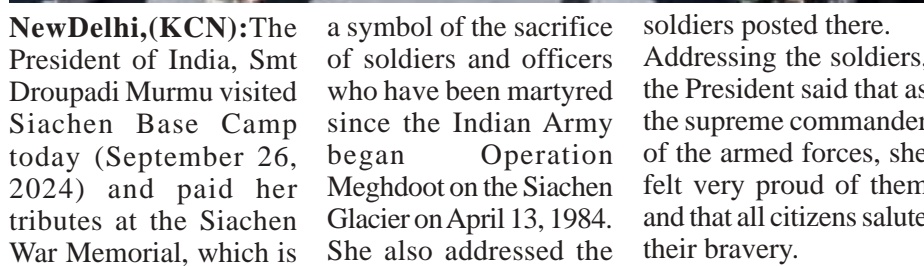


## Congress has become spokesman of urban naxals: BJP chief Nadda

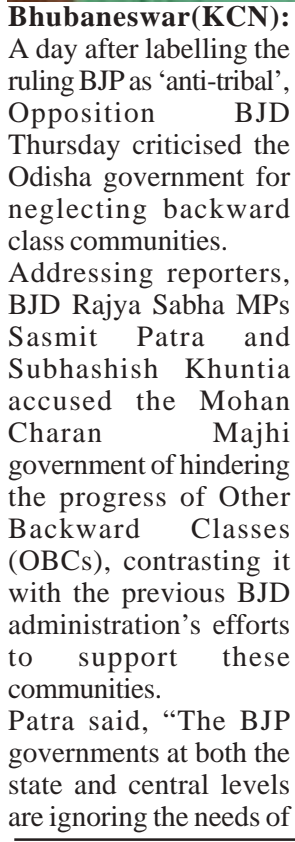


The President said that since the commencement of Operation Meghdoot in April 1984, the brave soldiers and officers of the Indian Armed Forces have ensured the security of this region. They face severe weather conditions. In difficult situations like heavy snowfall and minus 50 degrees temperature, they remain deployed at their front with full devotion and vigilance. They present extraordinary examples of sacrifice and tolerance in protecting the motherland. She told soldiers that all Indians are aware of their sacrifice and bravery and we respect them.

democratically, Nadda asserted, "The BJP is an ideological party with a dedicated cadre and the maximum mass following." He emphasised that the party's structure allows leaders to emerge from grassroots levels, stating "In the BJP, a leader is not born from privilege; rather it is a party worker who rises through dedication." Highlighting the BJP's membership figures, Nadda said the last coun-

was 18 crore, explaining that the party renews its membership every six years. "Everyone, from the PM to the national president and ordinary workers, must re-register. On September 2, Prime Minister became the first member, followed by me, Amit Shah, and the Defence Minister. Today, our membership has surpassed 6 crore in this latest drive," he said. Earlier, Nadda received a warm welcome from party workers and supporters upon arriving in the state capital. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Odisha BJP president Manmohan Samal, and other leaders greeted him at the airport.

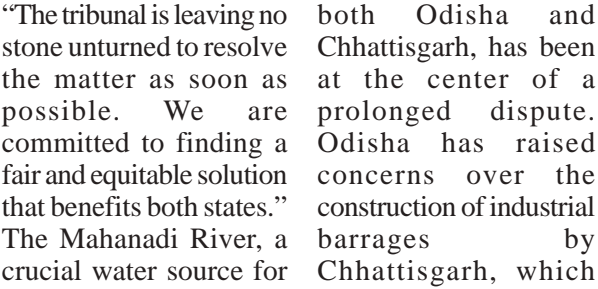
## Union Minister CR Patil Assures Resolution of Mahanadi Water Dispute Between Odisha and Chhattisgarh



people belonging to backward class communities.”The BJP called for an immediate caste-based census in Odisha, arguing that such a survey would be essential for developing effective welfare programmes for OBCs. They also demanded an increase in OBC reservation from the current 11.5 per cent to 27 per cent.

The BJ D leaders highlighted that the previous government had passed a resolution in January 2020 for a caste-based census and had approved amendments to the Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes Act 1993.

They noted that a State Commission for Backward Classes was established, with former High Court Judge Justice Raghunath Biswal appointed as its chairman. Additionally, they referenced a unanimous Assembly resolution passed February 17, 2020, aimed at amending the Backward Classes Act to facilitate a survey of the social and educational conditions of backward class populations. Despite OBCs and Socially and Economically Backward Classes comprising more than half of Odisha's population, BJD leaders stated that legal directives prevented the government from implementing 50 per cent reservation for them. The regional party also called for proportional reservation in admissions to technical and medical institutions. As of now, the BJP has not responded to BJD's allegations.



The tribunal is leaving no stone unturned to resolve the matter as soon as possible. We are committed to finding a fair and equitable solution that benefits both states." The Mahanadi River, a crucial water source for both Odisha and Chhattisgarh, has been at the center of a prolonged dispute. Odisha has raised concerns over the construction of industrial barrages by Chhattisgarh, which

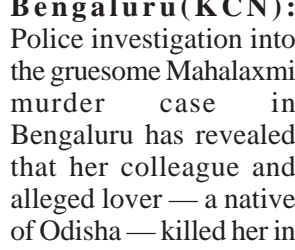
## A large, multi-story wooden waterwheel structure, likely a historical artifact, is displayed outdoors. It features several large wooden wheels and a complex framework of beams and supports. Two people are standing in the foreground, providing a sense of scale. The background shows some greenery and a building.

**Konark(KCN):** Heavy rainfall has caused severe water logging at the iconic Konark Sun Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site, leading to significant inconvenience for tourists. The incessant downpour on Thursday resulted in the temple's entrance being submerged, with visitors wading through

knee-deep water to access the site. Several tourists sustained minor injuries due to the slippery conditions, and many expressed their disappointment over the lack of proper drainage at this historical location. “I have heard about the Konark Temple and I am visiting the site for

the first time. But, I am completely disheartened to see the water-logging here. This does not look good at such a prominent historical site," said a tourist from Gujarat. Local residents and tourists alike are calling for immediate action from the government to address the recurring issue of water logging at the temple.

## Odisha Awarded 2nd position in World No Tobacco Fortnight Activities



The suspected killer wrote in his suicide note that he committed the brutal crime as he was fed up with her conduct. The police sources said that the suicide note was written in his diary. “I have killed my lover, Mahalaxmi, on September 3,” the accused had written in his diary. “I was fed up with her conduct. I fought with her over personal matters and Mahalaxmi assaulted me. Enraged by her act, I killed her,” he had stated.



Roy was found hanging from a tree in a village in Odisha's Bhubaneswar district. "Roy arrived in Pandi village on Wednesday and later left on a two-wheeler. Roy's body was spotted by locals hanging from a tree," the police sources said. Since September 1, Roy has been absent from duty, coinciding with Mahalaxmi's last day of work. The murder case came to light September 21 after neighbours noticed a foul smell emanating from Mahalaxmi's house for

two days and informed her relatives. Mahalaxmi's mother and sister came to her house and witnessed the horrifying scene. Though the refrigerator was operational, the body had been infested by maggots. According to residents of the area, Mahalaxmi did not mingle much with her neighbours. For a few days, her brother stayed with her. The police have also found that she was married and had a child, but lived separately. Roy's absence at the workplace after the recovery of Mahalaxmi's chopped body parts in the fridge had made the police suspicious. During the investigation, police found that Roy was close to Mahalaxmi and frequently called her up.



**Bhubaneswar, (KCN)** : Being one of the best performers in various activities organised for World No Tobacco Day-2024, Odisha was awarded 2nd position among various performers from across the country. The State secured this position in a well-designed structured evaluation done by National Resources Centre for Oral Health and Tobacco Cessation, Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, New Delhi under the aegis of National Oral

Health Programme,  
Ministry of Health and  
Family Welfare,  
Government of India.  
Additional  
Secretary and Mission  
Director, National Health  
Mission Smt Aradhana  
Pattnaik felicitated Odisha  
with certificate and

citation. The prize was awarded on the occasion of the observation of World No Tobacco Fortnight from 20th May to 5th June, 2024. Director, Public Health Dr Nilakantha Mishra received the award on behalf of Odisha.



## Union Jal Shakti Minister assesses Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 Campaign activities in Odisha

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Paatil, visited Odisha today and took part in activities for the ongoing Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign. His visit focused on assessing the State's performance in sanitation, cleanliness, ODF Plus Model declaration and improved waste management systems. The visit began at Suando village, the birthplace of Utkalamani Pandit Gopabandhu Das, a noted social reformer of Odisha, where he participated in tree plantation drives as a part of the SHS campaign under Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam. His visit to the Utkalamani Memorial Museum, was followed by discussion meetings at Bidyadharpur village, where he engaged with beneficiaries of the Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) programme and assessed the various sanitation assets created under SBM(G). Speaking at the convention held at Biraramachandrapur GP, Union Minister stated that participating in ongoing SHS activities in Odisha is a reminder of the power of collective action and



engagement. He highlighted Odisha's impressive progress under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), which has gone from 12% to 100% for toilet access. Under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, SBM in its 10th year continues to inspire communities to take ownership of their surroundings, the Minister said. Paatil noted that this mission continues to be a national priority, protecting the health and dignity of women, previously without access to toilets. There is enough research highlighting the impact of 'sanitation in reducing diarrhoeal deaths and cases of stunting and averting infant mortality', he informed. The minister emphasized that Swachhata Hi Seva, is a people-driven campaign, and through initiatives like 'Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam' and the dedicated work of the people and the community, we are not just sustaining the gains of the past decade but building a culture of swachhata for future generations.

## Achyuta Samanta Awarded 60th Honorary Doctorate

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 25 (KCN):** Well-known social worker, educationist and Founder of KIIT & KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta was conferred with the 60th honorary doctorate by Assam Down Town University in Guwahati today. The honour was presented during the university's 11th convocation ceremony. The recognition is a testament to Samanta's significant contributions to the fields of education, health, tribal development, arts, culture, literature, and rural development. The university acknowledged his outstanding efforts in these areas when bestowing the honour. Due to personal



commitments, Samanta was unable to attend the ceremony in person, but a representative accepted the award on his behalf. Dr Samanta

expressed heartfelt gratitude to the university for the honour. In a recorded message, Dr Samanta said he would cherish this honour

as it is the 60th doctorate conferred upon him. "For the last 33 years I have been working relentlessly for the people in the society, this 60th honorary doctorate will be remembered by me for all times to come," he said, promising to visit the university soon. Dr Samanta has received numerous honorary doctorates from prestigious universities and institutions worldwide for his exemplary work in social service and education. In 2009, he received his first honorary doctorate from Cambodia National University. To date, he has earned a total of 60 honorary doctorates from institutions across the globe.

## Swabalambi Bharat Abhiyan Inspires Future Entrepreneurs at CUO "Be a job giver, not a job seeker," urges keynote speaker Asutosh Mukharjee

**Koraput, (KCN):** The MBA Department of Central University of Odisha hosted a dynamic event under the Swabalambi Bharat Abhiyan, inspiring students to embrace entrepreneurship in honor of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's birth anniversary. The event emphasized self-reliance and innovation as keys to India's future. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi conveyed his best wishes for a successful programme. Keynote speaker Asutosh Mukharjee, Eastern Executive of Swabalambi Bharat Abhiyan, urged students to become job creators. Drawing inspiration from entrepreneurial legends like Steve Jobs and Dhirubhai Ambani, he encouraged harnessing local resources—such as



millets and flaxseed—to build sustainable ventures. "Communities can rise together through cooperative efforts and entrepreneurship," Mukharjee remarked. The event featured Namita Patjoshi, founder of Kanchan Gopalan Kendra, a successful dairy enterprise supporting 25 families. She shared her journey of turning everyday challenges into opportunities, urging

students to unlock the potential in simple ideas. Tanmay Pradhan, National Executive of ABVP, emphasized the critical role of youth in shaping India's entrepreneurial ecosystem. Dr. Padmacharan Mishra, Head of the MBA Department, welcomed the guests, highlighting the importance of fostering innovators, not just employees. A key highlight was the announcement of Swadesi

Saptaha (August 21 – October 2), an annual celebration promoting indigenous products to boost local economies. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Subash Chandra Pattanaik, who acknowledged the support of Vice Chancellor, Dr. Chakradhar Tripathi and emphasized continued efforts to integrate entrepreneurship within academia.

## Research Findings should be incorporated into Government Policies and used to affect Social Transformation - Emeritus Professor R.K.Uppal

**Kolkata, (KCN):** A webinar was organized by the Preethvi Educators Association of India on the topic of "Research Writing Skills, Referencing, Selection of a Journal, and How to Avoid Plagiarism.". Prof. R.K. Uppal was invited as a resource person. A prolific writer, an outstanding academician, and a more ingenious guide, Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal has received accolades not only in the academic field but also in the genre of research. He is currently serving as the Principal of Guru Gobind Singh College Management and Technology, Gidderbaha. Research of high quality is a necessity, said Dr. Uppal. In addition to focusing on quantity over quality, he



advised all researchers to give more importance to the quality of their research. It is important that the findings of the research be incorporated into government policy. Policies and they should be used for social change. Founder Chairman of Preethvi Educators Association of India (PAAI), Dr. Harshwarddhan Singh, highlighted the importance of research. The PAAI is dedicated to spreading quality education and research across the country, he said. Dr. Anjum Qureshi, a national anchor, introduced Dr. Uppal to the delegates and stressed the importance of quality research.

## NTPC Kaniha Conducted CSR Stakeholders Meet- 2024

**Kaniha, (KCN):** NTPC Talcher Kaniha conducted its CSR Stakeholders Meet on September 25, 2024, at the Regional Learning Institute (RLI), NTPC Kaniha PTS. The event witnessed significant participation from various stakeholders, including Sarpanchs of Bijigol, Derang, Gadasila, Kaniha, Hariharpur, and Kamarei Gram Panchayats, along with village presidents and secretaries from project-affected areas of NTPC Kaniha. The primary focus of the meeting was to engage in a comprehensive

dialogue on the developmental needs of nearby villages, assess the impact of ongoing CSR activities, and understand the specific requirements of each community. The discussions aimed at identifying village-wise needs and aspirations, enabling NTPC to take appropriate action in alignment with these goals. Stakeholders raised the need for further infrastructure development, particularly in areas such as road improvements, installation of solar lights, and construction of

community centers. The program commenced with a detailed presentation on the various CSR initiatives undertaken by NTPC Kaniha, highlighting key focus areas such as education, healthcare, drinking water, sanitation, rural infrastructure, and income generation. In his address, Shri A K Sehgal, Head of Project, NTPC Kaniha, extended his heartfelt thanks to the stakeholders for their ongoing support and reaffirmed NTPC's commitment towards the well-being and

sustainable development of the neighbouring communities. Shri Sehgal also invited stakeholders to share their suggestions on the potential use of fly ash for various purposes. Also present in the meeting were Shri Devdutt Pradhan, Block Development Officer, Kaniha Block, Shri Ch Satya Rama Krishna, GM O&M; Shri Navneet Kumar, Head of HR; Shri Manoranjan Panigrahi, AGM (EMD); Smt. Sujita Rath, AGMHR; Shri Narottam Pradhan, BEO, ABEO, CDPO and NTPC Officials.

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## Boney Kapoor shares pic with Sridevi, Anil from 'Mr India' shoot, fans demand part 2



Boney Kapoor shared a throwback picture from the set of the iconic film 'Mr India.' The film starring Anil Kapoor and Sridevi, released in 1987. The film starred Sridevi, Anil Kapoor and Satish Kaushik among others in key roles. Producer Boney Kapoor shared a nostalgic gem that will brighten your day—a throwback picture from the sets of 'Mr. India',

taken just a day before shooting began. The photo features Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Boney Kapoor, and Shekhar Kapur. Boney captioned the beautiful memory and wrote, "January 5th, 1985, just before the first day of shooting Mr India." Fans were quick to share their thoughts about the film while praising it. One of the fans wrote, "My fav childhood film. Part

2 is needed. Anil Kapoor jiaand Ranveer Singh as villain (sic)," while another wrote, "The winning team of India's best children's film." A third user chimed in and wrote, "Fun movie after Bhramachari Shammi Kapoor (sic)." Last year, Shekhar Kapur posted a throwback picture of the cast of 'Mr India' on X. "The silver jubilee celebrations. Throwback pic of Mr

India" The iconic film stars Sridevi, Anil Kapoor, producer Boney Kapoor, and actor-director Satish Kaushik. Produced by Boney Kapoor and Surinder Kapoor under the former's banner, 'Mr India' was a fantasy film in which Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Amrith Puri, Annu Kapoor, Ashok Kumar played pivotal roles.

## Salim-Javed's 'Sholay' to have a special screening in Mumbai. Details

'Sholay', co-written by Salim-Javed, will have a special screening in Mumbai on August 31 to celebrate their legacy 50 years later. The film starred Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Sanjeev Kumar and Amjad Khan in key roles.

Veteran actors Amitabh Bachchan and Dharmendra's 'Sholay', co-written by veteran screenwriters Salim-Javed, will have a special screening in Mumbai on August 31. The film's re-release will celebrate the magic of Salim-Javed after 50 years.

One of Salim-Javed's most iconic works, 'Sholay',



will have a 'one-time only screening' in Mumbai. The film will celebrate the legacy of 'Angry Young Men' Salim-Javed. The re-release will take place on August 31 from 5.30 pm at Regal Cinema in Mumbai. 'Sholay' will be screened via a 50-year-old vintage cinemascope print. Ramesh Sippy, who directed the film, will be present alongside Salim-Javed at the special screening.

"Celebrate the magic of Salim-Javed 50 years later. One time screening of Sholay in cinemas this Saturday 31st August! (sic)", mentioned Zoya Akhtar's Tiger Baby Productions' Instagram handle while making the announcement.

In a promotional video for the Prime Video documentary 'Angry Young Men' about Salim-Javed, Salman Khan was asked by host Farah Khan which Salim-Javed film he would want to remake. Without hesitation, Salman instantly replied, "Sholay."

"If I had to remake any of their films, I would want to remake Sholay. I can play Jai and Veeru both, I can also play Gabbar," he said.

## Kabir Khan: Cannot underestimate Salman Khan's role in my career

Filmmaker Kabir Khan is currently basking in the success of Chandu Champion, which stars Kartik Aaryan in the lead role, spoke about Salman Khan's role in his career. The two came together for the successful films 'Ek Tha Tiger' and 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan'. While the Tiger franchise was handled well by other filmmakers, many fans have been awaiting to see 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan 2'.

In a recent chat with IndiaToday.in, Kabir acknowledged the desire and shared that he and Salman would only work



again if they cracked the right script. "If there's a script, I would love to seek Salman, and he too should be excited about it. We have had a fabulous collaboration.

The role he has in my career, I will never be able to underestimate that. We had a fruitful collaboration and created some iconic characters. I would love to do it

[again] but it has to be script-based. We cannot just get on any film, as it wouldn't make sense. I cannot just go to him with anything, it has to be something great. And if

we do find that, we would love to get back together," he said.

Kabir Khan also discussed the love the team has been receiving for his latest film 'Chandu Champion'. Sharing that it's 'overwhelming', he admitted that they were anxious about the reception the film might get.

"I have had a few commercial blockbusters, but I never got this kind of love. It makes you emotional. The way people have picked up small nuances which Kartik and I pulled in, is amazing. People are even

appreciating the other teams, be it cinematography, sound design, or even Pritam's music, it really feels great. This kind of love carries for years, it's for posterity. Every time the film would come on OTT or a TV channel, there would be another wave of love, and that's what makes it special," he added.

Directed by Kabir Khan and produced by Sajid Nadiadwala, 'Chandu Champion' hit cinemas on June 14. The film is based on the life of Paralympic gold medalist Murlikant Petkar.

## 1 Years Of 'Lootera': Celebrating Ranveer Singh's Unforgettable Performance In This Cinematic Gem

Eleven years ago, 'Lootera' graced the silver screen, marking a significant departure from the mainstream Bollywood fare of its time. Directed by Vikramaditya Motwane and starring Ranveer Singh, 'Lootera' has since evolved into a cult classic, often hailed for its visual splendor but what stands out is Ranveer's win with the expressions in the ocean of silence that spoke more than one said.

Over the years, 'Lootera' has garnered a dedicated following, with audiences and critics alike revisiting the film to appreciate its art and narrative. As



audiences have evolved, so has their appreciation for the brilliance of 'Lootera'. It stands today not just as a film, but as an example of heartfelt storytelling. Before 'Lootera', Ranveer Singh had

established himself as a vibrant and energetic actor through roles in 'Band Baaja Baaraat' and 'Ladies Vs Ricky Bahl'. These films showcased his youthful charm and on-screen charisma, however, 'Lootera' marked a

bold shift in Ranveer's career trajectory. Taking on the role of Varun, required a nuanced performance that contrasted sharply with his previous performances. And his impressive performance introduced audiences to

the versatility and range the actor possessed as a performer. Now, a cult classic for its ahead of the time, nuanced characterisation, Ranveer still is fondly remembered for the path less taken and winning the love of the audience.

Ranveer effortlessly captured the essence of a complex man haunted by his past. The role demanded a deep understanding of subtle emotions and restraint, qualities that Ranveer brought to the fore with finesse.

Adapting a literary work for the big screen requires a delicate balance, and Ranveer's involvement in 'Lootera' at an early stage in his

career showcased his ambition to explore diverse narratives and the versatility that he brings on the table.

As we celebrate 11 years of 'Lootera', it is evident that the film's legacy continues to grow with Ranveer's character at its center and most importantly, how Varun stands out as a character still celebrated for the brilliance that he brought to the screen, with sincerity and commitment.

A marvel as we look at the many memo characters of Ranveer over the years, as we approach his birthday on 6th July, while marking 'Lootera's anniversary!



# The Role of East Coast Railway in Promoting Indian Tourism

Ashoka Kumar Mishra



On the occasion of World Tourism Day, it is essential to recognize the pivotal role Indian Railways, particularly the ECoR zone on its contribution of promoting tourism across India. The railways have been an essential part of the Indian travel experience, offering an extensive network that connects the country's cultural, historical, and natural heritage. East Coast Railway, with its rich geographical and cultural diversity, stands as a significant contributor to the nation's tourism landscape. The East Coast Railway zone, headquartered in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, has actively contributed to the development of tourism by providing seamless connectivity to some of the most visited tourist destinations in Eastern India. Covering parts of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, this zone facilitates travel to several iconic tourist spots, from beaches, lake and temples

to wildlife sanctuaries and cultural festivals. ECoR operates several special trains designed to enhance the tourism experience. These include trains to pilgrimage centers like Puri, which is home to the world-famous Jagannath Temple and the annual Rath Yatra, a significant cultural and religious event that draws millions of devotees and tourists from across the globe. Special trains are also operated during the Rath Yatra to accommodate the influx of tourists, ensuring a smooth and comfortable travel experience. A major leap towards premium travel and tourism is the introduction of six Vande Bharat Express trains in the East Coast Railway zone. Known for their high-speed, world-class facilities, and superior comfort, these semi-high-speed trains are revolutionizing travel in the region. The Vande Bharat Express connects major cities and tourist

destinations, promoting easier and faster access for tourists. With reduced travel time and luxury onboard experiences, these trains are attracting a new wave of tourists, enabling them to explore the cultural and natural beauty of the region in comfort and style. Whether it's a visit to Odisha's famous temples, beaches, or scenic landscapes, the Vande Bharat Express has made it easier for tourists to plan day trips and extended stays, significantly boosting tourism in the region. Additionally, the zone operates trains connecting different parts of the

country during festive seasons. These trains ensure tourists can conveniently access some of the country's most significant historical and cultural landmarks. East Coast Railway zone contributes significantly to the overall tourism landscape through its connectivity to the Eastern Ghats, Hirakud Reservoir and Rengali Dam which offer scenic views and tranquil surroundings. Train journeys through these areas provide tourists with breathtaking glimpses of nature, making the travel experience itself a memorable part of the trip. East Coast Railway plays

a crucial role in promoting Odisha's rich cultural heritage. The state is known for its ancient temples, including the Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar, and the rock-cut caves at Khandagiri and Udayagiri, Samaleswari Temple in Sambalpur, Shimachalam Temple in Visakhapatnam all of which are easily accessible via trains operated by ECoR. The railway zone also serves as a gateway to Chilika Lake, Asia's largest brackish water lagoon, known for its biodiversity and scenic beauty, attracting tourists and bird watchers from around the world. In addition to its

operational role, East Coast Railway is also committed to preserving and promoting railway heritage. Waltair Division, a part of the East Coast Railway, is known for its historical significance in Indian Railway's development. Rail Museums in Bhubaneswar is showcasing the rich history of railways in the region, highlighting the evolution of rail technology and its role in India's socio-economic growth. ECoR has also taken significant steps to promote eco-tourism and sustainable travel. The railway zone has embraced the Indian Railway's initiatives towards achieving greener and cleaner rail travel. The promotion of eco-friendly initiatives such as electrification of rail routes, plastic-free stations, and the use of bio-toilets aligns with the growing demand for sustainable tourism options.

**CPRO, East Coast Railway.**

## Developed India - Public participation is required to make this dream a reality

Prof. Mahesh Chand Gupta



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been talking about developed India for a long time. Modi has also reiterated this in his recent visit to America. The country's dream is to become a developed nation and the purpose behind the campaign being run for this is to accelerate India's economic, social and technological progress. There is no doubt that the main objective of the developed India campaign is to ensure the overall progress of the country so that all citizens can get equal opportunities and facilities. Under the campaign, focus is being given on many major areas like infrastructure, education, health, agriculture, industry, science and technology etc. Modi repeatedly reiterates his resolve to make India developed but the big question is whether the people of the country are involved wholeheartedly in realizing this dream? The government's efforts are in their place but what contribution are we people making to realize this dream? Do we really have as much involvement in this campaign as is being felt? There is a need to think deeply on these questions. No work can be completed without public participation. For us, the dream of a developed India is important not only from an economic point of view but also from a social, educational and

cultural point of view. This dream can be realised only when every person is involved in it. A mass movement is required for a developed India. Only when a mass movement is formed, it is possible to ensure the participation of every citizen in it. If we look at the past, we see successful examples of public participation. There was a time when there was no grain production in our country even to feed the people. Import of grain was inevitable to feed the countrymen, but remember, when the country decided to become self-sufficient in grain production, and every person participated in it, that dream did not take long to come true. The dream of milk revolution is also one such example. There has been widespread public involvement behind the success in grain and milk production. From time to time, the government makes many plans, prepares development programmes, advocates for many reforms, many laws are made but is it possible to do all the work on the basis of government efforts or laws alone? When coordinated efforts are needed for every small and big work, then the mission of making India developed is a very big idea. How can it be brought to reality without making it a mass movement? To make the country developed, people have to be made aware. It is necessary to make citizens aware of their duties. Only when people understand the problems and needs around them, they will be able to take steps towards change. For this, the important role of all the youth, people associated with social

and political organizations and educational institutions will be inevitable. Developed India can stand only on the foundation of social justice and equality. Mass movements are necessary against casteism, discrimination and inequality. Participation of youth will be especially necessary in such movements. Along with this, it is also necessary to ensure equality in education and employment opportunities. For this, there is a need to improve the education system so that children of all classes can get quality education. It will be equally important to increase employment opportunities. Education is the basis of development of every country but India's education system still needs a lot of reforms. Although the government has started working in this direction by making a new education policy, the imbalance of education between rural and urban areas, lack of high quality teachers, and lack of infrastructure are big problems that need to be solved. At the same time, along with school education, focus will also have to be laid on vocational and technical education and skill development of the labor force. Improving the global ranking of our universities is the most important task, which should be taken as a special campaign. Environment should also be seen as an important aspect of developed India. It is very difficult to imagine developed India without industrial revolution. Now steps will have to be taken to establish small and big industries. The right use of modern technology will strengthen the spirit of developed India. Lack

of health facilities in rural areas and high prices of better services in urban areas are a big problem. Providing adequate health services to the large population of India is a challenge. Economic inequality is a big obstacle in India. The gap between the rich and the poor is increasing rapidly. While on one hand the income and standard of living of people has increased in some areas, on the other hand a large number of people are suffering from poverty. The economic disparity between rural and urban areas is also evident. No matter how much we do for a developed India, it is still less. Infrastructure is essential to become a strong and developed nation, but India is still far behind in this area. Lack of basic facilities like medical, roads, electricity, water, and internet hinders development in many parts of the country. The availability of these facilities is even less in rural areas. If India has to join the list of developed countries, it will have to improve its infrastructure rapidly. More efforts will have to be made in the field of technology and innovation to compete globally. To realize the vision of a developed India, reforms are also required in the administrative structure of the country because corruption, bureaucracy and delay in decision making create obstacles in development projects. The lack of effective implementation of various policies and schemes of the government also affects the growth rate. If transparency and efficiency is increased in political and

administrative processes, then it can play an important role in the development of the country. A large population of our country is dependent on agriculture, so it has to be ensured that the income of farmers is increased and they are equipped with modern agricultural techniques. To improve agricultural production and quality, it is equally important to encourage innovation and scientific research in the agricultural sector and to accelerate rural development by expanding basic facilities in rural areas. India's rapidly increasing population is a major challenge and obstacle in the development of the country. Due to the increasing population, there is a lot of pressure on the resources of the country. At present, the population of the country is 140 crores, which is estimated to reach 167 crores in 2050 according to the United Nations. On the contrary, China's population will remain at 130 crores because China is rapidly controlling its population. On the contrary, we have left China behind in the population comparison. Due to population pressure, the demand for health services, education, employment, and other basic facilities is increasing, but the available resources are not able to increase at the expected pace as compared to the growing population. We are facing many problems due to population pressure. In any developed country, high per capita income, quality of life, better education and health, standard of living are important but our country's GDP is not

even five trillion while America's is 30 trillion and China's is 20 trillion. Per capita income in America is 77 thousand dollars and in China's is 13 thousand dollars, whereas in India per capita income is 2400 dollars i.e. about ninety thousand rupees only. In the coming years, per capita income in India should be 15 to 20 thousand dollars, only then we can talk about standard of living. Right now our quality of life is weak. There is no standard of living. India ranks 134th among 193 countries in the Human Development Index. If the population continues to grow at this pace, we will never be able to become a developed India. To make India a developed nation, an increase of eight to nine percent in our GDP is necessary. In the last ten years, we have succeeded in bringing 25 crore people above the poverty line, but still a large number of people are living below the poverty line. Whatever obstacles are in the way of becoming a developed India, they will have to be removed. Where policy reforms are necessary, the government will have to come forward. Where there is a need for public work, the public will have to stand up spontaneously. Only when this happens, India will be able to join the category of developed countries and use its full potential. Everyone should realize that the dream of a developed India is being seen by the people of India for the people of India.

**(The author is a renowned educationist, thinker and speaker. He has been a professor at Delhi University for 44 years.)**

## Letter to Editor

Dear Editor

The situation of senior citizens globally varies significantly depending on geographic, social, and economic factors. However, several common trends and challenges can be observed:

**Aging Populations:** Many countries, especially in Europe, North America, and parts of Asia (like Japan and South Korea), are experiencing rapid aging. This means that a larger percentage of their population is above 65 years old. As birth rates decline and life expectancy increases, more people are reaching old age. Countries like Japan and Italy, for example, are seeing record proportions of elderly citizens, putting pressure on social services, pensions, and healthcare systems.

**Healthcare Challenges:** In many developed countries, aging populations have led to increased demand for healthcare services. While some countries have robust systems (like universal healthcare in Europe), others, especially in low- and middle-income countries, struggle to provide adequate medical care for their elderly populations.

**Chronic Illnesses:** Older adults are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, and dementia. Managing these conditions increases the financial burden on individuals, families, and health systems.

**Economic Concerns:** As people live longer, pensions and social security systems are under strain. In some countries, there's a risk of pension funds running out, while in others, retirement ages are being pushed higher to offset costs.

**Poverty:** In many regions, older adults face financial insecurity. For instance, in developing countries, many seniors work into old age due to the lack of formal pensions or savings. According to the International Labour Organization, nearly half of the world's elderly population lacks access to a pension.

**Social isolation and loneliness:** Many seniors, particularly in urban settings, experience loneliness due to family members living far away or lacking community ties. This is a significant issue in countries where families traditionally cared for the elderly but are increasingly unable to due to modern lifestyles.

**COVID-19 Impact:** The pandemic exacerbated this issue, with older adults being particularly vulnerable to severe illness, resulting in prolonged isolation for many to avoid the virus.

**Technology and digital divide:** Older adults often face challenges with new technologies, which can limit their access to services, communication, and information. Governments and organizations are beginning to address this gap by providing training and support for seniors to better navigate digital tools.

**Long-Term Elder Care:** As the need for long-term care rises, countries are exploring different models to support seniors, including home-based care, assisted living, and nursing homes. However, long-term care facilities are often expensive and inaccessible to many.

**Family Caregivers:** In many countries, especially in Asia and Latin America, family members are expected to take care of the elderly. However, changing family dynamics and economic pressures are making this harder to sustain.

**Ageism and Discrimination**

Ageism remains a global issue, with many seniors facing stereotypes or discrimination in the workforce, healthcare, and social services. This can limit their opportunities for continued work, education, or community involvement.

**Policy and Support:** Some countries have begun to implement more senior-friendly policies, such as improved pension schemes, better healthcare, and social programs aimed at integrating older citizens into society. International organizations like the United Nations and the World Health Organization are emphasizing the need for countries to adopt age-friendly policies as the global population ages. The WHO's "Decade of Healthy Ageing" (2021–2030) is a significant initiative aimed at improving the lives of older adults.

**Positive Trends:** Many seniors are living healthier, more active lives due to advancements in healthcare, better nutrition, and an increased focus on physical and mental wellness.

**Workforce participation:** In some regions, older adults are remaining in the workforce longer, either by choice or necessity. Flexible work arrangements and laws against age discrimination are helping older workers stay employed longer.

The situation of senior citizens worldwide is marked by both opportunities and challenges. Aging populations require comprehensive policies that address healthcare, financial security, social inclusion, and protection against ageism to ensure a dignified and fulfilling life for seniors. At least 40000 people staying alone in Japan have died unattended in the first half of 2024 alone. Only 40% of those bodies have been recovered within a day, nearly 4000 were recovered after more than a month while 140 were recovered more than a year after death! Growing elderly population and dwindling birth rate happens to afflict countries like Japan, China and South Korea. If the present trend continues, in 2050, Japan will have a whopping 2.33 crore as single-person households. So we are looking towards a very complex and sensitive situation for now.

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## Heritage Law College Students' Induction & Orientation Programme



**Kolkata, (KCN):** Heritage Law College students induction and orientation programme Concord 2024 concluded today. The inaugural session of the induction programme commenced on 25th September 2024 which was graced by Justice Ashoke Kumar Dasadhikari, Former Judge, Calcutta High Court as the Chief Guest. Mr. Shymal Kumar Sarkar, Senior Advocate, Calcutta High Court was the Guest of Honour. During his address, Justice Ashoke Kumar Dasadhikari spoke about the challenges and the future career opportunities that a law graduate will have in the near future. Mr. Shyama Kumar Sarkar

spoke about some of the practical cases handled by him and how law graduates can focus on some of the practical aspects of legal education. Concord also witnessed other sessions addressed by experts on Digital Hygiene, Life skills sessions and many more which were addressed by Mr. Arthur Cardozo, BK Joydeep Dasgupta, BK Sister Asmita di from Brahma Kumaris, Mr. Charles Hogg, National Coordinator, Brahma Kumaris Australia and many others. The inaugural session was followed by Graduation Day ceremony where degree certificates were handed over by the Chief Guest

and Guest of Honour to the students who had graduated recently. "Heritage Law College started its journey in 2015 with 66 students and now the Institute has more than 700 students. Within these nine years, the Institute has grown phenomenally," said Prof. S.S. Chatterji, Director, Heritage Law College. "After the introduction of NEP 2020, a multidisciplinary approach has been incorporated into the education sector. I am sure this also applies to legal education and at Heritage Law College, we focus on this approach to offer students a holistic education," said Mr. P.K. Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata.

## PM Launches 3 Supercomputers, Says Science For Self-Reliance Our Mission

**Pune (KCN):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said a country can aim for high achievements only if it has a big vision and asserted that technology upgradation should be to empower the poor. Speaking after launching via video link three PARAM Rudra supercomputers, developed indigenously under National Supercomputing Mission, Modi asserted that today's India is carving new opportunities in the infinite sky of possibilities. PM Modi said his government has taken steps to ensure research in technology benefits the common man. "We started the national supercomputing mission in 2015 and now quantum computing technology has taken a lead which will help improve IT, manufacturing, MSMEs and startups," he said. PM Modi said his government is giving priority to science, technology and research. "Mission Gaganyaan preparations have begun and by 2035 we will have our own space station," he said, adding that the



first phase of the project has been approved. "Science for self-reliance is our mission," PM Modi said. The three supercomputers, built at a cost of ₹ 130 crore, have been deployed in Pune, Delhi and Kolkata to facilitate pioneering scientific research, PM Modi said. PM Modi also inaugurated the ₹ 850 crore High-Performance Computing system tailored for weather and climate research, and described the day as one of a "very big achievement" in science and technology sector. "There is no sector which does not rely on technology and

computing capability," PM Modi said. "In this revolution, our share should not be in bits and bytes but in terabytes and petabytes. Therefore, this achievement proves that we are moving in the right direction at the right pace," he said. The significance of science is not only in invention and development, but also in

fulfilling aspirations of the last person, PM Modi said. India is building its own semiconductor ecosystem which will be a key part of the global supply chain, PM Modi said. The Giant Metre Radio Telescope (GMRT) in Pune will leverage the supercomputer to explore Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) and other astronomical phenomena. The Inter University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) in Delhi will enhance research in fields like material science and atomic physics, while the S N Bose Centre in Kolkata will drive advanced research in areas such as physics, cosmology, and earth sciences. The High-Performance Computing system is tailored for weather and climate research and the

project represents an investment of ₹ 850 crore, marking a significant leap in India's computational capabilities for meteorological applications. Located at two key sites, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune and the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast (NCMRWF) in Noida, the HPC system has extraordinary computing power. The new HPC systems are named 'Arka' and 'Arunika,' reflecting their connection to the Sun. These high-resolution models will significantly enhance the accuracy and lead time of predictions related to tropical cyclones, heavy precipitation, thunderstorms, hailstorms, heat waves, droughts, and other critical weather phenomena.

## "Give Up Arms, Come For Talks": Amit Shah To Terrorists In Jammu And Kashmir

**Jasrotia, J&K (KCN):** Extending an olive branch to the terrorists operating in Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Minister Amit Shah asked them on Thursday to give up arms and come forward for talks with the government or be prepared to get neutralised at the hands of security forces. "For vote-bank politics, they (opposition parties) are asking for talks with terrorists. If they want to talk, let them come forward after giving up arms. In the northeast, 10,000 people have surrendered," the senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said, addressing a poll rally in this Assembly segment in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district. This was Mr Shah's fourth rally of the day in Udhampur and Kathua districts, which along with Jammu and Samba districts and three north Kashmir districts of Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora, are scheduled



to go to polls in the third and final phase of the Assembly election on October 1. "Give up arms and come for talks, otherwise our forces will hunt you down," the home minister said, pledging to bury terrorism in "pataal" (under the ground). He said the BJP has strengthened grassroot-level democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, which is now moving forward on the path of development after suffering immensely due to terrorism for more than three decades. "The first two phases of polling (on September 18 and September 25) are over and we have a

record 55-per cent voting. The time has gone when you were getting elected by a few thousand votes," Mr Shah said, targeting the National Conference (NC), People's Democratic Party (PDP) and Congress leadership. "The NC and the Congress provided protection to terrorism for 40 years.... We have finished terrorism and opened new avenues of development for Jammu and Kashmir, which is marching forward along with the other parts of the country. We will not rest till terrorism is buried in 'pataal'," the home minister asserted.

## India Elected To Global Anti-Corruption Platform's Steering Panel In China

**New Delhi (KCN):** India was elected to the 15-member steering committee of the global anti-corruption platform GlobE Network after multi-stage voting in Beijing on Thursday, officials said. Having 121 member countries and 219 member authorities, the GlobE Network has one chair, one vice-chair and thirteen members in the steering committee for providing leadership. India was elected to the steering committee after a multi-stage voting process during the ongoing fifth plenary meeting of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) in Beijing, the



officials said. "As a member of the steering committee, India will play a crucial role in shaping the global agenda against corruption and asset recovery. India's expertise and experience in combating corruption will be valuable assets to GlobE

Network," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement. The Union Home Ministry is the central authority from India for the GlobE Network while the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are

member authorities. A G20 initiative, the GlobE Network to combat cross-border financial crimes and corruption received strong support from India in 2020. The platform was officially launched in June 2021 during a special event at the UN

General Assembly Special Session against Corruption (UNGASS). It has emerged as a unique platform where agencies from across the world share best practices, criminal intelligence, develop strategies, and support in the common cause of combating corruption, the CBI statement said. "The GlobE Network is a vital platform for international cooperation, and India's participation will strengthen its efforts to combat cross-border financial crimes and corruption," it said. During India's G20 presidency, two high-level principles for combatting corruption were adopted that detailed leveraging of the GlobE Network, it said.

## Voting for Congress means putting Haryana's stability and development at risk: PM Modi

**Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), September 25:** PM Modi alleged that in every Congress-ruled state, their Chief Ministers and ministers are embroiled in disputes, showing no concern for the people's suffering. He noted that the rising disputes within Congress are evident to all of Haryana, stating: "Voting for Congress means putting Haryana's stability and development at risk." Addressing a well-attended rally in Haryana on Wednesday, P M Modi warned that a BJP government is necessary in the state to save Haryana from the wrath of brokers and sons-in-law. The royal family of Congress is the most corrupt family in the country. He said that 10 years

ago there was not a single job in Haryana that had transparency. Corruption was common in government contracts and Congress looted Haryana and filled its pockets. "I appeal to all of you that we should stay away from such a corrupt Congress so that Haryana can remain safe." He further alleged that the 10 years of Congress were such that being a Dalit in Haryana had become a sin. PM Modi asserted that every commitment made by the BJP is a solid guarantee. He emphasized that the BJP delivers on its promises and assured that in Haryana, every commitment will be swiftly implemented on the ground. He urged everyone to ensure a decisive victory for all



BJP candidates, aiming to bloom the lotus for the third consecutive time in Haryana. Initiating his speech at the Sonapat mega rally, PM Modi said, "As election day approaches, the Congress party is visibly weakening, struggling to maintain momentum, in stark contrast, the BJP is gaining widespread support throughout Haryana." "The growing enthusiasm for the BJP is evident, with the people

rallying behind the slogan – Phir Ek Baar, BJP Sarkar," he further added. PM Modi expressed that Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar believed industries play a crucial role in empowering Dalits. He further noted that Ambedkar understood the plight of the poor and Dalit communities, recognizing the importance of factories in creating opportunities for them.

"Babasaheb encouraged Dalits to acquire technical skills for better prospects. This vision of empowerment is reflected in the BJP's policies and approach," he stated, emphasizing that true empowerment of Dalits and marginalized communities can only be achieved through opportunities in industries. PM Modi shared that he had just returned from the US, where he met

global leaders and CEOs of the companies worth lakhs of crores of rupees. He spoke about India's youthful talent and emphasized that over the last decade, global trust in India has significantly grown. The world now perceives India as free from corruption and nepotism, poised for rapid progress. He highlighted the significant role of "Make in India" over the past ten years, stating, "India is now manufacturing everything from mobile phones to fighter jets and aircraft carriers. In just the last three years, millions of jobs have been created in the manufacturing sector." He noted that India is now exporting products to countries from which it once imported. For

instance, he mentioned that India manufactures Suzuki cars and exports them to Japan. PM Modi emphasized that this remarkable achievement is happening right here on Haryana's soil, asserting: "Products made in Haryana are now reaching global markets—this is the strength of New India." PM Modi firmly established that every Prime Minister from the Congress royal family has consistently opposed reservations. He emphasized that opposition to reservations is ingrained in Congress's DNA. He cautioned the public that even the fourth generation of the Congress royal family is now advocating for the abolition of reservations. He urged citizens to remain vigilant against Congress's anti-

reservation tactics. Taking a swipe at the Congress party, PM Modi remarked, "Had Congress truly cared, there wouldn't be a need to provide essential services like gas, tap water, electricity, toilets, and bank accounts only now. I take pride in the fact that the 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao' initiative has positively impacted Haryana. A decade ago, the state had just 866 daughters for every 1,000 sons. Today, that figure has risen to 914. Haryana's daughters are now excelling in sports, and they are making their mark in the police and the army. We are proud that in the NDA's first women cadets' batch, a daughter from Haryana stood at the top."



# All QC teams from RSP receive awards

**Rourkela(KCN):** All the 30 Quality Circle teams of SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) were awarded under different categories in the Chapter Level Quality Circle Competition held under the Chapter Convention of Quality Concepts at Rourkela, September 22 and 23. In all 140 teams and 730 participants from different organisations of Jharkhand and Odisha were in the fray in this event. Notably, RSP was awarded for highest participation in QC category. In all 30 teams from RSP including three teams from Odisha Group of Mines (OGOM) participated in this

competition, out of which 27 teams secured Gold awards, while three bagged Silver awards. Team Ankur from Pipe Plants claimed the prestigious JK Das Rolling Trophy in the quality circle stream for scoring the highest marks, demonstrating all round excellence. The second best award in the category was bagged by the Shruti Quality Circle team of Oxygen Plant of RSP. Besides this, eight teams of RSP were also awarded in the model competition held during the convention. RSP team members also excelled individually to bag



numerous awards in various competitions like essay writing, slogan, poem writing and quiz. Chandan Samal, GM (RCL) coordinated the QC teams from RSP. The teams that bagged Gold awards are 'Prayas', 'Shrushti' and 'Ignite' from Oxygen Plant, 'Tejas' from New Plate Mill, 'Samruddhi' and 'Dynamic' from Plate Mill, 'Samarpan' from Steel Melting Shop-I, 'Agranee', 'Sambhab' and 'Pinnacle' from Raw Material Handling Plant, 'Lakshyam' from RCL, 'Pragati' from Instrumentation, 'Ekam' from C&IT, 'Shakti'

from Power Distribution, 'Creative' from SMS-II, 'Vijeta' from Sintering Plant – I, 'Srujan' from Sintering Plant –II, 'Megamind' from Roll Shop, 'Nishkarsh' from Air Conditioning, 'Ankur' and 'Avishkar' from Pipe Plant, 'Aarohan' from Hot Strip Mill-2, 'Pioneer' from E&A, 'Utkarsh' from Blast Furnace, 'Karmveer' from Coke Ovens and 'Tejas' and 'Prayas Kaizen' from BIM. The silver awardees are 'Prahari' from the Communication Engineering Department, and AROHI, LQC from BIM.

## Orchid glory for Similipal

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Similipal National Park is not only a treasure house of nature with scenic beauty and lush green valleys but also a tiger and biosphere reserve replete with diverse flora and fauna. Adding more feathers to its cap, scientists have discovered two epiphytic orchids, the indicator species of a healthy forest. According to a report, around 100 species in 41 genera of orchids are found in Similipal of Mayurbhanj district. This is against

144 species under 53 genera found in Odisha to date. Two epiphytic orchids have been discovered in Similipal recently by renowned orchidologist Sarat Chandra Misra. While one is 'Dendrobium Prasannae S Misra', the other one is 'Oberonia similipalensis S Misra'. Misra said orchid flower has a unique floral plan. Out of the three petals, the rear one, known as the lip, is differently shaped and also coloured from the rest

of the membered. It contains nectar or food grains, real in deceit form. He mentioned that it is also twisted half around to occupy the front position in the flower. In 'Dendrobium Prasannae' the lip is broadly oblong with an abruptly ending short tip – the stems are drooping, long and slender. 'Oberonia similipalensis', on the other hand, is a much smaller curious-looking plant with knife-shaped slender leaves. Its lip is broadly ovate,

undivided, with deeply cut edges. The former species has been named after late Prasanna Kumar Dash, former minister and Speaker of the Odisha Assembly, an ardent environmentalist and watchdog of the Similipal forest. When the Odisha Environmental Society (OES) mooted the proposal for declaring Similipal as a Biosphere Reserve, it was Dash who, as the president of OES, pursued the proposal both at the state and Central level.

## Ship-building clusters to come up in five states including Odisha: Union Minister Sonowal

**New Delhi/Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Ship-building and ship repair clusters will be established in five states including Odisha, Gujarat and Maharashtra, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) Sarbananda Sonowal said Wednesday. Recognizing the strategic importance of shipbuilding and ship repair, the ministry is developing dedicated clusters in Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Gujarat, Sonowal said while highlighting the major accomplishments of his ministry in the first 100 days of the third term of the NDA government. In the next five years, the

ministry projects container handling to reach an impressive 40 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent unit), creating 2 million job opportunities across the country. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) alone will scale up its handling capacity from the current 6.6 million TEUs to 10 million, he added. The minister also said that 3,900 acres of land has been allotted in Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) and V. O. Chidambaram Port Trust (VoCPA) for setting up of hydrogen manufacturing hubs. This will attract more than Rs 5 lakh crore worth of investment in the coming years, he added. He also said JNPA is going to



become the first Indian Port to attain a Container Handling Capacity of 10 million TEUs in the coming months. Sonowal said International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP) at Galathea Bay, Great Nicobar Island, which will serve as a major transshipment hub. After 25 years since the establishment of Kamarajar Port, the addition of Vadhvan Port

marks a significant milestone in India's maritime journey, alongside the recent notification of Galathea Bay as a major port," he said. He underscored the foundation of Vadhvan Port, India's first major port project of the 21st century, poised to become one of the largest all-weather deep-water ports with a capacity of 298 MMTPA. According to him, this mega port is expected to create 1.2 million employment opportunities and place an Indian port among the top 10 container ports globally, significantly improving international shipping connectivity and reducing transit times and costs.

## Odisha's BJP govt 'betrayed' beneficiaries of social security schemes: Congress



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Odisha Congress Wednesday criticised the BJP government in the state for allegedly betraying the beneficiaries of social security schemes by altering its pre-election promises of increasing pensions. Senior Congress leader Jayadev Jena said the BJP had vowed to raise the monthly social security pension to Rs 3,500 in its manifesto but later modified this commitment, limiting the increase to those aged over 80 and persons with over 80 per cent disabilities. Jena said very few people fit this narrow criteria, arguing that this



decision effectively betrays other beneficiaries aged 60 to 79. "It seems the government does not want to enhance social security pensions for the people of Odisha," he said. He also criticised the state government over a recent incident involving a 70-year-old woman who had to crawl nearly 2 km to her panchayat office to collect her

pension. A video of Pathuri Dehury, from Raisuan gram panchayat in Keonjhar district, went viral, prompting Jena to express concern about the socio-economic conditions in the Chief Minister's home district. Jena, who hails from Keonjhar, described the district as neglected across various sectors, including health and education, despite its significant mineral wealth

contributing substantial revenue to the state. He noted issues such as high school dropout rates, with over 80 per cent of residents living below the poverty line, and a lack of qualified doctors and teachers. Current government data indicates that 36.75 lakh beneficiaries receive social security pensions under the Madhu Babu Pension Yojna (MBPY), while 20.33 lakh are covered under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). The government plans to increase the pension amount for about 5.26 lakh beneficiaries who are either over 80 or have significant disabilities.

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## Upgradation of knowledge and skills of the fishers of Seohar district, Bihar through on-campus training

**Kolkata,(KCN):**When it comes to inland open water resources like rivulets, reservoirs, canals, chauras, and mauns, the Sheohardistrict in Bihar is incredibly resourceful. In the Sheohar district, there is a shortage of fish despite the abundance of aquatic resources. In keeping with the goal of improving the knowledge and abilities of the fishers of SeoharDistrict , I C A R - C I F R I , Barrackpore, has conducted a seven-day training program on "Inland Fisheries Management" from January 3-9, 2024, with an emphasis on improving production and ensuring livelihood security. This training program was attended by 30 active fish farmers. The Institute's Director, Dr. B.K. Das, placed special emphasis on the fishermen's knowledge-based skill development regarding



multiple aspects of the inland fisheries production system and management, which will secure their sustainable livelihood. He believed that to maximize production and productivity, fishermen needed to acquire scientific information and apply it to their resource exploration. Dr. Das also gave the trainees information on the

emerging opportunities for entrepreneurship in India's inland fisheries. Untapped potential is abundant in this district for inland fisheries development, which might raise living standards. The goal of this training program was to bridge the attitude, skill, and knowledge gaps that existed between inland fishery administration and

farmers. Lectures on a wide range of topics were covered in the coursework, including how to construct and maintain ponds, the chemistry of soil and water, induced breeding, nursery and rearing pond management, transporting live fish seeds, composite fish farming, ornamental fisheries, enclosure culture, fish feed management, disease management, zero budget natural farming, inland fisheries and climate change, economic evaluation, and a general overview of the Pradhan M a n t r i MatsyaSampadaYojana, along with showcasing the CIFRI products. Field trips included visits to

the ICAR-CIFA Kalyani Fish Farms, the East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW), the ornamental fish market, and the Halisahar fish farm. Participants had access to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), Bio-floc units, ornamental hatchery units, and feed mill in addition to receiving hands-on training on a wide range of topics targeted to specific needs, such as basic water quality parameters, the preparation of fish feed using easily available feed ingredients, the identification of fish pathogens and their respective remedial measures, etc. During the feedback session, it appeared that the trainees were generally satisfied with the newly acquired information, which would be very helpful in their future activities. Dr. B.K. Das, director of the institute, encouraged the farmers to apply what they had learned to improve their level of production integration. Dr. Aparna Roy and Dr.Dibakar Bhakta coordinated the training program, with assistance from Sujit Chowdhury, Manabendra RoyMr. Y. AliandKausik Mondal.

## Experience Performance & Convenience of grinding with Crompton Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder

Mumbai – Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Limited, India's leading player in the consumer durable industry, as part of its commitment to Secret of Fine Taste recently expanded its kitchen appliance portfolio with the launch of Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder. Designed for efficiency and convenience, the Ameo Pro Mixer grinder is your go-to appliance for every kitchen. It is crafted to reduce the everyday hustle of getting the finest grinding while cooking food, saving your time and energy simultaneously. As busy schedules and demanding lifestyles become more prevalent, there is a growing demand for products that can simplify tasks and save time. Whether you're crafting flavourful spices or preparing quick meals for guests, With the Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder, you can elevate your cooking experience and create delicious meals with ease as it includes the following

features:  
- 750W Turbo Powerful Motor: The Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder is designed with a powerful Turbo Powertron Motor that can constantly grind a wide variety of ingredients at an outstanding 22,000 RPM providing the finest grinding  
- MaxiGrind Technology: MaxiGrind technology ensures faster and more precise results. The sharp and lightweight blades in the product help to maximize the grinding process.  
- 60 Minutes of Continuous Grinding\*: With an amazing 60 minutes of continuous grinding power, the Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder ensures effective and reliable performance.  
- Wide Mouth Jars: It comes with wide mouth jars for easy filling and cleaning, making food preparation quicker and delicious  
- Easy Maintenance: It is easy to clean, use, and store,

making it an ideal choice for busy lifestyles.  
- W a r r a n t y : Crompton offers a warranty of 5 years on the motor and 2 years on the product. Talking about the company's newly launched product, Ketan Chaudhari, PL Head, Small Domestic Appliances at Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd., said, "At Crompton, our commitment is to deliver Secret of Fine taste through appliances that offer performance & convenience. With our newly launched Ameo Pro Mixer Grinder, we aim to elevate theeverydaycooking experience for our consumers, it saves time ensuring effortless fine grinding for a wide range of ingredients simplifying your food preparation task in the kitchen." The product's price is Ameo Pro 4Jar- INR 7100 and Ameo Pro 3 jar- INR 6600 and is available at all Crompton authorized retail outlets and leading e-commerce platforms.

## Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneshwar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India. The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple touch-points to provide a consistent brand experience that surpasses expectations."

## Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples – Bhubaneswar – celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent. Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group – from the small Odisha town of Berhampur – widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting. Taking us on a 'Jatra' – The Journey of a Young Woman – the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers.

## ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the

first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, Skill Development and Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana. Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEV&T and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry.



# Fighting Back: Milind Kumar answers USA's middle order woes

**New Delhi:** Milind Kumar has taken ODI cricket by quite a storm. The former Delhi and RCB batsmen is on a roll after notching his maiden ODI ton, a whirlwind 155\* off 110 deliveries. Seven innings into his ODI career, he has rocketed to 354 runs at an astronomical average of 70. While he deservedly is being swarmed with the accolades, his career was at a crossroads after the culmination of the MLC in July. Which Milind agonisingly refers to as the 'lowest point' in his 15 year long professional career. Milind Kumar found himself at a crossroads. Parachuting in the USA set up with an embellished CV in the Indian

domestic circuit including the honours of topping the Ranji Trophy batting charts in 2018, his international career got off to a rocky start after failing to produce an innings of note in his two outings in the T20 World Cup and a couple more against Bangladesh and Zimbabwe in the lead up to the event. His form hit rock bottom in the MLC as he mustered 50 runs over 7 innings, often being juggled around the batting order at the Texas Super Kings. "I was putting too much pressure on myself to perform. I had set high standards for myself and was being too hard on myself after every failure. After the MLC season I called up my coach in

Haresh Kumar in India. I sent him videos of my net sessions and dismissals. He suggested a couple of tweaks in my grip and batlift" said Milind. "The mental conditioning coach at the Super Kings encouraged me to follow a meditation routine before and after the game. I have also incorporated some breathing exercises in my stance routine prior to facing a delivery. That has helped immensely to shut off the negativity and focus on the job" This new routine started paying rich dividends for Milind after the MLC as he strutted back into runs with a breezy half century. He was named for the ODI squad for the Netherlands tour but was



axed for the T20Is that followed. He was shown the door in the T20Is after underwhelming returns at number 6, which he claims was unfamiliar territory. Upon the insistence of captain

Monank Patel he was bestowed with the responsibility of shepherding the middle order from number 4 in ODI cricket in Netherlands. Milind repaid back the faith with

his maiden half century and a brisk 47 that gave firsts glimpses of his well rounded attributes as a batsman on the international stage. Milind has since looked impregnable in the format.

He credits his surge to the trust shown in him that gives him the bandwidth to be the batsman that he is. When in full flow as seen in his short ODI career, Milind has resonated the presence of a zen master in the middle. A master maneuverer of spin who is quietly assured of his presence in the middle on the back of some very strong batting basics. He was one of the few handfuls amongst all 3 teams in the Netherlands to show his grip over some unfriendly batting surfaces that spun and seamed enough to test the depths of any batsman. In Namibia, Milind raised his bar even further than what was at show in the Netherlands. Before his

marathon 155\*, he steered USA out of a spot of bother with a rapid 74\* that had USA cantering home with 5 overs to spare. The middle order hasn't been USA's strong suite over the years. At times also guilty of throwing in the white towel when challenged with a tall ask. Milind's mellowed but malleable ODI avatar has been the right antidote to USA's middle overs ordeal of the past. The past two innings if anything have been a pressing reminder about his versatility as a batsman as he unravelled his power hitting facet of the game with a barrage of 10 sixes. One too many for someone written off as a T20 player by many in the USA set up.

## Shakib is eligible for selection: Hathurusingha

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha on Wednesday (September 25) brushed aside doubts regarding Shakib al Hasan's availability in the second Test against at Kanpur, scheduled to begin from September 27. Shakib's availability turned out to be a topic of discussion after having injured his finger while batting in the first Test in Chennai, hit by a delivery off Jasprit Bumrah. Speculation grew stronger after the left-handed batter played just eight to 10 balls in the nets before deciding to come out. Considering his body language after the nets session, he did not look very comfortable either. Shakib bowled just 21 overs in the opening Test but didn't pick up any wickets. It was speculated that he was



carrying an injury and as a result, was brought into the attack after 50 overs were bowled in the first innings. "I have not heard anything on Shakib regarding any complaints. I haven't heard from my physio or anyone else so he is eligible for selection," Hathurusingha told reporters at Kanpur on Wednesday. Hathurusingha added that he is not worried with Shakib's form despite the fact he seemed to

struggling with the bat off late. In the two match-series against Pakistan last month, Shakib amassed merely 38 runs in three innings while in the opening Test against India he scored only 32 and 25. "I am upset about not his (Shakib's) performance, but our overall performance and how we could have done better. I am sure that he also thinks that he can perform better and we all know what he is capable

of," said the coach. Hathurusingha also insisted that they are not concerned over the recent security threats. Security was beefed up ahead of the second Test in Kanpur, as multiple right-wing organisations have called to oppose the matches in protest against the alleged recent attacks on Hindu communities in Bangladesh. Uttar Pradesh Police decided to provide three-tier security for the teams and that is comprised with isolation cordon, outer cordon and outermost cordon. More than 1,000 police officers of different wings have been deployed for the Test match. "We are not concerned about the security we have trust that the Indian Cricket Board is looking after it," he said.

## Didn't have inspiration to play IPL: Shikhar Dhawan explains retirement call

**New Delhi:** Former India opener Shikhar Dhawan revealed that he didn't have the "inspiration" left to take the domestic cricket route for a place in the national side. India's legendary opener Shikhar Dhawan explained his decision to retire from all forms of cricket, saying the lack of "inspiration" to continue playing domestic cricket or in the Indian Premier League (IPL). Dhawan, who retired in August at the age of 38, opened up about his decision while speaking on the sidelines of the Legends League Cricket event. Dhawan, a stalwart of Indian cricket, played 34 Tests, 167 ODIs, and 68 T20Is between 2013 and 2022, leaving an indelible



mark on the international stage. However, the explosive opener's journey came to a close as he realized the passion that fueled his long-standing career had started to wane. "I didn't want to play domestic cricket, which I started playing at the age of 18 or 19, and I didn't have that inspiration from inside to play that (form of) cricket," Dhawan told PTI during the interview.

Dhawan rose to prominence as one of India's premier white-ball players, particularly in ICC tournaments, where he holds the highest average (65.15) among all Indian batsmen. His illustrious career saw him become India's 25th ODI captain, filling in for Rohit Sharma during a 2021 series against Sri Lanka. Dhawan led India in 12 ODIs, winning seven and losing three matches.

Despite his successful stint as captain, Dhawan's international career gradually slowed as younger players like Shubman Gill took center stage. His last appearance for India came in December 2022, marking the end of a significant era for Indian cricket. Dhawan also enjoyed an exceptional IPL career, playing 222 matches and accumulating 6769 runs, including two centuries and 51 half-centuries. He leaves the tournament as the player with the highest number of boundaries (768) and holds the distinction of being the first cricketer to hit consecutive centuries in IPL history.

# Akash Deep - In for the long race

**New Delhi:** Only a few months into his new post-retirement life, some cricket games have become hazy memories for Manoj Tiwary. But there is one incident that the former Bengal captain can jog his memory back to: the revenge Ranji Trophy semifinal against Madhya Pradesh in February last year. "Akash Deep ne khol diya tha Rajat Patidar ko," he recalls. A fiver by the pacer had helped Bengal take down the reigning champions and reach yet another final. "In domestic matches, when the chips are down, when not much is happening for the bowlers on slow, flat pitches, when bowlers look tired, you want someone to put their hand up and say 'main daalta hoon (I'll do it)'. Akash Deep is that kind of a player, he wants to take up that challenge.

There have been countless instances where he has done that." That desire, with his skill to bowl accurately at pace is what has made him an international level bowler, taking his career from the lanes of a small town in Uttar Pradesh to an international cricket ground, according to Tiwary. Growing up in Varanasi, Green Park was the first international cricket stadium Akash Deep had heard of. He'd assumed that the ground must be really green for it to be named so. However, when he entered the stadium for the first time as an India cricketer on Tuesday, there wasn't much of that colour to witness. Even the exterior fittings of the stadium had its green shade cut out to teal. In all probability, India might look to drop one pacer to include an additional spinner for the second Test in Kanpur.

Irrespective of whether Akash Deep continues to hold on to his spot in the team or not, it's unlikely that he will have a big role to play in the Test. How tough then would this possible lost opportunity be for a young, in-form fast bowler who is looking to move upward the fast bowling battle-royal of the team? Akash isn't too fussed. His understanding of his role is rather simple: "No matter how the wicket is, when I'm playing, my job is to bowl in the right areas. Even if the pitch is not in favour of fast bowlers, I have to take wickets. So I have to make plans accordingly." In a 10-minute chat two days ahead of the game, he kept insisting on the importance of 'keeping it simple', one of the many modern-day cliches, a phrase that's thrown around liberally, but also one spoken more than practised. Tiwary, his



former Bengal captain, however, insists that it is in fact one of Akash's core strengths. He calls him a 'blindfolded ghoda (horse)'. "When we play outside Kolkata, you want a bowler who bowls genuinely quick and in the right areas. In most of the country, we tend to get either batter-friendly wickets or spin-friendly wickets. So you need them to bend their

backs a bit as fast bowlers. He is a blindfolded horse. Whatever you tell him as a captain, he obeys that." 'Keeping it simple' had its effects even in the helpful conditions in Chennai last week, when he operated effectively from the round the wicket against the left-handers in the top order. "In the first innings, there was a bit of assistance," Akash explained. "I'm more

comfortable bowling round the wicket, it's one of my strengths. I bowled one over over the wicket and then in the second over I felt that I was able to create some chances. The ball was swinging anyway, so I wanted to keep it simple, that helped. It wasn't as if I wanted to go out and take wickets right away. I just wanted to bowl in the right areas." Akash maybe only two

Tests old, but in a short span in home conditions, he has done enough to make an impression for himself in an attack that already boasts of the likes of Jasprit Bumrah, Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja. It helps that he came in with the cognizance of the role he was taking up. "To play for India is every child's dream. It's a matter of great pride. But in some way, it's also a responsibility for us when you're filling the shoes of bowlers who have contributed so much for the country," he said, and credited his captain for not allowing the pressure of the role to weigh on him. It has helped that the message from the India captain was also about keeping it simple. "Earlier I was hesitant about what kind of pressure I would be under when I play for India," he said, heaping praise on Rohit Sharma. "There was a bit of

confusion. But when I entered the ground, (Rohit) bhaiya kept things so simple that I never felt like I was playing international cricket. I don't think in my life I've ever had or will get such a sorted captain." For someone who found his accession to the national team at the back of his red-ball exploits than IPL, there is more than pace that he brings to the table. "What makes him standout are the areas that he bowls," Tiwary vouches. "We have seen a number of genuine fast bowlers who come in domestic cricket, but they are not consistent in the areas that they bowl. Genuine pacers tend to be wayward. His accuracy and areas have always very good. "He has also constantly learnt and evolved as an individual. With one variation, you can't survive at the top level.