

## Internet for creativity Pradhan favors MR link

**Bhubaneswar (KC-N):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today exhorted student of Utkal University to focus on using

abled farmers to rent tractors. Our youngsters need to go all the way to use their creativity and youthful energy to break new

he exhorted them to work for creating an environment that nurtures quality and enables students to strive for excellence.

turned tense on the Utkal University Campus here hours before Mr.Patnaik's visit leading to detention of scores of stu-

**Berhampur (KC-N):** Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan today advocated linking of River Mahanadi and River Rushikulya (MR).

He said MR Link it will enable the creation of irrigation potential in several districts of the State.

The linking of the two major rivers will enable creation of irrigation potential in Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamal districts and mitigate the nagging problem of drinking water scarcity in Berhampur town," Union Minister said.

Mr.Pradhan was addressing a meeting on the occasion of some of the Congress and CPI leaders joining BJP.

The waters of River Mahanadi goes waste, he said adding "It can be utilized by linking these two rivers, which will benefit the people of the southern part of the

state."

Mr.Pradhan criticized the State Government said it had failed to create irriga-

State Government, which was doing nothing for the interest of the State.

"They have faith

in Mr.Pradhan's presence.

Mr.Dyansa-mantra had unsuccessfully contested the State Legislative Assembly elections in 2014 and had resigned from Congress after the panchayat poll earlier this year.

### Heat Wave In Odisha

**Bhubaneswar(KC-N):** Heat Wave swept across Odisha today throwing life out of gear with Angul becoming the hottest place at 44.7 degrees Celsius.

The maximum temperature in State Capital Bhubaneswar increased to 39.2 deg C from 37.8 recorded on 27 April, while the mercury stood at 39 deg C in Cuttack city, the MeT Office sources said.

Normal life was thrown out of gear in most parts of the state, particularly in western Odisha, due to scorching heat with roads wearing a deserted look during the day as people chose to keep indoors.



internet for creative pursuits.

Speaking at the annual function of Students' Union of Utkal University at Vani Vihar here today, Mr.Patnaik said there are examples of successful start-up companies by youngsters using internet for a variety of usages.

"You might have heard of Uber model for agricultural machinery that has en-

grounds and lift people along with them", he added.

Chief Minister asked youngsters to take advantage of the start-up policy announced by the State Government and move forward in their chosen fields.

Lauding the faculty members for grant of A-Plus grading by National Assessment and Accreditation Council,

"We need to strive continuously towards excellence in teaching and learning, in research and in contributing effectively to society in various walks of life", Mr.Patnaik said.

Chief Minister, in order to make the Central Instrumentation Centre fully functional, announced a grant of Rs 15 crore towards purchase of instruments.

Earlier, situation

dents' Congress activists by police.

According to sources, a motorcycle rally was taken out by the students' wing of Congress in protest of CM's visit.

Upon being stopped, a scuffle broke out between the police and the activists.

Amid tension, police detained around 50 student activists, sources informed.

## Turkey, US can turn Raqqa into 'graveyard' for IS: Erdogan

**ISTANBUL(KCN):** Turkey and the



United States can join forces to turn the Islamic State group's de-facto capital of Raqqa in neighbouring Syria into a "graveyard" for the jihadists, the Turkish president said today.

"The huge America, the coali-

Raqa into a graveyard for Daesh," Erdogan told an Istanbul meeting, using an alternative name for the IS group. His comments come ahead of a meeting with President Donald Trump in mid-May in the United States.

### Election Commission of India to soon call all-party meeting on EVM issue: Nasim Zaidi

**CHANDIGARH(KCN):** The Election Commission of India (ECI) will soon call a meeting of all political parties to assure them that



the electronic voting machines (EVMs) were tampering-proof and secured, Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi said today.

He also said that the commission intends to use Voter- Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) in all coming elections to bring in more transparency and boosting the confidence of people in the electoral process.

"We will soon hold an all party meeting in which they will be told how our EVMs are non-tamperable and secured as per our administrative and technical safeguard system," the CEC told reporters here.

He was responding to questions about allegations levelled by various political parties against EVMs. Recently sixteen opposition parties had urged the ECI to revert to ballot system, claiming the faith of the people in EVMs had been "eroded".

Zaidi also said that the ECI is planning to "hold a challenge" for which time frame is being worked out. The electoral body is planning to throw an open challenge, asking anyone to try hacking **See page - 7**



# MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

## ADMISSION OPEN FOR

### PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

Laugh  
Play  
Learn  
Share

## MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,  
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com



Find us on  
[facebook.com/maharishiplayschool](https://www.facebook.com/maharishiplayschool)



FOLLOW US  
ON TWITTER  
[twitter.com/maharishiplayschool](https://twitter.com/maharishiplayschool)

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible / liable for any consequences, in cases such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE

**SALE**  
Kawasaki Bajaj in tiptop condition for sale. Contact: 2555328

**PURCHASE**  
Required a Marshal/Commandor / Boleo in good condition. Contact 2555783



REAL ESTATE

**SALE**  
Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale. Contact : 988-1078308

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale. Contact : 0674-2556733  
Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/-. The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/-. For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis. Contact : 2555763



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and Foreign trip opportunity, 923890400-1. Independent business work from home, training in Singapore, 9338014287.



MATRIMONIAL

**BRIDE WANTED**  
Wanted bride for Khadayat Boy, 37plus, Caste no bar, 0674-2555763

**GROOM WANTED**  
Wanted Groom any service / business family for a Bramhin Girl. Contact 2555226

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamardo. Contact : 9238891168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBSR contact : 9437002509

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Stored North/East facing building at Puri. Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (18,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9881079437  
For Luxury Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagacity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219

WANTED

**Required Driver/Peon/ Attendant/ Aya**

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

**Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.**

Please Contact- 8338870595

# Deepika Padukone becomes 'Sexiest Asian Woman in the World'

**NEW DELHI(K-CN):** Actress Deepika Padukone has added another accomplishment to her rapidly growing list of achievement by being crowned the 'Sexiest Asian Woman in the World' for the first time.

The award-winning movie star dethroned Bollywood rival Priyanka Chopra, who has won the title for the last two years, in the popular long-running list annually published by UK-based Eastern Eye newspaper.

The win rounds off a dream year for the current queen of Bollywood, who has won numerous 2016 Best Actress awards for her acclaimed role in Indian film 'Piku' and commenced shooting her high-profile Hollywood debut 'XX: Return of Xander Cage' opposite Vin Diesel.

In demand, A-list star Deepika was delighted to top the list for the first time and said: "Well it does bring a smile to my face but sexy means different things to different people. For

me it's not just physical. For me being comfortable with who you are is sexy! Confidence is sexy! Innocence and vulnerability is sexy."

The 2016 edition of the popular annual poll was based on millions of votes pouring in from across the globe and heat generated by stars with their work, and on social media sites in the past 12 months. The mass interest in the 13th edition of the list was such that it was trending on Twitter in various countries in-

cluding across India during the vot-

ertainment Editor Asjad Nazir, who

major turning point for the 'Bajirao



ing process. Eastern Eye's award-winning En-

founded the list and puts it together annually, believes 2016 was another

Mastani' star and will lead to even bigger things for her.

## A vaudevillian spectacle

A relatively obscure street band formed in Brighton, U.K., in the early 80s, intriguingly called Pookiesnacknburger, has now evolved into a worldwide musical sensation that currently tours the world with several production companies staging shows.

Stomp, brought to Mumbai by AGP World, is a theatrical production that involves music, acrobatics and histrionics, and has been co-created by musician Luke Cresswell and musician/director Steve McNicholas.

Perhaps Cresswell and McNicholas didn't realise the phenomenal vaudevillian spectacle they'd go on to create. With Pookiesnacknburger, which was a travelling band, both Cresswell and McNicholas extensively toured cities and towns entertaining crowds with their histrionics and music.

"It's now been more than 35 years," reminisces McNicholas. "When I joined, I wrote a bunch of songs for the band and we became Pookiesnacknburger. There wasn't really anything like it at the time." The six-piece band — comprising members of London's then punk scene — featured the future Stomp creators, with Cresswell on snare and African log drum, and McNicholas on the fiddle and violin.

**Blast to the past**  
For about a decade, the slapstick musical ensemble travelled all over Europe. One particular instance still brings on the chuckles for the co-creators.

During a tour in Paris, the band found a great spot on the boulevard that would surely give them the attention and money they desired. However, the performance turned out to be

the shortest of their careers when a burly Romanian fire-eater claimed ownership of the place. "He said if we didn't finish in the next 10 minutes, he would set fire to our instruments," laughs McNicholas.

At another show in Zurich, McNicholas slipped while leaping and jumping around, falling backwards to

McNicholas. "So he started to improvise and play whatever was around at the time. If someone had a bottle in their hand, he'd play it. That really was the germ of the idea that became Stomp."

**Decoding the steps**  
By his own admission, Stomp's director says there hasn't been a single point of inspira-

sal quality of rhythm. Over the years, it's become evident that no matter where the show's mounted, humour, rhythm has managed to unite audiences.

"The core of the message is as simple as a heartbeat, which is the same wherever you are in the world," McNicholas says. The result is a grungy stage

struments to make a new sound," he says, before adding that it's been 25 years and they haven't stopped yet. New routines are developed, honed and added to the show every three years. And unlike other productions, innovation won't dilute Stomp's effect. "The great thing for us is that Stomp is a concept which means the

stresses that the logistics of shipping out a production like Stomp is quite complicated. McNicholas remembers one of the earliest international tours in Australia where local hardware stores served to equip the performers with instruments. However, it wasn't so in Hong Kong on a subsequent trip. "We couldn't find half



crush his violin. "Well, there wasn't a lot of news at the time, because it became front-page news," says the director.

He says people from the audience were really supportive and sympathetic. While one bystander offered the band 200 pounds to buy a new violin, another actually went home and got one for McNicholas. "A year later, we were performing there again and I gave it back to him."

Owing to the nature of Pookiesnacknburger's performances, portability was of absolute essence. "Luke carried his snare and log drum, but it was a little restricting for percussionists," says

tion. Instead, it's been an evolution where influences have been drawn from experiences and, more importantly, from drumming groups such as the Japanese outfit Kodo, choreography from films like Stormy Weather (1943), Fred Astaire's moves, and the company Moving Picture Mime (MPM). "When we would watch them (MPM) do these shows without words, that was something so expressive and that really appealed to us," says McNicholas. "We weren't mime artists or physical comedians."

But the English musicians and co-founders of the show were determined to create a similar effect on people using the univer-

upon which performers take chances to beat, slap, clap, yes even stomp, and pretty much do what they can with their body and a few props to make percussion. Past routines have seen dishwashers, garbage bins, buckets, sticks and even brooms used to make music.

And the key to keep resonating with people all over the world is entirely dependant on one feat: constant evolution and innovation. It's as if it's a compulsive disorder for the cast and crew, they're forever striving to develop new routines. So McNicholas and the troupe can't ever just pay a simple visit to a hardware or DIY store. "Part of your brain is always looking for new in-

show can change a lot and yet remain Stomp," says the director. "Whereas others, if you change several routines it would cease to be that show."

**Then and now**  
Since the show's first international tour in 1991, Stomp has strived to become entirely self-sufficient. "We have to think about each territory and we recce every single venue we go to, to iron out any of the problems that we might encounter," says Glynis Henderson, founder of her eponymous production company that has been handling the productions at West End in London since the beginning.

The producer

the things we needed," he says. "To the point where we grabbed a [fallen] hubcap that rolled along the street."

The version of Stomp that Mumbai will get to witness will be the Henderson Company's London effort with 12 performers banging their way through an hour and 45 minutes of adrenaline-fuelled slapstick percussion.

Word has it that a bigger Indian tour is in the works for the show's 26th year. That just means we get to see just how different two shows can be.

Stomp at Jamshed Bhabha Theatre, NCPA, from December 9 to 18. See [bookmyshow.com](http://bookmyshow.com)  
Post a Comment

## BSNL to set up 111 base towers in Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura

**Shillong (KCN):** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) Chief General Manager K K Saxena today said the company will set up 111 base towers in Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura to improve customers service and its reach in these states.

"We are adding 111 new Base Transceiver Stations (Towers) in our NE-1 circle comprising Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura," Saxena who heads the circle told reporters here.

He said 56 of these towers will be in remote Meghalaya (existing 244), nine in Mizoram (existing 141) and 46 in Tripura (existing 386) which will add to 771 existing towers in these states as part of the phase 7



project costing Rs 50 crore.

According to the BSNL NE-1 circle chief, each of these towers is expected to cater to a population

of 5000 people. The state-owned telecom operator, which caters to 14 per cent of the 1.24 crore customers in the region, saw a 1 per cent in-

crease in its market share in the past one year, the official said. Both NE-1 and NE-2 (comprising of Assam and rest of NE states) cater to

about 17.4 lakh customers of which 8.7 lakh are in NE-1 circle, he said. Earlier, Saxena announced the launch of three new plans

costing less than Rs 400 for prepaid services where customers can avail free calls and data costing less than Rs 2 per GB.

## India-Cyprus tax treaty to boost bilateral investments

**New Delhi (KCN):** Revised tax treaty between Indian and Cyprus will help promoting bilateral invest-

Anastasiades is visiting the country. India and Cyprus signed the revised India-Cyprus Double

ments between the two countries, especially in Indian flagship programmes like Make in India and

trade between the two nations has immense potential for growth.

"The two Leaders took stock

as a mechanism to expand mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas of common interest. Anastasiades

ment, both the countries consider the energy sector as a high priority area and agreed on the scope for sharing

## Rs 3 per unit to be benchmark price for power in medium term: Goyal

**New Delhi (KCN):** The government is looking at Rs 3 per unit as the benchmark price for power from all energy sources like thermal, solar and wind in the medium term. The government's aim is to ensure power at Rs 3 per unit irrespective of source in the medium term, Power Minister Piyush Goyal said at the annual session of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

As per a statement issued by the CII after the session, Goyal assured that

statement.

The minister further said that two years of coal reforms have led to surplus supply for power plants and now focus is on ensuring better domestic coal quality and re-engineering processes so that legacy imported coal-based plants can use indigenous supply.

He stated that short-term reduction in plant load factors or capacity utilisation is due to stagnant generating units coming online and increasing capacity. India has seen a 370 per



there is no proposal to increase tariffs for farmers. Goyal stated that 100GW of stranded and stressed assets have been revived through policy reforms and resource mobilisation.

Power demand has increased by 6.5 per cent last fiscal, even as India became power surplus for the first time. The DDU Gram Jyoti Yojana has reached 75 per cent target to electrify 18452 villages, Goyal said in the

cent-growth in renewable-based generation capacity in the past three years.

Well-organised and transparent competitive bidding processes have driven tariffs for solar and wind below Rs 3 per unit, he said. He stated that with reducing costs and the opportunity to build capacity in EPC services, offshore wind may be taken up for pilot studies through NTPC.

**From Page -1**

its EVMs to dispel doubts of any misuse, it is learnt.

The CEC also said that the ECI had placed an order for the supply of VVPAT machines for use in elections.

"For VVPAT, we have got all the funds. We have placed an order for the supply of 15 lakh VVPAT with two PSUs Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Electronic Corporation of India (ECI)," informed Zaidi.

He said it is expected that by September 2018, around 15 lakh VVPAT machines will be ready. The Commission's objective is to use VVPATs in all the coming elections, he said.

India will "perhaps" be the first country where VVPAT will be used 100 per cent at all the polling stations. It will boost voters' confidence and will bring more transparency in the election process, he added.

Zaidi said that an awareness campaign will be launched to create awareness about the benefits of VVPAT.

VVPAT generates a receipt allowing voters to verify that the the vote went in favour of the candidate against whose name the button was pressed on the EVM.

After the Assembly elections earlier this year in five states -- Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa, Punjab and Manipur, many political parties raised their voice against the use of EVMs.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was vociferous against alleging probable misuse of EVMs while BSP leader Mayawati, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav had also raised question about the polling machines.



ments which has immense potential for growth, said a joint statement today.

Cyprus is one of the major source of foreign direct investment in India, which New Delhi is keen to tap for its flagship 'Make In India'. At the invitation of India, President of Cyprus, Nicos

Taxation Avoidance Agreement in November 2016.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a one-to-one meeting followed by discussions at delegation level with Anastasiades. "Prime Minister Modi suggested that the revision of the agreement could be utilised to increase invest-

various Cyprus investment projects," said the joint statement after the meeting.

Both the leaders emphasised the need for a comprehensive expansion of mutually beneficial contacts between the business communities of the two countries. They also agreed that the bilateral

of progress in the implementation of existing bilateral agreements and underlined the importance of optimising existing inter-governmental and other bilateral mechanisms," the statement said.

The two countries also decided to make further use of the Joint Economic Committee

briefed Modi about the plan for developing the hi-tech sector in Cyprus as the third pillar of its economy.

Both the sides identified India's capabilities in the fields of Information Technology, ITes, biotechnology and R&D as potential areas for future cooperation. As per the state-

India's expertise with Cyprus in this regard.

"The two sides discussed various possibilities of forging long-term joint collaboration in promoting innovative renewable energy applications and environment friendly use of energy," it added.

# Celtic hammer Rangers 5-1 at Ibrox

GLASGOW(KCN): Celtic scored five goals at Ibrox for the first time as they cruised to a 5-1 thrashing of Rangers in the final Old Firm

cut down Patrick Roberts on the edge of the box with the winger running away from goal.

Referee John Beaton seemed to

The Scottish striker was sent scurrying away down the left by Stuart Armstrong and as the Rangers defence backed off he let fly

minute.

Roberts reacted quickest to a loose ball in the box and prodded it to McGregor who sent his low shot under the



fixture of the season on Saturday.

Scott Sinclair slotted home from the penalty spot in the sixth minute before Leigh Griffiths' rocket shot doubled the Scottish champions' first-half lead.

C a l l u m McGregor added a third shortly after the break with Dedryck Boyata heading home a fourth.

Kenny Miller pulled one back late on for Rangers before Mikel Lustig made it 5-1 to equal Celtic's biggest victory at Ibrox, a 4-0 win back in 1897.

It is Celtic's fifth win in six Old Firm meetings this season and leaves third-placed Rangers trailing the champions by 36 points.

An explosive start at Ibrox saw Celtic gifted a penalty as Myles Beerman

take an age to point to the spot after looking to fourth official Bobby Madden for some assistance.

Rangers overrun Sinclair then calmly sent Wes Foderingham the wrong way for his 25th goal of the season.

Ugly scenes followed as a Rangers supporter ran on to the pitch for an angry confrontation with Scott Brown and referee Beaton and Rangers defender James Tavernier needed to intervene to keep the man away from the Celtic captain.

The Rangers midfield was being completely overrun and it came as no surprise when Griffiths, starting in the absence of the injured Moussa Dembele, make it 2-0 in the 18th minute.

with an unstoppable shot from the edge of the box that rocketed into the top corner.

With Miller sprawled on the deck following a heavy challenge from Jojo Simunovic, Celtic raced up the pitch and came close to adding another as Griffiths smashed his shot off the crossbar with Sinclair firing the follow-up wide from close range.

The only thing missing from Celtic's performance was better finishing with Sinclair somehow contriving to fire wide from close range moments later before Roberts fired over with a long-range effort.

Things weren't to improve for Rangers after the interval as wave after wave of Celtic attacks led to McGregor making it 3-0 in the 52nd

legs of Tavernier and beyond Foderingham.

The Celtic support didn't have long to wait to celebrate again as Boyata made it 4-0 in the 66th minute.

Foderingham hesitated in coming for a Griffiths free-kick that was floated into the box and the Belgian defender leapt highest to send a downward header bouncing through the legs of the 'keeper.

Rangers pulled one back through Miller in the 81st minute. The veteran played a neat one-two with substitute Joe Garner before firing low past Craig Gordon. Celtic weren't done and Lustig danced away from several challenges before curling home a superb strike to wrap it up in the 87th minute.

# We can come back into title race: KXIP's Shaun Marsh

MOHALI(KCN):

here yesterday went

They played well and

ally well in this tournament. But we didn't get off to the start we were hoping for and lost three quick wickets inside six overs," he said.

However, confident of putting up a good show in the upcoming matches, Marsh said there can be a quick turnaround. "We can pull ourselves back in the race and keep our hopes alive for the playoffs...The guys are training hard and we can get on a bit of a roll from Sunday (against Delhi Daredevils)," he said.

In all, Punjab will play three more games in Mohali, including against Gujarat Lions, whom they defeated once this season and table-toppers Kolkata Knight Riders.



Kings XI Punjab have lost five of their eight games so far but top-order batsman Shaun Marsh feels the team can still pull itself back into the title race of the ongoing Indian Premier League. The 33-year-old Australian's solid knock of 84 against Sunrisers Hyderabad

in vain as KXIP lost by 26 runs while chasing a target of 208.

The inconsistent Punjab, who are yet to win the IPL trophy, were let down by their bowling and batting units and only Marsh's performance stood out. "Full credit goes to the Sunrisers.

outplayed us in all three facets of the game. We were not on tonight," Marsh told reporters after the match.

Marsh justified asking Hyderabad to bat first, saying it was a fair decision as his side is good at chasing even big totals. "We have chased re-

# IPL: Comprehensive RPS dash RCB's hopes of play-offs

PUNE(KCN): Virat Kohli looked like a man lost for words. Only thing he could do was look exasperated at his Royal Challengers Bangalore teammates as they departed one after the other. Despite managing to restrict hosts Rising Pune Super-giant to a commendable 157, their batting department failed spectacularly once again.

The visitors ended up with 96/9 in their allotted 20 overs. With the loss, Bangalore are virtually out of the tournament. Even if they win their remaining games, they will reach 13 points. A lot of variables need to come good if RCB are to make it through to the play-offs. From

runners-up last time around, to almost out of the IPL with four games still to be played. The entire team management must be mightily displeased. With the victory, Pune now have 10 points from 9 outings but remained fourth. A must win fixture for the team, and trying to pursue a very chaseable total, the Bengaluru franchise must have thought the batsmen will come good this time around. But the match, from RCB's perspective was a classic example of Murphy's Law. Anything that could have gone wrong for RCB, did indeed go wrong!

Stats tell the whole story. RCB have lost 17 wickets during Powerplays in this edition of the IPL. Their Powerplay run rate of 6.64 is also the lowest among all teams. These don't auger well for any side hoping to make it big in this format.

Chris Gayle did not make it to the playing XI. He was replaced by Adam Milne. Travis Head accompanied his skipper out to the middle. But he didn't last long as he was cleaned up by Jaydev Unadkat for 2. What followed was a horror show for Kohli standing in the non-striker's end.

Kohli did score a half century (55 off 48) but it proved to be in vain. Except for Kohli, all players ended up with single-digit scores. An occur-

rence that has happened 37 times for RCB. A damning statistic indeed! More than any fancy bowling or snazzy field placement, it was RCB's woeful display with the willow that contributed to their seventh loss. Earlier, after Kohli had won the toss and decided to bowl was a rather subdued batting effort from Pune as at the end of their 20 overs, they managed to muster 157 for the loss of three wickets. Rahul Tripathi (37 off 28) continued his rich vein of form as he scored his sixth consecutive 30+ score in this edition of the IPL. RPS skipper Steve Smith (45 off 32) was the other star for the hosts with the bat.

# I-League: Advantage Aizawl FC against Mohun Bagan on final match day

This I-League season had started with uncertainty. Three-time champions Dempo FC had decided to withdraw from the league and so did Salgaocar FC and Sporting club de Goa. Chennai City FC had a new lease of life when they were integrated to the I-League for the first time while relegated clubs like Churchill Brothers and Aizawl FC had to be rein-

stated to the top flight due to the lack of teams in the I-League. Little would anyone have known then that the latter would play the ultimate party poopers for the rest come April.

Much had been made of Leicester City's coup of the Premier League title last season. While Aizawl may be playing in a league that simply can't be com-

pared to England's top flight in any way, their rise to the top is nothing short of a miracle. This was a team of rejects and journeymen who were led by manager Khalid Jamil, who was given the sack by Mumbai FC last season despite him steering them clear of the drop zone. Mumbai go into their final match of the season against East Bengal with their relegation

confirmed. Their former coach, however, goes into the final match of the season needing just one point to become the first manager to lead Aizawl to the national league title.

Indian Football Corner: Aizawl FC on the cusp of I-League glory, Mumbai FC relegated

But Aizawl do face tricky customers

in Shillong Lajong FC. Lajong were always seen as the beacon of light in the North-East. They may have never challenged the upper end of the I-League table but Lajong were the established club in the area. It is this mantle that Aizawl have snatched away from them this season. Lajong have never come close to what Aizawl have done this season and

they would be long-

ing to play party poopers for Aizawl. Up against Aizawl in the race for the title are West Bengal giants Mohun Bagan. They are chasing their second I-League title. The best chance they had of swinging the chase their way was when they faced Aizawl themselves at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium. But, the day did not go as planned. Amid fog

and low visibility, Aizawl held their own and when the mist cleared, the hosts took all three points. Mohun Bagan may take solace from the fact that while Aizawl face Lajong, they are plating lowly Chennai City FC.

Now, the equation stands like this: Aizawl need just a point, which means a draw, out of their match against Lajong to clinch the I-League title. Even if Mohun

Bagan end up thrashing Chennai, a single point for Aizawl would mean that the national league title would head to North-East for the very first time. If, on the other hand, both Aizawl and Mohun Bagan lose, the former will still take the trophy home. Finally, if Mohun Bagan win and Aizawl lose, Bagan will move level on points against Aizawl and win the title due to superior goal difference.