

## FACULTY AND COURSE MEMBERS OF 64th NDC COURSE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT

**NEWDELHI,(KCN):** The faculty and course members of 64th National Defence College Course, called on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (October 1, 2024). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the dynamic global geo-political environment poses numerous challenges. The fast pace at which events have unfolded in the recent past, could not have been foreseen perhaps a decade earlier. Thus, all officers, whether from civil services or defence services, must be aware of the challenges and vulnerabilities they face, and the strengths that can help deal with such



challenges. One strength that they must have and cannot do without is being able to utilise technology for the greater good of their organisations, countries and humankind at large. Innovation is another factor that will keep them future-ready.

The President said that today, our security concerns extend beyond the preservation of territorial integrity and encompass other areas of national well-being, such as economic, environmental, energy security, and cyber security issues.

Addressing these concerns requires intensive research and calls for a holistic approach. The President said that cyber-attacks have emerged as a major threat to national security. She urged all to understand the gravity of this issue and take concrete measures to address it.

## PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT



**NEWDELHI,(KCN):** The Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Andrew Holness called on the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (October 1, 2024). Welcoming Prime Minister Holness on his first visit to India, the President said that Jamaica holds a special place in the hearts of Indians, especially with our shared love of cricket and music. She added that the Indian diaspora

in Jamaica is also a very important link in our relationship.

The President was happy to note that India-Jamaica relations are growing steadily, including in the areas of trade and economy. The two leaders agreed that there is a need to continue to deepen the partnership at various levels through parliamentary, academic and cultural exchanges, as well as cooperation in international fora. The President

appreciated Jamaica's participation in all three editions of the Voice of the Global South Summits organized by India. She noted that both countries are strong advocates for reform of multilateral institutions including the UN Security Council, and have been working together as part of groupings such as the L-69 to achieve this. The President expressed confidence that Prime Minister Holness's visit will further boost ties between our two countries.

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida said the state government is mulling to replace 'chhatua', a food item served to children in Anganwadis, with some alternative instant nutritional food like millet. Several MLAs had raised objections in the Assembly to the supply

of 'poor-quality' chhatua served to children in different Anganwadi centres in the state. Even, Assembly Speaker Surama Padhy had directed Parida to submit a report on actions taken against agencies providing inferior quality 'chhatua' to children in Anganwadi centres. Speaking to media

persons on the sideline of an event organised in Bhubaneswar to celebrate Nutrition Month-2024, the DyCM who is in charge of Women and Child Development, Monday said there are regional differences in nutrition, malnutrition and anaemia.

To address it, she said the Women and Child Development department is mulling to provide region-specific food to Anganwadi children and millets can be an alternative food in places where it is being produced. Parida said that her department would also seek opinions from nutrition experts.

The DyCM said she has instructed the district-level officers to act as per feedback received. In the coming days, children will be provided more nutritious and wholesome food so that Odisha will become a malnutrition-free state, said Parida.

## Odisha govt mulls to replace 'chhatua' with alternative instant nutritional food

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Ayushman Bharat-Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Health Insurance Yojana is going to be launched soon in Odisha, said Health Minister Mukesh Mahaling on Tuesday. This initiative combines the Centre's Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) with the state's own Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana (GJAY).

Health Minister Mukesh Mahaling announced that the scheme will benefit approximately 3.5 crore people from one crore families across Odisha. Beneficiaries will receive health cards enabling them to access cashless treatment at around 27,000 empanelled hospitals nationwide. Under the new scheme, male beneficiaries will receive health insurance coverage up to ₹5 lakh, while female beneficiaries will be covered up to ₹10 lakh. The initiative also

includes special provisions for senior citizens above 70 years and migrant laborers. The Ayushman Bharat-Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana replaces the previous Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY), expanding the scope and benefits of health coverage. The integration of these schemes is expected to significantly enhance healthcare accessibility and

affordability for the state's residents. Minister Mahaling emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring that quality healthcare is accessible to all, particularly the underprivileged sections of society. The rollout of this scheme marks a major step towards achieving universal health coverage in Odisha.

## Odisha to Launch Ayushman Bharat-Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Health Insurance Yojana



## Those who looted the rights of the poor, give the slogan of poverty eradication: PM Modi

**Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), Oct 01:** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi highlighting the extent of Congress's corruption, stated that when 1 rupee was sent, only 15 paise reached the poor. He rebuked the Congress, saying, "Those who looted the rights of the poor, gave the slogan of poverty eradication."

Taking a sharp jibe at the opposition, PM Modi stated, "Corruption runs through every vein of the Congress party; it is a party of brokers and sons-in-law." In contrast, he highlighted that the BJP government is now providing thousands of rupees in compensation to farmers.

PM Modi, while initiating his address at the Palwal, Haryana rally, expressed his gratitude for the

opportunity to visit various parts of Haryana in recent days. The PM shared his observation that a strong wave of support for the BJP is sweeping through every village, with one resonating chant: "Bharosa dil se...BJP phirse!"

He noted that Haryana has a consistent track record, mirroring the political sentiments of Delhi. After electing a BJP government for the third consecutive time in Delhi, it is evident that Haryana is set to follow suit, ensuring a third term for the BJP government here as well.

PM Modi evoked the spirit of Haryana, a land that has given the world the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita. He emphasized that Haryana has always taught the

value of hard work, urging people to work with dedication. He heavily criticized the Congress party, saying, "Congress's politics is about doing no work and stopping others from working." He contrasted this with the BJP's vision & commitment to hard work and delivering results.

The PM pointed out the internal conflicts within the Congress party in Haryana, saying that the people of Haryana are well aware of this. He emphasized that the most discontented are the Dalit, backward, and marginalised communities. "The Dalit community has decided not to be used as pawns to further the politics of father-son duos," he remarked, noting how they appreciate the

BJP's inclusive approach. PM Modi also praised Chief Minister Saini for his humility and for leading the state by taking everyone along. He added that the Congress kept critical national issues unresolved — blocking the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, preventing the full application of the Constitution in Jammu & Kashmir, and denying reservation for women in Parliament and Assemblies. He also noted how Congress left Muslim women stuck in the issue of triple talaq, showing that rather than solving the nation's problems, Congress focused on securing its own family's power.

As he furthered the speech, PM Modi stated that Congress believes its vote bank is secure and thinks those who love India will be divided. He also stressed the need to thwart Congress's divisive agenda. He urged everyone to unite and pledge to vote for the future of their children, the safety of their daughters, jobs without corruption, new investments in Haryana, better roads, and improved irrigation. PM Modi highlighted that Congress's only agenda is appeasement for votes.

PM Modi labelled Congress as the largest anti-Dalit party in the country, highlighting that it defeated Dr Ambedkar in elections twice and blocked his portrait from the Central Hall of Parliament. He pointed out that the highest incidents of Dalit violence occurred during Congress's rule and referenced a viral video of a Congress leader, known for his past malice towards Dalits. He further warned that Congress plans to end reservation, with Haryana as their testing ground. He also assured the crowd that as long as the BJP and he are in power, the rights of SC, ST, and OBC communities to reservations granted by the Constitution will remain protected.

PM Modi expressed that it was a misfortune for the country that Congress received full support from the Pakistani government on the issue of withdrawal of Article 370. He posed an open question to the audience: "Can an agenda that pleases Pakistan resonate with the patriotic people of Haryana?" He further added that if Congress can appease Pakistan, how can they keep Haryana happy?



## Achyuta Samanta Conferred Prestigious Mahatma Award



**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** The prestigious Mahatma Award was conferred upon the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti in New

Delhi. This award, presented by the Aditya Birla Group, honours individuals who have made remarkable contributions to education and social service. Dr.

Samanta received the award in recognition of his significant efforts in these fields.

The Mahatma Award, initiated by renowned CSR activist Amit

Sachdeva, has been awarded since 2016 to distinguished individuals and organisations contributing to societal development. Previous recipients include luminaries such as Ratan Tata, Azim Premji, Bindeshwar Pathak, and Shabana Azmi.

A selection committee carefully evaluates each nominee's contributions before bestowing the award. Dr. Samanta, who has dedicated over 33 years to education and social work, has focused on uplifting marginalized and tribal communities, aligning with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of eradicating inequality. Through KISS, Dr. Samanta has accelerated these

efforts over the past three decades.

This year's ceremony also honoured prominent figures such as scholar and author Sudha Murty, renowned Odissi and Bharatanatyam dancer Sonal Mansingh, Former Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry Kiran Bedi, and social worker Rajashree Birla were also present at the event.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Samanta expressed his gratitude and dedicated the award to the KIIT and KISS family. He also thanked Mugdha Arora, Director, Mahatma Awards, Managing Editor, CSR Good Book as well as the organizing committee for the recognition.

## BSF 180 Battalion and Koraput Press Club held a friendly cricket tournament

**Semiliguda (KCN):** A friendly cricket tournament between Koraput BSF 180 Battalion and Koraput Press Club was held

encourage teamwork and establish friendships among themselves. BSF work was appreciated by all



the journalists from the press club. All arrangements were made by BSF for this cricket tournament. Bhavani Mishra, Saumya Ranjan Sahu, Trilochan Maharana, CH Bhagwati Achari, Sushant Mishra, Utham Naik, Satyajit Mohanty, Karuna Mahanandia, Dilip Mohanty played major games on behalf of Koraput Press Club.

## Tata Steel Foundation successfully conducts Jyoti Fellowship Exams for over 1200 students

**Jajpur, (KCN):** Tata Steel Foundation successfully organised the Jyoti Fellowship Examination, offering more than 1200 students from economically disadvantaged Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) families the opportunity to compete for merit-based scholarships. Held across 15 centres in the Danagadi and Sukinda blocks of Jajpur district, the examination aims to empower deserving students to pursue their educational and career aspirations. The Jyoti Fellowship initiative focuses on providing financial assistance to meritorious students



from rural and remote areas. Eligible participants included students in Class 8, as well as first-year undergraduates and postgraduates from 50 schools and 12 colleges. Last year, the Fellowship

was awarded to 1281 students, with over 70% being girls, highlighting the Foundation's commitment to making education accessible for females from rural and tribal communities. The Jyoti Fellowship



2024-2025  
ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,  
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail: [maharishipublic13@yahoo.com](mailto:maharishipublic13@yahoo.com)



Find us on  
[facebook.com/maharishiplayschool](https://facebook.com/maharishiplayschool)



FOLLOW US  
ON TWITTER  
[twitter.com/maharishiplayschool](https://twitter.com/maharishiplayschool)

## NTPC Bongaigaon Shines with Multiple Gold Wins at QCFI CCQC 2024



**NEW DELHI, (KCN):** NTPC Bongaigaon has achieved a remarkable feat at the Quality Circle Forum of India (QCFI) CCQC 2024, with four of its teams securing Gold awards for their innovative solutions to critical challenges.

Team U-235 from the Chemistry Department, led by Shyamal Banerjee (Facilitator), Apurbajyoti Das (Leader), Anamika Dutta, Subhadra Basumatary, and Bidyut Debnath, addressed the "Frequent Unavailability of CW

Chemical Dosing System" at the Kolkata Chapter on 24th September 2024 and won Gold.

Team Synchrony from C&I Maintenance and Operation Gr-B, featuring Md Mukaram Qureshi (Facilitator), Gaurab Baruah (Leader), and Gunjan Rabha, tackled the "Frequent Non-Availability of Mills Due to Thrust Bearing Temperature Failure" at the Kolkata Chapter on the same day, earning them a Gold award.

Team Lakshya from Operation Gr-D, including Aditya

Nivsarkar (Facilitator), Ram Ratan Barman (Leader), Animesh Halder, Gakul Kumar Ray, and Kwmdwn Basumatary, presented their solution to the "Frequent Overflow of Bottom Ash Overflow Tank" at the Varanasi Chapter on 29th September 2024, securing another Gold. Team Samadhan, made up of members from the Hospital, IT, and Store departments—Bharti Daniel, Ashish Daniel, Puran Pandit, and Sumanta Kumar Sahu—won Gold at the Pune Chapter on 20th and 21st September 2024 with their project on the "Difficulty for Safe Keeping of Medical Oxygen Cylinders in Oxygen Plant During Refilling of Oxygen Cylinders." These awards highlight NTPC Bongaigaon's unwavering focus on innovation and teamwork, cementing its place as a leader in driving operational excellence. NTPC Bongaigaon continues to set new benchmarks in quality and sustainability, contributing to the broader vision of a brighter, more efficient future.

## CLASSIFIED

## CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga Chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/ liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



## AUTOMOBILE



## REAL ESTATE

**SALE**  
Cawasik Bajaj  
tiptop condition  
on sale  
Contact: 2555326

**PURCHASE**  
Required a Marshal/  
Commandor / Boleo in  
good condition. Contact  
:555763

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF**  
Classified advertisements are released daily.  
The nominal classified advertisement is charged  
@ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number  
of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/-  
per word. The minimum charges for any  
classified advertisement is Rs. 100/- The  
options for bold lettering and outlining are  
also available and are charged @ 7/- and  
10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for  
photographs Rs.100/- For Box No. Rs. 100/-

**HIRE**  
For hiring of Car / Jeep /  
Bus on monthly basis.  
Contact : 2555763

**PURCHASE**  
Simplex / Duplex  
building at BBSR  
contact: 9437002509

## BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high  
return, extra earn and  
foreign trip opportunity.  
238904001.  
Independent business  
work from home, training  
in Singapore,  
1339014287.

**MATRIMONIAL**  
**BRIDE WANTED**  
Wanted bride for  
Chandayat Boy, 37 plus,  
Caste no bar, 0674-  
555763

**GROOMWANTED**  
Wanted Groom any  
service/business family  
or a Brahmin Girl.  
Contact 2555226

## WANTED

**Required Driver/Peon/  
Attendant/ Aya**

Please Contact-8984600400

**ACCOMMODATION  
WANTED**

**Required double/Single/ Multi  
storied Bungalow type North or  
East Facing Independent build-  
ing At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar,  
V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar,  
Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar,  
Niladri Vihar.**

Please Contact- 8338870595

# Tovino Thomas starrer 'ARM' enters Rs 100 crore club



Tovino Thomas, who became a favourite among audiences through the movie Minnal Murali, has brought out another major hit flick Ajayante Randam Moshanam (ARM), a Fantasy-Action-Adventure-Romantic-Sci-Fi movie directed by Jithin Lal. The 3D movie released September 12, is written by Sujith Nambiar.

The film received a blockbuster response in every language and has further elevated Tovino Thomas's stardom. The film became the Onam winner, bringing glory back to the Mollywood box office and highlighting the power of content. This entertainer impressed all walks of life and continues to run successfully with good occupancy.

The film slowly reached the Rs 100 crore mark, proving Tovino Thomas's star power at the Mollywood box office and beyond.

In ARM, Tovino

impressively portrays three distinct characters — Kunjikkelu, Maniyan and Ajayan— showcasing his remarkable versatility. With a talented cast including Krithi Shetty, Surabhi Lakshmi and Aishwarya Rajesh, and music by Dhibu Ninan Thomas, ARM offers a thrilling cinematic experience.

Rooted deeply in the fantasy and folklore of Kerala, this visual spectacle has received positive word of mouth, which is driving it to a successful run.

Given the overwhelming trend, ARM is sure to generate even more love

at the ticket window. Besides its phenomenal domestic performance, the film is also doing exceptionally well in other languages. The film also stars Basil Joseph, Jagadeesh, Harish Uthaman, Harish Peradi, Kabir Singh, Pramod Shetty, and Rohini in significant roles. Jomon T. John, who started in Malayalam cinema and has now reached Bollywood, handles the cinematography for ARM.

Edited by Shameer

Muhammed, ARM has

been produced by Listin

Stephen under the

banners Magic Frames and UGM Motion Pictures, with Dr Zachariah Thomas. The co-producer is Justin Stephen, and the executive producer is Naveen P. Thomas and Prince Paul. Additional screenplay credits go to Deepu Pradeep. The film stunts have been coordinated by Vikram Moore and Phoenix Prabhu of Kantara fame.

The film was distributed

by major industry players,

with Hombale Films

handling the Kannada

release, Mythri Movie

Distributors for Telugu,

and Anil Thadani for Hindi.

## Exclusive: Imran Khan says 'Ranbir Kapoor and I never bought into ugly reports'



Actor Imran Khan recently opened up about his relationship with colleague and Bollywood star Ranbir Kapoor. The two had made their debut around the same time. On work front, Imran was last seen in 'Katti Batti'. Colleagues Imran Khan and Ranbir Kapoor were considered two of the most sought-after actors after their debut in 2008 and 2007, respectively. Constant comparisons between contemporaries were not unusual and both Imran and Ranbir were not strangers to this. In

that he took the craft very seriously. He's a cinephile and he was also not engaging in that thing."

"This is just the spicy stuff that they like to talk about in the gossip magazines. I recall there were a couple of particularly ugly things that would come out. And we would always make it a point to kind of reach out and say, 'Hey, listen, aise aise hua hai [this has happened], are we cool?'"

Both Ranbir Kapoor and Imran Khan had even appeared on Koffee With Karan episode together during Season 3. Meanwhile, Imran Khan is currently developing two scripts, but is yet to sign any movie.

Imran Khan was last seen in the 2015 release, Katti Batti, with Kangana Ranaut.

A new song from Mr and Mrs Mahi is out, called Roya. A soft moving ballad, it has been composed, written and sung by the versatile Vishal Mishra. As one can gleam from the music video, the track appears in the movie when Janhvi Kapoor and Rajkummar Rao's relationship is experiencing some issues.

Speaking about the song

and what truly makes it

## Actor Tusshar Kapoor's Facebook accounts get hacked

Actor Tusshar Kapoor Monday said his private and public accounts on Facebook have been hacked and he is trying his best to get the profiles back. In an Instagram post, Kapoor mentioned the reason for his inactivity on the platform.

"Hello everyone, I wish to inform that both my public and private Facebook accounts have been compromised, which has caused my recent inactivity on the platform. My team and I are doing our best to resolve the situation and regain control of the accounts," read the post.

"We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time and look forward to re-engaging with you all soon. Thank you for your continued support," he concluded.

The 47-year-old actor recently appeared in drama series "Dus June Kii Raat" which released in August. He will next star in Welcome to the Jungle alongside Akshay Kumar, Disha Patani, Jacqueline Fernandez and Raveena Tandon among others.



## 'Roya Jab Tu' song: 'Mr and Mrs Mahi's' soft ballad will move you to tears



special, Vishal Mishra said, "Roya. A soft moving ballad, it has been composed, written and sung by the versatile Vishal Mishra. As one can gleam from the music video, the track appears in the movie when Janhvi Kapoor and Rajkummar Rao's relationship is experiencing some issues.

Mr and Mrs Mahi is being touted as a romantic drama, where cricket clashes with romance.

Filmmaker Karan Johar, who is bankrolling the film, had previously spoken about the movie

and said, "Some films are more than just stories. They are so much more than celluloid love. They talk to the viewer about dreams and how often people closest to us can come in the way of our dreams. Mr and Mrs Mahi is exceptionally close to our hearts."

Helmed by Sharan Sharma, Mr and Mrs Mahi will release in

cinemas on May 31.

## Shah Rukh Khan's Jawan Becomes First Film To Cross USD 16 Million At Box Office In UAE



It's almost a month since Shah Rukh Khan's action-entertainer 'Jawan' has been released but its craze among the audience doesn't seem to settle down at any cost. One after the other, the film is creating new records at the Box Office not just in India but also across the world. Having set its strong feet in different parts of the world, 'Jawan' has now made a distinctive mark in the UAE market as well, as the film has emerged as the #1 Indian film in the Middle East with its phenomenal collection figures.

Talking about the same, Nelson D'Souza, Vice President International Distribution, said, 'Jawan' has been received

first film to cross the whooping collection of USD 16 Million and has made it the #1 Indian film in the Middle East. Well, among many, this is indeed yet another example of its success and the unprecedented love that the film is receiving from the audience. Well, as we see, Jawan is constantly on the rise, it would be interesting to see how the film will create more records in the future.

'Jawan' is a Red Chillies Entertainment presentation directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan, and co-produced by Gaurav Verma. The film was released worldwide in theaters on September 7th, 2023, in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu. The film has become the

## Varun Tej, Manushi Chhillar-Starrer Air Force Action Film Makers Drop Big Update



The suspense will soon be over as the title for India's biggest Air Force action film will be unveiled tomorrow. The Hindi-Telugu film, also stars Manushi Chhillar as a radar officer. VT 13, inspired by true events, will take us through the biggest and the most deadly attacks witnessed by India and the victory of our Indian Air Force over their enemies by demonstrating strong courage to protect their country. The highly anticipated film is produced by Sony Pictures International Productions and Sandeep Mudda from Renaissance Pictures, co-produced by Nandakumar Abbineni and God Bless Entertainment and is written by Shakti Pratap Singh Hada, Aamir Khan and Siddharth Raj Kumar.

exceptionally well in international markets and continues to perform exceptionally well, becoming the first Indian film to cross USD 16 Million in the Middle East and emerging as the #1 Indian Film while raking in an outstanding 44.43 million in overseas till date.

There is nothing quite like this we have seen before and we are now looking forward to even more exciting times ahead with Dunki! - Nelson D'Souza, Vice President, International Distribution 'Jawan' is spreading its magic in the UAE market. The film has become the

# Five Gandhians you would like to meet



Krishna Vidyarthi is a busy man these days. He is overseeing the arrangements for the October 2 (Gandhi Jayanti) function that would take place at the Valmiki Mandir, Panchkuin Road. The function starts with All Religion Prayer. He is a dignified individual and is a caretaker of Valmiki Temple where Gandhi ji had spent 214 days. Vidyarthi is around 62 years old and has lived in this temple since childhood. His family also lived in the Valmiki colony adjacent to the temple for around 100 years. Not only is he in charge of the Valmiki Temple, but he also preserves the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi. In a small room in the same Valmiki temple complex, Gandhiji stayed from April 1, 1946, to June 10, 1947. Vidyarthi ji prefers to stay out of the

limelight. He meets those who come to the temple and takes visitors to the room where Gandhi ji stayed and also runs his classes. "Here in Valmiki temple, Gandhi ji taught kids of Valmiki families living here only," he informs. Wearing Khadi clothes, he tells you that his father and other family members also attended the classes of Bapu. "Gandhi ji would scold those students who did not come to class clean. He paid special attention to cleanliness. He believed that you cannot gain knowledge without being clean." The room where Gandhi taught is still in the same position as it was then. A painting is placed there, which shows some children clinging to his feet. You are unlikely to see such a picture anywhere else. Gandhi ji's attempt was to make those who could not read or write at all learn to do so.

**Gandhi and St. Stephen's college**  
Brother Solomon George considers Mahatma Gandhi as his very own for the reason that when he visited the capital for the first time on March 12, 1915, he

stayed at St. Stephen's College, Kashmiri Gate. Brother Solomon, who is an active member of Delhi Brotherhood Society (DBS) that had established St. Stephen's college and also runs many schools and Vocational Training centres in capital, says that Gandhi ji's came to know about Christianity while he was in South Africa. There he met Christian missionary Joseph Doke, who wrote his first biography, and C.F. Andrews, a teacher in St. Stephen's College and active member of DBS, "informs Brother Solomon, who is a priest in one of the Churches of capital. Brother Solomon says that Gandhi ji is the greatest apostle of peace the world has seen after Buddha and Christ. His notion of peace is centered on nonviolence, individualism, soul force and forgiveness. At first glance, global peace initiatives might be perceived as far-flung methodologies that have wholly diverged from his ideologies.

One of Brother Solomon's favourite Gandhian teachings is—

If an enemy strikes your left cheek, offer him your right. Greatly influenced by Mahatma Gandhi, Brother Solomon has also participated in All faith prayer umpteen

becoming a staunch follower. Following Gandhi's assassination in 1948, Ram Sutar began sculpting his first bust, marking the start of a lifelong devotion to



numbers of times in various places. He recites from the Bible during the prayer. "Very honestly, it gives great joy and happiness when you take part in all faith prayers. It gives a strong message that we all have to live together to make India truly a secular country."

**He who is Sculpting the Legacy of Gandhi**

Ram Sutar, now around 99, is renowned for his captivating sculptures of Mahatma Gandhi. His journey with the Father of India began in 1938, when a young Ram Sutar witnessed Gandhi's public gatherings in Dhule, Maharashtra. It was then that he was first inspired by Gandhi's ideologies, including the

immortalizing Gandhi's image. He has since created hundreds of busts and life-sized statues of Gandhi, each infused with a deep reverence and connection to the leader he admired. "Every time I sculpt Gandhi, I feel like I am conversing with him," Ram shares.

Sutar's passion for his craft led him to the capital in 1958, where he started sculpting full-time after leaving a government job. He created his first life-sized statue of Gandhi in 1968, which was initially intended for India Gate. The statue, featuring Gandhi with two children, eventually found its home in Patna. Sutar's work has adorned significant locations, including the

Parliament House, where his statue of Gandhi in a meditative pose stands as a symbol of serenity.

**Tallest Gandhian at Rajghat**

The tender looking diminutive Katsu Saan, 89, has not missed even a single all religion prayer

"With the passage of time, prayers of Jain, Baha'i and Parsi faiths were also included in the All-religion prayer meetings that are held at Rajghat and other places. The Baha'i prayer was introduced thanks to the efforts of noted Gandhian

greatly influenced him. "At all stages during the freedom movement, he preached and practised only non-violence. The first thing that inspires me is to use love as a weapon. While the British sowed hatred between Muslims and Hindus to divide them, Gandhi ji had invited the two communities to show love for each other. This is further demonstrated in Gandhi's quote "An eye for an eye ends up making the whole world blind". Thanks to Gandhi, Ahmad had started wearing Khadi clothes during his college days. Apart from teaching in his school, he also teaches to kids of poor families in Sui Walan area of Delhi-6. "I don't think any other country in the world has anything similar to our all-religion prayers started by Gandhi ji. Surely, only Gandhi could think of such a gathering. When I witness all religion prayer, I feel very happy and there is a sense of fulfilment that I am sitting with scholars of other religions," Maqsood Ahmad concludes.

**The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor**

● Vivek Shukla

# The Legacies of Gandhiji and Shastriji

Bijaya Kumar Parhi



Gandhiji and the Bharat Ratna Shastriji were kindred spirits. One was the worshiper of non-violence and another was the apostle of peace. One was the humanist par excellence and another was his ardent follower. Gandhiji life was based on simplicity, truth and non-violence. His non-violence was not a belief only, rather it was his raison d'être, a noble principle which held his life and work together. He understood that truth and non-violence are the building block of freedom movement of India and even the slightest deviation of this was beyond toleration for him. He was a fountain head of extraordinary leadership and peerless personality. He believed that strength does not come from physical capacity, it comes from an indomitable will power. Shastriji was deeply influenced by Gandhiji since from his boyhood stage. He took part in active participation in freedom movement of India at the age of seventeen. He got arrested as an active member of non-cooperation movement led by Gandhiji. The main agenda of non-cooperation movement of India was to accept and embrace domestic products and boycott the foreign products. Lal Bahadur Shastri was completely aware listening to the clarion call of Bapuji. The work of Lala Lajpat Ray, the founder of Loka Sevaka Mandal, attracted him

and he joined soon after the completion of his studies. Gandhiji led the freedom struggle for a complete Swaraj maintaining communal harmony throughout his life. His concept of swaraj was based on the unification and congregation of all religions. Being an ideal disciple of Gandhiji, Shastriji also believed in secularism and vehemently opposed to casteism and division of people in the name of religion. He believed in the religion of togetherness. It was his firm conviction that the emphasis on religion as a basis of majorities in a secular state is quite misplaced and contradiction in terms. He said "You all understand, I'm sure that religion does not aim at dividing, on the hand, all true religions have a basic unity". Both of them were the two sides of a coin in the praxis of morality, ideals and scrupulousness. Highly inspired by Gandhiji,

Shastriji practised service, sacrifice, dedication, commitment and probity. During his tenure of Railways Minister, an aghast train accident occurred at Tamil Nadu. He held himself squarely responsible for that mishap and relinquished from the post. A new chapter of moral responsibility started in the then political scenario. Like Swami Vivekananda and Viswa guru Rabindranath Tagore, Gandhiji said 'Patriotism is not my last refuge of spiritualist, my ultimate refuge is mankind'. He was a humanist out and out. He adhered to Hindu religious traditions, yet he had the highest regards for all religions. So he cited many examples of the holy scriptures of other religions in the prayer session at Sabarmati. He had a firm conviction that politics would never liberate mankind if it was not organized by religion and philosophy. For him religion means duty,

obligation and philosophy means the highest social and political order of the society. He believed in classless independent society and strove for it in the whole life. In his opinion there are seven social sins which hinder the progress and prosperity of a country. These are property without work, happiness without conscience, wisdom without character, trade without values, worship without sacrifice and politics without morality. He did not fight only for independence; he envisioned the holistic development of India. It is known to everyone that book named 'Unto the Last' written by John Ruskin changed the entire course of Gandhiji's life. Shastriji life was significantly changed when he read and understood the life of Gandhiji, which was not less than a book for him. He accepted Gandhiji's ideals as the guiding principles of his life and practiced the values like

patience, fortitude, determination and self-control. After the death of Nehru, Indian National Congress put trust on dynamic leadership and simple personality. As a result, he became the prime minister of India. His heart was as soft and tender as a flower, but his decision with regard to country's defence and liberty was as strong and inflexible as steel. His dynamism surprised everyone at the time of Indo-Pak war. He was forthright in his statement and candidly declared the inevitability of peace at Tashkent Agreement. He exhorted the then Pak leaders to fight against social maladies like hunger, poverty, unemployment etc. instead fighting against each other. That tremendous resolution earned him the apostle of peace. The German writer Friedrich Max Muller said 'If anyone asks me which country has the highest contribution for the welfare of the world, I will indicate at India. This glorious nation has only the remedies to all evils the mankind suffers. It is axiomatic that Gandhiji's non-violence is the panacea, every nation should seek. Honesty and simplicity are the life style of Shastriji. Gandhiji said 'the soul of India lies in village' laying emphasis on village life style, culture and agriculture. This realization dawned on Shastriji aftermath India's war against

Pakistan. Besides he also realized the supreme sacrifice of the soldiers and relentless contribution of farmers. His slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' on 26 January 1965 at Ram Leela Maidan has an effect even in today's contemporary life. It's quite unfortunate that farmers of our country the worst neglected by the so-called democratic leaders of our country. Once Gandhiji was asked - 'what are the sources of hopes and despair of our country?'. He opined that the main hope and consolation for our country is that spiritualism still exists in our country despite consistent exploitation, hypocrisy and deprivation. The reason for frustration is that the youth of our country are completely wayward ignoring their self-esteem and forgetting their culture. The declination of the youth vigor is the major setback for our country. The youth are the backbone of a nation. The countries whose youth are polished and disciplined are said to be glorious and prosperous. Shastriji always backed the youth power and encouraged them to volunteer the campaigns necessary for the country and work selflessly for a higher goal. After the independence, a reporter asked Gandhiji 'What would be your first step in free India?'. He quickly retorted that his first duty is to make India free from addiction to drugs and alcohol. But ironically consumption of drugs and alcohol has become a way of life for India's youth. On the other hand, the two important weapons of Gandhiji-Truth and Non-violence which he used against the Britishers have gone for a toss. Gandhiji's philosophy has spread across the globe. His discipline Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King were steadfast to his ideals all through their life. Even the renowned scientist Albert Einstein's remark about Gandhiji "Generations to come, it may well be, will scarce believe that such a man as this one ever in flesh and blood walked upon the earth" speaks volumes about the excellence, impeccability, greatness and magnitude of Gandhiji's character, potentials and above all his ideals. The leaders and the heads of the countries across the globe of the 21st century must take a leaf from Gandhiji's book when the third world war is imminent. Gandhiji and Shastriji were not persons, they were two illustrious personalities who will be inspiring the numerous minds in the days to come. Mere celebrations of their birthdays on every 2 October does not hold any significance unless their ideals are translated into actions. Such characters come to a nation once in many years. We have to carry forward their legacies as a mark of fitting tribute to these immortal souls in the form of two ever glittering stars who appeared in the Indian firmament.

Teacher of English  
Ph. - 7894153578

# Abhyuday Jindal will be new President of ICC succeeding Ameya Prabhu

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Shri Abhyuday Jindal, will be new President of Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) succeeding Shri Ameya Prabhu who will demit office of President in mid October 2024. Shri Abhyuday Jindal will be President of ICC when the business chamber will celebrate its 100th year of existence. Indian Chamber of Commerce hosted its 96th Annual General Meeting on Monday, 30th September 2024 Kolkata Shri Abhyuday Jindal, in his address said "2024 has been a dynamic year, thanks to active and energetic leadership. As we approach ICC's 100th year, we have ambitious plans and exciting opportunities, including international collaborations. I appreciate everyone's support and will need your full cooperation to make this milestone a

success. We'll focus on creating a meaningful platform, gathering feedback to continuously improve. I'm honoured to serve as your upcoming president and look forward to working together for an exciting and impactful year ahead." Mr. Ameya Prabhu, President, Indian Chamber of Commerce, stated, "As we celebrate ICC's Centennial, I reflect on our incredible journey from a national chamber to a global player, with new offices across India and internationally in places like South Korea and Mauritius. Over the past year, we've focused on sustainable growth, skill development and job creation, with initiatives like our MSME and startups committee. ICC's role is vital in navigating challenges like AI and climate change, ensuring a bright future for India. I am deeply

grateful to my colleagues and mentors for their unwavering support and I look forward to continuing this legacy for future generations. I move to adopt the auditor's report and financial statements and I propose the necessary resolutions in accordance with our Articles of Association."

Dr. Rajeev Singh, Director General, ICC stated, "I encourage everyone to reflect on this year's highlights, as they showcase the significant impact we've made together through dedication and collaboration. These achievements are a testament to our collective efforts, from strengthening partnerships with government agencies to expanding opportunities in trade and investment. As we move forward, it's important to build on this momentum, continuing to foster

growth and innovation for the benefit of our members and the broader community."

Mr. Brij Bhushan Agarwal, of ICC said, "Hydrogen is a critical focus area with innovations emerging to address the challenge of cost-effective production. Integrating

hydrogen and natural gas solutions is essential as we meet environmental goals, especially with new solar policies and carbon reduction targets for 2028. India is on track to become the third-largest global economy, driven by advancements in digitalisation, AI and 3D technology. MSMEs are vital to this growth, supporting larger corporations through innovation. Despite global competition, India's export story remains strong with robust domestic demand and a competitive edge in services and manufacturing. Our abundant talent and resources position India as an attractive global manufacturing hub, creating immense opportunities for future growth."

Shri Ameya Prabhu mentioned about expansion and presence of ICC within the country as well as its international presence in both hemispheres of planet Earth. Today, ICC is present in thirty

nations including Chile, as well as New Zealand.

Shri Ameya Prabhu stressed on the needs for promotion of cooperation & collaboration to address challenges of Climate change, job creation as well as sustainable growth for Bharat as well as other nations. Exclusive interactive sessions were organised with eminent personalities such as Mr. Sudarshan Venu, MD, TVS Motor Company Limited; Ms. Manasi Joshi, Former World Champion in Para Badminton; Ms. Bhumi Pednekar, Renowned Bollywood Actress; Mr. Sourav Ganguly, Former Captain, Indian Cricket Team to explore various issues involved in management of challenges faced by leadership in business, sports, climate change & others.

## Rishabh C. Kothari Takes Over as President of Hindusthan Club



**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Hindusthan Club, one of the Kolkata's premier family clubs, has elected Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari, CEO of CKC Fragrances, Kolkata, as its President for the year 2024-25. The election results were announced following the Club's Annual General Meeting held on September 30, 2024. In a very closely contested election, Mr. Kothari's slate of candidates triumphed with a substantial margin, securing victories for all six office bearers and 13

out of the 15 committee members.

The newly elected office bearers include: Vice President: Mr. Sanjay Goenka Honorary Secretary: Mr. Chandrasekhar Sarda Honorary Treasurer: Mr. Kamal Ghelani Honorary

Joint Secretaries: Mr. Dhruv Agarwal and Mr. Saurabh Shah. Notably, Ms. Swati Shah received the highest number of votes in the election.

Mr. Kothari, who has previously been the President of the Merchants Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) as well as the Fragrances and Flavours Association of India (FAFAI), ran his campaign on a platform of change, called his team "The Changemakers."

## "Shakti Samman" presented to nine extraordinary women by Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar Club presented "Shakti Samman" to nine extraordinary women in nine different areas on 29th September 2024 in Kolkata in an elegant awards ceremony.

Shakti Samman awardees are: 1) Ms. Parul Bajoria (Art and Culture), 2) Ms. Priyanka Goenka (Entrepreneurship), 3) Ms. Anwesha Banerjee (Journalism), 4) Ms. Yasmin Nazia (Legal), 5) Ms. Sharanya Banerjee (Martial Arts), 6) Ms. Anasuya Chakraborty (Police Service), 7) Ms. Tahrina Nasrin (Sports), 8) Ms. Payal Varma (Social Service), 9) Ms. Soma Bose (Author). Two special awards presented

to two women - one for legal & other for police service. The Jury for the awards consisted of three eminent personalities: Sri Satyam Roychowdhury, Ms. Sudeshna Roy, Dr. Kunal Sarkar.

Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar organized the program titled "Nav Shakti: Empowering Women". The essence of this program was to celebrate the achievements of remarkable women, spark meaningful conversations on gender equality, and launch new initiatives aimed at empowering women to create lasting change in society.

Mr. Shekhar Mehta, President Rotary International (2021-22) presided over the



program. The program was brainchild of President Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar. Ms. Pramila Dugar, Ms. Chitra Agarwal, Chairperson of Nav Shakti, Ms. Aparna Biyani Coordinator of Shakti Samman anchored the show along with Ms. Pramila Dugar, Mr. S. Dugar and Mr. Shekhar Mehta. Press coordination was organised by Mr. Pranay Aggarwal, Past President of Rotary

Calcutta Mahanagar. A panel discussion on theme "Nay Shakti - Empowering Girls" was organised with the following panellists: Shri Gautam Mohan Chakrabarti IPS, Ex Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, Ms. Sudeshna Roy, Film Director, Actor & Writer, Ms. Anuradha Kapoor, Founder & Managing Trustee-Swayam, Ms. Damini Benny Basu, Actor, Director & Actor Trainer. Mr. Shekhar Mehta announced launching of "Nav - Uday" - Project Shakti for "Empowering Girls" on Cervical Cancer, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Nutrition and Self Defense. The project value is nearly Rs. 50 Lakhs and will benefit 50,000 women in Bengal.

## Ramprasad Saraf elected President of Churu Nagarik Parishad



**Kolkata (KCN):** Churu Nagarik Parishad annual general meeting was organised Sunday. President BL Soti highlighted the activities in his tenure. Members appreciated Soti ji. Past president Narayan Jain felicitated him by presenting a Shawl and flower Bouquet. Ram Prasad Saraf was elected new President. Other office bearers are: BL Soti (IPP)! Tarachand Manot and

Pawan Dhanuka (both Vice Presidents); Jagat Singh Baid (Secretary); Bharat Baid and Ishwar Goenka (both Joint Secretaries) and Sumit Seksaria (Treasurer). New President RP Saraf expressed gratitude for electing him the President of Parishad and promised of his continued services to Parishad. Jagat Baid presented annual report of activities. On this occasion new President Saraf, IPP Narayan Jain & others.

Secretary Jagat Baid were honoured. The Executive Committee includes Former Presidents Dr. SK Sharma (Former Sheriff), Basant Parakh, Prakash Parakh and Senior members Rajendra Bachhawat, Sushil Sharda, Shantilal Kothari, Kantilal Surana, Pawan Agarwal, Deepak Jain, Manju Agarwal (Chairperson Ladies Wing), Kuldeep Manot (Chairman Youth Wing) & others.

**NEW DELHI (KCN):** Iran is preparing an imminent ballistic missile attack against Israel, the United States said on Tuesday, warning that any such assault would have "severe" consequences for Tehran. The warning came as Israel said it had launched a ground offensive in Lebanon to target the Iran-backed militia Hezbollah, whose leader Hassan Nasrallah was killed in an Israeli air strike last week. "The United States has indications that Iran is preparing to imminently

launch a ballistic missile attack against Israel," a senior White House official told AFP on condition of anonymity. "We are actively supporting defensive preparations to defend Israel against this attack." The United States and other western allies stepped in to help defend Israel against a combined Iranian missile and drone attack in April, which Tehran launched in retaliation for an Israeli strike on the Iranian consulate in Damascus. The US official added: "A direct military attack from Iran against Israel will carry severe consequences for Iran." Iran has said that Nasrallah's killing would bring about Israel's "destruction," though the foreign ministry said Monday that Tehran would not deploy soldiers to confront Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meanwhile issued a stark warning to Iran on Monday, saying there was "nowhere in the Middle East Israel cannot reach."

Netanyahu also said that a future "when Iran is finally free" would "come a lot sooner than people think". An attack on Israel by Iran would gravely compound fears of a wider regional conflict that the United States and other world powers have said they want to avoid in the Middle East. The United States has cautiously backed Israel's move to dismantle Hezbollah's ability to attack northern Israel, even as President Joe Biden has called for a ceasefire.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that Washington was tracking events in the Middle East very closely. "The United States is committed to Israel's defense," Blinken said Tuesday morning while meeting his Moroccan counterpart Nasser Bourita at the State Department. Washington said Monday that it was boosting its forces in the Middle East by a "few thousand" troops, by bringing in new units while extending others that are already there.

## Over 1,400 Died In India During Extreme Weather Events In 2024 Monsoon

**New Delhi (KCN):** A total of 1,492 people died in India during extreme weather events in the 2024 monsoon season, according to data compiled by the India Meteorological Department. The data revealed that 895 people lost their lives due to floods and rain-related incidents, while 597 fatalities were

caused by thunderstorms and lightning strikes during the monsoon season. The IMD reported that the country experienced 525 heavy rainfall events (precipitation between 115.6 mm and 204.5 mm) -- the highest in the last five years -- and 96 extremely heavy rainfall events (above 204.5 mm) during the 2024 monsoon.

According to the data, 17 people died from heatwaves -- 13 in Jharkhand and four in Rajasthan -- during the early part of the season. Kerala, which witnessed devastating landslides in the ecologically fragile Wayanad district on July 30, recorded 397 deaths due to floods and heavy rains. Assam and Madhya



Pradesh recorded 102 and 100 deaths, respectively, due to floods and heavy rains. In the national capital, 13 deaths were reported as a result of floods and heavy rains. The data also revealed that Madhya Pradesh recorded the highest number of deaths (189) due to thunderstorms and lightning strikes, followed by Uttar Pradesh (138), Bihar (61), and Jharkhand (53).

The 2024 southwest monsoon season officially ended on Monday, with India recording 934.8 mm of rainfall -- 107.6 per cent of the long-period average and the highest since 2020. Central India received

19 per cent more rainfall than the long-period average for the region, the southern peninsula recorded 14 per cent more than normal, and northwest India saw 7 per cent more than usual. In contrast, east and northeast India registered 14 per cent less rainfall than normal, according to the data.

# Admin apathy endangers students' lives

**Nuapada (KCN):** Believe it or not, students of an Ashram School have to walk more than half a kilometre through a forested road every night to have their dinner, as food is not cooked in the hostel but on the school premises at Kamkeda village under Nuagaon panchayat of Komna block in Nuapada district.

The school owned by the state government and managed by the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste (ST & SC) Development Department is plagued by a host of problems. The residential school has over 300 students on its rolls from Class I to

Class VIII. All the students reside in the hostel established separately from the school at a distance of at least half a kilometre. The students have their midday meals in the school and leave for their hostel after class hours.

However, they have to risk their lives and pass through the forested area in pitch darkness every night to reach their school for dinner. After finishing dinner, they again cover the same distance to reach their hostel which is located close to Chandel hill.

Locals said the hill is inhabited by wild



animals including leopards, bears and poisonous reptiles, and there is every possibility that they might stray near the hostel and endanger the students' lives. Walking on the forested road at night is an open invitation to danger, the locals said.

Rules mandate that both lunch and dinner should be prepared in the respective hostels. However, the authorities cook the food on the school premises instead of in hostels. Furthermore, instead of transporting the food to the hostel,

they make the students walk to the school for dinner. Meanwhile, incessant rainfall triggered by low pressure has been lashing the area for the past few days. However, in the absence of any

alternative, the students walk to their school in the rain and pitch darkness for dinner. Guardians alleged that the teachers and concerned education officials are playing with the students' lives and pushing them into grave danger. They said that the authorities are bound by rules to cook the midday meal at school and the dinner on the hostel premises at night. However, the concerned officials have thrown the norms to wind, they alleged. Parents further alleged that the hostel authorities are yet to give essentials like toothbrushes, and

toothpaste to the hostel inmates while oil, soaps and detergent powder are not given to them at regular intervals. As per rule, they need to deliver the essentials to the students every week but students have to wait for one or two months to get the supplies. Moreover, the students are not served food as per the menu but are given rice, dal, dalma and curry prepared with potato and soybean chunks. Earlier, District Welfare Officer Deepitmanta Bhoi had assured to resolve the problems within a week. Since then a month has passed but

the problems remain unresolved, they alleged. When contacted, Welfare Extension Officer Shyamsundar Majhi of Komna block acknowledged the problem. The school and hostels are separate and hostels are surrounded by private lands making it difficult to dump the wastes, he said, adding that they are arranging two trolleys which will ferry the dinner to the hostel inmates at night. Moreover, dustbins are also being arranged for dumping of garbage and disposing the soiled plates of students, he added.

## 13-km snarl: National Highway gridlocked for four days at Dwarasuni ghat



**Bangiriposhi (KCN):** A massive traffic jam on the National Highway-49 passing through the Dwarasuni ghat in Mayurbhanj district has left many truckers and passenger vehicles stranded for the last four days and kept the highway out of bounds for pedestrians.

Sources said that the ghat road under this block has remained gridlocked for the last four days with containers, trucks, passenger vehicles and two-wheelers seen stranded in a 13-km long traffic snarl on the highway in the middle of a forest.

The traffic jam occurred after three vehicles broke down on the ghat road. The situation worsened due to the delay in arrival of cranes to tow away the vehicles. Such is the situation that a vehicle takes around four hours to cross the stretch of the highway, commuters alleged.

An ambulance was also seen stuck on the route for over four hours. Officegoers could not attend their offices and several youths travelling for the OSSC examination could not appear for the test after remaining stranded on

the route. The traffic jam, around 13 km in length, led to a harrowing experience for commuters. They alleged that the traffic jam had occurred due to the apathetic attitude and negligence of police and administrative officials. Left with no option, commuters were seen hurriedly searching for drinking water. They alleged that the police personnel are making no effort to smooth the plying of the vehicles while the officials of the regional transport department are also not properly verifying the cargo-laden vehicles.

Helpless truckers are reportedly surviving by cooking and consuming food inside their vehicles. Some of the trucks were carrying essential commodities, sources said. Earlier, several political leaders and ministers had assured to take up renovation of the highway and make it safer for travelling. However, as no construction works were taken up, the stretch of the highway at Dwarasuni ghat is witnessing frequent traffic jams and severe accidents leading to loss of lives and properties.

## Jumbo rescued from well after 6-hour rescue ops



30 elephants have been roaming in the area, causing widespread damage by consuming crops like paddy and cotton in Parlasinga, Podhakhamba, Shirol, and Dumeramunda villages. Farmers have lodged written complaints with

the Forest department regarding the destruction of their crops. Despite efforts, the Forest department has been unable to drive the elephants away, leading to discontent among the local population.

Meanwhile, due to the presence of the elephant herd in the area, electricity is being cut off at night in nearby villages such as Balsi, Rengali, Masanibandh, Parlasinga, and Shirol. As a result, villagers are suffering owing to the darkness and extreme heat during the night.



**2024-2025**

## ADMISSION OPEN

**Maharishi Public School, Baripada**

### STD-NURSERY TO VIII

**ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY**

**15.03.2024**

**(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2023)**

**Find the Difference**

- Small Classes**
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.**
- Individual attention to each child.**
- Regular meditation and yoga.**
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.**

**25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)**

**MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Baghra Road, Baripada**  
**For details**  
**Contact :**  
**Call-9438102188, 06792-255227**  
**Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon**  
**E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com**

**Find us on**  
**Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada**

## Closing Ceremony of Innovate Odisha 2.0 Hackathon



Bhubaneswar: Innovate Odisha 2.0, Odisha's biggest maker hackathon, concluded on a high note at Nalanda Institute of Technology, Chandaka, with insightful discussions and celebration of groundbreaking solutions. Organized by AIC-Nalanda Institute of Technology Foundation and Karkhana Makerspace, the second edition focused on emerging sectors such as Generative AI, Climate Tech, Digital Twin, and Industry Automation. The event witnessed overwhelming participation, with over 200 applications received from institutions across Odisha. On the day of the event 20 teams were shortlisted comprising 120+ students from over

15 technical institutions across Odisha. The 24-hour hackathon aimed to empower technical students and professionals to collaborate, innovate, and solve real-world challenges.

The valedictory ceremony was graced by Shri Gokulananda Mallik, Hon'ble Minister of State (Ind. Charge) for F&ARD and MSME Department, Government of Odisha, Shri Manmohan Samal, President of BJP Odisha & Former Rajya Sabha Member, Dr. Tapan Kumar Chand, Chairman BOA, AIC-Nalanda & Co-Convenor, BJP Cell & Former CMD of NALCO, and Shri Pravat Keshari Mishra, Convenor, BJP Industry Cell. The Minister said that, "Odisha's youth has

all potential to do the best and Government shall play a facilitating role to support them in their endeavours." Shri

Manmohan Samal asserted that, "The new Government is committed to the people of Odisha and all-round development of people from all sections of the society." Dr Chand mentioned that, "The new BJP Government in the state will not only bring investment for setting up industries in Odisha but will also generate thousands of jobs for the youth of the state in nearest future".

The winners of the hackathon were felicitated during the ceremony by the esteemed dignitaries, recognizing their outstanding innovations.

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

**Pune:** Bajaj Allianz Life, one of India's leading private life insurers, launched a world's music video "Superstar After Retirement", created by retired seniors showcasing their creativity and fulfilling their life goals. Retirees including ex-bankers, entrepreneurs, ex-educator, ex-engineers and other professionals, are seen unleashing their hidden talents like singing or dancing, and attempting to live their second innings with utmost zeal and passion.

For most individuals, their dreams and desires take a backseat as they strive to ensure financial security and stability for their families.

Commenting on the

initiative, Mr. Chandramohan Mehra, Chief Marketing Officer, Bajaj Allianz Life, said "Aligned to the brand purpose of enabling LifeGoals, we launched Superstar After Retirement initiative to encourage retired senior citizens to rediscover their talents and explore a world full of possibilities and freedom. Financial security provided through a regular stream of income, post-retirement, allows individuals to pursue their earlier unfulfilled passions."

Bajaj Allianz Life had launched a pan-India talent hunt, to showcase their talent and fulfil their dreams of becoming a superstar. From a total of

over 5400 entries, 11 superstars from different walks of life were handpicked to be part of the music video. All of these participants, at some point of their lives, had aspired to be dancers, musicians, singers, cinematographers, lyricists, art director and stylists, aside from being retired senior citizens.

The music video was created entirely by these 11 senior citizens, after going through multiple enriching workshops with expert mentors from Bollywood. The team's collective efforts for 37 days and 450+ hrs has resulted in this one-of-a-kind music video.

footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India's largest chain of toy stores.

"We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno's experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets," said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited.

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand – Rowan, making RBL one of the leading toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global

### RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

**Mumbai:** RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA's toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL's toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building a toy manufacturing in India.

Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started its India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market.

"Keeping with our

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

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand – Rowan, making RBL one of the leading toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global

## Oriental Trimex Ltd Announces Strategic Developments to Revolutionize the Stone Industry, Expand Market Presence, and Achieve Financial Milestones

# Oriental Trimex Limited

New Delhi(KCN) :

Oriental Trimex Ltd (BSE - 532817), a leading processor and trader of natural stones in India announces a series of strategic developments that are set to redefine its operational capabilities, expand its market presence, and solidify its financial standing. These initiatives underscore the company's unwavering commitment to innovation, growth, and customer satisfaction.

Oriental Trimex Limited is poised to revolutionize the stone industry with the importation and installation of a cutting-edge wire-based gangsaw machine, commonly referred to as a "Cable Machine for Slab Cutting." This state-of-the-art technology, sourced from Changsha Beto New Material Technology Co. Ltd. in China, will be the first of its kind in India and is set to be installed at OTL's plant in Gummidiyopodi, near Chennai.

Unlike traditional gangsaws that utilize multiple blades, this advanced machine employs a series of diamond-coated cables with diameters of 0.4-0.6mm, enabling precise cuts and setting a new benchmark for accuracy and efficiency. With features such as pneumatic wire tensioning, hydraulic cylinder support, and bellow-protected linear rails, the wire-based gangsaw significantly

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022.

The company's total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic.

Commenting on the sales performance in May'22, Mr. Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, "The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May'21 as frequent lockdowns in wake of second wave marred the performance during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon."

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

reduces waste, enhances durability, and speeds up the cutting process by approximately three times compared to conventional machines. This strategic investment, expected to be operational by December 2024, is a testament to OTL's dedication to embracing innovative technologies that enhance operational excellence. It will allow the company to deliver unparalleled quality to its clients, particularly in the high-end residential and commercial construction segments.

In a move to strengthen its market presence, Oriental Trimex Limited is excited to announce the upcoming launch of a sprawling 21,000 sq. ft. showroom in the building materials market at Site-4, Greater Noida. Strategically located in the heart of Gautam Budh Nagar District, this showroom is poised to become a one-stop destination for all flooring solutions.

Scheduled to be operational by the end of September 2024, the showroom will showcase an extensive range of finished marbles sourced from OTL's state-of-the-art processing plant in Chennai. In addition, the company will procure high-quality granites from processors in Rajasthan and Southern India, ensuring a comprehensive portfolio of flooring solutions.

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

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022.

The company's total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic.

Commenting on the sales performance in May'22, Mr. Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, "The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May'21 as frequent lockdowns in wake of second wave marred the performance during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon."

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

The location of this showroom is particularly strategic, given the upcoming Jawahar Airport and the envisioned Aerocity in Greater Noida. These developments are expected to drive

exponential growth in the region, and OTL is committed to catering to the increasing demands of the area. The company also plans to expand its footprint with a new showroom in Delhi, post-raising funds

### Union Bank of India signs MOU with SIDBI for Co-Financing arrangement of MSMEs

Mumbai: Union Bank of India today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for a Co-Financing arrangement for MSMEs. The MoU was signed by Shri Lal Singh, Chief General Manager, Union Bank of India and Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, Chief General Manager, SIDBI. SIDBI is country's principal financial institution engaged in the Promotion, Financing and Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

Under the MoU, Union Bank of India would consider Joint financing/Co-Financing with SIDBI to Projects/Units in the MSME. This MoU would help the Banks to increase their

customer base, while helping the MSMEs to meet their funding requirements. The key highlights of the arrangement include joint identification of viable projects and term loan and working capital financing to MSMEs. Initially the arrangement would be at specific centers and once the arrangement stabilizes at these centers, more locations would be covered.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Lal Singh, CGM (MSME), Union Bank of India, said "MSME is one of the key sectors of our Indian

Economy contributing to GDP, Exports, Manufacturing Output, Employment, Women Empowerment etc. SIDBI's commitment towards timely financing for MSMEs across all sectors.

Also, speaking on the tie-up arrangement, Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, CGM, SIDBI reiterated SIDBI's commitment towards timely financing for MSMEs across all sectors.

customer base, while helping the MSMEs to meet their funding requirements. The key highlights of the arrangement include joint identification of viable projects and term loan and working capital financing to MSMEs. Initially the arrangement would be at specific centers and once the arrangement stabilizes at these centers, more locations would be covered.

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

three installments, is directly transferred to the bank accounts of landholding farmer families, consisting of the husband, wife, and minor children.

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

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

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

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

### Commissions India's Largest Fleet of Electric Lithium-Ion Forklifts

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

# South Africa set for historic series, with or without the Shakib sub-plot

**New Delhi:** To South Africa will go the honour of playing the first international matches in Bangladesh since the fall of the despised government led by Sheikh Hasina. CSA confirmed on Monday that they had green lit two men's Tests in Dhaka and Chattogram starting next month. Thereby hangs a context focused on no less a figure than Shakib Al Hasan.

Hasina's increasingly autocratic rule as Bangladesh's prime minister ended in chaos on August 5, when she fled the country in the wake of weeks of protests against job reservation for descendants of veterans of the liberation war fought against Pakistan from March to December 1971. Hundreds of protesters are estimated to have been killed and thousands more injured in brutal violence by police

and groups loyal to Hasina. Shakib is Bangladesh's greatest and most prominent player, and thus the focus of millions of his compatriots' obsession with the game. He is his country's leading wicket-taker in all three formats, and their highest runscorer in T20Is and the third-highest in Tests and ODIs. He is Bangladesh's second most capped player in all three formats.

But Shakib isn't only a cricketer. In November 2023, he joined Hasina's party, Awami League (AL), and won a seat in parliament in the elections held in January. Worse, for many Bangladeshis, was that he said nothing publicly while protesters were being attacked and killed. Last month, Hasina and Shakib were among 147 people charged in

connection with the murder of a protestor, garment worker Mohammed Rubel, who was shot in Dhaka on August 5. He died two days later. The Daily Star reported that the case, which was opened by Rubel's father, Rafiqul Islam, argues that "some of the accused as per instruction directly or indirectly from some others opened fire while hundreds of students including Rubel were protesting".

Shakib was named despite the fact that on August 5 he was in Brampton playing for Mississauga Panthers against Surrey Jaguars in the Global T20 Canada. His most recent match in Bangladesh was a T20I against Zimbabwe in Dhaka on May 12. Will that be the last time he is in action for his national team at home?

He announced his retirement from T20Is on Thursday, when he also said he will quit ODIs after the Champions Trophy in Pakistan in February and March next year. Bangladesh currently have no ODIs scheduled at home. Which brings us to the Test series against South

Africa. Shakib said on Thursday he would like to play his last game in the format in the first match of the rubber, at Mirpur in Dhaka from October 21 to 25, before moving permanently to the United States. But, mindful that his previously adoring public have turned on him, he has sought assurances from the new, anti-AL government that he would be safe. "Going back to Bangladesh is not a concern, but leaving Bangladesh once I go there is dangerous," Shakib told a press conference. The authorities have said he would be as secure as any other national player, but they have also called on him to make clear where he stands politically. That isn't a guarantee. Shakib could well think he will be protected as a cricketer but not as a politician. And that may be enough to dissuade him from taking the risk of playing. There might not even have been a series to play in Bangladesh because of the unsettled political situation in the country. That is, until a CSA release on Monday said: "A security assessment was recently conducted by CSA's operations manager, team security manager, safety and security consultant, and a representative of the South African Cricketers' Association. CSA has given the series a go-ahead based on the recommendations made by the team post an in-loc inspection visit to

Bangladesh." Asked during a press conference on Monday what he made of the Mirpur Test marking the end of Shakib's career in the format, South Africa coach Shukri Conrad said: "Players sign off, so we're used to the excitement around that. This is why we play international cricket, because there are subplots and stories to go with the main event. That makes it even more exciting and challenging. They want to send him out on a high, and he'd want to go out on a high. We're there to spoil the party for them." It seems Shakib's party might already have been spoilt, if the mood music in Bangladesh is to be taken seriously. If that is so, the Kanpur Test, which will end on Tuesday, could be his last.

## Senuran Muthusamy gets Test recall for Bangladesh tour



**New Delhi, (KCN):** South Africa have brought back Senuran Muthusamy to the Test fold for the upcoming two-match tour of Bangladesh in October.

The all-rounder, who bowls left-arm orthodox, is part of a spin troika that includes Keshav Maharaj and Dane Piedt. Muthusamy has three Tests to his name, with the last of it coming in March 2023. In first-class cricket, Muthusamy has 247 wickets and nearly 5,000 runs at an average of 30.41.

Expectedly, Kagiso Rabada will lead the pace attack, with Nandre Burger, Dane Paterson and Wiaan Mulder also picked. Lungi Ngidi and Migael

Pretorius are the only two from the squad in South Africa's previous Test assignment - against West Indies in July-August - to not be picked for Bangladesh.

South Africa head coach Shukri Conrad talked up the versatility and depth of the squad picked and backed the ability of his spin contingent which could be pivotal to the team's fortunes in Bangladesh.

"I want to firstly thank both boards, Cricket South Africa and the Bangladesh Cricket Board, for ensuring the series goes ahead. Bangladesh is always a tough place to tour. They've become a formidable side at home and we have to be prepared for the

challenge that awaits us. We have therefore chosen a squad for the conditions we are expecting to greet us when we get there.

"We have three frontline spinners and all of them have the ability to step up at any time they are needed. This is a great chance for someone like Senuran, who has potential to make a mark with both bat and ball. We are really looking forward to seeing what he can offer," Conrad said.

South Africa's Bangladesh tour, which has now got an approval, begins on October 21 in Dhaka. The second Test - in Chattogram, will take place from November 2. South Africa squad for Bangladesh Tests: Temba Bavuma (c), David Bedingham, Matthew Breetzke, Nandre Burger, Tony de Zorzi, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, Wiaan Mulder, Senuran Muthusamy, Dane Paterson, Dane Piedt, Kagiso Rabada, Tristan Stubbs, Ryan Rickleton, and Kyle Verreyne. However, with GMR

having the controlling stake, Hampshire's Southern Brave team in The Hundred will also come under the control of the Indian firm. The deal is worth 45 million pounds for 100 per cent (about Rs 450-500 crore). GMR is buying 53 percent for 23 million pounds (between Rs 230-300 crore) right now and the remaining 47 per cent over the next two years. There are apparently a few incentives involved in that and will be subject to Hampshire honouring the promised deliverables.

The Hampshire ground, Utilita Bowl, previously Rose Bowl, will now belong to GMR as will the massive golf course adjacent to it. The Hilton Hotel, which is on one side of the ground, will also be owned by the Indian company but the biggest gain would be the land that shall come into GMR's possession. Over the years, the value of this land will only grow, as seen in the real estate business. The principal terms and conditions of this agreement were formally agreed upon by the parties a year ago, with the enterprise value set at a fair market valuation, according to a statement.

Hampshire's existing leadership team will remain in place. Rod Bransgrove will continue as Group Chairman until at least September 2026, and David Mann will retain his role as Group CEO. Together, they will work with GMR to develop short, medium, and long-term strategies for the consistent growth of the club and its operations.

## UPCA in talks to upgrade Green Park stadium, says Rajiv Shukla

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Rajiv Shukla, the BCCI vice president, on Monday said that the Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association, of which he is a member, is in talks with the state government to upgrade the condition of Green Park in Kanpur, which is hosting the ongoing Test match between India and Bangladesh.

The move comes after play on Day 2 and Day 3 at the venue were washed out due to rain. While there were a couple of minor spells of drizzle on Saturday, there

was no rain on Sunday at the venue. Despite that, due to wet outfield not a single ball was bowled. "Sometimes it happens, though we all pray to Lord Indra, that it should not rain, but, you know, it happens. And it happens throughout the world. So, why unnecessarily Kanpur and Green park are being blamed for something which is in nature's hand?" Shukla, who has previously served as the president of the association, said on the sidelines of the second Test.

"This is the first time in

80 years that it has rained so much that we were not able to host the match for two days. But history suggests that no match has been abandoned here. There are lot many venues in the world where because of the rains, matches have been abandoned. Because when this ground was being built, stadium was being built, then those technologies were not available.

"Now technologies are available. Like in our Lucknow stadium, we have got that

technology. And in Varanasi, we are building another stadium. There we have high-tech, modern technology to take away the water.

"Today I had a discussion with administration on how we can develop this system by which the rainy water can immediately be soaked. Immediately after coming here (Green Park), I had a discussion with the government officials because this stadium belongs to government. We are in agreement with them. So, now for that, ground has to be dug up, new technology has to be applied and everything has to be done."

UPCA, which has preferred to host its more high-profile matches in the modern and upgraded Ekana Stadium in Lucknow in recent years, hosted Test cricket in Kanpur only for the second time in the last eight years. He brushed aside the criticism that the venue has received for its inability to make any cricket happen over a few minor spells of drizzle and defended the idea of taking Test cricket to different parts of the country instead of limiting it only to a few centres, as suggested by some current and former

cricketers.

"We have to go by the rotation policy," he said. "Also, India has got now a lot many venues, which Australia and other countries don't have. And we have to provide opportunities for all of them."

"Sometimes what happens is that those cities where people get to see a lot many matches... IPL is also there, and then WPL is also there, then World Cup is also there, bilateral matches are also there. So, the number of spectators goes down in those cities, because people are used to watching, you know, these T20 and one-day cricket and all that. So, that's why this idea was floated that in B-grade cities, where we have got infrastructure, we should organise Test matches so that more and more people are attracted to it."

"Look here (in Kanpur), it's almost packed. And even the last two days when there were rains, a lot of people turned up to watch the match. That means there is appetite. People are eager to watch cricket."



"We are thrilled to welcome Hampshire Cricket into the GMR family. This acquisition is a testament to our commitment to global sports and our belief in the power of cricket to unite people. We look forward to working with the Hampshire team to create a sustainable and successful future for the club," Granthi said. Bransgrove termed the deal as fulfilment of a dream. "This is the fulfilment of a dream for me, and I hope, for all Hampshire Cricket supporters. Beyond our team's accomplishments on the field over the past 24 years, we have transformed our stadium into a premier Test Match and events venue and one of the most exceptional cricket and leisure facilities in the country. We have also been pioneers in the development of women's cricket and have consistently innovated throughout our relatively short history."