

# 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.

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.

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

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."



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".

**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.

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



**BHUABENESWAR(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.

# 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

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 'Jambavanta' draws inspiration from the legend of Jamvant



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. 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.

The team won a Cash prize of Rs. 20000/ which was handed over to them by Mr. Subhrangshu

## STATE-LEVEL GAJANAN FOLK LITERATURE FESTIVAL



**Cuttack, (KCN):** The 55th program of the KAIBALYA SAHITYA SANASAD has been organized The State-Level Gajanan Folk Literature Festival at Gandhi Bhawan, Cuttack. In two sessions, a state-level poetry recitation titled "Gajanan Magnificence" and a conference titled "Gajanan 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 Puja. 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 Gajanan Saraswat Honor and Shri Gajanan Seva Honor. Social worker Sumitra Pani gave vote of thanks.

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.

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, and Mr. Harsh Raval from Cyber Dojo. Their expertise and contributions were instrumental in enhancing the quality of the projects and overall experience for the participants.



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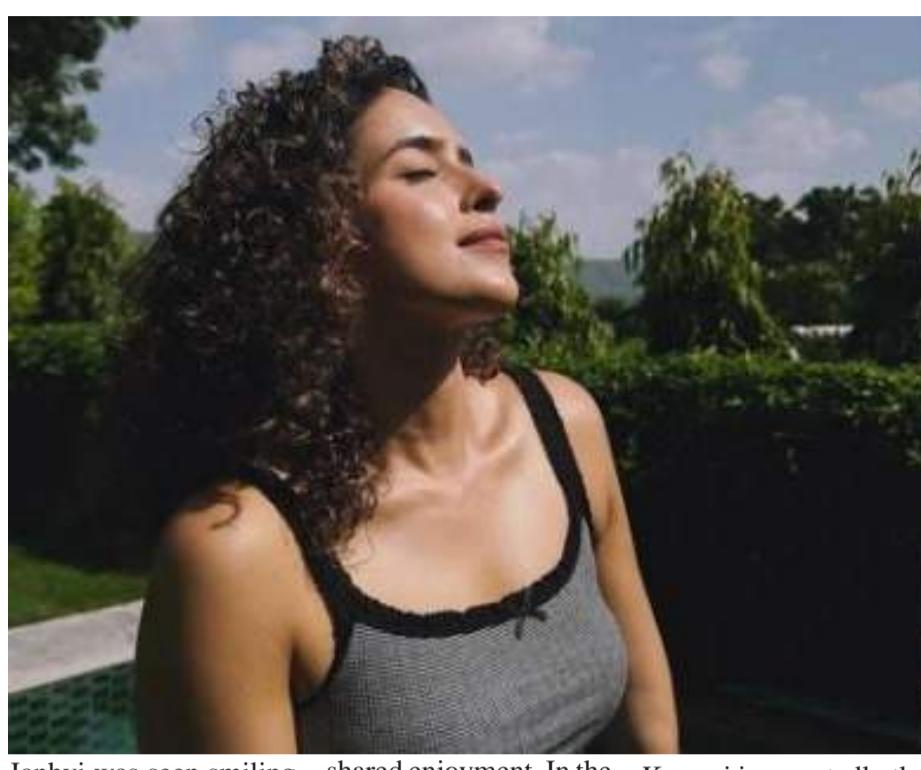
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## Sanya Malhotra flaunts her beautiful curls in sunkissed pictures



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 grey 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 @diljitzosanjh #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 @diljitzosanjh. 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 Tripti 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

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

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

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



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 Sonipat 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 Jankidas Kapoor and Jai Dev Kapoor 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 EEPC Award for export excellence are testimony of its standing in the highly competitive international market. 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 Jankidas Kapoor for introducing the possibility of owning a vehicle for every class into a reality in India.

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## 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.

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 different 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 monotony, 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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## Religions: Based on faith, intellect & wisdom

Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra 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.

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.

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.

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, surrender to 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

New Delhi, (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 - Marlena, 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, Marlena. 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

school management committees under the Right to Education Act. After becoming an AAP spokesperson in 2018, Ms Atishi was slowly becoming known for her articulation of the Delhi government's policies and her strong defence against criticisms directed at it, but she was really thrust into the spotlight when deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia was arrested in the Delhi liquor policy last year. She was inducted into the cabinet and then given more responsibility after chief minister Arvind Kejriwal was taken into custody in the same case in March, becoming the minister

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

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.

## 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, prasad distribution, and the immersion ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, President of the Srinagar Colony Welfare Association D Bal Reddy expressed his satisfaction with the over 1 million 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 Sriramouji Bikshapathi stated, "We aimed to

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



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

## "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 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

## 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 kutcha 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

## 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



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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

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

**Kolkata:** Texmaco-SSFMPL 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-SSFMPL 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

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-SSFMPL 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."

## 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 '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

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'-

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 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 summers and 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 solution 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. Additional benefits

include noise reduction, high fire resistance etc. 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 endeavour 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".

## 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.

Agame, '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, Mr. Shaileendra 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."

## 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. Shaileendra 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.

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 'AtmaNirbhar 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.

