

## First Digital Cabinet Held State Sets 'Odisha Parivar'



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha Cabinet led by Naveen Patnaik took some key decisions in first digital cabinet during his ongoing visit to Japan who is leading a high level delegation to attract investment to Odisha. CM officiated the digital cabinet meeting from Japanese

city of Kyoto, 6000km away from Odisha, while his cabinet colleagues joined in the special cabinet meet remotely. This is first such digital cabinet meet wherein the Chief Minister held the meeting from foreign location with files processed and documents signed

through the Odisha State Wide Area Network (OSWAN), entirely through digital mode. The cabinet ministers discussed the decisions threadbare before giving nod to the decisions on digitally, leveraging this unique platform. Chief Minister Shri Patnaik said: "We have

been pioneer in leveraging latest technology as part of our 5T charter to improve the effectiveness of the governance systems and delivery of public services. Technology has served as an enabling tool in transforming delivery of good governance and public

goods and services." "Technology now allows governance delivery on the go. Technology has eliminated the need of physical presence in a collaborative environment within the government. This digital cabinet pushes the boundary of technology and speed of governance."

OSWAN is the critical information technology backbone of state which can facilitate carrying data, video and voice traffic, facilitating inter/intra-departmental communication and data sharing. The innovative platform enables government officials to collaborate on documents, share feedback, and track changes in real-time, making it easier to work together on projects and initiatives.



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In Order to create a one stop point of contact and support for Pravasi Odia, who live in other parts of the country and across the world, Odisha Government has decided to set up a Directorate of Odisha Parivar. State Cabinet held at Third Floor Conference Hall of Lok Seva Bhawan, Bhubaneswar under the Chairmanship of Naveen Patnaik.

Chief Minister chaired the meeting in virtual mode from Japan. Ministers attended the meeting at Lok Seva Bhawan and from other districts in Virtual mode.

After the meeting over, Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, Minister, Food, Supplies & Consumer Welfare, Cooperation, Pradeep Kumar Jena, Chief Secretary of Odisha briefed the Press about the decision taken in the meeting. Satyabrata Sahu, ACS, Revenue, OLLC, Forest, Environment & Climate Change was also present during the Press Brief. This Directorate of Odisha Parivar will be under the Department of Odia Language, Literature and Culture to have better connect with Pravasi Odias within the country and

across the world. The Directorate will engage with the Diaspora in the growth journey of Odisha by leveraging their knowledge, skills, and global reach while also making efforts to resolve any issues they may be facing, said Satyabrata Sahu, ACS OLLC.

The Directorate will act as a single point of interface with Departments of the Odisha Government for resolution of specific issues relating to labour, students, cultural promotions, clearances etc.

The Directorate will enlist Odia Associations in different parts of India and in foreign countries. This will develop a closer relationship with the People of Odisha living in different states and abroad including Gen Next through partnerships at individual, institutional, and civil society levels on matters relating to promotion of Odia Language, culture, and heritage, tourism and sports, handlooms and handicrafts, said Shri Sahu.

The Directorate will enlist organizations involved in furthering the cause of cultural heritage of Odisha. It will enlist Shree

Jagannath Temples located in different parts of India and other parts of the world.

It will promote the Cultural heritage of Odisha, Celebration of Odisha Diwas, Organizing World Odia Conferences, at regular intervals in association with Odia scholars, creative writers living in different parts of the world.

The Directorate will bring out selected Odia works in other languages of India and important languages of the world.

In order to promote Odia Economic and Skill Networking to harness investment opportunities in Odisha and Job Opportunities for Odia People, the Directorate will work, said ACS OLLC.

The Directorate will reach out to NROs in distress and provide possible support, said he.

The Directorate will develop a dedicate Portal titled "Paribar-the portal for Pravasi Odias-Connecting the roots".

The Advisory Council will be headed by the Chief Minister and Executive Committee will be headed by the Chief Secretary with Members from various Departments of the State Government.

## Thunderstorm Warning For These Odisha Districts



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Regional Meteorological Centre of IMD issued yellow warning of thunderstorm for several places of at least 17 districts in Odisha for next 24 hours. According to Bhubaneswar MeT, thunderstorm with lightning and gusty surface wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Dhenkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khordha, Nayagarh,

Ganjam, Gajapati, Mayurbhanj, Kandhamal, Rayagada, Koraput, Keonjhar and Dhenkanal from today till Monday morning. Light to moderate rain or thunderstorm is in the forecast for a few places over the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Kandhamal, Rayagada and Koraput and at one or two places over the rest districts of Odisha during the period. The thunderstorm and lightning warning has

also been issued for one or two places over the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Gajapati, Rayagada, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Koraput and Malkangiri between April 10 morning and April 11 morning.

The MeT forecast light to moderate rain or thunderstorm for one or two places over the districts of Coastal Odisha, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Kandhamal, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri during the period. Moreover, light to moderate rain or thunderstorm is very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Gajapati, Rayagada, Nabarangpur, Koraput and Malkangiri between April 11 morning and April 12 morning.

## Archaeological Artefacts Belonging To 1st-Century AD Found In Odisha

**Puri (KCN):** Some archaeological artefacts, which date prior to the 1st Century AD, have been found while digging a pond at Hantusara under the Gop block in Puri. The historical evidence depicts ancient trade carried out by inhabitants of erstwhile Kalinga with foreign countries through waterways, a source said today. According to an expert, the archaeological artefacts were spotted in the pond located at the backside of History Reader Bhaskar Muduli's house a few days ago and were later identified to be authentic. "After thorough scrutiny of the site as well as artefacts, it was ascertained that those excavated objects will help throw light on various hidden aspects of Odisha's history," said assistant professor in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archeology department of Utkal University Dr Anam Charan Behera. "Knobbed ware, earthen snake hood, remains of stone-made bowl, earthen bottle cap, pieces played in chess and draughts board, few broken earthenwares and different types of small bowls were recovered during the excavation. The village is located on the left side of Patharabuha Nullah (creek). Several legends are there linked to the Nullah and construction of Sun Temple in Konark," Behera stated. It is pertinent to mention here that a former student of the varsity's archaeology department named Subhadarshan Mohapatra had recently informed about the findings to his professors. Subsequently, assistant professor Behera scrutinised and confirmed that the Knobbed Ware is a type of vessel with a raised knob at the base.

## PM Care For Tigers

**Mysuru:** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated the program 'Commemoration of 50 years of Project Tiger' at Mysuru University here on 9 April. The Prime Minister also launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA). He released the publications - 'Amrit Kaal Ka Vision For Tiger Conservation', a summary report of the 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Tiger Reserves, declared tiger numbers and released the summary report of All India Tiger Estimation (5th cycle). He also released a commemorative coin on the completion of 50 years of Project Tiger. Addressing the

gathering, the Prime Minister remarked on the prestigious moment of the growing tiger population in India and paid respects by giving a standing ovation to the tigers. He said that everyone is witness to the landmark event of Project Tiger completing 50 years today and remarked that its success is not only a moment of pride for India but the entire world. The Prime Minister emphasized that India has not only saved the tiger population from declining but also provided an ecosystem where tigers can flourish. The Prime Minister expressed happiness that India is home to 75% of the world's tiger population in the 75th year of Indian

independence. It is also a coincidence, the Prime Minister continued, that the tiger reserves in India cover 75,000 square kilometers of land and in the past ten to twelve years, the tiger population in the country has increased by 75 percent. Reiterating the question in the minds of wildlife enthusiasts around the world about the increasing tiger population in India when compared to other countries where it is either stagnant or in decline, the Prime Minister said that the answer is hidden among the traditions and culture of India and its natural urge towards biodiversity and environment. "India does



not believe in the conflict between ecology and economy, and gives equal importance to the coexistence of both", the Prime Minister remarked. Recalling the importance of tigers in the history of India, the Prime Minister mentioned that graphical

representations of tigers were found on the ten-thousand-year-old rock art in Madhya Pradesh. He also added that the Bharia community from Central India and Worli community from Maharashtra among others worship the tiger whereas many

communities in India consider the tiger as a friend and brother. He further added that Maa Durga and Lord Aiyappa ride the tiger. Noting India's unique achievements in wildlife conservation, the Prime Minister said, "India is a country where protecting nature is a part of the culture". He mentioned that India has only 2.4 percent of the world's land area but it contributes toward 8 percent to known global biodiversity. He stated that India is the largest tiger range country in the world, the largest Asiatic elephant range country in the world with nearly thirty thousand elephants, and also the largest single-horn rhino country with a

population of nearly three thousand. He further added that India is the only country in the world to have Asiatic lions and its population has increased from around 525 in 2015 to around 675 in 2020. He also touched upon India's leopard population and stated that it increased by over 60 percent in 4 years. Referring to the work being done to clean up rivers such as the Ganga, the Prime Minister highlighted that some aquatic species that were once considered to be in danger have shown improvement. He credited the people's participation and a culture of conservation for these achievements. "It is important for

ecosystems to thrive for the wildlife to thrive", the Prime Minister remarked as he noted the work done in India. He mentioned that the country added 11 wetlands to its list of Ramsar sites taking the total number of Ramsar Sites to 75. He also noted that India added over 2200 square kilometers of forest and tree cover by 2021 when compared to 2019. In the last decade, the Prime Minister said, the number of Community Reserves increased from 43 to over 100 and the number of National Parks and sanctuaries around which Eco-sensitive Zones were notified increased from 9 to 468, that too in a decade.

# Spread Happiness Foundation Celebrates World Health Day with Leprosy Patients Govt. Leprosy Hospital

**Pune (KCN):** On the occasion of World Health Day, Spread Happiness Foundation celebrated with leprosy patients in a government leprosy hospital in Pune. The foundation aimed to spread happiness, positivity, and awareness about hygiene among the patients. During the celebration, the foundation distributed essential hygienic materials such as soap, biscuits, and fruits to the patients. The foundation recognized the importance of providing these materials to the patients, especially those with leprosy, to promote good hygiene and overall health. Chairman of the NGO Mr. Soumya Ranjan Mahapatra led the event and spoke about the importance of hygiene and good health practices. Secretary Mr. Anand Kumar Mahapatra and Isha Mishra organized the event, and Saroj Kumar Roul and Darshit Rabadiya distributed the materials as volunteers. It's heartening to see that Junior volunteer



Sambhavi Mahapatra also participated in this event. By involving the younger generation in such initiatives, we can raise awareness about social issues and promote a culture of giving back to society. The foundation's efforts to spread happiness and promote good hygiene practices are commendable. It's important to continue providing support and resources to these patients, even after the celebration is over, to help them lead healthy and happy lives. In an interview with our reporters, Soumya

Ranjan Mahapatra said, "It's important to raise awareness about hygiene and good health practices, especially among vulnerable populations like leprosy patients. We hope that our efforts will make a difference in their lives." The celebration was a success, and the patients felt happy and supported by the foundation's efforts. It's essential to continue providing support and resources to these patients, even after the celebration is over, to help them lead

healthy and happy lives. In conclusion, Spread Happiness Foundation's celebration of World Health Day with leprosy patients in a government leprosy hospital in Pune was a great success. The foundation's efforts to promote good hygiene practices and provide essential materials to the patients are crucial for promoting good health and wellbeing. We hope that more organizations and individuals will follow the foundation's example and support those in need in our society.

# Ranchi BANDH Successful



**Ranchi (KCN) :** As per the program announced earlier, the entire Ranchi remained 100% closed today. Vijay Shankar Nayak, the central convener of Jharkhand Bachao Morcha today said the above while closing Birsa Chowk, Hindustan Chowk, DPS Chowk, Sector 2, Solanki, Bhusur, Hatia, he also said that today the bandh supporters have closed the Jharkhand Bachao Morcha central Convener cum former MLA candidate Vijay Shankar Nayak, Ranjit Under the leadership of Pahan Anand Tambar of Urav, Jagannathpur, Pahan Sunny Vikas Kachhap alias Vicky of Satranji, Karma Linda, taking out a procession from 7:00 am today, requesting all the shopkeepers to shut

down the sector in a peaceful manner, Sector to Birsa Chowk, Hinoo Chowk, DPS Chowk, Solanki, Bhusur. The shopkeepers of Kathalkocha, Hatia were closed, after that hundreds of people under the leadership of all of them arrested in Jagannathpur police station, among those who arrested Jharkhand Bachao Morcha's central convener cum former MLA candidate Vijay Shankar Nayak, Ranjit Urav, Pahan Anand of Jagannathpur Sunny Vikas Kachhap aka Vicky, Karma Linda, Rajesh Bada, Sanjit Turkey, Ajay Oraon, Deepak Indwar, Sushil Oraon, Gautam Oraon, Vinay Turkey, Renu Kachhap, Manju Hembrum, Renu Munda, Kamla Munda, Paro Toppo, Kalpana Bhagat

, Etwa Toppo, Kartik Munda, Nirmal Khakha, Anita Bandi, Lucy Munda, Parvati Turkey, Basanti Ainad, Bhaiya Urao, Rani Urao, Rinki Toppo, Ranjita Kachhap, Suman Toppo, Sushma Linda, Pirta Kachhap, Priya Kachhap, Sunil Toppo, Reena Linda, Sukramani Kachhap, Savita Kachhap, Rajni Linda, Anupama Linda, Asha Linda, Philly Linda, Shanti Kachhap, Gauri Munda, Pukli Gaadi, Karmi Munda, Susan Minj, Sunita Kachhap, Anita Munda Chandra Oraon, Poonam Gaadi, Gudiya Devi, Charva Oraon, Arvind Oraon and hundreds of people arrested in support of the bandh and at 12 o'clock all were released. On this occasion, Jharkhand Bachao Morcha's central convener Vijay Shankar

Nayak said that yesterday a torchlight procession was also taken out from Birsa Chowk to Hinoo Chowk in support of the bandh. On this occasion, he further said that if the police administration does not arrest the anti-social elements who burnt the Sarna flag as soon as possible, then all tribal societies and various pro-tribal organizations will work in a phased manner in the coming days until these Criminals of antisocial elements are arrested. He has expressed his gratitude to all the organizations that cooperated in the bandh and similarly appealed to them to act unitedly to resist those who attack the tribal society and tribal culture so that such incidents do not recur in the future.

# Odisha To Allocate Rs 313 Crore For Stimulating FPOs

**Bhubaneswar:** The state government will allocate Rs 313.61 crore in five years for supporting the farmer producer organisations (FPOs) in Odisha. A proposal in this regard got the approval of Odisha Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today. Hirakud reservoir spillway project worth Rs 786 crore falters amid administrative impasse. As per the Cabinet decision, the state government will



allocate Rs 313.61 crore between 2023-24 fiscal and 2027-28 fiscal for implementation of 'Support to Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)' in Odisha. "The scheme has been introduced with

an objective of providing support to more than 1,000 FPOs in Odisha in next five years. At least 3 lakh farmers will be benefitted by the scheme," said an official. The scheme will support the FPO

ecosystem in Odisha through credit linkage and financial, technical and infrastructural assistance, he added. The scheme will facilitate market linkage and provide better income opportunities to the farmers of Odisha, said the official. "The scheme will help farmers obtain remunerative price for the produces. It will also ensure socio-economic development of the small and marginal farmers of Odisha," he added.

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**'Guddi' To 'K3G,' Decoding Jaya Bachchan's Top Five Movies On Her Birthday**

She belongs to that era of actors when there was nothing called the paparazzi, vanity van culture. Simplicity ruled supreme in movies and that could be reflected in the actors' lives as well. Jaya Bhaduri, later known as Jaya Bachchan's filmography is full of gems. From the spunky Mili (Mili) to the mother figure (Fiza), Jaya has aced each role with conviction and ease. The Bengali beauty with long hair and an endearing smile ruled the silver screen with meaningful roles. Jaya has been cast opposite Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, and Sanjeev Kumar. Every pair looked beautiful on the screen as the actors back then brought their unique charm to make a pair work. As the actor-turned-politician Jaya is set to ring her 75th birthday on Sunday, let's revisit some of her notable works which can initiate conversation till date. **Abhimaan** Directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, this movie is considered one of the milestones in the career of the Amitabh-Jaya pairing. Known for its evergreen music, this movie shows the conjugal tension which stems from show business.



Amitabh, Jaya, Govardhan Asrani, Bindu Desai acted in the movie. **Mili** Another movie by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, where Jaya Bachchan was cast opposite Amitabh. The story centres around a reclusive, depressed man who falls in love with a bubbly young woman. Later he found that she has cancer.

**Koshish** Directed by Gulzar, this movie puts forward a sensitive subject. A speech and hearing-impaired couple persists through unforgiving obstacles to be accepted by society and live a life of dignity. Jaya and Sanjeev Kumar brought these characters to life on the screen. **Guddi** What is fandom if there's no craziness involved? Another gem by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, where Jaya is mesmerised by the screen-avator of Dharmendra and hence the woman is reluctant to marry the man chosen by her family. **Chupke Chupke** In this comic caper of an ensemble cast, Jaya shined in her own right. Directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, the movie featured Dharmendra and Sharmila Tagore alongside Jaya and Amitabh. From the 70s to the post-2000, Jaya has been working relentlessly. Karan Johar's favourite on-screen mom (Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham, Kal Ho Naa Ho) will be next seen in his directorial 'Rocky Aur Rani ki Prem Kahani'.

**Telangana Sahitya Academy To Felicitate Oscar Winning Song 'Naatu Naatu' Lyricist Chandrabose**



The Telangana Sahitya Academy has decided to felicitate lyricist Chandrabose, who penned Oscar award-winning song "Naatu Naatu". Academy Chairman Juluru Gowri Shankar on Wednesday announced that a felicitation programme will be held at Ravindra Bharathi in Hyderabad on March 28. He stated that the entire Telangana society is proud that by using Telugu rural phrases, Chandrabose penned an enlivening song that received the admiration of the world. Gowri Shankar on Wednesday held a meeting with representatives of various literary bodies to discuss the arrangements for the meeting. He observed that for the first time a Telugu song bagging the global award is a matter of happiness for all. The meeting decided to hold a meeting on March 28 to honour Chandrabose who brought such a huge honour for Telugu film lyrics. The Academy Chairman appealed to poets and writers to attend the meeting. He said that film lyricist Chandrabose made Telangana proud by taking the Telugu song to the world stage.

**A R Rahman announces four Super Winners of Season 2 of 'NEXA Music'** Oscar and Grammy-winning composer A R Rahman has announced the four Super Winners of Season 2 of 'NEXA Music'. The second season of the music platform, which has been curated to promote aspiring Indian musicians to showcase their talent and create original international Standard English music, concluded with Gaia Meera, Hanu Dixit, Sunep A Jamir, and Inga emerging as the winners. Gaia Meera is a Mumbai-based artiste who has captured people's attention with her soulful voice and meaningful lyrics. Hanu Dixit also from Mumbai is a multi-talented artist who sings, writes, and composes music that is both catchy and profound. Sunep A Jamir, from Nagaland, uses his unique voice and vibrant personality to create music that is both fun and impactful. Inga from Bangalore combines eastern and western musical influences in her work, creating a familiar and refreshing sound. Talking about choosing the best artistes, Rahman said, "India is buzzing with youth, energy, and undiscovered raw talent. We always strive to offer something distinctive and unique for the generations with each season. Since each of the individuals were so strong and talented, it was difficult to narrow the field down to the Top 4, but it was undoubtedly an amazing experience to have such amazing talents".

**Shah Rukh Khan's Actioner 'Pathaan' Completes Fifty Days In Theatres, Still Playing In 20 Countries**



Shah Rukh starrer 'Pathaan' completed 50 glorious days in theatres on Wednesday. "PATHAAN" 50 DAYS... STILL PLAYING IN 20 COUNTRIES... #Pathaan celebrates 50 days at \*cinemas\* today... Being screened at 800 cinemas in #India and 135 cinemas across international markets," trade analyst Taran Adarsh said in a tweet. Shah Rukh Khan's manager Pooja Dadlani shared the same post with folded hand emojis. The film infused a new lease of life into the pandemic-stricken Hindi film industry which has seen back-to-back flops last year. The film has emerged as the highest-grossing Hindi film of all time, breaking the record of 'Bahubali 2.' 'Pathaan' raked 528.29 crores rupees while 'Bahubali 2' minted 510.99 crore rupees. Shah Rukh Khan recently posted on Twitter, "IT'S NOT THE BUSINESS...ITS PERSONAL". Making ppl smile & entertaining them is our business & if we don't take it personally....it will never fly. Thanks to all who gave Pathaan love & all who worked on the film & proved ki mehnat lagan aur bharosa abhi Zinda Hai. Jai Hind.' Released on January 25, 'Pathaan' also stars John Abraham, Deepika Padukone, Dimple Kapadia and Ashutosh Rana among others. Meanwhile, SRK will be next seen in director Atlee's upcoming action thriller film 'Jawan' and he has also director Rajkumar Hirani's next 'Dunki' opposite Taapsee Pannu in his kitty.

**Bengal Tigress: Rekha Lauds Rani Mukerji's Performance in 'Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway'**

Rekha was in awe of actress Rani Mukerji's power-packed performance in 'Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway'. The veteran star said that Rani has outdone herself in the role of the "eternal mother" and has depicted all the "faces of Durga Maa." She said: "Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway, was both exhilarating and heart-wrenching, was sitting at the edge of my seat from the word go. It was an absolute delight to watch the dynamic performance of this 'Bengal Tigress', of a mother fight tooth and nail for her kids. This film is for the world to see what 'Mother India' is all about!" Rekha added: "This time around Rani has outdone herself in the role of the Eternal mother depicting all the faces of Durga Maa 'the ultimate Mother', an intense performance worth watching countless times!" She walks through fire, straight into our hearts! What a pleasure to see the actor and character melt into each other!" "I also want to congratulate the entire cast and crew, especially the Director, who were on point and beyond! A special mention of Jim Sarbh for his flawless and constrained performance! Extremely grateful and proud to witness this brave film which reinforces the fact that there is nothing more mightier than a 'mother's might!'" Directed by Ashima Chibber, 'Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway' talks about the life of an immigrant mother that fights against all odds to win back the custody of her children. Produced by Zee Studios and Emmay Entertainment (Monisha Advani, Madhu Bhojwani & Nikkhil Advani), 'Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway' is slated to release in theatres on March 17.



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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY

### THE FINANCE ACT, 2023 –Part 1 (Relating to Income Tax)



Adv. Narayan Jain & CA DilipLoyalka

#### 1. AMENDMENTS in DEFINITIONS:

1.1 Joint Commissioner (Appeals) [Section 2(28CA)] : Joint Commissioner (Appeals) means a person appointed to be a Joint Commissioner of Income tax (Appeals) or an Additional Commissioner of Income tax (Appeals) under Section 117(1).  
1.2 Income received by a unit holder from a business trust and received from Life Insurance Policy other than ULIP to be included in the definition of income [Sec 2(24)(xviii)(xviiid)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25 the receipt by a unit holder from a business trust and receipt from Life Insurance Policy has been included within the definition of income. Receipt from Life Insurance Policy will be taxed u/s 56(2)(xiii) and receipt by a unit holder from a business trust will be taxed u/s 56(2)(xii).  
1.3 Effect of conversion Physical gold into E Gold receipt or vice versa, its cost of acquisition and period of holding [Clause (i)(h) to Explanation 1 to section 2 (42A), section 47(vi) and Section 49(10)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25, the period of holding of Physical Gold

shall be considered while computing period of holding gold in E-form where such e-form gold receipt has been acquired by converting physical gold in Electronic Gold receipt and vice versa. Further the cost of physical gold shall be deemed to be the cost of E Gold receipt and vice versa sec 49. Further the conversion of Physical gold into Electronic gold receipt or vice versa shall not be treated as transfer under section 47(vi) as such no capital gain will arise on such conversion.  
1.4 Gift by a resident to a not ordinarily resident shall also be deemed to be Income accrued or arise In India [Sec. 9(1)(viii)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25 any sum of money received by a not ordinarily resident from a resident shall be deemed to be income accrued or arise in India. In this connection it may be pointed out that sum received by a non-resident outside India from a resident was deemed to be income arise in India w.e.f. 5th July, 2019. However, receipt from a relative as defined in sec 56(2)(x) shall continue to be exempt in the hands of

residents, not ordinarily resident and non-resident. Further gift up to Rs 50,000/- shall continue to be exempt u/s 56(2)(x).  
2. EXEMPTIONS  
2.1 Exemption on LIC Receipts withdrawn if Premium exceeds Rs 5 lakhs. [Sec 10(10D) proviso 6 & 7, read with Sec 56(2)(xiii)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25 where any sum is received, including the amount allocated by way of bonus, at any time during the previous year, under a Life Insurance Policy/policies shall not qualify for exemption u/s 10(10D) if the aggregate premium paid in any year on such policy exceeds Rs 5 lakh. The above provision shall apply to the policies which are taken or after 1st April, 2023. The receipts or policies taken before 1st April 2023 shall continue to be exempt. While computing income for such policy the aggregate amount of premium paid on the policy shall be reduced from the total receipts. Sec 56(2)(xiii). However, the sum received on the death of the insured shall not be taxed under section 10(10D). In this connection it may be mentioned that exemption u/s 10(10D) for ULIPs issued on or after 1st February 2021 where aggregate premium in any year exceeds Rs 2,50,000 was withdrawn by the Finance Act 2021 and is liable to be taxed under the head capital gain.  
2.2 Employer contribution

to Agniveer Corpus Fund shall be included as salary under section 17(1), both employer and employee contribution will qualify for deduction u/s 80CCH, receipt from such fund shall be exempt u/s 10(12C), deduction u/s 80CCH(2) will be available under new regime [Section 115BAC(1) and 115BAC(1A)]: W.e.f. AY 2023-24 the employer contribution to Agniveer Corpus fund will be considered as salary u/s 17(1)(ix), however entire contribution of both employer (Central Government) and employee to Agniveer corpus fund shall qualify for deduction u/s 80CCH without any limit. Employer contribution will qualify for deduction under the new regime of taxation u/s 115BAC. However, it is clarified that employee's contribution shall not qualify for deduction u/s 80CCH(1) under the new regime of taxation. The receipt from Agniveer corpus fund by the employee or his nominee will be exempt u/s 10(12C).  
2.3 Exemption to news agency under section 10(22B) withdrawn: W.e.f. 2024-25 exemption of any income of a notified news agency which is set up in India solely for collection and distribution of news has been withdrawn. Upto AY 2023-24 the entire income of notified news agency which is set up in India solely for collection and distribution of news was exempt under section 10(22B).  
2.4 Income of a body or authority or Board or Trust

or Commission established a Central or State Act for specified purpose shall be exempt [Section 10(46A)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25 any income arising to a body or authority or Board or Trust or Commission, not being a company, which has been established or constituted by or under a Central or State Act with one or more of the undermentioned purposes shall be exempt.  
(i) dealing with and satisfying the need for housing accommodation;  
(ii) planning, development or improvement of cities, towns and villages;  
(iii) regulating, or regulating and developing, any activity for the benefit of the general public; or  
(iv) regulating any matter, for the benefit of the general public, arising out of the object for which it has been created. For this purpose, body or authority or Board or Trust or Commission is required to be registered u/s 10(46A) and notified in official gazette. The above section has been inserted due to the decision of Apex Court in case of Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax (Exemptions) vs Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority in Civil Appeal No 21762 of 2017 vide its order dated 19.10.2022 wherein the Apex Court had denied exemption to such institutions as their commercial activities was more than 20%.  
2.5 No capital gain on

transfer of a capital asset being an interest in a JV, held by a public sector company, in exchange of shares of a company incorporated outside India by a foreign government, in accordance with laws of that foreign government - Section 47(xx)  
W.e.f. AY 2023-24, the capital gain arising from transfer of a capital asset being an interest in a JV, held by a public sector company, in exchange of shares of a company incorporated outside India by a foreign government shall not be chargeable to tax as the exchange of shares shall not be considered as transfer. Further the cost of acquisition of such shares shall be deemed to be cost of acquisition of the interest in JV. The amendment is likely to benefit ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) whose interest in JV in Russia having production sharing agreement with Russian Government in respect of certain oil fields was recently swapped with shares of new Russian company in accordance with decree issued by the Russian President. The swap was made to address difficulties arising out of existing operator being unable to operate the oilfields due to sanctions on Russia after outbreak of war with Ukraine.  
2.6 Export proceeds to be brought in convertible foreign exchange and return of income to be filed within due date u/s 139(1) for claiming deduction u/s

10AA [Section 10AA(4A) and Proviso to Section 10AA(1)(ii)]: W.e.f. AY 2024-25 two new condition has been imposed for claiming deduction u/s 10AA namely:  
a) The return of income must be furnished on or before due date of furnishing return of income u/s 139(1).  
b) The export proceeds has to be brought in India in convertible foreign exchange within 6 months from the end of the previous year or within such further period as may be allowed by competent authority. In this connection it may be mentioned that the sale of goods or provision of services shall be deemed to have been received in India where such export turnover is credited to a separate account maintained for that purpose by the assessee with any bank outside India with the approval of the Reserve Bank of India.  
2.7 Exemption to Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) to include income from business trust: W.e.f. 01.04.2024, income from business trust accruing to Abu Dhabi Investment Authority shall also be exempt. Prior to the amendment, income in the nature of dividend, interest or Long Term Capital Gains arising from investment made in India were exempt.  
2.8 Exemption u/s 10(26AAA) extended to a Sikkimese woman marrying a non-Sikkimese and an individual domiciled in Sikkim [Section 10(26AAA)]: With retrospective effect from AY 1990-92, the definition of Sikkimese has been amended to extend the

exemption u/s 10(26AAA) to the following persons-  
i) A Sikkimese woman marrying a non-Sikkimese on or after 1st April, 2008;  
ii) An individual who was domiciled in Sikkim on or before April 26, 1975;  
iii) An individual whose father or husband or paternal grand-father or brother from the same father was domiciled in Sikkim on or before April 26, 1975.  
2.9 Income of Credit Guarantee funds exempt [Section 10(46B)]: The Finance Act, 2023 has inserted a new Section 10(46A) w.e.f. AY 2023-24 which exempts any income accruing or arising to the following-  
i) National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTCL) established and wholly financed by the Central Government for the purposes of operating credit guarantee funds established and wholly financed by the Central Government;  
ii) A credit guarantee fund, established and wholly financed by the Central Government and managed by NCGTCL;  
iii) Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises created by the Government and the Small Industries Development Bank of India.  
(Contd.)

(Adv. Narayan Jain and CA DilipLoyalka are authors of the famous books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice". They are also members of AIFTP as well as DTPA)



Mathews J. Nedumpara

## WHO CAN FILE A PIL?

causes which many consider to be upright.  
2. In my practice spanning over almost four decades, innumerable people, including lawyers, have approached me for filing PILs. The question I ask them invariably is, What is your right? In what manner has your right been infringed? If one's right is infringed, even in a situation where the rights of many others similarly situated are infringed, one can institute a petition in one's own name, as a person aggrieved. Even in situations where a citizen is not directly affected, nay, does not suffer any specific personal injury, for example, inaction on the part of the police to register an FIR where a crime has been committed and investigate the same, any citizen can set the criminal law in motion by demanding investigation and in appropriate cases, by filing a petition under Article 226.  
3. But in situations where a citizen has not suffered any specific injury, exclusively to himself, and where the injury which he complains of is out of a legislative or executive policy, then it cannot be said that he is a 'person aggrieved'. He has therefore, no right to go to a Court. To anyone who doubts the correctness of this proposition, all that I have to remind is that there can be no legislative or executive action which will in no way affect rights, nay, even fundamental rights. During the pandemic severe restrictions were imposed on our various rights, which undoubtedly fall within the ambit of fundamental rights. With the Supreme Court holding

that the right to sleep in a public maidan during a protest (Ram Dev's case) is also an essential ingredient under Article 21, I cannot imagine of a right which does not, today, fall under the ambit of the fundamental rights. Fundamental rights can be taken away, not necessarily by a constitutional amendment or a statute, but even by an administrative order, without any statutory force. There is nothing illegal about it, provided, there exists sufficient reasons to do so.  
4. Most of the PILs filed today are filed in challenge of legislative and executive policies which are not justiciable at all. The Courts have been mindlessly entertaining such PILs complaining about violation of the fundamental rights on account of infrastructure projects, mining, and the like. Even the NJAC, a mechanism for appointment of judges of the superior courts by a transparent means, was challenged, curiously enough even without there being a complaint of the violation of the fundamental rights. One would find it incredulous that even the National Tax Tribunal contemplated by the Central Government, was struck down without there being a whisper about the violation of fundamental rights. A few vested interests got it struck down using the Madras Bar Association as a pawn.  
5. Before the PIL era, the law was certain as to who could go to a court. Any person whose rights are infringed. In other words, a person aggrieved. If what was infringed was

an individual's fundamental rights, Article 226, nay, even Article 32, as a matter of right, was available. After the much hailed, but laughable theory of the "basic structure", one could go to the Supreme Court, as was done in the case of the NJAC and numerous others, asserting that no fundamental right is infringed but violation of the basic structure.  
6. With the concept of PIL and basic structure, even the Constitution of India has lost its sanctity. What is important today is not the letter of the constitution, but the incredulous interpretation thereof by the Supreme Court as in the Judges-2 case and the NJAC case. A 5-judge bench in the NJAC case said that what binds them is the opinion of the 9-judges in the Judges-2 case and not the will of the people reflected through the constitutional amendment.  
7. With the Supreme Court becoming so powerful and Articles 141 and 142 being interpreted in such a ludicrous manner and where the Court acts even suo motu and pass orders which are nothing but legislations, everyone wants to approach the Supreme Court by way of PIL and bring everything under the sun for the court's decision. The top lawyers of the Supreme Court and the elite represented by them, face no scare because the Court will entertain them. But for the lesser mortals, it is a nightmare, it is an extremely risky gamble. The court may reject their petition outright, impose costs and admonish them

ruthlessly.  
8. The High Courts follow the suit of the Supreme Court. In some High Courts there are more than two benches of senior judges who exclusively hear PILs. For some, PILs are entertained and orders are passed demolishing the homes and shanties of the poor and middle-class without even a single affected person being on the party array. In Mumbai, in Mumbai, a PIL petitioner sought the demolition of 9 multi storied buildings where more than 4000 people reside without a single one among them being on the party array. Still worse, the Court entertained the petition and asked for a report on the action taken.  
9. The answer to the question, who can file a PIL, is simple. Nobody has a right to go to a court unless he has suffered a specific legal injury. The sole exception is a 'qui tam action' for a writ of mandamus. 'Qui tam action' means suing on behalf of the King as well as for himself. All PIL as in practice today, is in ignorance of basic jurisprudence, absolutely illegal and unconstitutional. Judges have been promoting it because it gave them power and fame without there being any accountability. But the judges fail to realize that the publicity so gained is fleeting and in the long run will destroy the very institution itself.  
10. Again, who can file a PIL? The answer is

simple. Only the Attorney General and Advocate Generals who represent the sovereign, nay, the Executive which is accountable to the legislature, can file a PIL and none else. In many other jurisdictions, class action petitions are common. The CPC and the Companies Act also provides for the same in the form of a representative suit/action. The current practice of so-called activists, very often extortionists, self-appointed guardians of public interest, motivated and funded by private interests, being allowed to assert that they represent the public at large cuts the very concept of democracy at its roots. The only forum which can decide matters concerning the public at large is the Parliament where, as Thomas Fuller has said, every citizen is symbolically present and the decision taken is with the consent of all. The decision of a court is between the parties and it binds them and cannot bind the public at large. To make the public at large bound by a decision of a court of which they were not parties and had no opportunity to participate is against the very first principles of natural justice and jurisprudence. It is unjust, unethical and undemocratic.  
11. The question is, how come our lawyers and judges allowed themselves to be so badly misdirected and hail something as legally and morally outrageous as PIL. The simple reason is the failure to notice the difference between "pro

bono litigation" and today's so-called "public interest litigation". It all started as pro bono litigation where a public-spirited person, acting pro bono, makes justice accessible to the undertrial, bonded labour, the poor and the meek, who out of their poverty, illiteracy and ignorance, are unable to access the superior courts. Pro bono litigation was for the enforcement of the rights of a person whose fundamental rights were infringed through public law remedies such as mandamus, certiorari, etc, to repeat for the enforcement of a private right. The real Petitioner in such a "pro bono litigation" is the undertrial, the slumdweller, the poor man/woman who was denied justice by the state and it's instrumentalities. It was not in furtherance of 'public interest', but was for the enforcement of a private right of a 'person aggrieved' who out of poverty, illiteracy and like reasons was unable to approach the court. Pro bono litigation is legal, constitutional and ethical.  
12. What has pained me, as someone who cares a great deal for the adherence to basic jurisprudence are the judgements and rules of the Supreme Court and High Courts which render it mandatory for the so-called "PIL" litigant, very often a person aggrieved and entitled to maintain a petition as a matter of right, to file an affidavit asserting that he no personal interest but a busy body, none of his rights are infringed and that he is in

no way a beneficiary of the outcome of the case. What is forgotten is that if one's right is not infringed, law will provide him no remedies and there is no reason for him to come to a court at all. I really feel pity for us all, to have to plead so horribly against the basic tenets, without which even a legitimate case which on erroneous legal advice, is filed as a PIL, will not be entertained. The function of a Court is to adjudicate the lis/dispute, namely, the assertion of certain rights/obligation by one party and the denial of the same by another, which would require the truth of the disputed fact to be ascertained by allowing the parties to adduce evidence.  
13. What is most startling is the fact that people still fail to realize that "PIL" did not bring any new remedies (eg. mandamus, certiorari, etc.) or new forum or any new principle, and on the contrary amounts to a great aberration.  
14. I hope that the day is not too far off when the Attorney General, Solicitor General, ASGs, AGs and other law officers, assert that they alone representing the sovereign, the elected executive, have the right to speak for the public in a court of law, and none else, lest the very institution of judiciary and the concept of democracy is at jeopardy.

The Author is the President of National Lawyers campaign for Judicial transparency and reforms 9820535428



PM participates in celebrations commemorating 125th Anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna Math at Chennai, in Tamil Nadu

## 33 MPs in the country are criminals

Warangal(KCN) : According to the Election Commission of India, 33% of the candidates exercised their right to vote. As part of the second day of Warangal Knit Swings Free 2023, a meeting was held on Saturday at Ambedkar Auditorium on the topic of Electoral Reforms. Former Joint Director of CBI Lakshminarayana was the Chief Guest of this program. Speaking on this occasion, he explained about the rules and regulations related to the victory and defeat of the political leaders in the previous elections. The winner of the election must get at least 50% plus second votes of the votes cast. He said that if the top candidate does not get 50% plus one vote, a run-off election should be held after a week between the first candidates. He said that the Prime Minister is responsible with the officials like CMs and Ministers, so they should not be allowed to campaign during the elections to the Parliament and the Assemblies and they should decide whether to hold executive posts. In order to increase the polling percentage and make voting easier, methods should be devised to enable voting

using mobile phones, computers etc. Publication and broadcasting of opinion polls and free poll services on media channels and social media channels should be prohibited. It is suggested that there is a possibility of influencing the voter's mind. He said that the



campaign should be limited to door-to-door campaign and TV talk on an equal basis with equal representation of newspaper advertisements and the expenditure incurred by the party should be included in the candidate's expenses. Foreign NRI voters who have registered using FarmSix A should be allowed to vote from that country using internet mobile based technology. He said that anyone who has been criminally charged by a court for offenses specified in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 should be barred from contesting elections until the case is

disposed of in the trial. To make the appointment of Election Commissioners impartial and unbiased, a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Justice of India should select the Election Commissioners from among the eligible

candidates. They should be permanently barred from engaging in gainful employment after retirement. If NOTA gets more votes than the contesting candidates, the elections should be held again with other candidates. It is time for proportional representation as political parties are all talking about winning seats and want no opposition to distort democracy leading to subversion of free and fair elections. That means the seats are according to the percentage of votes received. Donations to political parties under section 80 GGC and 80 GGB are 100% tax

exempt and electoral bonds are leading to financial disparity of political parties. Instead these donations should go to the Election Commission for implementation of electoral reforms. A state Chief Electoral Officer CEO appoints an IAS officer from the same

state. To ensure a neutral and unbiased story, the CEO should be recruited from other cadre and should not belong to that state, he said. Officials like Prime Ministers, CMs and Ministers are not responsible for governance. So they should not be expected to campaign during elections to Parliament or State Assemblies. They have to decide whether to hold executive posts or party posts. If a People's Representative MP or MLA resigns from office before the completion of his term, the candidate who obtained the next highest number of votes in the election shall be declared as the People's

Representative for the remainder of the term. GD Lakshminarayana said that if they follow this rule, they will be recognized as those who have followed the rule of taking oath according to the Constitution of India. On this occasion, GD Lakshminarayana said that there is no need for EVMs or pod machines. Looking at the current rules for the election of political party leaders, they have expressed the opinion that they have been elected democratically. They express the opinion that they have won. As a part of this, 37 parliamentary candidates in the last general elections were said to have criminal records. Moreover, he expressed the opinion that the candidates belonging to the ruling party spent 646 crores in the Munugodu bye elections held in Telangana. According to the Election Commissioner of India, 33% of voters did not exercise their right to vote. As an example of this, in Australia, if the right to vote is not exercised, the voter will be charged a higher tax in the form of income tax. NIT Director Yan V Ramana Rao, Dean of Students, Prof. Puli Ravikumar Greenwood, Alumni P Madhava Reddy Alumni President Chandragiri Srinivas PRO. Rahul participated

## Maharashtra Chief Minister's Show Of Strength During Ayodhya Visit

Ayodhya (UP): Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday reached Ayodhya on a day-long visit to pay obeisance to Lord Ram at the Ram temple. Thousands of his supporters called 'Shiv Sainiks' accompanied him.



"I am going to Ayodhya for darshan of Lord Ram. We have blessings of Lord Ram that is why 'dhanush-baan' (bow-arrow, elections symbol of Shiv Sena) is with us," Mr Shinde told reporters in Lucknow before leaving for Ayodhya. He reached Ram Katha helipad and will be attending 'Maha Aarti' at Ram temple and will also oversee the ongoing construction work of the temple and meet saints. He will attend 'Maha Aarti' in the evening at the Saryu river bank. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Uttar Pradesh minister Swatantra Dev Singh were also seen

accompanying Mr Shinde. This is the first visit of Mr Shinde to Ayodhya after being sworn in as the chief minister of Maharashtra in June last year. Thousands of Shiv Sainiks have also reached the city and almost all hotels, guest houses and dharamshalas in the temple town have been booked to accommodate Shiv Sena ministers, MPs and MLAs. The Shiv Sena is planning to highlight Mr Shinde's visit to Ayodhya across the country. Earlier, Mr Shinde had visited Ayodhya as a Shiv Sena leader on November 25, 2018, a year before the Supreme

Court announced the verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute. He also visited Ayodhya in March 2020 and June last year. Talking about his visit to Ayodhya for the first time after becoming the chief minister, Mr Shinde said he was happy and satisfied to see the atmosphere here. He expressed his gratitude to Uttar Pradesh ministers and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whom he will be meeting later in the day in Lucknow. Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray wanted to see a grand Ram temple come up in Ayodhya, Mr Shinde had said.

## "Will Fast Against Corruption": Sachin Pilot Revives War With Ashok Gehlot



Jaipur: Congress leader Sachin Pilot opened a fresh line of attack on his rival Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Sunday, announcing that he will sit on a one-day fast against corruption on Tuesday. He has demanded that the Gehlot government act against the alleged corruption of the previous BJP government led by Vasundhara Raje. Mr Pilot said that it was necessary to assure people that the Congress government was acting on its statements and promises made before

the 2018 assembly elections. He said that the government had failed to take action against the excise mafia, illegal mining, land encroachment and the Lalit Modi affidavit case. Mr Pilot played old videos of Mr Gehlot accusing Ms Raje of corruption and misrule and asked why he had not initiated any investigation or inquiry into these matters. He said that the Congress government had evidence against the former BJP government but had not acted on it. "We cannot go into the

elections with these promises unfulfilled. We have evidence. We should have acted. We should investigate. We are going into elections. There will be Model Code of Conduct soon. We are answerable to the people," Mr Pilot said. Mr Pilot also said that he had given many suggestions to the party leadership about affairs in Rajasthan and one of them was to act on these issues. "It is our government. We need to act. So, people continue to have confidence in us," Mr Pilot said.

## "GURU SMARANAM" on late Guru Shri Kelucharan Mahapatra and observe his 19th death anniversary

Kolkata: Guru Smaranam 2023 was organised by Srijan Chhanda, under the ICCR Horizon Series. It is an institution dedicating its mission to Indian Classical Dance & Music. Every year the institution organises many cultural evenings, workshops & seminars to honour the Odissi dance form. This year Srijan Chhanda came up with the horizon

series of ICCR to pay adulation to late Guru Shri Kelucharan Mahapatra and observe his 19th death anniversary. The programme was compered by Neeladyuti Chaudhury. From the traditional expertise of the "Chitrakaras" through the entertaining art of the "Gotipua" and "Jatra" parties, the "bhakti" oriented "rasa leela" performances and the innovative



attempts of the Annapurna Theatre, Guruji's artistic journey is one of

continuous learning and growth. In the world of dance, the ethereal 'jugalbandis'

between Pandit Birju Maharaj and Odissi doyen Guru Kelucharan

Mohapatra are fondly remembered. The legends have left for their heavenly abodes,

but the aesthetics of their duets can never fade away from the memories of those who have witnessed the sheer magic on stage. In their memory a beautiful amalgamation of Odissi & Kathak was presented which reminded us the friendship and bond between both of them. To carry forward the legacy, Srijan Chhanda presented - Nrityanjali - under

the direction of Sri Rajib Bhattacharya & Smt Paramita Maitya. Accompanying participants were Ranjabali Dey, Shrinjoyi Chhetri, Kamalika Bose, Anushree Paul, Saradia Dutta and Satabdi Majhi. Thereafter Inauguration and Pushpanjali was done by Sri Rajib Bhattacharya and the eminent.

# Bureaucratization Of Politics

**Bhubaneswar:** One should not be surprised if the Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) one day announces former top bureaucrat Bijay Patnaik as the chairperson of the party's campaign committee for the ensuing 2024 general elections for Lok Sabha and State Assembly. Bijay, a former chief secretary and also once a close aide of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, a section of the party feels, will be a befitting candidate for the crucial post. Though new in politics and also in the party, Bijay has meanwhile proved to be a major instrument for Congress to target the 23 years old Biju Janata Dal (BJD) dispensation. Bijay is now-a-days more seen in the Congress state headquarters

than the old and veteran party leaders. Bijay, usually a soft spoken mandarin, in fact knows where to hit. For being very close to Naveen Patnaik, apparently knows the art of dealing with issues with coolness. Suave nature appears to be the USP of Bijay. He targets the system and not the individuals. It is often seen that Naveen never speaks directly against Narendra Modi, Amit Shah and for that matter Sonia Gandhi or Rahul Gandhi though he at times does not hesitate to speak against policies of both the Congress and BJP.

The former bureaucrat has also learnt the art of not speaking directly to anyone, but to target the core of the issues. In his half-a-dozen press conferences after

joining Congress, Bijay has targeted the BJD government policies including the much talked 5T initiative. But, he has all along refrained from taking names behind controversies.

On the other hand, it is seen that the politicians do not hesitate to directly blame any officer or leader unlike Bijay's style of functioning. Meanwhile, it is observed that Bijay is getting acceptance from different groups of leaders within the party. The elders, youths, students, women and others in the party have so far nothing to speak against Bijay as he maintains his position as a former bureaucrat. Bijay, though has direct blessings from the AICC, never exposes his clout within the



party and gives required respect to OPCC President Sarat Pattnayak and others. He too never oversteps the 'Laxman Rekha' and prefers to play safe within the party and outside. During his recent visit to Ganjam district, Bijay spoke about the main issue of the district and highlighted the

migration of people and skill of local people. He stressed on setting up a mega spinning mill in Ganjam and also advocated for making Aska sugar factory operational which would provide employment to hundreds of families in the migration prone district.

All along, Bijay, unlike politicians

understands reality and lacunae in the administration. He knows it well that the Naveen Patnaik government is driven by officials and not politicians. Therefore, as a former chief secretary, he knows where the officials make mistakes and how to highlight them in a proper perspective.

There is no doubt that the BJD government since inception has lot of influence of the bureaucrats be it former or present. While former IAS officer Pyarimohan Mohapatra had overbearing influence on the government as well as the party till 2012. In Odisha, it is seen that bureaucrats make better strategists to win elections and the governing party has repeatedly received

Bureaucratization of politics has proved to be a better option for BJD and a party like Congress, which remained out of power for over two decades, would not mind to change its mode of operation if a Babu can change the fate of the party in Odisha.

The critics may call it the death of democracy, but it is Naveen Patnaik for the first time in the history of Odisha politics has made it. His 23 years regime has seen bureaucrats are having influence in political affairs as well as in the administration. Naveen made history by becoming the first to give a stable government, thanks to the support of Bureaucracy. He has been a chief minister for five times in a row and is set to make it half-a-dozen times.

Bijay Patnaik is not the first former bureaucrat to enter politics. Many others have done it in the past. Recently, Aparajita Sarangi resigned from Civil Service and joined BJP to become a MP. Prior to her many former bureaucrats and top cops have come to politics. Former DGP Prakash Mishra is in BJP and Arup Patnaik is in BJD. Amar Patnaik also joined BJD. Bijay Patnaik is also not the last bureaucrat to join politics. He is likely to be followed by some other big names when the 2024 elections come closer.

But, the fact that bureaucratization of politics is certainly a debatable matter now in Odisha politics. Is the trend is going to gain strength among other political parties? Time will tell.

## MUDRA Lends 23.2 L CR

New Delhi: Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) was launched on 8 April 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the aim to facilitate easy collateral-free micro credit of up to ₹10 lakh to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro entrepreneurs for income generating activities. The loans under PMMY are provided by Member Lending Institutions (MLIs), i.e., Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) and other financial intermediaries. Upon marking successful 8th anniversary of the PMMY, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman said, "Brought under the



visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the scheme has enabled easy and hassle-free access to credit to micro-enterprises and has helped a large number of young entrepreneurs establish their businesses."

In reference to the PMMY data, Shrimati Sitharaman said, "Since the launch of the scheme, as of 24.03.2023, about ₹23.2 lakh crore has been sanctioned in 40.82 crore loan accounts. About 68% of accounts under the scheme belong to women entrepreneurs and 51% of accounts belong to entrepreneurs of SC/ST

and OBC categories. This demonstrates that easy availability of credit to the budding entrepreneurs of the country has led to innovation and sustained increase in per capita income." Highlighting indigenous growth through MSMEs, the Finance Minister said, "The growth of MSMEs has contributed massively to the "Make in India" programme as strong domestic MSMEs lead to increased indigenous production both for domestic markets as well as for exports. The PMMY scheme has

helped in the generation of large-scale employment opportunities at the grassroots level and also has proved to be a game changer while boosting the Indian economy."

On the occasion, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Finance Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad said, "The PMMY scheme aims to provide collateral free access to credit in a seamless manner to micro enterprises in the country. It has brought the unserved and underserved sections of the society within the framework of institutional credit. The government policy of promoting MUDRA has led millions of MSME enterprises in the formal economy and has helped them to get out of the clutches of money-lenders offering very high cost funds."

## Rama Devi University's Boundary Wall Collapses





**Bhubaneswar:** A large portion of boundary wall of the Rama Devi Women's University here collapsed, today. According to reports, around 100 feet long portion of the boundary wall near the Rupali Square has collapsed towards a

park on the premises of the varsity. The local corporator alleged that sub-standard work led to the incident. "The boundary wall was constructed merely 2 months ago during the President's visit to the university. The collapse clearly indicates about the

sub-standard work," he said. University's Vice Chancellor Prof. Aparajita Chowdhury also alleged about poor work of the boundary wall. "It is an unfortunate incident. We had earlier informed the Bhubaneswar

Municipal Corporation (BMC) and concerned authorities regarding water-soaking near the boundary wall. It also lacked beam and pillar during the construction. The concerned contractor will be questioned about the matter," she said.

2023-2024

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## Capri Global Appoints Coaching Beyond as Consultant for UAE ILT20 League

**Mumbai:** Capri Global has announced an association with Coaching Beyond, a premier cricket coaching institute, as a consultant for the franchise team of the UAE ILT20 League. The institution will assist Capri Global in appointment of coaching staff and matters related to cricket operations. R Sridhar, former fielding coach of the Indian Cricket Team and one of the founding members of Coaching Beyond, will be the Director of Cricket for Capri Global during the UAE ILT20 League. Capri Global intends to strengthen the cricket ecosystem on the global platform by engaging the right sporting talent and nurturing them. The company aims to play a vital role as an enabler by empowering deserving talent to showcase their sporting strength to the globe. Speaking on the association, Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Director, Capri Global, said, "Capri Global aims to reinforce the visibility and

popularity of sports nationally and globally and popularize homegrown sports to create opportunities for aspiring talent. We are pleased to associate with Coaching Beyond, a brainchild of sports stalwarts who will assist us in evaluating the deserving talent and offer state-of-the-art sports training infrastructure, world-class technology, and training to sportspeople. Mr. Sridhar's experience as a player and coach is almost unrivaled and his strategic insights, coaching approach, and collaborative style will be invaluable for our franchise team. We see great synergy coming through this alliance, including a host of exciting moments that are set to elevate the cricketing experience for the Indian audience on the global platform." Coaching Beyond is a premier cricket coaching institute in India that provides performance-driven

cricket coaching, training, and education to individuals, teams, and coaches from the grassroots to various experience levels. It has recently launched its first high-performance cricket academy in Hyderabad and is on track to launch its second project in Chennai by August.

R Sridhar, Co-Founder of Coaching Beyond, said, "We are delighted to announce our partnership with Capri Global for the upcoming UAE ILT20 League. It is an exciting opportunity to work and do justice to the enormous cricketing talent and add value to the international platform. With a focused team effort, inclusive vision, and holistic approach, we can achieve consistent success during the tournament. We are confident that the League will be a grand success and are looking forward to a successful season".

## Ashok Leyland launches industry first 8-wheel truck – AVTR 2620

**Chennai:** Ashok Leyland, flagship of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer, today, launched the industry first 8-wheeler truck – AVTR 2620. With this launch of AVTR 2620, Ashok Leyland becomes the first and only player in the country to have a full range of trucks based on lift axle technology from GVW of 25.5 to 47.5T. This new product can be operated as 25.5 T (6x2) truck with the lift axle down (offering

payload closer to regular 6x2 MAV truck) and a 4x2 truck (18.5T GVW) with lift axle up (lower fuel and operating cost similar to 4x2) during light load/partial load/return empty. This new product thus offers an excellent operational flexibility to customers to choose the option based on their load, offering best-in-class Total Cost of Operation (TCO) benefits.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Head - M&HCV, Ashok Leyland, said,

"Ashok Leyland has a history of introducing products which have disrupted the CV industry. AVTR 2620 with its unique lift axle configuration offers higher TCO advantage to our customers operating in Ecom, Parcel & tanker. AVTR 2620 is a testament of Ashok Leyland's technological prudence & our commitment towards providing better logistical solutions to our customers, aligning with our philosophy of AppkiJeet, HamariJeet."

## AirAsia India launches Splash Sale with fares starting at Rs1,620

**New Delhi:** AirAsia India announced the launch of a splash sale with fares starting at ₹1,620, while riding on the launch of its loyalty marketing campaign and inviting flyers to sign up on its website or mobile app to "make the most of fast bookings, fab deals and fantastic value" with the NeuPass.

Special sale fares are open for advance booking till 3rd June for travel from 20th June till 14 Dec 2022 and include fares such as Bengaluru-Chennai at Rs1,620. The sale fares are bookable on AirAsia India's website www.airasia.co.in, mobile app and partner booking channels.

As reported by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), AirAsia India topped the charts with 94.8% On Time Performance while also having the lowest cancellation percentage (0.00%) in April 2022.

## Get your daily grocery needs fulfilled during Super Value Days on Amazon Fresh

**Bhubaneswar:** Get ready to shop for daily grocery essentials during Amazon.in 'Super Value Days' till 7th June, 2022. Customers can avail up to 50% off on fresh produce, daily and household essentials, packaged foods, personal care, baby products, pet care essentials and much more. They can enjoy grocery deals starting at ₹1 and free delivery for prime members. Customers can also avail great prices and fresh offers from popular brands including Daawat, Fortune, Tata, Nestle, Godrej, Cadbury, and Himalaya among others at convenient delivery slots options from a single online destination.

Credit card holders can avail of an instant discount of 10% by using SBI Bank Credit Card and Credit EMI with a minimum transaction of INR 2,500, and discounts up to INR 300 till 3rd June 2022. From 4th to 7th June 2022, customers can avail of an instant discount of 10% by using ICICI Bank Credit Card and Credit EMI with a minimum transaction of INR 2,500, and discounts up to INR 500.

## Union Bank of India signs MOU with SIDBI for Co-Financing arrangement of MSMEs

**Mumbai :** Union Bank of India today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for a Co-Financing arrangement for MSMEs. The MoU was signed by Shri Lal Singh, Chief General Manager, Union Bank of India and Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, Chief General Manager, SIDBI. SIDBI is country's principal financial institution

engaged in the Promotion, Financing and Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). Under the MoU, Union Bank of India would consider Joint financing/Co-Financing with SIDBI to Projects/Units in the MSME. This MoU would help the Banks to increase their customer base, while helping the MSMEs to meet their funding requirements. The key highlights of the

arrangement include joint identification of viable projects and term loan and working capital financing to MSMEs. Initially the arrangement would be at specific centers and once the arrangement stabilizes at these centers, more locations would be covered. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Lal Singh, CGM (MSME), Union Bank of India, said "MSME is one of the key sectors of our Indian Economy

contributing to GDP, Exports, Manufacturing Output, Employment, Women Empowerment etc. MSME is one of the focused areas of the Bank and at Union Bank of India, we aim to become Bank of 1st choice for MSMEs. This tie-up with SIDBI aids in realizing the Bank's vision to have increased credit flow to the MSME sector and extend operational convenience to the MSME clientele. Under partnership, Union Bank

of India through its Pan India branch network can provide general Banking products like Current Accounts, Savings Accounts, Working Capital facilities and other related services to the MSME Customers of SIDBI." Also, speaking on the tie-up arrangement, Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, CGM, SIDBI reiterated SIDBI's commitment towards timely financing for MSMEs across all sectors.

## Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. placed in Leadership position in CRISIL's Sustainability Yearbook, 2022

**Mumbai:** In recognition of its relentless commitment towards sustainability and the environment, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd (KNPL) has been placed in the 'Leadership' category in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. The company is one among the only 14 companies that have been placed in this category for their ESG initiatives. Further, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd has earned the highest ESG score amongst paint and manufacturing companies. This recognition further reinforces the company's commitment towards nurturing a beautiful and healthy world for future generations. The

Sustainability Yearbook is one of the most comprehensive annual publications based on CRISIL's proprietary ESG framework on Indian companies. Analyzing over 575 companies across 53 sectors in India based on data, from the fiscal data from 2021, the Yearbook covers the latest global and domestic developments in the ESG space, incorporation of climate risks by global financial institutions, decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors in India, implications of transitioning from BRR to BRSR for Indian companies and showcases insights on ESG trends based on the scores and data of the Indian companies.

Commenting on the achievement, Mr. Anuj Jain, Managing Director, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. said, "We are elated to be placed in the 'Leadership' position in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. This report is a testament to our commitment towards sustainability. At Nerolac, sustainability is at the forefront of all our operations to deliver value to our stakeholders. ESG continues to remain a priority and that has helped us create a positive impact on our communities and the environment. We will continue increasing our ESG efforts as we focus on growing our business sustainably.

## Statement by State Bank of India

**Mumbai :** Shri Vijay Kumar, Branch Manager, Arreah branch of Ellaquai Dehati Bank (EBD), a Srinagar-headquartered Regional Rural Bank sponsored by SBI was shot dead today in the branch premises by a terrorist. Vijay Kumar, who belonged to

Rajasthan, was just 29 years old and had joined EDB in March 2019.

Vijay Kumar was one of many such bankers hailing from different parts of the country, who are working in the Kashmir Valley and other difficult places to ensure delivery of

uninterrupted banking services to the public.

SBI, as the sponsor of Ellaquai Dehati Bank, remains committed to ensure the safety and well-being of all its employees, including those posted in the Valley.

## Unacademy produces 178 Rankers for UPSC CSE 2021

**Bhubaneswar:** Unacademy, India's largest learning platform\*, today announced that 178 out of 685 rank holders of UPSC CSE 2021 are Unacademy Learners. Among the top rankers from the Unacademy platform are Gamini Singla (AIR - 3), Aishwarya Verma (AIR - 4), Utkarsh Dwivedi (AIR - 5) and Yaksh Chaudhary (AIR - 6). 3 Learners have secured ranks between 1-5, 32 have secured ranks from 6-100 and 143 have secured AIRs from 101-685.

From the 178 Rankers, 45 Learners were Unacademy's Plus/ Iconic subscribers guided by India's Top Educators. The other rankers were guided by Unacademy's Last Mile Programme for UPSC CSE 2021 Interview. Last Mile Programme is an interview guidance program for the last stage of the UPSC CSE exam that helps Learners who have qualified the Mains exam to crack the Personal Interview stage. The questions are asked by retired bureaucrats, former UPSC members and Top Educators in a mock set-up. In last year's Unacademy's Interview Guidance Program 170+ Rankers qualified the Interview stage by securing AIR 2.

## Blue Dart signs the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Now Pledge

**Bhubaneswar:** Blue Dart, South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation & distribution company and a part of the Deutsche Post DHL (DPDHL) Group has signed the 'Climate Neutral Now' (CNN) pledge by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The pledge highlights the organisation's commitment

to ambitious CO2 reduction targets. Deutsche Post DHL Group has adopted a package of measures worth up to ₹7 billion to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the Paris Climate Agreement, primarily to expand the use of sustainable technologies and fuels in its fleets and buildings. Its long term goal is to reduce GHG emissions to net zero by

2050. The Climate Neutral Now Initiative encourages and supports interested stakeholders to act now in order to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050 as enshrined in the Paris Agreement. The initiative is a tool to promote voluntary action on climate change. Blue Dart has already invested extensively in remaining a Sustainable Provider of Choice by being the first

in the industry to set quantified carbon-reduction targets. The organisation, as a part of the Deutsche Post DHL Group aimed to increase their CO2 efficiency by 10% by the year 2012 and 30% by the year 2020. Against the 30% target, Blue Dart achieved a 34% CO2 efficiency in 2021. Pablo Ciano, EVP Corporate Development, DPDHL Group says, "As a Group, we have

developed a Sustainability Roadmap that supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We are constantly working towards introducing innovative green logistics solutions that improve our carbon footprint. I am delighted to share that representing the DHL eCommerce Solutions Division in India, Blue Dart has been delivering high on its sustainability initiatives.

## TP Central Odisha Distribution Ltd. completes two successful years of operations

**Bhubaneswar:** TP Central Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPCODL), a joint venture between Tata Power and the Government of Odisha, today celebrated the completion of two years of its successful operations in Odisha. In its first two years, TPCODL has extensively leveraged technology for reliable power supply. The company has kept its prime focus on customer centricity, network augmentation, safety and infrastructure refurbishment for improvement of the overall scenario in electricity distribution in its licensed area of operations. TPCODL serves a huge population of 1.36 crore with a customer base of more than 27.5 lakh and a vast distribution area of 29,354 sq. km. in the state. To improve customer experience, TPCODL has undertaken several initiatives to strengthen distribution infrastructure, adopt new technologies and

digitalize its services. Strengthened network and developed robust distribution infrastructure. In the past two years, the company has taken a number of proactive steps on maintenance that have resulted in robust distribution infrastructure. Condition-based maintenance systems like Thermography and Dissolved Gas Analysis are used by the company to detect the lifespan of equipment and perform maintenance at right time. Such initiatives helped in a 37% reduction in 11kV interruptions and a 64% reduction in 33kV interruptions on a Y-o-Y basis during FY2021-22. Additionally, the company has added, augmented and replaced overhead 33 kV electric wires of over 100 circuit kilometres (ckms) and 11kV wires of more than 1100 ckms. TPCODL has also added 42,743 new LT and HT poles, refurbished more than 1,000 distribution substations (DSS) apart from strengthening

around 10,900 poles and concreting 37800 poles. Ensured customer centricity. Keeping customer satisfaction at the core, TPCODL took many steps for addressing customers' pain points and resolve their issues at the earliest. The company has set up 15 customer care centers including the new ones at Dhenkanal, Paradip, Salipur and Jagatsinghpur. TPCODL systematically reached out to both rural and urban customers. The company organised over 660 camps in various villages through its Gaon Chalo initiative and 46 Resident Welfare Meetings in different housing societies to reach rural and urban customers respectively. Taking a step towards innovation, TPCODL introduced a mobile compact substation for maintaining continuity of power supply in emergency conditions. To ensure seamless complaint registration and bill payments, TPCODL adopted digital solutions such as the TPCODL

# Rahane blitz, spin choke gives CSK big win over MI

**Mumbai:** Ajinkya Rahane hit the fastest half-century of IPL 2023 to complement CSK's spinners in a statement seven-wicket victory over fellow IPL powerhouse Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede. Before Rahane could dazzle the MI bowlers with his array of strokes around the ground, it was the spin pair of Ravindra Jadeja and Mitchell Santner that picked five wickets between them and punctured holes into MI's innings to leave them with a below-par total. The Rahane-inspired chase was then capped off with 11 balls and seven wickets to spare, keeping MI winless in two games. Mumbai Indians' depleted bowling attack came in for an assault from the local boy, who has grown up piling on a mountain of runs on surfaces like this. Devon Conway's dismissal in the first over opened the floor for Ajinkya

Rahane, who on CSK debut, set the stage well and truly alight. He started off with a flick off the hips to the fine leg fence in the same over and didn't mistime a single hit since. He pulled Jason Behrendorff for a six over square leg before annihilating Arshad Khan in an over that read 6 4 4 4 - with a bouquet of shots around the ground facilitating the carnage. Rahane cut behind point, drove straight down the ground, flicked and pulled his way to a 19-ball half-century - the fastest of the season - inside the PowerPlay. Such was Rahane's impact on the innings that he reduced Rituraj Gaikwad to a spectator for large parts of the first six overs as the CSK opener faced just 12 balls in that period. Rahane fell for 61 off 27 - an innings laced with 7 fours and 3 sixes while trying to take on Piyush



Chawla in the eighth over, but it didn't allow MI to force a way back with the ball. Shivam Dube joined forces with Gaikwad for the third-wicket stand to add 43 runs off 38 balls to put the visitors on their way to two crucial points. MI suffered in the absence of Jofra Archer, who was out of this game as a precaution. Chawla, who put a lid on the Rahane juggernaut, went for runs

against Dube as the tall left-hander hit a four through long on and one through cover to eat into the already dwarfed target. Dube went after Hrithik Shoukeen and the impact substitute Kumar Kartikeya's spin bowling too, before dragging one from the latter onto his stumps to fall for 28 off 26. Gaikwad, who had uncharacteristically played second fiddle to

all the CSK batters till that point, chanced his arms in the same over to hit a six over deep midwicket. Ambati Rayudu, CSK's impact substitute, then put the result beyond doubt in the 18th over with fours through extra cover and past short third off Behrendorff, before finishing the chase off with a four past long off in the penultimate over. Rohit Sharma and Ishan

Kishan made a frenetic start to the proceedings as Deepak Chahar swung the ball a little in the one over he bowled, before hobbling off injured. Sisanda Magala, fresh from picking 8 wickets in two ODIs against Netherlands at home, arrived and bowled poor lengths on a true Wankhede pitch, which Kishan took advantage of. He welcomed him with three fours in his first over, driving through covers and pulling through midwicket. Rohit meanwhile struggled to connect while trying to play the big shots, and eventually played down the wrong line against a ball from Tushar Deshpande that hit the top of off-stump. MI still got 61 runs in the PowerPlay as Kishan once again went after Magala, hitting him for two fours in a 14-run over. CSK have been leaky in the PowerPlay in all their

games so far, but once again pulled things back in the middle overs through spin. It began as early as the seventh over, when Jadeja lured Kishan into a false shot by bowling wide outside the offstump. Kishan's penchant for targeting the leg side pushed him to attempt the same again, and perished in the process as he hit straight to Dwaine Pretorius at long on. Suryakumar Yadav, in the midst of a white-ball lull, fell to a nothing ball from Mitchell Santner. Against a delivery that was on his leg side, Suryakumar aimed to play the sweep and ended up feathering it behind where Dhoni was sharp to move to his left on time and complete the catch. The umpire signalled a wide and Dhoni sent the decision upstairs to get it overturned. Cameron Green then fell in the next over when he drove powerfully, only for

Jadeja to take a blinder off his own bowling to leave MI 73 for 4. That became 76 for 5 when Santner trapped Arshad leg before. Tilak Verma and Tim David attempted a recovery, but Jadeja turned the screws further in his final over to dismiss Verma for 22 and finish with a fantastic spell of 3 for 20. Mumbai Indians pushed through to 157 for 8 courtesy some patchwork from Tim David (31 off 22) and Hrithik Shoukeen (18 off 13) in the death overs. As it turned out, it proved to be grossly insufficient. Brief Scores: Mumbai Indians 157/8 (Ishan Kishan 32, Tim David 31; Ravindra Jadeja 3-20, Mitchell Santner 2-28) lost to Chennai Super Kings 159/3 in 18.1 overs (Ajinkya Rahane 61, Rituraj Gaikwad 40; Jason Behrendorff 1-24) by 7 wickets

## Boucher bemoans batting insufficiency in CSK loss ICC bans Ali Khan for two matches

**Mumbai:** Mark Boucher felt Chennai Super Kings' effort with the ball hurt Mumbai Indians more than Ajinkya Rahane's swashbuckling half-century in the game between the two most successful sides in the competition. "The bowling hurt us more," the MI coach said after his side slumped to a seven-wicket defeat, their second in as many games this IPL season. Ravindra Jadeja scalped three Mumbai Indians batters including a stunning one-handed reflex catch off his own bowling and his figures of three for 20 put brakes on the hosts' progress, who had a blazing start to the innings. They ended up with a below par total of 157 for 8 which was easily chased down by the Super Kings, thanks to a whirlwind knock of 27-ball 61 by Rahane.



"Rahane played some good cricket shots but it was their bowling that hurt us at the end of the day. Look at our bowlers and their batters. We have not had enough runs on the board. In the game of T20 cricket, especially, now when we have impact players, we had seven batters today. For us to make 157 was not good enough on that

wicket. We probably should have got 180-190," the South African said when asked about what hurt his side more. "So full credit to them. [There were] a couple of lucky dismissals. That Surya [Suryakumar Yadav] shot probably should have gone for a four. It was unlucky for him that he got caught [by MS Dhoni behind the

stumps]." Boucher added he was not worried about Suryakumar's form. The team's batting mainstay managed just one run on Saturday night after scoring only 15 at less than a run a ball in Bengaluru. It's marked a rather uncomfortable phase for the dynamic batter, who was dismissed for three first-

ball ducks in the ODIs against Australia just before the IPL. "Surya is an extremely talented cricketer, one of the world's best T20 cricketers, if not the best. He has not had the weight of runs of late but he is a fantastic player. Hope he can come good for us in the near future. I don't want to put too much pressure on him. We all know what he can do. That is just the game of cricket. Sometimes you go through patches," the MI coach said. The home team, already without Jasprit Bumrah, had to do without Jofra Archer in the game and the coach hoped the England pacer will be available for selection soon. "He picked up a little niggle. We have got a fantastic medical team. They are looking after him. He is a massive player. Hope he will be back soon," Boucher said.

**New Delhi:** Ali Khan from the United States has been banned for two matches - ODIs or T20Is, whichever comes first - for breaching ICC Code of Conduct during the World Cup Qualifier Play-off match in Windhoek. Jasdeep Singh, also from USA, was fined 30 percent of his match fee and handed two demerit points whereas Elliot Miles from Jersey was fined 15 percent of his match fee and handed one demerit point. Khan, who received one demerit point and 15 percent fine for the latest offence, had his total demerit points at four and hence will miss the next two games for USA. He had earlier copped three demerit points for two separate incidents during a T20I match against Bermuda in November 2021. Singh was fined for



breaching Article 2.12 of the Code, which relates to "inappropriate physical contact with a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Referee or any other person (including a spectator) during an International Match." Miles was fined for breaching Article 2.3 of the Code, which relates to "use of an audible obscenity during an International Match."

"All three players admitted their offences and accepted the sanctions proposed by Owen Chirombe of the Emirates ICC International Panel of Match Referees, so there was no need for formal hearings," the ICC said in a media release. "On-field umpires Andrew Louw and Claus Schumacher, and third umpire David Odhiambo levelled the charges."

## IBA World Boxing Championships: Thapa, Bhorja To Lead Indian Squad

**New Delhi:** Six-time Asian Championships medallist Shiva Thapa and 2019 Asian Championships silver medallist Deepak Bhorja will headline the Indian squad for the upcoming IBA Men's World Boxing Championships to be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from April 30 to May 14. Shiva, who won a World Championships bronze medal in Doha, Qatar in 2015 will be looking to add another medal to his name. He will be representing the country in the 63.5 kg category. Deepak, who has been one of the most improved and developed boxers in

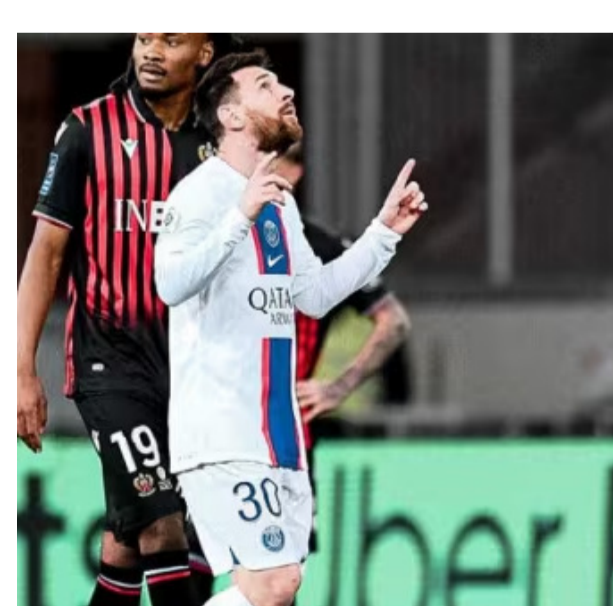
recent times, will be shouldering the country's hopes in the 51kg Flyweight category. He announced himself on the global stage in 2021 when he defeated the 2016 Rio Olympic gold medallist and 2019 World Champion Shakhobidin Zoirov of Uzbekistan at the Strandja Memorial tournament. "Men's team have been working extremely hard and I wish them all the best. I am confident each one of them will make the country proud. We had recently witnessed the Indian Women boxers giving one of the best medal haul of all time at the Delhi

World Championship and I hope our boys will make us proud once again at the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships," said Ajay Singh, President of the Boxing Federation of India (BFI). The Championship will also feature seven defending World Champions including Sofiane Oumiha from France, Loren Alfonso from Azerbaijan, Saken Bibossinov from Kazakhstan and Cuba's Yoennis Hernandez Martinez and Julio La Cruz.

## Record-Breaking Lionel Messi Stars In PSG's Win Over Nice

**New Delhi:** One week after being jeered by his own fans, Lionel Messi scored one goal and set up the other as Paris Saint-Germain won at a wasteful Nice 2-0 to maintain its six-point lead of the French league. Messi was booed by some PSG fans in last weekend's home defeat to Lyon, leading to increased speculation he could leave this summer. Argentina's World Cup-winning star clipped in a cross from left back Nuno Mendes in the 26th minute. Then Messi's corner from the left was headed home by veteran defender Sergio Ramos in the 76th. Nice was unbeaten

in 14 matches overall before this game and went close to equalizing in the first half, but PSG goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma kept out efforts from Nicolas and striker Terem Moffi. Veteran defender Dante's shot came off the underside of the crossbar and appeared to cross the line in the 51st. But referee Jerome Pignard was not alerted by goal-line technology that it crossed, even though video replays showed a goal should likely have been awarded. Donnarumma kept out more shots from Pope and Youssouf Ndayishimiye as Nice kept up the pressure on



PSG, which has lost eight matches in 2023. Nice hit the crossbar late on in a match of wasted chances. Under pressure PSG coach Christophe Galtier

returned to the club he coached last season. But Nice's ultras greeted Galtier with an insulting chant and unfurled a derogatory banner about him. After

the final whistle, Galtier walked over and sarcastically gave a thumbs up to the section of fans who insulted him, sparking an angry reaction. PSG sporting director Luis Campos intervened to encourage an upset-looking Galtier to leave the field quickly. PSG stayed six points ahead of second-placed Lens ahead of their match in Paris next weekend. Earlier, rock-bottom Angers beat Lille 1-0 at home to win for the first time in 22 league games. Defender Halid Sabanovic struck the winner in off the post in the 84th minute for Angers, which had not won since Sept.