

All India Media Conference was organized, media persons raised many demands



New Delhi(KCN): The two-day All India Media Conference was held in New Delhi in which journalists from different states of the country registered their presence and gave proof of journalist unity. In this event, various media organizations of the country came together under one banner and raised their voice to save journalists and journalism world in the country as well as small and medium newspapers / magazines etc. Let us tell you that considering Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers (IFSMN) as the mother body, under the joint aegis of National Media Confederation (NMC), Rashtriya Patrakar Mahasangh (RPM), News Media Federation (NMF), Cyber Journalist Association (CJA), social organization We the

People (WTP) as well as umbrella body of many organizations Indian Confederation of Mediabodies (ICOM), after consultations with the representatives of all the institutions, All India Media Conference (AIMC) was formed under the leadership of senior journalist Pushpa Pandya, founder of all the above organizations, senior journalist Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray was made the National Chief Coordinator, senior journalist Convenor Dr. Kamal Jhunjhunwala, Co-convenor BS Deshpandey, Tamilnadu IFSMN President Maithili Raja and young journalist Shibu Khan were given the responsibility of conducting the conference, IFSMN Chairman Arun Goyal, Acting President Manju Surana, Treasurer Y K

Narayanpurkar, founder members Sanjeevi, Shivprakash, Vice president Balasaheb Ambekar, NMC Dy President Surinder Verma, Jasbinder Bal and many other senior Journalists, old & new Members were present. On the first day of the program, the program started with the lighting of lamps by the guests at the Jagannath Temple premises in Hauz Khas, New Delhi, with the recitation of Vedas and chanting of mantras by Maharsi Pandits. Former Union Minister of State Bhakta Charan Das, who was present as the first guest to address the seminar on the state of the nation and the role of media, reflected on the condition of the country's journalists from the stage and gave a speech on current journalism. In the same

sequence, Jagannath Sarkar, MP from Ranaghat Lok Sabha seat of West Bengal, Pradeep Purohit, MP from Bargarh Lok Sabha seat of Odisha, along with Dr. Girdhari Mohanty (former Director General, DAVP(CBC) and Press Registrar General, RNI (PRGI)), Arun Joshi (Retired Additional Director, Public Relations Department, Rajasthan Government), Mathew Nedumpura (Senior Advocate, Bombay High Court and Supreme Court of India) and Vivek Shukla (eminent author, senior journalist and columnist) as the keynote speaker also expressed their views. The program was conducted efficiently by Shibu Khan. At the end of the program, all the guests were Felicitated with Mementos. At the end of the program, all

the people present also had lunch there.

In the same sequence, on the second day, a program was organized at the Press Club of India near Shastri Bhawan, where former member of Press Council of India (PCI) and National President of Press Association of India Chhayakant Nayak was the chief guest in a seminar on the current challenges and opportunities before the media, along with former Director General of Doordarshan Ashok Gupta, former senior officer of Film Division of Information Department Wariyam Mast as guests, as well as Professor Dr. BK Sahu (Head of Department - Economics, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade) as the keynote speaker, lectured on the decided topic as well as other issues of

- Many journalists of the country united in Delhi on the direction and call of IFSMN founder Pushpa Pandya
- Efficient organization was organized under the leadership of National Chief Coordinator Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray
- People showed enthusiasm and passion due to efficient conduct and speech of media fire brand leader Shibu Khan
- Arun Goyal, Manju Surana, Kamal Jhunjhunwala, YK Narayanpurkar etc. also played an important role

journalism. Journalists from different states also addressed the program. During this, all media leaders were also honored and all delegates present were also given certificates. In the entire programme, Media Council should be declared constitutionally as the fourth pillar of democracy in the Gazette of India, Journalist Protection Act should be implemented in the country, Media Commission should be formed, National Journalist Register should be prepared by identifying journalists at Tehsil level or even lower level (Block or Panchayat) in the country, Journalist Bhawans should be constructed at Tehsil level along with every district, Journalist organizations should be legalized on the lines of Election Commission of India, just as political parties are legalized to contest elections in 6 months, the rule of so many years in notifying journalist organizations should be canceled by Press Council of India and fixed on the rules of Election Commission, arrangement of honorarium and pension should be made for journalists, along with accident insurance, arrangement of health insurance and life insurance should also be made by the government, journalists should be given priority in government schemes, journalist's families should focus on good education and good health, fake cases against journalists should be withdrawn, Media Saman Nidhi should be run on the lines of Kisan Samman Nidhi, change in advertising policy should be made to keep small and medium newspapers alive. Along with making it levy free, abolish GST on paper purchase, plots of land etc. should be arranged for journalists, provide plots of land for office to every journalist organization, promote digital media

VISIT OF WORLD BANK TEAM TO ODISHA TO STUDY THE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY OF THE STATE



Bhubaneswar (KCN): In order to study the State's infrastructure strategy and give recommendations on raising private investment for infrastructure, Government of India, in collaboration with World Bank, has identified Odisha as one among the first four states besides Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh

and Meghalaya for the study. In this context, a 5-member team from the World Bank, comprising of senior PPP (Public Private Partnership) specialists and advisors, participated in a meeting under the chairpersonship of Smt. AnuGarg, IAS, Development Commissioner-cum-

Additional Chief Secretary to Government held on 24.09.2024 at the Loka Seva Bhawan. Secretaries of key infrastructure Departments and officials from the Directorate of PPP, Finance Department also attended the meeting who gave key suggestions on the various areas where

private participation is beneficial for the State. Development Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary briefed the delegation about the revamped PPP policy, institutional framework for appraisal of PPP projects and the recent initiatives undertaken to enhance greater private

sector participation across sectors including the social sector. She stressed on the growing aspirations of the state and how "Vision 2036" is crucial to the multifaceted recognition of Odisha at the national and global level.

The primary focus of the team's visit is to understand the success factors as well as challenges in the past and existing projects. This would enable them to highlight some of the best practices being followed in the State for knowledge of the other states as well as with key global partners. The team also envisages to extend critical technical advisory services for future projects, if required.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): A discussion was held with the office bearers of the Odisha Nursing Employees' Union (ONEA) in the Health & Family Welfare Department Conference Hall at 11.30 AM. The discussion was on various issues concerning the Nursing Officers.

The Office bearers thanked Government that many of the long-standing issues have already been resolved in the meantime as follows

- A huge 4683 nos. of Nursing Officers have been appointed in the year 2021 against 6432 no of vacancies revamping existing health care.
- Two years later in 2023, again 3738 nos. of Nursing Officers have been appointed against 7483 no of vacancies.
- As many as 3016 number of Nursing Officers have been re-designated as Nursing Officer to assure dignity to the cadre.

Officers from different schemes have been inducted into the base level posts of Odisha Nursing Service Cadre and 2883 Nursing Officers have already been regularized till date as per provisions of cadre rule after implementation of repeal of Contractual and Special Provision Rules, 2022.

• All the Contractual Nursing Officers have been accorded the benefit of service seniority as regular employees at par with beneficiaries of other cadres of Government as per the Repeal Rules, 2022.

• Around 11933 number of Nursing Officers shall be benefitted to get promotion to the higher level due to cadre restructuring.

• They are getting auto financial up-gradation from Level-8 to Level-9 after completion of 3 years of service which is not in the case of the cadre of

Supreme Court closes proceedings against Karnataka HC judge over 'Pakistan' remark



New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court Wednesday closed suo motu proceedings initiated over alleged objectionable comments made by a Karnataka High Court judge during court proceedings. A five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud noted that Karnataka High Court judge Justice Vedavaya sacha Srishananda, who had made those observations, had tendered an apology for his comments in the open

court there. "We can't call any part of the territory of India as Pakistan," the CJI observed. The bench, also comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai, Surya Kant and Hrishikesh Roy, observed that courts have to be careful not to make comments in the course of judicial proceedings which may be construed as being misogynistic or for that matter prejudicial to any segment of the society. "Casual observations

may well reflect a certain degree of individual bias particularly when they are likely to be perceived as being directed to a particular gender or community," the bench said. The top court had September 20 taken suo motu cognisance of the high court judge's alleged objectionable comments against a woman lawyer during the court proceedings in a case and his reference to a Muslim-majority area in Bengaluru as "Pakistan" in another. In video clips, which went viral on social media, Justice Srishananda was seen reprimanding a woman lawyer and reportedly made some objectionable comments when she intervened in an ongoing hearing.

Before granting permission to the CID for the test, the court sought the consent of the accused police officer who said that he had no objection to being subjected to the scientific investigation.

"I am innocent. I am not



Under polygraph test, also known as a lie detection test, a person's physiological responses to questions are analysed to determine whether the person is lying or telling the truth. Before granting permission to the CID for the test, the court sought the consent of the accused police officer who said that he had no objection to being subjected to the scientific investigation.

"I am innocent. I am not

events in this case occurred within the four walls of the police station without any eyewitnesses and therefore scientific methodology may give a proper direction to the investigating agency to reach at the truth, the order said.

The CID also pleaded before the court that the investigating agency was finding it difficult to confirm the veracity of the allegations and also the counter-allegations in the absence of CCTV cameras at the police station. An army officer was allegedly subjected to torture and his fiancée to "sexual assault" by policemen when they went to Bharatpur Police Station September 15 to lodge an FIR of road rage.

Custodial 'assault' case: Odisha court allows polygraph test of suspended police officer

BJP president JP Nadda to visit Odisha Today

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Jagat Prakash Nadda is scheduled to reach Bhubaneswar on a one-day visit to Odisha Thursday. The party's general secretary Jatin Mohanty told the media persons in Bhubaneswar Wednesday that Nadda is likely to reach Bhubaneswar at 10.30am Thursday. He will participate in different party programmes before leaving for New Delhi in the afternoon. "Nadda's visit to Odisha aimed to accelerate our Sadasyata Abhiyan or the membership drive and make it all-inclusive," said Mohanty. He said that workers are the foundation of an organisation.

Menstrual Cycle Of Love

(Shibangi Dhara), Bandana Sahoo

Let's this raw heart of mine
be born in the womb of pride
and another address
be formed in the nudeness of separation.

Tears are talking about me,
in the fear of losing something
In the flames of jealousy.

In the full sky seems disdainful
when I understand you
In the cycle of hate
I am dying suddenly
within the moon, the stars and the planets
when I am looking for you.

I will be picking up
in the terms of determining weight
to the depths of love
the eyes are filled with full of glasses
his colour of love,
and his deepness.



The earth seems empty to me
in the deep pool of thirst
in the direction of the hearted of hunger

When untouchability is yours
touching me
I forget all the bridges of
forests, hills, mountains, seas, abysses
and skies.

My thirst will not be quenched
and lost in those lustful eyes,
Miles and miles away
I am knotting you
in the neck of the flower,
atom by atom,
by the side of my love.

Jajpur
7205550713



Quotation of the Day

**"A marriage is not a noun;
it's a verb.
It isn't something you get.
It's the way
you love your partner
everyday."**

—Barbara De Angelis

Traveler's paradise: Top 10 hill stations in Odisha once must visit

Odisha, known for its rich cultural heritage and pristine beaches, is also home to some beautiful hill stations that offer breathtaking views, pleasant weather, and unique experiences. Here are the top 10 hill stations in Odisha that are a must-visit



Daringbadi
— Why It's Special: Often referred to as the "Kashmir of Odisha," Daringbadi is known for its lush pine forests, coffee gardens, and picturesque valleys. The place is also one of the few spots in Odisha where you can experience snowfall during winter.

— How to Reach: The nearest airport is Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar (250 km). You can reach Daringbadi by road via Phulbani or Berhampur, which are well-connected by bus and taxi services.

Gonasika

— Why It's Special: A hidden gem in the Keonjhar district, Gonasika is known for its unique landscape where the Baitarani River

originates from a stone and flows underground. The surrounding hills and tribal villages make it an enchanting destination.

— How to Reach:

Gonasika is around 45 km from Keonjhar town, which is well-connected by road from Bhubaneswar (230 km) and

Cuttack (190 km). The nearest railway station is Keonjhar.

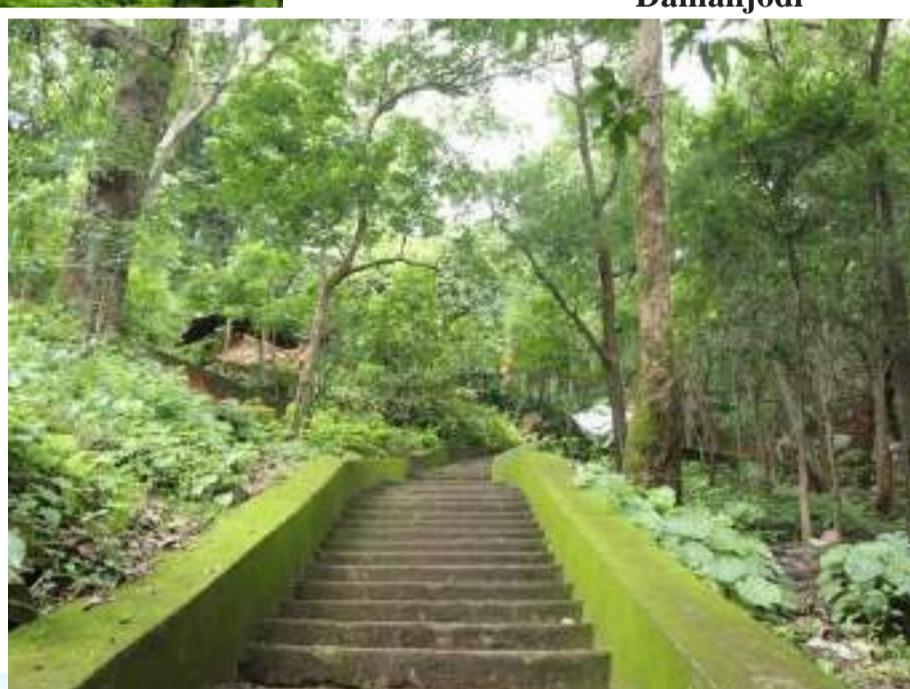
Mahendragiri

— Why It's Special: Located in the Gajapati district, Mahendragiri is a mythological hill station believed to be associated with the Pandavas from the Mahabharata.

The lush greenery

and ancient temples

make it a serene and



spiritual retreat.
— How to Reach: The nearest railway station is Palasa (45 km), and the closest airport is in Bhubaneswar (267 km). It can be accessed by road via Paralakhemundi.

Deomali

— Why It's Special: As the highest peak in Odisha, Deomali offers panoramic views of the Eastern Ghats, coupled with adventure activities

Tucked away in the Sundargarh district, Tensa is known for its scenic views and pleasant weather throughout the year. It is surrounded by lush green forests, making it ideal for nature walks and bird watching.

— How to Reach: Tensa is around 100 km from Rourkela, which is the nearest railway station and well connected by road.

Damanjodi

like trekking and paragliding. The hill is covered with dense forests and is a favourite among nature enthusiasts.

— How to Reach: The nearest town is Koraput (60 km), which is well connected by road and rail from major cities like Bhubaneswar and Visakhapatnam.

Tensa

— Why It's Special:

is accessible via road from Jeypore (30 km) and Koraput (45 km). The nearest airport is in Visakhapatnam (223 km).

Khandadhar

— Why It's Special: Known for the majestic Khandadhar Waterfall, the hill station offers stunning views and is surrounded by dense forests that house diverse flora and fauna.

It's a paradise for wildlife photographers and adventure lovers.

— How to Reach: Located 130 km from Rourkela, Khandadhar can be reached by road. The nearest railway station is in Rourkela.

Olasuni Hill

— Why It's Special: Famous for the Olasuni Cave, where the 18th-century saint Arakshita

Das meditated, the hill station is a tranquil spot ideal for meditation and spiritual retreats. The surrounding natural beauty adds to its peaceful ambience.

— How to Reach: Olasuni Hill is 85 km from Bhubaneswar, accessible by road via Cuttack.

Simlipal

Why It's Special: Though primarily a tiger reserve, the hills of Simlipal offer breathtaking landscapes, waterfalls, and a rich diversity of flora and fauna. It's perfect for nature lovers and those seeking a jungle experience.

— How to Reach: The nearest railway station is Balasore (110 km), and the nearest airport is in Bhubaneswar (195 km). It is well connected by road to major towns.

Kapilash

— Why It's Special: Located in the Dhenkanal district, Kapilash is famous for its Shiva temple, scenic views, and the challenging trek that leads to the temple. It's a perfect destination for spiritual seekers and adventure enthusiasts alike.

— How to Reach: Kapilash is around 26 km from Dhenkanal town and 80 km from Bhubaneswar. It is accessible by road from major towns and cities.

Each of these hill stations in Odisha offers a unique experience and an escape from the bustling city life, making them must-visit destinations for any traveller.



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Kareena congratulates Laapataa Ladies team: Great stories deserve great recognition



beyond delighted that our film Laapataa Ladies has been chosen as India's official entry to the Academy Awards. This recognition is a testament to the tireless work of my entire team, whose dedication and passion brought this story to life. Cinema has always been a powerful medium to connect hearts, transcend boundaries, and ignite meaningful conversations. I hope that this film will resonate with audiences across the world, just as it has in India (sic)." The film featured Pratibha Ranta, Nitanshi Goel, Ravi Kishan, and Sparsh Shrivastava in significant roles. Meanwhile, Kareena Kapoor was last seen in the film, The Buckingham Murders.

Hrithik Roshan, Kiara Advani's video from War 2 sets in Italy leaked

Hrithik Roshan and Kiara Advani are currently shooting for War 2 in Italy. As fans eagerly wait for the film's updates, a video of the actor shooting a song sequence has gone viral. Hrithik Roshan and Kiara Advani are currently shooting for War 2 in Italy. Several pictures and videos from the shoot have already gone viral. In one set of photos, Hrithik and Kiara are seen walking hand-in-hand, sharing sweet moments on the streets of Italy. Hrithik is seen wearing a blue shirt over a white t-shirt with jeans, while Kiara looks lovely in a pink



Roshan posted a photo on Instagram, where he was seen soaking in the

scenic beauty of Italy. Dressed in a white vest and striped pants, Hrithik

is captured standing with his back to the camera amidst lush greenery.

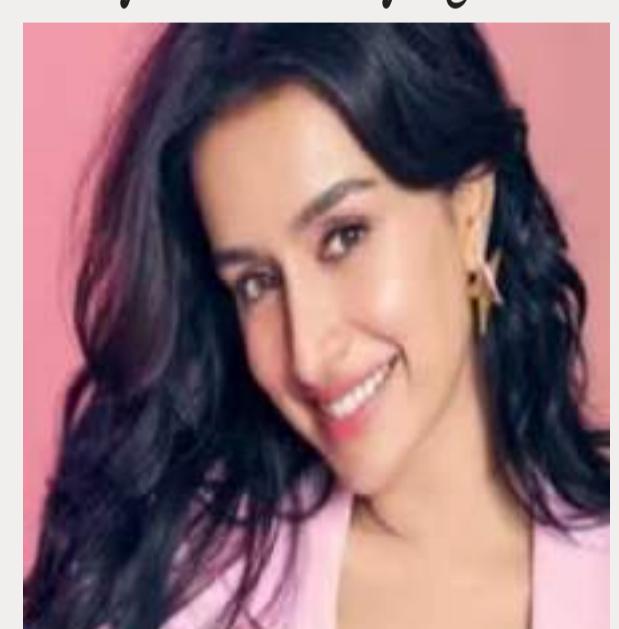
The picture was taken by stylist Anaita Shroff Adajania.



'Jhoothi' Shraddha Kapoor Interacts With Fans on Instagram as They Catch her Lying

Shraddha Kapoor aka Jhoothi is currently busy with the promotions of her upcoming film with Ranbir Kapoor, 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar'. The star has served some incredible moments for her fans; ever since the promotional events kickstarted from recreating hilarious video of 'Tere Pyaar Main' eating pani puri to having grabbed all the attention with her hot looks in the 'Tere Pyaar Mein' song from 'Tu Jhoothi Main

Makkaar', Shraddha Kapoor seems to be fully drenched in her character of Jhoothi from the film. While everyone just can't resist their excitement to watch her playing a Jhoothi in the film, this Sunday morning Shraddha treated her fans with a pretty picture and was seen interacting with the fans while she made them engage with her character of Jhoothi in a fun manner in the comment. Taking to her social media, on Sunday,



Kareena Kapoor Khan Wants To Work With Yash, Calls Herself A KGF Girl



figure in the film industry. His meteoric rise, coupled with endorsements from industry peers like Kareena Kapoor Khan, reinforces his status as a true global icon. Yash has etched his name as a formidable talent with global appeal. He is not just a superstar; he is an icon who has united audiences from diverse backgrounds and cultures, proving that talent and authenticity are universal languages that transcend boundaries and create lasting legacies.

Kapoor Khan was asked, "Which south actor would you like to be paired up with? Prabhas, Ram Charan, Vijay Deverakonda, Allu Arjun and Yash" she expressed her desire to collaborate with the southern sensation and she promptly responded with "Yash," proudly declaring herself a 'KGF girl.' Yash's presence on the international stage has transcended geographical boundaries, making him a sought-after

Birth Centenary of Raj Kapoor, greatest showman of the Showbiz in India

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



famous song from his celebrated film "Awara". As the legendary filmmaker's birth centenary approaches, grand celebrations are being organized both in India and abroad to honor his remarkable contributions to cinema. Raj Kapoor's admirers have planned an array of events to showcase his achievements, including musical evenings, exhibitions, film screenings, talk shows, the release of a commemorative calendar, educational sessions, various competitions, the launch of a coffee table book on Raj Kapoor, and an awards ceremony. Respect India, a leading social, cultural, and educational organization, is at the forefront of organizing these centenary celebrations for Raj Kapoor, the legendary showman of Bollywood. Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, chairs a distinguished committee overseeing the events. The committee includes prominent personalities such as film director Dr. Pramod Kumar, Dr. Rahul Rawail, Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Vikas Singh, Senior Advocate, and Yatindra Mishra, Film & Music Scholar and National Film Jury Member.

The other members of the organizing



Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, chairman, organizing committee Raj Kapoor's Centenary Celebrations & live wire of the show Dr. Manish Chaudhary with Prof. Bijayalaxmi Nanda, Prof. Rakha Saxena and Sujan Singh.



Architects of Birth Centenary programme of Raj Kapoor

committee, diligently working on the ground at the University of Delhi, include Prof. Savita Roy, Principal of Daulat Ram College, Prof. Bijayalaxmi Nanda, Principal of Miranda House, Prof. Rakha Saxena, Head of the Department of Political Science, Prof. Chandrachud Singh, Vinay Mani Tripathi, Dr. Pramod Kumar Dwivedi, and Dr. Hena Singh. Miranda House, renowned for its academic excellence, serves as the knowledge partner for this prestigious event.

Dr. Manish Chaudhury, a dynamic young Assistant Professor at Delhi University and head of the cultural organization Respect

India, is the driving force behind the Raj Kapoor Birth Centenary Organizing Committee. Dr. Chaudhury is working tirelessly to plan a series of commemorative events, beginning with a program in Delhi on December 14, which marks Raj Kapoor's birth anniversary. The committee plans to invite Her Excellency President Droupadi Murmu as the Chief Guest to inaugurate the event, which will highlight Raj Kapoor's contributions to the world of cinema. Following this, a series of grand events are scheduled to take place in cities across India, including Delhi, Mumbai,

Kolkata, Patna, Jodhpur, Bhopal, and Goa, as well as in international locations such as Tashkent, Moscow, Singapore, Mauritius, Bhutan, and Dubai. Although most of Raj Kapoor's contemporaries are no longer with us to share their insights into his working style, Dr. Chaudhury has received valuable input from director Rahul Rawail. He also hopes to engage with music composer Pyarelal, actress Simi Grewal, and filmmaker Siddhartha Kak, all of whom have unique perspectives on Raj Kapoor's legacy. Additionally, Dr. Chaudhury aims to connect with Raj

Kapoor's admirers both in India and in the former Soviet Union, where Raj Kapoor and Nargis were beloved household names, and their film music enjoyed immense popularity. It is worth noting that the on-screen pairing of Raj Kapoor and Nargis is widely regarded as one of the most iconic romantic duos in the history of Bollywood. Their magical presence on the silver screen remains timeless, and their cinematic legacy continues to captivate audiences even today.

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

Letter to Editor

Sir

World Bamboo Day is celebrated on September 18 every year to raise awareness about bamboo and its many uses. Bamboo is a versatile, strong, and eco-friendly plant that can help reduce carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. The plant has notable economic and cultural significance in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. Its versatility has led to the coinage of such terms as 'bamboo culture', 'green gold', 'poor man's timber', and so on. Bamboo's long life makes it a Chinese symbol of uprightness and an Indian symbol of friendship. In Japan it is symbol of prosperity. Bamboo is the national plant of St. Lucia. Bamboo is extremely adaptive and can thrive in a variety of climates.

There are over 1,500 species of bamboo.

China is the world's largest producer of bamboo, followed by India.

Bamboo is used for a wide range of purposes - besides construction, furniture and paper making it is also used as food, medicine and also in making utensils, writing materials, music instruments and martial arts materials. The plant is also used for filtering and removing salt from seawater. Bamboo helps mitigate climate change, and its organic matter improves soil quality and prevents soil erosion. The Forest Research Centre for Bamboo & Rattan, Aizawl in Mizoram established in 2004 in Aizawl, Mizoram.

is a prestigious research center India that focuses on bamboo cultivation and its infinite number of benefits.

**M Pradyu Kannur
Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.**

The Necessity of Quintessential Leadership

Bijaya Kumar Parhi



the vast Egyptian civilization Ozymandias once proclaimed himself 'the king of the kings' and challenged the almighty. But his vast civilization turned into a desert with the passage of time. Time spares none and even Roman general Julius Caesar was not spared. The statement "Veni, Vidi, Vici" (I came, I saw and I conquered) suggests the triumphant glory of rulers. There came democracy when common people elect and select their leaders who work for people who suffer deprivation and alleviate their miseries and ensure the upliftment. The leaders like Abraham Lincoln who fought against slavery, Bismarck who brought unification of Germany, Ho chi minh, who brought independence to Vietnam are the nonpareil. In India Mahatma Gandhi,

Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose are the leaders who remain in the hearts of Indians forever. Quintessential leaders who honor the interest of masses are the sine qua non of democracy. There is no dearth of leaders in our country, but a void of paradigmatic leadership is felt. Leadership is required in every domain of life- politics, education, economics, sports, health, organization and international relationships among countries and so on and so forth. An evolutionary and visionary leadership with a heart is very much essential. It's axiomatic that a vision without action is a day dream and an action without an action is a nightmare. The first responsibility of an exemplary leader is to craft a grand vision, enunciate it and bolster the confidence,

aspirations, pride, hope and enthusiasm of the compatriots. The next step of the leader is to enlarge the vision, rise above the obsession with Me, I and Myself. The ordinary Mohandas metamorphosed to Mahatma when he decided to work for the people. One can not achieve greatness with an ordinary aim with vested interest. Swami Vivekananda, the disciple of Ramakrishna Paramahansa initially trembled at the thought of addressing at the religious conference, Chicago, but became the world's greatest preacher the moment he dropped the thought of the self. Needless to say, that it's not the mountain one has to conquer, it's to conquer oneself. Nelson Mandela of South Africa, Garibaldi of Italy, Napoleon of France and Aristotle of Greece are the illustrations of spirit of

leadership. Leaders must have the ferocity of a desire, bravery and commitment to the highest order. Talent, temperament and tactics are given the utmost importance for an outstanding leadership. Leaders are the most important people in the society. They define the goals, priorities and progress of a nation. They represent the nation on the world scenario through outstanding conduct, merit and personality. People look up to their visionary leaders for the inspiration and motivation they reinforce. Leaders do not conform, they reform. If they conform, they are nurturing mediocrity. If they reform, they are breeding a change. Leaders who embrace evolution can navigate uncertainty with confidence, inspire others to innovate and

drive positive change. A change is the law of nature and must be directed for the benefit of mankind. Earnest Hemingway said- "It's good to have an end to journey towards, but it's the journey that matters in the end". It suggests the means adopted by the leaders should justify the ends. It goes without saying that the legend of a leadership is ever evolving. The stance of an outstanding leader is always compact. There is always a requirement of new manner of thinking if humankind is to survive and it's the duty of leaders who ignite the minds of people- rural and urban, rich and poor, sophisticated and rustic, educated and illiterate. The commitment to excellence in execution is an important attribute of good leaders. Alexander, the world conqueror said "I'm not

afraid of a pride of lions, led by a sheep, but I'm afraid of a flock of sheep led by a lion". This highlights the group dynamism of a true leader who can infuse courage, confidence and willpower of others which turn the tide in favor of them. Leaders should lead with integrity, compassion, humility, inclusivity and adaptability guided by a vision of unity and harmony. In fact, leaders with inclusiveness welcome the diversity of thought and background, recognizing the richness it brings to the collective wisdom. They create a sense of freedom where every member of the team or group feels valued. Coming together is the beginning, keeping together is the progress and working together is the success. True leaders must understand the relevance of unity. True leaders are fully aware of the fact that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Leaders who lead by examples demonstrating a willingness to learn, adapt and evolve, inspire others to do the same. Humility is another wonderful trait of leaders. They are open to learning from others, acknowledging their own imperfections and embracing feedback with gratitude. Generosity is the hallmark of good leaders. On the other hand, selfish leaders with a myopic view of life will achieve no excellence in life. Leaders are the torch bearers of the society who pave the way for a brighter and transformative future for all. An all-encompassing leadership is the crying need for every section of the society.

Teacher of English

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Sollfege :An Exclusive store for music now in Utkal kanika Galleria Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): In a significant expansion of its retail footprint, Sollfege , a 12+ year young company specialising in premium Audio, Video, Automation and Lifestyle products, is delighted to announce the grand opening of its latest store at Utkal Kanika Galleria Mall (2nd Floor), Kalpana Square, Bhubaneswar. With an established presence in Kolkata, Gurgaon and Guwahati, this new addition marks Sollfege's commitment to delivering unparalleled quality and cutting-edge technology across India. Sollfege has distinguished itself as a premier destination for curating top global brands. From standalone speakers, soundbars, headphones to home theatre & home automation systems, Sollfege offers a wide range of products designed to enhance every aspect of modern living. World-renowned



names such as Bang & Olufsen, Bowers & Wilkins, Devialet, Naim, Sonos, Bose, Marshall & many more including Dyson products, are now available in Bhubaneswar with Sollfege. Sollfege's expertise extends to state-of-the-art home automation systems from industry leaders like Control4, KNX, Lutron and Bassalte. Additionally, Sollfege's home theatre setups featuring brands such as Bowers & Wilkins, Focal, Gallo Acoustics, Krix, deliver an immersive cinematic experience in the comfort of one's home. With its e-commerce platform, www.sollfege.com, Sollfege is already a prominent player nationwide. Sollfege is eager to bring this premium retail experience closer to customers in Bhubaneswar, offering in-store consultations, product demonstrations and expert advice. As shared by Mr Manoj Agarwal, CEO, Sollfege Electronics Pvt Ltd. Sollfege business head Bikash Mohata and mall General Manager Dulal Chandra Sahu present in this occasion.***

"Agomoni" celebration of Durga Puja began in Delhi



Kolkata /New Delhi (PARTHA ROY): Celebration of festival of Durga Puja began with the beats of the drums, on the evening of September 21, 2024, at the Muktohara Auditorium in New Delhi. Welcoming ceremony for Durga Puja, organized by Narayani Namstute Global Durga Puja Excellence Awards, infused the atmosphere with celebration and joy, truly marking the arrival of Puja. The program began with the lighting of ceremonial lamp. Recitations by Sri Sauvik Acharya and melodious "Agomoni" songs and poems by Nabanita Chatterjee enriched the event. Many distinguished personalities from Delhi and NCR, were present including Padmasree Shri Biman Bhari Das. Narayani Namstute has taken unique initiative to

The Heritage School Kolkata ranked among the top 10 in India by Education World



Kolkata ,(KCN): The Heritage School Kolkata had been ranked among the top 10 schools in India securing the 10th position in the category of Co-ed Day Boarding Schools by Education World in the India School Rankings 2024-25. The research and the survey had been done by AZ Research Pvt. Ltd. based upon various parameters like academic excellence, outreach programmes,

teaching learning methodology, infrastructural facilities and many others. The ranking had been published in the Education World magazine in the India School Ranking edition 2024 which will be released shortly. Moreover, the School also secured rank 1+ in West Bengal like last year. "We are proud to be in the top 10," said Mr. P.K. Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata.

"Last year we had been ranked 1+ and this year as well we kept our rank consistent in West Bengal. I thank the teachers, staff, students, parents and alumni members whose constant support had helped us to achieve such a feat," said Ms. Seema Sapru, Principal, The Heritage School, Kolkata.

The Scientific Observance of "World Ozone Day-2024" has entrenched an "Inspiring Dimensional Spectrum"

Kolkata,(Rudrarup Gupta): The lively concept of any "Consequential Scientific Manifesto" is having its own immortal existence by the virtue. Most magnificently, it is our inhabitable blessing to implement the versatile contemplation of "Science" for revolutionary advancement indeed.

School of Agriculture, JIS University has organized a most significant virtual event on the incredible occasion of "World Ozone Day-2024" on 16th September, 2024 in enriching the high-end institutional dexterity in the end. This virtual event was instigated by the most decisive address by Respected Dr. Sukanta Dasgupta, Dean, School of Agriculture, JIS University who has



expressed his invaluable stand points regarding "Ozone" and its multifarious avenues of scientific implications which has comprehensively qualified "World Ozone Day" as an "International Day" in our best methodical paradigm of "Meticulous Research" already. On the other hand, some of the very aspiring "Students" have brought out such

phenomenal cognitive reflections through their thought provoking presentations at that very day. They have invariably deciphered about the following:

1. Ozone Friendly Technologies, Innovation and Implementation
2. Stubble Burning, The Silent Killer of Our Ozone Layer
3. Ozone, An Invisible Friend to Mankind

The aforesaid topics have extensively been focused and presented by our much enthusiastic students in a very befitting manner and on the other hand, all the aforesaid topics have had the exemplary conceptual merits and we shall collectively be meticulously enriched not only to adopt the impactful concept of "Protection of Ozone Layer" but this Invisible Friend to scientific awareness shall unquestionably be conducive to safeguard the "Earth" from "Ultraviolet Rays" indeed. Each associate has truly cooperated with each and other to enable this event for our best communal learning and substantial knowledge. In fine, Respected Dr. Shamik Dey, Assistant Professor and Teacher-In-Charge, School of Agriculture has sequentially observed the event and shared his most significant opinions to our exclusive students and learners for the live betterment of learning and its inestimable implementation in the near future respectively. This is how; this very event has ensured an absolute elasticity of demand amongst all of us and it has truly helped us to step in an emblematic avenue of "Experiential Learning".

Deputy CM Parida Meets Odia Diaspora in Bangalore



Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau): In a significant outreach effort Odisha's Deputy Chief Minister Prabhati Parida recently engaged with the Odia diaspora during her two-day visit to Bangalore. The event organized by the Odia Organization and the Odia Trust saw the participation of prominent Odia personalities and community leaders. The highlight of the meeting was the warm welcome extended to the Deputy CM by Eng. Ranjit Swain, Chief Trustee of the 'Maa Kalarai Charitable Trust,' a figure renowned for his philanthropic work across Bangalore, Astaranga, Kakatpur and Puri. Representing the Odia youth, Swain led the reception emphasizing the deep connection between the diaspora and their home

state. During the gathering, the Deputy CM was apprised of various issues and demands from the Odia community in Bangalore.

Parida in response expressed the Odisha government's awareness of their concerns and assured them that immediate steps would be taken to resolve their problems. She pledged to address the community's demands without delay, reinforcing the government's commitment to the welfare of Odias living outside the state. One of the key points raised during the meeting was the importance of updating the e-KYC process for the diaspora, enabling them to access several government schemes including accident-related medical assistance, death benefits, health support, the Subhadra Yojana, ration aid and education assistance. In light of the BJP-led government's 100-day milestone under

Chief Minister Mohan Majhi, Parida

emphasized the state's proactive efforts to

connect with the estimated ten lakh Odias residing in Bangalore and beyond. She highlighted the need to make government initiatives more accessible to the diaspora and stressed that the Odisha government is keen to ensure that these citizens benefit from various schemes. Accompanying the Deputy CM was Manoj Behera, her

Bridge and Roof: Leading with Sustainability through Swachhata Hi Seva 2024



Kolkata(ADVAITA SETH): In alignment with the nationwide "Swachhata Hi Seva 2024" campaign, Bridge And Roof Co. Ltd. is spearheading efforts to promote cleanliness and environmental sustainability with a unique theme: 'Swabhav Swachhata - Sanskaar Swachhata'. This theme emphasizes not just external cleanliness, but also an inherent value system that embraces cleanliness as a lifestyle and cultural practice. As part of the "Swachhata Ki Bhaigdar" initiative, the company recently organized a significant event titled Tree Plantation "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" at its Howrah Workshop. Led by Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), this event saw the active participation of the company's Directors, employees, and their families. This initiative aimed to honour the role of mothers and the nurturing qualities of

nature by planting trees as a tribute to motherhood, symbolizing growth, care, and sustainability. The Howrah Workshop, transformed into a hub of environmental action, was not the only site for this initiative. Bridge And Roof's commitment to environmental stewardship extended beyond its central workshop, as tree plantation drives were organized across the country at various project sites. This nationwide effort underscored the company's deep-rooted dedication to fostering environmental awareness and contributing to the global fight against climate change.

Bridge And Roof's active involvement in Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 is part of a larger organizational mission to support both local and global environmental sustainability goals. Through the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative, the company highlighted the critical role of trees in improving air quality, reducing carbon footprints, and providing a cleaner environment for future generations. Each planted tree symbolizes a step towards a healthier planet, and more importantly, stands as a testament to the company's long-term vision of creating a sustainable future. Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, while leading the campaign, emphasized the importance of individual and collective responsibility towards the environment. By integrating employees and their families into these

events, Bridge And Roof successfully fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility among participants. This family-inclusive approach underlines the company's belief that sustainable habits begin at home and must be passed down through generations.

As the world grapples with the adverse effects of climate change, initiatives like Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 have never been more crucial. Bridge And Roof's efforts resonate with a broader national and global agenda, reinforcing the company's role in advocating for a cleaner, greener future. Through its actions, the company is not only fulfilling its corporate social responsibility but also inspiring others to adopt sustainable practices. This initiative highlights the importance of corporations like Bridge And Roof in leading the charge towards environmental conservation.

Odisha govt approves 31 projects worth Rs 4,954cr

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The 131st State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) meeting, chaired by Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, approved 31 projects worth Rs 4,954.26 crore, Tuesday.

Addressing media after the meeting, Ahuja said the projects are expected to create around 24,162 jobs, contributing to the region's overall economic development.

Polimiroir India Private Limited's proposal for manufacturing industrial steel rollers of capacity 3,000 units per annum in Khurda got the SLSWCA nod. With an investment of Rs 128 crore, the unit will

generate 200 jobs. The SLSWCA approved the proposal of Danieli India Limited for establishing facility in Khurda to manufacture mechanical and electrical capital goods. With an investment of Rs 190 crore, the plant is expected to create 380 jobs. Similarly, Parth Electricals and Engineering Private Limited's proposal for an electrical equipment manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of Rs 51 crore also got a go ahead. The unit is expected to provide 145 jobs. The SLSWCA granted approval to Bisleri



International Private Limited's proposal to set up a beverage manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of Rs 95

crore, creating 426 jobs. Jay Bharat Spices Private Limited's proposal for a corn starch manufacturing unit in Cuttack also

received nod. With an investment of Rs 50 crore, the unit will generate 200 jobs. "GAK Rice Private Limited is investing Rs

70.15 crore in a modern integrated rice mill in Jagatsinghpur with a capacity of 1,44,000 TPA, providing 95 jobs," Ahuja said.

This apart, Shalimar Glass Works Private Limited will develop a packaging container glass manufacturing unit in Khurda with an annual capacity of 1,09,500 MT. The company will invest Rs 475.54 crore for the project which is expected to create 450 jobs. FM Denim and Twills Private Limited's proposal to establish a denim textile and garments manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of Rs 130 crore got the approval. The unit will generate 4,500 jobs. "Tripathaga Textiles will set up a readymade garment manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of Rs 53 crore.

The unit will provide jobs to 1,500 individuals," the Chief Secretary said. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) will invest Rs 200 crore in a compressed biogas and fermented organic manure plant in Bargarh, creating 30 jobs. Similarly, Reliance Bio Energy Limited will set up two plants—one in Sonepur and another in Sambalpur—each with an investment of Rs 121.21 crore, providing 138 jobs. Surya International Enterprise Private Limited is investing Rs 80 crore in manufacturing solar modules and related products. This is expected to create 769 jobs.

Custodial assault case: Odisha provides security to army officer, fiancee



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha government Tuesday provided security to the army officer and his fiancee, the victim of the alleged sexual assault in custody at the Bharatpur police station in the state capital here. Personal security officers (PSO) were

engaged for the two following a decision of the state government, a senior officer of the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Commissionate of Police said. The officer said that the PSOs would accompany them when they travel in the city. Both the army officer and

his finance have accepted the PSOs provided by the government. The step came a day after the army officer and the woman, along with her father and some ex-army men, met Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi at the state secretariat. During her meeting with

Majhi, the alleged sexual assault victim said that she could face threats because of the case. After meeting the chief minister, the woman had said that she felt relieved and hoped that she would get justice through the judicial inquiry earlier announced by the state government. The alleged incident took place September 15 when the army officer and his fiancee went to Bharatpur police station to lodge a complaint on road rage in which they were allegedly harassed by some local youths. The state government has placed five police personnel under suspension and ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident.

Govt warns of action as nurses call ceasework



Bhubaneswar(KCN): As the Odisha Nursing Employees' Association (ONEA) have called a two-day ceasework protest from Wednesday due to non-consideration of their demands, the Director of Nursing, Tuesday directed the heads of all the state-run healthcare facilities to take action against the nursing officers as Odisha Essential Services (Maintenance) Act 1988 is still in force. The letter issued by Director of Nursing Artabandhu Nayak said, "As per the

power conferred by Section 3 and Section 2 of the ESMA in interest of public, the state government prohibits strikes in form of cessation of work by nurses paramedics, technicians and other Class III and Class IV employees and the order remains in force for a period of six months with effect from the date of issuance of the order (August 7, 2024)." Earlier, the ONEA, in a letter addressed to Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, September 18, mentioned about an

indefinite ceasework call by all nursing officers in government hospitals from September 27. As per the plan, non-emergency services will be ceased September 25 and 26. Thereafter, all non-emergency and emergency services will be halted from September 27 for an indefinite period. The association demanded promotion of eligible nursing officers to the post of senior nursing officer and assistant nursing superintendent by way of relaxation of



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CII Banking Colloquium Highlights India's Digital Payment Surge

Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETH): As India accelerates its march towards a digitally powered economy, the growth of digital payments is hitting unprecedented levels. In August 2024, the country witnessed an impressive milestone, with digital payment transactions reaching 1,760 crores, including 1,496 crore transactions via the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). This announcement was made by Mr. Hardik Mukesh Sheth, Director – Banking, Department of Financial Services, Government of India, at the 17th edition of the Banking Colloquium, organized recently by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Kolkata. Themed "India@100: Banking as a Catalyst," the colloquium focused

on the transformative role of banking in India's journey toward becoming the third-largest economy by 2047. Discussions revolved around digital transformation, financial inclusion, and technological innovation, particularly in the wake of recent budget announcements. Mr. Sheth also highlighted that the financial year 2023-24 had been a record year for Public Sector Banks (PSBs), which reported their highest-ever profit of ₹1.41 lakh crore. This success is attributed to a robust financial ecosystem marked by rising digital transactions and strategic reforms aimed at strengthening the banking sector. The net non-performing asset (NPA) ratio for Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) dropped



to a multi-year low of 0.6%, indicating a significant improvement in asset quality. Public sector banks also continued to demonstrate strong performance in terms of capital adequacy. The Capital to Risk (Weighted) Assets Ratio (CRAR) for PSBs remained at a healthy 15.53%, reflecting their financial stability.

One of the key objectives of the colloquium was to discuss the role of banking in India's aspirations to become a \$20 trillion economy by 2047. Mr. Rajnish Kumar, former Chairman of SBI and Chairman of Mastercard India, emphasized the immense growth potential of the banking sector. If India's economy grows at a rate of 7-8% annually, the banking industry could see a credit growth of 17-18%, potentially doubling the size of the banking sector over the next 25 years. Kumar stressed that technological advancements and the mobilization of capital, especially in areas such as climate change and renewable energy, would

Tata Power leads EV charging space with a pan-India network; showcases wide-range of hi-tech EZ Charge solutions at Auto Expo

Bhubaneswar: Tata Power, one of India's largest and fastest growing EV Charging solutions provider showcased its wide-range of hi-tech EV charging solutions at the ongoing Auto Expo 2023 in Greater Noida. A first-hand experience of the technology that is driving Tata Power's widespread EV charging network - EZ (read easy) Charge was provided to the visitors, including the award-winning and one of the most downloaded mobile apps for EV charging - Tata Power EZ Charge, which ensures a seamless user experience through features that will help commuters find the nearest charging station, know the real-time availability of charging points, and receive updates on charging status, amongst many others.

Information about Tata Power's one of its kind Network Operations Center (NOC) located in Mumbai was also on display. This center aids in the effective operational management of charging stations across India. NOC is integrated with the online platform that supports Tata Power's EZ Charge services, has a real-time communication link with all on-board chargers, and aids in the early detection of tech-related issues. The NOC additionally supports quick problem solving, back-end system support, and proactive planning for charging infrastructure upkeep. Tata Power has also kicked off an ambitious nationwide plan of setting up approx. 25000 electric vehicle (EV) charging points across the country to support faster adoption of e-mobility over the next 5 years.

Odisha's Ekmra Vatika is first in the Times Now school ranking

Bhubaneswar (KCN):

Ekmra Vatika Ranked No. 1 in Pre-Primary Education in Bhubaneswar by TIMES NOW in Kolkata. This distinguished survey highlights the top-performing schools across the eastern region of India, covering West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, and Assam. Times Now network groups mission is to recognise the leading schools in each state and the top institutions within various zones. The results, derived from an exhaustive and meticulous survey conducted by TENFOLD, a neutral and independent surveyor, are proudly presented by

the Times Digital Network. Ekmra Vatika, a leading institution for early childhood education in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, has been ranked the No. 1 school in the Pre-Primary category by TIMES NOW. This prestigious recognition highlights the school's unwavering commitment to innovation, holistic learning, and educational excellence. Under the visionary leadership of Chairperson Meghna Singh Deo, Ekmra Vatika has quickly established itself as a model of excellence in early childhood education, achieving this remarkable milestone within just two years of operation. The school is dedicated to providing a nurturing, child-centered

learning environment that supports the intellectual, emotional, and social growth of young learners while integrating global best practices into its curriculum. Rooted in

innovative teaching practices and a well-rounded curriculum, the school is shaping the future of primary education in Odisha, setting a benchmark for excellence across the region. This achievement is a testament to the collective hard work, dedication, and vision of the entire team. The school's mission has always been to create transformative educational experiences that nurture the potential of every child, and this recognition further strengthens that commitment. Ekmra Vatika remains dedicated to providing quality education, empowering students with a platform for academic success, personal growth, and lifelong learning.

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Information about Tata

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mobility over the next 5 years. Greater Noida, January 12, 2023: Taking a leap in the era of sustainability and green mobility, WardWizard, a leading manufacturer of electric two-wheeler Joy e-bike, today launched its new high-speed electric scooter 'MIHOS' with Poly Dicyclopentadiene Material (PDCPD) to bring high standards of durability for the riders. Designed and developed by WardWizard's R&D team in Vadodara, MIHOS, is a retro-style electric scooter. It is equipped with advanced technology, and user-friendly features with a vehicle sound simulator for additional safety of the riders on the road. It also features a broad seat for enhanced riding comfort. The production will take place at the company's state-of-

the-art manufacturing facility in Vadodara, Gujarat and the deliveries will commence in a phased manner across the country. Speaking on the launch occasion and the company's prospects, Mr. YatinGupte, Chairman & Managing Director, Wardwizard Innovations & Mobility Ltd, said, "As one of the first promoters of electric mobility in the country, we are committed to building a sustainable environment and greener planet for the generations of today and tomorrow. Our new product MIHOS is designed and developed keeping in mind the aspirations of the customers and market demand. The scooter will not only excite the customers with its retro look and advanced features but will also provide extra safety with its high standards of durability and comfort across various road conditions. The company is further investing in R&D for creating a holistic e-mobility ecosystem and developing India's first EV ancillary cluster to accelerate the adoption and growth of green mobility in the country. The year 2023 is going to be the establishing year of EV mobility in the country." Making another move in strengthening its product portfolio in the electric motorcycle category, the company also unveiled the concept of its city electric motorcycle 'Rockefeller' at the expo. The concept motorcycle is designed keeping in mind the need of the riders for daily riding. The company is planning to launch the motorcycle by the end of FY'24.



Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): Bengal Shopping Festival 2024, first-of-its-kind shopping extravaganza, organised by the Confederation of West Bengal Trade Association (CWBTA) in collaboration with West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited (WBIDC), came to a grand conclusion on 24th September 2024. The 5-day expo had footfall of over 1.5 lakh attendees and did business worth Rs.100 crore approximately. The expo showcased Bengal's diversity, innovation. With the Bengal Shopping Festival, West Bengal has taken a bold step toward integrating local businesses with the global retail ecosystem, fostering economic growth and strengthening West Bengal's position as a new shopping destination.

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Harry Brook slams maiden ODI ton to keep series alive

New Delhi: England's stand-in skipper Harry Brook led from the front with an unbeaten 110 - his maiden century in the format - in a successful chase to keep the five-match series alive. Brook's knock and his partnership with Will Jacks (84 off 82) put the home side on course in chase of Australia's 304/7 before spells of showers forced the players indoors. With no further play possible, England won by 46 runs via DLS method. With this ends Australia's 14-game unbeaten streak in ODIs that stretches back to last year's ODI World Cup in India, where they lost to South Africa in Lucknow. This result also ends England's seven-game losing streak to their rivals

in the format. There was a sense of eerie familiarity to the proceedings as once again Alex Carey was crucial to push Australia to what appeared a winnable total at that stage. In fact, they did a lot better than the second ODI where even 270 was enough to double their series lead. In Chester-le-street on Monday, Carey's unbeaten 77 alongwith Steve Smith's hard-fought half-century and cameos from Cameron Green (42 off 49) and Aaron Hardie (44 off 26) set Australia up in their quest to wrap up the series. They took a big step in that direction when the similarity to the last game extended to the start of the England innings as they lost openers Phil Salt and Ben Duckett early - to Mitchell Starc - and fell to 11/2. But Jacks and Brook combined to flip the script with a match-defining 156-run stand off 147 deliveries. With gloomy overheads, big square boundaries and seamer-friendly conditions were expected to side with Australia and their five-pronged attack but Jacks and Brook swiftly established their authority over the match situation by picking boundaries at easy even after the PowerPlay. By the end, they had hit 22 fours and three sixes between them. With Adam Zampa not playing, Mitchell Marsh's spin options were Glenn

Maxwell and Matthew Short - the latter going for 12 runs in the only over he bowled where Brook brought up his fifty. Jacks's fifty came up in the following over off Starc, who was back in the attack after his four-over burst early on to try and break this blossoming stand. Jacks and Brook caused further headaches for Marsh by taking on his star bowler for three fours in a 19-



run over. Starc looked elsewhere for a breakthrough but in vain as the England pair brought their side upto speed at 151/2 in 25 overs. A short ball from Green

in the 28th over came with Jacks's name on it as he top-edged it to Sean Abbott at short-third man to depart for an 82-ball 89 - an innings laced with 9 four and a six. Green then made the England dugout a touch queasy with the quick wicket of Jamie Smith but Liam Livingstone walked out for a breezy, unbeaten 33 off 20 that nudged England ahead of the the asking rate. During the course of this 57-run undefeated stand, Brook brought up his maiden ODI ton. This pair began to make such quick progress - including taking on Starc once again - that by the time rain stopped play they were ahead of the par score by 46 runs (at 254/4 in 37.4 overs).

Brief Scores: Australia 304/7 in 50 overs (Alex Carey 77*, Steve Smith 60, Aaron Hardie 44, Cameron Green 42; Jofra Archer 2-67) lost to England 254/4 in 37.4 overs (Harry Brook 110*, Will Jacks 84; Cameron Green 2-45, Mitchell Starc 2-63) by 46 runs (DLS method)

Pakistan pick Noman Ali, Aamer Jamal for first Test vs England

New Delhi: Pakistan have announced their squad for the first Test against England at home that sees the return of left-arm spinner Noman Ali and Aamer Jamal. Noman has played 15 Tests in total for Pakistan, picking 47 wickets. The 37-year-old veteran last played in July 2023. Khurram Shahzad's injury has paved the way for Aamer Jamal to return to the Pakistan squad. The fast-bowling allrounder, who has had issues with his back, was impressive on the Australian tour last year but hasn't played red-ball cricket post that. However, he recently made a comeback in the Champions Cup. From the 17-man squad that was picked to play



against Bangladesh recently, the selectors have left out Kamran Ghulam and Mohammad Ali. The selectors confirmed that both the players remain in their plans but in a statement, they pointed out that "due to the selection policy's emphasis on consistency and continuity, and the belief that 15 players are sufficient for a Test, they have been advised and

encouraged to continue representing their teams in the Champions One-Day Cup and the President's Cup." Squad: Shan Masood (C), Saud Shakeel (VC), Aamer Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Huraira, Mohammad Rizwan (WK), Naseem Shah, Noman Ali, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha,

Sarfraz Ahmed (WK), Shaheen Shah Afridi The players picked for the series have been withdrawn from the Champions One-Day Cup playoffs in order to ensure they have sufficient rest before the Test series, under head coach Jason Gillespie's recommendation. "With a busy domestic and international cricket schedule, it makes sense to give our players some much-needed rest ahead of the Test series against England," Gillespie said. "We are very much looking forward to the series against England here in Pakistan and cannot wait for it to begin. We are excited about playing in front of our wonderful supporters."



Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the Women's Premier League (WPL) last year. Shreyanka said that she was disappointed after missing out, but also accepted that she needed to get better. Capturing the limelight for her fearless batting in WPL 2023, Shreyanka has made a name for herself more as a quality off-spinner rather than a

India Today on the sidelines of a promotional event for apparel brand QUA in New Delhi.

After making her international debut last year on home soil, Shreyanka is all set to take part in the Women's T20 World Cup to be held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from October 3 onwards. She was picked in the squad but her selection was subject to fitness after she was ruled out of the Asia Cup due to a finger injury on her left hand. "I am really looking forward to this World Cup, and it is going to be fun. I do not know about tricks, but hopefully, yes," Shreyanka said.

India sharpened focus on fielding, fitness for T20 World Cup, say Harmanpreet and Muzumdar

New Delhi: Fielding and fitness were the key issues India addressed in preparation for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup, revealed captain Harmanpreet Kaur and coach Amol Muzumdar in their pre-departure press conference. It wasn't too long ago when India went down to Sri Lanka in the Asia Cup final, a loss Harmanpreet said she "will remember" and put down to "a lot of fumbles" in the field, including ground fielding and dropped catches. In order to address these issues, the Indian squad got together and participated in a series of camps at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru to prepare for the World Cup.

"We did a lot of fitness and fielding in the first camp; the entire 15 days were delegated to that aspect of the game," Muzumdar said. "This was specifically done for those two areas where the skills weren't touched. "The next camp was just the skill camp where we focused not just on the

net session but we also had almost 5 games in 10 days time. So if you ask for game time, we have ticked that box. And we played some very competitive games. There were different oppositions, there were different skill sets that were chosen for those particular games. So as far as game time is concerned, I think we are on it.

"We focused on the athletic ability, just to enhance the athletic ability. And we had designed the camp specifically on that aspect. And all-round fielding ability. Some yoga sessions were added, some, you know, psychological sessions were added. Overall it was just a lovely camp. We identified a few areas and we tried to work upon it."

Harmanpreet, who revealed feeling as excited as a "19-year-old" for this World Cup, said the squad has worked hard to handle situations like the Asia Cup final. "If I talk about the entire

tournament, we played good cricket but had just had that one odd game. Definitely that day, things didn't go according to the way we wanted. But yeah, there are a lot of areas where as a team, we sat and discussed how we have to go about it. We are working on that and at the previous camp, we tried to see how we can improve if next time these kinds of situations come our way."

In addition to focusing on the physical and technical aspects of the game, India also worked on the mental side of cricket during their camp with sports psychologist Mugdha Bavare, who will be accompanying the team to the UAE. "We had a camp where we did not touch skills. In that we tried to introduce the psychologist," Muzumdar revealed. "That is an area we would like to tap into. I was pretty happy with the results, what we had by the end of the camp. There were certain things that we tried to address. Mugdha Bavare was with us and she's

been fantastic with the group and she continues to be there."

Harmanpreet spoke about having open discussions within the team as part of the mental preparation camp. "I think this time we tried to, you know, cover each and everything. I felt in the past we had left some small, small things; this time we tried to speak to the coach and Mugdha ma'am," Harmanpreet said. "When you talk personally, you know what you are talking about and the areas you want to focus on. But

when it comes to the team, it is important that everyone opens up so that as a team we can work together and help the player as needed. We had a few sessions where we talked to each other about how we are feeling and how we want to go about it. With Mugdha's help, there were a lot of sessions after which we felt well and then after executing it on the ground, we felt well. She's really working hard and so far it is really helping us."

India have notably come close to clinching ICC

titles on multiple occasions but have fallen just short of victory, including in the 2020 final at the MCG. Most recently, in the 2023 T20 World Cup, they were once again denied by Australia, this time in the semifinals. "It was hard, you know, when last time we came close and then we lost," Harmanpreet said. "But, you know, every time you just need to think about all the positives which you have done to reach the semis. And then, you know, working hard on yourself, working hard

on your fitness and fielding, which are the most important two areas in cricket. And I think in this tournament whatever time we got, we tried to tick all the boxes because going there, I didn't want to go with that mindset [that] I haven't done this, I haven't done that. "Whoever was there, we spoke to them, 'you know, I want this, I want that'. They gave me all the freedom to speak to them. They were giving whatever things I was asking and being really grateful. They've been so helpful during this time."

While India sound confident of their preparation, they, like other teams, will need to adjust and adapt their plans on the go, especially with the World Cup being relocated to the UAE due to political unrest in Bangladesh. Muzumdar highlighted the need to adapt to the extra bounce in Dubai while Harmanpreet pointed out that dew could play an even more significant role than it does in the subcontinent.

"We are going to the month of September. So there will be a lot of heat over there, [it will be] hot and humid. But I think we'll have to go there and just assess the situation, assess the ground conditions first. We do have three games at Dubai and then one game at Sharjah. So, you know, we'll have to really go there, feel the pitch, and then decide how and which bowlers and what combination we need to play."

Harmanpreet echoed her coach's sentiments on the importance of staying flexible with bowling changes.



"It came as a surprise for