



Buddhist leaders meeting PM and expressed gratitude that Pali and Marathi were declared Classical Languages, in Mumbai, Maharashtra

## Odisha CM distributes appointment letters to 16009 teachers



**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi distributed appointment letters to 16,009 junior teachers during an event at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar on Saturday. The ceremony, which marks a significant milestone for the state's education sector, was also attended by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. In addition to the CM, prominent figures such as Deputy Chief Minister KV Singhdeo, School and Mass Education Minister Nityananda Gond, and Higher Education Minister Suryabanshi Suraj were present at the event. The newly appointed

junior teachers will serve in primary and upper primary schools across various districts in Odisha. The School and Mass Education Department has announced that a specialized training program will be conducted to further equip these teachers with the skills needed for their roles.

## OSSSC RI, ARI, Amin exam 'lapses': Students protest in Bhubaneswar; minister seeks report from revenue department



**Bhubaneswar (KCN):** With members of Students Against Corruption demanding cancellation of OSSSC's RI, ICDS Supervisors, ARI, Amin, and SFS examinations, Revenue Minister Suresh Pujari Saturday said that he has asked his department to submit a detailed report regarding the alleged large-scale irregularities in the examinations. "I have also spoken to the Chief Minister about the matter today. I have instructed the officials of the Revenue Department to compile all the allegations," the Minister stated while adding that the government will take necessary action after receiving the report. Members of Students Against Corruption have been alleging large-scale irregularities and have been demanding the

## Amin Caught Taking Rs 15K Bribe in Jharsuguda

**Jharsuguda (KCN):** Odisha Vigilance sleuths today arrested an Amin in Jharsuguda district for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000. The accused has been identified as Bhaskar Meher, Amin, O/o Tahasildar, Kirmira, Dist-Jharsuguda. Meher has been apprehended by Odisha Vigilance while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000 from a Complainant for submission of field verification report in respect of his plot to get the ROR (Land Patta) in his favour. Accused Sri Meher was demanding the bribe from the complainant on the plea of the wrong map of the plot attached to the sale deed. The entire tainted bribe money of Rs.15,000 has been recovered from the possession of accused Sri Meher, Amin and seized.

Following the trap, simultaneous searches are going on at two locations in Meher from a DA angle.

**Bhubaneswar (KCN):** Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today declared that the birth anniversary of Baji Rout, India's youngest martyr, will be commemorated officially on a grand scale. During the 'Saheed Baji Rout Jayanti' at Jaydev Bhawan, Majhi lauded Baji Rout's extraordinary role in India's independence movement, celebrating him as an enduring source of motivation for many. The Chief Minister honoured the young hero's valour in resisting British domination in

## Amit Shah to Chair Review Meeting with CMs of 8 LWE-Affected States Including Odisha

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah will chair a review meeting with Chief Ministers of Left-Wing Extremism-affected States on Monday, 7th October 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Telangana, Odisha, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh will attend the meeting. Five Union Ministers of Ministries closely involved with providing development support to the LWE-affected States will also attend the meeting. The Deputy National Security Advisor and senior officers from Centre, States & Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)

will also participate in the deliberations.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the Central Government is committed to completely root out the menace of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) by March 2026. The Central Government is providing all possible assistance to the LWE-affected State Governments in fighting the menace of Naxalism, the Ministry of Home Affairs said.

fighting its last battle today. The year 2024, so far, has witnessed unprecedented success by the Security Forces in the elimination of armed LWE cadres. So far, 202 LWE cadres have been eliminated this year, 723 LWE cadres have surrendered in the first 9 months of 2024 and 812 have been arrested. The number of LWE-affected districts has come down to just 38 in 2024. The Central Government has taken many steps, including impetus on road and mobile connectivity, to take developmental schemes to the remotest areas of the affected States. 14400 km of roads have been constructed and nearly 6000 mobile towers have been installed in LWE-affected areas, so far.

## Class 4 Girl Raped and Murdered in West Bengal, BJP Criticizes TMC Government

**West Bengal (KCN):** In a heart-wrenching incident, a Class 4 girl was allegedly raped and murdered while returning home from tuition in the Kripakhali village of South 24 Parganas

district. The girl's body was discovered on the bank of the River Ganges on Saturday morning. According to police reports, the girl went missing on Friday evening. Her parents alerted the authorities at 9 PM, and an FIR was registered by midnight. Following an initial investigation, the accused was arrested, and the girl's body was recovered from the riverbank. Baruipur Superintendent of Police Palash Dhal stated that the police had taken all necessary steps and would address any grievances from the public.

## Saheed Baji Rout Jayanti to be Officially Celebrated on Grand Scale: Odisha CM



Odisha, recounting how Baji Rout, at just 12 years old, defied British police attempting to cross the Brahmani river amidst the Praja Mandal Movement in 1938. Facing threats, Rout held firm and was fatally shot

by the police, thus becoming the youngest martyr in the history of India's struggle for freedom. Majhi pointed out that the sacrifice of Baji Rout, along with six others who perished in the same

birth month of other eminent personalities such as Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri.

The ceremony, hosted by the Saheed Baji Rout Memorial Foundation, saw the presence of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and other notable leaders.

The Chief Minister advocated for national recognition of Baji Rout's heroism, stating that his bravery and ultimate sacrifice remain a source of inspiration for Odisha's and India's youth.

## Exit polls give Congress majority in Haryana; edge to NC-Congress in J&K

**New Delhi (KCN):** Several exit polls Saturday predicted a clear majority for the Congress in Haryana and gave an edge to its alliance with the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir with the regional partner emerging as the single largest party. 'Dainik Bhaskar' predicted the Congress getting 44-54 seats and the BJP 15-29 seats in the 90-member Haryana Assembly. The Republic-Matrize poll put the Congress tally even higher at 55-62 seats as against the BJP's 18-24. In Jammu and Kashmir, the C-Voter-India Today survey put the National Conference-Congress alliance at 40-48 seats and the BJP at 20-25, while Dhruv

seats in the 90-member assembly of the Union Territory. Dainik Bhaskar pegged the National Conference (NC)-Congress alliance at 35-40 and the BJP at 20-25 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Peoples' Pulse saw the NC-Congress alliance with 46-50 seats as against the BJP's 23-27, while Republic-Gulistan put the NC-Congress tally lower at 31-36 as against the BJP's 28-30. In different polls, the PDP was seen winning between 5 and 12 seats, while others were also seen bagging 4-16 seats. The results of the assembly elections will be announced October 8.



Haryana. Most exit polls pegged INLD tally higher than that of the JJP, while others were seen getting up to 10 seats.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the C-Voter-India Today survey put the National Conference-Congress alliance at 40-48 seats and the BJP at 27-32

## Demand for 80% employment reservation for local unemployed youth and workers in mining and industrial establishments of Rayagada district.

**Muniguda, (KCN):** Nikhil Utkal Gramina Chasi Mulia Sangha, Rayagada District and block office bearer meeting was held under the president ship of District President Bhabani shankar Jena. National Organizing Secretary Intuc and State General Secretary of the Union Satyabrata Nayak attended the meeting as chief guest. In this meeting asked the government to ensure that 80 percent of local educated unemployed youths and Labours are employed in the mines and Industry built in the district according to

their qualifications because of lack of jobs. He said that the youth and labours are being forced to leave the district to seek employment else where. In addition to this, due to the breaking of the dam of the red mud pond where the output of Vedanta Alumina is stored, the dust such as caustic soda have flowed into the river and the above agriculture land has become unusable for cultivation. Therefore, it was demanded to be investigated by the state government and compensation of 10 times the land value to paid the farmers and the river water is unusable and the state government should be investigated. If this is not resolved, the organization will protest in the coming days and seek the help of the Green Tribunal. Balangir District President Krushna chandra Sahu joined the meeting as guest. Registration of migrant laborers though under construction labor scheme is mandatory it is not possible due to lack of awareness, now the assistant labor officer who came to Muniguda block office to help the laborers for

all these facilities is innocent laborers. Therefore, it is necessary to provide all these facilities to the workers immediately, guests. District working President Ajay Kumar Paikaray, State Joint secretary Shekhar Behera said that due to the



**Press Release: Kalinga Literary Festival Celebrates the Recognition of Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali as Classical Languages, Calls for Support to Enrich Their Literary Legacy**

**New Delhi, (KCN):** The Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF) extends its heartfelt congratulations to the speakers of Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali languages for their recent recognition as classical languages by the Union Cabinet of India. This monumental decision reaffirms the rich linguistic and cultural

heritage of these languages, offering new opportunities for academic research, literature, and preservation efforts. KLF Founder Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Parida, reflecting on the significance of this announcement, shared, "We are proud to witness the formal acknowledgment of these ancient languages, which have contributed to shaping India's literary and philosophical traditions. KLF is committed to celebrating the literature of these languages and will offer platforms to highlight their historical and modern works in the years to come." Ashok Kumar Bal, KLF's CEO, also emphasized the importance of this

decision: "The recognition of these five languages as classical will undoubtedly bring greater attention to their literary and scholarly value. We at KLF hope that governments, industry bodies, and philanthropists will join hands to provide the necessary support to further enrich and promote these languages."

## Silver Gandhi concludes Padayatra from Delhi to Haryana

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Brand Ambassador of Swachha Bharat Mission Silver Gandhi fame Mohan Mohapatra concluded his month long Padayatra from Delhi to Haryana recently. The Padayatra was organised to propagate, promote and popularise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's lofty missions like clean India, plantation of a tree for Mother's sake and unfurling of Tricolour in every home. The Inaugural Ceremony of much talked Padayatra at New Delhi witnessed congregation of several distinguished dignitaries of National Capital Region. Union Minister for Energy and Urban affairs Manohar Lal Khattar and Minister for Urban and Housing of Haryana Government Subhash Sudha attended the concluding session of the Padayatra at Kurukshetra in Haryana as Honourable Guests. Both Shri Khattar and Shri Sudha extended warm greetings to Silver Gandhi and exuded confidence that Silver Gandhi's Padayatra will definitely greatly inspire the younger generations of our country to emulate the principles and philosophy of Prime Minister. Silver Gandhi celebrated the Birthdays of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Father of the Nation Mahatama Gandhi on 17th September and 2nd October respectively and 10th year completion of Swachha Bharat Mission during his Yatra.



Nagar. Wishing Silver Gandhi all the best during the Inaugural ceremony, Shri Patel showered praises on him for his dedication, devotion and commitment towards a pollution free clean and Green India. Senior BJP leader and MP of North East Delhi Manoj Tiwari hosted a grand reception

in honour of Padayatri Silver Gandhi, when he stepped in National Capital during the conclusion of First Phase of Padayatra. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan was the Chief Guest, during the closing Ceremony of that Yatra at New Delhi. To mark

government's indifferent attitude towards agriculture and farmers, irregularities are seen in the fields of fertilizers, seeds and medicines used in agriculture. He opined that there should be a massive movement against the exploitation of farmers and workers. Among others, Balaram Kucha, Nilambar Bihar, Kunal Amar Barik and other district block workers participated. At the end of the meeting, Nikhil Utkala Gramina chasi mulia sangha and intuc District Vice President Balaram Kusuliya give vote of thanks



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## SRK discusses adventure film with Amar Kaushik after King and Pathaan 2: Report

Actor Shah Rukh Khan reportedly wants to squeeze a new-age commercial entertainer into his pipeline between high-octane action movies King and Pathaan 2. He might have just discussed a film with Stree director Amar Kaushik.

Actor Shah Rukh Khan is busy with King and Pathaan 2, two mega action entertainers in his pipeline. Now, a new report suggests that the superstar might just be looking at finalising a rather light-hearted film to squeeze in his lineup between the two biggies. And this new film could just be the one with Stree 2 director Amar Kaushik.

As per a report published in Pinkvilla, the actor has been in talks with the director

and Dinesh Vijan of Maddock Films for an adventure film. While nothing is confirmed yet, the report mentioned that three rounds of discussion have already been done between the two parties.

The report quoted a source close to the actor informing, "Shah Rukh Khan has met almost every filmmaker in the last few months, and heard the ideas they had for him. But nothing really excited him. Now, Shah Rukh Khan is in talks with the Stree 2 team of Amar Kaushik and Dinesh Vijan."

It is believed that Amar and Dinesh are trying to build another successful franchise, this time an adventure-based one.

While SRK has not taken a decision yet, more meetings are

expected to take place between him and the film's team. "Amar and Dinesh have a big-ticket adventure film for SRK, and are exploring the possibilities of a collaboration. It would not be a part of the Stree Universe, but mark the beginning of a new one," the source further



before beginning Pathaan 2. The superstar was also rumoured to have been in talks with a few South filmmakers for action-based films. However, the bigger emphasis is on having a new-age commercial entertainer. He is expected to make up his mind by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, King, also featuring Suhana Khan and Abhishek Bachchan, is scheduled to go on the floor in January next year, and will wrap up its shooting by mid-2025. He is likely to begin Pathaan 2 by the end of the next year or early 2026. Neither the makers nor the superstar has released any official statement on the news yet.

### 'Rautu Ka Raaz' Review: Nawazuddin Siddiqui film has the right amount of thrill



**Rautu Ka Raaz' Review:** The film highlights Nawazuddin Siddiqui's role in a thrilling cop drama, set in a small Uttarakhand village. Some films run on good storylines. Some, on star power. But when you see Nawazuddin Siddiqui headlining a project, and that too, a cop thriller, you can't help but take note. That's where Zee5's latest offering, 'Rautu Ka Raaz' comes in. Set in the small, picturesque village of Rautu Ki Beli, the film is about a lazy murder investigation with sharp twists and even sharper turns. Let's decode if the film is worth your time.

Rautu, a small town in Uttarakhand, has witnessed no murders in the last 15 years. As a result, policemen in the village are extremely laid-back. One fine

morning, a sleepy Nawazuddin Siddiqui (SHO Deepak Negi) gets a call from Rajesh Kumar (sub-inspector Dimri) about the murder of a warden at a boarding school for the visually impaired. What they initially took for a natural death, turned out to be a never-ending rabbit hole with suspects, murders, disturbing incidents, politics and power.

Nawazuddin Siddiqui leads the ship by playing the rowdy SHO Deepak Negi. By rowdy, we don't

mean the typical Bollywood masala film rowdy. He is intelligent, witty, knows when to say no, can get things done, disobeys seniors by standing firm on his grit and is unabashedly himself. He surely takes the bigger piece of the cake. Nawazuddin's comic timing, dialogue delivery, and demeanour have always taken him places. Thankfully, that continues in 'Rautu Ka Raaz' too.

The film shines, thanks to its stellar star cast.

Everyone is perfect in their respective parts. There's Rajesh Kumar as sub-inspector Dimri, carrying on the film's weight with his acting prowess and remarkable bro-code with N a w a z u d d i n ' s character. This duo will make you believe in good cops.

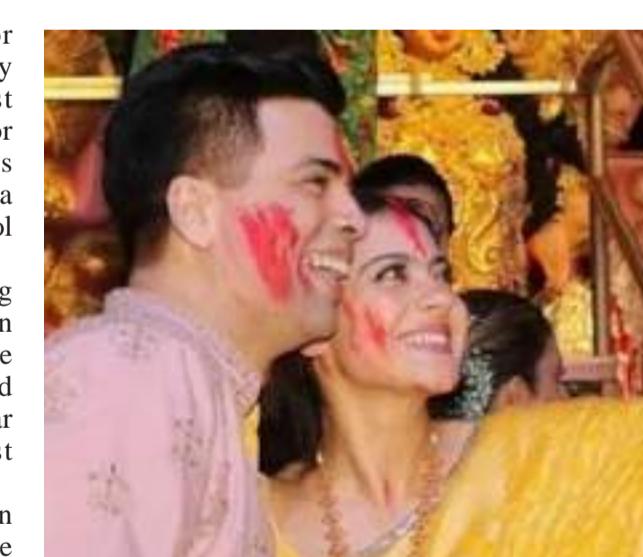
Other supporting actors such as Atul Tiwari and Narayani Shastri (warden) do a decent job with their limited screen presence.

'Rautu Ka Raaz' has nothing that you have never seen. However, it is real. And it gets more wholesome as you near the second half. The film introduced real-life visually impaired characters, who make b l i n k - a n d - m i s s a p p e a r a n c e s , maintaining credibility.

Ahan Shetty has joined the cast of the upcoming war film Border 2, alongside Sunny Deol, Varun Dhawan and Diljit Dosanjh. The film, set for release on January 23, 2026, was announced with a teaser welcoming Shetty to the project. Ahan Shetty, son of veteran actor Suniel Shetty, has officially joined the cast of the highly anticipated film Border 2. The announcement was shared through a teaser video, generating excitement among fans and the film industry alike. The news was revealed on Instagram with the caption, "Welcoming Fauji @ahan.shetty to the Battalion of #Border2 (sic)," marking Ahan Shetty's entry into the war film franchise. The film, set to release on January 23, 2026, promises to be a significant addition to Bollywood's lineup of patriotic war dramas. Border 2 will be directed by Anurag Singh, who has previously helmed Kesari, Punjab 1984, Jatt & Juliet and Dil Bole Hadippa!, among others. The film was announced on June 13, 2024, marking 27 years of Border. It has been declared "India's biggest war film" by the makers.

### KJo's birthday wish for Kajol: Warmest hug, 1000 watt smile and 5000 shades of love

W



Producer and director Karan Johar on Monday shared the sweetest birthday wish for actor Kajol. Actors such as Kriti Sanon and Kareena Kapoor also wished Kajol on social media.

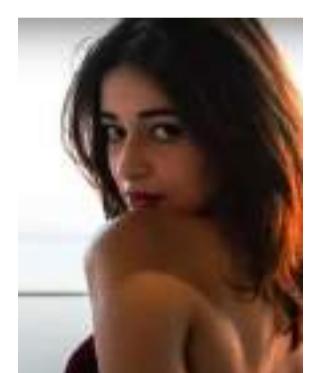
Actor Kajol is celebrating her birthday today, on August 5. On the occasion, her friend and filmmaker Karan Johar shared the sweetest birthday post for her.

"The warmest hug on planet earth! to the extent that you may need an MRI post it!!!! The love... the immense love that very few can express, share or give to their loved ones... That 1000 watt smile and that infectious laugh... how can you describe the energy of Kajol without feeling 5000 shades of love," read a section of his post.

Karan wished for her decade to be beyond 'golden': "From the first time she met me (

laughed loudly at what I was wearing) and till today... I meet her and feel rejuvenated and so loved... the one person that hasn't changed one bit and never will! Love you Kads... to every planet and back! May this decade be beyond golden (sic)."

Actors such as Kriti Sanon and Kareena Kapoor also wished



handle of Netflix India. "Think again. CTRL releases on 4 October, only on Netflix!" read the caption which sounded more like a warning.

After 'Kho Gaye Hum Kahan', this is yet another Ananya Panday film, which will turn the spotlight on the side effects of social media. Ananya Panday, who is thrilled to collaborate with Vikramaditya Motwane and Nikhil Dwivedi for this film, is in a statement, "CTRL is engaging, impactful and definitely makes you wonder if you are truly in

control of your life. I truly believe that this film is for everyone, given the exponential advancement in tech and our rising dependency on it. What better platform to reach the audience with a narrative as compelling as CTRL than Netflix?"

Director Vikramaditya Motwane added, "With the amount of time we spend on our devices, screen time is now redefined as screen life! The question is, are we actually in control of all the digital extensions of our life, or are we being controlled? That's the answer CTRL tries to explore. For a concept as new-age as this, we not only needed a cast who lives such a life, but a medium like Netflix that's relevant."

'CTRL' will offer a glimpse into a future that could be closer than we imagine. It is set to begin streaming on Netflix from October 4.

Kajol, Kriti shared an Instagram story, writing, "Working with you has been an incredible experience. You are just not an amazing person, but an inspiration to all of us."

On the work front, Kajol was last seen in the Disney Plus Hotsar series, The Trial. She has Do Patti, Sarzameen and more in the pipeline.

# Grandeur & Glory of Mysore Dasara



Mysore, a name synonymous with the grandeur of Dussehra (locally called Dasara), holds the essence of the festival's rich history. The city, which served as the capital of the erstwhile Kingdom of Mysore from 1399 to 1956, was originally known by its non-Anglicized name, Mysuru—a derivative of "Mahishasurana Uru," meaning the town of Mahishasura.

In 2024, Mysore Dasara will mark its 414th anniversary. This 10-day celebration, renowned for its magnificence, attracts tourists from across the globe, making it one of India's most extravagantly celebrated festivals. According to the Hindu calendar, Dasara is observed in the month of Ashvin, which typically falls between mid-September and mid-October in the Gregorian calendar. The festivities commence with Navratri, a nine-night celebration, and culminate on Vijayadashami, the tenth day, with a grand procession. This finale features horses, dancers, displays of swordsmanship, and the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari (a form of Shakti) carried atop an elephant in a

temple-like structure adorned with 750 kg of gold.

Behind the vibrant lights and festivities of Mysore Dasara lies a deep connection to mythology and history, interwoven with tales of a coup and a curse. According to Hindu mythology, the demon king Mahishasura waged war against the gods, empowered by a boon of near-immortality. Unable to defeat him, the gods invoked Goddess Durga (locally known as Chamundeshwari), who rode into battle atop a tiger. After nine days of fierce combat, she ultimately vanquished Mahishasura on the tenth day, a victory celebrated as Vijayadashami.

To commemorate the symbolic victory of good over evil, the city of Mysuru has hosted grand Dasara celebrations for over four centuries. The origins of these festivities can be traced back to the 15th century, as detailed in the travelogue of the Italian explorer Niccolò de Conti, who visited Vijayanagara prior to 1420. He described the grandeur of the Dasara celebrations, highlighting the religious and cultural displays, charitable public activities, and even a military parade. However, with the decline of the Vijayanagara Empire and the rise of the Deccan Sultanate, these celebrations temporarily ceased.

The revival of the grand Mysore Dasara was marked by the

resurgence of the Wodeyar royal family in 1565. Once securely in power, Raja Wodeyar I reinstated the tradition by organizing grand Dasara celebrations at Srirangapatna, laying the

Alamelamma. In despair, Alamelamma leapt to her death from a cliff overlooking the River Kaveri. Before her death, she cursed the land of Talakadu to become barren, the

bustling city, it now lies completely submerged beneath a vast mound of sand. Furthermore, the Wodeyars have long been affected by her curse, with each alternate generation of the royal

their ancestors. However, the supposed curse was broken when the current rulers of Mysore, Yadvivek KrishnadattaChamaraja Wodeyar and Trishika Kumari, welcomed the

events, fairs, and other elaborate festivities.

During Dasara, the Mysore Palace, the residence of the royal family and the official seat of the Wodeyar dynasty, is illuminated with over 100,000 light bulbs. One of the highlights is the "JambooSavari," an elephant procession where a gilded idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari is paraded through the main streets of Mysore.

This is followed by the Torchlight Parade, an awe-inspiring spectacle featuring daring stunts by bikers, artists, and performers, captivating the audience at the Bannimantap Parade Grounds.

Another popular attraction is the Dussehra Exhibition, held on the grounds opposite the Royal Palace. The exhibition features stalls offering local delicacies, cosmetics, clothes, and accessories, providing visitors with a taste of the region's vibrant culture. The Mysuru tradition of Dasara celebrates the valiant spirit of warriors and the state's commitment to righteousness. This festival involves the ritualistic worship and ceremonial display of the state sword, weapons, elephants, and horses, alongside the goddess in her warrior form and the avatar of Vishnu, Rama. The ceremonies, including a grand procession, are traditionally presided over by the Maharaja of Mysuru. Durga, often referred to as

Chamundeshwari in local texts, is venerated as the warrior goddess. The festivities historically featured athletic competitions, singing and dancing, fireworks, military parades, and charitable acts of public giving.

A key highlight of the celebrations is the special durbar (royal assembly). This tradition was initiated by Krishnaraja Wodeyar III in 1805, when he introduced the practice of holding a durbar at the Mysore Palace during Dasara. The assembly was attended by members of the royal family, special invitees, officials, and the public. Following the passing of Srikanta Wadiyar in December 2013, the 2014 Dasara celebrations were held with the "Pattada Katti" (royal sword) placed on the golden throne. However, since Maharaja Yadvivek KrishnadattaChamaraja Wadiyar's accession to the throne in 2015, he has personally presided over the Dasara celebrations and the royal durbar.

On the ninth day of Dasara, known as Mahanavami, the royal sword is worshipped and carried in a grand procession that includes elephants, camels, and horses, symbolizing the royal heritage and martial valor of the kingdom.

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Lit up Mysore Palace, epicenter of Dasara festivities in Mysore



Goddess Chamundeshwari mounted on elephant in procession



Cultural tableau

foundation for the rich legacy of Mysore Dasara that continues to this day.

The fall of the Vijayanagara Empire paved the way for the Wodeyars' rise to prominence. However, Raja Wodeyar I, intoxicated by power, overthrew the weak

Vijayanagara viceroy Tirumalaraja and seized the jewels of his wife,

village of Malangi to be consumed by a whirlpool, and the Wodeyars to be childless. This curse would go on to haunt the Wodeyar dynasty for generations.

Two scurries of Alamelamma have materialized. Talakadu, now a revered pilgrimage site, features temples buried under layers of sand. Once in a

family being unable to produce male heirs. The curse's first toll on the dynasty occurred when Raja Wodeyar I lost his only son, Narsaraja. As an act of penance, the grieving king installed a statue of Alamelamma, adorned with her jewels. Each year during Dasara, the Mysore royalty would pray before the statue, seeking forgiveness for birth of a baby boy on December 7, 2017. Mysuru has a long-standing tradition of celebrating the Dasara festival with grandeur and splendor, marking it as Karnataka's state festival, locally referred to as 'Nadhabba.' This 10-day event attracts tourists from around the globe, featuring royal elephant processions, cultural

## Poverty eradication in India

**- Rapid growth in population puts pressure on available resources and makes it challenging to achieve sustainable development. As a result, high levels of unemployment and limited access to essential services contribute to high poverty rates.**

Amit Baijnath Garg



considered the poorest state.

According to the latest report of NITI Aayog, about 24.82 crore Indians have come out of multidimensional poverty in the last nine years. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan recorded the largest decline in multidimensional poverty. The NITI Aayog report shows that India is likely to achieve target 1.2 of its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aims to halve multidimensional poverty by the year 2030. The report points to a 17.89 per cent decline in multidimensional poverty over the last nine years, as the number of people living in this condition rose from 29.17 per cent in 2013-14 to 11.28 per cent (about 15.5 crore Indians) in 2022-23. The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) uses three broad dimensions: health, education and standard of living to measure the level and intensity of poverty. The United Nations Development Programme has used this methodology to determine poverty levels in more than 100 developing countries.

India has added two new parameters maternal health and bank accounts

under the dimensions of health and standard of living in its national MPI. Every household in India is scored based on these 12 parameters. If the deprivation score of a household is more than 33 percent, it is identified as multidimensional poor. These figures were calculated based on the recommendations of a group of experts headed by Suresh Tendulkar, who had set the poverty line in 2011-12.

The Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023 report says that more than a third of all poor people in the world live in South Asia, which is about 389 million people. India contributes significantly to this number, accounting for about 70 percent of the increase in extreme poverty. The World Bank defines poverty based on the international poverty line, according to which extreme poverty is set at \$2.15 per person per day, while \$3.65 falls in the lower-middle income category and \$6.85 is classified in the upper-middle income category. Considering the poverty line set at \$3.65, India's contribution is equivalent to 40 per cent with a

marginal increase in the global poverty rate from 23.6 per cent to 24.1 per cent.

If we talk on the basis of historical facts, the British economic policy in India had a profound negative impact on the Indian economy, which was one of the major reasons behind the high rate of poverty in India. Many scholars have discussed the economic exploitation or plunder of India during the British colonial rule. They point to various mechanisms through which India's wealth was extracted, including heavy taxation, discriminatory trade policies, and extraction of resources. Dadabhai Naoroji, a strong critic of British economic policy in India, explained the financial exploitation of India under British colonial rule through the Drain Theory. According to Naoroji, the economic surplus generated in India was sent to Britain, impoverishing the Indian economy. This drain took various forms, including remittance of profits to Britain, high salaries for British officials in India, and payments for goods and services imported

from Britain.

Many renowned economists and leaders have elaborated on the root causes of the high poverty rate in the country. Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen has stressed the importance of eliminating social inequalities and investing in education and healthcare to tackle poverty and sustain economic growth in India. Experts believe that the Indian economy is heavily dependent on the export of primary commodities, which is a legacy of the colonial economic structure. This makes the economy vulnerable to external market fluctuations. At the same time, social inequalities, which are often exacerbated by historical factors such as the caste system or ethnic divisions, cause persistent poverty in India. Discrimination limits access to education, employment and other opportunities for marginalized groups.

Rapid growth in population puts pressure on available resources and makes it challenging to achieve sustainable development. This results in high levels of unemployment and limited access to essential services, which contribute to high poverty rates in India. Whether it is Manmohan Singh's government or Narendra Modi's, the country has played an important role in removing people from poverty and improving their standard of living. However, these efforts cannot be called completely successful, because efforts are still needed on a very large scale. For this, along with the government, social organizations, NGOs and even the common man need to work towards poverty eradication at their own level. Only with the continuous efforts of everyone will we be able to eradicate poverty from the country and achieve the goal of a developed India.

attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, house, property and bank account. Certainly, work has been done to remove poverty in every government. International and National Award  
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## Training Program to Improve Skills of Fish Farmers of Patna District, Bihar



**KOLKATA (KCN):** ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) in Barrackpore conducted a seven-day training program from 26 September to 02 October 2024, on "Inland Fisheries Management" to improve the skills and competencies of 30 fish farmers from Patna district, Bihar. The training program aimed to deepen their understanding of various aspects of inland fisheries management to promote sustainable fish production and livelihoods. During interaction, Dr. B. K. Das, Director of the Institute encouraged participants to expand their knowledge to ensure sustainable practices. He urged the farmers to apply scientific insights to explore the potential of inland water resources for increased productivity.

The training included sessions on water quality management, construction and management of nursery and rearing ponds, enclosure culture for livelihood enhancement, induced breeding, hatchery management, transportation of live fish seed, ornamental fish rearing, and economic analysis of various rearing systems. Participants also received lectures on fish feed management and disease control, along with an overview of climate change impacts on inland fisheries. The program included visits to facilities such as the Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS), ornamental hatchery unit, Ganga fish conservation unit, and a fish feed mill. To further bolster practical skills, trainees toured the Halisahar fish farm, Ghalib Street ornamental fish market, ICAR-CIFE Kolkata Centre, ICAR-CIFA Kalyani Centre, and the East Kolkata wetland. All the fishers participated to the "Swachhata Ki Seva" program in honour of Mahatma Gandhi's 155th birth anniversary.

At the conclusion of the training, participants received certificates and expressed high satisfaction with the capacity-building experience. Under the guidance of the Director, ICAR-CIFRI the training programme was coordinated by Dr. Ajay Saha and Dr. Canciyal Johnson with the technical assistance of Shri Sujit Choudhury, Mr. Manabendra Roy, Mr. Kausik Mondal and Dr. Avishek Saha.

## Mauritius goes to poll on 10th November 2024 after National Assembly dissolved

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Mauritius President Mr Prithviraj Singh Roopun, G.C.S.K., dissolved National Assembly of Mauritius on advice Prime Minister of Mauritius on 4th October 2024.



2024. The upcoming election is going to be first election after Britain returns Chagos Islands to Mauritius.

## Disposal of Plastic waste is critical problem in Waste Management & seriously affecting human lives

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Plastic waste management is emerging as global challenge in socio-economic evolution of humanity on the planet Earth. Single-use plastics, designed for convenience and temporary use, have become a major contributor to the world's plastic pollution crisis.

These non-biodegradable items, used for mere minutes, persist in the environment for hundreds of years, harming ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. Bharat Chamber of Commerce (BCC) and Bharat Chamber Ladies Forum (BCLF) organised a Talk on "Single-use Plastic Ban and Waste Management" by Dr. Rajesh Kumar



soil, and air. Plastic production contributes to greenhouse gas emissions and has serious impact on climate change.

## Delhi High Court Bar Association confers 'Fight 4 Justice' award on India Child Protection's Executive Director Sampurna Behura

**NEW DELHI (KCN):** The Delhi High Court Bar Association has conferred the 'Fight 4 Justice Awards, II Edition, 2024' on Sampurna Behura, the Executive Director of India Child Protection, in the 'Child Rights' category for her Public Interest Litigation before the Supreme Court, which transformed the legal landscape for children rights in India.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Judge of the Supreme Court of India, presented the award to her at a function in New Delhi. The PIL, which focused on the systemic lapses in implementing the Juvenile Justice Act of 2005, brought significant reforms to child protection laws, strengthening institutional frameworks nationwide. Emphasizing that this recognition will further fuel society's resolve to

protect children from exploitation and abuse and create an enabling ecosystem for the protection of children." India Child Protection is one of the main partners of Just Rights for Children Alliance which works in more than 400 districts with over 200 NGO partners dedicated to

of Just Rights For Children Alliance, said, "The persistence and commitment shown by remarkable leaders like Dr. Sampurna Behura, who continue to work under the radar ensuring access to justice for children is an inspiration to the younger generation of activists. Her work on institutional reforms through Supreme Court and various High Courts has been instrumental in the reduction of child trafficking, child rape, child sexual abuse, child marriage, and child labour."

The Fight for Justice Awards identifies and honours Indian citizens - the average litigants - who have won cases in the Supreme Court of India against all odds; cases that have resulted in landmark judgments and have made an impact on the society as a whole.

## Tata Steel Foundation dedicates two new classrooms for the students of Upper Primary Project School, Nadiabhangha

**Kalinganagar (KCN):** With an objective to improve the learning conditions by elevating

Mehta, MD & CEO, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL), in the presence of Rashmita



**KUPWARA (Aasif Malik):** Over past few weeks, there have been multiple intelligence inputs about infiltration attempts planned through Keran Sector. On 03 Oct 2024, specific input was received which was corroborated by Jammu Kashmir Police & IB about likely infiltration through thick jungles of Keran Sector. Accordingly, a joint operation was launched by Army, BSF and JKP along appreciated infiltration routes and ensuring round the clock surveillance.

On 04 Oct 2024, around 08.10 pm, suspicious movement was observed by own troops from area across the Line of Control and as they came close by, vigilant troops challenged, which resulted in infiltrating terrorists opening indiscriminate fire. In the ensuing firefight, two terrorists were neutralized alongside recovery of large quantity of warlike stores. From the recoveries it is evident that these suspected Pakistani terrorists were heavily armed, well trained and equipped.

This successful intelligence-based operation is yet another example of the synergy amongst intelligence agencies, Indian Army & JKP. Chinar Warriors stand steadfast to defeat the nefarious design of inimical elements to disrupt peace and harmony in KashmiR

infrastructural standards of educational institutions, Tata Steel Foundation (TSF) dedicated two new classrooms at the Upper Primary Project School in the Khandra village of Nadiabhangha panchayat under Danagadi block of Jajpur district. The facility was inaugurated by Sudhir Sahoo, Sarpanch, Nadiabhangha panchayat, teachers, school students, and community members. Constructed over 1600 square feet, the classrooms will cater to over 240 students, thereby enhancing the school's capacity and providing an improved learning environment.

Speaking on the education is the right of every child, and through this initiative, we seek to provide better educational facilities to the children". The initiative marks a significant step towards enabling a better educational environment for students of the Nadiabhangha panchayat.

challenge. Dr. Kumar suggested need for developing recycling economy and business model by pricing "disposable single-use plastic waste". Dr. Kumar mentioned e-waste is another major problem in the society. Negative impacts of single-use plastic can be minimised by avoiding single use plastic, opting for reusable eco-friendly biodegradable alternatives, inspire behavioral change, developing wide spread recycling infrastructure. Shri Rajkumar Aggarwal Vice President BCC in his welcome address mentioned about recent amendments to the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, through the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024. These changes signify a significant effort to address plastic pollution in India including West Bengal, particularly by targeting microplastics and setting stricter criteria for biodegradable plastics. Amongst the eminent attendees present were Shri Narayan P. Jain, National President All India Federation of Tax Practitioners, Shri O. P. Jhunjhunwala, President of Concern for Calcutta. Smt. Renuka Shah Chairperson (BCLF) introduced Dr. Rajesh Kumar. Smt. Shivani Binjrajka member (BCLF) while delivering vote of thanks called for multi-dimensional efforts for effective single-use plastic waste management.

# Controversies galore in Binayak Residential College

**Bhawani patna(KCN):** A private residential college near Medinipur under this block in Kalahandi district has been in the news for all the wrong reasons, lately. Binayak Residential College grabbed headlines after a plus two second-year Arts stream student in the college was allegedly subjected to ragging at the hands of his classmates September 29.

The victim, identified as Ankesh Bag, was allegedly pushed by the rogues from the second floor of the four-storied college-cum-hostel building of

the college. Ankesh was rescued in a serious condition and admitted to the district headquarters hospital for treatment. He has sustained critical injuries on his waist and legs. The incident sent shockwaves across the state. It assumed serious proportions after a video of the alleged ragging went viral on social media. According to Ankesh, he had been subjected to ragging by his classmates who would beat him up on repeated occasions in the past. On September 29 night,



nine of his classmates thrashed him before pushing him down the second floor of the college building, he said. The principal of the college,

Nalinikanta Dash, has claimed that the anti-ragging cell of the college is conducting a probe into the matter. However, action against the rogue

area. Questions were raised as to how the authorities allowed the student, residing in the hostel, to go out for bath in the afternoon. The deceased's family members alleged that Saswat had been done to death in a planned way and they lodged a murder complaint at the Town police station. Police questioned Mund's classmates and arrested the Managing Director and the then Principal Trilochan Mohapatra and booked him under Section 304 of Juvenile Justice Act. Mohapatra was produced in a court and remanded to judicial custody after his bail plea was rejected. It is alleged that such incidents continue to occur due to alleged negligence, irresponsibility and apathetic attitude of the college authorities. It is also alleged that the college authorities are charging hefty fees from the students at the time of admission, but have failed in providing security to the students as has been proved from these two incidents. Locals have demanded the state Higher Education department intervene and initiate action in this regard.

## MV Blackrose sinking still a mystery even after 15 yrs



**Paradip(KCN):** Though the sinking of MV Blackrose completed 15 years Monday, the event and circumstances leading to the mysterious grounding of the foreign cargo ship in the anchorage area of Paradip port still remain unsolved. And in the absence of any clarity by investigating agencies, the mishap – in which a foreign sailor had died – continues to make waves in the state politics. On September 9, 2009, the China-bound ship ran aground about 6km away from the anchorage area of the Paradip port. The ship remained half-sunk and was visible till 2014. However, it later went completely underwater. The ship's mysterious sinking became an issue during successive Assembly and Lok Sabha elections in the state, with various political parties and outfits demanding a thorough probe into the incident. However, even 15 years later, the Odisha Police Crime Branch, which took over the investigation from the local police, has neither completed the probe nor has it been able to approach the owners of the ship, Se Cook, in Mongolia. According to reports, the incident occurred when iron ore was being loaded onto the ship which had anchored

at the berth of Paradip port September 9, 2009. The vessel was loaded 23,847 metric tonnes of iron ore cargo when its Captain asked to stop further loading. This was because the iron ore was soaked in rainwater, and the heavy cargo made the barge of the ship tilt to one side. However, the port authorities directed the Captain to leave the port as it was a time-consuming exercise to dry up the wet iron ore. It was said that the wet ore could have been dried up on the anchorage area if the port authorities desired so. Significantly, no paperwork was carried out before directing the ship to leave the berth.

In the subsequent period, two petitions were filed in this connection in the Orissa High Court and Calcutta High Court. According to reports, during the Crime Branch probe, it was found that the ship was sailing without a sea-worthiness certificate and was declared unfit for operation after remaining 25 years in sea.

The Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) was supposed to conduct a verification of the ship before allowing it for further operations. Questions were also raised as to how the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) allowed the ship to sail from country to country without proper documents for a prolonged period of five years.

Moreover, fingers were also raised at the Paradip port authorities who allowed the ship, to

enter into the berth, which had spent over 25 years in sea and lacked fitness and proper documents. The agent of the shipping company was then blacklisted, but it is now back in operation at the port under a different name. Sources said that the iron ore loaded in this ship belonged to three export agencies, and it was headed for China. It is alleged that those export agencies had connections with some politicians of Odisha.

The Paradip Port authorities recommended a CBI probe into the incident in 2018, but nothing has happened so far. Moreover, the Centre has yet to summon the owners of the ship, Se Cook, to the country for questioning. Besides, the sunken ship is yet to be retrieved from the sea despite it posing an imminent threat to other ships sailing in the route travelling in the sea. Many fishing boats had close shaves after hitting the sunken ship. Meanwhile, when contacted, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), Santosh Jena, said, "The matter is sub-judice. Anyways, the Crime Branch is investigating the case. I am not authorised to speak on the matter."



**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.

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.

Mr. Jayakumar Krishnaswamy, Managing Director, Nuvoco stated, "As part

of our 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."

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.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

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

### 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.

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

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

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL. On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to

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

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

### 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 can offer significant cost savings through its alternative fuels program.

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

### "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,



## BCCI looking at Saudi cities for two-day mega IPL auction

**NEWDELHI (KCN):** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is considering hosting the mega auction in a Saudi city. While no specific location has been finalized, Riyadh or Jeddah are definitely in the minds of the BCCI officials. Dubai, in the UAE, is also an option but is currently not the preferred choice. The auction is expected to take place in the last week of November. Cricbuzz understands that finding a suitable venue or a hotel has proven challenging for the BCCI so far. Although pricing shouldn't be a significant factor for the franchise owners of the Indian Premier League (IPL), one of the richest leagues



in the world, and the BCCI, arguably the richest sports body, identifying a venue in Saudi Arabia has been particularly difficult. The costs in Saudi Arabia are reportedly much higher than in Dubai, where the

previous auction, in December 2023, was held. As previously reported by this website, London was initially shortlisted, but the BCCI decided against holding the auction in the UK due to

the cold weather at this time of year. The BCCI and IPL officials are now looking for a place which can host the auction for two days and accommodate the entire IPL entourage, including the 10 franchise

delegations and a large entourage involving two broadcasters - Jio and Disney Star.

Meanwhile, Chennai Super Kings continue to maintain that MS Dhoni's participation in the upcoming season is still not final, and key officials from the franchise will meet with him before making a decision. Dhoni is expected to meet with CSK officials in mid-October in Mumbai, where he will likely convey his final decision. He was in the US last month and has recently returned to India. Fittingly, it was Gill's bat with which he reached the milestone.

But cricket has a way of turning fortunes around quickly. Just two days later, he had to move down the order to accommodate Yashasvi Jaiswal, the incumbent opener, and unfortunately that was it for Abhishek's short stint at the top. He wasn't even in the Indian squad for India's tour of Sri Lanka later that month.

Abhishek is back again in the spotlight and this very much feels like his moment. The same can be said for a lot others in this 15-man squad who have on occasions been rendered to the sidelines because someone better was in the way. This is their chance to bubble to the top. Varun Chakaravarthy, who is yet to play an international match on home soil, comes in with a point to prove whereas Sanju Samson, forever battling for a middle-order spot, gets a temporary new lease at the top of the order. Riyan Parag finally earns his place and Ravi Bishnoi would want to step up as the lead legspinner and

questions about itself, and they are set to test their might against an opposition that outnumbers their experience by 250 international caps. It doesn't happen very often in Indian cricket.

"We are not thinking in that way," Bangladesh captain Nazmul Hossain Shanto said of the mismatch in experience between the sides. "There is an opportunity to beat them. It's not like we have never beaten any big team. Honestly, there are no big or small teams in T20s. The team doing well on the particular day wins and is the bigger team."

Bangladesh know they are in the hunt and their playground on Sunday will be a brand new venue in Gwalior that India know little about. Whether the visitors will be able to put it all together in front of 33,000 very loud people is a different question altogether.

Mumbai celebrate with the trophy



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## 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 approached 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.

## Spotlight on India's young guns in Gwalior's newest territory

**NEW DELHI:** Less than three months ago, Abhishek Sharma was at the pinnacle of his young career. "Today's my day," he had declared after smashing a 46-ball hundred in only his second international appearance. And he did that while opening the batting with his friend and Punjab teammate from U-12 days, Shubman Gill, who incidentally was also captain of the side. Fittingly, it was Gill's bat with which he reached the milestone.

But cricket has a way of turning fortunes around quickly. Just two days later, he had to move down the order to accommodate Yashasvi Jaiswal, the incumbent opener, and unfortunately that was it for Abhishek's short stint at the top. He wasn't even in the Indian squad for India's tour of Sri Lanka later that month.

Abhishek is back again in the spotlight and this very much feels like his moment. The same can be said for a lot others in this 15-man squad who have on occasions been rendered to the sidelines because someone better was in the way. This is their chance to bubble to the top. Varun Chakaravarthy, who is yet to play an international match on home soil, comes in with a point to prove whereas Sanju Samson, forever battling for a middle-order spot, gets a temporary new lease at the top of the order. Riyan Parag finally earns his place and Ravi Bishnoi would want to step up as the lead legspinner and

shadows of Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav.

Which is why those struggling to see the relevance of this three-match T20I series, that's buried deep in India's Test season, are missing the point. Indian cricket runs deep and opportunities like these, to make a claim, can be few and far in between. Just ask Abhishek.

"It's a great opportunity for youngsters. Whenever they have played for there states, they have done well. There's nothing different to do here," India captain Suryakumar Yadav said on the eve of the first T20I.

On the surface, this series might not offer India much to gain. After all, they have only ever lost to Bangladesh once in 14 attempts. But what's also true is that this is a very young Indian side which is out to answer some

questions about itself, and they are set to test their might against an opposition that outnumbers their experience by 250 international caps. It doesn't happen very often in Indian cricket. "We are not thinking in that way," Bangladesh captain Nazmul Hossain Shanto said of the mismatch in experience between the sides. "There is an opportunity to beat them. It's not like we have never beaten any big team. Honestly, there are no big or small teams in T20s. The team doing well on the particular day wins and is the bigger team."

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## IPL auction likely to be overseas in November

**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.