues of water management, pollution, and biodiversity are absolute necessity. Promoting and supporting local community-driven river rejuvenation programs, like those seen in the success of projects like the Narmada and Ganga cleanups are very good examples in sustainable river conservation.

5. Awareness and Community Involvement: There is an urgent need to raise awareness about the importance of rivers and the consequences of their degradation; and encourage citizen-based monitoring and surveillance. Fostering community involvement in reporting pollution and illegal activities can help river conservation initiatives significantly.

6. Improved Urban Planning: Enforcing zoning laws to keep construction away from floodplains and riverbanks; and designing urban drainage to prevent untreated stormwater runoff from entering rivers could serve as effective strategies.

7. Adopt Technology: Extensively using satellite technology to

monitor river health and detect illegal activities like sand mining; and installing sensors to continuously track pollution levels and act promptly.

8. Financial Incentives: Providing incentives to industries and farmers adopting eco-friendly practices; and strictly promoting

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to encourage private companies to fund river conservation projects.

9. Cultural and Religious Practices: Promoting alternatives for rituals that traditionally involve polluting the rivers; and engaging religious leaders by partnering with spiritual communities to spread awareness about protection and conservation of rivers.

10. Policy and Governance: Updating and enforcing policies like the National Water Policy with a focus on river rejuvenation; and addressing disputes to jointly manage rivers shared between states is important strategy for protecting our riverine resources. Creating dedicated bodies for specific river basins for continuous oversight is urgently needed. It is also encouraging to mirror success stories like the Namami Gange Programme that aims to rejuvenate the Ganga River through pollution abatement, afforestation, and biodiversity conservation. The Rally for Rivers Campaign focusing on public awareness and long-term policy changes to protect India's rivers needs to be actively supported across the nation. Developing sustainable comprehensive action involving governments, communities, and

individuals is crucial for long-lasting impact are also needed.

Urgent Need for Water Conservation

Under these circumstances there is an urgent need for water conservation. It is crucial for our survival because water is a finite and irreplaceable resource that sustains all life on Earth. Humans depend on freshwater for drinking, agriculture, sanitation, and industrial processes, but only about 1% of Earth's water is readily accessible for human use. As populations grow and economies develop, the demand for water increases, putting immense pressure on available freshwater supplies. Many regions of the world, especially in arid and semi-arid areas, already face severe water shortages. Climate change, overuse, and pollution are depleting freshwater resources, making water conservation essential to ensure long-term availability. Water is essential for growing crops. Agriculture accounts for about 70% of global freshwater usage, and conserving water ensures that we can continue to produce enough food for a growing population.

freshwater ecosystems, including rivers, lakes, and wetlands, rely on consistent water availability to support biodiversity. Overuse and pollution of water resources threaten these ecosystems, which are crucial for maintaining ecological balance. Water is required for generating electricity, particularly in hydroelectric power plants and cooling

systems for thermal power plants. Efficient water use helps ensure the sustainability of energy production. Access to clean water is vital for health, hygiene, and sanitation. Without water conservation, millions of people face the risk of waterborne diseases and poor living conditions.

The world population has grown rapidly, increasing the demand for water for drinking, agriculture, industry, and sanitation. Expanding industries require significant amounts of water for production and cooling processes, contributing to higher consumption and pollution of freshwater sources. The growth of cities has led to increased demand for water, often leading to the over-extraction of nearby water sources and contamination from urban runoff. Industrial waste, agricultural runoff, and inadequate sewage treatment have polluted many freshwater sources, reducing the availability of clean water. Rising global temperatures are altering precipitation patterns, causing more frequent droughts in some areas and severe flooding in others, both of which affect water availability. In many parts of the world, water is wasted due to inefficient agricultural practices, leaky infrastructure, and poor water management, exacerbating the scarcity problem. To secure the future, adopting water conservation measures such as reducing waste, recycling water, improving irrigation techniques, and protecting water sources is essential.

International Day to End Violence Against Women: November 25, 1999

By: Surjit Flora



introduce challenging behaviors and criminal mindsets, which can be linked to male ego. Indeed, it has frequently been regarded as commonplace, and the worldwide culture of discrimination against women enables violence to happen without consequence.

Advocating for women's rights and standing against abuses is a vital responsibility that human rights organizations should embrace daily. From advocating for better laws and services to collaborating with communities to shift discriminatory attitudes and behaviors, organizations and individuals are passionately engaged worldwide in addressing and preventing violence against women.

Numerous women have shared their experiences of enduring marital rape and various forms of domestic violence in silence, as these issues were often viewed as personal or private matters between partners. Women workers have faced sexual harassment



in the workplace but often remain silent, fearing they will be labeled as liars or that the situation will be turned against them. Women's rights advocates share the incredible journey they've undertaken in their fight to prosecute domestic violence and sexual violence against women, often occurring in the private sphere. The United Nations General Assembly resolution was proposed by the Dominican Republic, as this date celebrates the 1960 murder of three Dominican sisters—Patria, Minerva, and María Teresa Mirabal—whose bravery and sacrifice ignited a powerful movement. The story unfolds on November 25, 1960, to Trujillo's assassination within a

year. The Mirabal sisters, affectionately referred to as "Las Mariposas" or "The Butterflies," have ignited a wave of inspiration with their remarkable courage. Their martyrdom captured global attention, shining a light on the brutality of Trujillo's regime. In the decades that followed, their story emerged as a powerful emblem of defiance and the urgent call to fight against violence towards women. The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women serves as a powerful reminder of the ongoing efforts needed to safeguard women and girls all around the world. The day champions robust legislation, bolsters women's organizations, enhances training for law enforcement, and uplifts survivors.

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Awareness on AMR conducted by ICAR-CIFRI

Kolkata, (KCN): World Antimicrobial Awareness Week was effectively observed at ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore from 18-24th November 2024, centred around the global theme, "Educate. Advocate. Act now. The inauguration of "World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2024" took place successfully at ICAR-CIFRI on 18.11.2024, in Barrackpore. The event was attended by Dr. Gopal Krishna, Former Director of ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, and Dr. B. K. Das, Director of ICAR-CIFRI, along with trainees and fishermen from Madhepura district, Bihar, with the objective of enhancing awareness among farmers and fishermen. In engaging

sessions, ICAR-CIFRI experts Dr. B. K. Das, Director, and Dr. A. K. Bera, Principal Scientist and Co-PI of the AINP-AMR project, explained Antimicrobial Resistance, its causes, and its harmful effects on the ecosystem. Participants learned about judicious antibiotic usage, aquaculture antibiotic alternatives, and the long-term economic and ecological benefits of limiting antimicrobial resistance. Under the "All India Network Project on Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness (AINP-AMR) in fisheries and livestock", ICAR-CIFRI educated the public, farmers, professionals, scholars, and students. All events

were managed by Dr. A. K. Sahoo, Senior Scientist, Dr. A. K. Das, Principal Scientist, and Dr. A. K. Bera, Principal Scientist, with the support of Dr. Palash Ghorai, and Miss Anushka Das, under the direction of Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI. On 20.11.2024, in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Cossipore, Kolkata, students and faculty from various departments were educated about worldwide antimicrobial resistance and how to stop it. Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness banners and pamphlets were distributed to educate the public about this worldwide concern.

On November 21, 2024, a mega event was conducted in Basanti



block, Sundarbans, in partnership with Joygopalpur Gram Vikash Kendra (JGVK). JGVK, a distinguished non-governmental organization that is committed to the promotion of sustainable development and the preservation of subsistence in the Sundarbans. Esteemed dignitaries, including Dr. Purnendu Biswas, former Vice Chancellor

of WBUFAS, Mr. Ganesh Sengupta, chairman of IGF, Denmark, Mr. Niels Bo Karlsson from Denmark, and Dr. B. K. Das, Director of ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, attended the occasion. Banners, placards, and leaflets were distributed to a large number of women of the village household, who were informed about the global issues arising from antimicrobial resistance. This was followed by a huge rally in the vicinity, which was attended by over 1000 individuals, including school students from Vivekananda Shiksha Niketan Model High School, women from the NGO, CIFRI staff, and other participants. In the same vein, Dr. A. K. Bera, Principal Scientist, and Dr. A. K. Das, Principal Scientist, educated a select group of students from class VII-X on the same matter.

It continued at Acharya Prafulla Chandra College in New Barrackpore on 22nd November 2024, where the audience will be sensitized about the causes and consequences of antimicrobial resistance. The initiative aims to encourage the adoption of responsible practices in agriculture, aquaculture, and animal husbandry to mitigate its spread. The activities will effectively raise awareness among everyone regarding the critical issue of AMR. The event organized throughout the week will serve as a crucial step toward community-level efforts in combating AMR.

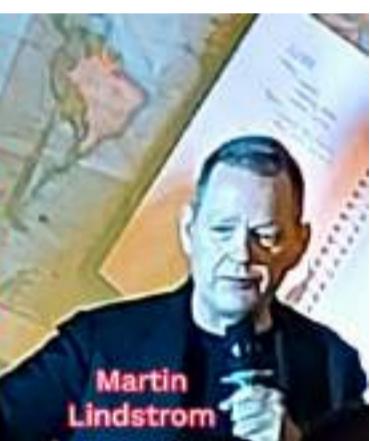
"Empathy" is key to connect with customers is critical for successful Marketing in new "AI" driven Business Era

Kolkata, (PARTHA ROY): Importance of "Empathy" was stressed and highlighted in data based AI driven evolving Business era by Martin Lindstrom in his address in CII Brand Conclave. Mr. Lindstrom stressed on importance of Human 2 Human (H2H) connect while interpreting data for B2B and/or B2C operations

Mr. Lindstrom mentioned in future, Branding will become more "Contextual" and AI will transform communication "Contextual". Key to future of branding is AI driven consumer insights, said Martin Lindstrom, pioneer in the fields of consumer psychology, marketing and neuro marketing research, at CII Brand Conclave in Kolkata, on 23rd November 2024. Mr. Lindstrom predicts AI as a game changer for the brand success, where products can be redesigned to make the customers happy. AI



(L-R) : Animesh Roy, Debasish Dutta, Subash Balar, Martin Lindstrom, Sandeep Kumar, Dipankar Bhattacharjee



interface is customising the products with information from the recipients to make the product relevant. He further said AI in the coming days will stimulate the subconscious mind to use a brand. His sessions delve into cutting-edge techniques that are poised to revolutionize the industry. He also emphasized the importance of human-to-human interaction as a cornerstone of modern branding, highlighting the need for corporates to embrace this skill in the new era of marketing. TIME magazine has named Martin Lindstrom

as one of the world's 100 Most Influential People while Thinkers50 has recognized him as one of the top business thinkers for a decade. Additionally, LinkedIn ranked him as the number one business influencer in the United States in 2021. Martin's eight New York Times and Wall Street Journal bestsellers, including his latest, "The Ministry of Common Sense," have been translated into over 60 languages. The masterclass featured four engaging sessions, Small Data: Uncovering the Hidden Gems, Artificial Brand Innovation: Marketing in the Age of Artificial

Intelligence, CX 2.0: The Next Generation Customer Journey and Branding 4.0: Let's Smash Your Brand, drawing an audience of over 300 industry leaders.

Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council and Managing Director, Tata Steel Downstream Products Limited, emphasized the critical role of emotional connectivity with consumer in shaping and strengthening brand perceptions in today's business landscape outlining the fact that 70 per cent of consumers consider brand trust a

key factor in their purchasing decisions. Talking about several key trends in the new brand landscape, Mr. Subash Balar, Chairman, CII Marketing & Brand Task Force, Eastern Region spoke about digital transformation, experiential marketing, data-driven decision-making in marketing and the role of AI in modern marketing strategies. Over the last two decades, Brand Conclave has become synonymous with innovation, insight and inspiration, bringing together some of the finest minds in the industry to discuss trends, challenges and opportunities that shape the future of branding. Mr. Animesh Roy, Co-chairman, CII Marketing & Brand Task Force, Eastern Region, outlined that branding extends beyond business and plays a crucial role in enabling individuals to thrive in the modern world.

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): ICCR hosted two-days India International Tribal Festival 2024 on 19th & 20th November 2024 at its premises in Kolkata. On 19th November, a 13-Member Cultural delegation of "Ifju Szivek Dance Theatre Group" from Slovakia performed. Ifju Szivek Dance Theatre is playing important role in the Hungarian traditional dance revival movement and in the Hungarian dance and cultural life of Slovakia. Through its theatrical d'nce performances the troupe from Slovakia displayed the traditional dance and music culture of Central Europe. On 20th November, 12-Member "Nuae Folk Art Delegation" from National University of Art Education, Vietnam performed Vietnamese Folk Dance, in particular and Vietnamese ethnic dance. Vietnamese dance has a rich heritage that includes religious dance, court dance, folk dance, and dance in

traditional theatre.

Shri Ramesh Chand Program Director of ICCR East Zonal office coordinated the both days program. Team ICCR Kolkata made superb arrangements for visiting artists as well as audience. Audience include Shri Arup Raha former Chief of Indian Air Force, top bureaucrats, members of diplomatic community based in Kolkata, celebrities, intellectuals, business barons and art lovers. Audience gave standing ovation to visiting artists on both days. Performance by troupe from Vietnam reflected historical cultural connection between people of Vietnam and people of Bharat.

ICCR is also organising 8th edition of India International Folk Festival which scheduled on 26th & 27th November 2024 at Kamani Auditorium in New Delhi. It is expected to be inaugurated by Shri Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for External Affairs on Tuesday, 26 November 2024 at 6.30 pm at Kamani Auditorium, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi. Artists & musicians from Sri Lanka, Slovakia, Iraq are expected to perform in New Delhi. These cultural exchange & cultural performance will play important role in building bridges of goodwill between people of these countries and people of Bharat.

Awareness Drive on Hilsa Conservation at Diamond Harbour: ICAR-CIFRI's Latest Effort

Kolkata, (KCN): ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CIFRI), Barrackpore, in collaboration with the Kankura Masat Social Welfare Society, had organised a sensitisation programme at Diamond Harbour, South 24 Pargana, to promote Hilsa conservation under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). The event, attended by over 110 fishers, aimed at raising awareness about sustainable fishing practices to conserve Hilsa fisheries and highlighting the ecological importance of Hilsa. Dr. B. K. Das, Director of ICAR-CIFRI and Principal Investigator of the NMCG project stressed the ecological and socio-cultural significance of Hilsa in his address. He urged the fishing community to avoid catching juvenile Hilsa and to refrain from using zero-mesh nets, which significantly threaten the species' sustainability. During an interactive session, Dr. Das listened to the concerns of the fishers

regarding fishing regulations and challenges. He emphasised that conserving Hilsa is not only critical for maintaining the health of river ecosystems but for preserving the cultural heritage and livelihoods of fishing communities dependent on the species. Mr. Pratangshu Bose, President, Kankura Masat Social Welfare Society, underscored the importance of community involvement in conservation efforts. He highlighted that collective action, enhanced awareness, and adherence to sustainable fishing practices are essential for maintaining Hilsa populations. A technical session was organised by the staff of the NMCG in which all aspects of hilsa conservation were discussed. The fishers were advised not to catch "KOKA ilish", maintain the ban period on Hilsa catching and not to use nets below mesh size 110 mm. They also informed us about the work done in Farakka at Hilsa Ranching Station, like live adult hilsa ranching, artificial breeding

Harsimrat K Badal calls for justice for farmers and Punjab in All Party meet on eve of parliament session

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), November 24 – Senior Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader and Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal Sunday made a fervent appeal for ensuring justice to the farmers of Punjab who were being denied minimum support price (MSP) on paddy and facing severe DAP fertilizer shortage as well as Punjabis whose right over Chandigarh had been further diluted by approval of a proposal to allocate land in the union territory to Haryana to construct a separate Vidhan Sabha, a party release states so. Participating in the all-party meeting on the eve of the winter session of parliament, Mrs. Harsimrat Badal said both the centre and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) governments were responsible for the plight of the farmers of the State.

"Our farmers had to sell short as they were

continuously harassed in Mandis on account of moisture content in their paddy crop. This is not all. The farmers are being denied supply of DAP fertilizer with the central government reducing the allocation of the fertilizer to Punjab by as much as Rs 1.28 lakh tonnes". She said farmers in Punjab also suffered due to the sale of spurious seed of early varieties of paddy which the AAP government failed to prevent as well as sale of fake DAP fertilizer. She also highlighted how Sheller owners in Punjab were complaining that even last year's paddy

stock had not been moved out of the State and that various State governments were rejecting rice sent to them from Punjab on flimsy grounds. The MP also reminded the centre that an MSP Committee which had been promised when the Kisan Andolan was lifted, was yet to be formed to the satisfaction of Kisan organizations. The Bathinda MP also registered her strong objection to the allocation of land in Haryana for construction of a separate Vidhan Sabha by Haryana. She said this was in violation of the 550th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji in 2019 to release all the Bandi Singhs, the same had not been done till now. She said the central government was dragging its feet and denying parole to Bhai Balwant Singh Rajoana by not taking a decision on the latter's mercy petition for the last twelve years. Mrs. Badal also called for release of all Punjab government funds which had been withheld by the centre including those for the National Health Mission, Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat as well as Rural Development Fund (RDF) dues. She also pressed for grant of fair compensation to land being acquired by the Amritsar-Jamnagar Expressway under the Bharat Mala project and condemned the AAP government for committing atrocities on farmers who were agitating peacefully for their right to fair compensation.

NSO Conducts Surveys In Digital Platform

New Delhi(KCN): National Statistics Office (NSO) under the MoSPI is responsible for conducting large scale sample surveys on various socio-economic subjects on All India basis. These surveys are either Household based surveys where the primary unit of enumeration is a household or Enterprise based surveys where the primary unit of enumeration is an enterprise.

These surveys are designed to meet the requirements of various stakeholder Ministries

and departments, based on recommendations from various expert groups and committees. The household surveys primarily collect information that is not available either through administrative records or through surveys conducted by domain-specific Ministries or departments.

The surveys are being conducted in digital platform using Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) or web-based application with in-built validation mechanism to ensure consistency at the stage

of data collection. Collected data are thoroughly scrutinized by the supervisory level officers to identify inconsistency, if any and necessary clarifications are obtained/corrections are incorporated. Monitoring of survey process is also accomplished through the digital platform. Before commencement of any survey, extensive training on survey instruments as well as use of CAPI are provided to the field officials. Clarifications are also given on a regular basis on the

queries raised by field officials during the course of the survey. Further, Data quality workshops are also organised to address the

conceptual queries and monitoring the survey data quality time-to-time. Additionally, survey instruments are periodically improved to

enhance data quality. Before taking up any new survey, whether the indicators to be generated from the surveys are available from any other government survey/administrative data sources, are extensively verified to rule out the possibility of duplication of surveys. Also, consultations with relevant line Ministries and departments are held to avoid duplication of work, effort, etc.

Regular dialogues with data users are conducted so that Ministries/Departments can incorporate their

feedback on additional data coverage and disclosure requirements. To facilitate this, MoSPI conducts Data User Conferences after release of results of sample surveys with an aim to engage stakeholders and enhance understanding of the survey's findings, focusing on data access, interpretation, user concerns and survey methodology.

MoSPI's website for access by various researchers, policymakers, etc to better understand, analyze and explore the country's data. This information was given by the Minister of State (independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Planning and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Shri Rao Inderjit Singh in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.



Whale shark dies on sonapur beach

Chikiti(KCN): A rare Whale shark, which was grounded at Sonapur sea beach under this block in Ganjam district Monday afternoon, died after efforts by the villagers to push it back to the sea failed. The weight of the 10-metre-long fish will be approximately 300 kg, Block Fishery Extension Officer Priyabrata Das said. Even though Sonapur villagers tried hard to push the shark into the sea, it was not possible owing to the size and weight of the shark and large waves hitting the seashore. The giant shark eventually died after lying for a long time on the beach. A proper



autopsy will be conducted Tuesday and burial will be done on the beach, Das said. Though

it is said that sharks come near the beach after getting old, local intelligentsia alleged that excess use of fishing trawlers and big nets to catch fish despite the fishing ban led to such incidents.

Students, tourists explore INS Kuthar at Gopalpur Port



Chhatrapur(KCN): Students of New Age Euro School and other local educational institutions, the general public and tourists Monday explored INS Kuthar which has been docked at Gopalpur Port in Ganjam district with an aim to promote awareness among the local populace

on coastal security and maritime operations. Naval officers gleefully demonstrated the exemplary capabilities of the warship during battles. Students were enthralled to learn about the defence prowess of Indian Navy so closely, in a rather rare opportunity. INS Kuthar is a Khukri-class guided

missile corvette, currently in service with the Indian Navy. It was designed by Indian naval architects and built at the Mazagon Dock in Mumbai. INS Kuthar was part of Western Naval Command till 1998. Later, it moved to be part of Eastern Naval Command. The naval vessel was open

6 awarded life term for murder of RTI activist

Baliguda(KCN): A local court handed down life imprisonment to six persons, including a supari killer, after convicting them in the murder case of an RTI activist in Baliguda area of Kandhamal district, Monday. The deceased was identified as Abhimanyu Panda, a trader by profession and a Right to Information (RTI) Act activist in Baliguda area. He was opposing the usurping of Jagannath temple land and houses in Baliguda area. As a result, some people connived against him and eliminated him by hiring a supari killer.

Apart from the punishment, District and Sessions Judge Rupashree Choudhury in Berhampur also slapped a penalty of Rs 10,000 on each of the convicts. In default, all the convicts have to undergo an additional year of imprisonment, Public Prosecutor Trilochan Parida said. The court passed the order after examining the statements of 22 witnesses and the police chargesheet, Parida added. The convicts were identified as Rama Narayan Nahak, 25, alias Golak of Haridapadar Tarsingh village, his associates

Kanhu Charan Sahu, 27, of Kharia Humki village under Aska police limits, K Biswajit Patra, 47, of Sunapanka village in Kandhamal district, and supari killer Bablu Muni, 35, of Badamuni Sahi at MG Road in Aska were produced in the court under tight security during pronouncement of the verdict. Two others, identified as S Balaji Patra, 34, of Bandhasahi in Baliguda and Rasbihari Das, 34, a resident of Bandhaguda under Baliguda police limits, were out on bail but did not appear in the court during pronouncement of the order.



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BOBBY CHAKRABORTY ENTHRALLED HIS SOLDIERS FROM SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH HIS ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN NO. 438



Kolkata, (KCN): It was Actor/Activist/Teacher of Method Acting Bobby Chakraborty's 438th and the 29th session of his award winning, free of cost, global awareness program, against addiction and harmful social trends among the youth, at South Point High School, Kolkata on 25th November. We have a first hand account of the absolutely engaging, entertaining and educative adda of Bobby with his soldiers at SPHS.

Students of the 9th grade thronged a full house of the school auditorium, eager to hear from him as the coordinator Brita Sarkar along with all the other teachers warmly welcomed him there. The official photographer of this sparkling session was soldier Arushi Rowshan, assisted by soldier Pritam Sarkar, who was also 'The Trendsetter'. Bobby was

absolutely impressed with Arushi's hardwork, manners and his sense of responsibility. The Principal, Rupa Sanyal Bhattacharjee, who is a great supporter of this awareness program of Bobby, since 2014, was all in praise and appreciation for Bobby. How the next 2 hours passed by, no one could realize, as Bobby, with his eloquent humour and emotion spoke about the mishap in his family and the burning issues of substance abuse, smart phone abuse, decline of self respect and social responsibility in the quest of views and subscribers online, gender insensitivity, rampant use of foul language, online gambling in disguise of games etc. He laid down simple yet powerful ways to stay away from these evils which are destroying our generation. He stressed on following the effective formula of life,

which is HCF (Health Career Family). He made the audience chant out the positive mantra of life, 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND' on top of their voices, which sounded like a war cry. 'The 1st soldier' selected was Ainesh Sinha, who made a promise to remain a soldier all his life. The winners of the surprise contest at the end were Tannistha, Sagnik and Ainesh, who along with Arushi, were given specially personalized gifts, HCF t-shirts and community service certificates by Bobby.

After the session was over, the students wouldn't allow Bobby to leave, as they were totally enthralled by his personality and crowded all around him for a hug, selfie, touching his feet and getting his autograph on wherever and whatever they could lay their hands on.

EASTERN RAILWAY OBSERVES CONSTITUTION DAY AT ITS HEADQUARTERS



Kolkata, (KCN): Eastern Railway (ER) observed Constitution Day scrupulously throughout its jurisdiction today. Officers & Staff at ER Headquarters, led by Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, ER read the Preamble to the Constitution on this occasion. Officers & staff at ER Headquarters read out the Preamble of the Constitution to reaffirm our commitment to uphold the ideologies of the Indian Constitution which is the world's

greatest written Constitution. Shri Sumit Sarkar, Additional General Manager, Smt Zarina Firdausi, Principal Chief Personnel Officer and other Principal Officers of Eastern Railway were also present on the occasion. The Preamble of the Constitution was also read by officers & staff of different Divisions & Workshops of ER, led by the Divisional Railway Managers and Chief Works Managers.

NSO to Hold Round Table Conference for Sensitising Business Organisations about ASI

Kolkata, (KCN): Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the principal source of Industrial Statistics for the Government of India. This survey is for evaluation of Industry wise Gross Value Addition, Capital formation, Growth in industrial output etc. The data is being used to formulate planning by Government of India. Its Coverage includes manufacturing sector comprising activities related to a manufacturing process, repair service, gas and water supply and cold

storage and are registered under section 2m (i) and 2m (ii) of Factories Act. The survey is conducted annually under statutory provisions of the Collection of Statistics Act' 2008, subsequently modified in 2017 and rules 2011 framed, thereunder. National Statistics Office (Field Operation Division), Regional Office - Kolkata under Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is holding a Round Table Conference for

Jindal Stainless' Jajpur Plant Wins Prestigious Apex Platinum Award for Safety Excellence.

Kalinganagar, (KCN) :- The Jajpur plant of Jindal Stainless Limited, has been awarded the coveted Apex Platinum Award for Safety Excellence in the metal and mining sector. The honour was presented during the 9th Apex India Occupational Health and Safety Awards ceremony in Goa by the Hon'ble Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shri Shridip Yesso Naik, in the presence of esteemed dignitaries. The Apex Platinum

Award is a testament to the company's exemplary safety record and its relentless commitment to ensuring workplace safety. Under the strong leadership of the plant team, the Kalinganagar facility has upheld a zero-fatal safety record and has consistently demonstrated operational excellence. The award adds to an illustrious list of recognitions for Jindal Stainless Jajpur, including the International British Safety Council Award, the Kalinga Safety Excellence Award, the

Apex India Excellence Awards 2024
Apex India Conference on Integrating Excellence in Safety, HR & Quality Management
November 2024 | Taj Colaba, the Goa, Margao, Goa, India



Apex India Excellence Award, and the CII Award—all earned over the past three years.

Head, Safety, Jindal Stainless, Jajpur, Mr Manoj Bal, accepted the award on behalf of the

company in the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including Shri Manoj Tiwari (Member of Parliament), Shri P K Saighal (Retd. Chief Public Defender), Dr Avesh Singh (Retd. Director General, Ministry of Labour and Employment), and Dr S K Gurki (Retd. Additional Director, Central Pollution Control Department). This accolade further cements Jindal Stainless' position as a leader in safety and operational excellence within the metal and mining sector.

World Bank Supports New Project to Revitalize Forests, Enhance Climate Resilience for People in India's Tripura, Nagaland States

Saikat Kumar Basu
(Special Correspondent)

NEW DELHI, Nov. 26, 2024: The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors on Monday, Nov. 25, 2024, approved a new project to support more than 700,000 people to manage forest landscapes better and enhance forest value chains in more than 400 villages across Tripura and Nagaland. With almost 1.5 million hectares, forests form a vital part of the rural economy in Nagaland and Tripura, providing livelihood to significant tribal populations. However, over the past decade, the states have experienced reductions in forest cover, threatening

biodiversity, and the well-being of forest-dependent communities. The \$225.5 million Enhancing Landscape and Ecosystem Management (ELEMENT) Project will help conserve and restore over 100,000 hectares of forest thus enhancing landscape-based value chains for economic transformation while avoiding almost 435,000 tons of carbon emissions per year. The Project will also strengthen soil conservation and improve water availability. "The Project will contribute to leveraging forests for private sector driven job creation in non-timber economic

activities, enhancing the carbon sink capacity of the forest, and ultimately contributing to economic growth and social well-being in Tripura and Nagaland," said Auguste Tano Kouame, the World Bank's Country Director for India. The ELEMENT project aims to open up economic opportunities for communities through forest produce such as agarwood, bamboo and honey in partnership with the private sector. It will also help to enhance national parks and protected areas, as well as develop nature-based tourism

facilities. The Project aims to create 60,000 jobs for youth and women, by promoting forest-based entrepreneurship through skills training in areas such as hospitality and training for nature guides. The Project will take an integrated and holistic landscape approach on forest management. "This goes beyond traditional forests to include areas like grasslands, wetlands, and farmlands to maximize community benefits," said Pyush Dogra and Raj Ganguly, the Task Team Leaders for the project. "This will improve climate resilience of rural and forest-dependent communities and increase their livelihoods." This financing comes on the heels of the Bank's \$43 million financing to support similar activities in the sister state of Meghalaya. The loan from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 12 years with a grace period of 4.5 years. The Project will also benefit from a complementary Global Partnership for Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes (PROGREEN) grant in the amount of \$2.4 million.

Annual General Meeting of Vitesco Technologies

Regensburg: Vitesco Technologies, a leading international developer and manufacturer of cutting-edge drive systems for sustainable mobility, held its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) today. The AGM was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In separate votes, the shareholders formally approved the actions of all the Executive Board members during their term of office in the 2021 financial year. The actions of all members of the Supervisory Board in office in 2021 were also approved for their respective terms. "We are delighted to have received this vote of confidence from the Annual General Meeting".

Bhubaneswar: L V Prasad Eye Institute's Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus in Bhubaneswar organized a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk on 8th May 2022. This walk is part of the 'Whitathon' event organized by LV Prasad Eye Institute across its campuses in Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam and

We regard this outcome as a clear mandate to continue the successful collaboration and positioning of Vitesco Technologies as a supplier of sustainable drive solutions with a clear goal," said CEO Andreas Wolf.

All current members of the Supervisory Board representing the shareholders who were up for election were re-elected to office. The members of the Supervisory Board who represent the employees will be elected separately.

A complete list of all Supervisory Board members and the results of the voting at the AGM are available on the Vitesco Technologies website under 'Annual General Meeting'.

Mr. Prasad Vaze has been appointed as the Senior Director – Lubricants Business at Raj Petro Specialties Pvt Ltd., a Brenntag Group company. He will lead the comprehensive lubricants Business Units, including Speciality, Industrial and Automotive lubricant businesses.

Mr. Prasad Vaze is a result-oriented business leader with more than 25 years of extensive experience in customer-centric roles. Mr. Vaze has served in numerous senior leadership roles, including leading retail operations, profit centre management, developing business strategy and channel

development & management.

Commenting on the appointment of a new member in the leadership team, Mr. Mehl Nanavati, Managing Director, Raj Petro Specialties Pvt Ltd. stated, "We are thrilled to have a seasoned industry leader join our team. With Prasad onboard, we are confident that he will accelerate the growth momentum. His unique domain expertise will further help strengthen Raj Petro's market position and expand footprint across markets."

Ms. Archana Gharte - Head HR said, "We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Prasad Vaze, our newest member to the LT team. He will be

taking on the important hat of managing Raj Petro's Lubricants Business, and we wish him all the best for his journey! With his knowledge and extensive experience, we are confident that Prasad will assist Raj Petro in reaching new heights."

On his appointment Mr. Prasad Vaze said, "I am very thrilled to take on this new role. My vision is to create a world class experience for our consumers and channel partners. Our aim is to leverage Kyros, Onwo and Zoomol brands, explore humongous potential that India and international markets offer and grow the Lubricant business profitability."

the Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk and spreading awareness about Retinoblastoma. We also acknowledge the support received from Aroh – Giving Hope, an NGO working for children with Cancer and their families."

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

LV Prasad Eye Institute Organizes a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk

Vijayawada. Celebrity actor, Mr Sabyasachi Mishra, will be flagging off the walk.

Whitathon is L V Prasad Eye Institute's annual cause-related event focusing on raising awareness and funds for early diagnosis and treatment of Retinoblastoma – a Life and Vision-threatening Eye Cancer in Children. One of the most common

symptoms of Retinoblastoma is White Reflex (white glow) in a child's eye. Through this walk, LVPEI aims to raise awareness among the public that if they spot a 'White Reflex' in a child's eye, it could be a sign of eye cancer that needs immediate medical intervention. Hence, the event is named 'Whitathon'.

Dr Devyoti Tripathy,

Ocular Oncologist, Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar, L V Prasad Eye Institute said, "Our aim is to raise awareness about early detection and treatment of retinoblastoma eye cancer in children. No child should die of eye cancer because of lack of awareness and treatment. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Sabyasachi Mishra for joining us for



'Be nice, disciplined and make run-making difficult' - Bumrah's message to the team

New Delhi: India romped to a massive 295-run win on Monday (November 25) over Australia in Perth, outperforming the hosts in all facets of the game. But at the innings break on Day 1, it looked all doom and gloom for the visitors as the batting order collapsed to be bowled out for 150. It began to raise questions on whether India would pose a noteworthy challenge to Australia Down Under. And they did more than that, as the bowlers led by Jasprit Bumrah had Australia on the mat in the first innings, bowling them out for 104.

Bumrah said that he passed on the message to his bowlers to be accurate in line and length and not be too desperate to go for wickets. Debutant Harshit Rana and Mohammed Siraj paid heed to their skipper's words, and by the end of Day 1, the trio had picked up seven wickets for only 67 runs.

"The message was that sometimes when you are

bowled out for a lower score, you can be a little too desperate and you could go pole hunting. So that was the message that when you try too much over here, it doesn't really help and the run-scoring goes high."

"So the message was, we will be nice and disciplined and we will make run-making as difficult as we can. Because that is what has worked in the past over here as well. And when we are able to do that, that gives us a lot of success."

He credited the bowlers as well for finding the right lengths and not getting distracted with the extra bounce on offer on Australian decks. The bowlers stuck to bowling at a little fuller than the back-of-a-length mark and weren't induced to bowl short to the batters.

"Usually in Perth, there could be a scenario where when we come from India, the bounce is not as prominent as what is here. So you tend to bowl a little

short, you can get excited by the bounce and you can't find the length. It looks good when you bowl a back of length delivery and the batsman gets beaten, but the batsman is still there."

"So you have to find the right length. And as I said, we knew that if you make them play more, there is enough in the wicket to give us assistance. So we were focussing on our strengths. We, as a bowling unit, do get a lot of dismissals with bowled LB(W) and caught behind. So we realised that you have to stick to your strengths and find the right length over here. And we were able to do that."

Bumrah led India to a historic win in Perth in only his second Test match as captain, leading from the front with the ball in hand. He ended the match with figures of 8 for 72 and was duly named as the Player of the Match. He was pleased with his first win as captain and always banked on providing his insights to the team in case



of any pressure situations. "Obviously, a special win, first win as a captain. Very happy about that. And more happy with the performance of the team. That yes, we were put under pressure and then the character was shown. Obviously, whenever tough scenarios come, I look at myself and how can I contribute. Even when I am not the captain. So whenever tough scenarios are there, I look at answers that... Okay, if I am going to

bowl at this moment, what can I do? So in this moment, we were a new side. "So I automatically wanted to put myself in tough scenarios whenever we needed to do something. I was trying to put myself in that tough scenario to make the job a little bit easier for the new guys coming in. Because it is not very easy in the first go to take a lot of responsibility." In the post match interview with the official broadcaster, Bumrah

Bumrah added that he wanted his team to have faith in themselves after India's first innings and emphasised that if a player has faith in themselves, special outcomes can be achieved. He also credited the 10-12 day preparation camp India had leading into the first Test which allowed them to also get acclimated with the conditions.

"Yeah, very happy with the beginning you know, we were put under pressure in the first innings but the way we responded after that, I'm really proud of the team. I played here in 2018 so I remembered that when you start here the wicket is a little soft and it becomes quicker and quicker later. Obviously, this wicket was a little less spicy than the last one I played on here. But we were really well prepared so I was just telling everyone to have faith in their process and ability because over here at this moment, we had an opportunity to do something special. So on a given day, experience

does matter but if you have faith in your ability, you can do something special."

He briefly touched on opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and deemed his 161 as the batter's best Test hundred so far. He credited the change in technique after Jaiswal was dismissed for a duck in the first innings and how he curbed his attacking nature and strokeplay.

"Jaiswal, I think out of all his innings, he has had a great start to his career but the last innings was probably his best Test innings so far. He left the ball, he has an attacking nature but he left the ball well and played long." Virat Kohli was the second centurion for India with his 30th Test ton and despite a string of poor scores, Bumrah sided with the batter and said you can't judge a batter's form completely if they play on challenging wickets and the skipper hopes that this knock helps Kohli build confidence leading up to the remaining Tests.

RCB's latest overseas star Jacob Bethell handed England Test debut vs New Zealand

London: England's young all-rounder Jacob Bethell is set to make his much-anticipated Test debut against New Zealand in the opening match of the three-Test series at Hagley Oval on Thursday. The 21-year-old, who bats left-handed and bowls left-arm spin, has been drafted into the XI at number three, marking his first appearance at that position in first-class cricket.

Bethell's Test debut comes on the heels of his lucrative acquisition by the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the IPL auction. Purchased for ₹2.6 crore, Bethell drew bidding interest from Sunrisers Hyderabad and Punjab Kings before RCB secured his services. His



hard-hitting abilities and versatility make him a valuable addition to the star-studded franchise. Bethell's inclusion comes as part of a reshuffled England side, with regular wicketkeeper Jordan Cox sidelined due to a thumb injury. Ollie Pope will don the gloves, batting at number six, while Bethell slots into the pivotal first-drop position ahead of veteran Joe Root, who is set to play his 150th Test.

Born in Barbados and now representing England, Bethell has been turning heads with his explosive performances in limited-overs cricket. The left-handed batter recently showcased his potential during England's T20I series against the West Indies, where he struck two half-centuries, raising his T20I tally to 173 runs

at an impressive average of 57.66 and a strike rate of 167.96 across seven matches.

His domestic T20 stats are equally promising, with 909 runs from 52 matches at a strike rate of 142.47, including six half-centuries. Despite these accomplishments, the transition to the longest format poses a fresh challenge for Bethell, who averages 25.44 in first-class cricket and is yet to score a century in any format.

England's Test line-up reflects adjustments prompted by Cox's injury. Pope, who has prior experience as a wicketkeeper in Tests, will temporarily fill the role until a specialist replacement arrives from the UK. Bethell's

promotion to number three reshapes the batting order, maintaining stability for the rest of the lineup, which remains unchanged from the series finale against Pakistan in October.

With a green-top wicket expected in Christchurch, England has overhauled its bowling attack to capitalize on the conditions. The team hopes that Bethell's debut, alongside the experienced core led by Root and Pope, will set a strong tone for the series. England team: Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Jacob Bethell, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ollie Pope, Ben Stokes (captain), Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Brydon Carse, Shaib Bashir.

Speaking via an official press release, Jindal said that both players will guide the junior members of the team and will be expected to captain the side next season. The

franchise signed 9 players on Day 1 of the IPL mega auction buying superstars like Mitchell Starc, Harry Brook and KL Rahul. The team also activated the Right To Match (RTM) card for Jake Fraser-McGurk at Rs 9 crore.

"We were looking for stability in the top order, someone with experience who can build the innings. And, I think KL Rahul, given his record in the IPL, he's someone who's consistently given more than 400 runs every season. I think with the Kotla wicket, it is going to suit his game. We're very excited to have him," Parth Jindal said after the auction.

"We have a very young batting lineup. Both KL and Axar are going to lead them and are going

to guide them. KL's batting and experience will be a vital cog in the wheel," he further explained.

Full list of sold and unsold players on Day 1 of IPL auction 2025

Englishman Harry Brook was snapped up for Rs 6.25 crore, while Indian players T Natarajan and Karun Nair were acquired for Rs 10.75 crore and Rs 50 lakh, respectively, in the latter half of the day.

Delhi Capitals also acquired the services of domestic players Sameer Rizvi (Rs 95 lakh) and Ashutosh Sharma (Rs 3.80 crore) respectively along with experienced pacer Mohit Sharma (Rs 2.20 crore).

Jindal confirmed that DC will hunt for more bowlers on Day 2 of the IPL auction.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi's father quashes age fraud rumours after historic IPL deal

New Delhi: Vaibhav Suryavanshi made history by becoming the youngest player ever in the history of the tournament. Following his record-breaking bid, Vaibhav's father Sanjiv Suryavanshi quashed all rumours surrounding his age fraud.

India batter Vaibhav Suryavanshi etched his name in the history books as he became the youngest player to be sold in the history of IPL auction on Monday, November 25 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Suryavanshi was sold for a whopping Rs 1.10 crore to Rajasthan Royals (RR) after an intense bidding war with Delhi Capitals (DC). Hence, the 13-year-old

will be seen playing in the grandest T20 league being the youngest player ever in the history of the tournament. Following his record-breaking bid, Vaibhav's father Sanjiv was elated with his son's achievement and also quashed rumours of any age fraud being done by him giving open challenge for age test.

"When he was 8 and half years old he first appeared for BCCI bone test. He has already played India U-19. We don't fear anyone. He can again undergo age test," Sanjiv told PTI.

Born in Samastipur, Bihar, Suryavanshi recently hit the fastest



hundred by an Indian in Under-19 Tests, achieving the milestone against the Australia Under-19 team at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai in October 2024. The 13-year-old smashed his hundred in just 58 balls in

Earlier, in January 2024, he became the fourth-youngest Indian to make his debut in a recorded first-class match at the age of 12 years and 284 days in the Ranji Trophy 2023-24 against Mumbai. His father hailed his son's achievement calling him the 'son of Bihar'. He also recalled days of hardships as he stood beside his son in his formative years.

Suryavanshi will be guided by Rahul Dravid in Rajasthan. "Woh ab sirf humra bitwa nahi pura Bihar ka bitwa hai. (He is not just my son now but entire Bihar's son). My son has worked hard. At the age of 8 years, he

excelled at U-16 district trials. I would take him for his cricket coaching to Samastipur and then take him back," he added. "Not just investment, it's big investment. Aapko kya bataye humne toh apna zameen tak bech diya. Abhi bhi halat pura sudhra nahi (I have sold my land. Financial issues are still there)," he further said.

Meanwhile, Suryavanshi will get to work with one of the finest minds of Indian cricket, Rahul Dravid, who returned to the Rajasthan Royals as their head coach. He will get to share the dressing room with Sanju Samson, Dhruv Jurel, Riyan Parag, Jofra Archer among others.