

# No justification of Orissa HC bench in state: CM Majhi tells Assembly

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Amid a long-standing demand for the establishment of a bench of Orissa High Court in the state's western region, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Monday told the House that such a facility is not justified according to a Supreme Court verdict. In response to a written question from BJD member Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, Majhi said, "As per a Supreme Court verdict, there is no justification for having a bench of Orissa High Court in any part of the state."

Singh Deo had inquired whether the Odisha government had any proposal to set up a circuit bench of the high court in Bolangir. Outside the Assembly, Singh Deo defended his demand for a circuit bench in Bolangir, saying, "Prior to Independence, there was a high court bench in Bolangir. According to the accession treaty, it is binding on both the state and central governments to provide the same facility. There would be



no issue in having a high court bench if the government was willing." Singh Deo accused the BJP government of betraying the people of western Odisha, citing the CM's rejection of the demand in the Assembly. Senior BJP lawmaker from Sambalpur, Jaynarayan Mishra, disagreed with the notion of not having a HC bench in the western region. Mishra argued, "We (BJP) have not withdrawn the demand for a HC bench in western Odisha. The CM has referred to the Supreme Court judgment, but the state's population and HC cases are increasing. Why

problems faced by the people of his community who are now forced to depend on Cuttack, where the HC is located."

Ashok Das, convener of the 'Kendriya Kriyanganusthan Committee' (Central Coordination Committee), criticised the CM's understanding of the Supreme Court ruling.

"It seems that the CM has not thoroughly reviewed the Supreme Court's ruling. The apex court has never ruled out the justification for a High Court bench in western Odisha," Das said.

The Supreme Court's December 2022 ruling stated that the demand for a bench of Orissa High Court had become obsolete with advancements in technology. It also noted that Odisha was not large enough to warrant permanent benches outside Cuttack. The apex court's verdict came after vandalism in on Sambalpur court premises on November 12, 2022.

## Odisha: Five get life term for killing four people

**Berhampur(KCN):** A court in Odisha's Ganjam district Monday sentenced five people to life imprisonment for killing four persons two years ago. Additional District Judge Prabir Kumar Choudhury convicted Milan Kumar Swain (29), Santosh Kumar

Swain (27), Bahan Behera (27), Chitransen Sethi (23) and Amiya Kumar Swain (40) of Ramchandrapur for beating to death four persons, including three brothers and one of their relatives, at Pitala Chhaka under Hinjili police limits March 22, 2022.

The court recorded the statements of 26 witnesses and examined medical reports and some other documents, public prosecutor Trilochan Parida said. Raja Swain (28) and his two brothers Sambhu (25) and Pandav (23) and their cousin

Chandan (16) were killed in a clash with the accused on the night of March 22, 2022. The deceased persons were running a fast food outlet at Pitala Chhaka. The clash occurred after one of the accused passed some objectionable remarks on a woman.

## Odisha govt launches dedicated web portal for 'Subhadra Yojana'



"The information available on the web portal is official and authentic," Parida told reporters in Bhubaneswar. Parida

said all information, including eligibility criteria and the application process, are detailed on the portal. The applicants can also

lodge their grievances through it. She added that women can register for the scheme free of cost from September 4. The scheme will be

implemented for five years from 2024-25 to 2028-29 financial years, she added. The state government has made an outlay of Rs 55,825 crore for the scheme and the beneficiaries will receive Rs 10,000 in their bank accounts in two installments in a year under the programme. The first installment will be provided to the beneficiaries September 17, the date of its formal launch, a source said.

## Centre approved seven progs worth Rs 14,000 crore for agri, allied sectors to improve farmers' income



2,817-crore digital agriculture mission and a Rs 3,979-crore scheme for crop science.

Briefing reporters here, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted that these comprehensive

programmes are aimed at enhancing farmers' income.

The focus of these programmes would be on research & education, climate resilience, natural resource management

and digitisation in the agriculture sector along with emphasis on growth of horticulture and livestock sectors. The Cabinet has approved crop science for food and nutritional security programmes with a total outlay Rs 3,979 crore. In this programme, six pillars have been included in the programme with a focus on preparing the farmers for climate resilient crop sciences and food security for

## INVITATION

we solicit your kind presence on the auspicious occasion of the 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Celebration of People's Odia Daily "The PARYABEKHYAK", on 03.09.2024 (Tuesday) at 11.00 AM, Jaydev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

**Sri Suresh Pujari**

Hon'ble Revenue and Disaster Management Minister

**Sri Prithviraj Harichandan**

Hon'ble Law, Works & Excise Minister

**Sri Manmohan Samal**

Hon'ble President, BJP Odisha

**Dr. Giridhari Gamanga**

Hon'ble Former Chief Minister, Odisha

**Dr. Rabindranarayan Behera**

Hon'ble MP, Jajpur

**Sri Babu Singh**

Hon'ble MLA, Bhubaneswar (Middle)

**Prof. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani**

Hon'ble Former MP, Bhubaneswar

Madam Pushpa Pandeya,

Founder President, Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers, New Delhi (VC)

**Sri Priyadarshi Mishra**

Former MLA & Chairman, Odisha State Housing Board

have given their kind consent to grace the occasion as Chief Guest, Chief Speaker, Special Guests and Guests of Honours, respectively.

**Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantaray,**

Editor-in-Chief, The Paryabekhyak & The Kalinga Chronicle

will preside over the meeting.

**Budhadev Mohapatra**  
Publisher

## PROGRAMME

09.00 AM to 11.00 AM

Inauguration of Blood donation camp by Hon'ble Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Mayor, Smt. Sulochana Das, and conducted by Dr. Debasis Mishra,

Director, Blood Bank, Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

11.00 AM to 03.00 PM

Inauguration of the Meeting, Speeches by Honourable Guests, Felicitation of Reporters & Well-wishers and Vote of Thanks.

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## Sandip Ghosh, ex-principal of Kolkata's RG Kar hospital, arrested by CBI

**Kolkata(KCN):** Sandip Ghosh has been arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for his alleged involvement in the financial irregularities in Kolkata's RG Kar hospital. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday arrested Sandip Ghosh, the former principal of government-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital where a 31-year-old trainee doctor was raped and murdered last month.

According to officials, Ghosh has been arrested by the central probe agency for his alleged involvement in the financial irregularities in RG Kar hospital. The former principal was arrested late in the evening after the CBI grilled him for over two weeks.

The CBI has slapped criminal conspiracy, cheating, and dishonesty along with Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act in connection with the

financial misconduct at RG Kar Medical College. The cases account for cognisable offences and are non-bailable in nature. The FIR was registered after the central probe agency took over the investigation from Kolkata Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) on the directions of the Calcutta High Court.

Ghosh served as the principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital from February 2021 to September 2023. Despite being transferred in October 2023, he unexpectedly returned to his role at the hospital within a month. He continued on the post until the day when the trainee doctor was brutally raped and murdered inside a

seminar hall of the hospital. Her semi-nude body was found on August 9, sparking nationwide protests and a series of violence in West Bengal. Sanjay Roy, a civic volunteer with the Kolkata Police, was arrested in connection with the brutal rape-murder. Additionally, Sandip Ghosh has also been summoned by Kolkata Police for disclosing the identity of the trainee doctor who was raped and murdered. Even the Indian Medical Association has suspended the membership of Dr Sandip Ghosh after the disciplinary committee of the medical body took note of the trainee doctor's rape and murder.

# Odisha Officers Undergo 'Disease Diagnosis and Lab Testing Training' at CIFRI

**Kolkata (KCN):** Enhancing fish production in Odisha requires a comprehensive approach that addresses various aspects of fisheries and aquaculture. Odisha, with its vast coastline, rivers, lakes, and ponds, has significant potential for increasing fish production. The Government of Odisha is also emphasizing to enhance fish production and productivity from both the inland and brackish water sectors as well as to improve the fishers' income. For that, strengthening extension services to provide training and technical support to fish farmers and fishermen

is crucial. This also includes the capacity building of the fishery officials who impart the technical know-how to the farmers. Keeping this in view, a three-days training programme (DOF, Odisha sponsored) was organized at ICAR-CIFRI from 28 to 30 August, 24 at CIFRI Head Quarter for 30 officials covering 27 districts of Odisha.

The training module was specially designed for the young officials after assessing their training needs. A total of five classroom sessions, three practical sessions, one



demonstration session and a field exposure visit were conducted to build the capacity of the

trainee officials. In the inauguration session, Dr. B.K. Das, Director of CIFRI, emphasized

the need for hands-on training and skill development of the young officials so that

they can contribute to the livelihood improvement of fishers of the respective state.

After the inauguration, a laboratory visit was conducted. In the classroom session, topics like inland fisheries management, the importance of soil and water quality analysis, common fish diseases, fish disease diagnosis method, fish disease management in enclosure etc. were covered. A field visit was conducted to East Kolkata wetland and an on-field practical session was also arranged there. The officials also visited the CIFE Kolkata Centre. In the feedback session, 92% of the trainees expressed that they were highly satisfied and it would be very beneficial for them in their professional career. During the valedictory session, Dr. B.K. Das, Director, CIFRI, congratulated all the participants on their successful training and distributed the training completion certificate. Training Programme was coordinated by Dr. Aparna Roy and Dr. Vikash Kumar with assistance from Shri Sujit Chowdhury, Dr. Avishek Saha, Mr. Asim Jana, and Shri Manabendra Roy.

## First Dengue Vaccine Phase 3 Clinical Trial Kicks off at KIMS

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** The third phase of the clinical trial for India's first indigenous dengue vaccine, 'DengiAll,' commenced today at the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) here. This trial aims to evaluate the efficacy of the indigenous tetravalent dengue vaccine developed by Panacea Biotech, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

KIMS is the only hospital in Odisha selected to conduct the Phase 3 trial, which involves 18 other sites across 18 states in India. Currently, there is no antiviral treatment or licensed vaccine against dengue in India. Developing an effective vaccine is complex due to the need for good efficacy across all four serotypes of the dengue virus, all of which are known to circulate or co-circulate in many regions of India.

The tetravalent dengue vaccine strain (TV003/TV005), originally developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA, has



shown promising results in preclinical and clinical trials worldwide. Panacea Biotech, one of three Indian companies to receive the strain, is at the most advanced stage of development. The company has extensively worked on these strains to develop a full-fledged vaccine formulation and holds a process patent for this work. Phase 1 and 2 clinical trials were completed in 2018-19, yielding promising results. "We have to recruit more than 500 participants in Bhubaneswar who would have volunteered for the third phase of the trial," said a doctor involved in the process.

Patra, the Director of the Central Laboratory, KIMS, will oversee the operations, supported by an investigation team led by Prof. Dr. P.C. Samantaray.

The Site initiation visit (SIV) started on August 29, where the ICMR team from various institutes of ICMR, Sponsor from Panacea Biotech and JSS as CRO for the study visited KIMS to guide the trial team on operating procedures of the trial. The global incidence of dengue has been steadily increasing over the past two decades. According to WHO, more than 129 countries have reported dengue viral disease by the end of 2023. India ranks among the top 30 countries with the highest incidence of dengue, with Odisha ranking sixth among the states. Telangana tops the chart, followed by Delhi and Rajasthan. The dengue virus has four serotypes, 1-4, which provide low cross-protection against each other. Therefore, an individual infected with one serotype is not immune to the others and can experience repeated infections.

## DSP Prashant Sahoo honored with international Kalki Gaurav Award 2024.



of Kalki Foundation Trust, told that DSP Prashant Sahoo is an inspiration for all of us. Along with this, we have

been honoring the personalities who have played an important role in nation building with the prestigious Kalki Gaurav

Samman for the past several years. The aim of the organization is to increase the feeling of patriotism among the countrymen.

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# Monsoon Tips for the Working Woman



As a working woman, you need to look your best, because this imparts self-confidence – an attribute all working women need. Yet, you have to go easy on the powder and paint. The skin should be healthy and clear.

The first and foremost step in taking care of the skin is to keep it free from dampness in order to keep it beautiful and glowing.

While your career doesn't hinge on your wardrobe, still, your appearance has the power to enhance or diminish it.

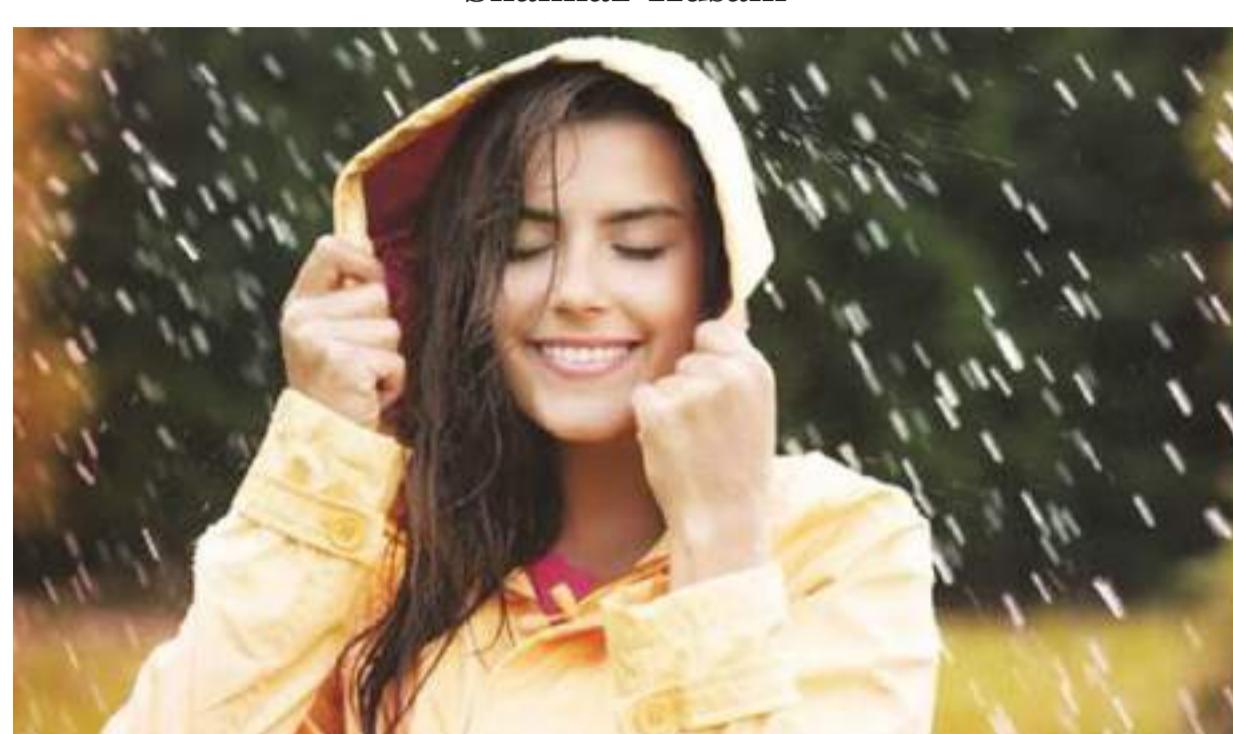
The key to dressing up confidently and stylish begins with being comfortable! When you are comfortable in your clothes, you naturally come off as a confident woman. Nothing beats

the versatility and comfort of cotton.

I will suggest wearing cotton clothes during this season for comfort, breathable fabric and elasticity. Wearing cotton tops or dresses will help you look stylish and confident all while you're comfortable in it too!

Add a pop of color to your wardrobe! Bright hues like vibrant pinks, blues, oranges, and yellows are perfect for injecting some cheer into rainy days. Avoid light colors like white and beige that can become translucent when wet, and instead, opt for darker shades that hide rain marks. Opt for waterproof footwear including sliders or boots that will keep your feet dry and prevent any slips on wet surfaces.

Avoid heels or suede options as they can easily get damaged and can also be uncomfortable for the season. Cleansing is of great importance for the working woman, who



leaves home to get to work, battling through traffic and exposing herself.

Refresh your skin with moist tissues during the monsoons, to remove sweat and refresh the skin. Always cleanse the skin at night, before going to bed, so that you can remove make-up, stale sweat and oil deposits, as well as dirt and pollutants.

Since working women keeps on moving and hence they face

problems of dehydration mostly who travel long distances to reach office and back home in hot and humid temperature. Eating fresh fruits and veggies high in water content will keep the skin supple for longer hours, in the days with high humidity levels. Include fruits like cantaloupe, apple, kiwi, tomatoes, cucumber, zucchini for being hydrated inside out. Add Vitamin C, zinc to your diet to ensure

healthy levels of collagen and elastin. Give a plain water wash three times a day, use a cleanser once a day, and follow it up with a good moisturizer. In addition, periodically exfoliate with a good scrub. The scrub is important if you get drenched in the rain often. And last, keep the makeup at minimum. A tulsi neem face wash would be ideal for the hot and humid season. It would help to remove impurities, soothe and

protect the skin from eruptions and rashes. After cleansing, tone the skin with chilled rose water or a rose-based skin tonic. It not only refreshes and cools the skin, but also helps to stimulate blood circulation to the skin surface and add a glow. A matte moisturizer is ideal if the weather is hot and humid. For dry skins, spray on a moisture mist. If your work entails traveling, apply a sunscreen.

Use a facial scrub two or three times a week. A facial scrub helps to remove dead cells and provides deep cleansing of the skin. It brightens and refines the skin.

Twice a week use a face mask. Apply it on the face, avoiding the lips and area around eyes. Wash it off when it is dry. Here are some Monsoon Face Packs:

Clays like fuller's earth (multani mitti) have a cooling effect and reduce oiliness. Mix one tablespoon Fuller's Earth (multani mitti) with rose water. Apply on the face. Wash off when dry. Mix Cucumber juice (or pulp) with two teaspoons powdered milk and one egg white. Put the ingredients in a blender, for a smooth paste. Apply on face and neck and rinse off with water after half an hour. Mix lemon juice with water in equal quantities and freeze it in an ice-cube tray. Whenever you want a refresher, rub a frozen cube lightly over the face and then wipe with cotton wool.

Removes oiliness and refreshes the skin.

Mix egg white, lemon juice and honey and apply like a mask. Wash off after 20 minutes. Lemon and Egg white have cleansing effects and reduce oiliness. Egg white also tightens the skin, while honey is a powerful natural moisturizer.

Avoid cold, raw and dry food during this season. Eat hot meal and include cow ghee in your diet, and ensure you have herbal teas and hot water regularly. Do take a glass of warm milk spiced with some turmeric, cardamom and cinnamon before going to bed. While it will keep the cold/cough at bay, it will also enhance your skin.

Humid weather slows down digestion, so steer clear of fried, seafood and street food. These can cause indigestion, bloating, diarrhoea, or stomach infections.

**The author is international fame beauty expert and is called herbal queen of India**

## Czechoslovakia's historical Velvet Revolution & Velvet Divorce



from The American Revolution (1765 – 1783); The French Revolution (1789 – 1799); The Haitian Revolution (1791 – 1804); The Chinese Revolution (1911) to The Russian Revolution (1917). However, there is not much known about the bloodless Velvet Revolution that brought about the cleavage of Czechoslovakia into two sovereign countries of Czech and Slovak Republics.

In the aftermath of the Second World War, a new political entity The Federal union of 15 Republics with the hegemony of Russia emerged as Soviet Union and to counter the Western Military Block coalesced into NATO, prompting the Communist countries of Eastern Europe – Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania joined Soviet Union to form a conglomerate of the Warsaw Pact. It was the Cold War period before the disintegration of the Soviet Union between 1989 and 1991. In the wake of mass uprising in 1956, Hungary and Poland moved towards democracy and consigned long



Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



tyranny of Communism into dustbin of history. The Velvet Revolution (Czech: Sametová revoluce) or Gentle Revolution (Slovak: Nečná revolúcia) was a non-violent transition of power in what was then Czechoslovakia, happening from 17 November to 28 November 1989. Popular demonstrations against the one-party government of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia included students and

older dissidents. The result was the end of 41 years of one-party rule in Czechoslovakia, and the subsequent dismantling of the command economy and conversion to a parliamentary republic. It was a radical wave of liberal democracy leading to the collapse of most Marxist-Leninist governments in the Eastern Europe and other parts of the world. In 1989 a wave of protests against

command of the situation. In Slovakia a similar group, decrying violence was founded. Daily mass gatherings and slogan-shouting against the discriminatory policy led to a general strike on November 27. The protesters demanded free elections and an end to one-party rule.

The communist authorities were forced to negotiate with the opposition. Consequently, a makeshift government including members of the Civic Forum and Public Against Violence was formed.

It became inevitable for President Gustáv Husák to send in his papers on December 10, 1989. The election of Václav Havel as interim president on December 29, 1989, was a natural corollary to the prevailing situation. Havel created a record by becoming the country's first non-communist leader since 1948.

Subsequently, there was under current of separation between Czechs and the Slovaks. Although many people on both sides wanted to continue living in one united country, but there were strong pressures especially from the National Slovak party that the country split. To

be fair, this was welcomed by some on the Czech side as well since the Czech part of the Republic was heavily sponsoring the Slovak part.

The prime ministers Václav Klaus (Czech) and Vladimír Mečiar (Slovak) began negotiating the rules of the split in June 1992. In July the Slovaks declared independence of their nation and the prime ministers agreed on the split only a few days later.

It seems the Velvet Revolution was motivated by the prophetic lines of Alice Walker, American novelist, first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize, "Poetry is the lifeblood of rebellion, revolution, and the raising of consciousness."

\*Scribe was in Prague (now Czech Republic) in 1967-68 as UNESCO Scholar and spent two weeks in Microbiology laboratory in Bratislava (now Slovak Republic).

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# Bridging Educational Gaps Among Tribals

Prof (Dr.) S N Tripathy



Literacy stands as a pivotal development indicator for tribal communities, with its impacts extending far beyond mere education; higher literacy rates among women are generally associated with lower infant mortality rates, fewer pregnancies, and an elevation of women's status both within domestic and societal spheres. Furthermore, a mother's literacy and educational attainment have profound positive effects on her child's human capital development. Nevertheless, a significant educational disparity persists between general children and tribal children in India, highlighting an area of concern that warrants immediate attention. According to the 2011 census, Scheduled Tribes constitute approximately

8.6 percent of the country's total population, yet they continue to remain socially, economically, and educationally disadvantaged, often relegated to the lowest rungs of the socio-economic hierarchy. These communities, due to their geographic isolation and underdeveloped economy, are frequently subject to exploitation by non-tribal individuals. Powerful external forces, including moneylenders, contractors, officials, and political personnel, maintain a dominant control over these tribes, exacerbating their plight. The poverty-stricken, illiterate, and vulnerable tribes are often unable to resist these forces, making them susceptible to various forms of exploitation. In the context of tribal women's development and empowerment, education emerges as a critical component of progress, as access to education lies at the very heart of sustainable development. The lack of educational opportunities and the subsequent inability to

acquire knowledge and skills are not only defining aspects of poverty but also a means for its perpetuation. Continuous access to meaningful learning opportunities is essential for achieving long-term improvements in productivity, breaking the inter-generational cycles of poverty, facilitating demographic transitions, promoting preventive healthcare, empowering women, and reducing inequality. In the more remote tribal areas of the country, physical access to schooling, particularly at the upper primary stage, remains a significant challenge. While efforts to ensure targeted coverage of all eligible habitations with upper primary school facilities are ongoing, certain sparsely populated areas present unique challenges where the establishment of primary schools may be impractical due to the small number of children. This situation may necessitate the creation of residential schools or hostels to accommodate these children. Moreover, seasonal migration, which is common in several

tribal areas, further complicates access to education. To resolve this, provisions such as seasonal hostels may need to be implemented in all blocks with high levels of migration to help retain children in villages when their parents migrate. The gap in enrollment between Scheduled Tribe (ST) boys and girls can be attributed to a variety of factors, one of which is socio-cultural norms and gender biases that prioritize the education of boys over girls. This often leads families to invest more resources in the education of their sons while neglecting the educational needs of their daughters. Another contributing factor is the lack of infrastructure and facilities in schools that cater to the specific needs of girls, such as separate toilets, safe transportation, and the presence of female teachers. Furthermore, the inaccessibility and poor quality of education in remote and rural areas, where most ST communities reside, present significant

barriers for ST girls. Long distances, inadequate transport infrastructure, and a lack of separate sanitation facilities in schools further exacerbate the challenges. The quality of education in these areas is often subpar, with a shortage of qualified teachers, outdated curricula, and limited resources, all of which can deter families from sending their daughters to school. Moreover, the gender gap in dropout rates has persisted over the years, with girls consistently exhibiting higher dropout rates than boys at all stages of education. This higher dropout rate among girls can be attributed to various factors, including socio-cultural practices, gender bias, and concerns about safety and security in schools. Although the government has implemented several initiatives to address this gap, more needs to be done to ensure that ST girls have equal access to education.

In ensuring access to education in India, a variety of strategies have been employed. One key approach has been the

mobilization of communities, particularly with regards to enrolling girls and working children in school to operationalize the Right to Education (RTE) Act. While the policy mentions the idea of engaging with men and boys, it is silent on its implementation, other than creating gender champions in schools and colleges.

Finally, efforts must be made to make the education system more responsive to the needs of girls through the formation of Village Education Committees, School Development and Management Committees, and other similar bodies, with the hope that girls will be better able to access and benefit from educational opportunities in India. However, after reviewing the various strategies employed to enhance girls' access to and retention in the Indian education system, it becomes apparent that the effectiveness and durability of these strategies vary significantly.

Former Professor of Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, currently at Berhampur, Odisha

## MINIMALIST LIFESTYLE: Remove Excessive Clutter It Just Feels Better

*- The benefits of living a minimalist lifestyle can vary from person to person. Many people feel that it helps to create space physically, mentally and emotionally. Excessive clutter can cause anxiety, so adopting a minimalist lifestyle can provide relief from it to some extent.*



Social activist Padma Vibhushan Sudha Murthy believes in living a simple life. Despite being the owner of crores of rupees, she spends as little as possible on herself. Sudha recently bought a saree. According to her she has bought a saree after 30 years. She believes that one can live life easily and comfortably even with the least things. This kind of lifestyle is called minimalism. Very few people in the world live this kind of lifestyle. Sudha Murthy is also one of them. After Murthy's example of buying a saree after such a long gap, a debate has started on minimalism. Some people consider it to be very minimal, while some people still believe in living life with more things. People have their own arguments in this regard.

Minimalism means a minimum lifestyle. It means living life with a minimum of things or belongings. Minimalism means deliberately living with only those things that you really need. Things that serve your everyday purpose. By doing this, you can remove the distraction caused by unnecessary things, so that you can focus more on the things that matter most to you. If you want to reduce clutter and stress in your life to a great extent, then you should consider adopting a minimal lifestyle. This requires some major changes in lifestyle and mindset. If you commit to it, then after some time you will get many benefits.

Minimal lifestyle means deliberately living with less stuff and focusing only on the essentials. If you are troubled by clutter, looking for fewer distractions or want to cut down on expenses, living with less stuff may be a good option. Living a minimalist life seems much easier and there is no time limit. To adopt a minimalist lifestyle, you can identify the items in your home that you use less and get rid of them. This is an easy way to remove clutter from your home. In other words, living minimally will be a life-changing and life-giving feeling.

Many people decide to try minimalism to reduce stress. If you find yourself with a busy schedule or a cluttered closet you can try living a minimalist life. Fewer commitments, fewer belongings, and fewer distractions. Living a minimalist lifestyle means reflecting on your values and then letting go of things that no longer serve you. Organizing your physical space can be a good place to start. You can start by getting rid of an item, such as a decorative item, that you don't want or need. From there, choose a clutter removal technique that works for you.

For an example of how to begin to opt a minimalist lifestyle, you can start with small items on your shelves or decorative items in storage. If you haven't used them in the past year, consider donating, selling or getting rid of them. If you can, start with the most used places in your home. Consider each item individually and decide if it's essential, useful or brings you joy. A minimalist lifestyle doesn't mean getting rid of everything you own. It means keeping the most essentials. The kitchen is one of the easiest places to reduce unnecessary items. To start, consider the items you use the most. Look at your appliances, utensils and get rid of what you don't use.

Follow the rule of best, favourite and essential. If you have three utensils of the same size, consider which one is your favourite or works best and get rid of the rest. Try not to overpack for things like mugs, plates and utensils. Try to find multi-purpose appliances. Similarly, clothes are another item that is easy to a c c u m u l a t e . Especially if you live in a place that experiences all

seasons and needs an e v e r - c h a n g i n g wardrobe. The easiest way to downsize is to try everything on. Remove anything you don't feel confident in. You can also start by doing a wardrobe overhaul. This means you will have everything you need for everyday wear and at the same time you will have a minimal wardrobe. Consider renting clothes that you will wear only once for special occasions rather than buying a new outfit.

The initial clean-out of belongings in the house can feel relieving for some or challenging for others. However, maintaining a minimalist lifestyle is a much more internal process than an external one and changing your mindset is a key part of achieving success. Practicing mindfulness is a key part of minimalism. Before making a purchase, try to imagine how this item will fit into your life, how often you will use it, and whether it is necessary. It is also very important to be patient with yourself. Adopting a minimalist lifestyle is a big change, so don't expect to be perfect overnight. Give yourself time to make changes and figure out what works and what doesn't for you.

The benefits of

living a minimalist lifestyle can vary from person to person, but many people find that it helps create space physically, mentally, and emotionally. Some people may have anxiety from excessive clutter, so adopting a minimalist lifestyle can relieve this to some extent. The realization that you need less will also help you save money because you will avoid buying things you don't need. Minimalism also helps to reduce your attachment to material things, which can help improve your mental health or increase your satisfaction with what you have. Minimalism can be a way to be more environmentally friendly. Reducing consumption and overbuying and instead investing in fewer high-quality items is a more sustainable way to shop. So, try it today, you'll love it.

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## LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor

The people who are in need to be guaranteed of income sources as well as social security, that both should be provided by the government, but, this measuring thing has been deliberately ignored by the government, which are happening cause of less political desire. So the economic disparities in society have not been eradicated by the government.

Recently, the political equality issue has been raised by the political parties until completion an election period, but at this juncture no one party is ready to discuss the point of social and economic equality. It means at present era which exist the economic disparity than that of social. This condition exists in both communities (SC, ST), which people were socially excluded since before the time, but today they have become an economically excluded due to the socioeconomic disparity.

The reality raises a number of questions. What is the impact of the policy of positive discrimination in terms of employment, education and political empowerment of excluded social groups in India? Do positive discriminations help in the elimination of social stigma? The Constitution of India has taken special care for exclusion and uplifts certain marginalised communities in India.

Economy and economics enhance new ways of livelihood sustenance for the people at large. The tribes are basically aborigines since time immemorial; they had/have continuing their livelihood through traditional way of economic pursuit, but changes are inevitable, in such known ways to different sources and generating income was a very challengeable aspects for the tribes especially who are primitive in nature. There are three primitive tribal groups in West Bengal the Lodha and the Birhor are two, who resided deep inside the forest and its fringe in Paschim Medinipur and Purulia Districts respectively.

Being traditionally hunter gatherer their economy totally depended on the forest. In 1865 the Indian Forest Act was implemented as amended in 1878 and 1927, which put an embargo in entering the forest, thus their economy was totally hit. They lost their age-old rights over the forest; thereby these two tribes were compelled to do away with hunting gathering and find a new way of sustaining livelihood. The dismal situation prevailed since the inception of the said Act which is still in force pushing these tribes in utter dismay. 1894, 1952 and 1988 Forest Policies provided a few concessions which was not adequate enough. Post Independence planning and rehabilitation programmes tailored for them have not reached them properly.

The chosen tribes were compelled to adopt change in economic pursuit, for which the inception of the Indian Forest Act is held solely responsible. This sequel aims to find their present economic condition, sustenance of livelihood and income from different sources in the form of a comparative study for enhancement of economic attune in 21st century.

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## Human Resource Development of Technical Officers of ICAR Fisheries Research Institutes on Advances in Aquatic Health Management



**New Delhi(KCN):** Fish and shellfish diseases incur significant economic loss to the fisheries and aquaculture sector. ICAR fisheries research institutes and fisheries universities of the country are putting significant efforts and resources to develop diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic control measures. For capacity building of technical officers working in different fisheries

research institutes and universities of the country ICAR-CIFRI organized a training programme on "Advances in Aquatic Health Management" at its HQ at Barrackpore during 26-30 August 2024. The programme was inaugurated on 26 August 2024 by Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI, ICAR-NBFGR, OUAT and ICAR-CIFE participated in the 5-days long programme.

## AIFTP plea for early issue of VSV scheme Notification

**Kolkata(KCN):** All India Federation of Tax Practitioners has made a representation to the Revenue Secretary urging for early issue of Notification for implementing Vivad Se Vishwas scheme, 2024 so that people can take benefit of the Scheme. Narayan Jain, National President of AIFTP said that the Scheme will help in settling the pending disputes and reducing litigations. The Scheme

was announced by the Finance Minister in Budget 2024 and thereafter considerable time has passed said Adv. SM Surana, Chairman of the Direct Taxes Representation Committee of AIFTP. AIFTP has also urged for issue of necessary Instruction for implementing increased threshold limits for filing of the departmental appeals as announced by the Finance Minister

## Gujarat's Bharuch Gets 120mm Of Rainfall In 2 Hours, 10 Rivers Overflowing



**Ahmedabad(KCN):** Several parts of Gujarat received heavy rain on Monday, with Bharuch city getting 120 millimetres between 4pm and 6pm, officials said. The India Meteorological Department has forecast widespread rain in the state this week. Monday's rain came after a two-day pause. The state had seen extremely heavy rains last week, which caused widespread flooding.

During the day, south Gujarat districts such as Bharuch, Tapi, Dangs and Navsari received heavy rain, with Songadh and Vyara talukas of Tapi district and Vaghari in Dangs getting more than 200mm in a 12-hour period ending at 6pm, data from the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) showed. "Bharuch city got 120 mm between 4pm and 6pm. Purna and Ambika rivers in Navsari district were flowing above the danger mark and a high alert has been sounded. These are among 10 rivers and 132 reservoirs that are flowing above danger mark in the

state," an official said. The IMD has forecast 'heavy to very heavy' rain in isolated places in Chhota Udepur, Narmada and Surat districts till Wednesday morning.

It has also predicted widespread rain across the state during the next three days, with isolated heavy rain to continue in some parts till Saturday. The IMD said cyclone 'Asna' that had formed off the coast of Kutch on Friday had turned into a depression and moved further south-southwestwards in the Arabian sea on Monday.

In an update, the state government said 132 reservoirs are on 'high alert', while 10 rivers are overflowing.

The water in the state's 206 reservoirs stands at 79 percent of their total capacity, as per the update.

Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi visited Vadodara during the day to review the relief and restoration work in the wake of

## "Really Atrocious, Judges Also Suffer": Supreme Court On Online Trolling



**New Delhi(KCN):** A rueful Supreme Court slammed social media trolls and their actions as "really atrocious", acknowledging that even the highest judicial forum in the country is not immune.

"If we pass an order in favour of someone... the other side trolls the judge," Justice Ujjal Bhuyan said Monday.

"Trolling in social media is really atrocious and everyone is affected. Judges are also trolled," he said, to which his colleague, Justice Surya Kant said it is better to ignore such attacks.

"A large section of irresponsible people have, unfortunately, got access to these platforms. They are completely insensitive (and) are not aware of their duties. They only think about some alleged rights, and will continue to attack all institutions... they have to be ignored."

The court's comments came as it granted bail to Bibhav Kumar, the

aide of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Mr Kumar was arrested 100 days ago for allegedly assaulting Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal, who is a member of Mr Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party, at the Chief Minister's home.

During the hearing the representative for Ms Maliwal highlighted the trolling his client had been subject to on social media, saying, "In this case the crime did not end on May 13... since then there has been trolling and victim-shaming. I have to file a

complaint... the petitioner's friends are constantly trolling - on X, via e-mails, on other social media platforms... everywhere."

Appearing for Mr Kumar, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi pointed out his client could not be held responsible for the actions of others, and that he did not own X or the other platforms.

The Supreme Court's comment on the "atrocious" trolling that has become all too common today came as it sympathised with Ms

Maliwal and her condition.

That did not, however, stop the court from granting Bibhav Kumar bail.

As with recent high-profile bail orders - including AAP leader and ex Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and BRS lawmaker K Kavitha, both arrested in the alleged liquor policy case - the Supreme Court came down strongly on keeping accused persons in jail without a trial.

Mr Kumar has spent 100 days in jail.

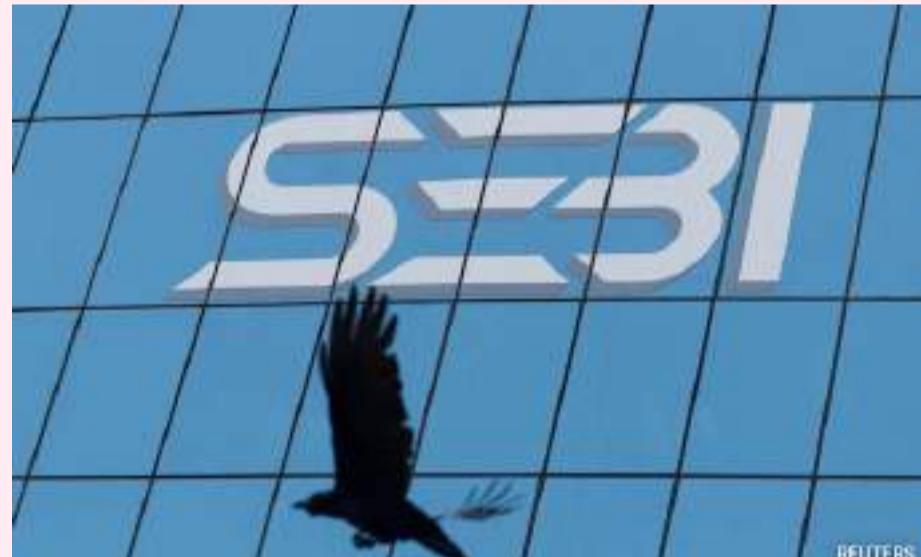
"Petitioner is in custody for 100 days. Chargesheet filed. It is a case for bail, and you should not oppose. You can't keep a person in jail in such cases," the court told Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, who was representing Delhi Police that was opposing the grant of bail to Mr Kumar.

On July 12, the Delhi High Court had dismissed Mr Kumar's bail plea, saying he enjoys "considerable influence" and no ground to grant him the relief was made out.

In granting bail today, the Supreme Court also underlined the 'bail is the rule, jail is the exception' legal principle it upheld in releasing Mr Sisodia and Ms Kavitha.

Pointing to the right to personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution, the court observed, as it has in other cases, that one cannot curtail liberty as a practice and that doing so has consequences.

## Didnt Pay Salary To SEBI Chief After Retirement: ICICI On Congress Claim



**New Delhi(KCN):** Madhabi Puri Buch, the chairperson of SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India), has not been paid any salary since her retirement, ICICI bank said today, denying Congress's "office of profit" claims.

The Congress had alleged earlier today that Ms Buch, who joined SEBI as a member in 2017 and subsequently became its chairperson, had received ₹ 16.8 crore from ICICI Bank as salary and other compensation.

"ICICI Bank or its group companies have not paid any salary or granted any ESOPs to Madhabi Puri Buch after her retirement, other than her retiral benefits. It may be

noted that she had opted for superannuation with effect from October 31, 2013," the bank said in a statement.

"During her employment with the ICICI Group, she received compensation in the form of salary, retiral benefits, bonus and ESOPs, in line with applicable policies... All

the payments made to Ms. Buch post her retirement had accrued to her during her employment phase with the ICICI Group. These payments comprise ESOPs and retiral benefits," the statement read.

Congress's Jairam Ramesh has claimed a

conflict of interest on part of the SEBI chairperson. He said serious questions have been raised about it in the regulatory body's Supreme Court-mandated investigations.

"These questions seem to have been simply brushed aside by the Government of India. Now comes this fresh revelation of

shocking illegality," Mr Ramesh said in a post on X.

At a press conference today, alleging conflict of interest, the Congress asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to come clean as the head of the appointments committee of the cabinet on her appointment.

The party alleged that the total amount received by Ms Buch from ICICI from her time of joining SEBI in 2017 and till today, totals ₹ 16.8 crore which is 5.09 times the income she received from SEBI during the same period -- ₹ 3.3 crore.

The Supreme Court, the Congress said, should take note of the fresh revelations and demanded that the SEBI chairperson be sacked immediately.

## "BJP Only Party That Follows Democracy," Says PM Modi At BJP Membership Drive Launch



**New Delhi(KCN):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched the BJP's 2024 membership drive by renewing his membership. The new membership drive was launched here with PM Modi getting the certificate for the renewal of his membership from BJP president JP Nadda.

Speaking at the launch of BJP's 'Sanghatan Parva, Sadasayata Abhiyan 2024', Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that BJP is not only the biggest party of the world but is also a unique party.

"BJP is not only the world's largest political party but also the most

democratic party. No other party conducts its membership drive with such transparency and honesty as the BJP," he said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said BJP stands out

as the most credible political party in the world.

"Modiji has made sure that even if we dream big, our promises to people must always remain in alignment with

politics for the sake of forming govt, but to form an empowered society," he said.

As part of membership drive existing BJP members also need to renew their membership. The membership drive will culminate in the election of new party president.

In his remarks, BJP chief and Union Health Minister expressed confidence that the membership drive will cross over 10-crore mark. "Seeing your enthusiasm and the love of people of India for PM Modi as well as their faith in the BJP, I can confidently say that the Sadasayata Abhiyan this time will also cross 10 crore again," he said.

# KSK benefits elude farmers

**Jajpur(KCN):** Although the state government has reportedly established krushi seva kendras (KSKs) to rent agricultural equipment to farmers at a nominal price, lack of awareness among the peasants and apathy of the KSKs have rendered the scheme defunct while the resultant surge in agricultural input costs has denuded the profit margin of farmers. Official sources said the state government, in a bid to reduce the production cost of the crops, has established 2,795 KSKs during the period from FY 2013-14 to January 2024. KSKs provide tractors, power tillers, paddy harvesters

& cutters, seedling planters, seeding machines, disc ploughs, sprinklers, motor pumps and pesticide sprayers to farmers on a fair price basis. Though 10 years have elapsed since the rollout of the scheme, many farmers in rural areas are unaware of it. As a result, farmers in rural areas are shelling out more from their pockets to hire these farm equipment from private players. Observers have maintained that the lack of proper publicity of this scheme by the concerned department and the state government has left the KSKs to run only in pen and papers. As a result, paddy farmers' cost of production has increased

and profit reduced. Sources said paddy farmers have reportedly spent around Rs 1,455 per quintal but sold it at a meagre Rs 2,183 in 2023-24 FY. Moreover, farmers in many areas have reportedly resorted to distress sale. They have sold their paddy to the middlemen and agents at a throwaway price of Rs 1,800 per quintal. Sources said expenditure per quintal of paddy has increased from Rs 1,208 in 2019-20 FY to Rs 1,245 in 2020-21 FY and further from Rs 1,293 in 2021-22 FY to 1,360 in 2022-23 FY. The cost of production per quintal of paddy is only increasing over the years. The cost

of production per quintal of jowar stood at Rs 2,120, Rs 1,371 for bajra, Rs 1,394 for maize, Rs 2,564 for raggi, Rs 5,705 for green gram, Rs 3,029 for soyabean and Rs 4,411 for cotton. Moreover, allegations of large-scale

irregularities in various agricultural schemes are nothing new. Farmers are being demanded bribes anything between Rs 8,000 to Rs 10,000 for sanction of a loan or enlistment of their names in agricultural schemes. The state government

has ruled that secretary or managing director of a primary agricultural credit society (PACS) or the large area multipurpose society (LAMPS) can neither withhold nor use the loan passbook or chequebook of farmers. However, this order is yet to be executed in letter and spirit as the officials of these societies continue to dictate terms over the farmers. Farmers have failed to bring any change in their financial condition as the cost of production has been rising. Farmers Damodar Das, Sudam Charan Sahu, Jogendra Sahu, Anurodh Swain and Jyotiranjan Mohanty said that they do not have any knowledge as to what a KSK does. They admitted that they came to know from this correspondent about renting of farm equipment at subsidised prices by the KSKs. Currently, they are hiring a tractor at Rs 1,200 per hour and a paddy cutter at Rs 2,200 per hour from private vendors. When contacted, the assistant registrar of cooperative societies, Jajpur, Benudhar Mallick said KSKs are yet to become functional in Jajpur district while the state government claims to have established 22 KSKs in the district. Locals and farmers have alleged that this is nothing but an eyewash and the state government is just hoodwinking the people.

## IIM Sambalpur organises buyer-seller meet for weavers



**Sambalpur(KCN):** To empower the traditional handloom sector of India, particularly in Odisha, IIM Sambalpur, one of the premier management institutions, recently organised a 'buyer-seller' meet at its campus. The event aimed to facilitate networking between master weavers and distinguished buyers from various regions of India, including prominent brands such as 'Fabindia', 'Nykaa Fashions', 'Reliance Swadesh' and 'Aditya Birla Liva'. The initiative provided master weavers in the state with direct access to the markets, thereby significantly enhancing their global business opportunities

and promoting the rich heritage of Odisha's handloom industry. On the occasion, a booklet entitled 'Natural Dyeing' was also unveiled by the dignitaries. The event marked the successful conclusion of the second edition of the 12-weekend 'Small Business Management Training Programme', specifically designed for weavers from Western Odisha being conducted at the IIM Sambalpur campus. The programme was organised in collaboration with several key stakeholders, including the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Aditya Birla Grasim, Imperial College, the ORMAS and

Mission Shakti Department of Odisha. Prof Mahadeo Jaiswal, director, IIM Sambalpur, delivered a thought-provoking address that underscored the significant role of the handloom sector in preserving India's rich cultural heritage. "Our focus on reviving India's handloom industry is part of a sustainable approach. Through the creation of Project: 'Bunkarvalley.com', we aspire to create a hub similar to Silicon Valley, dedicated to revitalising and promoting handloom crafts in national and international markets. This initiative nurtures both human and environmental well-

being," Prof Jaiswal stated. "By emphasising the five Ps of marketing such as Product, Price, Place, Promotion and People, we tried to equip weavers alike our MBA students with the tools to elevate the traditional handloom products to the global market. This initiative is not just a local effort but a movement with the potential to transform India's economy," the director added. The keynote address was delivered by Arup Kumar, CGM and Eastern Zonal In-charge, SIDBI.

He highlighted the cluster intervention programme being conducted by SIDBI in collaboration with IIMs and IITs to enhance the capabilities of small and medium enterprises, particularly within the handloom sector. "We believe that transformation is the result of a collective vision and resolute action," Kumar stated. Others who attended the programme included Keshav Rao, director (Personnel), MCL.

## Union Steel secretary concludes RSP visit



**Rourkela(KCN):** Union Steel secretary Sandeep Poundrik completed his two-day visit to the steel city, Saturday. He was accompanied by Union joint secretary Amarendra Prakash and SAIL chairman Sanjay Roy. The trio along with director in charge of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) Atanu Bhowmick visited different departments of the steel plant. The visit is viewed as a precursor to a massive modernisation programme at RSP. Poundrik held discussions with Chief Minister

Mohan Charan Majhi in his chamber. Sources said the focus of the discussion was regarding modernisation of RSP. The modernisation, sources said, aims at making RSP capable of producing 9 million tonne steel annually. Presently the capacity stands at 4.5 million tonnes. People with knowledge about steel manufacturing and the steel market believe that RSP needs to go for a massive modernization, if it has to thrive in a competitive market. Speaking about the discussion and possible modernisation coming in

land acquisition remained a big issue. In fact, all the unions are in favour of modernisation and they believe that survival and competitiveness of this steel major require this upgrade.

Soon after his arrival Friday, Poundrik chaired a high-level meeting at Manthan Conference hall of RSP. The meeting was attended by SAIL chairman, joint secretary (Steel), director in-charge, all the executive directors, CGMs, HODs and senior officials of the plant. Poundrik reviewed the performance of the steel plant on various fronts. A comprehensive presentation on the overview of the plant was presented during the meeting. It was followed by an interaction session. Poundrik and others left for New Delhi in the afternoon.



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# Amazon India signs an MoU with the Indian Coast Guard to create work opportunities for ex-service personnel

**Bhubaneswar:** Amazon India today signed an MoU with the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), under Ministry of Defence, to provide ex-service personnel with work opportunities across the company, in line with its commitment towards an inclusive workplace.

At Amazon India, there has been a consistent focus on diversity, equity and inclusion in its workforce where unique perspectives are valued and welcomed. The company fosters a culture that is conducive to growth and offers people equal opportunities to unlock their full potential while empowering them to do more. The company's commitment on providing

equal access to opportunities and resources cuts across all communities of talent including focused efforts around women, LGBTQIA+, military veterans and the differently abled, amongst others from different backgrounds, demographics, and social strata, to enable them to expand their horizons. Over the last few years, Amazon India has launched multiple initiatives to bring diversity, equity, and inclusion into the workforce.

In August 2019, Amazon India launched a Military Veterans Employment program to create hundreds of opportunities for military veterans and their



spouses across the company's fulfilment network, across India. This was done in partnership with the Army Welfare Placement

Organization (AWPO) to create continued work opportunities for military veterans and their families across India. More recently, Amazon

India further strengthened its commitment to provide ex-service personnel with work opportunities across its growing operations

(DGR). This MoU with the DGR enables Amazon India to mobilize the untapped potential of veterans, giving it access to a greater talent pipeline. "At Amazon, we are very humbled to build further on our efforts to strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion at our workplace. Due to the deep appreciation of the wealth of experience and unique perspective of ex-service personnel, Amazon runs the Military Veterans Employment Programme globally. With the signing of this MoU, we are excited to work with the Indian Coast Guard towards a common goal of creating meaningful work opportunities for our veterans and their families. We will continue to leverage the wealth of

experience of military veterans, who are an incomparable addition to Amazon," said Deepa Varma, VP, People Experience Technology, Amazon India, Japan & Emerging Markets. The Indian Coast Guard, said, "The vast experience our veterans possess can be leveraged for tremendous success across diverse industries and businesses. Amazon India has taken proactive steps in offering employment opportunities to military veterans. This MoU marks a significant milestone as we unite in the pursuit of a shared objective: fostering meaningful career paths for ex-service personnel from the Indian Coast Guard."

## SpiceJet and Axis Bank launch co-branded credit card

**GURUGRAM:** SpiceJet, the country's favourite airline and Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector bank, have partnered to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card, powered by Visa that will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers. The card comes in two variants – SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black, and is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in India.

Through this collaboration, the two

brands hope to capitalize on the resurgent demand for travel following two years of stagnation caused by the pandemic. Further, with the shared goal of expanding their reach to Tier 2 & 3 cities and other synergies, the brands are committed to serving a much larger populace.

SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage & Voyage Black credit cards were officially launched at Indira Gandhi International airport in the presence of Ajay Singh, Chairman and MD, SpiceJet and Amitabh Chaudhary, MD & CEO, Axis Bank, where they unveiled a special

SpiceJet-Axis Bank credit card livery on a SpiceJet Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

The products are designed to enable customers use the rewards earned on their daily spends for booking flights and add-ons, thus encouraging both travel and digital payments embedded with benefits of SpiceJet's frequent flyer program, SpiceClub.

Customers can earn benefits up to 7% on the Voyage Black credit card which is a Top-tier offering in the travel credit card segment. In addition, the redemption of earned points does not

have any limitations on blackout dates, festival demand, and are on first-come basis. Cardholders would get exclusive SpiceClub membership with direct entry in either Silver or Gold tiers, and special benefits like complimentary or discounted travel add-ons, priority check-in, SpiceMax upgrade, preferred seat selection, complimentary meal etc.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet, said, "I am delighted to announce the launch of the SpiceJet-Axis Bank co-branded Credit Card. This card will make every customer journey an even

more rewarding one. We are the pioneers of the frequent flyer program for budget airlines in the country and this partnership with Axis Bank significantly strengthens the value offering of SpiceClub. Our association with Axis Bank – founded on the shared vision to offer unparalleled customer experience – is yet another innovative step towards creating a world class travel experience. I hope to see our customers enjoying the benefits of this rewarding collaboration as much as they love to fly with us."

## Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV

**Bhubaneswar :** Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with Hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, "OK Google" to issue a voice command.

## RELIANCE NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE RECORDS STRONG GROWTH IN FY

**Mumbai :** Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited, a JV between Reliance Capital and Nippon Life of Japan, announced its financial results for the year ended March 31, 2022. The key performance highlights as on March 31, 2022 include: Commenting on the company's strong performance in FY22, Mr. Ashish Vohra, ED &

CEO, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance said, "FY22 continued to pose its own set of challenges with the outbreak of the second, and then the third wave of the pandemic. We are grateful for the support we have received from our customers, employees, distributors, service providers and their families, that powered our journey of providing maximum value to each one of our stakeholders." Mr. Vohra further highlighted that in a volatile economic environment of today, there is a heightened appreciation of Life Insurance for ensuring certainty of life coverage as well as financial investments. These guarantees are designed to drive durable long-term returns and to help customers fulfill their life goals and form the

bedrock of our business model.

The company paid death claims, maturity and survival benefit payouts of over Rs. 1,877 Cr in FY22 and achieved an impressive claims settlement ratio of 98.7% for FY22, up from 98.5% in FY21. The company expeditiously settled 3,517 Covid related claims worth Rs. 117 Cr. within an average period of 9 working days. Mr. Vohra

further commented, "A death claim is the ultimate test of a Life Insurance product, and it is the 'dharma' of a Life Insurer to honour all such claims with speed and accuracy. We continue to be fully committed and financially stable at 235% solvency (against the regulatory requirement of 150%), to meet all customer claims that may arise in the times ahead."

## NTPC Coal Mining Projects Shine Bright with Star Rating Awards for Sustainable Mining Excellence

**New Delhi, (KCN):** NTPC's Dulanga Coal Mining Project in Odisha and Talaipalli Coal Mining Project in Chhattisgarh have received Star Rating (Achievers Rank) under Opencast category for the year 2019-20. Shri Shivam Srivastava, Director (Fuel) and Shri Animesh Jain, CEO, NML received the awards from Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs at the Annual Star Rating of Coal Mines award ceremony held on 20th December in Delhi.

NTPC has conceptualized the development of all its mines as a "Model Mine" by adopting the best technological practices, integration of digital tools for operational efficiency, striving towards "Zero Incident potential", promoting green footprints and setting benchmarks in the mining industry. It has also fostered sustainable development of the area in and around its mining projects through skill development of youth, womenfolk, health, education, infrastructure building and other need-based initiatives.

## Sunstone expands its presence in Bhubaneswar

**Bhubaneswar :** Sunstone, one of India's leading higher education service providers with presence across 25 cities in 30+ institutions, expanded its network of campuses with the onboarding of Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha.

Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM) is

duly recognized as a pioneer in 'Skill Integrated Higher Education'. Its unique model lays specific emphasis on creating sustainable livelihoods on a national scale in challenging geographies

through education that results in employability and

sparks entrepreneurship. This model has been recognized by multiple Governments (Central and State), International Organizations such as UNESCO and the World Bank as well as Policy Think-tanks such as the Niti Ayog.

Centurion University has continually strived to be a best-in-class human resource development hub that builds employable, enterprising and society centric youth through industry relevant education, skill development, new

ventures, production, and technology development. The founders, faculty and staff are fully committed to its credo: Shaping Lives. Empowering Communities. With this addition, Sunstone advantage would now be available with B.Com, BCA, B.Tech, MBA-Maritime Management, BBA-Health Care Management, MBA-Health Care Management and MBA courses offered by Centurion University.

Experian launches new cloud-based decisioning solution – PowerCurve® Strategy Management

**MUMBAI:** Experian, the world's leading global information services company, has launched a new PowerCurve® Strategy Management solution, a powerful decisioning solution delivered as software-as-a-service via cloud. The solution is designed to help organisations leverage data and make faster, secure, and informed business decisions.

PowerCurve® is a unified platform that helps businesses understand and leverage their data across the entire customer life cycle – be it acquisition, retention or growth – to make fast, efficient decisions that support their strategic goals. With the new solution, businesses will be able to swiftly adapt their decision-based strategies at lower operational cost while harnessing the power of cloud.

Neeraj Dhawan, Managing Director, Experian India, says: "Financial institutions in India are looking for more agile and scalable decisioning solutions. To fulfil their needs, we have come up with a comprehensive suite of solutions to help businesses make better decisions and stay one step ahead."



# Gus Atkinson helps England take 2-0 lead

**London:** England secured a hard-fought victory by 190 runs on the fourth afternoon at Lord's and took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series against Sri Lanka. It was their fifth win on the trot this summer and second under the stand-in captain Ollie Pope.

Gus Atkinson, who scored a century in the first innings, starred in the second with a five-wicket haul that helped bowl out Sri Lanka for 292. The victory came soon after Tea, with the new ball leading to three quick wickets. Dhananjaya de Silva, who made his 16th

Test fifty, inside-edged an Atkinson delivery onto his stumps and Milan Rathnayake edged behind soon after. Chris Woakes wrapped up the innings and the win with an off-pace delivery to Lahiru Kumara on what was a slow pitch on offer. Most of the damage was done by England in the afternoon but the second session started with a flurry of boundaries from Dinesh Chandimal, the batter finding the middle of the bat against Shoaib Bashir's offspin but not quite able to do the same against Chris Woakes. The pacer bowled a probing six-over spell but

with no wickets to show for. Chandimal, meanwhile, went on to make a half-century off 42 balls, the quickest by a Sri Lankan at Lord's. In the process, Chandimal added a half-century stand for the fifth wicket but England broke through soon after the milestone with the wicket of Angelo Mathews. It was a nice set-up by Shoaib Bashir, who went round the wicket and got the batter chipping to mid-off.

Chandimal was finally undone in a fresh spell from Gus Atkinson when he inside-edged

onto his pad and lobbed a catch to short leg. The pacer struck again in his next over and sent back the in-form Kamindu Mendis caught-behind. Skipper, Dhananjaya de Silva and Milan Rathnayake came together and added 73 runs for the eighth wicket. De Silva in particular looked impressive during his 70-ball stay and brought up his 16th Test fifty with a drive down the ground. He was castled as a delivery by Atkinson kept low, soon after which the batter chopped on.

Earlier in the morning



## Ollie Pope wants 'fresh start' at The Oval with bat in hand

**New Delhi:** For the first time in 20 years, England have the chance of ending their summer with a 100 percent win record. Things have been going great for the team, especially for Joe Root and Gus Atkinson, who have been the face of England's victories this summer. Atkinson's rise has been phenomenal and the 26-year old pacer has been consistently getting on the Lord's honours board, the latest being a five-wicket haul that delivered England an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match Test series against Sri Lanka. But amidst all these, there has been tremendous scrutiny on the form of Ollie Pope, England's number three and their stand-in captain for this series in the absence of Ben Stokes. He had a good series against the West Indies, scoring a century and two half-centuries, but hit a lean patch against Sri Lanka with scores of 6, 6, 1 and 17. Former cricketers and experts have questioned his shot-selection and lack of confidence at the start of his innings and have pointed out that captaincy is perhaps weighing him down.



Speaking after England's 190-run victory at Lord's, Pope acknowledged his lack of runs but offered hope of regaining form when he plays at his home ground at The Oval in the next match. "I'm not going to hide behind the fact that I've had two poor games with the bat. That's the way cricket is sometimes and form comes and goes. But I think the best players are the ones who can draw a line under it and have a fresh start next week. Hopefully, I can put a score together. "The last two games I've had, they're learning games for me. It definitely is something that I'm still trying to improve in my game, and obviously the way that I start my innings especially is something

that I want to keep on improving - and then when I do get in, it's trying to cash in as well," he said. Pope said he was not taken by surprise by the criticism directed at him but added that he wasn't affected by it. "I'm not surprised. Chatting to Stokes before this series, when you're captain as well, you're going to attract a lot more [criticism]. To be honest, it's just important to block it out and keep staying close with the people around you. There's a lot of voices, a lot of guys who want to have their say - some past cricketers as well - and that's completely fine. "Everyone's entitled to their opinion, but it's important for us as a team and me to stay and

keep trusting the people in the four walls, because that's not going to help me get back into my best form. Sometimes, when you have two bad games, it can feel a lot worse than it is because of the noise that's surrounding it.

"For me, it's just trying to stay as level as I can and keep on trusting the people around me, putting my work in, and not really overthinking it, to be honest. When I went and made good runs in that West Indies series, that's exactly what I was playing like, so there's no real need for me to get too involved in what people are saying," said Pope.

Meanwhile, Pope is looking forward to England completing their summer with victories in all their Tests, something that hasn't happened since 2004 when they

cleanswept New Zealand (3-0) and West Indies (4-0). "It would be a pretty cool thing to look back on. We've played some really good cricket throughout this summer, and obviously had a tough winter away in India where the results

weren't what we wanted on the return trip.

elimination bracket began. Despite being low-seeded, he managed to survive in the race to win an elusive gold. He went on to take down Mexico's Victor Viveros Sardina in the Round of 32, Finland's Jere Forsberg in the Round of 16. He defeated Great Britain's Nathan MacQueen in the quarterfinals and China's He Zihao in the semifinals. He faced



China's Ai Xinlang in the final, whom he beat 149-147 in a dramatic fashion to claim the much-awaited gold medal. In Para archery, it is only possible to claim 150 points and he managed to score 149 and made a new Paralympic record. This remarkable win comes twelve years after Stutzman won his first medal at the Paralympic Games - a silver medal at London 2012.

## US Open: Alexander Zverev edges past Nakashima, Sabalenka eases into quarterfinals

**New Delhi:** Alexander Zverev qualified to the quarter-final of the US Open men's singles beating Brandon Nakashima by 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2. Aryna Sabalenka also eased into quarter-finals with straight sets win over Elise Mertens. Alexander Zverev qualified for the

quarter-finals of the US Open 2024 as he beat Brandon Nakashima in the round of 16 match at the Louis Armstrong Stadium on Monday, September 2. Zverev defeated the Nakashima by 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 to advance to the quarter-finals for the fourth

time in the tournament. The German started the match on a defensive note losing the first set by 3-6 as he awarded a break point to the American rival due to a backhand unforced error. However, Zverev made a brilliant comeback in the next three

earning six break points over

Nakashima which proved to be the deciding factor between the two. Reflecting on his performance after the game, the fourth seed admitted to have been defensive at the beginning and knew had the step up his game.

## Seifert, Rajapaksa stun Patriots after Lewis and Mayers record stand

**New Delhi:** A 54-ball unbeaten 100 by Evin Lewis and Kyle Mayers's 62-ball 92 went in vain as important knocks from Tim Seifert, Bhanuka Rajapaksa and David Wiese set up a winning start for Saint Lucia Kings. Lewis and Mayers were involved in a record 199-run second wicket partnership that powered St Kitts and Nevis Patriots to 201 for 3. The Kings, playing their first game, mounted a stunning fightback after losing early wickets, thanks to Seifert's 27-ball 64. Seifert put on a 44-ball 103 run stand with Rajapaksa (68\* off 35). The latter then joined forces with Wiese (34\*

off 20) in an unbroken 75-run partnership off 38 balls that helped the Kings over the line with five wickets in hand and 2.4 overs to spare. Asked to bat, the Patriots lost an early wicket as Andre Fletcher got run-out for one in the opening over. But, Mayers and Lewis quickly got the team going with a flurry of fours and sixes, helping Patriots get 54 in the powerplay. Lewis went a gear higher when he struck three successive sixes off Mikkel Govia in the 8th over and followed it up with a six and two fours off Alzarri Joseph as he got to a 24-ball fifty and helped Patriots to 100 at

the end of the 10th over. There was no respite for the Kings bowlers as Lewis and Mayers added to their partnership, with the latter bringing up a 37-ball fifty with a six off Roston Chase in the 14th over. In the same over, Lewis hit the spinner for two more maximums. Mayers also struck sixes off Noor Ahmad and Wiese as the pair went past Chris Gayle and Chadwick Walton's 162-run partnership in 2019 to register the highest stand, for any wicket, in the history of the CPL. Both Mayers and Lewis were batting in the 90s, having struck a combined 16 sixes and 13 fours, when there was a rain

interruption in the 19th over. Lewis went on to bring up his 100 in the final over but Mayers was caught at deep cover off Wiese, who bowled a tidy over. Mayers then got into the act with the ball as well, picking up two wickets in the third over, dismissing Johnson Charles and Akeem Auguste. Anrich Nortje then dismissed Faf du Plessis

and Chase in the next over to reduce the Kings to 24 for 4. Seifert and Rajapaksa led a superb fightback as they took on the Patriots bowlers in a counter-attacking partnership. Enroute to a 21-ball fifty, Seifert struck as many as six maximums and 29 runs came in the ninth over, bowled by Ashmead Nedd, as the Kings crossed the 100-run mark. The pair also raised a century stand before Odean Smith struck in the 11th over to provide the much-needed wicket for the Patriots, getting Seifert to miscue to mid-off. The equation came

