

SC overturns 1967 judgment denying AMU minority status

New Delhi(KCN): In a 4:3 decision a seven-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court Friday overruled its 1967 judgment which had laid down that Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), being a Central varsity, cannot claim to be a minority institution. "The view taken in the 1967 Azeez Basha case that an educational institution is not established by a minority if it derives its legal character through a statute is overruled," ruled the Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud-led Constitution Bench. It added that a regular Bench should decide the question of the minority status of AMU and correctness of the 2006 decision passed by the Allahabad High Court, striking down the 1981 amendment conferring minority status on the varsity, in view of the principles laid down in its



latest judgment.

The majority opinion, concurred by Justices Sanjiv Khanna, J.B. Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, and SC Sharma, said that the regulation of minority educational institutions is permissible under Article 19(6), however, those regulations should not impinge upon the minority character of the institution. It said, "Regulations, which may be justified on grounds stipulated under Articles 19(6) and 26, may fall foul to Article 30 if they infringe upon the

minority character of the institution. This is a special right/protection which the Constitution guarantees to minority educational institutions." The majority opined that Article 30 guarantees minority educational institutions the right not to be discriminated and in fact, Article 30(2) is the facet of the non-discrimination of minorities.

It further said, "An educational institution established by any citizen can be regulated under Article 19(6). An

educational institution established by a religious denomination without any element of profit can be regulated on grounds of public order, morality and health. As opposed to these two provisions, Article 30 does not circumscribe the right on any grounds. However, the right guaranteed under Article 30 is not absolute."

Justices Surya Kant, J.B. Pardiwala, Dipankar Datta and SC Sharma wrote separate and dissenting opinions.

In February this year, the

seven-judge Constitution Bench, reserved its decision after finishing hearing of the oral arguments advanced by Attorney General Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, the senior law officers representing the Centre and senior advocates Rajiv Dhawan, Kapil Sibal, and others, appearing for the appellants.

The Constitution Bench was dealing with a reference arising out of the 2006 decision passed by the Allahabad High Court, striking down the 1981 amendment conferring minority status on the institution.

The Parliament, by virtue of the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981 conferred minority status on the institution after a five-judge Constitution Bench in the 1967 Azeez Basha case had laid down that AMU, being a Central university, cannot claim to be a minority institution.

Odisha govt approves 15 projects with investment of Rs 3,353.15 crores



Bhubaneswar, Nov 08(KCN):

The Odisha government has taken a significant stride in advancing industrial growth by approving 15 major projects with a combined investment of ₹ 3,353.15 crores.

These approvals were

approved during the 132nd State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) meeting, chaired by Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja. Expected to generate over 4,637 job opportunities, these projects will play a vital role in the socio-economic development of Odisha.

The newly approved projects cover a range of high-impact sectors, underscoring Odisha's commitment to creating a diverse industrial ecosystem.

The proposed investments are in chemical/renewable energy, steel downstream, aluminium downstream, food processing, manufacturing, textile & apparel, tourism, pharmaceuticals, and cement sectors.

These projects will be implemented in several districts, including Koraput, Khordha, Baragarh, Puri, Cuttack, and Jharsuguda.

In the chemical and renewable energy sector, Nextrermal Asia Private Limited will set up a

manufacturing unit in Khurda, providing essential components to downstream steel industries, supported by an investment of ₹ 55.81 crores and generating 132 jobs.

Odisha's food processing sector continues to attract investment, with projects

by Bhuvaneshwari Foods and Beverages Private Limited, Aban Beverages Private Limited, Geofast Consumer Products Private Limited, and Avira Distillery Pvt Ltd. These projects, located in Khurda, Baragarh, and Cuttack, total investments of nearly ₹ 1,542.04 crores and are expected to create over 1,358 jobs. The introduction of these food and beverage production units strengthens Odisha's reputation as a hub for food processing, a sector that plays a vital role in rural development and employment generation.

In the textile & apparel sector, Odisha Textile Manufacturing Private Limited is establishing a facility in Khurda to manufacture recycled yarns from textile waste. This initiative, valued at ₹ 51.80 crores and expected to create 535 jobs, highlights the state's commitment to sustainable practices within the textile industry.

India deserves to be in list of global superpowers: Putin



ancient culture and very

good prospects for further growth," he said. Calling India a great country, Putin said: "We are developing relations with India in all directions. India is a great country, now the largest in terms of population: 1.5 billion people, plus 10 million every year."

He said India is leading the world in economic

growth.

"Our vision of where and at what pace our relations will develop is based on today's realities. The volume of our cooperation is increasing many times over, every year," Putin was quoted by Russian news agency Tass as saying.

Putin added that the contacts between India and Russia in the security and defence sphere are

developing. "Look at how many types of Russian military equipment are in service with the Indian armed forces. There is a great degree of trust in this relationship. We don't just sell our weapons to India; we design them jointly," he said. Putin named the BrahMos cruise missile project as an example. "In fact, we made it [the missile] fit for use in three environments – in air, in sea and on land. These projects, conducted for the benefit of India's security, are ongoing," he said.

"This is widely known

and no one has issues with that, but these projects demonstrate a

high level of mutual trust and cooperation. So this is what we will keep doing in the near term, and, I hope, will continue to do in the more distant future," he said.

Putin acknowledged certain difficulties on the border between India and China, the agency reported.

However, he said wise and competent people who keep the future of their nations in mind, are searching for compromises and will eventually find them.

"If this approach continues to gain momentum, compromises can be found, and they will be found," Putin said.

In his address, CJI Chandrachud recounted his journey, from sitting in the last row of the court as a young law student to his time on the revered corridors of the top court. He reflected on the immense privilege of serving the country, emphasising that each day spent in the court was an opportunity to learn and grow in both legal knowledge and personal insight.

"You asked me what keeps me going. It is this court which has kept me going, because there is not a single day when you feel that you have not learned something, that you have not had an opportunity to serve the society.

"And there is no greater feeling than being able to serve those in need and the people you would never meet, people you possibly do not even know, people whose lives you have the ability to affect without ever having seen them," a visibly emotional CJI said.

Misra, noting the camaraderie and diversity of perspectives that enriched their collective work. The CJI also expressed his confidence in the future of the court, reassuring the legal community that his successor, Justice Khanna, whom he described as "dignified, stable and deeply committed to justice", would lead the court with equal dedication and vision.

In a heartfelt conclusion, CJI Chandrachud expressed his gratitude to everyone who contributed to his journey — senior advocates, juniors, officers and staff — acknowledging that each one of them played a role in shaping his understanding of the law and life.

He also extended an apology for any unintentional errors or misunderstandings, saying, "If I have ever hurt anyone, I seek your

forgiveness."

Justice Khanna wished good luck to the CJI, saying, "He has made my task easy and tough. Easy because of the revolutions ushered in and tough because I cannot walk up to him. He will be sorely missed.

His youthfulness is not known here only but also abroad. In Australia, there were so many who came to me and asked what his age was."

Sibal described the CJI as "the extraordinary son of an extraordinary father". "I have practised in this court for 52 years now and in my life, I have never seen a judge with the kind of limitless patience that you have, the ever smiling Dr Chandrachud," the SCBA president said.

"What can I say about you as a human being and you as a judge? As a judge, your conduct was exemplary. No one can

match it. You reached out to communities in this country who were never heard before, who were not seen before. You brought them before you and showed what dignity meant for them," he added.

"Be it liberty, be it fraternity, be it life, be it the life of ordinary, marginalised challenged people, you have, unlike your father, dealt with this

court when the court was tumultuous. You have dealt with the court when matters were tumultuous. You took them head on, unafraid of the consequences. Your greatest legacy to this

court that there will be none like you...." he said. Former attorney general K K Venugopal

recounted his experience and said, "When your father asked me should I advise him (Justice Chandrachud) to continue at the bar or

No greater feeling than serving those in need: Outgoing CJI DY Chandrachud



New Delhi(KCN): There was no greater feeling than being able to serve those in need and people he never knew or met, Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said on his last working day as the 50th head of the Indian judiciary Friday.

Heading a four-judge ceremonial bench, also comprising CJI-designate Sanjiv Khanna, Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, which assembled to bid him farewell, the CJI expressed a deep sense of fulfilment, not only for the work accomplished but for the opportunity to serve the country.

Justice Chandrachud stepped into the shoes of his illustrious father Y V Chandrachud, who served as the longest CJI between 1978 and 1985, on November 9, 2022 and will be demitting office November 10, a Sunday.

Opposition slams BJP for oppressing the farmers by inflicting double fine for stubble burning

Chandigarh (JAG MOHANTHAKEN), November 8 (KCN): The congress and Aam Aadmi Party have slammed the BJP led central government for imposing double fine on farmers for stubble burning.

The General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, former Union Minister, and MP from Sirsa, Kumari Selja, said that instead of working in the interest of the farmers, the BJP government is focused on oppressing and exploiting them. Farmers are being fined and cases are being registered against them in various places. On one hand, farmers

are facing hardships in the markets, and on the other, the central government has now decided to double the fine for stubble burning. The Congress condemns this decision by the Centre. The government should encourage farmers instead of harassing them so that they can find alternative ways to increase their income without burning crop residue. In a statement released to the media, Kumari Selja said that farmers are still struggling to fight for their rights, and 750 farmers have lost their lives in this struggle. Instead of listening to their concerns, the

government is engaged in repressive policies to oppress and exploit them. She said that stubble burning is not a recent issue; it has been happening for years. There is no doubt that stubble burning increases air pollution. The government should create a system so that farmers do not have to burn stubble. By utilizing stubble, the government can produce electricity. If the government wishes, it can set up stubble purchasing centres at the district level and dispose of the stubble at its own level. Selja added that the government cannot shirk its responsibility by imposing fines on

those who burn stubble or by registering cases against them. Following strict remarks from the Supreme Court on the issue of air pollution caused by stubble burning, the central government has now taken out its frustration on farmers by deciding to double the fine for stubble burning. On Thursday, the Ministry of Environment issued a notification to double the penalty amount. Now, a fine of ₹5,000 will be imposed on landowners with less than two acres, ₹10,000 for two to five acres, and ₹30,000 for those with more than five acres. The governments of Uttar

Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Delhi will be required to implement these rules. Kumari Selja said that the government should refrain from registering cases against farmers. On the other hand, by suspending agricultural department officials and employees who are unable to prevent stubble burning, the government seeks to avoid the Supreme Court's strictness. She said that the government needs to formulate a solid strategy for stubble management, rather than solely blaming farmers. The government should also reflect on its own

responsibilities. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has also strongly criticised the Central Government's decision to double the fine for stubble burning. AAP senior leader and spokesperson Neel Garg stated that farmers in Punjab are already facing financial hardship, and now, on top of that, the Central Government has significantly reduced over the past three years. If the Centre had provided the requested financial support, these incidents would have dropped even further. However, instead of offering help, the Centre has imposed a fine. Garg further stated that Punjab's farmers are seeking resources for

stubble management and even want alternatives to paddy cultivation. If there was a guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for alternative crops, they would stop growing paddy altogether. However, the Centre is neither purchasing crops at the MSP rate nor providing any alternative options. He criticized the move to double the fine, calling it a method to harass and intimidate the farmers of Punjab. He appealed to the Central Government to stop troubling farmers and instead offer support, as these are the same farmers who fill the country's grain reserves, feeding people across the nation.

Strict Action Taken to Protect Olive Ridley Turtles : 13 Detained, Trawler Seized



Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau/Prasar Khuntia): In a decisive action to combat illegal fishing in restricted marine zones officials from the Astarang Forest Range with support from the Odisha police have detained 13 fishermen and seized a trawler for violating marine protections put in place to safeguard the endangered Olive Ridley turtles. Since the beginning of November, illegal trawling activities have been reported in areas under the Astarang Forest Range posing a serious threat to the turtles' crucial breeding season. The trawler identified as Sarba

Mangala-7 was seized in restricted waters near Gangadevi. The operation was led by Astarang Forest Range Officer Monalisa Mohapatra with support from the Odisha police force. The seized vessel has been transferred to the Marine Fisheries Department at the Astarang fishing harbour for further investigation and enforcement. The restricted marine zone extending 20 kilometers from the coastline is part of an annual six-month conservation initiative that runs from November to May. During this period the Odisha Marine Fishing Regulation Act

(OMFRA) of 1982 imposes strict restrictions on the movement of motorized trawlers and fishing boats to protect the Olive Ridley turtle population which faces habitat disruptions during its breeding season. Under notification no. 1894/04.12.2005 the Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Department has emphasized that all mechanical fishing activities including the movement of motorized trawlers are strictly prohibited within these designated waters throughout the breeding period. To ensure compliance the Forest Department, Marine

Fisheries Department, State Police and Coast Guard have been mobilized to enforce these regulations rigorously. The Odisha government's stringent approach this year underscores the importance of conserving marine biodiversity and maintaining the region's ecological balance. Authorities have reaffirmed their commitment to upholding OMFRA regulations warning that violators will face legal consequences and their equipment and vessels may be confiscated if they encroach upon protected waters.

Melodious songs in Deepawali programme



Kolkata Nov. 8 (KCN): Calcutta Citizens Initiative and Concern for Calcutta organised Deepawali Preeti Sammelan at Niharika Hotel with its Hall packed with audience. Joeeta Basu

and Pinky Saha mesmerised the people with their melodious songs and Ghazals from old as well as new films. OP Jhunjhunwala President of Concern for Calcutta as well as Narayan Jain President

Calcutta Citizens Initiative welcomed all guests and said that Deepawali is a festival of spreading affection among all. Bratati Bhattacharya, B.G. Roy, Dr. Purnendu Roy, Shri Ratan Jhawar,

Soumyashankar Roy also joined the singing team. All appreciated. KN Gupta thanked all. Rajendra Khandelwal, Deepak Jain, Sushil Poddar and many senior members actively participated.



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Biodiversity will not be saved by empty words



The biodiversity we see around us has taken two to three billion years to develop. Excessive industrialization, consumerism, rapid unplanned agriculture and urbanization have caused the greatest damage to the ecosystem. This is before us in the form of negative changes in climate. Conservation of biodiversity is also necessary because all animals, plants and reptiles are dependent on each other. Symbiosis of different species is necessary for the balance of nature. Bio

These days, the United Nations Biodiversity Conference is going on in Cali, Colombia, a city famous for its richness in diversity. More than 12 thousand and representatives from 190 countries are participating in this event which will run till November 1. The Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), adopted in Montreal, Canada in 2022, is a major achievement towards the conservation of biodiversity. The

implementation of this treaty is being reviewed in Colombia. Kunming Montreal 23 targets have been set in the global biodiversity framework. Among these, the most important ones are to protect 30 percent biodiversity of land and sea areas and to stop plastic pollution. The GBF also mentions banning such subsidies that promote environmental pollution. This global dialogue towards environmental protection has become relevant because the consensus reached here has a direct impact on the proposed United Nations Annual Climate Conference in Azerbaijan (Will be visible in Cope-29). Species will save biodiversity from climate change. Species in land and sea creates a threat to existence. This crisis increases further as the temperature increases due to global warming. According to the United Nations, the number of species in the world is increasing by a thousand times due to climate change, more than at any other time in human history. On the other hand, there is a danger of extinction of one million species in the next few decades. Wildfires, extreme weather events, and

invasive coats and diseases are other threats related to climate change. Experts say that six species will be able to migrate and survive, but others will not, and the loss of climate diversity puts fisheries, crops and livestock at risk of extinction. This reduces their productivity. As local communities: Whatever policies are made for the conservation of biodiversity, their implementation depends on the participation of local communities. Local communities are familiar with the ecosystem and climate of that area. In such a

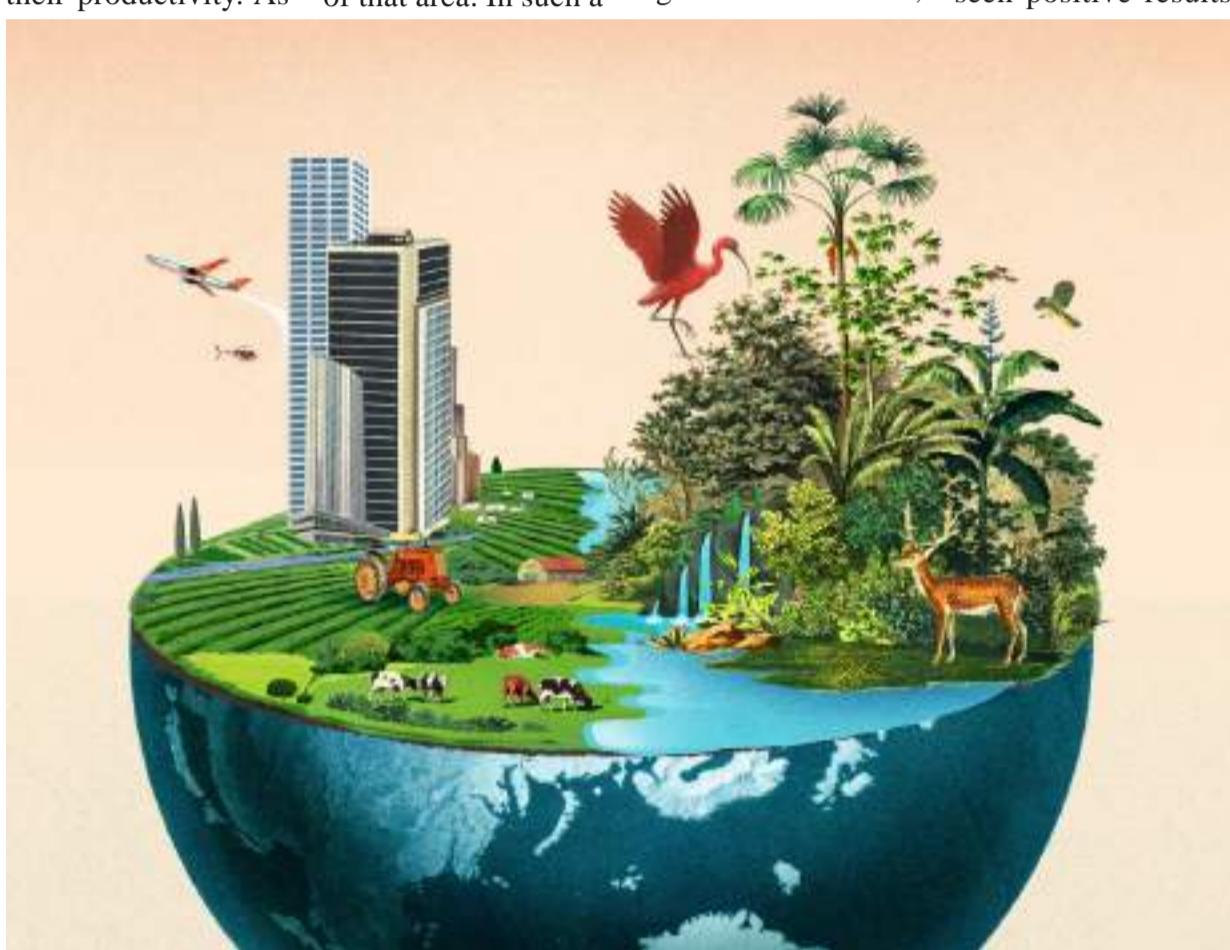
IndiaThere are 45,000 species of wild plants. Of these, 7,500 species are in medicinal use for indigenous health practices. About 3,900 plant species are used by tribals as food. Apart from these, many plants are used as wood and building material. 700 species are culturally significant from ethical, our global ethnic diversity is 8.1 percent. The Government of India has taken several steps to conserve biodiversity. While the Wildlife Protection Act passed in 1972 has proved to be a milestone in the direction of wildlife conservation, other policy initiatives have seen positive results.

tigers. India is the first country in the world to prepare a list of its complete fauna. There are a total of one lakh four thousand 561 species in this list. Marine Biodiversity Conservation The Central Government takes steps towards the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Important steps have been taken. India has signed the Convention on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) in September 2024. It is also known as High Seas Treaty, more than 100 countries have signed it. The BBNJ Treaty encourages inclusive practices in the exploitation of marine resources. The country signing it will have to properly distribute the resources obtained from the high seas area. This treaty deals with marine protected areas, marine technology, efficiency enhancement, environmental impact. Makes rules for four areas like assessment of income. The BBNJ Agreement is binding on member states under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Navigation in the maritime limits, overflight submarine operations and laying of pipelines etc. are open to all. Overall, conservation of biodiversity. Have done the work of destroying. A few decades ago, many varieties of tomatoes and chillies were grown in the fields and home gardens in the villages. In such a situation, for the conservation of biodiversity, along with policy initiatives and scientific innovation, traditions and environment-friendly practices passed on from generations will have to be promoted.

change are related to each other. In such a situation, biodiversity conservation is possible only by predicting the effects of climate change. The biggest reason for the crisis facing biodiversity is a g g r e s s i v e consumerism. There is a trend. We should not forget that if one tree is cut, the habitat of many micro-organisms is destroyed. Loss of biodiversity leads to loss of genetic diversity. A species shows great diversity at the genetic level throughout its distribution area. Many varieties of paddy in the country have now gone out of the food chain because in the competition for excessive production, we have become overly dependent on hybrid and genetically modified seeds. Dependence on a few crops has reduced biodiversity. Have done the work of destroying. A few decades ago, many varieties of tomatoes and chillies were grown in the fields and home gardens in the villages. In such a situation, for the conservation of biodiversity, along with policy initiatives and scientific innovation, traditions and environment-friendly practices passed on from generations will have to be promoted.

**Retired Principal
Educational
Columnist
MALOUT punjab**

Vijay Garg



the oceans become more acidic, the marine resources that provide food to billions of people are shrinking. Changes in ice cover in many Arctic regions have disrupted food supplies from animal husbandry, hunting, and fishing. Heat can reduce grasslands and water, reducing crop yields and affecting livestock. Priority to

situation, their traditional knowledge proves useful in the conservation of biodiversity. India has emerged as a leader in eco-friendly initiatives today, thanks to environmental awareness and ancient traditions in the communities. According to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in

cultural, religious, aesthetic and social perspectives. India shows the way India has a lot to share at the UN Summit on Biodiversity. India has advocated developing international cooperation mechanisms to promote policies, innovation, social entrepreneurship. We have 2.4 percent of the world's land area, but

These include Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Project Dolphins. These are major policy initiatives. Till the middle of the 20th century, the number of tigers in the country was continuously declining due to hunting, human activities and loss of habitat, but now India is home to more than 70 percent of the world's

Nightmares

Dr. Arijita Mukherjee Chakraborty



I was woken abruptly, checked my phone, it was 4 am. I had fallen asleep on the couch. And I had that awful dream again.

I guess, watching Delhi Crime the night before did not help. Season 1 of this crime show deals with the infamous "Nirbhaya" case, details of which I will not go into. My husband had told me not to watch it, he was concerned about my recurrent nightmares, and predicted, correctly, watching this show won't help. But I argued, the show is not fictional. This did happen. And nothing much has changed since, as far as women's safety is concerned. I do not mean to disrespect law

and college friends, my female students, my mother. I could see the conversation in our college alumni group turn sombre. We were brainstorming on how to protest. My 72 year old father was a regular at almost every protest march. He simply said, I have a daughter too. What was left unsaid, but likely felt by him, and my mother, I could have been in her place. I have never been sadder. It breaks my heart to grapple with the reality of what happened. That the culprits (at the time of writing this article) are roaming free.

I have never been prouder. Every time I was in a protest march, with our rallying cries of "We DEMAND justice", I felt goose bumps on my skin. I could almost feel the tectonic plates of power shifting. A die hard Harry Potter fan,

professionals, the young and the elderly, the specially abled, the LGBTQ community, our Rickshaw dadas. They all have been demanding justice for some time now. This time, it feels personal. I spoke to a 2nd year MBBS student, (will not reveal the name/affiliation due to privacy reasons). To quote him "As an aspiring doctor it feels me with deep pathos about how our medical system is managed....As a doctor we are barred from giving proper care to our patients which raises a sense of unfathomable anguish in our hearts.... The saddest part of it is the common people at the end blame us for all the issues in treatment." I also spoke to someone who has finished her MBBS, is currently working as a medical officer in the Department of Neurosurgery at a

reputed private hospital in Kolkata. She wishes to pursue surgery, probably general surgery, for her specialization. A male dominated field isn't it, I ask her. Yes, she agrees, but I love surgery. The hours are brutal, the day we speak, she is back from a 36 hour shift after a gruelling OT. But I really enjoy it, I am learning so much, she says excitedly.

I am almost hesitant to bring up Abhaya, I don't want to make her sad again, it has not been an easy time for them. But I have to ask. Do you wish to leave West Bengal? After whatever happened. Her answer surprises me. I enjoy working here, I have never felt unsafe. Especially in surgery, there is always a team present. To handle emergency cases throughout the night. She is the only girl in her team, but that hasn't bothered her. My

seniors and colleagues are helpful. I enjoy working here.

Her words give me hope. If I really had a wand, I am sure I would have cast some kind of protective spell around her.

We just celebrated Durga Pujo and Kali Pujo. The Goddess Ma Kali always appealed to me more. As somewhat of a rebel myself, I always found her to be a refreshing change from the patriarchal view of how a woman should behave. Hot headed, emotional, with a dark complexion that mirrors the night, she wears a garland of heads around her neck, the heads of demons she vanquished. At her feet, lies Shiva, attempting to cool her down so she doesn't destroy the whole universe in her rage. As legend has it.

I am not sure what the future holds. Will Abhaya's parents, who lost everything on that fateful day, at least get

justice? Get the closure they deserve?

Will the junior doctors be able to achieve the changes they have been fighting for?

Will society realize the root cause of such crimes lie embedded in deep rooted patriarchy? The fact that even today, in some "educated families" people lament the birth of a girl child? Will the city become safer for women?

For the sake of my 14 month old, and his generation of kids, for the sake of the young, brilliant students I am privileged to mentor, for the sake of the doctors selflessly fighting for change...I hope things will change. Till then, I will just have to get used to the recurrent nightmares.

The author is a kolkata based writer & columnist

Mr. Ratan Tata's personality is an inspiration to many generations



Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

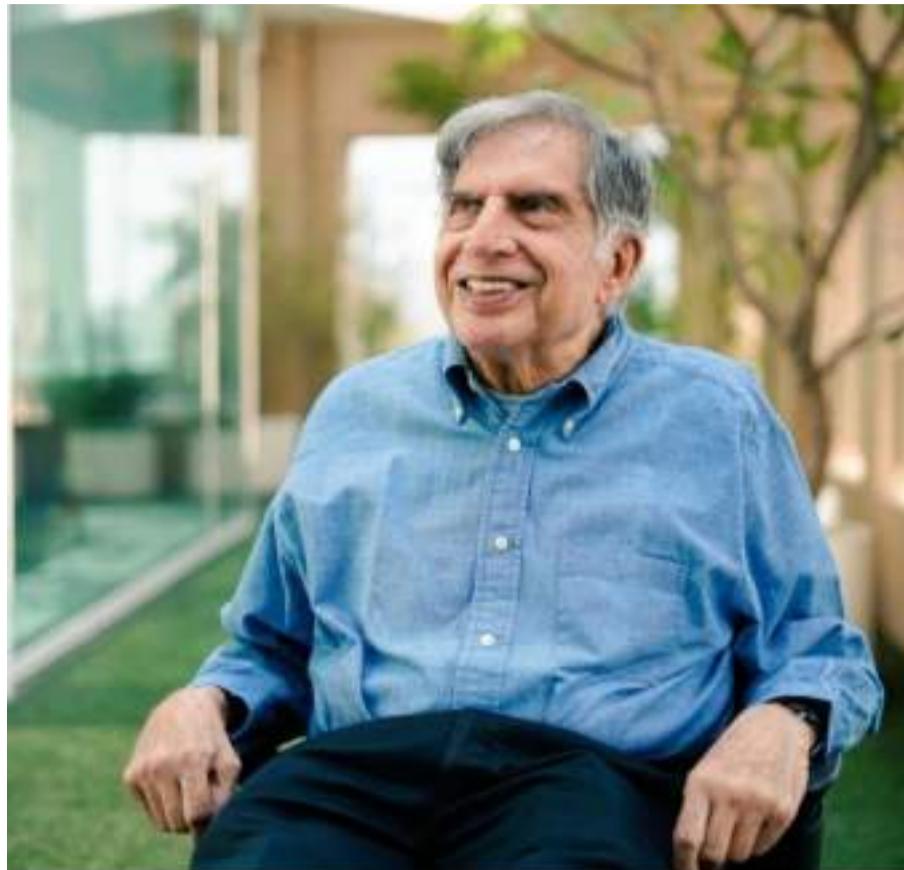
It has been a month since Shri Ratan Tata Ji left us. From bustling cities and towns to villages, his absence is deeply felt across every segment of society. Seasoned industrialists, budding entrepreneurs and hardworking professionals mourn his loss. Those passionate about the environment and devoted to philanthropy are equally saddened. His absence has been deeply felt not only across the nation but also around the world. For the youth, Shri Ratan Tata was an inspiration, a reminder that dreams are worth pursuing and that success can coexist with compassion as well as humility. For others, he represented the finest

traditions of Indian enterprise and a steadfast commitment to the values of integrity, excellence and service. Under his leadership, the Tata Group ascended to new heights, embodying respect, honesty and credibility worldwide. Despite this, he wore his achievements lightly, with humility and kindness.

Shri Ratan Tata's unwavering support for the dreams of others was one of his most defining qualities. In recent years, he became known for mentoring India's StartUp ecosystem, investing in many promising ventures. He understood the hopes and aspirations of young entrepreneurs and recognised the potential they had to shape India's future. By backing their efforts, he empowered a generation of dreamers to take bold risks and push boundaries. This has gone a long way in creating a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, which I am confident will

continue to positively impact India for decades to come.

He constantly championed excellence, urging Indian enterprises to set global benchmarks. This vision, I hope, will inspire our future leaders to make India synonymous with world-class quality. His greatness was not restricted to the boardroom or helping fellow humans. His compassion extended to all living beings. His deep love for animals was well-known and he supported every possible effort focused on animal welfare. He often shared photos of his dogs, who were as much a part of his life as any business venture. His life was a reminder to us all that true leadership is measured not just by one's achievements, but by one's ability to care for the most vulnerable. For crores of Indians, Shri Ratan Tata's patriotism shone brightest in times of crisis. His swift reopening of the iconic Taj Hotel in



Mumbai after the 26/11 terror attacks was a rallying call to the nation—India stands united, refusing to yield to terrorism.

On a personal note, I had the privilege of knowing him very closely over the

years. We worked closely in Gujarat, where he invested extensively, including in many of the projects was very passionate about. Just a few weeks ago, I was in Vadodara with the President of the

Government of Spain, Mr. Pedro Sánchez and we jointly inaugurated an aircraft complex where C-295 aircrafts would be made in India. It was Shri Ratan Tata who started working on this. Needless to say, Shri Ratan Tata's

presence was greatly missed. I remember Shri Ratan Tata Ji as a man of letters—he would frequently write to me on various issues, be it matters of governance, expressing appreciation for government support, or sending congratulatory wishes after electoral victories.

Our close interactions continued when I moved to the Centre and he remained a committed partner in our nation-building efforts. Shri Ratan Tata's support for the Swachh Bharat Mission was particularly close to my heart.

He was a vocal advocate of this mass movement, understanding that cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation are vital for India's progress. I still remember his heartfelt video message for the Swachh Bharat Mission's tenth anniversary at the start of October. It was among his final public appearances.

Another cause close to his heart was healthcare and

especially the fight against cancer. I recall the programme in Assam two years ago, where we had jointly inaugurated various cancer hospitals in the state.

In his remarks that time, he had categorically stated that he wishes to dedicate his final years to healthcare. His efforts to make health and cancer care accessible and affordable were rooted in a profound empathy for those battling diseases, believing that a just society was one that stood by its most vulnerable.

As we remember him today, we are reminded of the society he envisioned—where business can serve as a force for good, where every individual's potential is valued and where progress is measured in the well-being and happiness of all. He remains alive in the lives he touched and the dreams he nurtured. Generations will be grateful to him for making India a better, kinder and more hopeful place.

THE TRUMP EFFECT ON INDIA'S ECONOMY.



Donald Trump and the Republican Party have secured control of the White House and the US Senate, with the potential to capture the House of Representatives, following a decisive victory in the 2024 US Presidential Election. The Trump's policy agenda to gain more momentum following this Republican "clean sweep".

Trump's trade position is characterized by "America First," and his tariff strategy may provide challenges for Indian companies that depend significantly on the U.S. market. His prior administration was characterized by designating India a "tariff king" and condemning what he saw as inequitable trade policies. In recent statements, Trump reiterated his intention to establish a "reciprocal tax" system if re-elected, which may substantially affect Indian exports, especially in industries such as IT, pharmaceuticals, and textiles.

The United States is India's foremost

export market, and the application of tariffs might jeopardize India's trade balance and affect these industries.

There is a possibility that the immigration policy of Trump would provide difficulties for Indian professionals, especially those working in the technology industry. Additionally, during his first term, the H-1B visa program was subject to additional limitations, which had a disproportionately negative effect on talented Indian workers. President Trump's "hire American" policy, which aims to prevent the displacement of American workers by requiring higher wages and more stringent eligibility conditions for visa holders, has sparked a number of ideas.

The tightening of visa requirements might put pressure on India's technology industry and restrict the access of the Indian workforce to opportunities headquarter in the United States. On the other hand, Trump's unconventional approach to international alliances has the potential to change the dynamics of cooperation.

President Trump has shown skepticism regarding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and multilateral defence pacts, which suggests that he may approach military

Varun Kesavan

partnerships with discretion. Yet, owing to a shared emphasis on the Indo-Pacific area, India and the United States may still be able to flourish in

transfers, which would strengthen India's military capabilities at a time when regional threats are increasing.

India will benefit from

Indian metal exports. On the other hand, the possibility of pricing volatility attributable to interruptions in global commerce might impact the long-



"Howdy Modi" and "Namaste Trump" displaying the friendship, the military cooperation between the United States and India intensified during the previous term of President Trump. With programs such as the Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) framework, defence

cooperation continued throughout Biden's administration. However, Trump's unconventional approach to international alliances has the potential to change the dynamics of cooperation.

President Trump has shown skepticism regarding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and multilateral defence pacts, which suggests that he may approach military

defence cooperation. In light of the fact that both countries are working to curb China's influence in the area, it is very probable that defence sales, technology transfers, and joint exercises will continue to be essential components of this relationship. Should Trump adopt a more protectionist defence strategy, India may need to exercise caution in managing defence agreements with the United States.

The Quad, consisting of the United States of America, India, Japan, and Australia, effectively counterbalances China. It is possible that a Trump administration will advocate for further weapons sales and technological

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emphasis on energy exports during his first term in office, notably liquefied natural gas (LNG), which India is a large importer of. The expansion of this connection could potentially meet India's energy requirements and strengthen ties with the United States.

With regard to technology, the measures that Trump has implemented to lessen dependence on Chinese technology companies, particularly in the areas of telecommunications and cybersecurity, are congruent with India's own efforts to restrict the influence of China.

Under a Trump administration, it may be beneficial for India to work together on

developing technologies such as 5G, cybersecurity, and space. This is particularly true if the United States seeks to expand its ties in Asia. There is a range of possible outcomes for India in the event that Trump wins the election in the United States in 2024.

However, on the one hand, the relationship between Trump and Modi, as well as their shared worries over China, generate agreement in the areas of defense, energy, and technology. India's participation in the "China Plus One" policy paves the way for more opportunities for investment and trade diversification,

particularly for American businesses that are working to lessen their reliance on China.

On the other hand, the "America First" strategy that comes from President Trump offers difficulties, notably in the areas of trade and immigration. India may face pressure to alter its economic and manpower objectives due to the imposition of higher tariffs and stricter restrictions on H-1B visas. In order to strike a balance between these problems and strategic advantages, skilled diplomacy and ongoing partnership-building will be prerequisites.

The possibility of a second term for President Trump presents India with opportunities as well as challenges to rethink the relationship between the two countries. If handled well, the possibility of India emerging as a stronger partner in global commerce and security is beneficial to both countries in the midst of a transforming geopolitical environment.

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Induction of AI & emerging technologies in traditional businesses needs to create sustainable ROI

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): West Bengal is emerging as future destination of IT /ITES industries hub in India. Shri Babul Supriyo, Minister, Department of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal said West Bengal Government is coming up with Policies in Global Capability Centre (GCC) and Semiconductor in coming months while speaking at 23rd edition of ICT East organised by CII Eastern Region in Kolkata, on 7th November 2024.

23rd ICT East of CII (ER) had theme "Leveraging Emerging Technologies, Achieving Social Good"

The Minister highlighted West Bengal is aspiring to be the next IT hub in India by offering a series incentives to investors. The Minister highlighted the recent exemption of working hours from 8.5 hours to 9 hours for IT and ITES companies in the State, is helping the companies to increase their revenue. Furthermore, The Minister mentioned West Bengal Government is making efforts to address all challenges faced by IT / ITES companies.

The Minister called upon entrepreneurs operating in IT /ITES industries to act as Ambassador of IT sector of the state.

Mr Rajeev Kumar, IPS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of IT & Electronics, Govt. of West Bengal, emphasized that



(L-R) Sajid Hussain, Manojit Sengupta, Babul Supriyo, Prosenjit Sengupta, Madan Mohan Chakraborty

Tonnes Of Untreated Waste Being Dumped In Landfills In Kedarnath: RTI Query



Dehradun (KCN): Tonnes of untreated waste continues to be dumped at the landfill sites around the famous Himalayan temple of Kedarnath, causing concern as the area is eco-sensitive.

A total of 49.18 tonnes of unprocessed garbage generated in Kedarnath was dumped at the two landfill sites near the temple between 2022 and 2024, an RTI query filed by a non-governmental environmentalist has revealed.

The non-processed garbage generated in the area also showed a rising trend during the period, with 13.2 tonnes of untreated waste generated

in 2022, 18.48 tonnes in 2023 and 17.5 tonnes so far this year, according to the Uttarakhand government's response to the query filed under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

Besides, the eco-sensitive area also generated 23.3 tonnes of inorganic garbage during the period. However, all of it was processed or recycled, the public information officer of the Kedarnath Nagar Panchayat said in response to the RTI query filed by Amit Gupta.

"The RTI data is shocking both in terms of the quantity of garbage generated and the manner in which it has been left untreated. It proves once again that there is no proper garbage management system in Kedarnath, which is an eco-sensitive area," Mr Gupta said.

"The temple is situated at a height of 12,000 feet, where there are also

glaciers. The eco-sensitivity of the area is beyond doubt. The lack of a proper garbage management system in Kedarnath even figured in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat programme last year. Still, nothing is being done by the authorities on the ground to transport the plastic waste to the plains and process it," he said.

The two landfill sites near the temple are reaching their saturation point. If

things continue in this manner, another tragedy like the 2013 disaster is unavoidable, the activist said.

What makes the situation even more worrying is that the response to the RTI query claims that no complaint was registered or action taken during the period against garbage disposal in an irresponsible manner.

"I have been writing to the authorities for the last two years on the garbage issue in Kedarnath. At least half a dozen complaints have been filed by me alone," Mr Gupta said.

"The NGT and the NMCG have also taken note of my complaints. Sharing my concern, they directed the authorities to do something to rid the holy place located in the ecologically fragile Himalayas of untreated waste by setting up enough sewage treatment plants in Kedarnath," he added.

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has also written to the Rudraprayag district administration, asking it to take necessary steps to stop the rising pollution levels of the Mandakini river, which flows near the Himalayan temple.

New Delhi (KCN):

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar has condemned political leaders remarks against women and directed officials to deal sternly with violators, news agency ANI said Friday.

Sources told ANI Mr Kumar's reaction came during a review meet with district poll officers, municipal commissioners, and police chiefs before the November 20 Maharashtra election.

The Election Commission had earlier directed political parties and candidates to refrain from deeds, actions or utterances that will be repugnant to the honour and dignity of women.

Mr Kumar was reacting to controversy over comments by Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Arvind Sawant about Shaina NC, a BJP leader who joined the Shinde Sena faction to contest the election.

Mr Sawant's comment was in response to a reporter's question about Ms Shaina's chances; she will contest the Mumbadevi seat that has been held by the Congress' Amin Patel since 2009.

Responding to his remark, she said, "I am not some 'maal' (goods). I am a daughter of Mumbai... this is a crass comment by Sawant. I am a 'mahila' (woman) (and) everyone knows the Maha Vinash Aghadi (a play on the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi coalition) does not respect women."

She also slammed her rival

- Amin Patel - for smiling at the remark. "Arvind Sawant called me 'imported maal (goods)' and Amin Patel was smiling. Would he have made this remark for his sister or wife?"

"I want to ask Uddhav Sena about Sanjay Raut's statement... that there is no need to apologise because I am 'imported'. Mr Raut, if you don't have any

technology should be focused on solving problems and creating value for the citizens. Entrepreneurs are taking the first step to solve the problems through emerging technologies....and.... The draft policy of GCC and semiconductor will be coming soon, and Private Entrepreneurs must build around this Digital Public Infrastructure. The new policies will enhance the State in ICT sector.

Mr Trideb Roy, Managing Director – Public Sector, CISCO, outlined that irrespective of different segments in the technology market, Security and Artificial Intelligence are the one of the two largest drivers of demand for technology. According to a recent survey, 62 percent of the cost in the

technological companies are maintaining for sustainability goals. Sustainable AI and Data analytics will continue to empower the technology industry. Adoption of Smart agile technology is necessary for the future. Mr Manojit Sengupta, Co-Chairman, CII Eastern Region ICTE Sub-Committee highlighted that an emerging technology can be a positive booster for achieving the financial inclusion targets. He also said, "With IT infrastructure available in the State, an ecosystem and quality education facilities of students, will help to promote IT in West Bengal." AI and emerging technologies can play important role in development of MSME & Start-up sectors in West Bengal.

into a preferred IT/BPO destination. Kolkata, as the largest IT hub in Eastern India, has seen substantial developments with over 200,000 people employed directly in more than 900 IT companies. Mr Manojit Sengupta, Co-Chairman, CII Eastern Region ICTE Sub-Committee asserted that an emerging technology can be a positive booster for achieving the financial inclusion targets. He also said, "With IT infrastructure available in the State, an ecosystem and quality education facilities of students, will help to promote IT in West Bengal." AI and emerging technologies can play important role in development of MSME & Start-up sectors in West Bengal.

Poll Panel's Warning Amid Row Over Arvind Sawant's Shaina NC Comment



'maal' (goods). I am a daughter of Mumbai... this is a crass comment by Sawant. I am a 'mahila' (woman) (and) everyone knows the Maha Vinash Aghadi (a play on the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi coalition) does not respect women."

She also slammed her rival - Amin Patel - for smiling at the remark. "Arvind Sawant called me 'imported maal (goods)' and Amin Patel was smiling. Would he have made this remark for his sister or wife?"

"I want to ask Uddhav Sena about Sanjay Raut's statement... that there is no need to apologise because I am 'imported'. Mr Raut, if you don't have any

objection... it shows your mentality!"

Mr Raut had said, "There has been no insult. Arvind Sawant just said Ms Shaina had come from outside (and) if she is 'imported

maal', how is this an insult to women?", and pointed out that similar jabs have always been levelled against Congress veteran Sonia Gandhi.

Mr Sawant later claimed that he had a good equation with Shaina NC and she may have misunderstood his comment. "It refers to 'goods', but she could have misinterpreted it. I had no such intentions," he said. A police case has been registered against Mr Sawant.

The row was also picked

up on by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who this week attacked the Congress-led INDIA bloc, of which the Sena (UBT) is a member, for its silence in the matter.

The opposition used "foul language" against a woman leader", Mr Modi said in speech in Jharkhand, where too an election will be held this month.

"Mothers and daughters are in shock (and) the people will teach them a lesson," he declared, also attacking the Congress for "humiliating" Sita Soren, the sister-in-law of Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and a BJP candidate.

Education systems needs to have strong Industry linkage for Sustainable Socio-Economic growth



(L-R) Simarpreet Singh, Sandeep Kumar, Andrew A. Fleming, Ujjal Chakraborti, Madan Mohanka

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): Sustainable and inclusive education is essential for enhancing the future well-being of both communities and nations. Government, Society, education institutions and industry must work in absolute tandem. Industry must come forward to give better linkage for better academia to the students, said Dr Mamta Rani Agarwal, Additional Secretary, AIU, former Adviser, AICTE and former Joint Secretary, UGC, at the 3rd Education East Summit, organised by CII Eastern Region, in Kolkata, on 8th November 2024. She further stated that the future of education, characterized by skill set training, is vital for aligning with upcoming job requirements, effectively integrating both logical and creative

thinking to enhance skills. A recent survey by McKinsey revealed a shift in industry hiring trends, with 85% of managers focusing on candidates' skill set rather than their educational degrees when recruiting for freelance roles.

Furthermore, Dr Agarwal pointed out that World Economic Forum Report indicates that by 2027, 75 million repetitive and manual jobs are expected to disappear, while 122 million new positions requiring different skill sets will emerge. She emphasized that the Indian education system has implemented policies aimed at incorporating the Indian Knowledge System, fostering a generation of highly competitive professionals, and offering multilingual education to overcome

regional limitations.

Mr Andrew Alexander Fleming, Deputy High Commissioner, British Deputy High Commission highlighted India has surpassed China in sending students to the UK. Currently,

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has proven to be transformative for India's education landscape. This policy aims to internationalize the education system in India, thereby attracting more international

students. It is also essential for students from Western countries to consider India for their higher education pursuits.

Prof. Saibal Chatterjee, Director-in-Charge, IIM

Calcutta, underscored the importance of the future of education, stating that technology offers significant advantages. Although Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are currently in use, they are

updated every two years, necessitating their integration into the education system. To ensure students acquire the most current skills, it is essential for experienced individuals from the industry to engage in their training.

Mr Ujjal Chakraborti, Chairman, CII ER Education & Skill Development Sub-Committee indicated that India has experienced notable progress in its education system. He underscored the necessity for the education system to prioritize the development of new job creators, with multidisciplinary education being a vital component.

Mr Madan Mohanka, Mentor of CII Eastern Region Education Subcommittee &

Executive Chairman, Tega Industries Ltd, pointed out that the effective implementation of APAAR ID for students brings a variety of benefits. He mentioned that education should be democratized in a global classroom environment. The role of human connections and understanding will be just as essential as any form of technical creativity.

Mr Sandeep Kumar, Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council mentioned that every 4th worker from the global workforce will come from India. Investing in new entrepreneur workforce must be implemented through collaboration of Industry and academia, to prepare students for new skillet.

Chhath Puja concludes with offering of 'Arghya' to the rising sun

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8(KCN): Chhath Puja has officially concluded with the offering of 'Arghya' to the rising sun by devotees. Thousands of worshippers participated in the rituals, expressing their gratitude and devotion to the Sun God, seeking the fulfillment of their wishes. In Bhubaneswar, the worshippers gathered at various locations in the capital, including New Bali Yatra Ground, Mancheswar, Kuakhai River, Tankapani Road, and near Pandra High-Tech

Hospital. Payal Jyoti, clad in a traditional saree, led her family in the rituals, preparing offerings of Thekua, fruits, and flowers. With a calm expression, she offered prayers while standing in the water, symbolizing the deep-rooted traditions that she has cherished for years. Beside her, her son held the bamboo basket filled with offerings, filled with excitement and reverence for their first complete participation in the ceremony. Together, they embodied the spirit of the festival, reflecting



a beautiful blend of tradition and modernity, as families gathered to celebrate this auspicious occasion.

The festivities commenced on Nov 5 on the Chaturthi Tithi of Kartik Shukla Paksha. Devotees observed the

festival with dedication, offering prayers to the Sun God and Chhath Mata, emphasizing the values of faith, tradition, and community. On the first day, known as Chaturthi, devotees took bath in rivers or ponds, followed by the offering of

traditional dishes 'Kaddu Anna', which were consumed as prasad after prayer. The second day (Panchami), called 'Khara Anna', featured the preparation of sweets and offerings of kheer and chapati, followed by breaking the fast in the evening. On the third day, known as Shashti, devotees offered prayers to the Sun before sunrise, often gathering at riverbanks and ponds. This year, the devotees were seen along the banks, performing the rituals with great enthusiasm. Women, in particular,

prayed for the well-being of their families while offering arghya to the setting Sun. During the evening prayers, women offered various fruits and flowers to the setting Sun while submerged in water. The festival commenced with a bath on the first day and concluded with Usha Arghya on the last day. Meals during the festival were prepared without onions and garlic, and traditional dishes like kheer were made. Families gathered to observe the fast together, reinforcing their bonds and communal spirit.

Bhubaneswar to host Path Pradarshak 2.0—"The Largest University and Career Fair in the State"



Bhubaneswar, Nov 8(KCN): Bhubaneswar is set to host Path Pradarshak 2.0, the state's largest university and career fair, on November 8 and 9, 2024, at the Khandagiri Cricket Ground in Bhubaneswar. This two-day event offers an exceptional platform for students and

parents to explore a wide array of career opportunities and engage with representatives from over 70 prestigious universities. With more than 5,000 students expected to attend, participants will have the chance to gain valuable insights into various academic programs and

potential career paths. The fair aims to empower students to make informed decisions about their futures, whether they are charting their own career journeys or helping guide their children. In addition to university representatives, the event will feature

workshops and interactive sessions designed to enhance attendees' understanding of different fields. Path Pradarshak 2.0 promises to be an enriching experience, fostering connections between aspiring students and educational institutions, and paving the way for a brighter future.

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan participates in 'Chhath Puja' in Odisha's Sambalpur



The union Minister further stated that this great festival may bring

happiness, prosperity, and good fortune to everyone life.

Chhath Puja is celebrated six days after Dipawali every year.

Process begins to bring another tigress to STR



Baripada(KCN): A team of state Forest department Thursday reached Tadoba-Andheri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra to bring another tigress, an official said. The Forest team would bring another female Royal Bengal Tiger from Tadoba-Andheri Tiger Reserve (TATR) to Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) in Mayurbhanj district, the official said. Prakash Chand Gogineni, Field Director of Similipal Tiger Conservation Project and

Regional Chief Wildlife Warden, said that a ten-member team led by Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Pradeep Dey reached TATR in Maharashtra and released in a soft enclosure inside the core area of STR. The objective of the tiger relocation is to infuse a fresh gene pool in Similipal while combating inbreeding. STR houses 27 tigers and 13 among them are pseudo-melanistic due to genetic

disorder caused by inbreeding which could, in the long run, adversely impact the population of the normal yellow-coated Royal Bengal Tigers. Meanwhile, Jamuna is getting acclimated to the habitat in Similipal and is given a prey regularly to hunt in the enclosure. It will be released into the wild after the animal accepts the local environment. Earlier, the state's effort for translocation of tigers from Madhya Pradesh failed due to protests by villagers living on the fringes of Satkosia Tiger Reserve, where one male tiger 'Mahavir' and a tigress 'Sundari' from Kanha and Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserves respectively were introduced in 2018. While Mahavir was found dead, Sundari was sent back to its original habitat in 2021 after it allegedly killed two persons.



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13 member delegation from Bangladesh visited Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata

Kolkata (AMBAR MUKHERJEE): A 13-member delegation from Bangladesh on a four-day visit to Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SMP), Kolkata from 9th to 12th July, 2024, to assess the possibilities of transhipment of cargo of Bangladesh through Indian ports located on the East Coast. The delegation, led by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, Bangladesh Sh. S M Mostafa Kamal, comprises of representatives from other key ministries, private stakeholders and ports of Bangladesh. The delegation's visit to ports in Haldia on 10th July and in Kolkata on 11th July – was in line with agreed minutes of India-Bangladesh Shipping Secretaries Level Talks (SSLT) held in Dhaka in December last year 2023. In a prospective meeting, with the Chairperson of

Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, Shri Rathendra Raman along with Deputy Chairperson of KDS, Shri Samrat Rahi, Deputy Chairperson of HDC, Shri A. K. Mehra, Shri A. P. S. Sirohi, Director (IWT), MoPSW, Shri A. K. Bansal, Director, IWAI and key officials from SMP, Kolkata; the visiting delegates from Bangladesh were given an introduction to Kolkata Dock System (KDS) and Haldia Dock Complex (HDC), by stating the current infrastructure and scope for handling of containerized cargo shipped from Bangladesh for third country export. The projected plans for future infrastructural development of the dock along with development of PPP model (Public-Private Partnership Model) were also briefly highlighted to the delegates for optimization of the

The strategic advantage of SMP, Kolkata and its proximity to Bangladesh was highlighted along with the leverage of IBP protocol route with the aim to strengthen the Indo-Bangladesh trade relations to boost up the Export-Import trade.

The focal point of the discussion was to highlight the various trade facility advantages which the exporters from Bangladesh are likely to gain upon transhipment of the export bound cargo to third countries by handling them through SMP, Kolkata. Ease of availability of empty containers, lesser transit time compared to other major ports of Eastern India, allocation of dedicated vessels to plough between Bangladesh and India, provision for onward and return cargo to and from SMP, Kolkata for the delegates.

both the nations.

The presence of established IBP protocol route covering all the major ports of call of Bangladesh like Mongla, Narayanganj, Ashuganj port with SMP, Kolkata will help to facilitate the quantum of export from Bangladesh especially with the introduction to the greater number of barges carrying loaded fly-ash from India which might have the potential to return along with the laden containers from Bangladesh.

The Bangladeshi delegation had a good experience and were hopeful of a positive outcome of the visit. Head of Bangladeshi delegation assured that on their return to Bangladesh a meeting will be conducted along with the stakeholders with the data, analysis and comparison they have obtained from their visit to SMP, Kolkata. The committee will submit a report to the Ministry of Shipping, Bangladesh and report will be communicated to India by diplomatic channel.

At the end, both sides are optimistic to find a new era in maritime connectivity between India and Bangladesh.

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneshwar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD

Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register

through a specially commissioned study across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY

FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian

fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury.

A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset

through a specially commissioned study across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' – The Journey of a Young Woman – the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers.

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth.

To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness

'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to

celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Nuvoco successfully completes AFR Project at its Risda Cement Plant, Chhattisgarh and Nimbol Cement Plant, Rajasthan

Bhubaneswar : Nuvoco

Vistas Corp. Ltd., India's fifth-largest cement group in terms of capacity and among the leading players in East India, successfully announced the completion of its Alternative Fuel Resource (AFR) project at Risda Cement Plant (RCP), Chhattisgarh and Nimbol Cement Plant (NCP), Rajasthan. This milestone achievement illustrates Nuvoco's commitment to reducing dependency on fossil fuels and promoting sustainable practices within the cement industry. With the use of alternative fuels, the company strives to reduce the usage of fossil

fuels and minimize its environmental impact. Alternative fuels are a crucial step towards reducing carbon emissions and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. Nuvoco has dedicatedly installed a system that is capable of utilizing agricultural waste, RDF (Refused Derived Fuel), and municipal waste that is harmful to cattle and other wildlife due to its carcinogenic qualities as an alternative fuel. This

along with other themes under PROTECT OUR PLANET agenda are enabling Nuvoco to build robust partnerships with several stakeholders and contribute to society at large."

Mr. Jayakumar Krishna Swamy, Managing Director, Nuvoco stated, "As part of our PROTECT OUR PLANET agenda, we view the AFR project as an important step

"Choose Bold. Choose Water." Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water promotes hydration for better celebrations.

Bhubaneswar : Did you know, it takes about an hour to process a standard unit of alcohol, which is generally 10 grams?* As part of its ongoing commitment to promote responsible consumption, and drinking better, not more, Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water has launched its latest campaign,

"Choose Bold. Choose Water", which emphasizes on the importance of staying hydrated when consuming alcohol. Through this campaign, the company aims to promote responsible drinking with a simple yet compelling narrative: Often, choosing water is the bold choice.

Harking back to the Diageo motto of "Drink better, not more", Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water through this campaign and its social engagement is playing an active role in the prevention and reduction of harmful

use of alcohol, while also driving awareness on mindful consumption and encouraging individuals to stay hydrated during social occasions. The latest campaign film shares the importance of timely water breaks during moments of alcohol consumption to take care of one's body.

Talking about this campaign, Ruchira Jaitly, Vice-President, Marketing & Portfolio head, Diageo India said,

"At Diageo, we believe in drinking better, not more. A good way to do this is by ensuring hydration during drinking occasions. Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water wants to drive

recognition for this important and yet often ignored message with the Choose Bold, Choose Water campaign. By focusing the conversation on hydration and building the recognition for taking a break for the same, we want to foster a culture where our consumers celebrate life responsibly, and we are proud to be able to lead this conversation."

As one of the prominent packaged drinking water brands, Royal Challenge aims to set a positive example for consumers and to shape behaviour by promoting responsible drinking by choosing hydration for moderation.

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

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

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana.

Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."



UP Warriorz continue to keep faith in homegrown talent

New Delhi: UP Warriorz have mirrored their team philosophy, of centering their core around homegrown talent, in this year's retention decision-making, and head coach Jon Lewis is hoping for the Indian duo of Saima Thakor and Anjali Sarvani to shoulder the p a c e - b o w l i n g responsibilities as the franchise builds up to the third edition of the Women's Premier League.

"We've got scouts out watching a lot of cricket... but if I'm really honest, finding someone from domestic cricket or within our squad who can improve and bowl in the powerplay would be really, really useful for us," Lewis said after the franchise announced its retentions and releases ahead of the WPL 2025 auction, likely in first-half of December.

Despite having finished fourth in WPL 2024, UPW have retained the

bulk of their squad but the most eye-catching release has been that of the English quick Lauren Bell. Warriorz's pace-bowling department quickly became an area of concern last season with the overseas recruit withdrawing to prioritise national duty, and India left-arm pacer Sarvani missing half the league games after having just made a comeback from a serious knee injury.

Although that did help unleash Thakor, who has since gone on to make a rather successful ODI debut in the recently-concluded three-match series against New Zealand last month. Lewis said while Bell's release has opened up a slot for an overseas replacement, at the same time he's hopeful of plugging the gap through the franchise's continued investment in the two domestic talents. "We hope that that investment and that time that we've

spent with those players will come good next season," Lewis noted. "Obviously, last year gave us a chance to give Saima Thakor an opportunity to come and open the bowling for us. She's gone from strengths to strength... Saima's shown some real improvement. For her to come to us last year with very little experience and... the way that she responded to that and how she came in and showed what she can do, that obviously impressed people around the Indian selection.

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"We expect her to come

12 to February 2 in Australia and will precede the third edition of the competition- has played a hand, the multi-faceted decision-making has also taken into consideration the skillset they bring to the table. Bought ahead of the WPL 2024 season, Wyatt-Hodge didn't get a game at all in a side already boasting of an abundance of opening resources, both capped and uncapped, domestic and international. When a final call had to be taken among the overseas stars, Sri Lankan skipper Chamari Athapaththu edged her out on the basis of her four-over offspinning credentials.

"Chamari's bowling probably just edges out Danni in the XI if she comes in. Obviously, our captain [also frontline wicketkeeper, Alyssa Healy] is a top-order batter. Chamari bats at the top of the order. Grace Harris [another spin-bowling allrounder] can play that position. And Danni is obviously an out-and-out batter. So the fact that Grace and Tahlia [McGrath, pace bowler allrounder] and Chamari are able to bowl really gives us some flexibility with them.

"So we felt that, unfortunately for Danni and unfortunately for us, we would have liked to get her in the XI because she's a fantastic cricketer but she was just surplus to requirements at the moment in terms of what we feel we need moving forward. It's great for me that Danni's gone off and she'll play some cricket hopefully for RCB.

While concerns of workloads of the Women's Ashes-bound duo - the multi-format series runs from January



Alzarri Joseph handed 2-match ban after Shai Hope on-field spat

New Delhi: Alzarri Joseph has been handed a 2-match suspension by Cricket West Indies after his on-field spat with ODI captain Shai Hope. Joseph had walked off the field during the 3rd ODI against England after a spat with Hope. Joseph apologised to Hope, teammates, and fans, acknowledging lapse in judgment.

West Indies vs England T20I series will begin on November 9.

The West Indies cricket board has announced that pacer Alzarri Joseph has been banned for 2 matches following his on-field spat with captain Shai Hope during the 3rd ODI against England on November 6, Wednesday. The incident would see Joseph react angrily and walk off the field after getting the wicket of Jordan Cox



"Cricket West Indies (CWI) has imposed a two-match suspension on fast bowler Alzarri Joseph following an on-field incident during the 3rd CG United ODI at the Kensington Oval, Barbados. As part of CWI's ongoing commitment to upholding the highest levels of professionalism and integrity in the game, the

incident, which involved conduct falling short of CWI's standards of professionalism, was reviewed in consultation with the Senior Men's coaching staff," read the statement.

Joseph would comment on the decision and said that the incident happened as his passion got the best of him in the end. The pacer said he

personally apologised to Hope, the team and the management and claimed he deeply regretted the disappointment he had caused.

"I recognize that my passion got the best of me," said Joseph.

"I have personally apologized to Captain Shai Hope, my teammates and management. I also extend my sincerest apologies to the West Indies fans—I

understand that even a brief lapse in judgment can have a far-reaching impact, and I deeply regret any disappointment caused." The ban could mean that Joseph may miss the first 2 matches of the upcoming T20I series against England. The T20I series will begin on November 9, Saturday.

"Yes, Nabi is retiring from ODIs after the Champions Trophy and he informed the board about his desire," Naseeb told Cricbuzz. "He told me few months back that he wants to end his ODI career after the Champions Trophy and we welcome his decision. After the Champions Trophy, what I understand is that, he is expected to continue his T20 career, and that is the plan until now," he added.

Nabi set to retire from ODIs after Champions Trophy



Nabi represented Afghanistan in their first game against Bangladesh in the ongoing three-match ODI series in Sharjah, Nabi scored a brilliant 82 to help his side post a competitive total that was defended, courtesy Allah Ghazanfar six wicket haul. Nabi retired from Test cricket in 2019.

Suryakumar Yadav defends 'leader' Rohit Sharma, reveals captaincy inspiration

New Delhi: Speaking to the press on the eve of the T20I series opener in Durban, captain Suryakumar Yadav said he has learnt a lot from Rohit Sharma's leadership style. Suryakumar said he learnt the art of staying balanced from his Mumbai Indians teammate.

India's T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav defended Test captain Rohit Sharma, saying he learnt the art of staying balanced in the highs and lows of the sport from his Mumbai Indians teammate. Speaking to the press on the eve of the T20I series opener in Durban, Suryakumar Yadav was asked about the pressure on Rohit Sharma after India lost to

New Zealand 0-3 in a home Test series earlier in November.

"In sports, wins and losses keep happening. Everybody works hard, everybody works hard to win. Sometimes, it works and sometimes it doesn't. I have learnt this from him (Rohit) only – in life, being balanced is important. I have never seen his character change after his good and bad times. I have seen him grow as a lot as a player and as a leader," Suryakumar Yadav said.

Questions were asked about Rohit Sharma's Test captaincy after India suffered a shock 0-3 defeat at home. It was the first time a visiting team beat India 3-0 in a Test series with more



Shedding light on his leadership style, Suryakumar said it's not as aggressive as his batting and that it has a heavy influence of Rohit Sharma's style with a bit of his own 'masala'.

"I have learnt a lot from Rohit bhai. I have played with him in franchise cricket. When I am on the

ground, I keep noticing him -- how his body language is, how he handles pressure, how he remains calm and how he talks to his bowlers and treats others. And you expect your leader to spend time with you. "I try to do the same. When I am not on the field, I try to spend time with the players, eat with them go out for dinner and travel with them. I think these small things reflect on the ground," he added.

Suryakumar went on to elaborate on the finer aspects of how he works his players closely and how he tries to get the best out of them, "Off the field, I spend a lot of time with them. Getting to know one another is important. I try and assess their strengths and see when they can come of use for the team

in pressure and crunch situations. That's how I am on the field.

"This format is such that you keep playing and keep learning. It's so fast. By the time, you blink, this game is over. So freedom and clarity of thought are very important.

"I have learnt a lot from Rohit. I have played a lot with him in franchise tournaments. Recently, also, I also saw him leading in big tournaments and bilateral series. I know how he treats the players and what he wants from them," he added.

"That route, I have also taken. I know it has worked well. And then I have added a bit of my masala, I am taking the team forward," he added.