

# PM Modi launches Odisha govt's 'Subhadra Yojana', railway, NH projects worth over Rs 3,800 crore



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday launched 'Subhadra Yojana', a women-centric scheme of the Odisha government, and unveiled railway and national highway projects worth over Rs 3,800 crore in the state. Modi also released the first instalment of assistance to nearly 10 lakh beneficiaries under PMAY-G across 14 states. He also took part in 'Griha Pravesh'

celebrations for 26 lakh beneficiaries under the housing scheme from across the country. He also launched Awaas+ 2024 App for a survey of additional households for PMAY-G. While participating in the Griha Pravesh celebrations, Modi visited Sabar Sahi slum in Bhubaneswar where he interacted with the beneficiaries. The PM inaugurated the homes of 20 beneficiaries under the PMAY there. Modi laid the foundation

stones and dedicated to the nation railway projects worth Rs 2,871 crore in the state. He also launched national highway projects worth Rs 1,000 crore at a programme at Janata Maidan here. Accompanied by Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, the PM visited the home of Antaryami Nayak, a beneficiary of the housing scheme, and savoured the traditional Odia sweet dish, 'kheeri', prepared at his residence.

Modi spent some time at Nayak's home and blessed his children. Sharing his experience after he was offered 'kheeri' by a tribal family on the occasion of his birthday in Bhubaneswar, Modi said, "When my mother was alive, I used to visit here and seek her blessing on my birthday. She used to give me jaggery. Today, I got the blessings of a tribal mother who offered me 'kheeri'. The happiness of tribals gives me strength to work for them."

The Odisha government's Subhadra Yojana, financial assistance scheme, is the largest programme for women, which will cover more than 1 crore beneficiaries. After the launch, the prime minister initiated the fund transfer into the bank accounts of more than 10 lakh women. The prime minister said that the promises made by the BJP during the elections were being fulfilled at a rapid pace. Listing the promises

fulfilled so far, he said all the four gates of the Jagannath temple in Puri were thrown open to the public and the shrine's Ratna Bhandar was also opened. Noting that today is special as the present NDA government at the Centre is completing 100 days Tuesday, the prime minister Modi said major decisions have been taken for the welfare of the poor, farmers, youth and women. During these 100 days, decisions were taken to

build 3 crore pucca houses for the poor, a PM package worth Rs 2 lakh crore for the youth, the addition of 75,000 seats in medical colleges and approval to connect 25,000 villages with pucca roads. The prime Minister also said that during the past three months, the government has made budget allocation for tribals has almost been doubled, a special project for the development of around 60,000 tribal villages announced, a new

pension scheme for government employees introduced and income tax for professionals, business owners and entrepreneurs reduced. This apart, major decisions have been taken for oilseed and onion farmers, import duty on oil produced abroad has been increased to encourage Indian farmers, export duty on Basmati rice has been reduced to boost exports and MSP has been hiked on crops thereby benefiting farmers by about Rs 2 lakh crore.

## Kejriwal resigns as Delhi CM, Atishi stakes claim to form new govt

**New Delhi(KCN):** Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tendered his resignation to Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena here Tuesday and AAP leader Atishi, chosen by the party as his successor, staked her claim to form a new government.

Kejriwal reached the LG Secretariat along with his Cabinet colleagues to resign Tuesday afternoon, days after announcing his decision to quit from the post.

Addressing reporters after the meeting, Atishi said, "We have staked claim to form a new government. I will protect the interests of Delhi people."



Delhi minister Gopal Rai said, "We have informed the LG about his decision. Atishi has presented her claim to form the government. We have requested the LG to decide on a date for the oath-taking ceremony so that the work of two crore people can be carried on."

Chief minister-designate Atishi alleged that Kejriwal was facing

false charges and being targeted by the central government's probe agencies.

"The Supreme Court not only granted him but also made harsh remarks against the Centre and its probe agencies calling them a caged parrot," she added.

"Had it been some other leader, they would have kept the chief minister's chair but

Kejriwal decided to go to the people's court. He resigned. This is a sad moment for us," Atishi said.

The people have vowed to choose Arvind Kejriwal as the Chief Minister again in the soon-to-be-held Delhi assembly polls, she added.

Atishi was earlier in the day chosen as Kejriwal's successor at an AAP legislature party meeting.

Kejriwal announced on Sunday his decision to resign from the post of Chief Minister of Delhi.

He had said that he would only sit on the CM's chair when people give him a "certificate of honesty".

## Revenue Inspector, Imposter Peon Caught Taking Rs 30K Bribe In Dhenkanal



**BHUABNESWAR(KCN):** Odisha Vigilance on Tuesday apprehended a Revenue Inspector of Dhenkanal Sadar Circle, and an imposter while taking a bribe of Rs 30,000 at the RI office.

According to Vigilance, Barun Kumar Jena, Revenue Inspector of Dhenkanal Sadar Circle, along with one person, Balaram Sahu, posing

himself as an additional Peon of the RI office, were apprehended at the office of RI for demand and acceptance of bribe of Rs. 30,000 from a Complainant for submission of favourable enquiry report in a mutation case for conversion of agricultural land to homestead land and issuance of ROR ( Land Patta) in his favour. Both the accused persons

were trapped by a team of Odisha Vigilance. RI Jena received the demanded bribe of Rs.30,000 from the complainant and transferred the same to accused Sahu to keep the bribe money in the luggage box of the latter's motorcycle. The Vigilance said that the entire bribe money had been recovered from their possession and seized.

Following the successful trap, simultaneous searches were underway at two locations of RI Jena, from the DA angle. In this connection, Cuttack Vigilance P.S. Case No. 26/ 2024 U/s-7PC Amendment Act, 2018 has been registered against both the accused persons RI Jena, and Sahu, the Vigilance dept added.

## Odisha: Two students drown during immersion of Lord Vishwakarma's idol

**Baripada(KCN):** Two school students Tuesday drowned during the immersion of Lord Vishwakarma's idol in a waterbody in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, police said. The incident took place at the reservoir of a dam near Kathpal village under Betnoti police limits, they said. The deceased have been identified as Thakur Soren (18) and Bhagyaprakash Patra (18), the police informed. Eight Class-XII students of a private school went to immerse idol, and two of them slipped into the waterbody and drowned.

## President Murmu Inaugurates 8th India Water Week

**New Delhi(KCN):** President of India Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 8th India Water Week today (September 17, 2024) in New Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the goal of reducing the number of people suffering from water scarcity is of great importance for all of humanity. Under the Sustainable Development Goals, there is an emphasis on supporting and strengthening the participation of local communities to improve water and sanitation management. The President said the arrangement for providing water to everyone has been the priority of our country since ancient times. From Ladakh to Kerala, effective systems of water conservation and management existed in our country. Such systems gradually disappeared during British rule. Our systems were based on harmony with nature. Systems developed based on the idea of controlling nature are now being reconsidered all over the world. Many ancient examples of various types of Water Resource Management are available all over the country which are relevant even today. Our



ancient water management systems should be researched and used practically in the modern context. The President said that water bodies such as wells; and ponds have been water banks for our society for centuries. We deposit money in the bank, only after that we can withdraw money from the bank and use it. The same thing applies to water. People will first store water; only then will they be able to use water. People who misuse money go from prosperity to poverty. Similarly, water scarcity is seen even in rain-rich areas. People who use limited income wisely remain safe from financial crises in their lives. Similarly, villages that store water in low rainfall areas remain safe from water crises. In many areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat, villagers have got rid of water

scarcity through their efforts and by adopting effective methods of water storage. The President said that only 2.5 per cent of the total water available on earth is freshwater. Even out of that, only one per cent is available for human use. India's share of the world's water resources is four per cent. About 80 per cent of the water available in our country is used in the agricultural sector. Apart from agriculture, the availability of water is essential for power generation, industry and domestic needs. Water resources are limited. The supply of water to everyone is possible only through the efficient use of water. The President said that in the year 2021, the Government launched a campaign with the message of 'Catch the Rain - Where it Falls When it Falls'. The objective of this

campaign is to achieve water conservation, rainwater harvesting and other important goals of water management. Increasing forest wealth also helps in water management. Children also play an important role in water conservation and management. They can make their family and neighbourhood aware and can also use water properly themselves. Jal Shakti's efforts will have to be transformed into a mass movement; All citizens will have to play the role of water warriors. The President said that the goal of 'India Water Week-2024' is inclusive water development and management. She appreciated the Ministry of Jal Shakti for choosing the right medium to achieve this goal—that medium is—partnership and cooperation.



# Driven by Purpose : Bichitranand's Wildlife Mission

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau):** In a world where physical disabilities are often seen as obstacles, Bichitranand Biswal from Gundalaba village in Astarang, Puri district, Odisha has turned his limitations into a source of inspiration. Despite being physically challenged, he has spent the past 30 years working tirelessly to protect rare species like the Olive Ridley turtles and preserve Odisha's coastal ecosystem. His determination and commitment to conservation have not only earned him accolades but have also made him a role model for communities and environmentalists alike. Affectionately known as "Bichi Bhai" by locals, Bichitranand

began his journey of conservation in 1994. At the time, Odisha's government had not implemented any significant measures to protect the endangered Olive Ridley turtles. During this period, a chance meeting with Dr. Robert Sackliff, a retired dentist from Canada, sparked a lifelong passion for environmental protection. Dr. Sackliff, who was visiting Odisha for turtle conservation, recognized Bichitranand's keen interest in saving turtles when the young boy witnessed several turtles' untimely deaths on the shore near his home. This encounter led Bichitranand to dedicate his life to the cause. Since 1996, he has actively worked at key nesting sites like Devi,

Rushikulya and Siali, engaging in conservation and awareness campaigns to safeguard these critically endangered species. Over the years, he has collaborated with renowned scientists, including Kartik Shanker, Dipan Sutar, and Muralidharan Manohar Krishnan working on projects ranging from turtle protection to marine biodiversity including the conservation of dolphins and other aquatic species. Despite lacking formal higher education, Bichitranand's extensive knowledge and hands-on experience have made him an invaluable resource in the field of wildlife conservation. His work extends beyond scientific collaboration—he has also mobilized local



communities, particularly youth and women's groups to take action for forest and environmental conservation. One of his most significant achievements is the formation of the Pir

Jahania Mahila Van Suraksha Samiti, a local women's forest protection group that won the National

Biodiversity Award in 2012. His efforts have resulted in not only wildlife protection but also forest preservation, particularly after the devastating cyclone that ravaged Odisha in 1999. At that time, deforestation became a serious issue and Bichitranand was instrumental in educating people about the critical role forests play in protecting their livelihoods and farms. Bichitranand's contributions are far-reaching. He has treated over 200 injured turtles and released two rare sharks back into the sea along with ensuring the safe release of over a hundred thousand turtle hatchlings into the ocean.

His commitment to cleaning up the environment is equally impressive having led efforts to remove around 50 tons of polythene, plastic, discarded fishing nets and other waste from the sea with the help of local students and youth groups. Furthermore, he has trained more than 150 young people from coastal districts in turtle and biodiversity conservation. For his unwavering dedication, the Odisha government honoured him with the prestigious 'Biju Pattnaik Wildlife Protection Award' in 2019. Under his leadership, there has been an 80% reduction in turtle mortality at the

Devi River nesting site between 1995 and 2024—an extraordinary achievement that underscores the impact of his work. Bichitranand's story is a testament to the power of determination and purpose. He has not allowed his physical challenges to limit him instead dedicating his life to the protection of nature. As he often says, he has made wildlife and environmental conservation his life's vow and will continue to serve "Mother Nature" as long as he lives. His remarkable journey is an inspiration, proving that the human spirit can overcome any obstacle in the pursuit of a greater cause.

## Heritage Institute of Technology bags the Young Innovators Award at Tata Social Enterprise Challenge 2024

**New Delhi, (KCN):** The 12th Edition of Tata Social Enterprise Challenge 2024 witnessed the participation of 2300 students from various educational institutions and universities across India where only the top 100 students qualified for the pre-qualifier round. From the top 100 students selected for the pre-qualifier round, only the top 50 students were selected for the Grand Finale. Proud to state that after a rigorous competition and pitching of innovative ideas to the expert panel of judges, out of the top 50 students, a team of students from Heritage Institute of Technology was one of the teams that was selected for the Young Innovators Award 2024 at Tata Social Enterprise Challenge for their project on 'AI based Smart Irrigation System' named as 'Jambavanta'. The names given to the project 'Jamvanta' draws inspiration from the legend of Jamvanth



from the Ramayana, who helped Hanuman realize his true potential. Similarly, the AI Smart Irrigation system will help India's farmers unlock their potential with innovative solutions that will lead the way for a sustainable agricultural revolution. The students' team comprised of Ankit Kumar from the B.Tech Computer Science Engineering, Ankit Kumar from B.Tech Computer Science Engineering, Ankit Anand from B.Tech Computer Science Engineering, Ankit Anand, Shatakshi Ranjan from B.Tech Mechanical Engineering, and Mahima from B.Tech Computer Science Engineering (AI & Machine Learning). The entire team was mentored by Prof.

Sukanta Saha from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Heritage Institute of Technology. The event was organized on 15th September by Tata Group in association with IIM Calcutta. The entire event was conducted at IIM Calcutta Innovation Park, Joka. The esteemed panel of judges comprised of Mr. Hari Balasubramanian, Member IAN Group (formerly Indian Angel Network), Mr. Anuj Sharma, Founder, ALSiSAR IMPACT and Co-founder Verify.earth, Mr. Krishnan Neelakantan, Partner, Ankur Capital. The team won a Cash prize of Rs. 20000/ which was handed over to them by Mr. Subhrangshu

Sanyal, CEO of IIM Calcutta Innovation Park, in the presence of Mr. Gaurav Kapoor, CBO of IIM Calcutta Innovation Park (IIMCIP), Mr. Chacko Thomas, Group Chief Sustainability Officer at Tata Consultancy Services, Mr. Virat Shivam Mehta, Brand and Marketing Head at TATA SONS LIMITED. "We are proud of such a feat achieved by the students. Artificial Intelligence will shape the future and our students have made something that can really help the farmers in the long run," said Mr. P.K. Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata. "I thank our students and Prof. Sukanta Saha as well for mentoring the students and bringing out such an innovation that would support the Indian economy since agriculture forms the backbone of the same," said Prof. Basab Chaudhuri, Principal, Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata.

**Cuttack, (KCN):** A thrilling day of creativity, and problem statement presentation unfolded at SSU. The event, which attracted students from different specializations like CSCD, AIML and DS challenged participants to develop innovative solutions to real-world problems within a limited timeframe. The hackathon kicked off with a vibrant opening ceremony, where university officials and industry experts encouraged participants to think outside the box and embrace the spirit of innovation. Teams were then tasked to present their problem statement from a variety of categories, including education, sustainability, and technology. Over the next 3 hours, participants worked tirelessly to bring their ideas. Juries have evaluated the different teams and their ideas. The judges evaluated their problem statements based on their creativity,



functionality, potential impact, and overall execution. The hackathon was a resounding success, showcasing the talent and ingenuity of the students. It also provided a valuable platform for networking and collaboration with industry professionals. The event was a testament to the university's commitment to fostering innovation and preparing students for the challenges of the future. The event concluded with great success, thanks to the efforts of the organizing committee and the enthusiastic participation of students

and industry professionals. Dr. Satyajit Pattnaik, the coordinator and SPOC of SIH-2024, played a pivotal role in ensuring its smooth execution. Dr. Pradipta Ku. Mishra and Dr. Satyajit Pattnaik provided invaluable guidance to students as they selected their problem statements, helping them identify areas where their innovative solutions could make a significant impact. A panel of esteemed judges, including Prof. Gopinath Palai, Dr. Deepak ku. Sahu, Dr. Gyana Ranjan Panigrahi, and Mr. Suvendu Ku. Nayak, evaluated the

problem statements of different teams. Their expertise and insights were instrumental in selecting the most promising projects. Dr. Pattnaik expressed his gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Tej Pratap, the Dean of FET Prof. Rabi Narayan Satpathy, and other faculty members of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology (FET) for their unwavering support and coordination. Their encouragement and guidance were essential to the success of the event. Finally, Dean of FET Prof. R. N Satpathy congratulated all the selected teams and acknowledged the valuable technical support provided by industry persons Mr. Jay Raval, Mr. Harsh Raval, and Mr. Ayush from Cyber Dojo. Their expertise and contributions were instrumental in enhancing the quality of the projects and overall experience for the participants.

## STATE-LEVEL GAJANAN FOLK LITERATURE FESTIVAL



**Cuttack (KCN):** The 55th program of the KAIBALYA SAHITYA SANSAD has been organized The State-Level Gajanan Folk Literature Festival at Gandhi Bhawan, Cuttack. In two sessions, a state-level poetry recitation titled "G h a j a n a n Magnificence" and a conference titled "Ghajanan Pooja Rules and Social Spiritual Consciousness" have been held. Dr. SANGRAM KESHARI SAMANTARAY, the

founder of the Organization, was presided the event. He simply explained the social importance of spiritual literature. Prof. Dr. Babaji Pattanaik attended this folk literature ceremony as the chief guest and explained the spiritual work of literature. The Chief Speaker, Prof. Dr. Arun Ranjan Mishra, Shanti Niketan University of India elaborated on Gajanan's spiritual social consciousness in Utkal culture. Honorable

Speakers include Dr. Biswa Prakash Pattanaik, Dr. Laxman Sahu, Dr. Prashant Kumar Mahana, Playwright Abhay Kumar Das, Dr. Snehashree Swain, Bipin Bihari Barik, who beautifully explained the social and spiritual consciousness of Gajanan related to Puj. Author Prashant Kumar Maharna's book "Amrit Akshar" was launched auspiciously. Poet Geetanjali Swain and Dr. Anirudh Kurkuria conducted the stage. The

students of Satya Sanatan Vedic School recited the Vedas. Over fifty singers and dancers Gajanan Mahima sang devotional music and performed Odishi dance. Seven Ganesha Puja Committees were awarded for great devotional involvement during Ganesh puja. More than two hundred talents of Odisha were awarded Shri Ghajanan Saraswat Honor and Shri Ghajanan Seva Honor. Social worker Sumitra Pani gave vote of thanks.

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## Sanya Malhotra flaunts her beautiful curls in sunkissed pictures

Actress Sanya Malhotra seems to have taken a break from shooting as she treated her followers with some sunkissed pictures on social media. Sanya took to Instagram, where she posted a string of pictures in which she is seen sitting in a garden and the sunlight falling on her skin adds a golden glow. She is seen flaunting her tight curls and is dressed in a gray tank top.

ulsi Kumar alongside Varun Dhawan, Janhvi Kapoor and Maniesh Paul. The cast keeps sharing updates from the sets of the film. Recently, Varun, Janhvi, Sanya shared pictures savouring scrumptious breakfast during Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari shoot. Varun uploaded pictures with the cast and could be seen lounging at the dining table, showing off his bare upper body and sporting a pair of sunglasses. Beside him,



Janhvi was seen smiling candidly at him. She appears to be enjoying a hearty meal, eating chicken gravy and paratha with her hands, while a variety of other curries are also spread out on the table. The moment highlights their easy camaraderie and

shared enjoyment. In the other picture, Varun is seen seated with Sanya and Maniesh. The post was captioned as: "Breakfast club #SSKTS". Janhvi commented on the post and wrote: "This was lunch". Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi

Kumari is reportedly the sequel to Badrinath Ki Dulhania. The film marks the reunion of Varun with director Shashank Khaitan, with whom he worked in Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania and Badrinath Ki Dulhania.

## Chal Kudiye teaser: Alia Bhatt-Diljit Dosanjh reunite for Jigra's first track

The makers of Alia Bhatt's Jigra shared the teaser of the film's first single, Chal Kudiye. The song reunites Alia Bhatt with Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh. Alia Bhatt recently shared the teaser for her new song, Chal Kudiye, from her upcoming film Jigra. Following her previous collaboration with Punjabi singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh on Ikk Kudi, Alia continues their partnership in this latest track.

Based on the teaser, the song seems to delve into the challenges faced by Alia's character in the film. Sharing the video on Instagram, Alia wrote, "It's yours soon. #ChalKudiye @diljitdosanjh #Jigra in cinemas 11th October (sic)."

Not only fans but also celebrities expressed their enthusiasm for the song in the comments section. Neha Dhupia wrote, "Beyond @aliabhatt @diljitdosanjh. One of the fans called Diljit and Alia 'a perfect pair'. His comment read, "Aloo and Diljit are a perfect pair. This will be a good song and video, no doubt. Because this song has Alo and Diljit (sic)."

Jigra will release in cinemas on October 11. It was earlier scheduled for a September 27 release. Jigra also features Vedang Raina, who plays Alia's younger brother in the film.



## Vicky Kaushal on perfecting 'Tauba Tauba' steps: Had 3-4 days to learn it

Vicky Kaushal spoke about the hard work and choreography behind the popular song 'Tauba Tauba' from 'Bad Newz'. The film releases on July 19.

Vicky Kaushal, who is in Delhi to promote 'Bad Newz', spoke about perfecting the steps of 'Tauba Tauba'. The actor said that he was given three-four days to learn

it. Vicky also credited choreographer Bosco-Caesar for the song's popularity and success. Vicky Kaushal's leg-work, swag in 'Bad Newz' song 'Tauba Tauba' is the talk of the town. Talking about what went behind the song's success, Vicky said, "We were very excited ki isko jama ke kuch karte hain (let's do a great job) and

the choreographers, Bosco-Caesar, they have been choreographing such songs for the past 20 years. And they have worked on such nice songs with Hrithik Roshan, Katrina Kaif, and others." He continued, "We were very happy with the team that came together. We got 3-4 days to learn the 'Tauba Tauba' steps.



Hats off to Bosco Sir and his team who taught me the steps and worked hard on me. And all of you gave me the results

of my hard work and gave me so much love. Overall, we are very happy." Vicky also said, "There are some songs which create a flow of their own. Nothing is bigger than a song that we drop on the highway and the audience takes it off from there and makes it their own. That is what happened with 'Tauba

Tauba'. It's there in the film as well and whoever wants to enjoy this song on the big screen, please do."

Vicky was accompanied by Triptii Dimri and Ammy Virk at the Delhi press conference. Also, watch 'Tauba Tauba' here: 'Bad Newz' was previously titled 'Mere Mehboob Mere Sanam'.

## Disha Patani Misses Sushant Singh Rajput As 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' Clocks 7 Years, Says 'Couldn't Say Goodbye'

Actor Disha Patani remembered late actor Sushant Singh Rajput on the occasion of their film 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' 7th anniversary. Taking to Instagram, Disha shared a clip from the movie featuring herself and Sushant. Sharing the video, she wrote, "Grateful for this beautiful journey and my first film in Hindi cinema Love whole heartedly and cherish the ones who make you happy safe and heard life's too short for regrets! We couldn't say goodbye but i hope you're

happy and at peace" As soon as she shared the video, fans and industry friends chimed in the comment section. Actor Anil Kapoor wrote, "Phenomenal scene .. both of you are so good ..." One of the users wrote, "One of the finest scenes from this movie" Another commented, "Miss u SSR." Helmed by Neeraj Pandey, 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' biopic is on one of the most celebrated cricketers in our country, Mahendra Singh Dhoni. The film



was released in 2016 and saw the late Sushant Singh Rajput essaying the role of Dhoni. It also starred Kiara Advani. Disha, with her girl-next-door appeal and million-dollar smile, instantly became the talk of the town. Her chemistry with Sushant was widely appreciated. The biopic turned out to be one of the biggest hits of Sushant's career, who went on to receive several nominations in the Best Actor category at that year's awards ceremonies for his performance in the film.

## Leo Advance Booking: Vijay's Action-Thriller To Become Highest Tamil Opener In UK

Actor Disha Patani remembered late actor Sushant Singh Rajput on the occasion of their film 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' 7th anniversary. Taking to Instagram, Disha shared a clip from the movie featuring herself and Sushant. Sharing the video, she wrote, "Grateful for this beautiful journey and my first film in Hindi cinema Love whole heartedly and cherish the ones who make you happy safe and heard life's too short for regrets! We couldn't say goodbye but i hope you're

Lokesh Kanagaraj's reunion after the 2021 blockbuster 'Master'. Taran Adarsh shared a report on advance booking of the film in the UK and posted on X, "VIJAY: 'LEO' SETTING NEW BENCHMARKS... #ThalapathyVijay's #Leo is SHATTERING RECORDS #Overseas. Distributed in #UK and #Europe by #AhimsaEntertainment, with 19 days left, the film has already taken the \*#Tamil\* Day 1 #BO crown in #UK from the previously held #PS1. #Leo is targeting to



surpass the current single-day earnings for an INDIAN film in #UK, a record presently held by #Pathaan."

The Lokesh Kanagaraj directorial has begun on an excellent start and has already crossed USD 100K in the US for the

premiere shows. As reported by the trade website sacnilk, the film has sold around 5800 tickets worth USD 130K

gross. 'Leo' is all set to arrive in theatres worldwide on October 19. The much-awaited film stars Vijay and Trisha, alongside Sanjay Dutt, Arjun Sarja, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Mansoor Ali Khan and Mysskin. The film was officially announced in January 2023 with tentative title 'Thalapathy 67', as it is Vijay's 67th film as a lead actor. Apart from Tamil, it is expected to be released in dubbed versions including Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi languages.



# Atlas cycles two-wheeled marvel

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



Since the advent of human civilization, transportation has played a vital role in the development and progress of societies. One remarkable invention that revolutionized transportation is the bicycle. The history of bicycles traces back to several centuries ago, when human creativity and ingenuity led to the creation of these two-wheeled marvels. Cycle word is derived from Latin Cyclus and Greek Kuklos, means 'Circle' and thus Bi(2) & Tri(3) cycles got their names. The groundbreaking invention of bicycles can be traced back to 1817 when Karl Drais, a German inventor, created a two-wheeled

vehicle "Draisine" or "running machine," propelled by the rider's feet. The journey of bicycle was carried forward by the Frenchman Pierre Michaux and his son Ernest who added pedals to the front wheel of a Draisine, creating the first true bicycle in 1860. This invention revolutionized transportation and set the stage for the development of modern bicycles.

It marked the start of the mass production of bicycles. From the introduction of rubber tires, chain-driven mechanisms, and lightweight materials to the innovations in braking systems and gear mechanisms, the history of bicycles is a testament to human ingenuity and the pursuit of efficient and sustainable transportation. Since then, bicycles have undergone numerous modifications and improvements, leading to the various types and designs seen in the market now. This mode



Atlas cycles-first revolution in post-independent India

of transport had its date with destiny when the United Nations General Assembly declared June 3, 2018 as World Bicycle Day. The resolution for World Bicycle Day recognized "the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle, which has been in use for two centuries, a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transport." While cycling disappeared from public scene, it is still integral

part of world and includes celebrities like Irfan Habib, Barack Obama, Salman Khan, Ranbir Kapoor, Farhan Akhtar and Boris Johnson ex British PM can be seen cycling either in power or out of power. In India, bicycle had a modest beginning under a tin shed in Sonipet by Jankidas Kapoor in 1951. The bicycle unit soon started manufacturing cycles from its first unit at Sonipat plant at 25-acre factory complex. It expanded to over 600 stores in 14 different

states across the country. With a capacity to produce 4 million bicycles per year, Atlas witnessed some extremely thriving years in its history after the son of Janki Das Kapur and Jai Dev Kapur started handling the family business in 1951. It soon became India's largest bicycle manufacturer and was the official supplier of bicycles to the 1982 Asian Games held in the national capital. Later, a Steel Tube mill was also set up by Atlas in Gurgaon to achieve

self-sufficiency in specialized bicycle components and meet its entire steel tube requirements, maintaining the stringent quality controls. These cycles were sustainable, light speed and fine finishing which opened its doors to exports its cycles to Myanmar and the Middle East Countries. Atlas Cycles took a pledge to make the country self-reliant and industrialized by manufacturing ten lac cycles

By 1965, Atlas emerged as India's largest cycle manufacturer and received and earned accolades from abroad as well. The company Italy's Gold Mercury International Award, the FICCI Award for 'Best Industrial Relations' and the EEPIC Award for export excellence are testimony of its standing in the highly competitive international market. Atlas had also introduced the first racing bicycle in India in 1978, and then became a brand that offers a wide range of products for almost all age groups and segments. The company began facing problems in 2004, prompting it to rope in actor Sunil Shetty, tennis star Sania Mirza and Olympic gold medalist Abhinav Bindra as its brand ambassadors. But falling demand forced it to shut its plant in Malanpur, Madhya

Pradesh in 2014. In 2018, it had suspended manufacturing at its Sonipat plant also. It shut its last manufacturing unit in Sahibabad on June 3, 2020, citing lack of funds to run the factory. The financial crunch it faced since 2014 turned from bad to worse in the last one-and-a-half years and the coronavirus lockdown only compounded the problem. Whether or not Atlas Cycles will make a comeback in our lives in the foreseeable future is something that one will have to wait and watch. Until then, we can all be grateful for Janki Das Kapur for introducing the possibility of owning a vehicle for every class into a reality in India.

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

## The Flag of Jammu and Kashmir: A Disconnect Between Symbol and Sentiment

Er. Shahzada Athar Ishaq Shah.

A flag, more than just a visual representation, is a deep-rooted symbol of national identity, unity, and shared aspirations. For any region or nation, it serves as a unifying emblem, capturing the essence of its history, struggles, and values. The flag of Jammu and Kashmir, however, failed to evoke such sentiments among the Kashmiri populace. Rooted in the National Conference (NC) party's identity, the flag was never truly accepted as a national symbol of Kashmir by the masses. This disconnect can be traced back to the flag's origins and the way it was wielded politically in a region yearning for genuine representation and autonomy. Historically and philosophically, a flag serves as more than a mere symbol of governance. It reflects the people's struggles, their victories, and the shared identity of a nation. Flags across the world evoke deep emotional responses, from pride to grief, as they encapsulate the collective aspirations of a people. In contrast, Kashmir's state flag—a red field with a white plough—failed to serve this purpose. The flag's design was a near replica of the National Conference's party flag, with only minor modifications. It was first adopted by the NC during its early years, with the red symbolising labour and the plough representing the working class. However, the transition of this party flag into the official state flag in 1952, under the

leadership of Sheikh Abdullah, created a stark dissonance. What should have been a symbol of the state's autonomy and the will of its people, instead became a symbol of political monopolisation. The flag of Jammu and Kashmir never resonated with the people as a symbol of their collective aspirations or autonomy. This disconnect is evident in how the flag was largely absent from public demonstrations, protests, and other political expressions in Kashmir. Unlike national flags, which are often hoisted with pride during rallies, the Kashmiri flag seldom appeared in moments of political upheaval, both before and after the revocation of Article 370 on 5 August 2019. Its absence speaks volumes about how it was never perceived as a true symbol of the region's identity by the people. Instead, Kashmiris would often hoist green flags, green is often associated with Islam, symbolising peace, paradise, and faith, or other symbols that better represented their frustrations and aspirations. The official state flag, with its deep association with the National Conference, was viewed as a tool of political convenience rather than a unifying emblem for the people of the region. A critical reason behind the flag's failure to resonate with the Kashmiri people lies in its close association with the National Conference. The flag's origins within the party and its eventual adoption as the official state symbol point to an attempt by the NC to blur the lines between the party and the state, creating

a monopoly over political identity in the region. This tactic, while politically advantageous for the NC, was undemocratic and problematic for a region like Kashmir, which already struggled with questions of autonomy and representation. By having the state flag almost identical to its own party flag, the National Conference symbolically reinforced the notion that the party and the state were one and the same. This not only undermined the democratic fabric of the region but also alienated large sections of the population who did not see themselves represented by the NC's political narrative. A healthy democracy thrives on pluralism and diversity in representation. However, the NC's attempt to establish monopoly within the political space of Jammu and Kashmir through symbolic measures such as the flag stifled alternative voices and perspectives. From a democratic standpoint, the conflation of the state's identity with a single political party sets a dangerous precedent. Democracy demands plurality, where diverse voices, ideologies, and perspectives can thrive and represent the diverse needs of a population. In Kashmir's case, the flag's close association with the National Conference deprived the state of a symbol that could represent the collective identity of its people, transcending party lines. By adopting a near-identical flag, the National Conference effectively sent a message that there was no room for competing political ideologies or

alternatives within the region. This move was seen as an attempt to further consolidate power and cement the NC's dominance in Kashmir's political landscape. The lack of a distinct, neutral flag that could unite the people of Jammu and Kashmir as a whole was a missed opportunity to foster a broader sense of unity and inclusivity. In conclusion, the flag of Jammu and Kashmir was more a reflection of the National Conference's political monopoly than a true representation of the people's aspirations. Its failure to resonate with the masses stems from its deep association with the NC's political agenda and its inability to evolve into a symbol of autonomy, resistance, or unity for the region. The absence of the flag during key moments in Kashmiri history—especially during protests and rallies—further highlights its detachment from the emotional and political sentiments of the people. For a flag to hold philosophical and emotional importance, it must transcend party politics and become a symbol of the collective will and identity of the people. In Jammu and Kashmir, this was never achieved. Instead, the state flag became a symbol of political compromise and monopoly, failing to capture the hearts and minds of the Kashmiri people. As a result, Kashmir remains without a true national symbol that reflects its unique identity, history, and aspirations.

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All major religions offer a deep, underlying, fundamental, unity amid apparent diversity; they prescribe specific ways to live in peaceful coexistence, for self-development and ultimate fulfilment of life. Religions have five distinctly different domains, though not watertight: rituals, mythology, ethics, philosophy and spirituality. The external appearance or body of any religion lies in rituals and its operating limbs are in mythology, while its backbone consists of ethical principles, its brain is in philosophy and its heart is in spirituality.

Rituals and mythology are dependent on the faith of followers; ethics and philosophy are based on rationality and reasoning, while spirituality flowers from esoteric and experiential wisdom.

Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandrda Patra

Hence religions are simultaneously based on faith, intellect and wisdom. Many people confuse mutually complementary rituals and mythology as the essence of religion and they rarely want to venture beyond these two elementary means to an end, even at the cost of fanaticism. Since these are based on followers' faith, religious bigotry and fanaticism are usually rooted in these two. But Swami Vivekananda said that a wise person could never be fanatic as he is always open. He also advised all to move forward for progressive realisation. The backbone of any religion lies in its ethical principles designed for peaceful coexistence in society and self-development, which enables followers to be better human beings with a sense of fraternity, honesty, empathy, humility, love, purity, truthfulness, non-violence and benevolence.

The philosophical part, the brain of a religion, theoretically concerns existential enigma of creation and Creator. It includes man's eternal quest for true identity, origin, destination and

purpose. The four fundamental questions are covered. Who am I? Wherefrom have I come? Where shall I go? What is the purpose of life? This part is based on sound reasoning and intellectual analysis. The heart of a religion lies in spirituality which is based on esoteric experience and is experiential in nature. Religions culminate in spirituality. Spirituality is not so much a process of knowing but of becoming, experiencing oneness with the singular identity of the cosmos with infinite expansion of consciousness, merging individual self into cosmic Self, experiencing divine love, ecstasy and inner harmony. At this stage, mystery of life and creation are revealed and we see the inner life and harmony, amid diversity of creation. Hence Jesus Christ said, "I and my Father are one." Vedanta made the fourfold proclamation, "I am That. Thou art That. Everything is That. The ultimate wisdom is That." This is the pinnacle of realisation and end of wisdom. Hindu rituals along with mantras have been elaborated

in the early part of the Vedas. Mythology is covered in the Puranas. Revelation of the Absolute has been attempted in various ways in the Upanishads, intellectual analysis of the ultimate Truth has been made in the Brahmasutras and practical application of the highest knowledge in daily life is there in the Gita. In addition, yoga aphorisms elaborate the art of cosmic union with the Absolute in an unparalleled manner. India, the land of religions reached the pinnacle of spiritual progress due to strict adherence to scriptures and lessons from gurus, realised masters. Penance, forbearance, persistence, aspiration, renunciation, compassion, love, selfless service to humanity and above all, surrenderto the Almighty, are the enabling factors for spiritual progress. That is why India is a great source of knowledge and practice for spiritual seekers.

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# All You Need To Know About Atishi, Set To Be Delhi's Youngest Chief Minister

NewDelhi,(KCN):Two days after AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal effected a seismic change in Delhi politics by announcing that he would resign as chief minister, he has passed the baton - albeit temporarily - to his party colleague Atishi, who is set to become the youngest person to take up the top job in the Delhi government.

The 43-year-old, who studied at St Stephen's College and Oxford University and was a Rhodes Scholar, was one of the founding members of the Aam Aadmi Party and remained far away from the spotlight for many years before making her way to its edges and then to its very centre.

**Education**  
Born to Delhi University professors Vijay Singh and Tripta Wahi in June 1981, Atishi's parents, who were believers in the communist ideology, gave her an unusual surname - Marlana, a portmanteau of Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin.

Ms Atishi studied at Springdales School in New Delhi's Pusa Road before going on to pursue

a Bachelor's degree in history from the prestigious St Stephen's University, where she topped her batch. After graduating in 2001, she completed her Master's degree in the subject on a Chevening scholarship in 2003. Two years later, she studied at the Magdalen College in Oxford as a Rhodes scholar.

**Political Entry**  
Ms Atishi was a founding member of the AAP and was also on the 2013 manifesto drafting committee. After the party formed a government in Delhi, she worked as an adviser on education-related policies and, according to news agency PTI, also spent several years in a Madhya Pradesh village, focusing on organic farming and progressive education.

This experience played a crucial role in strengthening her dedication to political change, a party member told the agency.

**Contesting Elections**  
The party gave Ms Atishi a ticket to contest the Lok Sabha polls from New Delhi and, some time after she was declared



the candidate, she decided to stop using her surname, Marlana. The party said the move was because the BJP, which had won all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi in 2014, was trying to use her surname to polarise voters suggesting that she was a Christian or a foreigner.

The AAP leader lost to the BJP's Gautam Gambhir by a margin of over 4.5 lakh votes in 2019, coming third behind the Congress candidate, Arvinder Singh Lovely.

The next year, Ms Atishi contested the Assembly elections in Delhi from Kalkaji and won by a margin of over 11,000 votes.

In 2015, she was appointed an advisor to education minister Manish Sisodia and played a key role in the conceptualisation and implementation of the Happiness Curriculum, which was designed to increase the wellness of children and help "develop a holistic outlook and perspective on life".

Education has been one of the main talking points for the AAP and some of the other initiatives she is credited with helping bring to fruition include improving the infrastructure in Delhi government schools, making it harder for schools to hike fees arbitrarily and forming

with the highest number of portfolios in the Delhi government, including important ones like education, finance and the public works department.

Her standing in the party was clear but it was cemented when Mr Kejriwal named her to hoist the flag on his behalf on Independence Day, something that was not eventually allowed by the Lieutenant Governor.

Two days after Mr Kejriwal's release on bail on Friday, he said he would resign and Atishi was chosen unanimously as the replacement after her name was proposed by the AAP chief.

After she is sworn in, Ms Atishi will be the youngest chief minister of Delhi and only its third woman chief minister, after Sheila Dikshit and Sushma Swaraj.

**Controversies**  
Ahead of the 2019 elections, a video started doing the rounds in which Atishi was purportedly asking voters to cast their ballots even for goons in the opposition to help defeat the BJP. This led to attacks from other parties, who said this showed the real face of

the AAP.

On Tuesday, AAP MP Swati Maliwal claimed Atishi's parents had tried to save terrorist Afzal Guru from being hanged. "Today is a very sad day for Delhi. Today, a woman whose family fought a long battle to save terrorist Afzal Guru from being hanged is being made the Chief Minister of Delhi. His parents wrote mercy petitions to the Honorable President to save terrorist Afzal Guru," Ms Maliwal said in a social media post.

The AAP hit back and asked Ms Maliwal to resign, saying she was sent to the Rajya Sabha by the party but reads out the BJP's script.

"Swati Maliwal takes a Rajya Sabha ticket from the AAP but takes the script to react from the BJP. If she has even a little shame, she should resign as a Rajya Sabha MP and choose the path to Rajya Sabha on a BJP ticket," said senior party leader Dilip Pandey.

**Challenges**  
One of the main reasons behind Mr Kejriwal's resignation was the conditions put in place by the Supreme Court while

granting him bail. The conditions include that he cannot visit the chief minister's office or the Delhi secretariat or sign files without a nod from the Delhi Lieutenant Governor.

While it is clear that Ms Atishi is going to be a stand-in chief minister until the next elections, she still has to deliver on the AAP's core promises. And though only a few months are left, the performance of the government under her could also sway voters.

**Promoted**  
"Arvind Kejriwal believed in me... AAP believed in me. That is why I have been given this responsibility. While I am happy in this trust, I am also sad Arvind Kejriwal had to resign. Delhi has only one Chief Minister... and that is Mr Kejriwal," Ms Atishi said on Tuesday.

"Today, to all the people of Delhi, this is an appeal to make your son, your brother, Arvind Kejriwal, the Chief Minister of Delhi again because he is an honest man. Citizens, AAP MLAs, and I will work towards only one objective - making Arvind Kejriwal chief minister once again," she added.

## 1000s Of Pagers Explode Across Lebanon, Several Hezbollah Members Injured



Beirut: Over a thousand people have been injured in Lebanon in a synchronised detonation of pagers targeting US-designated terror group Hezbollah. Iran's state media reported that its Ambassador to Lebanon,

Mojtaba Amani, has also been wounded in the incident.

Hezbollah, which is banned both by the United States and the European Union is the political and military establishment in Lebanon

and is backed by Iran. Hezbollah backs Hamas, which has been at war with Israel in Gaza since October 2023.

Hezbollah has blamed Israel for the attack and has claimed that this is the "biggest security breach"

it has faced yet. All the pagers exploded nearly the same time, the Hezbollah has claimed, saying that this is an "Israeli breach" of its communications network. Hezbollah strongholds across Lebanon have been hit by the "Israeli breach".

This is the first such major incident since the group began trading fire with Israel almost every day in its support for Hamas which is at war with Israel in Gaza since the October 7 "terror attack" targeting Israeli nationals.

"Dozens of Hezbollah members have been wounded in the south and in Beirut's southern

suburbs after their pagers exploded," a source close to Hezbollah told news agency AFP, requesting anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

Lebanon's official National News Agency called it "an unprecedented enemy security incident" with "handheld pagers detonating" at nearly the same time across Lebanon.

According to AFP, Hezbollah communicates through its own telecommunications system and has asked its members to avoid using mobile phones since the Gaza war began almost a year ago. The diktat was issued to avoid Israeli breaches of the technology.

## Vegetarian Langar At Ajmer Sharif Dargah On PM Modi's 74th Birthday

**Ajmer(KCN):** To celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 74th birthday in a special and unique way, a pure vegetarian langar will be organised at the Ajmer Sharif Dargah.

It is being said that 4000 kilos of 'Zarda' (vegetarian sweet rice) will be prepared in the famous 'Big Shahi Degh' kept at the Dargah at 10 p.m. on Tuesday night.

For the first time, such a big event is being organised at the Dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti on the birthday of a Prime Minister.

Haji Syed Salman Chishty, Chairman of the Chishty Foundation, said in a special conversation with IANS, "For the last 550 years, a 'Big Shahi Degh' of four thousand kilos has been kept in the Dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, in which vegetarian langar is prepared. This langar will be prepared in 'Degh' on the occasion of PM Modi's 74th birthday. While preparing the



langar, some things have been taken special care, so that this langar can be distributed to people of every religion.

Referring to the 'Big Shahi Degh', he said that vegetarian food is being prepared in this 'Degh' for centuries and devotees from different religions also make contributions for the langar.

PM Modi Meets Muslim Delegation, Presents 'Chadar' To Be Placed At Ajmer Sharif

"The langar that will be prepared on Tuesday night will be distributed in the surrounding areas. Indian Minority and Chishti Foundation are cooperating in making this langar. We will also

pray for PM Modi's health," he added.

While giving information, Syed Afshan Chishty, Gaddi Nashin of the Dargah Ajmer Sharif, said that PM Modi is celebrating his 74th birthday. In view of his birthday, the langar will be prepared, which will be distributed among all the devotees.

Besides, prayers will also be offered for his long life. Notably, the 'Big Shahi Degh' in Ajmer Dargah in which 4000 kilos of langar will be prepared was gifted by Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1568 after the fulfilment of his vow. Only sweet rice or halwa is prepared in this cauldron.

## Ganesh festivities at Srinagar Colony Conclude

**Hanumakonda, Sep 17 (KCN):** The nine-day Ganesh festivities in Srinagar Colony, Hanumakonda concluded with great religious fervor and tradition. A huge rally has been organised from colony to the immersion point in which residents participated with much enthusiasm. Organized by the Srinagar Colony Welfare Association, the event witnessed active participation from all families in the locality, fostering a strong sense of community and devotion. Throughout the festival, a series of cultural programs, competitions for children and elders, and the much-appreciated Annadanam (free meal programme) were held. The cultural events ranged from singing and dance performances to traditional games, encouraging participation



from all age groups. The competitions brought out the enthusiasm of the colony's residents, adding a lively and festive atmosphere to the celebrations. The puja rituals were conducted on a grand scale, with each family playing an integral role in the religious observances. The devotion of the

residents was evident in their collective involvement in aarti, prasadam distribution, and the immersion ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, President of the Srinagar Colony Welfare Association D Bal Reddy expressed his satisfaction with the overwhelming participation and devotion

shown by the residents. "This year's festivities have been truly remarkable. The spirit of togetherness and devotion displayed by every household is commendable," he said. Echoing similar sentiments, the Association Secretary Sriramoju Bikshapathi stated, "We aimed to

make this year's celebrations more inclusive and meaningful for all residents. The enthusiasm, especially from the children and the elderly, made the event even more special." Treasurer Bandaru Muralidhar along with the president and General Secretary expressed thanks to the priest Brahmari Nimmaturi Venu Gopala Sharma for conducting pujas everyday and bringing awareness on Sanatana Dharma among the residents of the colony. The festival concluded with the traditional immersion of the Ganesh idol, accompanied by processions and chants, marking the end of the vibrant celebrations. The Srinagar Colony Welfare Association has once again succeeded in bringing the community together, upholding religious traditions, and fostering social harmony.

## "No U-Turns By Modi Government, Only Responsiveness": Piyush Goyal Exclusive

**New Delhi(KCN):** Union Minister Piyush Goyal hit out at a "despondent (and) frustrated" opposition amid criticism that the third term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a "government of U-turns".

Mr Goyal declared to NDTV "there is absolutely no U-turn... except responsiveness to the people of India".

"I think the opposition is so despondent... so frustrated... that they are criticising us in foreign countries (referring to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's comments during

events in the United States this month), never mind in India. And I think there can be nothing more shameful," he said.

"We have had no U-turns..." he stressed, "This is a listening government. Prime Minister Modi is respected and loved by the people because he has his ears to the ground and responds positively."

The Union Minister also dismissed any talk that the Modi 3.0 government is hamstrung by not having a brute majority in parliament. The Bharatiya Janata Party and Mr Modi returned to power after the

April-June election but only because of the 53 seats won by its National Democratic Alliance partners. The BJP itself won only 240 seats - 32 below the majority mark. In each of the BJP's first two terms, the party scored well over that mark, meaning it did not need allies to keep the government running. But there is "no difference" between Modi 3.0 and its two predecessors, Mr Goyal stressed, pointing out the Prime Minister had NDA members in his cabinet in his first two terms, when he did not need to.



# Black stone quarries turn bane for 2 MIPs in Jajpur

**Jajpur (KCN):** Rampant mining of black stones under Dharmasala tehsil of Jajpur district has led to the burying of two minor irrigation projects (MIPs) crucial for irrigation in the nearby farmlands apart from the destruction of forest cover in the area. People have alleged that black stones are extracted from the mines in violation of norms, which is indicative of a conspiracy by some influential persons to bury the MIPs. The destruction of Ranibandha and Paikarapur MIPs adjoining the Rahadpur black stone quarry under Dharmasala tehsil is a case in this point. The issue assumes significance as a case

has been filed in this connection before the National Green Tribunal (NGT). In Case-6/2024/EZ filed by Babuli Jena and others, the apex green body has directed the state Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary of state Water Resources department, Jajpur Collector, Jajpur SP, Jajpur deputy director (mines), Dharmasala tehsildar, executive engineer, R&B division and assistant executive engineer of MIP division at Barchana. The NGT has been frequently sending them reminders to file their responses in affidavits but they are yet to do so. Expressing displeasure over the delay, NGT has given them a last chance to file their reply by September 27.



The advocate general has also sent letters to the respondents directing them to file their counter affidavits by September 19 failing which the green body may consider taking some serious steps. According to the

complaint, a black stone quarry spread on six-acre land on khata noS-235 and plot no 1(P) on Rahadpur hill under Dharmasala tehsil had been leased to Satya Multiplex Private Ltd, June 2, 2022. This apart, 12 more quarries are

operational on 104.77 acre land in this area. It is alleged that the quarry owners are extracting black stones exceeding far beyond the permissible limits through uncontrolled blasting of explosives, thereby affecting

human habitats. The uncontrolled blasting of explosives has led to cracks appearing on the houses in the nearby villages. Furthermore, frequent transportation of black stones has resulted in severe air pollution due to spread

of dust. This has affected farmlands in the area and seriously damaged the Paikarapur and Ranibandha MIPs. With the two MIPs gradually getting buried with the dust from the quarries, farmers are facing difficulties in cultivation sans irrigation. The assistant executive engineer of the MIPs had written a letter (dated-August 31, 2018) to the Dharmasala tehsildar urging him to take necessary steps in this regard. It is apprehended that the day is not far off when the two MIPs will be completely buried by the dust. Things have come to such a pass that the dense forest surrounding the quarry

is on the verge of extinction, the petitioners alleged. When contacted, Dharmasala tehsildar Subhankar Mohanty said that the deputy director of Minor Minerals department has filed his affidavit, and added that there is no need for his office to file a separate affidavit. Jayprakash Nayak, deputy director, Minor Minerals department also confirmed that the affidavit has been filed. According to a report by the Irrigation Department, the two MIPs are located at a distance of 500 metres from the black stone quarries. However, rainwater from the black stone quarries flows down and falls in these two quarries during rain, he added.

## Jumbos break house, eat up paddy, cash



**Keonjhar(KCN):** Panic grips people in Telkoi forest range area of Keonjhar division after a rise in elephant attacks as they stray into the human habitations in search of food. The herds are destroying people's houses to eat stored paddy. Locals here are spending sleepless nights to protect their lives and property. In one such incident, a 5-member elephant herd raided the forest surrounding Mundasahi of Bena village under Telkoi forest

beat at about 11pm Sunday night in search of food. They destroyed two houses in the village and allegedly ate up cash worth Rs 10,000 which was kept in gunny bags along with stored paddy. This has become a topic of discussion in the locality. First the herd trampled and destroyed the banana farm of one Rabindra Patra of the said village. Then the herd destroyed the mud wall of the kutch house and took the sack containing paddy

outside and ate it. The elephant herd allegedly ate up the entire paddy stock along with the cash, which Rabindra had kept in that paddy sack. "We belong to a poor family. The herd has eaten the entire paddy along with `10,000 that my husband kept in the sack for future use. We want compensation for the loss," Rabindra's wife Kansala said. After that, the elephant herd broke Baburam Munda's house, ate the paddy stock and damaged the

kitchen utensils in the process. Both the families escaped to another place and saved their lives. Local people have demanded compensation and shelter for the victims. Telkoi forest range officer Shivaji Mohan Rao said, "We have already visited the place and paid compensation to the victims. We are verifying more details about the money allegedly eaten up by jumbos. We are keeping eyes on the movement of the elephant herd and trying to drive them into the forest area." Wild elephants frequently come out of the forest to the human habitations on rainy days, destroy houses and eat the rice. Former sarpanch Ban Bihari Nayak demanded compensation and protection for the people.

## Dy CM Parida meets tribal student who cracked NEET




**Daringbadi(KCN):** Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida has congratulated a tribal girl from Kandhamal district who cracked the NEET examination and is all set to study medical science at a State-run medical college, a report said Monday. The girl identified as Linsa Pradhan is a native of Garjedi village under this block in Kandhamal district.

She successfully cleared the NEET examination and was selected to study medical science at MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur. She met Parida and interacted with her when she visited the Capital city with her brother Ashis Pradhan. Parida expressed her happiness on meeting Linsa who successfully cleared the NEET examination

despite facing a barrage of problems in her life. "Linsa has proved that hard work never goes unrewarded, the Deputy Chief Minister said as she prayed Lord Jagannath to ensure a bright future for the girl. During the interaction, Parida enquired about the condition in her village and whether villagers are reaping the benefits of government

schemes. Linsa explained that Garjedi village lacks a pucca road and narrated her gruelling hard work in order to clear the NEET examination. The Deputy Chief Minister asked Linsa to inform her over phone about any necessity at any point of time and handed over a memento as well as Rs 3,000 to buy a good dress for her.



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## Hindalco hosts workshop on ‘Manufacturing Opportunities for MSMEs in the Downstream Aluminium Industry’



**Bhubaneswar(KCN) :** Hindalco, a flagship company of the Aditya Birla Group, organized a pivotal workshop on Tuesday at the Utkal Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ltd. (UCCIL) conference hall here, in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and UCCIL. The workshop focused on “Manufacturing Opportunities for MSMEs in the Downstream Aluminium Industry,” highlighting Odisha’s growing prominence as a global hub for aluminium manufacturing. In his inaugural address, Essar Minnet Ltd. CEO, Shashi Sekhar Mohanty, emphasized the essential role of MSMEs in the aluminium industry’s value chain. “MSMEs require the security of raw materials, technological support, operational efficiency, financial backing, and effective marketing to complete the value chain. The large aluminium downstream industries can provide these critical elements, enabling MSMEs to thrive,” he stated. Deliberating upon the theme, Hindalco Advisor Bibhu Mishra

highlighted the company’s significant presence in Odisha and its impact on various industries. “Hindalco, a global leader in aluminium, produces downstream products that serve as inputs for diverse end products, from food packaging to battery enclosures. The market for these innovative products is expanding, offering substantial growth opportunities for Odisha-based businesses,” Mishra explained. Hindalco Joint President, Sagar Dhamorikar, spoke on the unique properties of aluminium and its wide-ranging applications. “Aluminium’s high strength-to-weight ratio, conductivity, and non-corrosive nature make it ideal for numerous applications. A supportive fabrication ecosystem will enable India to harness its manufacturing potential and foster Odisha’s growth. Hindalco is committed to nurturing this mutually beneficial opportunity. The proliferation of aluminium applications will drive employment, social upliftment, and green, sustainable economic development

due to aluminium’s infinite recyclability,” Dhamorikar said. He also emphasized the initiative’s alignment with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision. The workshop saw the participation of notable figures, including SNM Group Chairman Pradipta Mohanty, IIMT Director Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, and UCCIL Vice President Sanjeeb Mohapatra. They collectively underscored the critical role of MSMEs in driving innovation, employment, and regional economic development in the downstream aluminium sector. Odisha’s strategic location and rich natural resources position it as a key player in the global aluminium industry. The state’s focus on developing the downstream aluminium sector presents a wealth of opportunities for MSMEs, which are instrumental in the supply chain and regional economic growth. The workshop provided a platform for industry leaders and MSMEs to explore collaboration opportunities, driving the state’s vision of becoming a manufacturing powerhouse.

## ZSI to Celebrate its Annual Day & Animal Taxonomy Summit–2024

Kolkata, (KCN):The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) is celebrating its 109th ZSI day on June 30, 2024. In commemoration of the 109th foundation day, the ‘Animal Taxonomic Summit–2024’ has been scheduled on July 1–3, 2024. The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Shri Bhupender Yadav will be the Chief Guest of the ZSI Day on June 30, 2024. He will also declare the opening of Animal Taxonomy Summit-2024 organised by ZSI. Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh, the Union Minister of State, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will be the Guest of Honour. The Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEFCC, Shri. Jitendra Kumar will also grace the occasion and address the gathering. During the occasion, the Union Minister will launch ‘Fauna of India Checklist Portal’ which is a first of its kinds covering all the faunal species reported from India. Further, the efforts of ZSI are

immense to complete this task and it makes India the first country in the world to prepare the complete list of fauna documented from the country. The Minister will release the ‘Animal Discoveries– 2023’ comprising more than 600 new animal species and new records from India and ‘Plant Discoveries’ comprising more than 300 new plant species and new records from the country published by the scientists, faculties, and researchers from India. Other important releases will be the ‘Current Status of faunal diversity in Lakshadweep’, ‘Fauna of India–109 barcodes’, ‘Catalogue of Hoverflies’, ‘Catalogue of Muscidae’, ‘Avifaunal Diversity of Important Bird Areas of Goa’ and ‘Handbook on Moths and Butterflies of Western Ghats’ & ‘Flora of India Series’. First ever ‘Barcode Atlas of Indian Fishes’- a joint publication by the ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow & ZSI, Kolkata and ‘ROAR - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF PROJECT TIGER’, a book written

by SHILADITYA CHAUDHURY & KETAN SENGUPTA will also be released. The Minister of State will launch ‘International Society of Zoology (ISZ)’ which will enhance the ability of individuals and institutions to contribute to the global understanding and protection of biodiversity. The event will include messages for the exploration and protection of our faunal resources, importance and safeguard of our environment and contributions of ZSI therein. More than 10 MoUs will be exchanged between ZSI & universities (viz. Vidyasagar University, Berhampur University, Madurai Kamraj University etc.), ZSI & national institutes (ICAR-NBFGR, ICAR-NBAIR, ICAR-Central

Institute, ICAR-CIFA, BITS, Pillani, Goa) and ZSI & Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS), Africa for better coordination and benefits to masses. A cultural programme to highlight environmental issues and its effort to reach out to the citizens will be showcased by the ZSI. Animal Taxonomic Summit–2024 is the second summit being organised by ZSI. During the summit, deliberations will be held under three broad themes, 1) Taxonomy, Systematics and Evolution, 2) Ecology and Animal Behaviour; 3) Biodiversity and Conservation. More than 350 delegates from four countries, including Natural History Museum London will participate in ATS 24. The three-day ATS–24 will witness more than 20

plenary/ lead lectures of eminent speakers/ experts from India as well as abroad and 142 oral / poster presentations. The summit will be concluded on 3rd July 2024. The recommendations of the summit will be conveyed to the Government of India related to biodiversity conservation. The ZSI was established on July 1, 1916 at Kolkata as a premier research institution, presently functioning under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The ZSI is documenting the faunal resources of India by survey and exploration leading to the advancement of knowledge on the exceptionally rich faunal diversity of the country.

## Ambuja Cements introduces Cool Walls, a special product that keep homes cool in summersand hot in winters

**Mumbai :** Ambuja Cements Ltd, one of India’s most sustainable cement manufacturers, is now offering an innovative green solution for constructing strong walls. Ambuja Cool Walls is a unique wall solutions that keeps the house cool during summer and retains inside temperature to make the house warmer in winter. Ambuja Cements is among the first Indian cement companies to offer this unique block and mortar solution to individual house builders.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product made with an innovative heat-barrier technology that is far superior to any other products available in the market. The ‘heat barrier technology’ of this product helps to maintain inside temperature of any house lesser by 5°Celsius as compared to external temperature.

These innovative heat barrier technology, consistent quality and enhanced strength (>5 MPa) are the main differentiators of this product.

Ambuja Cool Walls is an innovative solution to the problem faced by traditional construction with non-sustainable products. The challenge poised by traditional construction today are efflorescence on walls, termite attack, water absorption and highly prone to earthquakes. Ambuja Cool Walls along with unique jointing mortar makes the wall stronger and eliminates the problem faced by traditional construction practices. This helps the consumers in cost saving on electricity due to thermal insulation, low frequency of repeat painting because of no efflorescence, lesser repeat maintenance and lower construction cost. Additional benefits

include noise reduction, high fire resistanceetc. Also it enables speedy construction and reduces project completion time by ~ 30%. Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product as it consumes large volume of fly ash in its manufacturing. The walls does not require curing during construction and thus saves 5000 liters of water for a 1000-square feet house. Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and MD & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said, “Ambuja Cements has always pursued innovation to provide customers with eco-friendly solutions for a better and a greener future. It’s our endeavor to provide world class solutions to customers in India. Ambuja Cool Walls is a testimony to our commitment to provide sustainable, high strength and durable solutions to our customers”.

## Texmaco-SSF MPL JV Secures for Arun-3 Hydroelectric Power Plant Project in Nepal

**Kolkata:** Texmaco-SSF MPL JV, a collaborative effort led by Texmaco, has recently secured a contract with Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Arun-3 Power Development Company Limited (SAPDC) for the construction of the Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant, a 900MW run-of-the-river hydropower project presently under development in Nepal. The Texmaco-SSF MPL JV, entrusted with an order valued at Rs 179.89 crore from SJVN Arun-3 Power Development Company Limited, is poised to play a pivotal role in advancing this crucial project. The scope of work encompasses an array of responsibilities, including procurement, fabrication, shop assembly, painting, testing, transportation, supply, erection, site testing, and commissioning of the Pressure Shaft Steel Liner. This significant task involves the installation of two lanes of Pressure Shaft Steel

Liner with a substantial diameter of 5500mm, two bifurcations, four branches with a diameter of 4000mm each, along with all necessary accessories. The total estimated tonnage for this undertaking stands at a formidable 4700 metric tonnes. The Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant, administered under the build, own, operate, and transfer (BOOT) model, is a collaborative endeavour between India’s SJVN and the Government of Nepal. SAPDC, a wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN, will oversee the plant’s operation for a period of 25 years, which excludes the initial five-year construction phase. Following this operational phase, ownership of the power plant will be transferred to the Nepal government. One of the most salient features of this agreement is the substantial benefit it bestows upon Nepal. Over the initial 25 years of commercial

operations, Nepal will receive 21.9% of the electricity generated by the Arun-3 power plant as free power. This underscores the exemplary cooperation between India and Nepal in harnessing the potential of renewable energy resources and reaffirms their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations. On the joint venture, Sudipta Mukherjee, Deputy Managing Director, Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd., said, “Texmaco-SSF MPL JV is honoured to be entrusted with the responsibility of contributing to the Arun-3 hydroelectric power plant project in Nepal. We are committed to delivering excellence in every aspect of our work and in advancing renewable energy solutions. This venture exemplifies our dedication to sustainable progress.”

## FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

Bhubaneswar: FURO Sports Shoes, (from the house of Red Chief Shoes), is thrilled to announce its much-coveted collaboration with the Bollywood Superstar, Shahid Kapoor. Shahid’s youthful and sporty personality of an affable boy gels with the aspiring core values and ethos of FURO Sports Shoes. Shahid appeals to a wider audience across all age groups. While his exceptional fitness lifestyle, dancing prowess, and romantic-action-oriented movies attract the youth, his responsible family guy persona connects with relatively mature age groups as well. Mr. Manoj Gyanchandani (Managing Director) expressing his views on the collaboration, shares, “We are extremely honored to welcome Shahid Kapoor as the newest FURO family member. We couldn’t have asked for a better partner in 2022 who comes with such high credible energy which is much needed in such dynamic times to inspire the youth towards athleisure lifestyle. We look forward to a successful partnership with him and hope to have a mutually beneficial long-term relationship.”

Mr. Rahul Sharma, (Marketing Head) further shared “To continue leveraging our association both in mass media & digital platforms – Shahid would be part of our forthcoming Brand campaigns, which are back to back lined up starting few weeks from now.”

## BOB Financial crosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (Bank) that issues and manages Bank of Baroda Credit Cards, has crossed the 1 Million Credit Cards mark.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Bank of Baroda Credit Cards have grown 9X over the last four years – from 0.12 million cards in March 2018 to over 1.1 million cards in March 2022. Further, the monthly spends on credit cards have grown 10X over the same period – from Rs.80 crore in March 2018 to Rs.830 crore in March 2022.

In CY2022, cobranding with IRCTC, HPCL, Defence Services, and partnerships with fintechs have been some of the key initiatives in the ongoing transformation journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shailendra Singh, MD & CEO, BFSL said, “In 2017, we started on a journey of transforming BOB Financial into a leading credit card issuer in India. Crossing the 1 million credit cards mark is an important milestone. However, while we celebrate this achievement, our ultimate aspiration is to become one of the largest Credit Card issuers in the country, serving customers of every demographic and socio-economic classification.”

BFSL has been focusing on investing in people, processes and technology to enhance customer experience.

## KiiT International School becomes the only school from Odisha to win at Toycathon

Bhubaneswar: The revered founder of KiiT International School, Shri Achyuta Samanta, has always inspired and encouraged the youth to think outside the box. This motivation has led to an immense achievement for the school. A game, ‘Untold Stories’, designed by Shree Roy, a 10th Grade student of KiiT International School, has been selected as one of the top 7 winning games at Toycathon, an inter-ministerial initiative of GOI, in association with AICTE. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mona Lisa Bal, Chairperson, KiiT International School said, “This is an extremely proud moment for KiiT International School family. I congratulate Shree for her endeavours. This is an accomplishment not just for

her but the entire school. We always nurture our students to think beyond their textbooks and take interest in activities outside their classroom. I am glad that this morale-boosting has steered us to achieve this great honour. I firmly believe that these leaders of tomorrow can drive us towards a better tomorrow with proper education and guidance.”

Shree’s game ‘Untold Stories’ is a multiplayer game where one must answer questions about India’s heritage to move on to the next level. With this game, Shree intended to revive the art and culture of India. With modernization and technology, most youngsters are glued to their smartphones and the internet. Shree designed this game with the help of the

school’s research wing, Inspiron, in a pursuit to move them away from this exposure while enhancing their knowledge on India’s art, history, and culture. From over 14 lakh online entries, 200 games were chosen for the physical edition of Toycathon. Untold stories was the only winner from Odisha among the top 7 felicitated games.

Under the ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan’ initiated by our Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, Toycathon is conceived to challenge India’s innovative minds to conceptualize novel Toy and Games based on Bharatiya civilization, history, culture, mythology and ethos.



# THE KALINGA CHRONICLE

*Popular People's Daily of Odisha*

**BHUBANESWAR, WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Akeem Auguste revived the innings briefly through the middle overs, before the duo also fell in quick succession, along with Bhanuka Rajpaksa, leaving the top six batters back in the dugout before the death overs. A couple of strikes by Shamar Springer in the 19th over had left Kings on a shaky ground, but Wiese's single-handed assault in the final over off Kelvin Pitman powered them to a competitive total. The veteran finisher slammed three sixes: a pull over backward square, a straight slam down the ground and a swipe

28 for 5 in the Powerplay. Skipper Green was pushed on duty with the

off the last three overs. Barring a few lusty blows from Roshon Primus, there wasn't much effectiveness in the assault by the Falcon batters, eventually leaving them way short of the target and with a fourth loss handed in six games.

**Brief Scores:** St Lucia Kings 152/8 in 20 overs (David Wiese 43\*, Ackeem Auguste 35; Chris Green 4-22, Samar Springer 3-19) beat Antigua & Barbuda Falcons 126/8 in 20 overs (Chris Green 48, Samar Springer 24; Khary Pierre 3-24, Noor Ahmad 2-13).

# Oshada Fernando returns for New Zealand Tests

Coco Gauff at the Berlin Open. Illness further compounded her difficulties, eventually withdrawing from Wimbledon and, most recently, the Paris Olympics. The decision to end her season comes after months of trying to manage her injuries while competing. Jabeur's shoulder injury resurfaced following her Canadian Open appearance, and despite

being scheduled to play in subsequent tournaments, her condition worsened, prompting her decision to focus on recovery. "While I'm taking time to heal, I'll be dedicating myself to charity work and ensuring that we make a real difference in the world," Jabeur added. "Thank you for all your support, and I can't wait to come back stronger! I will see you back on the court in Australia 2025." Known for her creative playing style and charismatic presence on and off the court, Jabeur's absence will be felt on the WTA Tour. In February, she suffered another emotional setback during a loss to Beatriz Haddad Maia at the Abu Dhabi Open, where she broke down in tears as an old knee injury resurfaced. Despite showing resilience throughout her career, 2024 has been particularly unforgiving for the Tunisian star. and aims to come back stronger than ever.



**New Delhi (KCN):** Nishan Madushka, the opening batter, has been left out from the Sri Lanka squad for the two-Test series against New Zealand, with Oshada Fernando returning to the team.

Nisala Tharaka and Kasun Rajitha, who were also part of the Sri Lanka squad during the three-Test tour of England, are the other exclusions from the 16-member team to take on New Zealand.

Fernando recently played for Sri Lanka A in the first unofficial Test against South Africa A, scoring

122 and 80 to play a key role in the visiting team's six-wicket victory in Kimberley. Madushka, on the other hand, struggled in the England tour with scores of 4, 0, 7 and 13 in the first two Tests before being left out for the third. Pathum Nissanka, who replaced him, came up with knocks of 64 and 127\* to star in Sri Lanka's win at The Oval. The first Test against New Zealand begins on September 18 and the second match will be played from September 26. Both games, which

are part of the World Test Championship, will be played in Galle.

Sri Lanka Test squad:

Dhananjaya de Silva (c),  
Dimuth Karunaratne,  
Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Angelo Mathews, Dinesh Chandimal, Kamindu Mendis, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Oshada Fernando, Asitha Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Lahiru Kumara, Prabath Jayasuriya, Ramesh Mendis, Jeffrey Vandersay, Milan Rathnayake

**New Delhi (KCN):** Kuldeep Yadav had walked into the batting nets a good 20 minutes before any of his teammates did. It was two days out from the crucial second Test against England in Vizag with the visitors having taken a lead in the series. Kuldeep's place in the eleven for the next Test against England was somewhat already assured with Ravindra Jadeja sustaining an injury in Hyderabad and the dry nature of the match pitch necessitating the need for a third spinner. But India were suddenly bereft of both numbers and experience through their batting ranks, so much so that Axar Patel would have to bat at No.6 if they wanted to stick to their five bowlers blueprint. And so, Kuldeep batted

uninterrupted, looking for any incremental gains to his secondary skill-set in a bid to help out his team before limbering up to bowl in that sudden hive of sweeping activity. Kuldeep Yadav, the talent, always commands attention. There have been very few practitioners of wrist spin in Test cricket. Even fewer have operated at the level he has: Of the 418 bowlers to have taken at least 50 Test wickets, his strike-rate of 37 is bettered only by George Lohmann (34.1) - a 19th century fast bowler, and considered by many as a statistical oddity. However, Kuldeep Yadav, the man craves being part of something larger: becoming an indispensable member of India's Test team. A rather difficult task when you consider he's

already been dispensed with in 56 of the last 68 Tests played by his team. In many ways, this has been the theme that would come to define the start-stop first part of Kuldeep's Test career, one that is already eight years old, and yet, at the start of this home season, feels as if it is only now truly starting. Kuldeep has been 'the future of India's spin bowling' in Test cricket for so long that it's easy to forget he is three months short of his 30th birthday. As excellent as Kuldeep has been when he's played Test cricket, he also emerged in the shadow of two of India's greatest spinners - Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja - who between them have taken 810 wickets (and counting).



As it turned out, the pair also just happened to offer enough value with the bat to top ICC's charts for all-rounders at different points of time. The best hat-tip of their status came on visits overseas when opposition sides forced India into making the hard choice between the two with the conditions they rolled out.

As excellent as Kuldeep has been when he's played Test cricket, he also emerged in the shadow of two of India's greatest spinners  
As excellent as Kuldeep has been when he's played Test cricket, he also emerged in the shadow of two of India's greatest spinners ©BCCI  
Back home, another

competitor emerged to match Kuldeep's gluttony for wickets. Axar, a naggingly accurate finger spinner, not only took five five-fers and 47 wickets from his first eight Tests but also lengthened India's transient batting line-up till No.9. There are a few things that would appear to be different this week in

Chennai. For starters, Kuldeep finds himself in pole position for a 13th crack at Test cricket if conditions demand a third spinner. This new status is a reflection of what transpired post that aforementioned net session in Vizag when Kuldeep featured in four straight Tests for the first time in his career, emerging out of an already deep and penetrative attack as a point of difference against visitors that battled with a lot more enterprise than India had been accustomed to at home. His 19 wickets from those four Tests came at an average (20.15) better than those of Ashwin (24.80) and Jadeja (25.05) and bettered only by the peerless Jasprit Bumrah (16.89). If that wasn't enough, Kuldeep

showed he could also be relied on with the bat to hold fort in these conditions, something he did in a match-turning partnership with Dhruv Jurel in Ranchi. Kuldeep's role in the side is unlikely to change dramatically in the short run. His job, when picked, will be to combine with Ashwin and Jadeja, which over the last four Tests, he has done to devastating effect and contributed where possible with the bat. The challenge through the course of five Tests will be to establish himself as the ace before the pack reshuffle, which may not be too far away. Ashwin will turn 38 before the start of the Bangladesh Tests and Jadeja, approaching 36 himself, has increasingly found himself on the treatment table over the last two years.