

Land Asked For Fish Harbor Loan Waiver option open

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Odisha Government has moved to the Centre for providing over 6 Acres of Water Front at Paradip to expand the Fishing Harbor, which urgently needs expansion. Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi today has written a letter to Union Secretary Shipping, Rajive Kumar in this regard, requesting him to provide necessary approval to vest the land with the State Government for larger interest of the fishermen community.

In order to cope with the growing demand of local people for fishing, the State Government has moved for expansion of the Paradip Fishing Harbor. Recently the Union Secretary Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Devendra Chaudhry and other senior officials of Central Institute Of Coastal engineering For Fisheries (CICEF) during their visit to Paradip they visited the Fishing Harbor and talked to the fishermen.

Bishnupada Sethi, Secretary Fisheries and ARD also held talks with the Central Team and looking at the growing demand



of the Fishermen, Union Government Team suggested for expansion of the Fishing Harbor. And now the State Government has moved for expansion of the Harbor with an additional Jetty, said Mr.Padhi. For the new Jetty, 80 Meters X 300 Meters on the Water Front covering an area of 6.50 Acres belonging to Paradip Port Trust (PPT) is needed. District Collector, Jagat-singhpur has discussed with the PPT Chairman in this regard and for expansion of the Harbor this amount of land is needed, said Mr.Padhi. He brought to the notice of the Union Secretary Shipping that Paradip

Fishing Harbor is a leading Fish Landing Centre on the East Coast of India from where 640 Mechanized Fishing

Vessels and 100 Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Boats are operating. Chief Secretary Mr.Padhi has said that this Harbor was developed under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1996. The PPT Authorities has taken up dredging of the channel during 1997-98, but thereafter no maintenance work has been carried out. In the meantime the State Government has moved to the Centre for early dredging of navigational channel for smooth and safe navigation. Recently the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressing concern over growing siltation near the Mahanadi river mouth in Paradip

had urged the Centre to take up dredging of the river mouth and navigational channel. "The Bangalore-based Central of Coastal Engineering for Fishery has reported that the siltation at the Mahanadi river mouth has been aggravated because of beach nourishment drive taken up by the Paradip Port Trust to protect the port's sea wall. No remedial measures have been taken to arrest the movement of sand towards the river mouth and the navigation channel," the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik pointed out to the Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. Mr.Patnaik had requested Mr.Gadkari to issue instructions to the Paradip Port Trust Authorities to urgently take up dredging for the smooth and safe navigation of the fishing vessels. Over 30,000 people are depending on the Fishing Harbor for their livelihood, pointed out the senior official in DoFARD.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik saying that his Government would examine

ter that the UP Government also facing similar financial crunch as Odisha has been overcoming.

ing with the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the representatives of Bargarh and Puri panchayats to-

19,000 crore worth of farm loans are outstanding on farmers, of which Rs 12,000 crore is from the Co-operative Banks. The balance is advanced by the commercial banks.

"We will certainly examine the matter (of farm loan waiver)", said Chief Minister Mr.Patnaik.

Pradeep Maharathy, Minister for Agriculture and Farmer's Empowerment said, "The State Government is considering the matter (of writing off farm loans). The Chief Minister has said that it will be examined".

However, Minister Cooperation & Excise, Damodar Rout stoked a controversy by questioning the reason behind waiving off farm loans.

"The farmers are using the loan amount for getting their daughters married or consuming liquor instead of investing the amount in agriculture", Dr.Rout said.



proposal on waiving farm loan, the experts in the Department of Finance are in a fix as to where to arrange such a huge fund required for the purpose.

The chorus for waiving off farm loans has grown louder in the state after the decision of the Yogi Adityanath-led Government in Uttar Pradesh.

It is another mat-

But, the UP Government may arrange the funds required for the purpose from the BJP led Central Government.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also made announcement in several election meetings that the UP would announce farm loan waive as soon as BJP Government is installed at Lucknow.

At a review meet-

day raised the demand for waiver of loans.

Mr.Patnaik has been interacting with his party leaders at the grassroots level after rival BJP made unexpected gains at the recent panchayat elections, denting the ruling BJD's hegemony.

About 34 million farmers in the State have availed loans for farming. About Rs

Parliament passes four bills to pave way for GST rollout

NEW DELHI (KCN): Parliament today cleared the decks for the rollout of the historic Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 1 as it ap-

indirect tax regime can be rolled out from the targeted date of July 1.

Replying to the 8-hour-long debate, Finance Minister

them, particularly Manmohan Singh, for the cooperation.

The GST, the biggest taxation reform since Independence, will subsume

implemented, the harassment of businesses by different authorities will end and India will have one rate for one commodity throughout



the ruling NDA is in a minority. The Lok Sabha had passed these bills on March 29.

State Assemblies will now have to pass the States GST Bill after which the new

larly state governments because we are now creating a situation which was originally not anticipated in the Constitution," said Jaitley, who went to the opposition benches to thank

There will be cap rate of 40 per cent, Jaitley said.

The GST rates are to be discussed by the GST Council on May 18-19.

Jaitley said once the new regime is

tation of the GST, revenue of the Centre, the states and the industry and trade must benefit, he added.

Jaitley said the GST Council, comprising *See Page-7*

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Taapsee calls Judwaa 2 a challenge, wants to meet original star Salman

She wants to look her glamorous best in the film and says that she has not yet met the stars of the original 'Judwaa.'

Taapsee Pannu has said that her role is neither based on

the most that I am expecting out of the film. I have experimented a lot with my acting bit, so I want to get into the commercial heroine space," she says.

"It (commercial

tress says it is not easy to make people laugh.

"Comedy is a difficult genre, it is not easy to make people laugh. I am keeping myself prepared to have fun. But as it's a new genre



Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

Taapsee Pannu has said that her role is neither based on Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

Mumbai: Actress Taapsee Pannu wants to explore the commercial film space with 'Judwaa 2' and says she wants to look her glamorous best in the sequel.

Known for her hard-hitting performances in films like 'Baby' and 'Pink', Taapsee set off on her Bollywood journey with David Dhawan's 'Chashme Baddoor' in 2013.

Four years later, she is now set to collaborate with him again for 'Judwaa 2'.

"I will work on my part by making sure I look my glamorous best in the film. The change of look is

for me to explore I am not going to be over smart in saying that I will be only relaxing," she says.

"Comedy as a genre is difficult and people do not realise its potential. It is the most underrated genre. We get critical acclaim for films like 'Pink', 'Naam Shabana'. But critical acclaim does not give you money," she says.

The actress is open to doing slapstick comedies. "I don't enjoy watching sex comedies be it in Bollywood or Hollywood, so no point in doing it if I don't enjoy it. I don't mind doing slapstick comedies," she says.

Taapsee is now looking forward to the release of 'Naam Shabana' a spin-off from the 2015 hit film 'Baby'.

Produced by Neeraj Pandey and directed by Shivam Nair, the action spy thriller is set to release on March 31.

'We are not promoting sex'

Do you think the film industry is welcoming to newcomers like you?

It's really difficult to get into Bollywood - it's a matter of time and the luck factor counts too. It's tough; and it was tough for me. It has been a very long and difficult struggle for me, I have enjoyed my journey though because it was not like I was just struggling and doing nothing ... I have taken a little long to do the kind of film I really wanted and desired. But it has finally happened and I am here.

Wajah Tum Ho

can be termed as your proper debut film. What are your expectations from it?

My expectations are very high because this film has given me everything that I have ever dreamt of. I feel amazed as I have experienced everything I wanted in this film - being a solo lead, performing to the best songs, playing a very strong character. The first teaser poster was my solo poster! Moreover, I have good chemistry with director Vishal Pandya - at most times, newcomers lack this when you cannot match up with the director. Like we

say - uparwala jab bhi deta hai, chhappar faad ke deta hai.

The steamy scenes in the film have created a major buzz. What is your reaction?

It's no big deal in the industry. Every film has a kiss - no matter how big the names in the film. It's according to the requirements. It's necessary to show a little romance because a pure thriller gets boring. It's okay and there should be no big halla as if people have never seen anybody kissing on screen before.

Some people are just overreacting. I

Did Kareena just take a sensational dig at Mira Rajput's housewife comments?

Mumbai: Kareena Kapoor Khan has been basking in the bliss of motherhood, putting her career on a temporary backseat. The actress, however, will soon commence work on 'Veere Di Wedding'.

Kareena, who has been a hands on mother ever since Taimur came into her life, however believes that every maternal journey is different from the other.

"What kind of a mother I am is something that will unfold with time. I will not scream from rooftops about experiencing

days? If I'm spoken about like that, what would it be like for other women?" DNA quoted her as saying.

One can't help but notice how much the statement seems like a fitting comeback to the comments on housewives by Mira Rajput, wife of Kareena's ex Shahid Kapoor.

"I had a tough pregnancy, I went to those 5 months of difficult times to bring my daughter into this world. So now I want to spend every moment that I can with her and I think there is a set of responsibili-

ties around my plate and I feel at my age I have a lot more energy, I have my future

ahead of me, so I can finish all of my responsibility and I have nothing in my way. I can raise my daughter, I can be a good wife. Nothing will stop me after that. I love being at home, I love being a mother to my child, I wouldn't want to spend one hour a day with my child and rush off to work, why did I have her? She is not a puppy; I want to be there for her as a mother," Mira had said, earlier.

Mira had received a lot of flak for her infamou



motherhood or how much I love Taimur. There's always the pressure of being judged, no matter what you do. It's about how you deal with it. Every pregnancy and every mother's journey with her child during those nine months and afterwards is different. You can't draw parallels. No one out there really knows me or what I am feeling at a given time. How can anyone decide on my behalf whether I am supposed to feel depressed or if I can step out before 45

generalisation of housewives. Well, one can only read between the lines.



No break for the 'Breakup Song'

'We are not promoting sex'

don't care as long as

We are not promoting

me? Just do your own work. If you don't like it, keep it to yourself.

Which hero would you like to work with next?

The only dream in my life is to work with Shah Rukh Khan that's it. He is my childhood love.

You said you are a very animated person. Tell us more about what you are like in real life? I am the way people have seen me in Bigg Boss - there is not even one percent difference between me and the girl on that show.



it is creating a buzz. Once people watch the film in the theatre, they will understand that whatever is done, is done rightly. It's not like there's nothing to do so we are doing those scenes.

sex. The film has lots more to offer.

So many people come on social media and say 'What did you do!' Arrey why are you wasting your time by coming to my page and following

Over 62% subscribers report call drop in government survey

NEW DELHI(KCN): While telecom operators and the government have

are still facing the problem.

"About 2,20,935 subscribers partici-

conducted by automated call service between December 23 and February 28,

(IVRS), made over 16.61 lakh calls to subscribers of all telecom service providers (TSPs) across the country.

"From the feedback, it has been observed that the problem of call drops is more severe indoors," the statement said.

The DoT shares feedback with telecom operators every week for taking action in a time-bound manner.

For the fortnight (Feb 15-28, 2017), telecom operators took up 43,403 feedback cases for investigation. "After telephonic calls and SMSes to the subscribers to seek additional information on their call drop prob-

lem, 7,210 cases were identified for resolution. During the fortnight, 2,467 cases were resolved through optimisation, rectifying hardware and power problems, through field visits etc," the statement said. The DoT said that on a cumulative basis, since the launch of IVRS, 9,328 cases have been resolved through this initiative.

In addition, 5,529 cases which were not related to call drops but other issues like data, roaming, billing, MNP, mobile device etc which have been identified by the concerned telecom operators for taking necessary action.

"About 603 new sites/boosters have also been planned by TSPs for installation in due course. DoT Task Force is also meeting with the TSPs once every month to discuss various issues related to the IVRS system. Regular reviews are also being held by the office of Minister (Manoj Sina) about the operation of the IVRS system," the statement said.

The telecom operators have installed about 2,12,917 additional BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations or mobile sites) across the country from June 2016 to February 2017.



been claiming the reduction in call drop levels, a survey by the Department of Telecom has revealed that a majority of the mobile subscribers

participated in the survey out of which, about 1,38,072 (62.5 per cent) have reported call drops," the DoT said in a statement.

The survey was

2017, to obtain direct feedback from subscribers.

The DoT's automated call service, or Integrated Voice Response System

Reliance Jio free services to impact telecoms Q4 FY'17 earnings: Report

MUMBAI(KCN): Free services offer from Reliance Jio will hurt the earnings of telecom operators for three months

quarter (April-June) of the current fiscal, according to ICICI Securities' latest earnings preview of the sector.

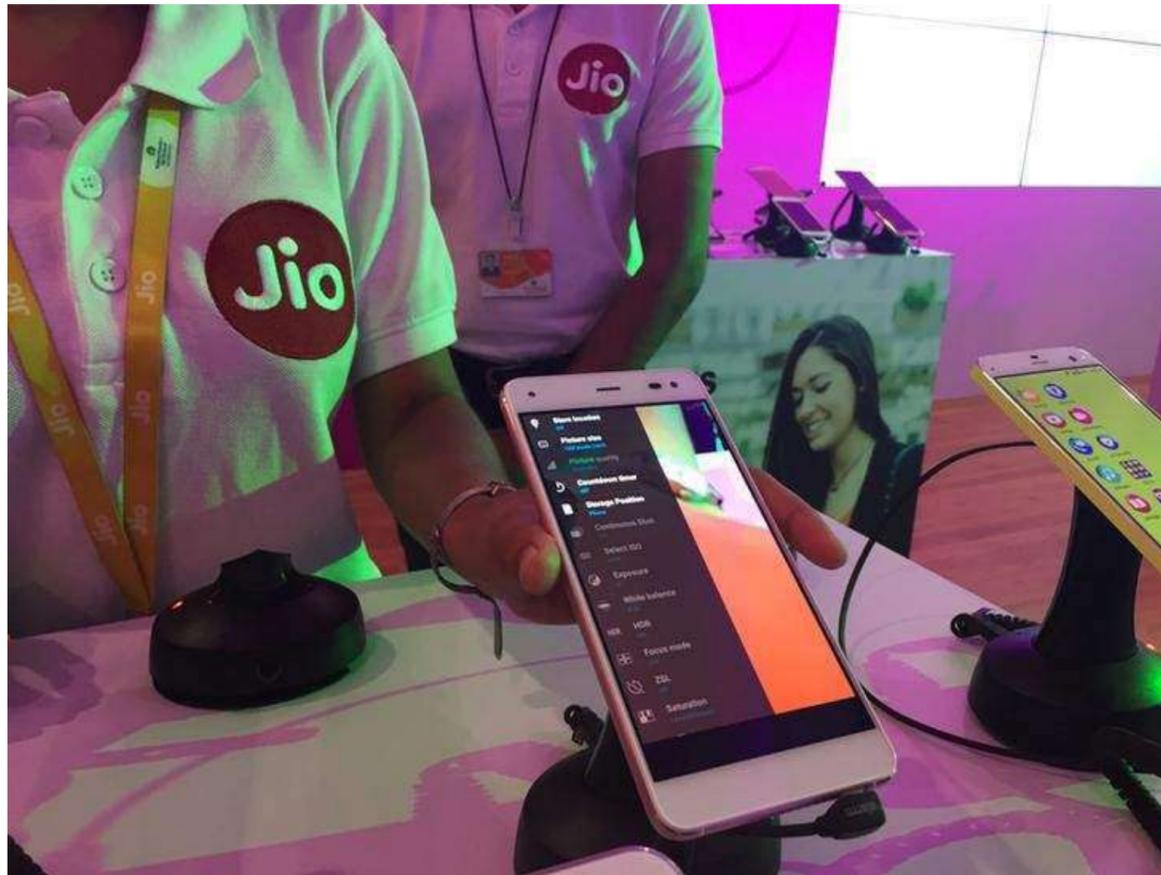
allowances on lower packs by Bharti Airtel and Idea Cellular," the report said.

ARPU's are expected to fall by 9.2

to report much steeper revenue drop compared to the top-3 players," the report said.

Billionaire Mu-

plimentary offer' for three months to those who pay Rs 303 prior to April 15, thus offering data at rock-bottom prices. J i o



ended March 2017, pushing down mobile revenues by 6.5-7.5 per cent on a quarter-on-quarter basis, says a report.

Moreover, the RJio's extended free services for prime members till June, may also continue to keep the performance of telecom companies muted for the first

"Fourth quarter (January-March) of 2016-17 performance of telecom operators would be impacted by the free services offer from Reliance Jio (RJio) on the higher subscriber-base as well as the reset of higher-value average revenue per user (ARPU) subscribers with higher

per cent and 9.7 per cent for Bharti and Idea respectively for the fourth quarter compared to the preceding period.

Further, mobile revenues are likely to drop by 6.5-7.5 per cent, for period under review, the report said. "Challengers (RCom, Airtel and Tata Tele) are likely

launched the inaugural free voice and data plan in September last year, and in December extended the freebies till March 31, 2017, much to the ire of other operators who alleged that such freebies not only hit their profitability and disrupted the market but were also against the regulations.

It had further sweetened the deal by announcing a 'com-

RBI projects inflation to rise to 5 percent

MUMBAI(KCN): The Reserve Bank today projected retail inflation to increase to 5 per cent in the second half of the current fiscal citing risks of El Nino impacting the monsoon and one-off effects of the Goods and Services Tax.

"For 2017-18, inflation is projected to average 4.5 per cent in the first half of the year and 5 per cent in the second half," said the RBI's first bi-monthly monetary policy statement for 2017-18. Risks are evenly balanced around the inflation trajectory at the current juncture and there are upside risks to the baseline projection, it said.

A proactive supply management will

play a critical role in staving off pressures on headline inflation, it added. RBI further said that a prominent risk could emanate from managing the implementation of the allowances recommended by the 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC).

Also, upside risk arises from the one-off effects of the GST, said the policy statement. The new indirect tax regime is likely to be implemented from July 1. On the downside, RBI said international crude prices have been easing recently and their pass-through to domestic prices of petroleum products should alleviate pressure on headline inflation.

Aditya Birla Group gets RBI licence to start payments bank

NEW DELHI(KCN): The Aditya Birla Group today

will be launched in the first half of 2017. With the objective of

three entities -- Tech Mahindra, Cholamandalam Investment and Finance



said it has received licence from the Reserve Bank of India to start payments bank.

Headed by Kumar Mangalam Birla, the group's outfit Aditya Birla Nuvo had set up a 51:49 joint venture -- Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank Ltd - with telecom major Idea Cellular to launch payments bank services in the country. "... the Reserve Bank of India... has granted licence to Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank Ltd to carry on the business of payments bank in India," Aditya Birla Nuvo said in a BSE filing. At present, Airtel and India Post are offering payments bank services in the country. Idea Cellular Chief Corporate Affairs Officer Rajat Mukarji had earlier said the Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank

deepening financial inclusion, RBI kicked off an era of differentiated banking by allowing SFBs (small finance banks) and PBs (payments banks) to start services. A total of 21 entities were given in-principle nod, including 11 for payments, Page 1 Later,

Finance Ministers of Union and states, had agreed to take a decision on bringing real estate within the ambit of the new tax regime within a year of its rollout.

The Finance Minister said the Chief Economic Advisor had given a detailed presentation to the states on the benefits of inclusion of real estate in the GST.

"I was in favour of real estate, Delhi government was in favour," Jaitley said.

The GST Council will also take decisions regarding inclusion of petroleum products and alcohol in the GST network, one by one, in the foreseeable future.

Regarding audit by the CAG, he said the apex auditor draws powers from the Constitution and can scrutinise whether the respective departments are working according to the norms.

On why the Council has decided on multiple GST rates, he said a large number of products are zero rated, while the rest are in the slabs of 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent and 28 per cent.

PV Sindhu reaches career-best World Number 2 ranking

shuttler from Sindhu had re- Open, however, lost a



NEW DELHI(K-CN): Rio Olympics silver medallist P V Sindhu jumped three places to achieve a career-best world number two ranking in the latest Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings released today.

Hyderabad became only the second Indian woman after Saina Nehwal to break into the top-five of the world rankings by earning 75759 points.

She superseded Japan's Akane Yamaguchi to make the number two spot.

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Injury-hit RCB take on Sunrisers Hyderabad in IPL opener

HYDERABAD(K-CN): Hampered by injuries to some of their biggest stars, Royal Challengers Bangalore will have their task cut out when they take on defending champions Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL lung-opener here tomorrow.

Captain Virat Kohli and star batsman AB de Villiers will be unavailable for tomorrow's match due to injuries. While Kohli is ruled out because of a shoulder injury, de Villiers is nursing a back problem.

They have also lost star batsman KL Rahul for the whole tournament owing to injury. In addition, RCB's young batsman Sarfaraz Khan will most likely be unavailable for the entire season after hurting himself on the field during a practice match in Bengaluru.

Sarfaraz Khan was expected to partner Chris Gayle in the absence of Kohli.

As Kohli is

likely to miss the first few matches in the tournament, the team has named Shane Watson as its captain in the interim.

RCB can still bank on Gayle and Watson who are both

IPL, are also valuable assets in the batting order.

RCB boasts of some deadly bowlers in English paceman Tymal Mills, an ex-

bowling strength of the Bangalore outfit.

Indian players like Sreenath Aravind, Stuart Binny and all-rounder Pawan Negi are also expected to help the team's cause.



capable of destroying any opposition on their day. Kedar Jadhav, a rising Indian star, can rise to the occasion and fill the gap caused by Rahul's absence.

Australian Twenty20 star Travis Head, Indian players Sachin Baby and Mandeep Singh, who have previous experience of playing in the

pensive buy at the IPL 2017 auction, and Yuzvendra Chahal. Chahal's six-wicket haul had helped India clinch last year's series against England.

West Indies' Twenty20 specialist leg-spinner Samuel Badree, Kiwi pacer Adam Milne and left-arm seamer Aniket Choudhary add to the

Sunrisers Hyderabad, on the other hand, are determined to repeat last year's magic to grab the title. Hyderabad has one of the most formidable batsmen in IPL in its skipper David Warner, who led from the front last season.

Though Warner was not in the best of forms during Australia's recently-concluded tour of India, he did score well in the match at Dharamshala. And he is expected to be a key player for Hyderabad.

Warner opens batting in the company of Shikhar Dhawan, who is keen to make a mark after losing his berth in the Indian national side.

Dhawan was impressive in the recent Deodhar Trophy and would look to carry the good form into the IPL.

Seasoned campaigner Yuvraj Singh also adds to the batting strength of SRH, but the much-talked about middle-order needs to raise the bar, especially in the event of Warner and Dhawan falling short of expectations.

Moises Henriques, Kane Williamson, Naman Ojha, Deepak Hooda, and Vijay Shankar are no pushovers and make for a solid lineup.

The SRH bowling is one of the best in IPL. Though the team would be deprived of the services of Mustafizur Rahman for tomorrow's match, the seasoned Ashish Nehra, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Barinder Sran are quality bowlers, who can turn the match at any given time.

Rising Pune Supergiant elect to field against Mumbai Indians

MPUNE: Rising Pune Supergiant

ter, here today. For Pune, IPL's biggest

Sharma is back leading the side in the

Rahane, Mayank Agarwal, Steve

Chahar, Adam

Parthiv Patel (wk),

Pandya, Krunal



skipper Steve Smith elected to bowl against Mumbai Indians in an IPL encounter.

buy this season, Ben Stokes will be making his debut while a fit-again Rohit

opening game. **Teams:** Pune Supergiant: Ajinkya

Smith (c), Manoj Tiwary, MS Dhoni (wk), Ben Stokes, Rajat Bhatia, Deepak

Zampa, Imran Tahir, Ashok Dinda, Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma (c),

Ambati Rayudu, Kieron Pollard, Nitish Rana, Jos Buttler, Hardik

Pandya, Mitchell McClenaghan, Tim Southee, Jasprit Bumrah.