

Cyclonic circulation over Andaman sea likely to intensify into low pressure: IMD

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Saturday said that a cyclonic circulation has formed over Andaman Sea which is likely to intensify into a low pressure by October 21. The low pressure may have an impact on coastal areas of north Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and Bangladesh next week. IMD in its evening bulletin said: "The cyclonic circulation is formed over central Andaman sea. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is likely to form over Bay of Bengal and adjoining north Andaman Sea around October 21. Thereafter, it is likely to move northwestwards and intensify further into a depression around October 23."

Amid speculation on formation of a cyclone in October this year as forecast by certain



international models, IMD Director General Mrutyunjaya Mohapatra said that a clearer picture will emerge only after formation of a low-pressure area around October 21. "The IMD has made no prediction on whether the system will develop into a cyclonic storm. October is known as the month of cyclones and some weather models are indicating probability of cyclogenesis. We

provide a forecast on the path and intensification of a system after assessing over 10 weather models but right now there is no consensus among them as a low-pressure area is yet to be formed," Mohapatra said. Though it is too early to make a cyclone prediction, Mohapatra said: "The system is likely to have an impact on coastal areas of North Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and

Bangladesh."

Mohapatra said that the sea condition will remain rough along and off the coast from October 22 to 25. The coastal region of Odisha is likely to receive heavy rainfall from October 23-25. He suggested the fishermen to return to shore by October 21. He said the low-pressure area is likely to be formed over Bay of Bengal and adjoining north Andaman Sea on

October 21, it is likely to move northwestwards and intensify further into a depression around October 23.

Mohapatra, in a video message, said that the squally weather with wind speed 35 kmph to 45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph is likely to prevail over eastcentral and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal on October 21-22.

The IMD forecast said that light to moderate rain/thundershower very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of south Odisha, north coastal Odisha and dry weather very likely to prevail over the districts of north interior Odisha on Sunday. The IMD also forecast thunderstorm with lightning very likely to occur at isolated places in the districts of Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam and Gajapati districts Sunday.

Odisha to usher in new era of industrial development: Majhi



Bhubaneswar(KCN): 2025', scheduled for January 28-29, 2025, in Bhubaneswar. Majhi said Odisha enjoys the active cooperation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his 'Purvodaya Yojana' for the resurgence of Eastern India.

"Odisha is right at the heart of this resurgence, playing a crucial role in powering India's growth engine," he said. "Today, Odisha is poised to become a modern hub of industrial and economic activity. It is ready for business. And our government is fully committed to ushering in a new era of industrial development," Majhi said.

"I am proud to declare that Odisha, India's best-kept secret, is now ready to be explored," Majhi said, according to an official release issued by the Odisha CMO. He said Odisha's transformation journey is not limited to resource-based industries anymore.

"Our state is now transitioning swiftly to sectors that are skill-driven. We are witnessing rapid growth in industries like IT, electronics manufacturing, textiles, food processing, chemicals, petrochemicals, and renewable energy, all contributing to a future where Odisha leads the world," Majhi said.

The state plans to hold its 'Utkarsh Odisha – Make in Odisha Conclave 2025' to be held in Bhubaneswar. This global investor summit will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators from around the world, he said.

powerhouse, the state government is focused on building a robust industrial infrastructure. "We are ever sincere in creating a climate where innovation is encouraged, and business thrives," he told the gathering of industry leaders.

Noting that employment generation for Odia youth is a key agenda of the state government, Majhi appealed to industrialists to set up employment-intensive units in Odisha.

"I assure you that you will get the best, most efficient manpower to work for you," he said. "Personally promise you that my government will ensure a peaceful and safe environment for businesses to operate. Our state is prepared to offer a conducive and supportive environment for industries to invest and grow. I want you to be our partner in this journey of Viksit Odisha," the Chief Minister said.

He said that during the first 100 days of the BJP government in Odisha, the state government has taken up initiatives like the development of garment manufacturing clusters, food processing parks, and multimodal logistics hubs. These initiatives will surely strengthen Odisha's position in the global supply chain.

He invited industrialists to the Utkarsh Odisha – Make in Odisha Conclave 2025 to be held in Bhubaneswar. This global investor summit will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators from around the world, he said.

Ex-Odisha MLA Utkal Keshari Parida dies



Agarwal.
He joined politics during

his college days. He was the president of Salipur College Students' Union in 1980-81. He was elected the vice president of the Odisha Archery Association in 2021. Condoling Parida's demise, the leader of the opposition Naveen Patnaik said his work for the people will always be remembered.

GST on term life insurance premium, senior citizen's health coverage may be exempt: Official

New Delhi(KCN): Goods and services tax (GST) on term life insurance premiums, and premium paid by senior citizens for health cover is likely to be exempted from tax, an official said Saturday.

The GoM to decide on the GST rate on life and health insurance met Saturday and decided to exempt GST on premiums paid for health insurance with coverage of Rs 5 lakh for individuals other than senior citizens.

The final decision in this

Govt Officials, Experts Brainstorm on Developing Odisha's AI Ecosystem

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): A 'Brainstorming Workshop on Artificial Intelligence Strategy for Odisha' was organised by the Odisha Electronics and IT Dept., today at Odisha State Convention Centre, Lok Seva Bhavan.

Senior representatives from the government, academia, industry, and international organisations participated in the workshop.

This workshop is part of a series of initiatives that Government of Odisha is undertaking to catalyse the development of Odisha's AI eco-system. The insights and deliberations

regard will be taken by the GST Council. Officials premiums paid for health insurance coverage of above Rs 5 lakh will continue to attract 18 per cent GST. Currently, 18 per cent GST is levied on life insurance premiums paid for term policies and family floater policies. "GoM members are broadly on board for cutting my rates on insurance premiums. A final decision will be taken by the GST Council," an official said. Bihar Deputy Chief

Minister Samrat Chaudhary said, "Every GoM member wants to give relief to people. Special focus be on senior citizens. We will submit a report to the council. A final decision will be taken by the council". However, there might be no GST on insurance premium paid for senior citizens, irrespective of the coverage amount. The GST Council in its meeting last month had decided to set up a 13-member GoM to decide on tax on health and life insurance premiums.

Ranchi (KCN): Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren Saturday said that the INDIA bloc partners will contest the upcoming Assembly polls together and the Congress and the JMM will field candidates in 70 of 81 seats.

Seat-sharing talks are on with alliance partners – the RJD and the Left parties – for the remaining 11 seats, he said. The Assembly polls for 81 seats will be held in two phases November 13 and 20, and counting will take place November 23.

"INDIA bloc will contest the Jharkhand Assembly polls together. It has been decided during the seat-sharing talks with the allies that the Congress and the JMM will field candidates in 70 of 81 seats," Soren said after meeting with

the alliance partners here. He said the decision was taken after consultations with allies and candidates would be announced soon. Soren said the JMM-led alliance was confident of retaining power in the state on the back of its development work.

The NDA on Friday announced its seat-sharing formula among its partners. The BJP will

contest 68 seats, AJSU Party 10, JD(U) 2 and LJP (Ram Vilas) 1. Filing of nomination papers for 43 Assembly constituencies of Jharkhand, which are going to polls on November 13 in the first phase, began on Friday and will continue till October 25.

In 2019, the JMM-led alliance won 47 seats in the Jharkhand Assembly, including 30 of JMM and

Soren resigned to contest the Lok Sabha elections on a BJP ticket.

Additionally, Borio MLA Lobin Hembrom was recently disqualified under the anti-defection law.

Similarly, the BJP's strength has decreased to 23, with two of its MLAs—Dhulu Mahto (Baghmar) and Manish Jaiswal (Hazaribag)—now serving as MPs. Mandu MLA Jaiprakash Bhai Patel, who joined Congress before the Lok Sabha elections, was also disqualified under the anti-defection law.

Altogether 2.60 crore electors, including 11.84 lakh first-time voters and 1.13 lakh persons with disabilities (PWD), third gender and senior citizens over 85 years of age, are eligible to exercise their franchise in the upcoming elections.



Commerce and Transport Department Smt. Usha Padhee, Principal Secretary Women and Child Development Department Smt. Shubha Sarma, Principal Secretary Skill Development and Technical Education Department Shri NBS Rajput, Principal Secretary Information and Public Relations Department Shri Sanjay Singh, Secretary Higher Education Department Shri Aravind Agarwal, Special Secretary E&IT Department Shri Manas Panda, and other senior officials from Government of Odisha were present on the occasion.

METRO RAILWAY ORGANISES HERITAGE WALK AS PART OF 40 YEARS CELEBRATIONS

Kolkata, (KCN): Metro Railway, Kolkata is in the spree of celebrating the completion of 40 glorious years of its service to the nation from October 18 to 24, 2024. As part of this celebration, the Metro Railway authority organised a Heritage Walk from Rabindra Sadan to Esplanade today morning. Shri P Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager, Metro Railway flagged off this Heritage Walk in presence of Smt. P. Sreelatha, President of Metro Railway Women Welfare Organisation (MRWWO), Shri Atulya Sinha, CAO, Rail Wheel

Plant, Bela, Shri Sanjay Mukherjee, Ex-chief Financial Commissioner Railway Board and Shri Samar Jha, Ex-chief Financial Commissioner Railway Board. The General Manager, senior officers of Metro Railway, Eastern Railway and South Eastern Railway, members of MRWWO took part in this Heritage Walk to revisit the glorious past of Metro Railway and cherish its rich heritage. The members of the Rail Enthusiast Society also took part in this Heritage Walk which continued for almost two hours and

culminated at New Esplanade Metro station. The entire walkway from Rabindra Sadan to Esplanade was beautifully

branded with gates; drop down banners depicting the evolution and progress of Metro Railway and hoardings. On its way to

Esplanade, common people also joined in the Walk today.

Shri Reddy also

inaugurated a Heritage

Gallery-cum-Exhibition at New Esplanade Metro station by lighting a traditional lamp. In his address, Shri Reddy

expressed his hope that this exhibition will throw light on some unknown fascinating facts of Metro Railway, Kolkata

and he also urged all to visit this exhibition. Senior Railway officials and members of MRWWO were present in this inaugural programme. In this exhibition 86 rare photographs of Metro are on display. A philately exhibition is also an added attraction of this Heritage Gallery. This Gallery will remain open till October 24, 2024.

After the exhibition a Quiz Contest on Metro Railway, Kolkata was also held. In this quiz, questions from Metro Railway's history and heritage were asked and each question was correctly answered by the audience.



DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF HON'BLE MPs OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION JURISDICTION HELD IN JHARSUGUDA:



Sambalpur 19/10(KCN): The Divisional Committee Meeting of Hon'ble Members of Parliament (MPs) representing Sambalpur Railway Division jurisdiction of East Coast Railway (ECR) was held in Jharsuguda, today. The meeting witnessed the presence of distinguished MPs from Chhattisgarh and Odisha, along with Senior Railway Officials including East Coast Railway General Manager Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal. The Hon'ble MPs nominated Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo, Hon'ble MP/Balangir as the Chairman of the Divisional Committee. The meeting was attended by the following Hon'ble MPs:

• Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo,

Hon'ble MP/Balangir • Shri Pradeep Purohit, Hon'ble MP/Bargarh • Smt. Malvika Devi, Hon'ble MP/Kalahandi • Smt. Roop Kumari Choudhry, MP/Mahasamund • Shri Niranjan Bishi, Hon'ble MP/Rajyasabha • Shri Tankadhar Tripathy, MLA, Jharsuguda representative of Hon'ble Union Minister for Education and Hon'ble MP/Sambalpur. The MPs engaged in constructive discussions, offering valuable insights for enhancing railway infrastructure and improving passenger amenities in the region. They expressed their appreciation for the developmental initiatives undertaken by the Sambalpur Railway Division, highlighting the

importance of ongoing projects and expressing important points regarding train services, stoppages, and passenger facilities. Key issues discussed during the meeting included:

- Increasing train frequency and extending services to remote locations
- Early construction of New Railway Lines
- Development of Road Under Bridges (RUBs) and Road Over Bridges (ROBs)
- Improving passenger amenities at stations
- Cleanliness of Trains, Platforms & Station areas.
- Timely completion of ongoing projects.
- Stoppages of Trains.

The Hon'ble Members commended the

Ecosavers will launch a month-long "Swachha Mo Gaon" campaign in December

Bhubaneswar 19/10 (KCN): Ecosavers Youth Network will launch a month-long "Swachha Mo Gaon" campaign in December. The workshop was decided in the State Level Workshop of Ecosavers, organised at Gita Gobinda Sadan, Bhubaneswar. People's Cultural Centre (PECUC) in collaboration with AEIN organized this workshop on environment protection. Inaugurating this workshop Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary, PECUC, appreciated various innovative works like preparation of bird nest, building check dam to manage the water flow, waste management, plantation etc undertaken by Ecosavers Youth Network members for the protection of environment. He further said the youth are the catalyst for bringing a new dawn, so they should be well equipped



and prepared to take such tremendous responsibility on their shoulder. Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director of PECUC gave the welcome address and shared the purpose of this workshop. Joining this workshop Ms. Pratima Nalini Pati, President, Innerwheel Club, Bhubaneswar appreciated the work of youth group and said youth leadership is very

crucial for building a sustainable and developed future. Prof. Jaya Krishna Panigrahi, Secretary, State Environment Society spoke about climate change, environmental protection and the role of youth and also shared some useful tips and strategies for adopting sustainable practices in everyday life such as reducing waste, conserving energy, planting trees, adopting



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Kartik Aaryan sets screen on fire in collab with Pitbull and Diljit Dosanjh



HD VIDEO

The makers just dropped the much anticipated Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 title track, Kartik Aaryan, and it's surely going to rule the charts and hearts. The track is nothing short of a visual spectacle, with Kartik setting the screen on fire with his infectious 'spooky slide' dance moves. What makes this track truly stand out is how international sensation Pitbull masterfully blends his rap with the iconic 'Hare Ram—Hare Krishna' chant, while Punjabi powerhouse Diljit Dosanjh brings his unique

flair and Neeraj Shridhar holds down the Hindi vocals. Together, they manage to retain the essence of the Bhool Bhulaiyaa franchise, while pushing the boundaries with a modern, international

twist. With music maestros Pritam and Tanishk Bagchi at the helm, and the unmistakable vocals of Neeraj Shridhar returning to add his signature touch, this track is a melting pot of cultures, blending global beats with desi flair.

Producer Bhushan Kumar has made a one-of-its-kind unique collaboration for Indian cinema. Talking about this milestone, he shared, "We're beyond excited to

sure to get everyone on their feet. This collaboration is a milestone moment, and we can't wait for the fans worldwide to experience it." Directed by Anees Bazmee, Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 promises to carry forward the legacy of Bollywood's favourite horror-comedy franchise, taking it to new heights with this groundbreaking title track. The film also stars Madhuri Dixit, Sanjay Mishra, Tripti Dimri and Rajpal Yadav, among others. It will hit theatres November 1, 2024.

'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.

'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

'Maidaan' Review: Ajay Devgn strikes a goal, yet again



Ajay Devgn's 'Maidaan' is a biopic on the life of pioneering football coach, Syed Abdul Rahim. The film immortalises the unsung hero, says our review. Listen to Story India celebrated its 'golden era' in football, even earning the moniker of 'Brazil of Asia' in the 1950s. During this time, with players like Chuni Goswami, P K Banerjee, Peter Thangaraj, Tulsidas Balaram, Jarnail Singh, and Pradyut Barman, the team ended in fourth place at the 1956 Olympics and won gold at the Asian Games in 1951 and 1962. While they played hard on the turf, Syed Abdul Rahim was the man who created and coached this team.

'Maidaan', starring Ajay Devgn, aces the job of celebrating the passion and love of 'Rahim saab' towards the sport and how he put India on the world map. However, the film is not jingoistic or only highlights his big feats - it's more about the roadblocks he faced during his stint. It's about how he fought politics, media animosity, and regional biases to build a team that could

fight against the best. 'Maidaan' is about a family that stands by this man's deep passion, asking him to choose football rather than spend his last few months with them. It is about how 'jazbaa' (enthusiasm) is all that you need to fight the toughest opponents on any field. And when you are 'that' good at what you do, you do win over your naysayers one day. Director Amit Ravindernath Sharma is used to making 30-second advertisements, and 'Maidaan' gives him a chance to helm something more than 300 times longer. He did falter in the first half of the 180-minute film, as the slow pace tests your patience. However, in the second half, he headbutts it out of the park with an engaging screenplay and some delightful camera work. Special mention to sports directors of photography, Fyodor Lyass, Tassaduq Hussain, and Christopher Reed. Given football is a sport of movement, probably for the first time, go-pro cameras have been used in a feature film, adding to the nail-biting experience. The matches are gripping and make you cheer for the players and even shed a tear at their failure. Also, the best biopic or period film is the one that makes you want to Google more about it. 'Maidaan' scores full points with that, as many

in the audience were slyly searching more about the players or even the tournaments that Syed Abdul Rahim coached, while in the theatre. After '83', this film has also struck gold when it comes to casting. The team not only got actors who looked like the original players but also trained them to play like professionals. Chaitanya Sharma aka Slow Cheeta and Amartya Ray stand out as PK Banerjee and Chuni Goswami. So do Davinder Gill and Tejas Ravishankar as Jarnail Singh and Peter Thangaraj, respectively. Priyamani, as Rahim's wife, may have just a few scenes, but her pleasant screen presence and highly expressive face do leave an impact. Coming to Ajay Devgn, the superstar is on a roll after 'Shaista' emerged as a sleeper hit earlier this year. He sheds his 'Singham' personality and embodies the part of the coach so naturally. He is known to emote through his eyes, and he does that in 'Maidaan' so well. Even with a quiet demeanour and subtle personality, he stands his ground with his players and the authorities. The film also allowed him to tap into many shades of a human personality, as Rahim tries to perfect the part of a husband, father, and coach. He is also marvellous in the emotional scenes, especially when he sees the love of his life - football - slipping away from him. However, we would have to give a yellow card to the dialogue and music department of the film. Apart from the 'Team India' song, none of the AR Rahman compositions really stand out in the film. Given that sports films are high on adrenaline, we also expected some more dialogue baazi that could pump things up. There is an SRK-esque '70-minute' coach diktat

Nachiket Joshi visionary leader with noble mission

(Nachiket Joshi, a visionary man with missionary zeal)



revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days." A casual glance at Nachiket Joshi's academic achievements testifies to his profound background. Master of Information Systems (MIS) from Central Queensland University, Sydney, Australia, Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) from MG Science, Gujarat University. The lesson was loud and clear for him the way of success is the way of continuous pursuit of knowledge. The words of freedom fighter and first President of free South Africa Nelson Mandela, added fuel to fire, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," must have inspired Nachiket to acquire quality education and enter public service with the commitment matching Mandela. His devotion makes him subscribe to the view, whenever opportunity arises, he reads these prophetic lines repeatedly, "Dream it. Wish it. Do it."

Nachiket had many doors open for him in his life, but he opted for public service. His nearly

two-decade long involvement at home and abroad has been lauded in diverse domains of community welfare, culture, politics and public leadership. Looking at wide spectrum of his activities, cultural & social responsibilities have resonated in these meaningful words, "Don't wait for opportunity. Create it." Nachiket Joshi has many feathers in his cap, Convener, INBA, International Section, UK Chapter; School Governor, Wellington Primary School, Hounslow United Kingdom; Volunteer Hounslow Race and Equality Council, Hounslow United Kingdom; National Executive member of Overseas Friends, UK; National Executive member of Overseas Friends of India. His travail over the years in diverse realms seems be motivated by the meaningful words of The American author of 70 books Ken Blanchard, "There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when it's convenient. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses - only results."



Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi

Joshi had many doors open for him in his life, but he opted for the community and social work. He knew that the best way to predict the future is to create it. His nearly two-decade long involvement in myriads of activities at home and abroad has been lauded widely. Looking at wide spectrum of his academic, cultural and social responsibilities, makes scribe comment on his endeavours in these eulogizing words, "Don't wait for opportunity. Create it." He was crusader against Racial attacks in Australia and in the forefront as Student

Association Leader, Australia (CQU); Director at Global Vision India foundation affiliated with United Nations; Leadership Board with Indo European Business Forum; President at Prakriti Environment Protection & Research Centre (NGO); Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SDG Choupal and Director Law Enforcement (INDIA); and International Human Rights Association. His voluntary service on numerous national and international platforms has earned him praise

from Sherry Anderson, Canadian thrice World Curling Champion, "Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

Nachiket was at the doorstep of the people afflicted by the COVID-19 by providing medicine, machine, material and sustenance to the relatives of patients in

hospitals. His commitment to provide help to the pandemic afflicted patients extended globally, with teams deployed to help in Australia, Canada, UAE, UK, and USA. His sojourn through various realms of cultural, political, social issues, his commitment to transform a promise into a reality made him feel the essence of Mahatma Gandhi's real life long teaching, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." It seems Nachiket Joshi has hardly left any domain of human activity untouched. He is author, entrepreneur, social

vibrant tapestry of khadi, a fabric deeply woven into the fabric of Indian history and identity. From its humble beginnings as a symbol of resistance during the Indian independence movement to its continued relevance in contemporary fashion and sustainability discourse, Nachiket Joshi skillfully unravels the threads of khadi's story with passion and expertise." He is the founder & chairman at Khaaddaargram International and proprietor at Nachiket Joshi Consultancy. However, his noble mission is the welfare of humanity at large and life-long mission of ameliorate poverty and extradition of ignorance from the masses of our motherland. Nachiket! Your mission has earned praise from Irish poet and popular playwright, Oscar Wilde, "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde

TV & Radio Cricket Commentator
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THE MARRIAGE THAT DEFIES TRADITIONS

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Nayak



Thailand is the first country in the South East Asia to legalise same-sex marriage on September 24, 2024. The King Maha Vajiralongkorn of Thailand issued an official Royal Gazette pertaining to this and called it marriage equality. Ever since Netherlands gave statutory recognition to the same-sex marriage in 2001, more than 30 countries around the world have come forward to legalise this type of unconventional relationship. It was the United States Supreme Court that gave a landmark verdict on June 26, 2015 in the famous case James Obergefell Vs. Richard Hodges legalizing same-sex marriage that brought to an end the long struggle and legal battle of the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) communities and fulfilled their long cherished dream. Now in the US the same-sex

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International conference on Advancement of Research & Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda - AROHA-2024 inaugurated by CJI

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi is organising its first-ever International conference on Advancement of Research & Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda - AROHA-2024 starting from 17th to 19th October 2024. The conference is being organised in-person and virtual mode, for easy access for participants. The conference theme "Advancement in Research and Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda"

Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India inaugurated the conference at AIIA. He was joined by esteemed guests, including Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Ayush and Health & Family Welfare; Vd. Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush; and Dr. Shyama Kuruvilla, Director (ad interim) of Global Traditional Medicine Centre, WHO, Jamnagar, Gujarat. Additionally, Lt. Gen. Madhuri Kanitkar, Vice Chancellor, Maharashtra

University of Health Sciences (MUHS); Padma Bhushan Prof. Shiv Kumar Sarin, Director, ILBS; and AIIA Director Prof. (Dr) Tanuja Nesari also graced the event. The guests took a short tour to the hospital and praised the institute for its efforts taken.

Chief Justice of India Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud during his inaugural speech said, "I am privileged to be a part of AROHA 2024, the day also marks the 8th foundation day of AIIA, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Ayush. I am truly delighted to see how AIIA has made remarkable progress in just eight years, founded with a mandate to foster research based Ayurveda. The institute focuses on three key pillars tertiary care, research and academics. I am an ardent follower of Ayurveda. Beyond addressing specific ailments, Ayurveda promotes holistic wellness through medicine, nutrition, meditation, yoga and lifestyle balance. Rooted in generational family wisdom, Ayurveda offers

valuable insights into integrated well-being. The launch of the Ayush Research Portal marks a significant advancement for Ayurvedic research and education,"

Today's Ayurvedic movement bridges tradition and modernity, merging ancient wisdom with cutting-edge scientific techniques and diagnostic tools. This fusion empowers us to share Ayurveda globally, transcending familial heritage to occupy a prominent place on the world wellness stage."

Speaking at this event, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Ayush and Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Shri Prataprao Jadhav, extended his warm greetings and support to the organisers, delegates, and participants.

"As we gather to explore the vast potential of Ayurveda, I applaud your dedication to integrating traditional wisdom with modern science, which is the need of the hour. This conference represents a significant step forward in our pursuit of holistic healthcare solutions. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri

Narendra Modi, we are strengthening Ayurveda's global recognition today. His encouragement has led to Ayurveda being adopted more than any other medical practice. After Prime Minister's efforts, Ayurveda's credibility has also increased, and I am deeply grateful to him for entrusting me with the Ministry of Ayurveda to serve millions. I am fully committed to fulfilling all



CJI DY Chandrachud inaugurating the conference

the aspirations related to the Ministry of Ayurveda under Prime Minister Modi's vision. The Ministry of Ayush remains committed to promoting and supporting research, innovation, and the integration of Ayurvedic practices. It also featured an exhibition showcasing stalls from leading brands and institutions, offering insights into herbal products, wellness solutions, Ayurvedic

control, standardization, diagnosis, drug delivery, evidence-based understanding, and globalization. Experienced experts shared practical and theoretical knowledge of Ayurvedic practices. It also featured an exhibition showcasing stalls from leading brands and institutions, offering insights into herbal products, wellness solutions, Ayurvedic

already started working on it, and this is something very new and it is, we are committed for the effort," said Vd. Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush;

"It is with immense joy and gratitude that I welcome you all to AROHA-2024, a celebration of the incredible journey we have undertaken together since the inception of the All India Institute of Ayurveda," said AIIA Director Prof. (Dr) Tanuja Nesari.

The conference features three-day workshops and 15 scientific sessions, with over 400 research papers presented. The All India Institute of Ayurveda has a global presence in over 74 countries through academic and scientific collaboration with prominent organizations like the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, FIGZ Germany, AIST Japan, Western Sydney University Australia, UHN Canada, and national institutions like IGIB, AIIMS, CSIR, IIT, and others.

Ireland celebrated Durga Puja with Odisha's culture as theme

By : PARTHA ROY
Place : Kolkata / Dublin
(Input : Swosti Simantini)

Ireland Durga Puja Committee (IDC) organised 5 day Durga Puja during recent Navaratri period from 9th to 13th October 2024. IDC located at Commercial Rowing Club organised Durga Puja with theme of pandal being Odisha. This was 8th year of Durga Puja and for the first time introduced concept of theme pandal & decoration.

Odisha has rich & evolving cultural heritage for over thousands of years. On the entrance a big chart containing all the famous items of Odisha: Puri Jagannath Mandir, Konark - The Sun Temple, Odissi Dance



Art Form, Tribal Art, Sand Art, Pakhala (Water Rice) - The staple food of Odisha, etc., On the stage where Durga Idols were kept Singha Dwara was created. A miniature version of Rath was made and kept on the stage in which idols of

Mahaprabhu Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra were placed. Even the famous Chakra of Konark Sun Temple was made. The club house was decorated with Sambalpuri Saree, Pipili Chandua, Pipili lanterns. All Odia's

residing in Ireland were really proud and mesmerised by the effort put up by the IDC team. Over 40 person of Odia origin participated in Durga Puja with majority Bengali community. Over 650 persons participated. IDC follow traditional Durga Puja rituals. Bhog prasad was served to the devotees. Even Durga boron and sindur khela were organised in the traditional way.

Durga Puja was organised near banks of River Liffey. Debaprasad Halder, President of IDC ensured all Durga puja rituals are followed. IDC paid tribute to young doctor who was killed in August 2024 in Kolkata while on duty by miscreants and demanded for Justice for Tilotama.

Addressing media persons at the party office, she said: "CM Siddaramaiah, your Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh went to Mysuru. All files after 1997 were loaded into his car. Where did those files go? To protect you, all files of MUDA were taken away by Minister Suresh and burnt."

She sought the resignation of CM Siddaramaiah and the arrest of Byrathi Suresh. She said the investigation was not only about investigating Siddaramaiah's brother-in-law and land owner K. Marigowda's resignation was not enough," she said.

The Minister urged the investigating agencies to probe CM Siddaramaiah, and his wife Parvathy. "You (CM Siddaramaiah) take moral responsibility. You are a criminal. After the Governor sanctioned the prosecution under the 17 A and the High Court and the Special Court slammed you and the Lokayukta started a probe, former MUDA Chairman K. Marigowda's resignation was not enough," she said.

"You (CM Siddaramaiah) were in one or the other Constitutional position when the scam occurred. You got sites allotted in the prime locality and returned them. The returning of sites itself is evidence for the crime," she slammed. "I want to ask CM Siddaramaiah why he accepted the resignation of MUDA Chairman K. Marigowda? Gowda was your close associate. Are you planning to blame him for the scam," she said.

Harmeet Kaur wins the intra-college "Writing Skills Competition" at GGS College of Management and Technology



KOLKATA (KCN): Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology, Gidderbaha, organized an inter-college essay writing competition for the students of the college. There were a total of 50 students from the departments of

commerce and arts who participated enthusiastically in the competition. It was the subject matter of this competition that was discussed a variety of topics. There was the craze for foreign countries among young people, the role and

responsibility of young people during elections, Punjabi culture, a degree or skill that is in high demand, as well as artificial intelligence. The essay competition was won by Harmeet Kaur, a student of the first semester of BA CS, Lovepreet Singh, a

student of the first semester of BA CS, and Akashdeep, a student of the third semester of B.Com (Hons). At the end of the competition, certificates of appreciation were presented to all participants as a token of appreciation. On this occasion, Dr. R.K. Uppal, Principal of GGS College Giddarbaha, inspired the students about current affairs and writing skills. As well as congratulating all the organizers on a wonderful competition, he also thanked them for their hard work. The event was organized by Tamanna Sharma, Dr. Amandeep Dhillon, assistant professor, Sukhwinder Kaur, assistant professor, and assistant professor Amanjot Kaur.

and K. Rajesh from Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh. Both Panwar and Rajesh were 36 years old and were part of the 53rd Battalion of the ITBP. The two ITBP personnel who were killed in action are Amar Panwar from Satara in Maharashtra

treatment and are reported to be stable. The IED explosion comes less than two weeks after 38 Maoists were killed in a massive operation by security forces in the Abujhmad region. The two injured police personnel, from the Narayanpur district police, are undergoing

Maoists being killed in a single operation in Chhattisgarh's 24-year-old history and they collectively carried a reward of ? 2.62 crore.

Among the Maoists who were killed were Kamlesh alias RK, one of the most wanted Maoist commanders, and Niti alias Urmila, a spokesperson for the group. Both were key figures in the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC), with Kamlesh being wanted in five states and Urmila playing a crucial role in the Maoist propaganda machinery.

2 Paramilitary Soldiers Killed In Action In Chhattisgarh Maoist IED Attack



New Delhi (KCN): Two personnel of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) have been killed in action and two police personnel have been injured after an IED planted by Maoists exploded in Chhattisgarh. Around noon on Saturday, teams from the ITBP, Border Security Force (BSF) and the District Reserve Guard were returning to Narayanpur after carrying out an operation in Dhurbeda when an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded near Kodliyar village in the Abujhmad region.

The two injured police personnel, from the Narayanpur district police, are undergoing

Hospital blunder leaves 25 kids sans birth certificate

Sambalpur (KCN): Fate of over 25 kids in this district has been pushed to uncertainty after the Sambalpur Municipal Corporation (SMC) denied them birth certificates as the hospital where they were born allegedly lacked the record of their births. Meanwhile, two years have passed since the birth of these kids but their parents have failed to get a birth certificate for them because the hospital established by the Rotary Club at Dhanupali has failed to put forward the birth slip or provisional certificate to the birth and death registration

section of SMC. Consequently, the parents have failed to enrol the names of their kids in any government scheme and are losing out on the benefits. The parents apprehend whether they will be able to admit their children to a school in coming days in the absence of a birth certificate. As per norms, a hospital or private nursing home has to forward the birth slip or provisional certificate of every child to the birth and death registration section of the local civic body within 21 days of birth. Based on these inputs, the office

provides the birth certificate of the child after receiving an application from the concerned parents. However, parents have to undergo undue suffering if the hospital provides wrong inputs in the birth slip or makes an inordinate delay in providing the details. The hospital established by the Rotary Club at Dhanupali has committed the blunder in failing to maintain the records of more than 25 babies born in the hospital and provide the details to SMC.

According to the worried parents, while

applying for birth certificates in SMC's birth and death registration section, they were informed that the civic body has no information regarding the birth of their kid on a



particular date in the Mudipara in the concerned hospital. As a result, their applications were automatically rejected. Raja Sahu of Sarawat Colony and Bishakesan Sahu of

children. Dr Ashok Singh, who is in charge of the Rotary Hospital at Dhanupali, said that after construction of the health facility, its management was

Sensitization program on application of Drone technology for fish disease management and feed application



KOLKATA (KCN): Precision farming is becoming widespread model because of its integrated smart automated technology. Drone technology is one of the significant part of it. The technology may act as an efficient tool for precise and periodical monitoring of waterbody health status, spraying disinfects, insecticides to control pathogens, fish disease, macrophyte infestation and applying feed in the large fish farm with less time, inputs and human resources. Under the guidance of Director, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research

Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore has organized a demonstration cum awareness program to showcase the potential of drone technology in fisheries at Charcharia wetland, East Kolkata Wetland on 3.10.2024 under ICAR Agri-Drone and NSPAAD Phase II project. In the awareness program, Mrs. Chayna Jana, Scientist, ICAR-CIFRI discussed about the applications of drone technology in fish farming and how farmers can get advantages from it with respect to time and input efficiency. Dr. Vikash Kumar, Scientist briefed

about fish diseases prevalent in the fisheries and its management practices. Mr. Sariful Islam, Managing Director, Glaucus Agrochem Pvt. Ltd informed about his company which is dedicated to provide various services like feed input, medicine, new technology etc. for commercial fish farming. During the program, Mr. Kausik Mondal, Technical officer and drone pilot of ICAR-CIFRI has demonstrated the drone flying over the waterbodies and sprayed medicine and broadcasted fish feed in the Charcharia block of

East Kolkata Wetland. Fishermen also took active part to know about the technology and showed their interest to use the system in their fish farming. They also showed their concern about the cost of the technology and its availability for use in their farming. A total of 70 fishermen were present in the program. Mr. Asim K. Jana (TO) and Research scholars Mr. Swarup Dasgupta, Mr. Pratim Chatterjee and Mr. Anupam Adhikari supported and coordinated the program.

Diarrhoea outbreak: Medical team takes stock at Jhiripani



Baliguda (KCN): Following reports of diarrhoea outbreak in Jhiripani panchayat of Tumudibanda block under Baliguda subdivision in Kandhamal district, a medical team took stock of the situation

Wednesday and stated that the situation in the panchayat is under control. Various media outlets reported the death of two individuals due to diarrhoea outbreak in the area. While several villagers have been

affected by the disease, the exact cause of death remains unclear. Dr Abhishek Nayak, the medical officer of the Tumudibanda Community Health Centre, and his team visited villages under

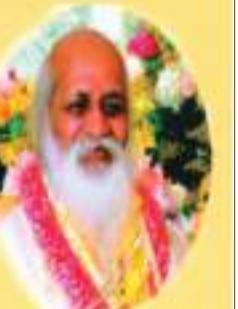
Jhiripani panchayat. They conducted health check-ups and provided treatment to the residents. However, he stated that the deaths were not solely due to diarrhoea and could have been caused by other factors.

handed over to a private hospital. However, the private hospital failed to maintain a proper record of the births in the hospital, he said adding that they have hired a legal expert to resolve the problem and will be providing the birth slips of the children very soon. Health officer Dr Mahendra Nanda of SMC said that the Rotary Hospital was not registered in 2022. Therefore, the details of the children born in the hospital cannot be accepted as proof of their birth, which is why the applications for birth certificate have been rejected, he added.



2024-2025

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RED.Health and Utkal Hospital join hands to address Bhubaneswar's healthcare challenges



Bhubaneswar(KCN) : In a bid to tackle the pressing healthcare challenges in Bhubaneswar, RED.Health has announced a strategic partnership with Utkal Hospital. RED.Health will deploy Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances equipped

with state-of-the-art technology to Utkal Hospital to ensure faster emergency response services and better patient care. This collaboration aims to improve emergency medical services in the city and surrounding regions, bringing critical care closer to those in need.

The flag-off ceremony was felicitated by Mr Manav (COO), Mr. Arun Khilar (CFO & Unit Head) and Dr. Abinash Mohanty (HOD Department of Emergency) from Utkal Hospital and Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Vice President of Hospital Business at RED.Health

and addressed the media. Commenting on the partnership, Prabhdeep Singh, Founder & CEO of RED.Health said, "In moments of crisis, every second counts. Our collaboration with Utkal Hospital is not just about deploying ambulances; it's about creating a safety net for the people of Bhubaneswar. We are here to ensure that no patient's life is at risk due to delayed emergency care. By combining our advanced technology with Utkal Hospital's medical expertise, we are taking a decisive step towards making critical healthcare accessible

when it's needed most." Mr. Arun Khilar, CFO & Unit Head, Utkal Hospital, extended his heartfelt congratulations to Red Health on the successful collaboration with Utkal Hospital. This partnership marks a significant milestone in enhancing our emergency services, enabling us to provide timely and life-saving care to those in need.

Mr. Manav, COO, Utkal Hospital said, "Our partnership with RED.Health is a vital step in addressing the healthcare challenges the city of Bhubaneswar faces today.

sources. By incorporating these alternative fuels into its manufacturing process, Nuvoco is taking significant strides towards achieving its sustainability goals.

Nuvoco has introduced AFR feeding into the Pyro-process system for enabling uniform feeding and incorporating all necessary safety interlocks throughout. This system allows us to consume alternate fuels in an efficient and effective way without impacting the environmental standards prescribed and approved by the Pollution Control Board of India. Although this project is primarily focused on environmental sustainability, it also has several other benefits for clinker production and can offer significant cost savings through its alternative fuels program.

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

commitment to sustainable cement manufacturing and reducing the environmental impacts. The successful completion of this project demonstrates our commitment to reducing carbon emissions, maximizing waste consumption, and demonstrating responsible resource management practices."

Additionally, he stated, "The adoption of alternative fuels also aids in resolving issues associated with landfills and unhygienic waste accumulation. For instance, in its cement manufacturing process, Nuvoco uses plastic waste, RDF (Refused Derived Fuel), and municipal waste that is harmful to cattle and other wildlife due to its carcinogenic qualities as an alternative fuel.

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

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

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

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

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple touchpoints to provide a consistent brand experience that surpasses expectations."

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

FEATURE

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

fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset

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

Register online for Yuva Sangam Phase V – be an ambassador for your state The nodal institute of Odisha is IIT Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Thousands of youth across India stand a chance to represent their states/Union Territories by participating in Yuva Sangam, a unique initiative launched by the Ministry of Education under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) programme. This is the 5th phase of Yuva Sangam and online registrations are open till 21st October, 2024. Interested candidates in the age group of 18-30 years, mainly students, NSS/ NYKS volunteers,

employed/self-employed persons, etc. may register through the YUVA SANGAM portal before the deadline. Off campus youth, including those enrolled for online courses, in skilling institutions etc are also urged to register.

"It is an exciting opportunity for students and young professionals to learn about the country, its people and even about themselves through this transformative journey of over 5-7 days. Yuva Sangam allows participants to experience the diversity of India first-

hand, recognise the cultural-social similarities and challenges, and develop inclusive solutions to address problems or tap opportunities through their professional and academic areas of expertise," said a senior officer of the Ministry of Education.

The motive is to deepen ties between India's vast regions through exposure and understanding and this initiative will play a critical role in nation building by nurturing a next generation of citizens who are aware and

empathetic.

The idea of a sustained and structured cultural connect between people of different regions was mooted by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the Rashtriya Ekta Divas held on 31st October 2015 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. To crystallise this idea, the EBSB programme was launched on 31st October 2016. The origins and evolution of EBSB along with activities, special initiatives and campaigns organised under the

programme are available in the e-Book (<https://ekbharat.gov.in/JourneySoFarCampaign/index.html>)

Through Yuva Sangam tours, participants will deep dive into local heritage, geography, development landmarks and recent achievements of their paired states. Multi-dimensional exposure will be encouraged in five broad areas – the 5 Ps viz; Paryatan (Tourism), Parampara (Traditions), Pragati (Development), Paraspars Sampark (People-to-people connect), and Prodyogiki (Technology).

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

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

Alternative fuels are a crucial step towards reducing carbon emissions and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. Nuvoco has dedicatedly installed a system that is capable of utilizing agricultural waste, RDF (Refused Derived Fuel), plastic waste, municipal waste, biomass, tyre chips and other hazardous waste

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

Bhubaneswar : Did you know, it takes about an hour to process a standard unit of alcohol, which is generally 10 grams?* As part of its ongoing commitment to promote responsible consumption, and drinking better, not more, Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water has launched its latest campaign, "Choose Bold. Choose Water", which emphasizes on the importance of staying hydrated when consuming alcohol. Through this campaign, the company aims to promote responsible drinking with a simple yet compelling narrative: Often, choosing water is the bold choice.

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

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

Talking about this campaign, Ruchira Jaitly, Vice-President, Marketing & Portfolio head, Diageo India said, "At Diageo, we believe in drinking better, not more. A good way to do this is by ensuring hydration during drinking occasions. Royal Challenge Packaged Drinking Water wants to

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

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

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

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

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

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

SCTEVT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS



Sarfaraz-Pant show followed by collapse leave NZ a target of 107

NEW DELHI (KCN): Three wickets apiece by William O'Rourke and Matt Henry bundled out India for 462 on Day 4, and enabled New Zealand a target of 107 to win the first Test in Bengaluru. It was a day when the pendulum of momentum swung both ends.

Sarfaraz Khan and Rishabh Pant ensured India wiped away the lead without much fuss in the rain-marred first half of the day, and then it was O'Rourke and Henry who triggered the fall of India's last six wickets for only 54 runs. Bad light, and eventually heavy showers, ensured

that New Zealand could manage to bat only four balls in their a small tricky period before stumps were called on Saturday. The proceedings on the fourth morning began in India's favour. Much like how the hosts had dominated on the previous evening, courtesy a century stand between Sarfaraz and Virat Kohli, they continued in the same vein on a track that offered little support to pacers and seamers alike. Sarfaraz got going with a flurry of boundaries, starting from the second over. He was tempted outside the off-stump, and he took the bait. With his

wide array of shots - cuts, lofts, dabs and punches, he scored briskly through the point and third man region. Pant joined in the act soon after, taking down Ajaz Patel for two sixes and a four in one over. With the field largely spread out, singles were easily on offer. However, the duo didn't stop looking for boundaries as Sarfaraz notched up his maiden Test ton. Pant also marched along largely seamlessly, even as he missed a few attempted hoicks. He was even trapped on the pads a couple of times, but stayed on thanks to inside edges. He also

narrowly escaped a run-out, completing the single while watching the ball as his partner animatedly signalled mid-pitch to draw his attention. It took a combination of misjudgment from Devon Conway and keeper Tom Blundell for Pant to make it back into the crease. The duo went on to stitch a 177-run stand which helped India wipe out the first innings deficit and place themselves comfortably for a significant lead. However, the introduction of the second new-ball changed the complexion of the

contest. Sarfaraz went chasing the first delivery by Tim Southee and even as he missed the outswinger, he didn't hold back in looking for runs thereafter. One of those shots, a drive on the up to covers brought about his downfall. Even Pant was continuing in his aggressive spree, including going on his knees and slogsweeping Southee for a 107-meter six. However, his innings was brought to an end by O'Rourke who operated with much more threatening lines and lengths and put his extra pace and bounce to better

use. Pant, batting on 99, played one back onto his stumps allowing New Zealand to run through the rest of the line-up. KL Rahul edged one to the keeper at the stroke of Tea and Ravindra Jadeja departed early in the third session, chipping a pull shot off the toe end of his bat to Will Young. Henry then ran through the tail, trapping R Ashwin legbefore, inducing an outside edge to the keeper to dismiss Bumrah and having Siraj caught at mid on. The lowest target defended successfully by India in Tests is 107 against Australia at Wankhede in 2004. However, the Chinnaswamy pitch is unlikely to be as friendly to the spinners. Rain has played its part throughout the Test, and scattered thunderstorms are predicted for Sunday. With a low total to defend and weather likely to play a part, the Bengaluru Test is heading towards an intriguing climax.

Brief scores: India 46 and 462 (Sarfaraz Khan 150, Rishabh Pant 99; William O'Rourke 3-92, Matt Henry 3-102) lead New Zealand 402 (Rachin Ravindra 134, Devon Conway 91; Ravindra Jadeja 3-72) & 0 for no loss by 106 runs.

Ricky Ponting joins Punjab Kings as Head Coach

New Delhi: Punjab Kings have been searching for a new coach and a fresh direction after parting ways with Trevor Bayliss, as first reported by Cricbuzz on July 25. With a mega IPL auction on the horizon, the franchise, which has struggled to find consistency in the league, has been looking for a leader/mentor/head coach who can guide them in this new cycle and help shape their future.

"I am grateful to Punjab Kings for presenting me with the opportunity to be the new Head Coach. I am excited to take up the new challenge. I had great conversations with the owners and the management about the way forward and was truly elated to see the alignment of our visions for the team. We all want to repay the fans who have stayed with the franchise over the years



and we promise that they will see a much different Punjab Kings going forward," Ponting was quoted as saying in a media release. Both Punjab Kings and Ponting had considered other options. Punjab Kings were looking for a suitable candidate, including an Indian while Ponting himself had approaches from other IPL teams. However, as negotiations progressed, they have finalized this agreement. Ponting has a stellar

reputation within the IPL ecosystem and is widely regarded for his ability to inspire young talent and his professionalism. His coaching style, with emphasis on discipline and nurturing potential, has been particularly appreciated by the likes of Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant, both of whom have played under his guidance at Delhi Capitals. Ponting is also well-known for his mentorship of young players, with many who have worked

under him speaking highly of his hands-on approach. It's said that he takes a rookie player out for breakfast every morning, offering guidance and personal attention. Additionally, he sets a strong example - reportedly being the first to arrive at daily practice sessions and the last to leave. While parting with the Australian, Delhi Capitals had paid glowing tributes to him stating, "We're finding it hard to put this down in words. The four things you told us about in every hurdle - care, commitment, attitude and effort - they sum up our seven summers together. Thank you for everything, coach! Like you often close out, 'Let's leave this here mate, grab a beer, get back to work tomorrow.' During his stint at Delhi from 2018 to 2024, he guided them to the

playoffs in three consecutive seasons and the franchise entered the final for the first time in 2020. They finished fifth in 2022, ninth in 2023 and sixth in 2024. Before joining Delhi Capitals, he was the coach of Mumbai Indians and took them to the IPL title in 2015. He was also part of MI's maiden title-winning campaign in 2013. Punjab Kings are known to change coaches frequently although they have tried to give an extended run to the coaches of late than in the past. Before Bayliss (2023, 24), Anil Kumble was the coach for three seasons (2020, 21, and 22). Prior to him, Mike Hesson was the coach for one year (2019) after succeeding Brad Hodge (2018). Punjab have reached the last four once (2008) and final once (2014) but never won the title.

New Delhi: The much-awaited Indian Premier League (IPL) Auction for Season 18 is expected to take place in November, most likely during the third or fourth weekend of the month. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has indicated to IPL franchises about this possibility and that the auction will almost certainly be held overseas. Sources within the IPL have revealed to Cricbuzz that, similar to last year, the venue will likely be in the Middle East. Last year's auction took place in Dubai, and it wouldn't be surprising if it were held in another Gulf city, Doha or Abu Dhabi for instance. Saudi Arabia, which has been making heavy investments in sports of late, including cricket, is also reportedly interested in hosting the auction. There is no clarity on the venue at this stage. The news has sparked a cautious reaction from IPL franchises, as they are yet to receive the retention rules ahead of the mega auction. The BCCI has informed them of a potential delay in the announcement of these rules, leaving some franchise officials concerned about whether they will have enough time to adequately prepare for the auction. The retention rules, as recently reported by Cricbuzz, may be announced this month end which means the teams will have two months to do the plan for the auction. The deadline for the teams to announce their retentions is expected to be around November 15. The BCCI and IPL authorities have always wanted to hold the auction overseas, though they only succeeded in doing so last year (December 2023). At different stages in previous seasons, there were plans to host the auction in London while Istanbul was also considered as a potential venue. Meanwhile, it is understood that coaches who worked under Rahul Dravid with the Indian team are likely to find positions with various IPL franchises. Vikram Rathour, India's former batting coach, may join Dravid at Rajasthan Royals, replacing Trevor Penney, who could be assigned to the Royals' CPL team, Barbados Royals. Paras Mhambre, India's former bowling coach under Dravid, is also expected to join a franchise although nothing seems to have been finalized so far. It is learnt that these former coaches have declined commentary offers, expressing their preference for coaching roles. Additionally, Munaf Patel, former India pacer and 2011 World Cup winner, is expected to take up an IPL coaching assignment this season.

Let's not be obsessed with the seam-bowling all-rounder: Gambhir

New Delhi: It's the start of the Test season in India, a time when Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja have commanded substantial column inches in the reportage. Not only are they two of the greatest spinners produced by the country, they've also been central to India's lower-order muscle - a key point of difference in the team's dominance of home Tests over the last decade. It's not a luxury that is accorded to the team on the travels, where conditions have forced India to choose between the two and find other ways of playing an extra seamer while simultaneously lengthening their batting order.

Since injuries stalled Hardik Pandya's career after 11 Tests, India have hoped to land on the next seam-bowling all-rounder, a topic that will be revisited more often in the next few months

ahead of the marquee series in Australia. New head coach Gautam Gambhir opined that there was no need to be obsessed with a specific style of player and hoped instead that the country's first class structure would develop and throw up prospects. "See, first of all, international cricket is not about developing players. It's the first class cricket that is there to develop players," Gambhir said on the eve of the season-opening Chennai Test. "International cricket is all about people coming in and delivering. So we can't be thinking that if there is no one... we can't just be thinking, we've been talking about it since Kapil Dev that we don't have a fast bowling all-rounder. If we don't have it, we don't have it. If we have it, I think he's going to get developed in first class cricket. We've got a really strong first class structure. And hopefully we can get someone

really soon. "But if we can get someone really soon, great for Indian cricket. If we don't, then we still have quality all-rounders. We have to manage people like Jadeja, people like Axar [Patel], Ashwin, who's got five Test hundreds. Washi [Washington Sundar] is there as well. So we've got quality all-rounders. So when we keep talking about seam bowling all-rounder, let's not get obsessed with that as well. Tell me how many international sides have a spin bowling all-rounder? There are not many sides who've got a spin bowling all-rounder. India's got that luxury. So might as well [not] keep thinking about seam bowling all-rounder. Let's talk about quality, which is important. But if we can get someone, if we can develop someone in first class cricket, it'll be great for Indian cricket."

Even with this niggling

issue of balance, that India have grown to be a formidable and competitive outfit, home and away, is down to the growth of their bowling attack and its ability to be potent across conditions. Gambhir hailed the unit for enforcing the change of narrative in a batting obsessed country, reserving special praise for Jasprit Bumrah, who he called 'the best fast

bowler in the world.' "It has not happened many times in India where we started talking about the bowler. I think it has always been about batters, batters and batters," Gambhir said. "India at one stage was a batting obsessed nation. And you've got to give credit to Bumrah, [Mohammed] Shami, [Mohammed] Siraj, Ashwin, Jadeja that now they are turning this

intention into a bowling obsessed... not bowling obsessed nation but that we started talking about the bowler. "Bumrah is the best fast bowler in the world in all the three formats. And it's [not] just his performance. It's just his hunger as well. The best part is that he wants to play as much Test cricket as he can. And there is no doubt. I think what he has done in T20 format in West Indies to what he can do in red-ball Cricket, what he did against England. So I feel that yes, it is actually not even a luxury. I think it's really an honour that we've got someone like Bumrah playing for us and sitting in that dressing room. We can make a change, we can make a difference at any stage of the game. So yes, hopefully we can do the same in this series and going forward as well." Gambhir, who will begin just his first home

