

CM Naveen Inaugurates MIO Conclave 2022

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the 3rd edition of "Make in Odisha Conclave 2022" (MIO) to bolster innovation and expansion in the state's start-up ecosystem with an aim to maximise investment and opportunities for start-ups in the state.

Welcoming the delegates on the occasion, the Odisha CM said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, Welcome to Odisha. It is my pleasure to address this FICCI National Executive Council Meeting. We are



moments away from the start of the third edition of the Make in Odisha Conclave. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank FICCI and all its members for their support towards the Make in Odisha Conclave'22."

"We have a strong partnership with FICCI and hope we build on the success of this conclave and continue to work together in near future towards bringing in investment and prosperity to Odisha," he said.

It's heartening to see

a vibrant women entrepreneurship initiative in FICCI FLO, especially the engagement with Mission Shakti. Through Mission Shakti, our goal is to empower the women of our state to be model entrepreneurs and

leaders.

The Odisha CM urged the FICCI FLO team to work closely with the Mission Shakti Department to develop strategies for further strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem at the grassroots while at the same time creating opportunities for local women entrepreneurs to reach out to the global markets. "Odisha is fast emerging as a fulcrum of trade, commerce and industrialisation in Eastern India and the Bay of Bengal region," the Chief Minister said further requesting FICCI to promote Odisha as a destination of choice for the

investor community through all its channels.

The Chief Minister also visited the exhibition at MIO 2022, a showcase of the 6 focus sectors for 'Vision 2025: Odisha Industrial Development Plan'. The inaugural event of MIO 2022 kicked off on a glittery note with hundreds of drones adorning the night sky in Odisha, making an enthralling drone show. Make in Odisha Conclave 2022, is poised to attract significant investment into the State, support start-ups and thereby create multiple job opportunities.

Agitating lawyers clash with police in Odisha's Sambalpur



Sambalpur(KCN): Tension ran high at Kacheri Chhak in Odisha's Sambalpur town as agitating lawyers clashed with police, today. According to reports, the lawyers were staging protest demanding establishment of a permanent bench of the Orissa High Court in Sambalpur, during which police uprooted tents camped by the agitators.

A face-off situation ensued between the lawyers and police over the matter. The lawyers today also resorted to picketing at various government offices here. On the other hand, several judges couldn't reach the court premises due to protest by lawyers and returned home. Notably, the Supreme Court had directed the Bar Council of India (BCI) to suspend the licences of the agitating lawyers.

The apex court had also directed for arrangements by police to prevent lawyers from obstructing the working of court.

Naveen Patnaik to campaign for BJD in Padampur on December 2

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the campaigning for the upcoming Padampur bypoll by political parties intensifying day-by-day, Biju Janata Dal (BJD) supremo Naveen Patnaik will seek vote for its candidate Barsha Singh Bariha in the constituency on December 2, sources said.

Patnaik will address three rallies at Padampur, Paikmal and Jharbandh, as per sources. Senior BJD leader Prasanna Acharya said the schedule for Patnaik's visit to Padampur has almost been finalised. The party on Tuesday prepared blueprint for Patnaik's public meetings at the three places.

This will be Patnaik's first election rally in physical mode after the 2019 polls.

The bypoll will be held on December 5.

3-yr jail term for ex-IAS Vinod Kumar, 5 others in housing scam

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha Vigilance Court today convicted former IAS officer Vinod Kumar along with five others of corruption in the Odisha Rural Housing Development Corporation (ORHDC) scam with a three-year jail term. They had been chargesheeted under Section 13 (2) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and under section 467, 468, 471, 420, 120(B) IPC. This is the fifth consecutive conviction of Vinod Kumar who was the former MD of ORHDC.

Rs 1.24 crore spent on 'student scholarship' under Kalia yojana during FY 2021-22: Agri Minister

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Around Rs 1.24 crore was spent on the scholarships provided to students in Odisha under the KALIA scheme during FY 2021-22 and a total of 765 students from different districts were benefited, informed Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain today. Minister Swain said this in the House of Legislative Assembly during its Winter Session while replying to a query of Khandapada BJD MLA Soumya Ranjan Patnaik. The legislator Patnaik wanted to know through his non-starred question as to how many students from farmer families belonging to different districts in the State have been provided scholarships to pursue their higher studies and technical education under the Kalia scheme, which was started in 2019. Khandapada MLA also wanted a district-wise number of the student beneficiaries as well as year-wise information about the assistance money given so far. Replying to the question, the Minister said, "Financial assistance are being provided to the children of Kalia beneficiaries to pursue their higher studies and technical education in government-run institutions in Odisha and to empower the families as well.

National Sports Awards 2022: Lakshya Sen, Nikhat Zareen and others receive prestigious awards from Prez Murmu

New Delhi(KCN): Indian athletes on Wednesday received prestigious awards for their contribution to the field of sports. Many star Indian athletes including Sharath Kamal Achanta, Lakshya Sen and Nikhat Zareen have received honours from President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

For his outstanding performance in table tennis, Sharath Kamal Achanta has been honoured with Major Dhyani Chand Khel Ratna Award, while Seema Punia (Athletics), Lakshya Sen (Badminton), Nikhat Zareen (Boxing), R Praggnanandhaa (Chess), Deep Grace Ekka (Hockey), Sushila Devi (Judo), Sagar Kailas Ovhalakar (Mallakhamb),



Omprakash Mitharval (Shooting), Vikas Thakur (Weightlifting) and Manasi Girishchandra Joshi (Para Badminton) have been awarded the Arjuna awards for their outstanding performances. Notably, several coaches have also bagged the Dronacharya Award for guiding Indian players to greater heights.

Shri Jiwanjot Singh Teja, Shri Mohammad Ali Qamar, Ms Suma Siddharth Shirur, and Shri Sujeet Maan have been honoured with the Dronacharya Award. Also, several veteran stars including Shri Dinesh Jawahar Lad, Shri Bimal Prafulla Ghosh and Shri Raj Singh. This time 25 players were given the

Arjuna Award which includes athletes from badminton to boxing and other sports. Most of the athletes included in this list are those who performed brilliantly in the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022. Apart from this, Rohit Sharma's coach Dinesh Lad was also

honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Along with this, many veteran coaches were also honoured with the Dronacharya Award. All these awards were given by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Indian star players have been outstanding in the 2022 Birmingham Games. The likes of Sharath Kamal Achanta, Nikhat Zareen, Lakshya Sen, and Deep Grace Ekka have bagged medals in the Commonwealth Games in 2022. Notably, Sujeet Maan, who is Bajrang Punia's coach has also been honoured. Punia won the fourth World Championship medal under Maan recently. He won Bronze in Tokyo Olympics 2021.

KIIT Conferred Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022



The award was received by Founder of KIIT & KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta from Hon'ble President Droupadi Murmu

Bhubaneswar(KCN): President and Govt of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) on Wednesday was conferred the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022. The award was given away by President Droupadi Murmu to the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta.

Expressing his gratitude to the

President and Govt of India for bestowing KIIT with the honour, Dr Samanta said the award has been given in recognition of KIIT's sustained focus towards the development of sports since its inception.

"Along with education, we have strengthened sports and sports-related infrastructure. The

encouragement and support of Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik towards sports have also inspired KIIT to develop and take sports to the next level in Odisha," said Dr Samanta in his comments, adding the moment is a matter of pride and joy for KIIT. He also dedicated the award to all students and staff members of KIIT.

KIIT has been at the forefront of the promotion of sports for over 20 years. It has established a distinct identity for itself across the globe due to its state-of-the-art sports infrastructure and for grooming Olympians. The University has sponsored the education and training of hundreds of sportspersons over the years. KIIT has produced many elite athletes including Olympians such as Dutee Chand (Arjuna Awardee), Olympian CA Bhavani Devi (Arjuna Awardee), Olympian Shivpal Singh, Olympian Amit Rohidas (Arjuna Awardee).

The entire KIIT family welcomed the award presentation by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with joy and celebration.

Mark Weightage For HCWs

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Secretary Health and Family Welfare Shalini Pandit has said that Short Term Covid Health Care Workers(HCW)s will get weightage in next recruitment exam to be conducted by OSSSC. Shrimati Pandit said that during Covid-19 pandemic, thousands of short-term healthcare workers viz. Nursing Officers, Pharmacists, Radiographers, Laboratory Technicians, MPH(M/F) were engaged by Government in District Headquarters Hospitals and Medical College & Hospitals / Covid-care Centers throughout the State. Considering the contributions of these short-term health care workers during the pandemic, Government, under the directions of Chief Minister Naveen



Patnaik now framed the "Odisha grant of weightage in marks in the Recruitment examinations in favour of Short-Term Covid-19 Healthcare workers Rules-2022" Secretary Health & FW said that as per the Rules, the short-term covid-19 healthcare workers who were engaged for a minimum period of three months would be allowed weightage of 5 percent extra marks in the next recruitment examination to be

conducted by OSSSC to the posts of Nursing Officers, Pharmacists, Radiographers, Laboratory Technicians and Multipurpose Healthcare Workers. This would be a onetime measure.

The aspirants of these recruitment examinations opined that thousands of candidates for the above posts would be benefited by this. The short term covid-19 workers thanked Chief Minister and the Government for this decision.

Breast is dry

Dwit David Philip



Breast is dry,
You are asking me why,
Before full grown breast, got married,
Did not satisfy, the boy, I had,
In returned, got twins in empty hand,

Under hill terrain, open sky,
One can walk through, streams and valley with joy,
Romance you all desired,
With a boy, from teen age, ample I played.

Nutrition rehabilitation center well cared,
After 15 days, ceaseless tears, I had,
Secreting as much as I can,
Bouncing prayers, 'let tears become milk from my breast for my twins children',

You are asking me why?
My twins will die,
I am bony, perishing muscles with anaemia, prescriptions,
reply.

Over them, two more elder one are there,
Husband is Below Poverty Line,
Wage earner, Ho tribe,
Rice, government gives, without pie,

Read poem as much as you like,
Don't demand anything free, I too don't like.

Come and see milking of ACC, Rungta, Tata here,
And also cow milking Mela organised here,
Just behind DC, SP, Prashar Bharati Bangla of here..

Chaibasha, Jharkhand

Time is So

Debajani Dash



Present time is so,
even if inflicted in pain
one needs to keep on smiling,
the severe wound caused by words
needs also to be covered up
through efforts of deliberate compromise!

Still unable to comprehend
even a fraction of defeat,
all those repentance of my life
being stored upon the shelves
for the next birth!
Still some uncontrolled terrors of something
sprouting up below the chest.

Lodging a revolution while seeking a pinch of love
invites deportation like punishment
or heart throbbing negligence,
If seeking someone so close
the soul is sure to be auctioned off?

If the demand of time
being acknowledged entirely
closely kept and knotted,
still then even a palm full of moment
slowly get exhausted!

Now the time is so,
after getting into the stomach
all those earthly pride
one needs to keep the eyes closed,
avoiding obsession for all those baseless relations
only eligible, soft demands
need embracing up.

Now the time is so,
even the time is to be repayed
for its invaluable value!

Quotation of the Day

All power
is within
you; you
can do
anything
and
everything.



An Arts And Crafts Trail: Tracing Odisha's Handmade History

Odisha, from time immemorial, has been home to a wide range of art and crafts. Although many of them have their origin rooted in religious rites and household requirements, today they have evolved in form and presentation to attract modern buyers.

Applique, Pipili

The colourful applique art of Odisha is frequently seen across India, often used as canopies during functions and for interior decorations. Pipili, the original home of this traditional art, is about 20km by road from Bhubaneswar. As you drive into the town, you will find rows of shops on both sides of the road, where the artists are busy cutting coloured fabrics in various designs and stitching them on yards of cloth. Sometimes, the patterns are embellished with decorative stitches and bits of glass. Today the colour palette of fabrics range beyond the traditional red, yellow, black and white. According to local people, the art originated as part of religious rites. The appliqued cloth would be used to make 'chandua' or canopy and 'chhati' or umbrella; pieces of the embroidered cloth would be used to cover the heart-shaped top of the 'tarasa'. The drapes used to cover the giant wooden chariots of Puri's Lord Jagannath and his siblings are also the applique work of Pipili. To ensure the survival of the art form, the tailors have devised ways to attract the modern buyers. Now they are making designer parasols, purses, handbags, bed covers, wall hangings, lampshades, etc.

Tarkashi, Cuttack

Tarkashi or silver filigree of Cuttack is one of the most exquisite handicrafts of Odisha.



It is amazing to see the craftspeople using the finely drawn silver wires to give shape to ornaments and artefacts. While the ornaments can be perfect accessories for all

occasions, the mind-boggling range of artefacts—floral and animal shapes, boxes and other containers, miniature boats, statuettes to name a few—can be used as interior decorations or gifts.

Pattachitra, Raghurajpur

Pattachitra artists produce some of the finest pieces of art in the state. Pattachitra artists produce some of the finest pieces of art in the state. Raghurajpur, about 5km from Puri, is a crafts village of Odisha. It is here that you will 'pattachitra' painters at work. Stiffened cloth is used as the canvas on which paintings are made. In the old days, pattachitra artists would paint pictures of Lord Jagannath to be sold to pilgrims who would come to Puri during the 'anasara' period (when the deities would remain in seclusion for a fortnight prior to the Rathayatra). The artists would also make the Ganjifa or Ganjapa playing cards, some of which now find a place of honour in museums around the globe.

Palm Leaf Painting, Raghurajpur

Palm leaf has long been used to make auspicious recordings, including religious texts and horoscopes. In Odisha, artists used to paint directly on the palm leaves cut to the required size. The tradition of painting snippets from religious texts or incidents continues even today. The palm leaf paintings are now being made more user-friendly to attract modern buyers. Greeting cards, bookmarks and other decorative items make lasting souvenirs and gifts.

Stone carving, Puri

Uttara Gangopadhyay

The Puri Temple has three popular idols which are prime examples of wood carvings. Two of the best examples of Odisha's traditional woodcarving are the three idols of the Puri temple – Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra, as well as the huge chariots they ride in during the annual Rathayatra (Chariot Festival). The miniature idols and toys on sale may be bought as souvenirs.

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The famous chariot wheel in the Konark Sun Temple is a supreme example of stone carvings spread across Orissa. Probably no traveller to Odisha leaves the

state without at least one miniature stone replica of the fa-

venir. The land of lofty temples built of stone and embellished with rich carvings, Odisha is home to master stone carvers since time immemorial. You will find most handicraft shops storing these stone carvings in many sizes. From statues of gods and goddesses to copies of famous sculptures seen in temples, to utility items, there is a lot to choose from.

Wood carving, Puri

The Puri Temple has three popular idols

household utensils and decorative items are made. The flexible brass fish, usually made in the Ganjam region, is an interesting souvenir.

Dokra, mostly tribal areas

Dokra or Dhokra is an alloy of brass, nickel and zinc. The metal is used to give shape to a stylised range of decorative artefacts. Divine figures, animal statuettes, lamps, etc. reflect age-old designs. Candle stands, pen holders, ashtrays, small plates, etc. are also being made. According to Odisha Tourism, Kuliana in Mayurbhanj district, Kaimati in Keonjhar district, Sadeiberni in Dhenkanal district and Adakata in Nayagarh district are

some of the best places to see the artisans at work.

Other crafts to shop for

Odisha is a shopper's delight if you are looking for traditional crafts. Apart from the ones already mentioned, Odisha is also known for its papier-mâché products, woven mats and

other products made from golden grass, coconut shell carving and coir craft, betel nut carving, murals, terracotta, and seashell products, etc.

Sand art, Puri

Although now seen across many beaches of Odisha, sand art is a recent addition to the state's long list of art and crafts. Sand art is best enjoyed on the Puri beach, largely owing to the efforts of master artist Padma Shree Sudarsan Pattnaik. You may find Pattnaik (if he not travelling that is) and his students making huge sand sculptures based on commemorative themes at Puri beach. Usually in December, during the time of the Konark Festival, Odisha Tourism organises the annual International Sand Art Festival at the Chandrabhaga Beach, near Konark Sun Temple.

Information: The traditional art and craft wares of Odisha can be bought at government and privately owned emporiums in Bhubaneswar and other major towns of Odisha. Odisha government emporiums are also found in major cities in India. Small items made of seashells, stones, wood, etc. are also available at stalls crowding popular tourist destinations such as Puri and Konark.

A select group of craftspeople are trying to keep the tradition of brass and bell metal wares alive

Despite pressure from modern technology and material, a select group of craftspeople are still trying to keep the tradition of brass and bell metal wares alive. It is not difficult to come across traditional factories where the age-old 'lost wax' process is still being used. Various kinds of religious artefacts,

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'Padavi Poorva' gets a year-end release



Hari Prasad Jayanna's debut directorial, 'Padavi Poorva', gets a release date. The college drama, which is jointly backed by Yogaraj Cinemas and

Ravi Shamanur Films, is all set to hit the theatres on December 30 along with Dhananjay's Once Upon a Time in Jamaliguda.

Padavi Poorva, which has been creating a buzz through the Friendship Song, has Prithvi Shamanur, Anjali Anish and Yasha Shivakumar

playing the leads. Sharath Lohitashwa, Rangayana Raghu, and Nataraj Bhat of Rama Rama Re fame appear in pivotal characters.

The film also has a bunch of actors like Yogaraj Bhatt, Aditi Prabhudeva, Divya Uruduga, Prabhu Mundkur, and Sri Mahadev in cameos.

With cinematography by Santhosh Rai Pataje, Padavi Poorva has Yogaraj Bhat writing the lyrics, and music by Arjun Janya.

Lacks the sense of adventure it claims to love

Strange World opens as a love letter to the adventure genre. The newsreel opening, where we see explorer Jaeger Clade's (Dennis Quaid) classic adventures, is reminiscent of the pulp adventure novels and TV soaps of the 50s and the 60s. What follows, however, feels acutely anti-adventure and lacks the sense of wonder it promised us through trailers and other promos. Strange World follows the supposed adventures of the Clade family as they embark on a perilous journey into a world filled



with zany creatures and a bizarre ecology in order to save their fellow citizens of Avalonia, a charming place, which is reminiscent of Studio Ghibli's art style. Before we step into the 'Strange World', the film introduces us to the alternate world of Avalonia. The depth and ingenuity in world-building are sadly absent in characterisation and storytelling. The upbeat effervescent energy that Disney is known and loved for is definitely present in the animation but the vivacity hardly translates to the characters.

Chellam sir Udhay Mahesh returns to direction, GV Prakash to play the lead



Disney+Hotstar is venturing into theatrical film production along with Kavithalayaa Productions and its first Tamil film will star GV Prakash in the lead. Directed by Udhay Mahesh, who rose to fame for playing Chellam sir in The Family Man, the film stars Anaswara Rajan as the female lead. The yet-to-be-titled film went on floors today and is said to be a heart-warming family drama. "Devadarshini plays Prakash's sister in the film, and the story revolves around the bond he shares with his sister's daughter,"

shares Udhay, who is back to filmmaking after sixteen years. About getting back to direction, he says, "Post The Family Man recognition I started getting a lot of offers from Bollywood. I had to turn down six films to make time for my directorial. Working with Kavithalayaa was long due. I was supposed to make a film for them long ago, and a couple of my other projects failed to take off. But the COVID break gave me the time and space to pen this interesting script." The film has Flowers TV-fame Baby Meghana

playing Prakash's Niece and it also stars Daniel Anne Pope, Subbu Pancho, Madhusudhan Rao and Nammo Naryanan in important roles. We had previously reported that composer Hesham Abdul Wahab will be making his Tamil debut with a GV Prakash-starrer. Now it has been confirmed that the project is none other than the Udhay Mahahesh directorial. The film will be hitting the theatres next year and post the silver screen run it will make it is digital premiere on Disney+Hotstar.

India after covid-19 Pandemic

■ Pratap chandra sahu

The covid-19 disease has exposed the fragile basis of our society. It has also given us a chance to build a more sustainable and inclusive future. After recovered from covid-19, India must push towards a more sustainable life style. Reducing materialism, caring for mother nature, working for family's wellness, healthy diet, regular exercise shall be the priority of the nation and individuals that from them. The protection of natural resources should drive the new life style. Health care needs of the country should be taken into account while preparing policies. There will be raised awareness about personal as well as social hygiene and cleanliness. People will continue the use of masks or face covers as to protect themselves from close contacts with the affected people. The rapid urbanisation that has created huse unsustainable cities metros will be decongested to create space for public as well as social and community activity that requires open spaces. The education sector will need to recalibrate it self for the digital mode of education as to prevent congestion of classrooms and due to its unique advantages too. To reduce chances of contamination of schools and other educational institutions will need to modernise their teaching techniques. The origin of corona virus is probably from china. Bit gradually it spreads throughout world. We the indians also suffered alot. Many

of us died. Some fought against the virus and alive. But it was too pathetic. Work culture will shift towards working from home and remote locations as it cost effective and efficient. More companies as well as employees will adopt working from home with us sing modern technology. Negligence of environment, ecology and biodiversity for short term gains may cost India and grant it another pandemic of much large scale and intensity. Thus there is an urgent need that each country must enhance its preparedness and competence to prevent, detect and respond to public health emergencies. It will involve surveillance,

reduction, capacity building and stern effort and commitment. The pandemic affected workers of unorganised sector mostly who are daily wager or those working in micro, small and medium sector enterprises and left them jobless and rapidly increased unemployment rate. Due to lockdown as inter state transportation services where shutdown farmers are unable to sell their crops in the market. They incurred huge loss and forced to throw out their crops. The revenue of the tourism sector got down due to strict ban both on domestic and national flights. Corona has exposed the vulnerabilities of health care systems. It has affected people's

primary health care provisions. It has highlighted the shortage of health infrastructure in terms of doctors, medical equipment, hospitals health care workers both in terms of availability and accessibility. To prevent this kind of pandemic (covid-19) we must care about (1) to maintain cleanliness around our houses, communities (2) maintain personal hygiene such as washing hands regularly not touching contaminated and dirty surface and objects (3) maintaining safe distance of more than 2 meters from other people who are coughing or sneezing (4) avoiding touching face, nose, eye and ears frequently (5) covering mouth fully when

coughing or sneezing (6) not indulging in intoxicating activities such as smoking drinking alcohol etc (7) practise physical distancing, avoiding unnecessary travelling staying away from crowd (8) cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and frequently touched objects (9) practise physical exercises regularly (10) maintaining healthy diet (11) staying home as far as possible (12) contact the doctor if feeling unwell and consult with the doctor before taking medicine. You know it spreads through droplets of saliva or discharge from nose when an affected person coughs or sneezed. So try to keep up away from those people. These virus also spread through aerosol particles discharged from the mouth while speaking

included circuit. So maintain distance from those affected people. Lockdown has put great stress on the supply chains of essential commodities and therefore many indian companies have focused on production and supply of essential items only. The most important of all will be imbibe a sense of care in the people's mind and hearts to care for the environment. India recognised the importance of sustainable interrelation between people, animal and their shared environment. This will optimise health customs, reduce risks and strengthen preventive efforts to prevent another pandemic if it occurs then mitigate the effects on the people. We must be consious regarding upcoming any pandemics.

Nabarangapur

Editor To Letter

Sir
The political stage is once again set for the zeal, zest and zing plus the excitement as the polling for Gujarat begins on first December. The Himachal polls were held a few weeks ago. The leaders are already having sleepless nights and the delirium is already seen with various political episodes occurring in these poll bound states. The public are witnessing a lot of theatrics, gimmicks, tricks, stunts and freebies!. Earlier if it was conflicts and clashes and jumping from one party to another this time along with the "conventional practices" each and every party is trying their level best to see that they remain in the limelight by haranguing their proposals and agenda and occasionally creating some political stunts.

As this election is seen as a semi final to the 2024 general election the leaders are vigilant to see that the followers and their leaders are appeased and kept in their camps and to the maximum avoid clashes between factions in their party which normally happens during election time resulting in parties losing seats.

During the assembly elections that was held a year ago local people in some states revolted when they didn't get the candidates of their choice.

All these just show how low our political system has come down to. What everybody wants is name, power and wealth. It is really sad that leaders of high calibre, irrespective of parties, who should be guiding the young and the inexperienced resorting to all sorts of dirty games and gimmicks completely misguiding and spoiling the youth who should be shown the right path to serve the society through politics. It is really sad that in a nation that produced so many eminent leaders in the past now who got into politics as a field to serve the nation, uplift the down trodden and to lead the society to betterment now witnessing the growth of fake leaders so selfish, involving in all sorts of malpractices and illegalities, doing all sorts of stunts to be in the limelight and doing all these things only for personal benefits. It is high time the common man be prudent enough to choose the right candidate and support parties that work for the betterment of the common people and not to fall for cheap gimmicks, theatrics, rhetoric, freebies and false promises.

M PRADYU
KANNUR

DIY Lip Scrubs during Winter



Shahnaz Husain

Worried About Your Dry Lips In Winter?

Dry winter lips are the one super-sensitive area that often gets neglected.

Chapped lips are probably one of the most troubling winter skin conditions. In fact, if there's anything more uncomfortable than dry skin, it is flaky lips.

Lip scrubs are the best way to treat chapped lips in winter and there are some amazing ones available on the market but are costly affairs.

We've come up with a few effective lip scrub formulas for super soft, kissable lips that can be made with basic kitchen ingredients and taste great, too.

1. Take one tablespoon of cocoa butter, one tablespoon of coconut oil, one teaspoon of organic cocoa powder, and

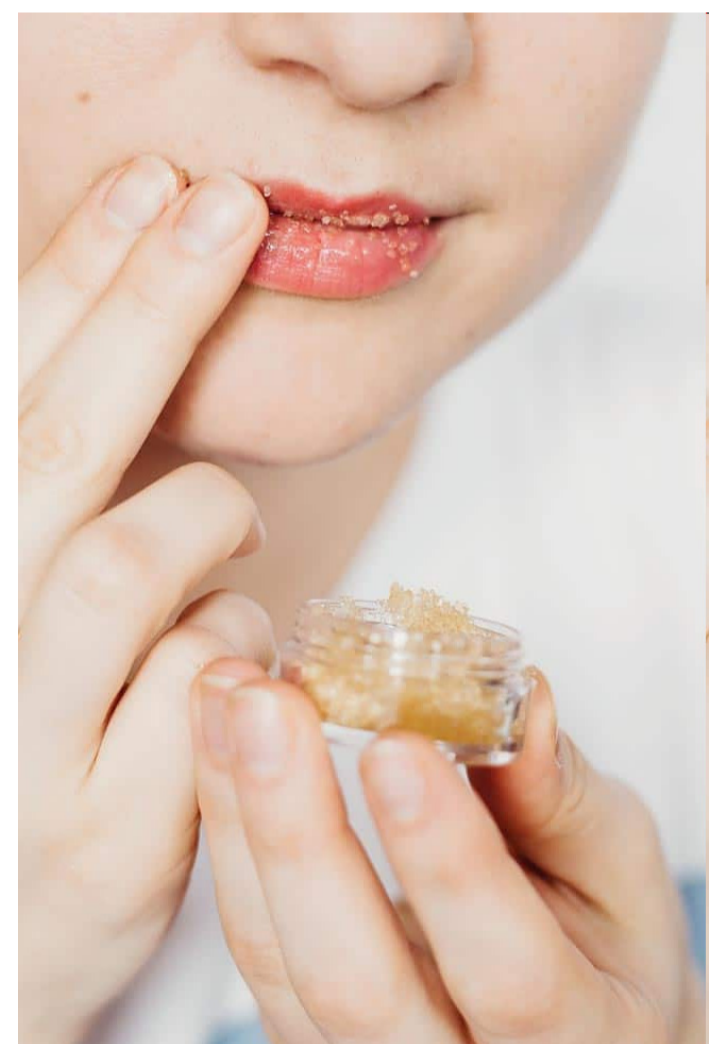
one tablespoon of brown sugar. Melt cocoa butter in a microwave-safe bowl. Transfer to a small jar and stir in the coconut oil. Refrigerate until the mixture has partially hardened. Stir in the brown sugar and cocoa. Apply to lips once a week. Let the mixture sit on your lips for 30 seconds, and then massage with your fingertip. Rinse and follow with lip balm.

2. Take 10-20 petals of the rose with a little quantity of milk in a small bowl. Crush the rose petals in it to make a paste. Take a small amount of these homemade lip scrubs to apply to your dry lips. wash your lips with lukewarm water after 5 minutes and apply lip balm to keep your lips hydrated

3. Squeeze half a lemon into a bowl. Remove seeds if any. Add 1 1/2 tablespoons of honey to it and mix well to make a smooth paste. Apply the mixture all over your lips and leave for about 10 minutes. Wash off with water and finish with a moisturizing lip balm to nourish further

4. Take 2/3 cup Brown Sugar 1/3 cup Olive Oil, 2 tablespoons of honey, 2 tablespoons of petroleum jelly. Combine ingredients in a bowl and mix until fully combined. Apply on lips and wash it 10 minutes

5. Take 2 spoons of pureed papaya into a bowl. Add 1 tablespoon of avocado oil and mix until smooth. Once done, apply the mixture



on the lips and let it sit for a few minutes. Wash with plain water

6. Mix the coffee powder and honey in equal quantities together. Now, massage the mixture on your lips for a minute in a circular motion and leave it for some time to settle. Wash it off with slightly warm water. This scrub will slowly remove the dead skin cells and help to keep the lips moisturized.

7. You can mix honey with sesame seeds (til) and use as a scrub on the

lips, rubbing gently and then washing off with plain water.

8. Mix honey with walnut powder and rub gently on the lips. Wash off the same way.

9. Honey can also be mixed with sugar and used as a scrub for the lips. A little almond oil may also be added.

10. Almond oil can also be mixed with sugar and used as a scrub on the lips.

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



Make-in-Odisha 3.0 starts Wednesday; govt expects investment of more than Rs 6 lakh crore

BHUBANESWAR: The stage is set for Make-in-Odisha conclave 3.0 at Janata Maidan here from Wednesday. The state government aims to attract over Rs 6 lakh crore investment at the biennial investment summit. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will inaugurate the summit, which will be bigger and grander than the previous two in terms of arrangements and investment intent.

"The MIO-2016 had received 84 proposals with an investment intent of Rs 2 lakh crore in different sectors and the second edition had attracted 202 proposals with an investment intent of Rs 4 lakh crore. This time we are expecting more than the previous two summits put together," Minister for Industries, MSME and Energy Pratap Keshari Deb said.



The state is expecting investments in 26 sectors, including seven priority sectors - metal downstream, chemicals and petrochemicals, textiles and apparel, food processing, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, electronics system design and manufacturing (ESDM), IT/ITeS and renewable energy.

Nine countries are participating with their delegations while Japan, Germany and Norway have partnered with the Odisha government for the five-day event being organised in collaboration with FICCI. The state government has decided to release seven new

policies during the conclave in order to woo investors.

Principal secretary of Industries department Hemant Sharma said the special sectoral policies to be unveiled at the conclave are industrial policy resolution (IPR) 2022 and policies on tourism, textiles, MSME, food processing, logistics and vehicle scrapping.

Principal secretary of I&PR department Sanjay Singh said elaborate arrangements have been made to make the event a grand success. More than 120 industry experts are scheduled to deliberate on different emerging topics and around 38 sessions have been planned during the conclave, he said. The chief minister will host a plenary session with CXOs and business leaders from across the country on December 1.

The plenary session will be followed by a session on 'Start-Up Odisha' in the plenary hall and business leadership talks in the sessional halls. Among the top business honchos, executive chairman of

ArcelorMittal LN Mittal, chairman of Aditya Birla Group Kumar Mangalam Birla, chairman of Vedanta Resources Anil Agarwal, chairman of JSW Group Sajjan Jindal, chairman of JSPL Naveen Jindal, Tata Steel MD TV Narendran and Tata Power CEO and MD Praveer Sinha are expected to attend the conclave.

In the run up to the mega event, the state government had organised nine investors' meets and roadshows in Dubai, Coimbatore, Jamshedpur, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad along with an ambassadors' meet in New Delhi.

BJD demands ban of four BJP leaders from Padampur

BHUBANESWAR: A day after the tax raids in Padampur, the BJD on Tuesday alleged that the saffron party is indulging in electoral and political violence like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which is not the culture of Odisha. Addressing a media conference here, BJD spokesperson Sasmit Patra said violent behaviour of BJP activists has again come to the fore during the

night, Patra said the first information report in the police station was false. This was admitted by Senapati in the police station.

On Monday evening at Gothuguda Panchayat in Jharbandh block while BJP leaders and workers were distributing money, villagers tried to prevent them. They ran away and in a bid to cover-up their



last 24 hours when leaders of the saffron party obstructed GST officials during a raid at a cloth store in Padampur. When GST raid was going on in the cloth store on Monday evening, when three BJP leaders Thakur Ranjit Das, Pinky Pradhan and Kalindi Pradhan assaulted the officials verbally and obstructed them from doing their duty, he added.

Patra alleged that when the GST team was leaving the cloth store, BJP leaders ran after a lady official, attacked and physically assaulted her besides damaging a government vehicle. The BJD leader said that violent activities of the BJP leaders did not end here. Refuting allegations that BJP leader Dilip Senapati was kidnapped last

illegal activity, they filed a false kidnapping case of BJP leader Dillip Senapati, he added.

On the other hand on Monday night a BJD worker was tied up by BJP workers in a village and later rescued by the police, he said and added that on Tuesday morning at 2 am around 100 BJP workers led by BJP MLA Kusum Tete stormed into the house of a businessman Govardhan Agarwal where GST raid was going on, and obstructed the administrator, he added. BJD has demanded the Chief Electoral Officer and the Election Commission to ban Thakur Ranjit Das, Pinky Pradhan, Kalindi Samal and Tete from campaigning and asked to leave the constituency.

BJD govt grabbing Centre's money for farmers: Dharmendra Pradhan

BARGARH: Continuing his criticism of the ruling BJD in poll-bound Padampur, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday accused the Odisha government of grabbing the money released by the Centre

he would break the nexus between the government and businessmen. Pradhan also accused the state government of failing to address the issues of farmers like irrigation and water supply. Under the Rashtriya Krishi



for farmers.

Addressing a public meeting at Mandosil here, Pradhan said, "Though the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre has fixed the MSP of paddy at Rs 1,940 per quintal, the farmers of Mandosil are getting only Rs 1,200 to Rs 1,300 per quintal. The union government released money for farmers but the state government in connivance with big businessmen swindled the funds."

Citing the lack of infrastructure at Mandosil market yard, Pradhan said, "The money for development of the market yard was sanctioned by the Modi government. Where have you (Naveen) spent that money?"

He further said the BJP wants a permanent solution to the irregularities in paddy procurement. "The state government pretends to be concerned about farmers. Though Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has met Prime Minister Narendra Modi several times, I have never seen or read of him voicing the concerns of farmers."

In 2016, the Chief Minister had announced in Sohela that apart from the Central grant, the state government will pay a bonus of Rs 100 on every quintal of paddy. However, not a single farmer of the state has received the bonus yet, he claimed.

The Union Minister said once BJP candidate Pradip Purohit enters the Odisha Assembly,

Vikash Yojana, around Rs 360 crore was sanctioned for drought-prone areas in Odisha in 2017-18.

However, the state spent only Rs 174 crore. Similarly in 2018-19, Rs 450 crore was sanctioned but Rs 242 crore was spent by Odisha. This year, Rs 120 crore has been sanctioned but the government could only spend Rs 10 crore. The state government has failed miserably to implement the schemes launched by the Centre for people of Odisha, he alleged. Raising the issue of migration, Pradhan said, "The youths of Odisha are going to Hyderabad and Tamil Nadu in search of jobs. But the ministers of the state are claiming that there is no migration here. They should feel ashamed of having failed to generate employment in Odisha even after being in power for 22 years."

'Naba to bring downfall of Naveen'

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan came down heavily on state Health Minister Naba Kishore Das. He said one of the BJD ministers, who is in charge of the health portfolio, has failed to perform in his department. But he has been camping at Paikmal with a bagful of money. "He was responsible for the downfall of former chief minister Janaki Ballabh Patnaik. Perhaps the downfall of Naveen Patnaik is inching closer as he has kept this minister near him," Pradhan added.

House proceedings disrupted over teachers' agitation

BHUBANESWAR: Proceedings of the Assembly were disrupted for the second day on Tuesday over the issue of ongoing protest by the primary school teachers as BJP and Congress members created a ruckus demanding early decision on their demands.

Thousands of primary school teachers from across the state are on an indefinite strike at

am and again till 11.45 am. Later, the speaker called an all-party meeting to resolve the issue, adjourning the proceedings till 11.55 am. When the house reassembled both the BJP and Congress members targeted the state government for not looking into the demands of teachers.

On behalf of School and Mass Education



the lower PMG square since Sunday on their three-point charter of demands which include the abolition of the contractual system, resumption of the old pension system and increasing the grade pay while counting their six years of teaching experience.

As soon as the House assembled for the day, Congress and BJP members rushed to the well and raised slogans against the state government for its 'anti-teacher' policy. As the House witnessed noisy scenes, Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha adjourned it till 11.30

Minister Samir Ranjan Dash, Science and Technology Minister Ashok Panda said the government is well aware of the teachers' problem. However, as protest by the Opposition members continued, the speaker adjourned the house till 4 pm. Following protest by the Opposition in the post lunch session, the speaker adjourned the house till 10.30 am Wednesday. Earlier, the discussion between the state government and teachers' representatives held as per the direction of the speaker failed to yield any result.

St. Mary's school celebrated annual day function

Barbil(KCN): Mary High School celebrated its annual day on 30th November at its own premises captioned with a theme "Luminous Unieace"

The programme was blend of singing, dancing and skit by the students .Many of the



programme dedicated to legendry contributed in freedom movement of India. All meritious students of the schools were awarded in the function .The portrait of legend Lata Mangeshkar was done on the stage with some ever green song of Lata Mangeshkar. Some of the famous plays like Troilus and

Cressida,Rani Jhansi Bai,Mangal Pandey,Mahatmaji were played by the students of the school fetched attraction of the



evening.Alok Patel ,Tahaidar,Barbil attended the function as Chief guest,Rev. Fr Issac P u t h e n a g a d y , D i o c e s a n administrator,Balasore as President ,Sanjib Rout ,Range officer, Barbil forest range,Hirak Majumdar , Director Rungta Mines limited as guest of honour .Principal of the school ,Sister Karuna expressed her gratitude to all teachers, staffs and parents for their candid support .

IIT Kharagpur Organises Women's Leadership Conclave

Kolkata(KCN): IIT ship Conclave on Kharagpur con- November 26 & 27,



ducted a two-day 2022 at IIT

The conclave brought eminent women talents in a common platform to deliberate on empowerment of women and how education and entrepreneurship helps in this regard. The conclave was participated by Dr. Kiran Bedi, Ex. Lt Governor of

M e g s a y s a y Awardee along with Dr. Tessy Thomas, Missile Woman of India & Director General, Aeronautical Systems, DRDO; Smt. Manoshi Roy Chowdhury, Co-Chairperson, Techno India Group; Smt. Premlata Agarwal, Padmashri, National Adventure Awardee and Smt. Phoolbhashan Bai Yadav, Padmashri, Social Worker.

All the renowned ladies shared their insights and experiences and encouraged young minds to think big and act big.



Women's Leader- Kharagpur. Puducherry and a

Series theft in Barbil scared people

Barbil (KCN): Crime graph has been recording a spurt in Barbil and adjascent area in Keonjhar district of Odisha during the recent past. However, the increasing number



of thefts ,murder has become a matter of great concern not only for residents, but for the authorities also in Barbil. It is reported that one house hold at Barbil station road area and several shopkeepers at Bhola garage area greatly affected due to continuous theft in just two days. Day by day, the incidents of crimes such as burglary and theft are increasing. In the present times, glitter and glamour of cities is ruling the minds of youth. They want to earn easy money. However, the growing gap between the haves and have-nots, lack of employment opportunities and lack of guidance are some of the reasons that uneducated youth indulge in criminal activities. However, this is an alarming

situation for residents as they are living under constant fear of being attacked. There was a plan to install CCTV camera in and around the cities, but unfortunately the said plan has been under carpeted since last 3 years. The strength of night patrolling parties should be increased, crime-prone spots should be identified and extra police force should be deployed in such areas. Street lights should be functional in every street and market so that no dark spots are available to lurking anti-social elements.. Frequency of visits of PCR vans should be increased, especially at night said one intellectual

The joint efforts of the police and the public can only help in curbing this menace . The Barbil city police will have to act as a special force to curb thefts and their aim should be to ensure security of people. In addition, the administration must ensure that security measures are adequate and there is coordination between the law enforcement agencies of the city and adjoining areas to apprehend criminals, There is too an increase in ferry business of migrants in the city and their movement need to be monitored remarked by some intellectuals.

ZSI Scientists Discover a New Species of Head-shield Slug from Digha & Adjacent Beaches

Kolkata(KCN): The scientists of Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has recently come across a new species of head-shield sea slug, named as Melanochlamys bengalensis from Digha and adjoining places like m Bakkhali, Tajpur, New Digha, Udaipur, Talsari, Chandipur and Kanika Islands (Odisha). The species was examined thoroughly by integrating morphological characters and conducting a molecular analysis, and its status as a new species was confirmed. The finding involved Dr Prasad Chandra Tudu of Marine Aquarium and regional Centre, Digha (a unit of ZSI), Dr Sheikh Sajan from ZSI headquarters, Dr Soumen Roy from City College, Kolkata, Dr Amit Mukhopadhyay from ZSI Headquarters, Dr Basudev Tripathy, from Western Regional Centre, ZSI, Pune and Dr Anil Mohapatra from Estuarine Biology Centre, ZSI, Gopalpur. The name of the animal was derived from its vicinity of occurrence, Bay of Bengal and the common name was proposed as the Bay of Bengal Head-Shield Sea slug. The research paper on the new species has been published in the international journal Molluscan Research, a journal of Malacological Society of Australasia and the Society for the Study of Molluscan Diversity published by Taylor & Francis, England. Much elated Director of the organisation, Dr Dhriti Banerjee stated in this regard that it took around a decade to confirm and publish this new animal. Our scientists have started work on it since 2010-11. The species was confirmed by examination of morphological, and anatomical characters and analysis of DNA. It is a small, length from 12 mm to 14mm, black in colour, shell inside body, no backbone (invertebrate) animal, normally crawling on the intertidal zone, which left the crawl mark behind them in the sand beach. The reproduction of these sea animals appar-

ently occurs between November and January. Its distribution is recorded around 295 kilometres stretch from Bakkhali of West Bengal to Konika Island of Odisha. The type locality was designated as New Digha. The type specimens were deposited in the museum of two regional centres and Headquarters of ZSI, i.e., Kolkata, and Marine Aquarium and Regional Centre, Digha and Estuarine Biology and Regional Centre, Gopalpur. There are 17 species of this genus found around the globe, including this species and all these species are generally distributed in temperate regions of the Indo-Pacific Oceanic realm. This is the second truly tropical species after Melanochlamys papillata from the Gulf of Thailand. The habitat of M. bengalensis is dynamic beaches containing large intertidal areas with fine sand and relatively low wave heights. The type locality (New Digha, a border town between West Bengal and Odisha states) itself has a shallow beach with an intertidal zone that is wider than 500 m at low tide. The widest intertidal zone of about 2 km is at Chandipur with a very shallow beach and the lowest wave height.

The north-western region of the Bay of Bengal is part of an unusual bio-geographic area possessing an estuarine environment during the monsoon season from July to September and a marine environment throughout the rest of the year. Bakkhali is located at the mouth of the Hooghly River which is a tributary of the River Ganges, and very close to the Sundarban mangrove forest. Although the molluscan diversity of this region has been well documented, with 301 species now recorded from the West Bengal coast and 496 species from the Odisha coast, the discovery of M. bengalensis n. sp. shows that the Indian region, particularly that of the Bay of Bengal, needs further investigation for its marine biodiversity.



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Centre's fiscal deficit touches 45.6 pc of full-year target at end-Oct

NEW DELHI: The government's fiscal deficit in end-October touched 45.6 per cent of the full year Budget Estimate, according to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Wednesday.

In actual terms, the fiscal deficit -- the

additional expenditure that is likely in FY2023, we estimate the extent of the overshoot in the fiscal deficit at a modest (about) Rs 1 lakh crore, given the considerable upside seen in non-excise tax revenues as well as savings expected under other expenditure heads," she said.

Going by the buoyancy in the revenue collections in the first seven months, Shailendra Kumar, Chairman of the TIOL Knowledge Foundation, said that the Union Government has done much better than expected in bridging the fiscal deficit for

the current fiscal.

"At the present pace, my expectation is that the Union Finance Minister would be tapping her feet by lowering the projected deficit of 6.4 per cent by a good measure," he said.

As per the CGA data, the central government's total receipts, including non-tax revenue, stood at Rs 13.85 lakh crore or 60.7 per cent of the current year's BE. In the year-ago period, the total receipts had touched 64.7 per cent of BE 2021-22.

Vivek Jalan, Partner, Tax Connect Advisory, on both GST and Income Tax, the revenues are expected to be much more robust and an uptick of Rs 4 lakh crore is expected on the tax front. "This means that the Government would get an opportunity to spend Rs 2 lakh crore more during the coming four months of this fiscal for the benefit of the citizens and to spur up the growth when the global outlook looks gloomy," he said.

The CGA said the fiscal deficit figure shown in monthly accounts is not necessarily an indicator of fiscal deficit for the year as it gets impacted by the temporal mismatch between the flow of non-debt receipts and expenditure up to that month.

A fiscal deficit is an indicator of the government's market borrowing.



difference between expenditure and revenue -- was Rs 7,58,137 crore during the April-October period of 2022-23. In the corresponding period last year, the deficit was 36.3 per cent of the Budget Estimates of 2021-22.

For 2022-23, the fiscal deficit of the government is estimated to be Rs 16.61 lakh crore or 6.4 per cent of the GDP.

As per the CGA data, the net tax revenue at Rs 11.71 lakh crore was 60.5 per cent of BE 2022-23.

During the corresponding period of 2021-22, the tax revenue (net) was 68.1 per cent of that year's BE.

Central government's total expenditure during April-October works out to be Rs 54.3 per cent of BE 2022-23, higher than 52.4 per cent of BE in the year-ago period.

Commenting on the data, Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA said in April-October 2022-23, while the Government of India's net tax revenues reported a healthy growth of 11 per cent, the 14 per cent contraction in non-tax revenues, combined with the 10 per cent rise in revenue expenditure, and the robust 62 per cent expansion in capex, widened the fiscal deficit to Rs 7.6 lakh crore from Rs 5.5 lakh crore in the first seven months of 2021-22.

"Taking into account the estimated

First Odia Officer to head the apex body of GST Intelligence

New Delhi (KCN): Surjit Bhujabal IRS, has been appointed as the head the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI), an apex intelligence organization functioning



under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. He is the first Odia officer to be entrusted with the task of collection, collation and dissemination of intelligence relating to evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST) and duties of Central Excise and Service Tax on an

all India basis.

The DGGI became a full-fledged Directorate in 1983, headed by a Director. In 1988, the Directorate was upgraded to Directorate General under a Director General. It is the apex body for manifold tasks of tackling the menace of duty evasion. It develops intelligence, especially in new areas of tax evasion through its intelligence network across the country and disseminates such information, by issuing Modus Operandi Circulars and Alert Circulars to sensitize the field formations about the latest trends in duty evasion. Wherever found necessary, this Directorate General, on its own or in co-ordination with field formations, organizes operations to unearth evasion of GST, Central Excise Duty and Service Tax. With introduction of GST w.e.f. 01.07.2017, the DGGI has been expanded and now comprises of four offices of Director Generals (East, West North and South), 26 Zonal Units and 40 Regional Units.

Surjit Bhujabal is the son of former Chief Secretary R.K.Bhujabal and the son-in-law of Retd. IGP Kulamani Deo.

Impact of India-Australia trade deal on gems, jewellery sector

NEW DELHI: The India-Australia trade agreement is expected to unlock millions of dollars of additional trade due to the preferential access accorded towards

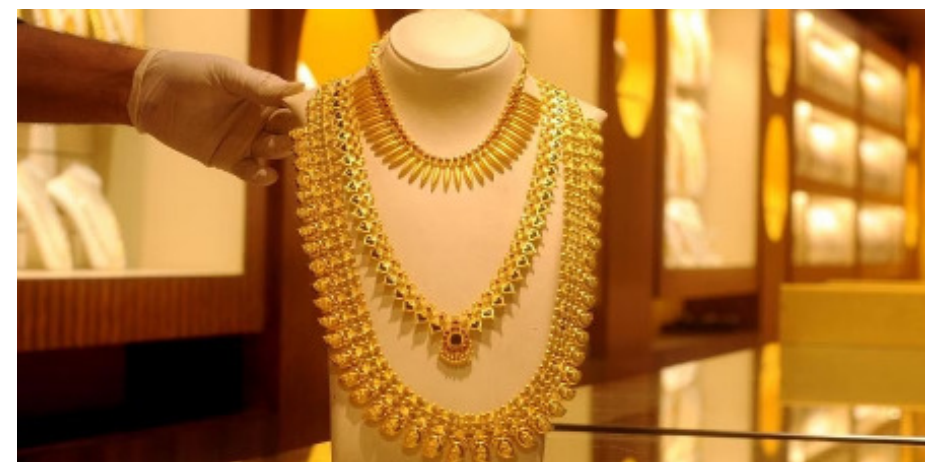
present to USD 2 billion annually. Key commodities exported to Australia are plain gold jewellery, studded jewellery, and cut and polished diamonds. The main

upcoming India-Australia ECTA. India's G&J exports to Australia grew 21% to 183.86 million during April - October 2022 as compared to the same period last

preferential access for Indian gems and jewellery exports, the deal also makes it cheaper for Australian retailers to procure world-class jewellery crafted with finesse from Indian manufacturers," Shah added. Australia is one of India's large suppliers of gold bullion, and until recently, it was also a key supplier of diamonds.

Australia's High Commissioner to India Barry O'Farrell today said the economic agreement will enter into force on December 29.

This announcement comes a week after Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said that country's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India has passed through its Parliament.



India's gem and jewellery exports to the island nation. The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), the industry body, expects the trade agreement to boost bilateral gem and jewellery trade from USD 1.3 billion at

commodities imported from Australia are gold and silver bars. "Since the India-Australia negotiations started, India's gem and jewellery exports have witnessed positive growth, complementing the

year," said Vipul Shah, Chairman of the council, in a statement on Wednesday. Chairman Shah said he expects Australia to benefit from access to areas where India is a world leader, such as diamonds. "By providing

Job-mark target from digital economy to cross one crore in next two years: Centre

NEW DELHI: The government has set a target to cross one crore job-mark in the next two years in three main segments of the digital economy -- electronics, startups and IT, and IT-enabled services, minister for IT and Communications Ashwini Vaishnav said on Wednesday.

While speaking at an ESC-STPI event for startups, Vaishnav said three big pillars of the digital economy -- electronics

startups through the centre of excellence. Under the Next Generation Incubation Scheme, we fund Rs 25 lakh to startups that come from tier 2 and 3 cities. We have granted NGIS benefits to around 65 startups and the target is to fund 300 startups by 2025," Kumar said.

He said that on one side the government is accelerating support for the startup ecosystem and simultaneously it is pushing



manufacturing, IT and ITes, startups -- have created 88-90 lakh jobs.

"Government has set a target that in this we should be easily crossing 1 crore jobs in the coming two years without any doubt," the minister said.

He said that the digital economy and its associated employment is a major trend now and the other trend is diversity.

"Earlier names of a couple of cities were mentioned for startups. Now when I go to schools in villages, children in villages want to set up a start-up," Vaishnav said. The minister said that India is now becoming a technology producer from being a technology consumer.

He said that the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) is creating a plug-and-play infrastructure to provide a platform to startups.

STPI Director General Arvind Kumar at the event said that his organisation provides a plug-and-play infrastructure in 64 cities for startups, of which 54 are in tier 2 and 3 cities. "We provide Rs 5-10 lakh seed fund to

for 5G roll-out in the country to provide opportunities to the startups.

Indian Angel Network founding partner Padmaja Ruparel at the event shared interest to partner with STPI to provide funding and mentoring support to startups.

"Today Indian Angel Network has announced that they would like to become VC partner to STPI's startup initiatives and join the list of investment partners such as SucSeed Ventures, Villgro, Inflection Point Ventures, Hyderabad Angels, Chandigarh Angels, Forum Synergies, PadUp Ventures, Vinnars Angels, Modular Capital etc., which are bringing value along with funds to startups in STPI," Kumar said.

STPI along with Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) has shortlisted 125 startups from across the country.

Both entities are fine-tuning the list to 40 startups who will be able to visit the Consumer Electronics Show in the US and showcase their solutions.

"We have partnered with TiE Silicon Valley where selected startups will pitch for strategic partners or investors in the US. Consulate General of India is also supporting us in connecting to investors in the US," ESC Chairman Sandeep Narula said.

England will be pushing for results, stresses McCullum

New Delhi: Even though it's been just over 24 hours since the English team arrived in Islamabad for their first Test tour in Pakistan since 2005, and head coach Brendon McCullum admits that his team is not fully prepared for the first Test, set to be played in Rawalpindi from December 1, he adds that the lead up to the much-awaited series has gone well for the visitors.

"We've got a couple of days before the Test, so... But it's nice to be here," he said on Monday. "We had a great camp at Abu Dhabi, spent a lot of time as a team, sort of trying to build that camaraderie after a little bit of a break which we identified during the English summer and that's an important component of how this team is going to operate."

The England head coach, who has enjoyed ample success in his short run with the team, is yet again exploring only one possibility for the three-match series - this way or that - and ruled out possibilities of a draw, not to give anything less to the international cricket starved home crowd of Pakistan.

"We'll certainly be pushing for results because we see it as our obligation to try and ensure that people walk away entertained. And if we get beat, Pakistan, we know, will have played well. I expect us to play well and if we get outplayed, that's okay too. Looking forward to the opportunity, looking forward to the challenge and looking forward to the hospitality. And hopefully, in a few weeks' time, everyone will say this has been an

amazing series."

"The boys have already said they're pretty excited about playing in front of a full house here, it's going to be a good atmosphere, so they're really excited," he said. "That's what we want from red-ball cricket all around the world, stadiums packed out and fans getting behind their local team."

"To have that on the road is the greatest compliment... we're lucky that the crowd here is sold out and that's kind of what we want. The skipper wants them to be rockstars and to be a rockstar you've got to play in front of the big houses. We've got that opportunity to do that."

Despite the absence of the pace spearhead, Shaheen Afridi, McCullum believes there is ample quality in Pakistan's pace attack,



one that would challenge his batters and set up a tough contest for them. McCullum, however, is happy for his side to take them on.

"To win away from home is the greatest accomplishment you can achieve as a Test player and as a Test side," he said. "We understand the size of the challenge in front of us. But that's

great - that's why you want to play the game. You don't want easy challenges, you want to take on the best in their own conditions and you want to try and test where you're at as a side. I'm really excited. I don't know if we're going to win the series. I can almost guarantee when the skipper comes in here in 48 hours time

he'll say there'll be no draws in the series."

There isn't a lot of multi-day playing experience in England's camp.

Barring Anderson, none of the other players has toured the country to play a Test match. Not even McCullum. The lack of experience in the Pakistani conditions is obvious, and while the

pitch looks a good one for the England head coach, he says that the team is willing to adapt if the situation demands.

"It looks good but I'd expect it to change over the next couple of days, see how things scrub up. I think one of the things we've talked about is adapt to whatever we're given and not be too stuck in our preconceived thoughts. Just play what's in front of us and be prepared to adapt accordingly."

The attacking style of cricket that England have played under McCullum - popularly termed BazBall - may not work if the pitch remains slow and low, which has been the case in most of the Test matches in recent times in Pakistan.

"One of the things we try and do is respect the conditions but at the same time, if we are

given the opportunity to try and play aggressive and attacking cricket, we'll try and take that option. It's authentic to the line-up that we have," McCullum said. "The guys who are in our squad, that's how they play their cricket and that's what gives them the most amount of freedom and the best opportunity to perform at the highest level."

"It may not necessarily be as prominent, the aggressive cricket that we've seen in the past, but there will be opportunities to try and play positive. And when that does arise, I expect our guys to try and take that on."

England, who were set to tour Pakistan last year, had backed out following security threats to the New Zealand camp.

BCCI's Succession Plan: Hardik Pandya Next T20I Captain



New Delhi: The Indian cricket team management has its eyes set on the future and among its first steps to build a pool of players for the next T20 World Cup, the BCCI could take a major call including appointment of a new

captain and phasing out the senior players. Reports have emerged that the BCCI could soon call up a meeting with the current India T20I captain Rohit Sharma, head coach Rahul Dravid and senior batter Virat Kohli to discuss the future course of action as

far as the shortest format is concerned. The discussion, if and when it happens, is likely to revolve around the next T20 World Cup set to be held in 2024. Though there's no confirmation, it's being speculated that allrounder Hardik

Pandya could be handed over the rein of the T20I side with Rohit leading the ODI and the Test teams.

It's also possible that Dravid, who is in charge of all three formats like Rohit, could have his workload shared by a specialist coach for the T20I side.

India yet again return emptyhanded from an ICC tournament as they lost to England by 10 wickets in the semifinal of the T20 World Cup earlier this month.

Soon after the exit, news agency PTI quoted an unnamed BCCI source as saying that the senior players in the team will now only be focused on Tests and ODIs and in the handful of T20I matches India are slated to play next year, youngsters will be given the preference.

Celebrated as it Had Been Cristiano's Goal' - Bruno Fernandes Backs Ronaldo's Claim Over Opening Goa

New Delhi: Portugal defeated Uruguay 2-0 at the Lusail stadium on Tuesday (November 29) with the help of Bruno Fernandes' brace. Though Portugal became the third team in Qatar after France and Brazil to qualify for the round of 16 but this came up with a little storm.

In the second half of the match against Uruguay, Fernandes gave a perfect cross to his teammate Cristiano Ronaldo, who rose high in an attempt to head the ball inside the net but the ball didn't touch his head and even then scored a goal. Now, what followed was interesting. Ronaldo came up with wild celebrations, claiming the goal to be his. However, the officials checked and clarified that the ball didn't touch



Ronaldo's head and thus awarded the goal to Fernandes. The fans then criticised Ronaldo for false claiming the goal. However, Portugal teammate Fernandes backed the captain and said that even he didn't know whose goal it was. After getting 'Player of the Match', Fernandes said, "I celebrated [the

goal] as if it had been Cristiano's goal. It seemed to me that he had touched the ball. My aim was to cross the ball for him."

"We are happy with the victory regardless of who scored. The most important thing is that we achieved our aim which is to be in the next round." The goal was

credited to Fernandes, who has now registered two goals and two assists in Qatar.

Portugal coach was also asked about whether he knew, who scored the first goal for the team, to which he replied, "I think it was a great match. Our team played very well and the rest, for me, does not matter."



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