

Odisha CM to meet Kumar Mangalam Birla, Sajjan Jindal during two-day Mumbai visit

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi is scheduled to meet industrialists such as Kumar Mangalam Birla and Sajjan Jindal during his two-day visit to Mumbai, seeking investments for Odisha. Industries Minister Sampad Chandra Swain said the programme will be held in Mumbai Friday and Saturday.

"On Saturday, there will be a roadshow in which leaders of various sectors, such as textiles, garments, apparel, and renewable energy will participate. Heads of banks have also been invited to support the improvement of the banking sector in the state," he said.

This will be the second roadshow for the Make in Odisha Conclave, scheduled to be held on January 28-29 in Bhubaneswar. Earlier, a similar programme was organised in New Delhi. "During the Mumbai



event, Majhi is also scheduled to attend the CEO's Forum — a significant platform for engagement with top leaders from the chemical industry. His presence will highlight Odisha's strategic focus on expanding its industrial footprint in key sectors like chemicals and petrochemicals," the state government said in a statement. "Business leaders such as Kumar Mangalam Birla, Sajjan Jindal, Manish P Kiri, Vivek Bhatia, Amit Kalyani and Balkrishna Goenka will participate, solidifying Odisha's growing influence on the national industrial stage," it added. Majhi went to Chandigarh to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new BJP government Thursday. From there, he will travel to Mumbai for the programme, officials said.

The event has been planned to generate awareness and foster engagement among Mumbai's business leaders about the vast investment opportunities available in Odisha and to attract new companies

Fake call centre busted in Odisha, six detained

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Police Wednesday busted a fake call centre in the Sundarpada area in Bhubaneswar and detained six people for their alleged involvement in cybercrime, an officer said.

After receiving intelligence input, a team comprising our cyber police and local police conducted a raid in a flat on an apartment and busted a fake call centre



early this morning, the Deputy Commissioner of Police of Bhubaneswar, Pinak Mishra, told media persons here. As per the preliminary investigation, six young

people were running the fake call centre to cheat people by sending malicious emails and links, he said. "Our expert (technical) team has rushed to the fake call centre for further investigation," Mishra said. The police have seized digital devices, including a laptop and mobile phones, from the spot.

Statues of Eminent Personalities to be Installed Across Various Districts in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Statues of eminent personalities will be installed in various locations across the state. The decision for the construction and installation of these statues has been formally taken by the Department of Odia Language, Literature, and Culture, Government of Odisha. A meeting chaired by Culture Minister Shri Suryabansi Suraj was held to discuss the proposals received from various public representatives, distinguished individuals and district administrations. After detailed deliberations, a list was prepared for the construction and installation of the statues of these personalities in different parts of the state.

As part of the plan, statues of Bhajan Samrat Bhikari Bal in Kendrapara, Dharmasingh Mandhata Majhi in Balangir, Kuntala Kumari Sabat and poet



Swami Laksmanananda Saraswati and the first Odia Shankaracharya Shridhara Swami will also be installed. Minister Shri Suraj stated that these great personalities have played a pivotal role in shaping our independence and identity. Through their writings, they have enriched the Odia language and literature, while also upholding the values of Odisha's culture and heritage. Their contributions, whether in the fight for independence or the preservation of language and culture, are invaluable and a source of perpetual respect. These personalities are an enduring inspiration for the youth. The state government has thus prioritized the construction and installation of these statues in various places across Odisha, ensuring their legacy remains alive for future generations, added the Minister.

Centre Approves MSP for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26

New Delhi(KCN): The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26. The government has increased the MSP of Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26, to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The absolute highest increase in MSP has been announced for Rapeseed & Mustard at Rs.300 per quintal followed by Lentil (Masur) at Rs.275 per quintal. For gram, wheat, safflower and barley,



there is an increase of Rs.210 per quintal, Rs.150 per quintal, Rs.140 per quintal and Rs.130 per quintal respectively. Minimum Support Prices for all Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26

*Refers to cost which includes all paid-out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc., miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

The increase in MSP for mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26 is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average Cost of Production. The expected margin over the All-India weighted average cost of production is 105 percent for wheat, followed by 98 percent for rapeseed & mustard; 89 per cent for lentil; 60 per cent for gram; 60 per cent for barley; and 50 per cent for safflower. This increased MSP of rabi crops will ensure remunerative prices to the farmers and incentivise crop diversification.

Naveen Patnaik turns 78; birthday wishes pour in



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Biju Janata Dal president Naveen Patnaik Wednesday turned 78 with many important dignitaries including Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan, DMK leader Kanimozhi and filmstar Kamal Haasan wishing him on his birthday.

Patnaik was the Chief Minister of Odisha for five consecutive terms from 2000 to 2024 and is at present the Leader of Opposition in Odisha Assembly.

DMK leader and MP Kanimozhi in a social media post said: "Birthday greetings to Thiru @Naveen_Odisha, senior statesman, acclaimed writer, and a former chief minister who uplifted millions out of poverty and illiteracy in Odisha. During his tenure as chief minister, Odisha was transformed into the Hockey capital of India... He is admired for his relentless efforts and inspirational leadership. I wish him good health and many more years of dedicated service to our country."

Filmstar Kamal Haasan said: "My best wishes to Thiru Naveen Patnaik Ji on his birthday. You have dedicated your life for the people of Odisha and have transformed the state. I wish you continued good health and may you continue to serve with your distinctive leadership and integrity. @Naveen_Odisha".

President Droupadi Murmu on three-day visit to Odisha from Oct 23

Bhubaneswar(KCN): President Droupadi Murmu is scheduled to embark on a three-day visit to Odisha from October 23, during which she will lay the foundation of several key railway and development projects in the state, an official release said. President Murmu will land at Bangriposi Helipad in Mayurbhanj district at 9.55am on October 23. From there, she will proceed to Bangriposi railway station by road and lay the foundation of three new railway lines — Bangriposi-Gorumannahisani, Buramara-Chakulia and Badampahar-Kendujhargarh, it said. These projects,

sanctioned by the Ministry of Railways, are expected to enhance connectivity and economic growth in the region. Murmu is also scheduled to virtually lay the foundation of three projects — Tribal Research Centre, Dandabose Airport, and a sub-divisional hospital. Later in the day, the President will fly to Bhubaneswar and attend the 40th convocation of Odisha University of Agriculture and

Technology. In the evening around 6pm, she will attend the grand opening of the newly constructed judicial court complex in the state. The President will spend the night at Raj Bhawan October 24 and is slated to unveil a statue of Pandit Raghunath Murmu in Bhubaneswar's Niladri Vihar October 25.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja Tuesday

presided over the state-level preparatory meeting for the President's visit and issued instructions to the district collectors of Mayurbhanj, Puri and Khurda to take required measures to ensure the smooth conduct of Murmu's programmes.

Puri Town To Come Under Complete CCTV Surveillance Soon



will encompass the entire Pilgrim town, including the Shree Jagannath Temple and the Grand Road, equipped with high-capacity CCTV cameras. The Puri Collector said that all CCTV cameras will link to a central command and control

room. For heightened security, numerous CCTV cameras are already operational along the inner and outer perimeters of the Jagannath Temple to monitor the flow of devotees. Furthermore, bids have been solicited for the installation of additional CCTV cameras at all temple entry and exit points, including the Nata Mandap. Following the government's approval, the project's execution will commence and it is planned to install around 620 CCTV cameras at strategic entry points of the city, such as Samang, Malatipatapur, and Mansaghat, all interconnected via optical fiber to the command centre. The objective is to establish Puri as a secure, crime-free city with effective traffic management systems.

CM Majhi Graces 'Kumar Utsav' Programme in Puri

Puri(KCN): Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi attended the 'Kumar Utsav' programme at Alarpur near Pipili last evening. The programme was organised by 'Hara Durga Youth Club'. The Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of the Hara Durga Youth Club to preserve the art, culture and tradition of the

region through the Kumar Utsav. The heroic 'Naga dance' here is very impressive. Dayanachori fairs of Odisha's famous Harirajpur, Balanga and Odisha's largest village Ghordia have been held here for a long time. Therefore, steps will be taken for the development of the artisans and craftsmen of such a heritage-rich place."

Coastal getaway: Top 5 beaches in Odisha one must explore

Odisha, a treasure trove of rich culture and scenic landscapes, also boasts some of India's most stunning beaches. Whether you are a beach lover, an adventure enthusiast, or a seeker of solitude, Odisha's coastal gems offer something special for everyone. Here are 10 of Odisha's best beaches that promise an unforgettable experience.

Puri Beach (Puri District)

– Why It's Special: Puri Beach is a lively destination known for its scenic beauty and spiritual ambiance, with the famous Jagannath Temple nearby. It's perfect for sunbathing, swimming, and



witnessing the vibrant local culture.

– How to Reach: Reachable by train to Puri Railway Station or via Bhubaneswar Airport (60 km), followed by a drive or bus ride.

Konark Beach (Puri District)

– Why It's Special: Just

or Bhubaneswar Airport (65 km), followed by a drive or bus ride.

Gopalpur Beach (Ganjam District)

– Why It's Special: A hidden gem on the Bay of Bengal, Gopalpur Beach is renowned for its calm waters, pristine sands, and peaceful environment. It's ideal for swimming, fishing, and boating.

– How to Reach: Located 3 km from Konark and accessible from Puri Railway Station or Bhubaneswar Airport (60 km) by road.

Astaranga Beach (Puri District)

– Why It's Special: Closest to Berhampur Railway Station (15 km) or Bhubaneswar Airport (170 km), with onward road connectivity.

Chandrabhaga Beach (Puri District)

– Why It's Special: Awarded Asia's first Blue Flag certification, Chandrabhaga Beach is

noted for its clean, eco-friendly environment and stunning sunrises and sunsets. A perfect spot for a quiet escape.

– How to Reach: Located 3 km from Konark and accessible from Puri Railway Station or Bhubaneswar Airport (60 km) by road.

Astaranga Beach (Puri District)

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Quotation of the Day



"As we work to create light for others, we naturally light our own way."

—MARY ANNE RADMACHER

RS

Gone Days

Prof. MANAS RANJAN MAHAPATRA



Pradan. He also began another new series of books Young India Library in NBT in late 1960s. Nehru Bal Pustakalay, the most popular children's books series also began at the same time with Mohini Rao as its Editor who came from CBT, the first children's book publisher in India.

Copy Editing became a profession in the world in the mid of nineteenth century when publishing houses began in London and Paris. In India, Rabindranath Tagore and Premchand were the first copy editors, but copy editing was not their profession. Ramesh Bakshi was the first professional copy editor of India from his days at Calcutta, the hub of professional Indian Publishing in the post-independence period.

Ramesh Bakshi was also the first Sponsoring Editor in a government controlled publishing house in India. He got many modern classics from Indian languages translated into Hindi including Atmajeevan Charit of Fakir Mohan Senapati. The manuscript was discovered after the death of Ramesh Bakshi and I had it copy edited it with support from Bakshi's disciple Prithviraj Monga, who succeeded him as Hindi Editor of NBT for publication.

In fact, I learnt the skill of copy editing from Ramesh Bakshi and Arun Chakraborty, then Bangla Editor of NBT. But, I couldn't continue as a Language Editor cum Copy Editor in NBT. That's another story which I will narrate sometime.

National Book Trust, India (NBT) was not known in Odisha in 1990 until I took over as its Odia Language Editor. At one point, my name and NBT were synonymous in Odisha. People still contact me for some work in NBT even after two years of my retirement.

This is a great honor than any monetary award which is managed these days by many. Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra has been one of the most successful authors in Odisha in the last half a century so far as awards

get those to read either from Ramakrishna Mission Library or from my teacher Lokenath Saha.

My uncle Sarat Chandra Mahapatra was in the state civil service. He was the first highly educated person in our family, also from our village in those days. He once discovered the poetry books of Sitakant Mahapatra with me. He had a strong literary interest and he asked me for the book. I was so engrossed in reading Sabdara Akasha at that time that it was painful for me to part away with the book. Sitakant Mahapatra was a top bureaucrat at that time in Odisha and such IAS officers who write, like the sub-ordinate officers reading them. My uncle had regular encounters with Sitakant Mahapatra. Suman Mishra, son of publisher Mahendra Mishra, was my classmate those days. He was the nephew of poet Ramakanta Rath and I used to listen from him about the literary figures of that time, for they were personal friends of his father. He gave me two poetry books by Ramakanta Rath for reading. Soon, Ramakanta Rath also got the Sahitya Akademi award for his book Saptama Rutu. Sahitya Akademi Convenor from Odisha those days was Jatindra Mohan Mohanty, who was also a friend of Mahendra Mishra, Suman's father. Incidentally, civil servants and college/ university teachers were known authors at that time to a large extent in Odisha. That situation still continues.

I met Sitakant Mahapatra in 1980 for the first time in Odisha Secretariat when I was a student of BA final at SCS College, Puri. There was a student agitation throughout the state for raising MIL Odia marks from 100 to 200. Being a student leader, I went in a delegation to meet Education Secretary Sitakant Mahapatra. Our leader Judhistir Jena introduced us to the Secretary. When he introduced me, Sitakant Mahapatra just asked me, 'so, with poetry, you do leadership too!' I was stunned to know that Sitakant Mahapatra reads

young poets of his time. More than a decade passed in between. Sitakant Mahapatra got his doctorate in the late 70s and I joined National Book Trust, India as its Odia Language Editor in 1990 after my brief stints in state government and in NCERT. The Advisory Panel for Odia was not reconstituted for two decades.

I got it reconstituted with Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra as one of the members. By that time, he was in Delhi as Secretary, Planning Commission. Ramakanta Rath was available, but I preferred Sitakant Mahapatra. Ten years passed. In between Sitakant Mahapatra became Secretary, Culture Ministry, Government of India. Many ordinary people were invited in those days to go abroad in cultural delegations. He never thought of me, nor I approached him for any favor. In between Ramakanta Rath became a member of the policy-making Board of Trustees of NBT.

One day, Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra visited our Book Shop. NBT was at Green Park those days. I was informed by the Shop Assistant and went to the Book Shop to meet him.

— 'It's good that Ramakanta Babu has become a member of the Board of Trustees of NBT. Next time you can recommend my name, he said.

— 'BOT member position is very small for you. You are eminently suitable to be the Chairman of NBT, Sir. Moreover, Prof Joshi was your colleague in Allahabad University as I know,' I said.

Prof Murli Manohar Joshi was the Human Resource Minister. Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra did his MA from Allahabad University and taught there before joining IAS. Murli Manohar Joshi was on the faculty of Allahabad University.

But I never thought that he will take my advice so seriously. It was in the year 2000, maybe in the month of July. Dr. Sumatredra Nadig, the then Chairman, of NBT gave me the good news that his friend Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra has been nominated to become the next Chairman, of NBT. I was elated, for he is a senior poet in the language in which I write. Sitakant Mahapatra was one of the selectors of the then Director, NBT Prof Nirmalakant Bhattacharjee.

After a few months, Sitakant Mahapatra took over. He told me in the welcome meeting about my long association with him. I was elated. I had just shifted to my house at Shalimar Garden, Ghaziabad. One day he called me in the afternoon at the office.

— I have a bag of good quality rice which I can't carry by air to my home in Bhubaneswar. Since you are going to Bhubaneswar soon by train as I just approved your tour program, will you please carry it and give my wife at my Satyanagar House? My car will drop you at New Delhi Railway Station.

I was happy that my Chairman has given me a responsibility. 'As you please Sir,' I said. The other day, his car dropped me at New Delhi Railway Station with a bagful of rice, almost 40 kgs. I had very little luggage, so carrying the rice was not difficult. I gave it to Mrs. Mahapatra after I reached Bhubaneswar at their Satyanagar House.

After a few months, I got a book with a note from the Director that he has gone through the book containing translations of poems for children by Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra and I should examine it for publication in Odia and translation into other Indian languages. The title of the book was Asaranti Piladina and the publisher was Friends Publishers, Cuttack.

It was a few years ago received for the first time for consideration for publication by NBT and I wanted to see the originals or the English renderings on the basis of which the translation has been made. No reply was since then received. I went to Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra and told him my mind:

— Sir, as I remember, I saw this proposal a few years ago and made two observations: I wanted to see the text from which you have done the translations and out of the 42 poems included in the book, only 15 are for children. That opinion still continues. If you consider my opinion good, you can show me the original text and add at least another 15. But, if you are insisting on the publication of this book as it is, you can order me as Chairman, NBT to process it for publication so that I don't have to examine it. In that case, you may not get anything as the compiler as the book is already published by a publisher. The only formality is, that you have

to withdraw your permission from the earlier publisher and give it to NBT. But, you will possibly get some payment for the translations.

— Meet me at Bhubaneswar, he replied. Next time when at Bhubaneswar I met him at his Satyanagar house. He showed me a boxful of books from which the translations were made.

He then showed me a few more books from which he was proposing to include another 15.

— 'I respect the advice of the editor', he said.

Then he asked me as Chairman of NBT to carry the boxful of books to New Delhi for NBT Library. My car will drop you at New Delhi Railway Station.

I was happy that my Chairman has given me a responsibility. 'As you please Sir,' I said. The other day, his car dropped me at New Delhi Railway Station with a bagful of rice, almost 40 kgs. I had very little luggage, so carrying the rice was not difficult. I gave it to Mrs. Mahapatra after I reached Bhubaneswar at their Satyanagar House.

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were like his students at one point in time. There may be many more to whom I know, but my focus of this post is not to make a list of his students but to appreciate him as a teacher, poet, and human being. My interaction with Jayanta Mahapatra continued. I visited him with Sumatheendra Nadig and Varsha Das sometime in 1999. We were together in another All India Poets' Meet organized by Odisha Sahitya Akademi and NBT at Konark, most possibly in 2006-07. Pravat Tripathy, Chandrakant Deotale, and Sameer Tanti were there. In fact, it was his greatness that he gladly received me at Bhubaneswar. I was thrilled. We went to Konark together, gossiping. He also enjoyed the dance of Poets Kajal Chakraborty, Anupam Kumar, Jayaprabha, and a few others at the Pantha Nivas lawn the next evening. Some of them are no more.

I was new at Shillong as Director, Art and Culture of North Eastern Region. It was in 2016. I got the news that Jayanta Mahapatra is there as a Sahitya Akademi programmer. I did not have a proper invitation, but I rushed. So refreshing... but the organizers from the University had not contacted the right people. The attendance was poor. I called some of my friends in the teaching departments of the University. Some of them turned up. But the speech of Jayanta Mahapatra on contemporary literature and what a writer is supposed to do was thought-provoking.

A simple man, unusual as a Professor, a person of international reputation Jayanta Mahapatra didn't have a mobile phone. I am not sure if he had a car. He had not got any major civilian honours too. The saving grace is, he always lived life as King Size.

When I got the news that Sahitya Akademi has decided to confer on him its coveted fellowship I murmured, 'But it is too late... especially to combine him with lesser-known writers like VP Tiwari, he should have been a solo choice'. But Sahitya Akademi has its own way of functioning.

Visiting Professor of Development Communication
Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India
Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

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Rashmika Mandanna appointed as National Ambassador for promoting cyber safety

Actress Rashmika Mandanna, who fell victim to a deepfake video earlier this year, has been appointed as the National Ambassador for promoting cyber safety. The actress has been appointed by the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) of the Ministry of Home Affairs. She said as someone who has experienced this, she is dedicated to raising awareness about these issues.

Rashmika said in a statement: "Cybercrime is a dangerous and pervasive threat that affects individuals, businesses, and communities worldwide."



"As someone who has experienced this, I am dedicated to raising awareness about these issues and promoting the message of cyber safety to drive positive change. It is crucial that we come together to combat these threats and protect our digital spaces," she added. Rashmika will spearhead nationwide cyber awareness campaigns aimed at educating the public on various cybercrime threats, including online fraud, deepfake videos, cyber bullying, and AI-generated malicious content.

The actress' deepfake video started a

conversation on the inappropriate use of technology, prompting numerous celebrities to voice their concerns.

Talking about Rashmika, who is South India's highest-paid actresses made it to 2024's list of Forbes' "30 Under 30". The 28-year-old star made her acting debut with the Kannada romantic comedy 'Kirik Party' in 2016.

In a journey spanning over eight years, Rashmika gained major recognition with the Allu Arjun-starrer Pushpa: The Rise in 2021. Directed by Sukumar, the film told the story of a coolie

who rises in a syndicate that smuggles red sandalwood that grows in the Seshachalam Hills of Andhra Pradesh.

She was then seen in the blockbuster Animal starring Ranbir Kapoor. The film directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, turned out to be her highest-grossing release.

Rashmika will now be seen in Pushpa: The Rule, the second installment of the Pushpa franchise and the Vicky Kaushal-starrer Pushpa: The Rise in 2021. Directed by Sukumar, the film based on the life of Maratha Chhatrapati Sambhaji.

Sukesh Chandrashekhar unveils portrait of Jacqueline

Alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar, currently lodged in a Delhi jail, has unveiled a striking artwork featuring actress Jacqueline Fernandez. The piece is prominently displayed on the upper deck of a lavish yacht that he gifted to her for 39th birthday.

The yacht has been named 'Lady Jacqueline'. In a recent letter addressed to the actress, Sukesh wrote: "My Love, My Jacqueline, Baby my Baby, saw your new pictures, God how can someone be so pretty, Baby you are just too extremely pretty. On this note, I have two things to dedicate to you my love, today."

He dedicated the song 'Sajni' from the recently released movie 'Laapataa Ladies'. "Baby, first I wanna dedicate an apt song, which is my current mood, and right now feelings for you, and the song is 'SAJNI' from

Lapata Ladies. Baby every line in that track is for you. I really don't know how my day and night is passing without you around me or me talking to you," wrote Sukesh.

He further said: "My Second Dedication is unveiling a stunning Art Work of your Portrait installed in the upper

Deck of your Birthday Gift. Lady Jacqueline, which is enroute to Mumbai, as of now. Bomma my Baby, you know what's special about this Art Work, it's a Work which is straight out of my dreams, which is brought to reality, and now installed in your Baby Lady Jacqueline, for you my Sajni, I hope you will like it."

"Baby Sometimes we all face the Highs and Lows, it's just a part of our lives, we even feel we don't need anyone. Loving yourself is enough, or our close ones. But, Baby we give our heart only to the 'One'. No matter what hits us our Heart beats



only for that one person, and for me that's you and just you, come what may, and the same is with you and I know it, and you have loved me as crazy as it can get and no matter what just remember the promise we made to each other, I would never give up on you My Baby, Rest you know me better my Doll," he said.

"Baby my love, just two more to go. Can't wait my Love, I Love you my Jackie, every second only thinking about you my Baby Boo. Love you like crazy my Sajni, my Botta Bomma. You are amazing my love. Missing You, Love Mr S," concluded Sukesh.

Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act and the Maharashtra Protection of Interest of Depositors (Financial Establishments) Act. He allegedly used illegal money to buy gifts for Jacqueline, as per the ED charge sheet filed in 2022.

Jacqueline was summoned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for questioning in a money laundering case involving Sukesh Chandrashekhar.

Earlier, to mark Jacqueline's birthday, the conman has pledged a donation of Rs 15 crore and 300 homes for the families of the victims of the Wayanad landslide disaster. He has also announced 100 iPhone 15 Pro for making the song 'Yimmy Yimmy' featuring Jacqueline, a super hit.

The Sri Lankan actress and model Jacqueline made her acting debut in 2009 with fantasy

action comedy Aladin directed by Sujoy Ghosh. The film starred Amitabh Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, and Riteish Deshmukh.

She then featured in a special number Aapka Kya Hoga in the 2010 comedy drama Housefull.

The actress has appeared in movies like Race 2, Kick, Roy, Brothers, Housefull 3, Dishoom, A Gentleman, Judwaa 2, Race 3, Drive, Mrs. Serial Killer, Bhoot Police, Bachchan Paandey, Vikrant Rona, Ram Setu, and Cirkus.

She was last seen in a special appearance in the song Deewane in the 2023 comedy-drama Selfie directed by Raj Mehta and produced by Star Studios Dharma Productions, Magic Frames, Prithviraj Productions and Cape of Good Films. The film stars Akshay Kumar and Emraan Hashmi.

Jacqueline next has Fateh, and Welcome To The Jungle in the pipeline.

'Tauba Tauba' fever: Revisiting Bollywood songs that left internet groovy

Here's a look at how and why the internet embraces the viral Bollywood dance numbers like Vicky Kaushal's 'Tauba Tauba', Katrina Kaif's 'Kala Chashma', and others.

What makes a song go viral on the internet? There's no formula to make a song go viral. It's about this whole package - of music, lyrics, dance, who's performing it and how it's being presented.

Like everything else in the creative business, a good video has to click with the audience. For it to go viral, it has to appeal to all kinds of audience - even those who usually don't consume that kind of content. 'Tauba Tauba', a new song from the Bollywood film 'Bad Newz' has done just the same.

It has instantly crawled up the top chartbusters' list and even though it is just all about the glam, with a very sexualised Vicky Kaushal, it's a hit among the audience. So much so that he has got newfound popularity among the heartland audience, known for never holding back their craze for a scintillating dance number.

'Tauba Tauba' has music by Punjabi singer Karan Aujla, and it is choreographed by Bosco Martis. Interestingly, it does a great deal of glorifying a woman's beauty, referring to Tripti Dimri in the video, but ends up highlighting Vicky as the very definition of 'tall, dark, handsome'. Vicky's tryst with Punjabi music and his casual dance moves have made

many videos go viral on Instagram before, but this time, he seems almost unstoppable. The choreography does justice in utilising the actor's full potential as a dancer in a never-seen-before fashion. While the popularity of 'Tauba Tauba' can be largely attributed to the actor's ever-growing charm, it is also the vibe that it exudes. When a trend rises on

social media, it breaks down into many forms of entertainment, but the vibe remains the same. You could be a failure at dancing, nowhere near to Vicky's smooth-like-butter-moves, but if you could still manage to match the mood of the song, your job is done. 'Tauba Tauba' is also one of those dance numbers which is brilliantly made to

please the female gaze, as opposed to your regular dance numbers where the 'Chikni Chameli' and the 'Sheelas' of the world are objectified to satisfy the male gaze. It puts the onus of glamourising the screen on a man's shoulder, and he never disappoints. Every time a Bollywood song has taken the internet by storm, it hasn't just been done casually. It was back in 2015 when it all began. Salman Khan decided to give his audience a double dose of 'Prem' on-screen. It was Sonam Kapoor's graceful moves on the song 'Prem Ratan Dhan Payo' which made everyone sit up, take notice, and try it again and again till they got them right. So, we didn't just get influencers, but also the brides, the bridesmaids and everyone who could keep their timidity at bay, grooving to the song with their waist out hands up. The popularity of the song made the singer, Palak Muchhal, an overnight star, and Sonam, who was not known for her dance until then, a quintessential demure Bollywood heroine.



From Cricket Pitch to Royal Palace-Jam Saheb Ajay Daulatsinhji Jadeja

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



Ajay Jadeja, newly appointed as the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, is poised to transition from the cricket pitch to the Royal Palace, marking a significant new chapter in the royal legacy of this princely state in Gujarat. The words of Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw seem to resonate with Ajay Jadeja's ascension to the throne when he remarked, "Grain by grain, a loaf. Stone upon stone, a palace." On the occasion of the Dussehra festival, the current Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, Shatrusalyasinhji Digvijaysinhji, expressed his elation, stating, "I am equally happy today because I have found a solution to one of my problems, and its success lies in Ajay Jadeja, who has graciously accepted to be my heir. His commitment to serve the people of Jamnagar is indeed a boon for them."

It is noteworthy that Shatrusalyasinhji Digvijaysinhji is a childless divorcee from the Nepali royal

family and is a cousin of Ajay's father, Daulatsinhji, who historically belongs to the ancestral line of the Rajos of Kutch. The incumbent Jam Saheb highlighted that the Dussehra festival symbolizes the day the Pandavas emerged victorious from their exile. He expressed his happiness that, on this auspicious occasion, he has resolved the dilemma of succession for the royalty of Nawanagar, which is now known as Jamnagar in Gujarat.

Ajay Jadeja shares a royal lineage with the first two non-white players to represent England in cricket: KS Ranjitsinhji, known as the Prince of a small state and the King of a great game, popularly referred to as "Ranji," and KS Duleepsinhji, often called the "Prince of Popping Crease." Furthermore, his uncle, the former ruler of Nawanagar State, Shatrusalyasinhji Digvijaysinhji, was also a first-class cricketer who represented Saurashtra from 1958 onward, amassing over a thousand runs and claiming 36 wickets. Notably, during the 1964-65 season, the Saurashtra team featured Ajay's

uncles: Shatrusalyasinhji, Inderjitsinhji, and Chstrapalsinhji. Later, Shatrusalyasinhji served as President of the Saurashtra Cricket Association. It is important to remember that the Jamnagar royal family is blessed with considerable fortunes, owning palatial residences, a school, and a remarkable collection of the world's most exquisite emerald jewelry. This collection, renowned for its unparalleled quality, has drawn praise from Jacques Cartier, a jeweler favored by royalty and Hollywood stars alike. Cartier, based in Paris, has been synonymous with glamour for over a century.

As the adage goes, "Behind every great man is a great family—or, in Ajay Jadeja's case, a royal lineage!" Indeed, when it comes to fortunes, Ajay Jadeja is hitting a sixer. The announcement by the royal family of Nawanagar marks a momentous occasion in Jadeja's life. A class and caliber all-rounder, as well as an exceptional fielder, he played 15 Tests and 196 One Day Internationals (ODIs)



for India. Over the course of his decade-long Test career, he scored more than 8,000 runs in 111 First Class and 291 List A matches, achieving 31 centuries and 88 half-centuries across both formats. His extensive cricket knowledge has been utilized by numerous national and international channels, where he has served

as a commentator and expert. The author has had the privilege of closely engaging with Ajay Jadeja's uncles, KS Sukhdevsinhji, the son of General Rajendrasinhji, who served as the second Chief of the Indian Army after Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa and later became Chairman of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and KS Chatrapalsinhji, who subsequently held the position of Regional Manager for Air India. Their interactions during matches for the City Gymkhana Club in the First Division of the Delhi District Cricket Association (DDCA) League in 1954 provided valuable insight into the Jadeja

family's rich history. The uncle-nephew relationship has been of great significance within the Jadeja family, serving as a guiding principle for both cricketing succession and the royal lineage of the Nawanagar state. Notably, Duleep stepped into the shoes of his uncle, Ranji, while KS Inderjitsinhji, an Indian wicketkeeper-batsman, followed in his uncle Duleep's footsteps to don the Indian blazer. Ajay Jadeja, as a nephew of Inderjitsinhji, continued this esteemed family tradition by representing India on the cricket field.

Ajay Jadeja was a prominent player on the Indian cricket team for nearly a decade and was entrusted with the responsibility of vice-captaincy. His cricketing credentials were further recognized through his mentorship roles with various Indian Premier League (IPL) teams. A notable highlight of his career was his coaching assignment with the Afghanistan cricket team, during which his players achieved remarkable victories over

TV & Radio Cricket Commentator C/O Manish Chaturvedi 50 Dubois Street, Stamford, CT-06905 USA

Fragrances to Slay this Festive Season

Shahnaz Husain



Festival and wedding season is here and it is time to prepare for endless celebrations, family gatherings, and social events that stretch from early-morning rituals to late-night parties

It is the time of year when families, friends and loved ones come together to celebrate the festival of lights.

As you prepare to welcome guests into your home during this auspicious occasion, creating the perfect ambience is essential.

One way to do this is by using delightful fragrances that not only infuse your space with a sense of festivity but also leave a lasting impression on your visitors.

Selecting the perfect perfume for the festive season is an art that combines personal preference with the occasion's mood.

The right fragrance has the power to evoke emotions, set the tone for your interactions, and

even become a cherished part of your festive traditions. The scents associated with these festivals are more than just pleasant aromas; they are an integral part of the cultural and spiritual experience. From the calming scent during Navratri to the invigorating fragrance during Diwali, these scents are deeply intertwined with the Indian way of life

1--Eucalyptus Fill your home with the refreshing scent of eucalyptus this festival season. It will smell amazing in your home and have a refreshing and mood-boosting fragrance for you and your guests that matches the vibrant atmosphere of the festive season.

One of the simplest ways to enjoy the scent of eucalyptus in your home is by lighting a scented candle. Eucalyptus has a beautiful aroma. It can be used for its aesthetic appearance to decorate your home and the beautiful fragrance will keep your rooms smelling fresh.

Not only does eucalyptus look aesthetically placed among your Diwali decorations, it also has great benefits for you too. Eucalyptus aromatherapy can help

soothe discomfort, protect against infection, and facilitate deeper breathing.

Eucalyptus aromatherapy has been known to soothe discomfort, help protect against infection, facilitate deeper breathing and rejuvenate the body and spirit.

These candles are created to promote the health of the body, mind, and soul through comprehensive therapeutic care. Scented candles are the most reliable and easiest standby to get into the festive spirit, whether alone or with family.

The pollution level during diwali gets grave every year and one can use eucalyptus as an air freshener. Put few springs in a glass jar and place it in different parts of the home in whatever room you like. It will create a wonderful aroma of eucalyptus that will last anywhere between 1-2 weeks.

2--Rose ---- Rose, the queen of flowers, signifies love and beauty. Its sweet, floral notes create a romantic and sensual sensory experience that can be used to infuse your home with this classic fragrance. The scent of roses will create a soothing and welcoming ambience.

There are over a dozen



rose perfumes that smell fresh, modern, and chic. and each one generally lends itself well to different accords. Rose oil is a pure distillation of rose that tends to smell cool, fresh and green. Rose extracts vary based on when and where the flowers were grown and processed. Rose Attar is made traditionally using the age-old method devised about 500 years ago. The rose flowers used in the process are carefully selected for quality. 'Rosa damascena'

used to extract this attar. It is estimated that more than 50kgs of rose petals are needed for producing about 10 ml of attar. The process used is Hydro-distillation, similar to many other attars. Musk is a rich and warm fragrance that is both spicy and sweet. Within the rose, it is produced in the stamens, as opposed to the petals, which means the scent easily shakes off and perfumes the air with its heady aroma. Musk Roses tend to be found in Ramblers

3----Sandalwood ----- Sandalwood is a versatile player in the world of perfumery which evoke a sense of luxury and sophistication. Sandalwood is one of the most revered fragrances in India. The use of sandalwood dates back thousands of years where it is highly revered for its fragrance and spiritual. Known for its sweet and intoxicating fragrance, jasmine flowers are small, star-shaped, and typically white

Jasmine represents innocence, holiness and hopefulness.

They can be grown in pots, hanging baskets, or directly in the garden. Regular watering is essential, but overwatering will spoil the plant. Pruning after flowering helps maintain the plant's shape and encourages more bloom.

The aroma of jasmine will undoubtedly create an inviting and lively atmosphere for your guests and commemorate the feeling of Diwali.

Sandalwood fragrances are a favourite among both men and women. The warm and creamy scent of sandalwood blends well with various other notes, appealing to a wide range of tastes.

4--Jasmine (Mogra) Jasmine, known as "Mogra" is a fragrant flower that blooms in abundance during Diwali.

Jasmine is revered in ancient scriptures, beautified temples, homes, and hearts since time immemorial. Angel wing Jasmine, Wild Jasmine, Arabian Jasmine, and Lemon-scented Jasmine are all known for their scent.

Known for its sweet and intoxicating fragrance, jasmine flowers are small, star-shaped, and typically white

Jasmine represents innocence, holiness and hopefulness.

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

GGS College of Management and Technology Principal R.K. Uppal receives Swami Vivekananda Adarsh Ratna Award-2024



New Delhi(KCN): The Worthy Wellness Foundation Trust has awarded Dr. Uppal, Principal of GGS College of Management and Technology, the Swami Vivekananda Adarsh Ratna Award - 2024.

As an academician and researcher, Dr. Uppal was highly regarded by the director and founder of this organization. Dr. Uppal's outstanding

contributions to education are a source of inspiration for all of us. Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal, a distinguished Emeritus Professor and a *classical academician*, currently serves as Principal at GGS College of Management and *Technology*, Gidderbaha. A Research Professor at the Indian Institute of Finance, he holds the

prestigious position of MTC Global Chair Professor of Banking and Finance. Born in a modest setting near Bhatinda District, Punjab, Dr. Uppal's journey from humble beginnings to scholarly heights underscores his unwavering passion for knowledge and learning. He embarked on his academic career at D.A.V. College, Malout in 1987 as a part-time lecturer, ascending to his current eminent role through dedication and scholarly prowess. A prolific writer and mentor, he has authored numerous scholarly works and serves as a frequent reviewer, discussant, and session chair for professional organizations. His visionary leadership and scholarly endeavors continue to inspire and shape the academic landscape in Finance.

"Varanasi, You've Touched My Soul": US Envoy After Watching Ganga Aarti

New Delhi(KCN): US Ambassador Eric Garcetti on Wednesday was all praise for Varanasi as he shared his thoughts on witnessing sunrise from its famed ghats and watching the Ganga aarti which, he said, was a "beautiful reminder of how tradition shapes us".

The ambassador, in a series of posts on X, shared photographs of his visit to the spiritual city of India.

"Experiencing the sunrise over the Ganges from Asi Ghat was nothing short of surreal. What a joy to share this moment with so many others, who gathered in the early hours to witness such beauty!", he wrote on the



social media platform. Mr Garcetti, in another post, shared the experience of witnessing an aarti on the banks of Ganga.

"The Ganga Aarti at Dashashwamedh Ghat was more than just a ceremony; it was a

beautiful reminder of how tradition shapes us. The lights reflecting on the river and the sound of bells echoing in the night create an unforgettable atmosphere. Varanasi, you've touched my soul," he said.

The Ganga Aarti at Dashashwamedh Ghat was more than just a ceremony; it was a beautiful reminder of how tradition shapes us. The lights reflecting on the river and the sound of bells echoing in the night create an unforgettable atmosphere. Varanasi, you've touched my soul. [pic.twitter.com/5Hce3f3v6V](https://twitter.com/5Hce3f3v6V)

Earlier, the US envoy wrote, "Namaste Varanasi! I'm excited to finally visit the "City of Light." Looking forward to exploring the beautiful ghats, ancient temples, and timeless traditions of this vibrant city." Varanasi is one of the oldest cities in India and attracts a large number of devotees

to its holy sites, including the Kashi Vishwanath temple, besides its old ghats.

Recently, Mr Garcetti had travelled to Kolkata to experience the Durga Puja celebrations in the city.

"Pandal hopping in Kolkata during Durga Puja is an experience like no other! Every pandal and home puja tells a story and celebrates the unique spirit and heritage of the season. It's such an honor to be part of this beautiful blend of art, history, culture, and community." #DurgaPuja2024 #USIndiaFWD," he wrote in a post on X on October 12.

Barasat, won the first position in the entire South Twenty-four Parganas district in the 'Kala Utsav 2024-25'

drawing competition. Later will also participate in state level competition. It is to be noted that the headmaster of the school,

Debabrata Das, is spreading hope among the students in this backward school in the district. He is arranging

various kinds of cultural workshops for the students to participate not only in reading but also in other cultural activities.

Students of Mayhauri Gopal High School won first prize in 'Kala Utsav' drawing competition

Kolkata (Arindam Bhattacharya) - Salman Mandal, a class 10 student of Mayhauri Gopal High School, South

Barasat, won the first position in the entire South Twenty-four Parganas district in the 'Kala Utsav 2024-25'

drawing competition. Later will also participate in state level competition. It is to be noted that the headmaster of the school,

Debabrata Das, is spreading hope among the students in this backward school in the district. He is arranging

various kinds of cultural workshops for the students to participate not only in reading but also in other cultural activities.

"Karnataka Ex Minister Used Scam Funds To Influence Voters In Lok Sabha Polls": Probe Agency

New Delhi(KCN): A

total of 15 crore of 89.63 crore funds siphoned in the alleged Valmiki scam by former Karnataka Minister Nagendra and his aides was allegedly used "during the 2024 Lok Sabha election expenditures to influence voters" and a significant portion of the amount was used for personal expenses, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has said in a chargesheet.

Significant amounts were channelled towards election campaigns under the direction of Mr Nagendra, and the cash was distributed to party workers and voters in constituencies like Bellary, Kudligi, and Kamp, the chargesheet stated.

The chargesheet, which was filed in a special court in Bengaluru, said cash was distributed to polling stations in constituencies, with each voter receiving ₹ 200 and each polling booth ₹ 10,000. "This involved over 15 crores distributed to influence voters."

Additional funds were deposited into personal accounts linked to Mr Nagendra's associates, including Punith Kumar and Kali Harish, for personal expenses such as flight bookings, vehicle maintenance, and salaries for household staff, the agency said.

"The investigation traced a detailed money trail from the initial siphoning of ₹ 187.33 crores to its final destinations. The

funds were funnelled through a network of fake accounts, shell companies, and accomplices, ultimately converted into cash, gold, and assets, with substantial portions used for personal expenses and election-related activities. Despite partial recovery, the investigation continues to unravel the full extent of the scheme," said the ED chargesheet.

It said that the investigation into Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited (KMVSTDCL) uncovered a sophisticated money-laundering operation that misappropriated ₹ 187.33 crores, originally allocated for welfare schemes.

The Hilsa Struggle: Fishermen Battling Challenges for Survival

Kolkata(KCN): In the coastal village of Fraserganj, West Bengal, fishing for hilsa has been a way of life for generations. Every day, hundreds of boats, both big and small, go out into the sea to catch this valuable fish. Some stay close to shore, while others go deeper into the waters. There are about 250 boats fishing in the nearby areas, but over 1,000 boats operate from Fraserganj in total. The larger boats carry 12 to 13 people, usually from other regions, while smaller boats have families of four to six people fishing together. From June 15 to September 25, the hilsa fishing season is in full swing. On average, three tons of fish are caught every day, but some days there's plenty, and other days there's nothing at all. This year, fishermen noticed that more hilsa weighing 250 to 300 grams are being caught.

There's also a problem with illegal fishing. Smaller hilsa fish, brought from Bangladesh and weighing 100 to 200 grams, are being sold in markets illegally. These small fish shouldn't be caught because they're too young, but they get trapped in nets meant for bigger fish. Although trawling (a fishing method that harms young fish) isn't allowed in Fraserganj or Namkhana, it still happens in other places like East Midnapore and Kalinagar.

Fish production has gone up over the years. Earlier, about 1,000 boats fished in the sea, but now there are 5,000. Each boat catches less fish than before, but overall, the total catch has increased. However, profits are down because there are so many more boats now. About 20% of the population relies on fishing for their income, but the government isn't



doing much to understand their needs or keep proper records. Hilsa live in both saltwater and freshwater areas. They travel from the sea into rivers along the coast of Bangladesh to the Odisha border. The mix of saltwater and freshwater gives hilsa its unique taste. But pollution in the rivers is becoming a serious issue. If the water is too dirty, the fish might die before they can lay their eggs. Hilsa used to lay eggs in the Rupnarayan and Kolaghat rivers, but these areas are now protected by the government, so

only the mangrove forests of the Sundarbans are left for the hilsa to breed. Two types of hilsa are commonly found: the smaller 'jatka hilsa,' which weigh around 200 grams but already carry eggs, and the larger hilsa, which weigh 400 to 500 grams. The jatka hilsa is especially common in August and September. These fish are easy to recognize by a small black spot near their tails, smaller scales, and smaller eyes. In the past, fishermen could catch 10 kg of fish with a 1-kilometer net. If 100 boats fished, they

would bring in a total of 1,000 kg of fish. Now, fishermen have to travel 5 kilometers to catch just 5 kg of fish because the number of fish is decreasing. Meanwhile, the number of boats has increased from 100 to 500, but while production has risen, each boat catches fewer fish. The government has set up landing centers to process and sell the fish. One is located at the Fraserganj Fishing Harbor, and there are five more in the Namkhana block. From these centers, fish are sent to markets in places

like Howrah, Sealdah, and Burdwan. It's not just hilsa that gets sold; other fish like loitta (Bombay duck) are dried using machines and shipped to where demand is high. During June and July, catching small hilsa is strictly prohibited by the government. There are laws that ban catching, selling, or transporting these fish, but many people still break the rules. Small fishermen often ignore these laws, and the police and other authorities have to keep an eye on them. If a fisherman catches hilsa

and sells it for 2,000 rupees in the market, he often has to pay 1,500 rupees to local political leaders to avoid trouble. This kind of illegal trade is common everywhere. Many people have tried to raise awareness about sustainable fishing, but it's not easy. Fishermen often get angry when they are told not to catch certain fish. They might even insult or disrespect the person trying to help them. In Digha, for example, out of 100 tons of fish caught, 90 tons come from trawling nets, which harm not only hilsa but many other fish species. India earns most of its fishing revenue from shrimp exports, while Bangladesh benefits more from selling hilsa. Advanced shrimp-catching methods have nearly wiped out shrimp populations, making it hard to find species like tiger prawns in these waters today. This overfishing has also hurt other fish populations. Hilsa spawn near the Sundarbans, but there's little enforcement of fishing regulations. Laws prohibit fishing within 12 miles of the shore, but there's no one monitoring whether fishermen are following this rule. Conflicts often arise within the fishing community when someone points out these violations. In Western countries, there's usually one police officer for every 100 people, but in India, one officer is responsible for 30,000 people, making it impossible to monitor everyone. Although efforts are being made to use manpower effectively, more harm than good is being done. As the fishermen of Fraserganj continue to face these challenges, the future of hilsa fishing and their own livelihoods hangs in the balance.



Kojagori Laxmi Puja. Photo - Arindam Bhattacharya

Dams to soon have automatic gates

Jajpur(KCN): Dams, barrages and inland storage structures (ISS) will soon be equipped with automatic gates that would help in achieving the target of additional irrigation and aid in flood control measures, a report said. Most of rivers like Baitarani, Brahmani, Birupa, Mahanadi, Kharasrota and their tributaries experience floods almost every year due to lack of proper and permanent flood mitigation measures. Though the state government has constructed dams and some river embankments as part of flood control measures,

water from swollen rivers during heavy rains continue to inundate vast tracts of lands and human habitats year after year.

In a latest development, the state Water Resources department has planned to build automatic gates in dams, barrages and ISS in the state. The objective behind the construction of the automatic gates is to ensure timely discharge of floodwaters, mitigate floods and increase the water retaining capacity of the dams and related projects. Gates will also be installed in dams that don't have any. Funds worth Rs 239.60 crore will be spent on the



construction of gates in gateless dams in the next three years and Rs 80 crore for the construction of automatic gates in the

next four years, an official of the Water Resources department said. According to a notification issued by the department, the

automatic gates, when constructed, will help in control of floodwaters in downstream during the period of incessant rain.

In the first phase, 76 gates of 14 dams, 153 gates of 10 barrages and 344 gates of 27 inland storage structures will be converted into

automatic gates. These gates can be controlled mechanically through high-powered equipment that will help in proper control and functioning of unsafe gates in the dams and barrages. This will also help in reduction of human errors and assist in protection of dam officials, a report released by the department said. The scheme will be executed from the financial year 2024-25 to FY 2027-28 at an expenditure of Rs 80 crore. Similarly, gateless dams, once fitted with gates, will help in increasing the complete water retaining capacity of the reservoirs and in maintaining the maximum water levels in the dams. As a result, the excess water stored can be used for drinking, irrigation and industrial purposes. The project will help create 124 million cubic metres of additional water storage facilities in 12 medium irrigation projects and 47 minor irrigation projects. The move will also help in the irrigation of 19,097 hectares of land and additional irrigation facilities in 2,750 hectare of land. The proper control of water levels in the reservoirs will help in removing water scarcity in the state.

Jumbo menace in Bangiriposi



Bangiriposi(KCN): People of several villages under this block in Mayurbhanj district are living in constant fear while the farmers are in utter distress as elephants are straying into human settlements and destroying standing paddy crops in the region, said sources adding that the Forest department has failed to ameliorate the situation. Elephant menace has been increasingly seen in villages like Jhinkapahadi,

Nafri, Banakati, Kali ami, Dosisol, Chaulaghori, Shyama sundarpur, Nischinta, Dhobanisol, Kantapal, Anlagunja, Kadadiha, Bharadasol and Jamadapal, said the sources. In the evening, elephants appear from Nafri forest and head towards human settlements. They consume and destroy paddy crops and, at times, venture into villages, causing panic among the residents. Recently, a young man

from Jamadapal village became the victim of an elephant attack when he was going to the river early morning to answer nature's call.

Earlier, elephants had destroyed paddy fields in villages like Kali ami, Chaulaghori, Jamadapal, Nafri and Jhinkapahadi. The wild elephants have reportedly uprooted banana plantations and destroyed mango orchards near Dosisol under Nischinta panchayat. Fear grips the

4 web scribes held for loot



Bhawanipatna(KCN): Sadar police here in Kalahandi district arrested five persons Tuesday, including four alleged web journalists on the charge of looting Rs 2.55 lakh from a businessman of Kantabanji area in Bolangir district. The accused were identified as Lakshmi Ranjan Bag, Ajit Kumar Pujari,

Madhusudan Mohapatra, Sangram Keshari Patra and Hanif Khan while the sixth accused is still absconding. All the accused were produced in court after medical examination. Among them, Lakshmi Ranjan, Ajit, Madhusudan and Sangram are allegedly web journalists while Hanif is a cosmetic shop

owner. Cash worth Rs 68,100, a car, one Bajaj Pulsar motorcycle, eight mobile phones and booms of various web channels were found in their possession, Sadar police IIC Naresh Pradhan said. The sixth accused Tulamani Nag, also a web journalist is absconding. The incident occurred when a trader identified as Akbar Khan was returning home in his car from Hyderabad October 2. The miscreants waylaid his car at the 'No Entry' zone near the agriculture college here and robbed him of Rs 2.55 lakh. The complaint was lodged October 2. Police registered a case and launched an investigation after the trader lodged a complaint at the Sadar police station.



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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." Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 31's - types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S - Start early- Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

JSW MG Motor India extends Industry-First 'Battery-as-a-Service' (BaaS) Program for Comet EV and ZS EV

Gurugram, (KCN): JSW MG Motor India, in its continued effort to redefine the passenger EV segment in India, has extended its recently launched unique BaaS program to its popular Comet EV and ZS EV models. The BaaS concept was introduced with the launch of MG Windsor and since then has received encouraging responses. Under this unique BaaS program, customers can now bring home the Street-Smart Car - MG Comet EV at a starting price of ₹4.99 Lakh + battery rental ₹2.5/km, and India's first Pure Electric Internet SUV - MG ZS EV starting at ₹13.99 Lakh + battery rental



₹4.5/km.

The program allows customers to pay a nominal fee per kilometre for battery usage, making these popular EVs their top choice. In addition to the BaaS program, customers can also avail the assured 60% buyback

value after three years of ownership, reassuring customers of a seamless and confident ownership experience.

Speaking on the unique ownership program, Satinder Singh Bajwa, Chief Commercial Officer, JSW MG Motor India, said, "With BaaS, we have created a platform for easy ownership, making our

EVs more accessible than ever. Given the strong response to Windsor under the BaaS program, we are now extending its benefits to our popular EV models, the Comet and ZS. I am confident that this unique ownership model will further boost EV adoption in the country." The introduction of the

BaaS program is supported by a robust network of finance partners, including Bajaj Finserv, Hero Fincorp, Vidhyut, and EcofyAutovert. This strategic collaboration ensures a seamless experience for customers across the country, making the transition to electric mobility smoother.

MG Comet EV is spacious inside and compact outside design gives you freedom from tricky turns while offering the certified range of 230 km on a single charge. It has This car meets urban mobility needs with its 55+ i-SMART features. MG ZS EV, India's first pure electric internet SUV offers a 50.3 kWh battery pack with a certified driving range of 461 km on a single charge.

Hindalco organized Human Rights Conference in Sambalpur



Bhubaneswar (KCN):

Hindalco Industries Ltd, in collaboration with the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC), successfully organized the State Level Conference on Human Rights on September 21, 2024 at Club House, Aditya Aluminum, Lapanga, Sambalpur. This significant event brought together prominent dignitaries, human rights experts, government officials, academic experts, members of corporate and civil society organization to engage in meaningful discussions on key human rights issues and explore collaborative approaches to enhance the protection of human rights in Odisha.

The conference featured an esteemed panel of dignitaries, including hon'ble Shri Justice Satrughana Pujahari, Chairperson of OHRC; hon'ble Shri Justice Bimal Prasad Das, Former Chairperson of OHRC; hon'ble Shri Asim Amitabh Dash, Member of OHRC; and hon'ble Shri Chitta Ranjan Mohapatra, Member of OHRC.

They were joined by senior administrative and police officials including Shri Sachin Ramachandra Jadhav, IAS, RDC-Sambalpur; Shri Siddeshwar Baliram Bondar, IAS, District Magistrate and Collector-Sambalpur; Smt. Aboli Sunil Narvane, IAS, District Magistrate and Collector-Jharsuguda; Mukesh Kumar Bhamoo, IPS, SP-Sambalpur; Shri Parmar Smit Parshottamdas, IPS, SP Jharsuguda and Prof. Bidhu Bhusan Mishra, Vice Chancellor of Sambalpur

University. The conference was also attended by many Hindalco officials including Shri Samik Basu, Chief Human Resource Officer; Shri Niles Koul, CEO, Downstream Aluminium Business; Shri Saurabh Khedekar, CEO, Specialty Chemical Business; Shri Jasbir Singh, Cluster HR Head; Shri TM Prakash, Cluster HR Head; Dr Krishna Padhi, Cluster HR Head; Shri Sameer Nayak, Unit Head Aditya Aluminium; Shri PVKR Krishna, HeadProjects, Aditya and Hirakud FRP; Shri Debasish Mallik, Unit Head, Hirakud Power and Smelter and Shri Soumitra Roy, Unit Head, Hirakud FRP. Their presence provided valuable insights and perspectives on human rights issues in the state.

The event was marked by insightful discussions, engaging panel sessions and interactive dialogues, making it an enriching experience for all participants. The speakers emphasized the importance of safeguarding the rights and dignity of every individual and explored ways to inspire collective action in the fight for human rights. Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Justice Satrughana Pujahari addressed the evolving role of corporations, noting, "While corporates have often been seen as violators, they are now viewed as protectors of the inalienable human rights. In his speech, Hon'ble Justice Das stated, "Children are born with inherent human rights,



Everyone still came here with a belief and a fight - Matthews

New Delhi: Hayley Matthews, the West Indies captain, expressed immense pride and joy in her team's performance in the T20 World Cup 2024 as they reached the semifinal for the first time since 2018. West Indies faced a must-win situation against the unbeaten England team in the last group phase game and they rose to the challenge, securing a six-wicket win, chasing down a target of 142 in 18 overs.

Many had doubted the West Indies' chances of progressing to the semifinals considering they had first round exits in the last two World Cups. Adding to that was

their record against England, who had registered 13 straight wins against them in T20Is since 2019. Despite this, the team remained confident and determined, showcasing their heart and fighting spirit as they emerged victorious and set foot in the next round, completing an incredible turnaround after suffering a 10-wicket drubbing against South Africa in their opening game.

"Yeah, it was just massive jubilation. I think we're just incredibly proud of what we've been able to do so far this tournament. I think a lot of people wrote us off coming into this tournament and the

way we've been able to go about our cricket, especially after the start we had against South Africa, we've just bounced back against Scotland, against Bangladesh, and I think we haven't beat England in about six years," Matthews said at the post-match press conference.

"As far as I can remember, the last time we beat them was back in 2018, but everyone still came here with a belief and a fight. And it just shows what we can do as a West Indian team. I think a lot of people coming up against us know that if it is one thing we've got, it's a lot of

hearts and a lot of fights. And we just showed that today," she said. The West Indies' skipper also spoke about the geographical challenges



in the Caribbean, limited resources and the sacrifices made by the cricketers to highlight what it meant to play in a World Cup and

yards in the Caribbean as much as the other girls are. But I've seen these girls play against Pakistan and play against Sri Lanka and then be in camp for a month and then go straight to CPL and then have like a week or two home and come here.

"There's so many different islands as well, we have to be away from home, I have to be away from our country. We usually camp in Antigua and there's not a single person from our team that lives in Antigua. So I think the sacrifice that the girls have put in is showing now and I guess that's what

makes it or makes me even more proud just seeing the way that they sacrifice but are now reaping the rewards from it as well," said Matthews. "I think, honestly speaking, we probably just don't have it like the rest a lot of the time. Back home in the Caribbean sometimes we don't have facilities and a lot of our girls come from very humble beginnings and to be given this opportunity to come out, represent your nation, and making a living out of it, I think (for) every single person, it changes their lives," she added.

Nissanka, Wellalage star in Sri Lanka's series-levelling win

New Delhi, (KCN): Sri Lanka roared back in the second T20I to level the series 1-1 against the West Indies, decimating their opponents by 73 runs. Pathum Nissanka's 50 took the hosts to 162 for 5 but the Sri Lankan's spun a web on a track which aided turn. Sri Lanka won a good toss and with no hesitation opted to bat but the openers couldn't get going as they were 8 for 0 after three overs. However, Shamar Joseph's 25-run second-over saw five boundaries scored, four off the bat of Pathum Nissanka to get the innings going. Nissanka hit a six off Gudakesh Motie before his partner, Kusal Mendis hit a four and another maximum to bring up 50 for the hosts within the PowerPlay. Things looked to be getting worse for the visitors as Shamar Springer bowled

a 13-run over including six wides, and a drop catch of Nissanka by Roston Chase. But Springer made use of the extra balls and got Kusal Mendis to toe-end one to long-on. Incoming batter, Kusal Perera hit three boundaries off Chase as the hosts brought up the 100 in the 13th over. But the left-hander was trapped LBW as he played across the line to Shamar. Nissanka brought up his 50 with a single but had his stumps rattled when Joseph shaped one into him which he missed. Kamindu Mendis played a decent knock of 19 (14) and Wanindu Hasaranga wrapped up the innings with a four making West Indies pay as he was dropped few balls earlier. Spin was expected to be introduced early and



debutant Dunith Wellalage picked up player of the last game, Brandon King, stumped by Kusal behind the stumps to land an early blow on West Indies. Evin Lewis fell few balls later, given LBW trying to sweep Maheesh Theekshana while Chase was bowled by Wellalage. The pitch provided 3.8 degrees of turn

compared to 1.8 for the first T20I and Andre Fletcher was next to go, as Wellalage picked up his third. Through the chaos, West Indies went 37 deliveries without a boundary before Sherfane Rutherford hit Kamindu over covers to the fence. Skipper Charith Asalanka brought himself into the attack and picked up Gudakesh Motie and

Sherfane Rutherford within an over. Wanindu Hasaranga dismissed Romario Shepherd and Springer across two overs. Rovman Powell hit the first six of the innings during a 23-run partnership with Joseph. But Matheesh Pathirana bounced him out while Theekshana wrapped up the game with a carrom-ball to dismiss Alzarri Joseph. Brief Scores: Sri Lanka 162/5 in 20 overs (Pathum Nissanka 54, Kusal Mendis 26; Romario Shepherd 2-23, Shamar Springer 1-24) beat West Indies 89 in 16.1 overs (Rovman Powell 20, Alzarri Joseph 16; Dunith Wellalage 3-9, Maheesh Theekshana 2-7) by 73 runs



crores, having been increased from INR 12 crores in season one and INR 13.5 crores last season. After the third season next year, there may be a mega-auction and a new team could be added and the BCCI, like for the IPL, will have to come up with a retention policy for the WPL as well. Currently, there are only five teams.

The BCCI has not exactly clarified where and when the third season will be held but it is expected to be in the same window of February-March when the auction purse for the third season is INR 15

franchises Cricbuzz spoke to say they expect a similar window since the last of the senior women's domestic fixtures ends mid-January. The venues are not known but just like the second edition, the BCCI may opt to hold the third edition also at two venues. The 22-game second edition was held in Bengaluru and New Delhi. The first season was entirely conducted in Mumbai. Delhi Capitals, Gujarat Giants, Mumbai Indians, Royal Challengers Bengaluru and UP Warriorz are the five teams.

England's World Cup hopes collapse under barrage of dropped catches

New Delhi: Between the opening and closing nights of the group stages of the T20 World Cup 2024 at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, the novelty of the venue's infamous 'ring of fire' has consumed two of the pre-tournament title favourites. Quite similar to how India were smoked by New Zealand in the other pool, England's campaign went up in flames in a virtual knockout that was their final Group B encounter against West Indies on Tuesday (October 15). Setting foot in the stadium for the first time ever after three wins on the trot in Sharjah previously, a plethora of dropped catches quickly derailed England's defence of 141 as Player of the Match Qiana Joseph and Hayley Matthews capitalised by putting on display the quintessential Caribbean flair in a brutal takedown

of the much-vaunted bowling attack. "It's the first time the girls have stepped into this stadium today... and I don't like making excuses for a lot of what you would say were reasonably straightforward chances that we should take nine times out of ten," head coach Jon Lewis said in reflection as England failed to make it past the group stages of a T20 World Cup for only the second time in nine editions.

England offered six reprieves - albeit some were tough chances - to the two West Indies openers who went on to score match-winning half-centuries. Joseph lucked out particularly, getting a lifeline on 6, 19, 31 and 41 and on her eventual score of 52 before finally England, and Danni Wyatt-Hodge, held on to one. Boundary-rider Maia Bouchier was in the

spotlight more often than she should have liked on what quickly turned into a forgetful night for the English in the second-half. "You've got a wonderful fielder in Maia Bouchier, who's dropping balls there and missing balls, and Sofia Dunkley [who is] very safe under the high ball, as is Alice Capsey. I haven't spoken to the players about what they've seen out there - [they're] really distraught. [But] it's something that's been reasonably common at this stadium. For us to step into the stadium for the first time today has made it pretty tricky for some of the players out in the middle.

"We dropped six catches [off the] opening better, and she chanced her arm and she got away with some good hits. She struck the ball really well and unfortunately, once they got off to that good start, we weren't able to

create enough pressure through the middle of the game to hold them back. Well played to West Indies, they got it pretty much bang on tactically in terms of attacking the power play and they made it really, really tricky for us. But, yeah, we weren't at our best today," said Lewis. As West Indies cruised to 67 without loss in the PowerPlay

itself, England's shoulders drooped quickly and the coach reckoned the team "didn't quite react as well as we could have" under relentless attack. "It's not a reaction you want as a coach when you're on the sidelines," Lewis said. I could see maybe after six, seven overs that... a lot of the players just starting to drift off [from] our energy in the field and our

tempo we like to play at. We played a lot slower today. It's not helpful that our captain is off the field, and then someone else has to take over and do the job. And so, there's a lot more discussion going on the field than would normally happen." With Heather Knight retired hurt while batting due to a tightness in the calf and sidelined for the remainder of the match,

Lewis said he uncharacteristically stepped in for a drinks-break pep talk with his "deflated" team that led to an inspired comeback that was nonetheless too little too late. "I went on today just to remind them what we're all about as a cricket team, and they responded to that really well. There was a period where we looked a little deflated as a side because we took some punches and when you're on the ropes, you're taking punches, it can be hard to keep bouncing back. But after the drinks interval, I thought they came back, took some wickets, got back on our plans, and actually executed much better after that point. But yeah, it was a tricky period of time for us [earlier] and it's something we will reflect on for sure."

Knight's absence was actually a contingency England were equipped



for as part of their meticulous pre-tournament planning wherein the captain and the head coach removed themselves from the set-up for a game during the New Zealand home series and let Nat Sciver-Brunt take charge. However, with their World Cup hopes on the line, pressure got the better of them. They hadn't put a foot wrong in Sharjah, but a singular poor outing with the ball in Dubai sealed England's fate, and Lewis hoped his young bowling group would take the learnings from this six-wicket defeat and emerge stronger on the other side. "I'm pretty gutted to be honest," Lewis said. "We've worked incredibly hard over a long period of time working towards this point. We've put a lot of really good foundations into the team. We've grown our team over a long period of time.