

Cyclone Dana: Odisha braces for impact, 10 lakh people in 14 districts to be evacuated

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

As Cyclone 'Dana' barrels toward the Odisha coast, threatening to impact nearly half the state's population, the government is racing against time to execute a massive evacuation plan aimed at relocating around 10 lakh people in 14 districts to safety. IMD Wednesday said the cyclone is likely to make landfall between Bhitarkanika National Park and Dhamra port, located around 70 km away from each other, early Friday.

It said that the landfall process will start from the night of October 24 and will continue till the morning of October 25. The maximum speed during the landfall process is likely to be around 120 kmph, IMD

DG Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said.

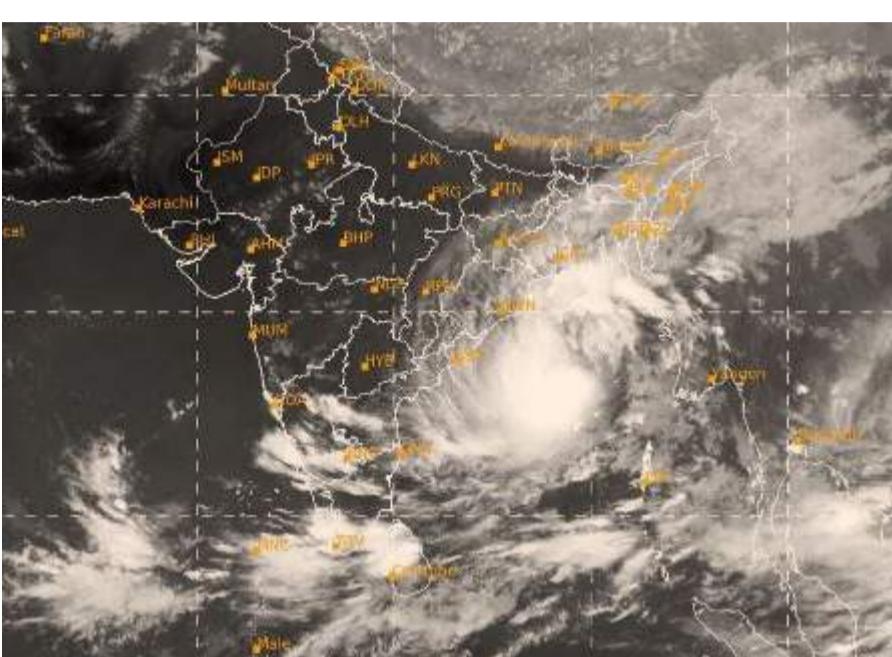
He said landfall is mostly a slow process which usually takes around 5-6 hours. "Therefore, heavy rainfall, wind and storm surge will reach the peak during the landfall time which is between October 24 night and October 25 morning," he added.

According to the latest IMD bulletin, the cyclone moved northwestwards with a speed of 13 kmph and lay centred about 490 km southeast of Paradip (Odisha), 520 km south-southeast of Dhamra (Odisha) and 570 km south-southeast of Sagar Island (West Bengal).

During the landfall, a tidal surge of up to 2 metres is expected, with the cyclone reaching the coast at a wind velocity of 120 kmph, Umashankar Das, senior scientist at the regional meteorological centre in Bhubaneswar, said. Das warned that low-lying areas in Kendrapara, Bhadrak, and Balasore districts are likely to be inundated and recommended that the government evacuate residents from these regions.

To facilitate this, 288 rescue teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF), and Fire Services have been deployed, with additional personnel requested from the NDRF.

The government has identified 14 districts at risk, with the coastal



areas facing high winds and inland regions expected to receive heavy to extremely heavy rainfall.

The districts are Angul, Puri, Nayagarh, Khordha, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Bhadrak, Jajpur, and Mayurbhanj.

"The state has identified over 3,000 vulnerable locations (villages) across 14 districts, primarily along the coastal belt, and started evacuation procedures. Approximately 10,60,336 people are likely to be evacuated before

Cyclone Dana makes landfall," state revenue and disaster management minister Suresh Pujari said.

In addition to the evacuation, the state has set up around 6,000 relief camps where evacuees will have access to cooked meals, milk for children, medical care, safe drinking water, and security for women.

The IMD cautioned that Cyclone 'Dana' would bring significant rainfall to the state, predicting light to moderate rain at most locations, with heavy

rainfall is expected in several places, with isolated areas receiving extremely heavy rainfall (over 21 cm) in districts including Balasore, Mayurbhanj, and Jajpur, it added.

The IMD has prohibited all marine activities, including fishing, in the Bay of Bengal until the cyclone has passed. "All fishermen returned to the coast by Tuesday evening," said Pujari.

Meanwhile, parts of Kendrapara and Bhadrak districts in Odisha experienced rain and adverse weather conditions on Wednesday afternoon with the Indian Meteorological Centre (IMD) saying that the outer bands of Cyclone Dana' has begun to affect the eastern coastline.

Rain starts in Odisha as Cyclone Dana's outer band touches landmass: IMD

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Parts of Kendrapara and Bhadrak districts in Odisha experienced rain and adverse weather conditions Wednesday afternoon with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) saying that the outer band of Cyclone 'Dana' has begun to affect the eastern coastline.

Senior IMD scientist Umashankar Das posted on X, "According to radar data from Paradip, the outer band of Cyclone 'Dana' has touched the landmass in Bhadrak and Kendrapara districts."

Das clarified that while the cyclone is around 500 km offshore, its outer bands, composed of clouds, can influence local weather conditions.

The IMD said Cyclone 'Dana' is likely to make landfall between Bhitarkanika National Park and Dhamra port, a distance of around 70km, early Friday.

and Organic Products Certification Agency (OSSOPCA) and sell paddy seeds through the Odisha State Seeds Corporation (OSSC) Ltd. will also be eligible to avail input assistance under the scheme.

The Odisha government today announced a new policy designed to significantly enhance air connectivity across the state. This initiative offers substantial financial incentives to airlines, encouraging the launch of new domestic and international air routes serving Biju Patnaik International Airport (Bhubaneswar), Veer Surendra Sai Airport (Jharsuguda), and smaller airports in Jeypore, Rourkela, and Utkela.

A senior revenue official said, "We are prioritising evacuation of people in coastal areas as the IMD has predicted a tidal surge of 1 to 2 metres in Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Balasore."

The IMD also indicated that low-lying areas could be inundated in these districts during the cyclone's landfall.

Additionally, the national weather agency said rain and thunderstorms, with wind speeds of up to 45 kmph, may affect parts of Bhadrak, Balasore, and Kendrapada just ahead of the landfall. These three districts will also experience winds with speed of 120 kmph along with extremely heavy rainfall during the landfall, the IMD said.

The Odisha government has issued emergency contact numbers and said residents can reach the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) at 7682982668 or 0674-2534177.



disapproved. Paddy will be purchased at Rs 3100 per quintal this has been approved in the cabinet. As many as four thousand paddy purchase centers will be opened in the state. There will be one office per market. The farmer will get the money within 48 hours, further reports added.

There shall be implementation of "Samruddhi Krushak Yojana" In order to increase the income of farmers, the State Cabinet have approved implementation of "Samruddhi Krushak Yojana". Farmers who have registered to sell paddy through the existing mechanism of

the Department of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare will be paid Rs. 3100 per quintal, including the input assistance under Samruddhi Krushak Yojana and the prevailing minimum support price (MSP). The paddy seed growers who have registered under the Odisha State Seed

Health Dept signs MoU with Chennai's MGM Healthcare Heart Transplantation to be done in Odisha soon

Bhubaneswar (KCN):

A new feather is being added to the glory of Health and Family Welfare Department of Odisha with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Directorate of Medical Education and Training (DMET), Odisha and MGM Healthcare Pvt Ltd, Chennai in the presence of Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Mukesh Mahaling for transplantation of heart in SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack in the conference hall of the department today.

Odisha Government under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Sri Mohan Charan Majhi is



committed to provide best healthcare services to the people of Odisha, this MoU is a bright example. Heart patients of the State, economically weaker section of the society in particular, will be immensely benefitted from today's MoU, stated Minister Mahaling. Heart transplantation will begin in SCB MCH in coming couple of months, he added.

MGM, Chennai had

provided hands-on training to two teams from the Medical Colleges of Odisha free of cost. As the infrastructure is available at SCB MCH Cuttack, MGM Chennai expressed intent to conduct heart transplant free of cost for the initial 10 cases.

They will also take all steps like hands-on training, suggestions for functionalization, patient screening, and post-operative follow ups at SCB MCH, Cuttack. Subsequently further transplants will be carried on by the team of Doctors of SCB MCH, Cuttack, informed H&FW Department.

DMET Director

Dr Santosh Kumar Mishra and MGM Healthcare's Co-director Dr Suresh Rao signed the MoU in the presence of Health Minister Dr Mukesh Mahaling, Commissioner cum Secretary Smt Aswathy S, Dr Manoj Kumar Pattnaik, PROF & HOD, CTVS, SCB MCH, Dr Sura Kishore Mishra, PROF & HOD, Cardiology, SCB MCH and other senior officers of the H&FW Department.

New Delhi (KCN): At the Closed Plenary Session of the 16th BRICS Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the urgent need for a united and cooperative approach to combat terrorism and its financing.

Addressing the leaders of Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa, PM Modi highlighted the importance of eliminating double standards in dealing with such a critical issue.

"We all have to be united and cooperate strongly to deal with terrorism and terror financing. There is no place for double standards on such a serious issue. We should take active steps to



prevent radicalization among the youth of our countries. We have to work together on the pending issue of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in the UN," PM Modi stated. He stressed the necessity of taking active steps to prevent the radicalization of youth across BRICS nations, underscoring the role of collective action in addressing this challenge.

"India is ready to welcome new countries as BRICS Partner Country. All decisions in this regard should be made unanimously and the views of the founding members of BRICS should be respected. The guiding principles, standards, criteria and procedures that we adopted at the Johannesburg Summit should be followed by all

member and partner countries... We should move forward in a timely manner for reforms in global institutions like UN Security Council, Multilateral Development Banks, WTO. While taking forward the efforts of BRICS, we should keep in mind that the image of this organisation should not be such that we do not want to reform global institutions but want to replace them..." added the PM. PM Modi also called for renewed efforts to resolve the pending Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the United Nations, urging BRICS countries to work together to finalize this crucial agreement.

Deepotsav : Festival of Energizing Trade and Life



Various festivals, celebrations, and fairs are key features of Indian culture. A great aspect is that all our festivals are rooted in traditions, culture, religion, spirituality, and are based on science and technology, standing firm on the foundation of faith and belief. In today's business life, where it's hard to make time for loved ones, the importance of these festivals increases even more, as their primary purpose is to unite families and society while filling human life with joy, enthusiasm, and excitement. All festivals emphasize the importance of family and neighbors, strengthen bonds between family members, relatives, friends, and neighbors, and foster brotherhood and harmony. Among these festivals, Deepotsav holds a special place because it greatly boosts the country's economic and business activities, strengthens the economy, and evokes the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant

India), Vocal for Local, and the Swadeshi (indigenous) movement, bringing smiles to the faces of Indian manufacturers, sellers, and buyers alike. In fact, this festival offers a golden opportunity for both small and large traders and shopkeepers to assess last year's profits and losses and elevate their businesses to new heights through new energy, new ideas, new thinking, and new design and technology.

During Deepotsav, most Indians worship Goddess Lakshmi (the goddess of wealth), Goddess Saraswati (the goddess of knowledge), and Lord Ganesha (the god of wisdom) and pray for prosperity. This worship signifies that people should understand the importance of education (respect values, skills, language etc.), wealth (money, resources, etc.), and intellect (wisdom) in life and should act with thoughtfulness, discerning between right and wrong, and with consideration for the greater good. One can see a surge in business activities for a month before and after Deepotsav. Markets are decorated to attract customers, whether it's malls, or stores selling utensils, clothes, jewelry, home decor, groceries, sweets, snacks, dry fruits, gift items, puja

materials, or items like electronic gadgets and vehicles. Small shops selling items like earthen lamps, candles, garlands, fruits, flowers, idols, and even brooms see increased demand

save money for it. Banks and financial institutions provide easy consumer loans, while government and private organizations offer bonuses and increase DA (dearness

auspicious. The positive aspect of this is that the increased purchasing power of consumers boosts the flow of money in the market, which strengthens the economy. Thus, we can

chance to celebrate Deepotsav too. In today's digital age, the significance of online shopping also increases during festival time. E-commerce platforms like Amazon, Flipkart, and

smooth traffic management difficult. Shopkeepers and customers are responsible for this, and they also hold the solution. Shopkeepers can help by staying within their store boundary and not obstructing traffic, while customers can help by parking their vehicles in designated areas or using public transport. Deepotsav is also related to cleanliness, teaching the importance of keeping the environment clean for a healthy life, and emphasizing purity of mind, body, and conduct to stay away from evil. It also warns that India already ranks poorly in global pollution standards, so we must avoid actions that further increase pollution. We can celebrate Diwali with fireworks, lamps, and lights while expressing our traditions and joys in a balanced way, but always avoid excess. In several cities, it has been observed that fireworks during Deepotsav are becoming major contributors to air, noise, and soil pollution and accidents. Therefore, everyone should consider limited and safe use of fireworks, particularly green fireworks.

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and sales during Deepotsav. Wholesale and retail traders launch special plans, keep new stock, and offer discounts to attract customers. Hence, the period before Deepotsav is highly competitive in the market, and every businessperson and shopkeeper uses customer-friendly innovations and creative strategies to increase sales. Consumers also eagerly await this time to purchase new items and

allowance), providing festival loans. All of this is aimed at boosting production, increasing purchasing power, and enhancing demand and supply in the market, thus strengthening the country's economy. It has been observed that consumers shop extensively and enthusiastically during this period, often motivated by discounts and attractive offers, or simply the appeal of the market and the belief that purchases made during this time are

confidently say that festivals like Deepotsav are opportunities for manufacturers and small and large traders alike, to connect with new customers, strengthen relationships with existing ones, and play a positive role in their businesses and the country's economy by selling quality, local, and indigenous products. Consumers also have a responsibility to value and purchase from small, local vendors, artisans, and footpath shops, giving them a

others expand their reach by offering special discounts and deals during this time. This period is truly one of investment and consumption, keeping the balance of demand and supply in the market. Small traders and artisans benefit particularly during this time, as they get an opportunity to sell their products on a large scale. As production and sales increase in various sectors, employment and income opportunities rise, leading to

Kartik in Odisha: A month of fasting, faith, and divine blessings

As the monsoon rains recede and the air turns crisp, a sense of spiritual awakening descends upon Odisha. It's the month of Kartik, a time of profound significance in the Hindu calendar, especially for the people of Odisha, where devotion to Lord Jagannath intertwines with the ancient tradition of Kartik Vrat, a month-long observance of fasting and prayer. In the serene temple town of Puri, its streets filled with devotees clad in white, their faces reflecting a deep sense of devotion and purpose. These are the Habisiali, widows who have dedicated their lives to Lord Jagannath, embarking on a month-long journey of fasting, prayer, and renunciation. Their unwavering faith and austere lifestyle embody the essence of Kartik, drawing

time for spiritual cleansing and seeking divine blessings.

Kartik: A Month of Auspicious Alignments

Kartik, also known as "Damodar Maas," holds a special place in Hindu scriptures. It is believed that any act of devotion performed during this month reaps multiplied rewards, making it an ideal time to deepen one's spiritual practice. The month is particularly associated with Lord Vishnu, who is said to awaken from his cosmic slumber on Kartika Shukla Ekadashi, after a four-month period of rest that began on Ashadha Ekadashi.

In Odisha, this connection to Lord Vishnu extends to his incarnation as Lord Jagannath, the presiding deity of Puri. The Jagannath Temple becomes a focal point of devotion during Kartik, drawing



countless pilgrims seeking the Lord's blessings.

Old Woman and the 'Divine Khichdi'

The significance of Kartik Vrat is beautifully illustrated in the tale of an elderly woman who lived a simple life, her heart filled with unwavering devotion to Lord Krishna. Every day, as she broke her Kartik fast, Lord Krishna himself would appear, offering her a bowl of

khichdi, a humble yet nourishing dish, as a token of his divine grace.

A jealous neighbor, unable to comprehend the old woman's piety, discarded the khichdi one day, only to witness a miraculous plant sprout from the spot where the food had fallen. The plant bore two exquisite flowers, which eventually found their way to the king's palace. Upon

smelling these flowers, the queen miraculously conceived and gave birth to twin sons. These boys, growing up in the palace, remained silent until they encountered the old woman during their hunting expeditions. Each time she lamented the loss of her khichdi, they would respond, "We are your khichdi, and we are your bowl," revealing their divine origin and the power of the old woman's devotion.

The king, upon learning of this extraordinary tale, recognized the old woman's piety and invited her to live in the palace, honoring her unwavering faith and the divine blessings she had received.

The Habisiali: This story resonates deeply with the Habisiali of Odisha, who dedicate their lives to Lord

Jagannath, particularly during the sacred month of Kartik. These women, clad in simple white attire, renounce worldly pleasures and embrace a life of austerity, their days filled with prayer, chanting, and service to the Lord. They believe that their unwavering devotion during Kartik will lead them to moksha, liberation from the cycle of birth and death.

Spiritual significance

The observance of Kartik Vrat is not merely a religious tradition; it aligns with both ancient wisdom and modern science. The practice of fasting and abstaining from certain foods is believed to purify the mind and body, enhancing spiritual awareness and promoting physical well-being. Scientific studies have also shown the benefits of intermittent fasting, including improved cardiovascular health, reduced inflammation, and enhanced brain function.

Kartik, with its emphasis on devotion, self-discipline, and spiritual growth, offers a unique opportunity for individuals to connect with their inner selves and seek divine blessings. It's a time for reflection, introspection, and renewal, a journey towards a more balanced and fulfilling life. As the Habisiali of Odisha demonstrate through their unwavering devotion, Kartik is a time to surrender to the divine, to embrace the power of faith, and to seek the grace of Lord Jagannath. Their journey, marked by simplicity and unwavering faith, serves as an inspiration to all who seek spiritual fulfillment and liberation.

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Actor Vikrant Massey in talks to play Sri Sri Ravi Shankar in new film

Actor Vikrant Massey is in talks to play the role of Shri Sri Ravi Shankar in the upcoming untitled project. The movie will be bankrolled by Mahaveer Jain and Siddharth Anand. The film will highlight Ravi Shankar's role in resolving Colombia's devastating 52-year civil war. Actor Vikrant Massey is in advanced talks to star in an international thriller inspired by the life of global spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar. The news was confirmed by the production house after they claimed that Vikrant is an ideal actor to play the main lead in the upcoming project.

"Vikrant Massey is one of the most versatile actors of today's times and the makers felt that he'll be ideal to play the main lead. Vikrant, too, was very excited when he was offered the part and was very



thankful that he was considered for it. The talks between the actor and the makers are in advanced stages," a source close to the production house said. The film is inspired by the extraordinary life of Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, a global spiritual leader and humanitarian known for his unwavering commitment to peace. It will spotlight Gurudev's pivotal role in resolving Colombia's devastating 52-year civil war, emphasizing his non-violent approach to ending the conflict.

The source further revealed, "The film will be made in English and Spanish and is meant for a global audience; it'll be dubbed in various international and Indian languages. It focuses on how one of the biggest internal conflicts of the world was resolved by Ravi Shankar with the aid of ancient Indian wisdom. The supporting cast and crew will mainly comprise acclaimed and Academy Award-winning people from Los Angeles, USA and Colombia. Moreover, renowned filmmakers will also be presenting this big-budget, ambitious film in different countries."

The forthcoming film will be produced by Siddharth Anand and Mahaveer Jain. The source added, "It is written by ace advertising director and writer Montoo Bassi and he'll be aided by international scriptwriters and script doctors. He researched for almost four years. Interestingly, Vikrant Massey also met Sri Sri Ravi Shankar sometime back."

The film aims to continue this message, reflecting the Indian philosophy of "One World One Family" and Gurudev's commitment to non-violence.

Confirmed: Salman Khan's Chulbul Pandey cameo in Singham Again not axed



Actor Salman Khan has indeed joined Rohit Shetty's cop-universe by including his iconic role, Chulbul Pandey from Dabangg, in Singham Again. The actor shot with Ajay Devgn for a special post-credit scene. Actor Salman Khan will finally appear in Rohit Shetty's Diwali release, Singham Again, this year. After various reports suggested that his cameo in the film has been removed for several reasons, it seems like he's again on board to shoot a fresh post-credit sequence with Ajay Devgn, who's reprising his role of Bajirao Singham in the film.

A report published in Pinkvilla revealed that Ajay and Salman are shooting for this special scene in the Filmcity today, on October 22, Tuesday. Chulbul Pandey from Dabangg is considered one of Salman's iconic on-screen roles, and this crossover is going to add more value to Rohit's cop-universe. The report quoted a source close to the actor as saying, "Rohit met Salman Khan recently, and spoke to him about the grand plans in place to welcome him. Salman heard it and said, 'It's you and Ajay. You are brothers. That's enough of a reason for me to do the cameo'. The unit is all charged up with this newest addition to Singham Again."

Jaana Samjho Na: Kartik-Triptii's new Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 song is about beats and vibes



Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3's new song Jaana Samjho Na, featuring Kartik Aaryan and Triptii Dimri, is a romantic track that revives a popular melody with a fresh twist. The film, directed by Anees Bazmee, is set to continue its horror-comedy saga with a star-studded cast.

Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 releases on November 1, 2024

The second song from Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, Jaana Samjho Na, featuring Kartik Aaryan and Triptii Dimri has been released. The song is the remake of a popular track of the same name, originally sung by Aditya Rikhari. The reprised version includes vocals by Aditya and Tulsi Kumar.

Jaana Samjho Na from Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 is all about romance and vibes. While you must have gathered a fair idea of Kartik and Triptii's chemistry in the film, you need to watch the latest song in case you are rooting to see them

romancing together. The second song track from the film is composed by Lijo George, DJ Chetas, and Aditya Rikhari, with lyrics penned by Aditya Rikhari. Meanwhile, the title track of Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, following his stellar performance in Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2. This time, he'll share the screen with Triptii Dimri,

alongside the original Manjulika, Vidya Balan, and her partner-in-mischief, Madhuri Dixit. Directed by Anees Bazmee and backed by Bhushan Kumar, the film promises to continue the beloved horror-comedy legacy. Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 hits the theaters on November 1, 2024.

'Ishq Vishk Rebound' trailer: Rohit Saraf, Pashmina Roshan film looks dated



The first trailer of 'Ishq Vishk Rebound' is out. The film stars Pashmina Roshan, Rohit Saraf, Naila Grewal and Jibraan Khan in lead roles. It releases in cinemas on June 21. The first full trailer of Ishq Vishk Rebound is out, and by the looks of

it, this Rohit Saraf, Pashmina Roshan, Jibraan Khan and Naila Grewal film appears to be a predictable affair, with friends falling in and out of love with each other, much like the original Shahid Kapoor-starrer. Except this time around,

we see some millennial and Gen Z lingo thrown in for good, like a 'rebound,' which means a relationship with someone after a rough break-up. Here, Pashmina Roshan and Rohit Saraf are close friends who break up with their respective

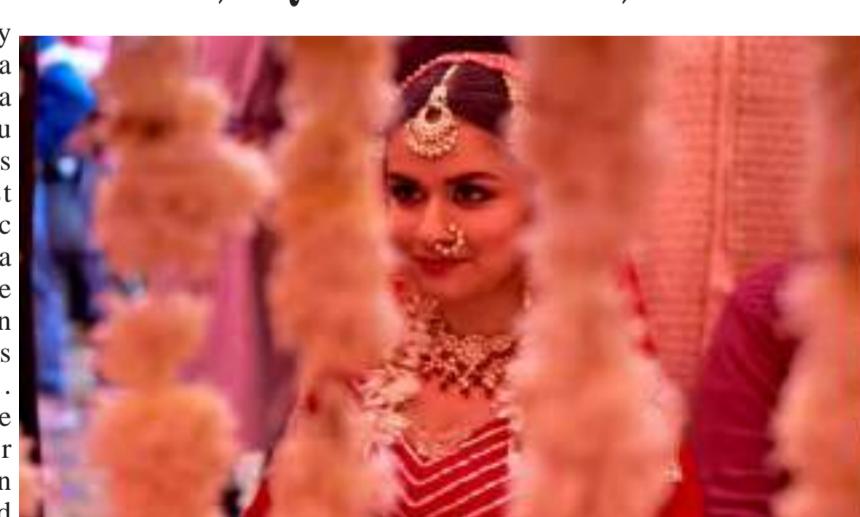
partners and realize they are actually attracted to each other.

The official synopsis of the film reads, "Experience the journey of three best friends, 2 relationships, 2 breakups, and a cascade of unfolding confusions. See how the equations shift when romance sparks, and you are bound to wonder whether exes can truly remain friends? In an era where labels seem to matter less, Ishq Vishk Rebound asks: What really defines a bond?" Bankrolled by Ramesh Taurani and Jaya Taurani, Ishq Vishk Rebound has been directed by Nipun Avinash Dharmadhikari. It releases in cinemas on June 21.

Avneet Kaur Opens Up On Working With Nawazuddin Siddiqui In Tiku weds Sheru, Says 'He Is Serious, Passionate'

A fun and crazy journey of a hustler and a dreamer, Tiku Weds Sheru is the quirkiest romantic comedy-drama you'll be watching on Prime Video this weekend. Starring the versatile actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui and

rising talent Avneet Kaur, the comedy is a tale of two starry-eyed characters, who want to make it big in Bollywood, journeying through all the worldly chaos and challenges. Avneet started her career in the entertainment industry as a child artist



twelve years ago and has now bagged her big break as a lead in Kangana Ranaut's maiden production. In the film, she gets to work with the National Award-winning actor Nawazuddin. Recently the actor opened up about the experience and

shared, "The seriousness and dedication that Nawaz sir has for his work is commendable. It is extremely important for us actors to be on and off. When an actor is on screen, they are on screen, you can't let anything affect you at that point. He is so serious, passionate and dedicated about his work, that he is there in the moment. He gives his 100%. That's something that I have learned from Nawaz sir, and something I'll carry ahead with me in my journey as an actor, no matter how many projects I do." Kangana Ranaut marks her production debut for the film under her banner of Manikarnika films. Directed by Sai Kabir Srivastva, Tiku Weds Sheru will stream on June 23 exclusively on Prime Video.

Skincare Tips to Get Your Diwali Glow



Diwali is just around the corner! What better time than now to make sure you shine your brightest. The run-up to Diwali is just a few days away and our preparations in terms of gifts, diyas and sweets are already rolling.

The days running up to Diwali are more hectic than wedding season in terms of cleaning, shopping, house decoration etc which generally dampens your mood leaving you looking exhausted, tired and dull at the end of the day.

Diwali involves joy, celebrations, family dinners and a whole lot of great excitement. As we immerse ourselves in the festivities, women and

men set to sparkle brighter than the fireworks and shine more than the diyas to look perfect this Diwali. Most of us seek quick solutions to fix our beauty woes and tend to laden up the skin with numerous varieties of chemical-laden costly cosmetics to look natural, youthful and evergreen.

As you indulge in family gatherings and step out to celebrate, it's time to get a radiant glow with organic homemade ingredients for Diwali which is an absolute favourite with most Indians.

Here are simple things to shine brighter than the festive lights from the comforts of your home.

Start taking care of the skin and hair a few days before. Nighttime cleansing is an absolute must, especially for city dwellers. Chemical air pollutants, dirt and grime hang in the air. They are potent skin irritants. Make up should also be removed at night. All

these can cause dryness of the skin, or disrupt the normal acid-alkaline balance of the skin, leading to rashes and other eruptive conditions, like pimples and acne.

As Diwali approaches, the weather also changes. Seasonal changes also influence the skin. The humidity becomes less and the skin loses moisture to the atmosphere. So, one needs to keep the skin moisturised and also protect it from sun exposure. For normal to dry skin, cleanse twice a day, with a cleansing gel, containing ingredients like aloe vera. Massage the cleanser lightly into the skin and remove it with moist cotton wool. Then apply rose water or skin tonic, using cotton wool. During the day, use sunscreen, before going out in the sun. Or, use moisturizer, if you are indoors. Moisturisers are available in cream and liquid form. For dry skin, at night, after cleansing, apply a nourishing cream and massage it on the face. Wipe off with moist cotton wool. You can

apply a serum afterwards.

Oily skins also need moisture. But, if they apply creams, they can get pimples.

To moisturise oily skin, mix one teaspoon of pure glycerin with 100 ml rose water. Keep it in an airtight jar in the fridge. Use a little of this lotion after cleansing. This moisturizes the skin, without making it oily. Use cleansing milk or face wash to cleanse the skin.

The use of facial scrubs helps to brighten the skin and add a glow. Use a facial scrub twice a week. Mix ground almonds or rice powder with curd and a pinch of Haldi. You can also add dried and powdered orange and lemon peels.

Apply on the face and rub gently on the skin with small circular movements. Then wash off with water.

Apply a sunscreen before going out in the sun. So, you can look for a sunscreen lotion or cream, depending on your skin type. You

Shahnaz Husain

should also look for day creams, nourishing or night creams and serums.

As Diwali and winter approach, try some home remedies to relieve dryness. Apply honey on the face daily for 10 minutes and wash off with water. If you have an aloe vera plant at home, the gel, found in the inner portion of the leaves, can be applied on the face to moisturize it.

Grate carrots and apply on the face for 15 to 20 minutes. Carrot is rich in Vitamin A and good for nourishing the skin in winter. It suits all skin types.

Mix half a teaspoon of honey, one teaspoon of rose water and one teaspoon of dried milk powder. Mix into a paste and apply on the face. Remove after 20 minutes with water.

Applying mayonnaise or egg yolk on the skin also helps to relieve dryness. Suits dry skin.

Nourish the hair with oil treatments once or twice

a week. Heat olive oil and apply on the scalp and hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better.

Egg white is a wonderful natural cleanser for oily hair and its protein content helps to add body. Apply egg white on the hair about half an hour before your shampoo. To nourish dry hair, massage egg yolk or mayonnaise into the scalp. Leave it on for half an hour and then wash the hair. It helps to soften the hair and is very useful for hair that has suffered damage through colouring, straightening or perming.

If you have been working hard just before Diwali, a few "pick me up" tips will help. Give yourself a manicure and pedicure the day before. In fact, after soaking the hands and feet in warm water, massage with a rich

cream, so that the skin is smooth and soft. A good pick-me-up treatment for the hands is to rub them with sugar and lemon juice. Pay attention to details like waxing and threading too, at least a day in advance.

A "pick-me-up" face mask can leave your skin clean and glowing. Cleanse the skin. Mix honey with egg white and apply it on the face. Wash off with water after 20 minutes. For those with very dry skin, mix half a teaspoon of honey, egg yolk or pure almond oil and one teaspoon of dried milk powder. Mix into a paste and apply on the face. Leave it on for half an hour and rinse off with water. After washing off the pack, give the skin a compress with cotton wool pads soaked in rose water.

For hands and nails, mix almond oil and honey in equal parts and massage them into the nails and cuticles. Leave on for 15 minutes and wipe off with a moist towel. Mix 3 tablespoons of rose

water with one tablespoon each of glycerin and lemon juice. Apply on hands and feet and leave for half an hour. Wash off with plain water. If your hair is looking dull give it a quick conditioning treatment before your shampoo. Mix one teaspoon each of vinegar and honey with one egg. Beat them together well. Massage the mixture into the scalp. Then wrap the hair in a hot towel for twenty minutes, before washing the hair. Your hair will have more body and look shiny and manageable.

Give your hair a tea-water and lemon rinse after shampoo, to add shine. Boil used tea leaves again in enough water. After boiling, you should have about 4 cups of tea water. Cool and strain it. Then add the juice of a lemon and use it as a last rinse after shampoo.

Author is an international fame beauty expert and is popular as the herbal queen of India

Efforts for Increasing liquidity in banks is need of hour

Goverdhan Das Binani "Raja Babu"

It is well known that all banks barring private ones always insist for capital infusion by Government which passes negative results on public as Government always conveys banks to raise capital on their own. For your information in August this year, the RBI governor expressed concern over the decline in bank deposits and stated that deposits have been lagging behind credit growth for some time, which could lead to structural liquidity problems in the system. After RBI governor's concern Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also expressed concern over sluggish deposit growth of banks after holding a meeting with the Central Bank Board of Directors. She said that banks should think of bringing some innovative and attractive financial instruments so that more and more people deposit money in the banks.

Considering all above don't you think that in

other words, banks convey that their management is not competitive enough to garner sufficient profit to run the bank under their management effectively?

Now when government is giving the mantra to everyone to be self-reliant, it will be appropriate for the country's economy that the banks should also make efforts to become self-reliant with transparency from now on.

In view of all this I opine that first banks should design innovative products and thereafter market aggressively using all forums to lure customers.

As all of you will believe that nowadays unless banks make attractive offers, no customer will turn up as the saying goes,

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained". Hence to lure customers from the ongoing competition, banks will also have to plan in such a way which can force all prospective customers to participate in their products.

To make them self-reliant, the government should also relax the restrictions imposed on its behalf so that the dependence of banks on the government can be reduced.

One more fact has been observed that fixed deposits are decreasing in banks, so it is necessary that banks provide additional

facilities to lure the customers.

After considering all discussed above, it is also a fact that banks will have to bear additional expenses for providing additional facilities. That's why there is a need for such a product which can provide a win-win feeling to both i.e. to customers as well as to the bank after absorbing the burden of increased expenses.

Now I suggest one product which is not new but can be introduced by making it attractive from all angles.

I strongly believe that if this product is promoted and implemented properly, then it is possible to garner thousands of crores as long term fixed deposits.

Now my suggestion about the product is as follows –

1) Fixed deposit of 10000/- should be mandatory for this product and deposit facility in multiples of 1000/- can be given.

2) A zero balance savings account and a loan account will automatically be opened as soon as the term deposit account starts.

3) At the time of fixed deposit, complete KYC will cover all these three accounts.

4) The mortgage over the loan account will automatically get generated against fixed deposit and its limit will vary from minimum 90% to 95% maximum of the fixed deposit

amount which in turn provide an upper hand to bank management.

5) Now zero balance savings account will have to be offered under this facility to the depositor who in turn use it like his ordinary savings account. That means any type of dividend, pension, salary, etc. can be deposited directly in the savings account and withdrawal from this should be similar to general SB a/c.

6) Arrange to issue savings account cheque Book as per RBI rules.

7) Similarly, Debit ATM card should not only be issued free of cost, but also keep it free from annual fees. The rest conditions will remain same as in ordinary SB a/c i.e. as per RBI rules.

8) SMS facility will be provided free of cost

9) Whenever a customer issues a cheque for payment which is excess than SB balance then that will absorb first SB balance and thereafter remaining amount will be utilised out of overdraft limit

10) Whenever any amount gets deposited in a savings account then after utilising OD balance rest will appear as SB balance

11) As regards interest, SB a/c gets credit of same as per savings account rules and FD will be dealt as per agreed terms subject to RBI rules.

12) OD interest will be calculated on product

basis @ 1% or 2% more than FD interest and the same will be debited to SB a/c every month

The above are some major minimum points besides banks are free to frame out few more to have transparency as there is still a lot of space in the above proposal.

Nut shell is above to have an edge over other competitors then only more customers will be added and more nos. are always remain beneficial.

In this context, news flashed in media that preparations are being made to raise Rs 1.3 lakh crore in this financial year through bonds. Whereas I am confident that if all the banks together are able to make this scheme popular by explaining it, in an interesting way to the fifty crore accounts opened under the Jan-Dhan Yojana, then in a short time banks can garner thousands of crores as long term fixed deposits.

It is expected that not only bankers (including RBI) but also bank customers will also think deeply on the above product in a changed environment so that the dependence of banks on the government can be reduced.

13) As regards interest, SB a/c gets credit of same as per savings account rules and FD will be dealt as per agreed terms subject to RBI rules.

14) OD interest will be calculated on product

15) Whenever any amount gets deposited in a savings account then after utilising OD balance rest will appear as SB balance

16) As regards interest, SB a/c gets credit of same as per savings account rules and FD will be dealt as per agreed terms subject to RBI rules.

She is Reverential Smritikana Sen, my reverential mother. She is the inextinguishable inspiration at all times. She was designated as "Spirited Family Exponent", who has really enabled the inextinguishable paradigm of a very sound "Family" in a very conforming manner.

I do firmly believe that

M-Magnificence of sacrifice

O- Opportunity to compromise

T-Tenacity to conceive

H-Holistic Love

E-Enriched heart

R-Resplendence of care

She is a "Mother". On the other hand, Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Kr. Sen and his entire family have exclusively been fortunate to be her

"Wholehearted Warmth". Because she is the most determining splendors of success under sterling leadership along with the noble

spunk of emotion which has truly perplexed them and the radiant introspective motions already. They do not often look at the mirror because she is the best reflection of mirror. I do not follow my shadow.

Because she is my rejuvenated spark of galaxy. Prof. Sen does not perceptually preserve his sorrow.

Because she wipes out the same through her costliest smile. Nobody felt uncomfortable.

avenue to sustain in this regimented universe. On the contrary, no one has been broken because Referred Smritikana Sen is here to conjugate herself along with her exemplary care. The entire family has never been lazy because she was the tune of indomitable spirit. The most spirited family members did not feel dirty because their considerate mother was having her noble vision to focus upon. Prof. Sen and his entire upstanding family never felt backdated because she had the exhilarating mission. I do not feel angry because she always reflects her priceless love. All of her affectionate grand sons and daughters were absolutely hazardless because she was the irreplaceable path-

finder. Most dynamic human kind Prof. Santanu Kr. Sen and his all-round associates have never been annoyed because their exquisite mother allures the charm through her magical touch. As a result we have not been shy because she gave us enormous courage. The most established "Sons" have never been uncertain because she brought out the productive solutions. She has undoubtedly stretched her most tuneful span of life since 28th December, 1945 to 4th October, 2024 in a very zealous dimension of "Multifarious Human Reading" and that has really been the most "Emphatic Victory" based upon

"Unequivocal Metamorphosis of Culture" through both qualitative and administrative endurance indeed.

This is why, Reverential "Mother" Smritikana Sen is the most admirable "Idol" of our very precious span of lives and I sincerely pray to my "Almighty" to introduce her in this chronic globe again alongside her most beautiful heart in connection of our zealous formation in style. Moreover, this premier bonding is never ended because she is the best "Definition" of "Mother" to fulfill all of our histrionic fights with passion in style. She "Referred Smritikana Sen" (The Godly Mother) is our ultimate cause of "Superiority".

While, we are the utmost effect of her "Ageless Nicety".

Kolkata, India



Dr. Rudrarup Gupta

Because she was their reliable umbrella. Not a single family member felt unsecured. The prime cause is that their iconic mother was reflected just in front of everyone based upon the panoramic dreams every now and then along with her best words and wisdom. Prof. Sen never felt defeated just due to her painstaking guidance which is his utmost



avenue to sustain in this regimented universe. On the contrary, no one has been broken because Referred Smritikana Sen is here to conjugate herself along with her exemplary care. The entire family has never been lazy because she was the tune of indomitable spirit. The most spirited family members did not feel dirty because their considerate mother was having her noble vision to focus upon. Prof. Sen and his entire upstanding family never felt backdated because she had the exhilarating mission. I do not feel angry because she always reflects her priceless love. All of her affectionate grand sons and daughters were absolutely hazardless because she was the irreplaceable path-

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“Adoption of AI will be Inevitable, ..., an Adaptive Regulatory Framework is essential” : Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, (EAC-PM), GoI

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): An Exclusive Session on ‘Preparing for the Age of Artificial Intelligence’ was addressed by Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), Government of India organised by Bharat Chamber of Commerce on 23rd October 2024 in Kolkata.

Shri Sanyal emphasised on the pivotal role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in shaping the future of industries and everyday life. He drew parallels with previous technological revolutions, noting that AI will first

impact high-skilled jobs before gradually affecting lower-skilled roles. Shri Sanyal further observed that, “While AI promises to create new job opportunities, it will also demand flexibility and adaptability from systems, institutions and organisations, as resisting this inevitable change will only hinder progress.”

Shri Sanyal elaborated on the far-reaching influence of AI across diverse fields and industries. Shri Sanyal envisioned a transformative shift in tertiary education, where the infrastructure of institutions will be utilised for research initiatives, while conventional classroom activities—



such as lectures and assessments—will seamlessly migrate to online platforms, reshaping the learning landscape for future generations.

Despite its many

benefits, Shri Sanyal outlined several caveats about how AI raises ethical questions regarding privacy, bias, and decision-making processes, which need to be addressed to build

public trust. Shri Sanyal underscored the significance of effective governance and regulation to ensure that AI development aligns with societal values and protects citizens and

added, “Certain disruptions caused by AI may seem benign but may have catastrophic effects”.

Such occurrence highlight the potential for technological failures to disrupt essential services, leading him to advocate for comprehensive safeguards and ethical guidelines to ensure responsible AI development and deployment. In this regard, Shri Sanyal suggested India should go for a balanced approach that promotes innovation while ensuring ethical considerations and safety

addressed. Shri Sanyal stressed on the five key principles to effectively regulate AI such as: establishing guardrails and partitions; Mandating Manual ‘Overrides’ and ‘Authorization Chokepoints’; Ensuring Transparency and Explainability; Defining Clear Lines of AI Accountability; and Creating a Specialist Regulator.

On the occasion, Shri Subhendu Mukherjee, Founder-Director, The Tenth Floor highlighted the value of AI’s Data Scraping capabilities & its usage by multinational corporations.

Earlier in his address, Shri N. G. Khaitan, President, emphasised AI’s dual nature as both a creator and a potential destroyer, highlighting its transformative role in accelerating research and driving significant advancements. However, he cautioned against the risks of misuse, stressing the importance of vigilance in harnessing AI responsibly. Shri Khaitan also underscored the necessity for India to establish a specialist AI regulator, equipped with a broad mandate and a National Registry of Algorithms, to promote responsible development and safeguard societal well-being.

"Whisper of a Wetland-A Vision for Tomorrow" Wins ABU Award 2024

Kolkata, (KCN): The documentary produced by Suvayan Bala, Programme Executive, Akashvani - "Whisper of a Wetland: A Vision for Tomorrow", has won in the prestigious ABU Prizes 2024 in the Radio/ Audio ABU Perspective Award category. The documentary, focusing on the ecological importance of the East Kolkata Wetlands and their role in sustainable urban development, was chosen from over 342 entries across the world.

ANOTHER HERITAGE RUN SCHEDULED FOR GENERAL COMMUTERS TOMORROW

Kolkata, (KCN): It was the second consecutive day today when an old NGEF rake chugged along the Metro tracks of Blue Line from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar to Maidan stations igniting the romance of the non-AC era of Metro Railway, Kolkata. After the huge success of yesterday's run, this special Heritage Run was organised today for general commuters as part of celebrating the completion of 40 glorious years of service to the nation by Metro Railway, Kolkata.

For ensuring smooth run of this NGEF rake (Rake No: N-16/18), elaborate arrangements were made and special tickets were sold from the counters of

Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station. Total 60 passengers enjoyed this ride on this 4.1 km stretch after purchasing tickets of Rs. 100 per head. In today's Heritage Ride, Rake No: N-16/18 was used. This rake was inducted in Metro's fleet on May 13, 1992 and used for the last time for commercial service on December 26, 2020. This Heritage Journey started from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Station at 1.02 pm and ended at Maidan station at 1.19 pm today. All the on-board passengers were elated as the rake chugged along the stretch. Commuters waiting for the Metro in between stations were also thrilled to see the

old NGEF rake running gracefully on the Metro tracks. They were seen waving to the rake and taking photographs. Tomorrow, Metro Railway, Kolkata, India's first Metro is completing 40 years. To mark this occasion, one such Heritage Run will be organised from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station to Maidan station. This run will start from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station at 1.00 pm and interested commuters may enjoy this ride from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar to Maidan station. For this, they will have to purchase a Rs. 100/- ticket per head from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station booking counters. This train will not stop at any

station en route.

This rake manufactured with the electrics from National Government Electrical Factory (NGEF) is the showcase of self-reliance of Indian Railways own production Unit at Perambur. This Metro rake was manufactured by ICF with electrics from NGEF. In the first commercial run, one such NGEF rake was introduced on October 24, 1984. Out of the eight coaches of an NGEF rake, six coaches used to be DMC (Driving Motor Coach) and NDMC (Non-Driving Motor Coach). These coaches used to be powered by motor coaches, each having four number of series type DC traction motors.

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In response to the impending Cyclone DANA, East Coast Railway (ECoR) is implementing comprehensive measures to ensure safety of passengers and the integrity of railway operations. Drawing on past experiences from severe cyclones, ECoR is proactively preparing to mitigate potential impacts on train services.

To ensure readiness, ECoR has activated a round-the-clock Disaster Management Cell at its headquarters at Rail Sadan, as well as at Divisional headquarters in Khurda Road, Visakhapatnam, and

Sambalpur. These teams are dedicated to early restoration of train services and railway infrastructure should they be affected by the cyclone.

ECoR General Manager Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal chaired a preparatory meeting and advised all the Principal Heads of the Departments of ECoR and Divisional Railway Managers to take necessary steps for ensuring ZERO RISK TO PASSENGERS. He emphasized on deployment of Special Teams for early restoration of tracks, signaling system and electrification etc., to

ensure quick restoration of the train services after the cyclone.

Ensuring Passenger Safety
ECoR has prioritized passenger safety by positioning specialized teams for the swift restoration of tracks, signaling systems, and electrification processes.

In the event of power outages, diesel locomotives will be on standby to ensure continued train operations.

Emergency Control Rooms are operational around the clock, equipped with satellite phones to maintain communication during the crisis. With a Red Alert

issued for coastal areas, ECoR is closely monitoring conditions at all stations between Brahmapur and Bhadrak. Service Adjustments

In light of the cyclone threat, ECoR has made the difficult decision to cancel various train services (Bulletin - 1 Attached).

These adjustments are necessary to minimize risks and ensure the safety of all passengers. ECoR remains committed to restoring normal services as quickly as possible once conditions permit.

Passengers are encouraged to stay informed by checking for updates through official

channels.

To improve safety of both trains, tracks and passengers and also to minimize the effects of Cyclone, East Coast Railway has planned precautionary steps. These are...

| Close watch to save Railway Bridges, Tracks, Yards, OHE & Signaling System due to heavy rain.

| Clearance of Silt, Vegetation and other obstructions from catch water and side drains.

| Patrolling at vulnerable locations by deputing patrolmen & Watchmen.

| Sectional Gangmen will patrol tracks whenever there is heavy rain.

| Arrangements made to stock sufficient quantities of monsoon/cyclone reserve materials.

| Coordination with Meteorological Department and other Government Agencies.

Patrolling of Railway tracks by Patrolmen has been planned during heavy rain. They observe danger or interruption if any and protect the trains and travelling passengers from any unusual occurrence. Stationary Patrolmen and Watchmen have also been deployed at vulnerable locations.

Mobile Patrolmen have been deployed in vulnerable sections.

Instructions have been issued that whenever there is heavy rain, the sectional Gangmen will organize patrolling of track on their own in their beat to make sure that the track is safe for passage of trains and ensure protection at all locations where washouts/slips are likely to occur.

Arrangements have been made to stock sufficient quantities of cyclone/monsoon reserve materials, viz., boulders, sand, cinder, quarry dust, ballast at identified locations. The Engineering relief vans and their equipment are kept ready. The CC cribs and relieving

girders are kept in readiness so that they can be moved as per requirement.

Diesel Locomotives, Tower Wagons and other Heavy Mechanism have been strategically placed for mobilization at vulnerable locations for facilitating to any emergency restoration work.

East Coast Railway Control Office, which works round the clock, is keeping close liaison with Meteorological Department, Disaster Management Cell and staff deputed at flood prone areas for continuous monitoring and constant updates.

CYCLONE PRECAUTIONS BY EAST COAST RAILWAY

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In response to the impending Cyclone DANA, East Coast Railway (ECoR) is implementing comprehensive measures to ensure safety of passengers and the integrity of railway operations. Drawing on past experiences from severe cyclones, ECoR is proactively preparing to mitigate potential impacts on train services.

To ensure readiness, ECoR has activated a round-the-clock Disaster Management Cell at its headquarters at Rail Sadan, as well as at Divisional headquarters in Khurda Road, Visakhapatnam, and

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Odisha villagers hope mangrove cover will save them from cyclone fury again

Kendrapara(KCN): With the IMD indicating that a severe cyclonic storm will cross the Odisha coast near Bhitarkanika National Park, locals Tuesday exuded optimism that the rich mangrove forest cover would become a saviour for them once more.

The Park had withstood the onslaught of several cyclones in the past including the 1999 October Super Cyclone. "We are quite hopeful that the well-protected mangrove cover here will ensure the safety of humans, flora and fauna as these species are gifted with capacity to withstand high wind velocity," Divisional

Forest Officer, Mangrove (wildlife) Forest Division, Sudarshan Gopinath Yadav said.

According to the Met office, a depression over the east-central Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm and cross the Odisha-West Bengal coasts in the early hours of October 25 with a wind speed of 100-110 kmph, gusting to 120 kmph. "We are a bit scared. Still, we are hopeful that the mangrove may save us again. The coastal woodland has the capacity to withstand the wind velocity up to 200 kilometres per hour," said Pradip Das, a resident of

Dangamal village lying close to the national park. Though there are no definite signs of a cyclone striking the region, the people here hope that the forest cover will protect them with minimal damage as had been the case in the past. "We pray that the forest withstands the onslaught this time also," said Kamalakanta Nayak of Talchua village. The lush green luxuriant mangrove cover often acts as a protective barrier against cyclones and tidal surges. It is because of the mangroves that the coastal hamlets lying on the fringes of the national park could not be impacted by cyclones in

the past. In the 1999 Super Cyclone, the area was saved as the trees bore the onslaught of gusty wind, officials said. Mangrove trees with their intricate root system stabilise the coastline, reducing erosion from storm surges, currents, waves, and tides, said the DFO. The flora and fauna of the park were unharmed in the recent Amphan cyclone. The villages on the close periphery of the national park were also saved as the mangrove cover acted as a buffer zone in protecting the human

settlements, Yadav added. Bhitarkanika is one of the richest storehouses of mangrove genes. Researchers have come across 11 of the 70 mangrove species, which were at elevated threat of extinction in the world, in Bhitarkanika.

Odisha is endowed with a reserve of a mangrove forest area of 231 square kilometres with a major chunk lying in Bhitarkanika. It stands second only to Sundarbans in West Bengal.

Besides Bhitarkanika in Kendrapara, the districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jagatsinghpur and Puri are also home to mangroves, otherwise known as coastal woodland. While 82 square km area in Bhitarkanika is densely mangrove-infested, 95 square km area has moderate mangrove forest. The coastal patches spread across 672 square km were declared in the park.



Community radio stations unite to tackle Cyclone 'Dana'



Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a significant development, 25 coastal community radio stations across Odisha Monday have come together to strategise and coordinate their efforts in response to the looming threat of Cyclone 'Dana'. A crucial meeting presided over by the Community Radio Association's President, SA Safique, witnessed active participation from coastal radios, including Radio Namaskar (Konark), Radio Bulbul (Bhadrak), Radio Outreach (Tirtol), Radio Jivan (Jagatsinghpur), Radio Sparsh (Basta), Radio Smile (Baliapal), and Radio Swaraj (Jajpur), among others.

Senior broadcaster and community radio specialist, NA Shah Ansari, along with the association's secretary, Subrat Kumar Pati, also contributed to the discussion. The primary agenda of the meeting was to consolidate efforts in facing the imminent cyclone and ensure seamless coordination

with government bodies, including the Revenue Department, Special Relief Commissioner (SRC), and Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA). The collective goal is to safeguard communities, deliver timely updates, and counter the spread of fake news during the pre-cyclone period. Coastal radios take the lead in broadcasting awareness. With the cyclone expected to make landfall along the Odisha coast, the coastal community radio stations have already activated their disaster communication protocols. All participating stations have begun broadcasting precyclone warning messages and safety advisories to their respective communities, in close coordination with local administration and disaster response agencies. These warnings focus on evacuation plans, shelter locations, emergency contact numbers, and safety

measures for residents in vulnerable areas. The radios emphasised their commitment to serve as a reliable source of information for local populations during the cyclone, especially in areas where mainstream media access may be limited. By working together, they aim to provide clear and timely communication that reaches even the most remote corners of the state, mitigating panic and ensuring that accurate information prevails. Community radios take a stand against fake news. Recognising the threat posed by misinformation during such critical times, the community radio stations have jointly resolved to combat fake news. They plan to verify and cross-check all information with the designated government sources before airing any updates, ensuring that only accurate data reaches the public. The initiative aims to prevent the spread of rumours, which can lead to panic

Odisha to close tiger reserve, national park ahead of cyclone

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha government Tuesday announced the closure of two of its ecological hotspots – Similipal Tiger Reserve in Mayurbhanj district and Bhitarkanika National Park in Kendrapara district – in view of an impending severe cyclonic storm. Both the Mayurbhanj and Kendrapara districts have been identified as "Red Zone" as the IMD forecast a severe cyclonic storm will cross the east coast between October 24

night to October 25 morning. These two districts could bear the brunt of the calamity, officials said. The Forest Department has announced that the Bhitarkanika National Park (BNP) and Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) will remain closed to visitors and tourists from October 23 to October 25. According to BNP park authorities, the date of reopening will be decided keeping in view the prevailing situation in the areas. The cyclonic storm is likely to hit the coast

during the night of October 24 or morning of October 25. According to the forecast, the cyclone is likely to trigger heavy to extremely heavy rain accompanied by high-velocity wind of 100 to 110 kilometres per hour. "This is to inform all the visitors or tourists that Similipal Tiger Reserve will remain closed for them from October 23 to 25 due to a possible cyclone storm likely to hit Odisha," an official notification said, adding that there will be no entry or exit from the Tiger Reserve for visitors or

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Mancheswar Station in Bhubaneswar to Undergo Major Development and Upgrades.

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The Mancheswar Railway Station in Bhubaneswar is set to undergo significant transformation with a proposed development investment of ₹26.85 crore. This initiative aims to improve passenger facilities and enhance the overall travel experience for the growing number of commuters.

Mancheswar Station is

one of the 57 Amrit Stations declared by the Ministry of Railways within the East Coast Railway (ECR) jurisdiction, making it a vital public-centric project. Strategically located near the bustling Mancheswar Industrial Estate, the station serves as a critical point of access.

Currently handling 22 trains, the station's development plan

includes the following amenities: A new Station Building (G+1) spanning 760 sqm. Improvement to traffic circulation with a beautified area of 4000 sqm, featuring unidirectional traffic flow and separate entry/exit gates. Enhanced front façade of the existing station building (243 sqm). Construction of a 12.0 m wide Foot Over

Bridge (FOB).

A well-planned parking area accommodating two-wheelers, four-

wheelers, and autos (1056 sqm). Installation of four lifts for improved

accessibility. Additional platform shelters across multiple platforms totaling 45

bays. A spacious waiting hall of 180 sqm. Premium modular toilets for both male and female

(80 sqm). Upgraded platform surfaces finished with flamed granite and heavy-duty mosaic tiles. Installation of comprehensive signage for enhanced navigation. As of now, the project has achieved 35% physical progress. This initiative aligns with the commitment of Indian Railways to enhance passenger experience and infrastructure at key stations across the country, reflecting the growing demands of commuters in Bhubaneswar and surrounding areas.

Eastern Command of Indian Army & Red FM Celebrate Vijay Diwas With The Guts & Glory - Salute 71

Bhubaneswar: 93.5 RED FM, India's leading private radio and entertainment network is thrilled to announce its partnership with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to commemorate Vijay Diwas with a grand celebration titled "Guts and Glory - Salute 71." This event aims to pay tribute to the historic victory of the 1971 war and honor the brave soldiers who made it possible. As part of this unique initiative, Red FM will captivate its audience on-air with narrations of intriguing

war stories that depict the valiant efforts of the Indian armed forces during the 1971 war. Listeners will have the opportunity to learn about the heroic deeds of our soldiers, their unwavering spirit, and the sacrifices they made to ensure our nation's victory. Red FM will also collate all stories as episodes under a podcast, which will be available on various audio streaming platforms. Reflecting on the announcement, Lieutenant General Rana Pratap Kalita,

said "I am delighted to know that Red FM has taken the initiative to narrate stories of valour and courage of our soldiers who fought in the 1971 war. In our vision to salute the bravery of the heroes, we are delighted to present to you Guts & Glory - Salute 71, as part of this year Vijay Diwas Celebration. We are hopeful to present a deeper insight into the triumphant moment of Indian history."

Speaking on the announcement, Nisha Narayanan, Director & COO, RED FM, and

heroes who walk amongst us as common citizens. We are hopeful that these stories will enrich us with empathy and esteem for the gallant troops who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom."

The initiative will be rolled out in 12 East-Indian stations namely, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Asansol, Siliguri, Agartala, Patna, Muzaffarpur, Jamshedpur, Guwahati, Shillong, Aizawl, and Gangtok. Tune in to 93.5 RED FM to listen to these stories.

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAITS SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

Singapore:

Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a \$50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the airline's main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around 1,150 customers within

their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: "Extensive customer engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy the thoughtful and curated product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey."

"Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA's premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport's anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore's future as a pre-eminent global air hub."

Airtel Xstream Fiber unlocks its NEW All-in-One plans

Bhubaneswar: To serve the needs of premium households who want the next generational connectivity and entertainment experience, Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier communications solutions provider, has once again raised the bar in the home broadband segment with the launch of three new all-in-one plans built for the evolving entertainment needs of today's connected homes.

Vir Inder Nath, CEO - Homes, Bharti Airtel had this to say: "Our new plans are built for India's emerging entertainment needs. Through these bundle offers we plan to offer our discerning customers great value, convenience and unlock a multi-faceted digital experience."

Increased broadband consumption in Indian homes has given rise to the phenomena of hybrid viewing, where families are looking to consume OTT content on the TV screen along with linear TV without the hassle of managing multiple subscriptions and devices. Airtel's plans are the first of their kind in terms of catering to the evolving entertainment needs of the whole family and come with: Subscription to 17 premium OTTs to go with unlimited data. This includes Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ Hotstar and Airtel Xstream Premium (SonyLIV, Lionsgate, Hoichoi and 11 more OTTs). 350+ TV channels covering the best of linear TV. Airtel 4K Xstream TV Box* that allows you to enjoy OTT and linear TV content with a single device and single remote.

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Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: "Extensive customer

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

Barcelona: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education. As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge production,

policy dialogue, exchange, and networking. Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called "Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective". Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations' list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also expressed how Amrita is

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,





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Pakistan's painstaking efforts to emulate Multan in Rawalpindi

New Delhi (KCN): There can be nothing more terrible for a cricket team than to lose sense of what it stands for. Pakistan, for the last three years, have been found wandering as they searched for their identity or a template that perfectly married the conditions and the resources for them to win at home. The seismic changes brought in by the humiliating loss in the first Multan Test pushed Pakistan to a template and after it resulted in an elusive Test win at home, they now seem hell-bent on sticking to it.

After Pakistan's first win in a Test at home in three years and eight months, Shan Masood highlighted the need to understand the idiosyncrasies of each venue so he can line-up

bowling attacks - according to the demands of the venue they are playing at - to take 20 wickets across the country. However, it seems that Pakistan are happy to go with one-size-fits-all approach as for the past three days, painstaking efforts have been underway in Rawalpindi to emulate the pitch on which Pakistan beat England by 152 runs in the second Test.

The Pindi Cricket Stadium has historically been a seamer-friendly venue. Since the return of Tests here in 2019, the spinners have averaged 50 and the faster bowlers have taken a wicket for every 34 runs. However, the Pakistan Cricket Board's tinkering with the very

After that, the

characteristics of the surface for the Tests against Australia in March 2022 and England in December 2022 turned it into one of the flattest pitches around the globe, with England racking up over 657 in 101 overs on their last tour.

Aaqib Javed, one of the three newly-appointed selectors in now five-member committee, and three to four cricketers from a local club rolled their arms on the pitch for the third Test on Sunday to gauge the amount of turn on offer. They bowled to Aleem Dar, who retired as an international umpire earlier this year, and is now part of Pakistan's selection committee.

"If you look at the

groundstaff deployed gas heaters on one side of the pitch and industrial-sized fans and windbreakers on each end to dry the surface. The fans were remained in place on Monday and Tuesday.

Pindi. Pindi favours fast bowlers slightly and has more bounce, compared to Multan. The groundsman prepares according to that, and I think that's what causes the changes in the pitch.

"But the way the pitch

looks and the success we got in the second Test, we'll try for a similar kind of pitch that favours us and helps us win this game."

The square of the Pindi Cricket Stadium is lush green with only three strips - one at either end to be used as a practice pitch for each team and the Test pitch - shaved. It is understood that the reason behind leaving heavy grass on the square is to deprive England pacers of reverse swing and keep the ball hard so it assists spinners with sharp turn for a longer period.

England have responded to these developments by naming three specialist spinners - with the recall of Rehan Ahmed. Their pace attack comprises Gus

Atkinson, who played the first Test, and Ben Stokes, who returned to cricket in the last Test after nine weeks and bowled only 10 overs which were equally split across the two innings.

Pakistan are yet to announce their side for the decisive Test. They have named their line-ups on the eve of the first two Tests and are expected to keep up with the tradition.

"I can't say at the moment, because we haven't discussed this," Shakeel said about how Pakistan's combination for the third Test could look like. "If there's a spinning pitch, we may go with three spinners again."

The third Test begins on Thursday (October 24).

Santner to lead New Zealand in SL T20Is, ODIs

New Delhi (KCN): Mitchell Santner will lead New Zealand in the two T20Is and three ODIs against Sri Lanka, starting on November 9. This will be New Zealand's first limited-overs series since Kane Williamson stepped down as captain, following the team's shock exit in the T20 World Cup group stage in June.

New Zealand have also called up all-rounder Nathan Smith and 'keeper-batter Mitch Hay for the first time in the 15-man squad, announced by New Zealand Cricket (NZC) in a press release. Santner has been named as interim captain for the series, while permanent ODI and T20I captains shall be decided during the New Zealand home summer later this year.



Nathan Smith was crowned NZC's Domestic Player of the Year in March. He picked up 24 wickets across the domestic ODI and T20 competitions, and also picked up career best-figures of 4 for 5 in the Super Smash. 24-year-old Hay, on the other hand, was crowned Canterbury's male Player of the Year, earlier this year.

Young, Mark Chapman, Henry Nicholls, Phillips, Tim Robinson and Josh Clarkson shall form the batting unit. Eight players from the ongoing Test series against India - Tom Blundell, Devon Conway, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Will O'Rourke, Rachin Ravindra, Tim Southee and Kane Williamson - were not considered for selection in order to prepare for the three-match Test series against England.

Full Squad: Mitchell Santner (C), Michael Bracewell, Mark Chapman, Josh Clarkson, Jacob Duffy, Lockie Ferguson, Zak Foulkes, Dean Foxcroft, Mitch Hay (WK), Henry Nicholls, Glenn Phillips, Tim Robinson, Nathan Smith, Ish Sodhi, Will Young

sidelined, including captain Martin

~degaard, Bukayo Saka, and defender Jurrien Timber. The Italian defender's injury is particularly worrying, as Arsenal are already struggling with a depleted squad. While Arsenal secured the win through an own goal by Shakhtar goalkeeper Dmytro Riznyk, the injury news overshadowed the result. Calafiori's departure was another blow to an Arsenal defense already stretched by the absence of

William Saliba, who will miss the Liverpool match due to suspension after receiving a red card in the recent 2-0 loss to Bournemouth. ~degaard remains sidelined with an ankle injury suffered last month, and his absence on Sunday looks almost certain. Meanwhile, there is growing uncertainty surrounding Saka's availability. The star winger injured his hamstring while on England duty and has missed Arsenal's last two fixtures.

"He wasn't able to train yet, so it's unlikely," Arteta admitted when asked about Saka's chances of playing against Liverpool.

Despite the mounting issues, Arteta provided some relief by confirming that Ben White, who was substituted at half-time against Shakhtar, had not sustained an injury. "It was my decision to take him out. He had a yellow card, and we've played enough with 10 men in recent games, so I didn't want to take any chances."

Arsenal's performance against Shakhtar reflected the growing fatigue within the squad. Although they dominated possession and missed several clear chances, including a late penalty by Leandro Trossard, the team looked visibly tired.

Mikel Arteta concerned after Riccardo Calafiori joins Arsenal injury list

New Delhi (KCN): Arsenal's injury woes deepened after Riccardo Calafiori was forced to leave the pitch during their win over Shakhtar Donetsk in the second half, with manager Mikel Arteta calling the situation "not great news." Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta faces mounting concerns ahead of the club's critical Premier League clash against Liverpool, as left-back Riccardo Calafiori becomes the latest addition to an expanding injury list. During Arsenal's 1-0 Champions League win over Shakhtar Donetsk on Tuesday, Calafiori was forced off in the second half after twisting his right knee, leaving Arteta with more selection headaches.

Calafiori joins a growing list of key players who are

almost-spinner like

approach in some ways to achieve his objective. "It all starts with where you set up. And he's been brave enough to explore positions on the crease that makes even good balls look like balls that if he's going to react by getting into good positions, then he's able to create opportunities for him to play shots.

"He had all the requisite shots. But then the skill that he has actively developed over a period of time is, how do I put myself in a position? How do I get into good positions to actually play these shots against good bowling," says Sriram. The positioning has an element of repeated on-spot analysis, as Sriram elaborates: "It's a combination of where do you stand in the crease in terms of depth. Depth of the crease. Is it like you're setting up on off stump? Are you setting up on leg stump? And having a logical reason to do those. Why am I going

to set up where I am setting up? What does this open up for me? What do I understand about this bowler that's going to help me make this decision of where I think I'm standing?"

"All of those analytical sort of thoughts opens up a huge area of shots that he can play. Are you going to wait for the bowler to give those appropriate balls? Or are you going to try and not take the game to them but position yourself in a way that you can access different parts of the ground based on how you have read the bowlers and the pitch and the situation of the game?"

At times, it's a matter of only a few inches. "It has to be different for different bowlers. Someone might get a little extra bounce. Someone might skip the ball through. Someone might like, you know, actually get the ball to, you know, turn a little more."



couldn't hold back his admiration for New Zealand's new talisman at No 4. "He [Rachin] played well against the spinners that challenged him, but you got to give credit to him because he played well. He understood what our spinners were trying to do, and he didn't back off from playing his natural game which is what gave him the result against our quality spinners," said Rohit.

But as Sriram puts it, it's the problem-solving aspect of Ravindra's batting that set him apart in Bengaluru. Sriram confesses to being a mere "observer" to make sure Ravindra doesn't deviate from the plans the latter set for himself, the primary objective being to keep scoring. Ravindra emerged with much success in that objective in Bengaluru for he was rarely tied down by any spinner.

He had 52 off 58 vs Jadeja, 48 off 33 vs Kuldeep Yadav and 30 off 38 vs Ashwin in the first innings. Admittedly, in the first innings the spinners were under more pressure with the lack of runs and good batting conditions, but even in the brisk second-innings knock, he would not be tied down on a fifth-day track.

The work he had put in

to upscale his batting

approach involved an