

PRESIDENT OF INDIA REVIEWS PASSING OUT PARADE OF 145TH COURSE OF NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY

New Delhi (KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu reviewed the Passing Out Parade of 145th Course of National Defence Academy at Khadakwasla today (November 30, 2023). She also laid the foundation stone for a building of the upcoming 5th Battalion. Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the NDA is a cradle of leadership which has given birth to great warriors. This Academy has a special place among the best training institutes of the



country and is recognized as a strong pillar for the armed forces and the country. She expressed confidence that the training and life values ??received from NDA always help cadets move ahead in life. She

advised cadets to move forward by learning and adopting new technologies to face the challenges of the future. She expressed confidence that they will face every challenge with courage and bravery while carrying forward

the values of the Armed Services. The President was happy to witness the participation of women cadets as a marching contingent in the passing out parade of NDA for the first time. She said that this day is historic in

the true sense. She expressed confidence that all the women cadets will take the country and NDA to new heights in future. The President said that protection of India's borders and internal security are essential for peace, stability and prosperity. We follow the tradition of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', but, she stressed, our forces are fully capable and ready to face any external or internal situation that tries to damage the spirit of unity and integrity of the country.

Odia workers rescued from Silkyara tunnel on way to Odisha



Bhubaneswar,(KCN):Five Odia labourers, who along with 36 others, were trapped in the Silkyara tunnel in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi district for 17 days, have been discharged from AIIMS-Rishikesh, where they were admitted following their rescue. As per sources, after their discharge from AIIMS, these Odia labourers have been taken to Dehradun from where they will travel to New Delhi. And from New

Delhi, they will fly to Odisha on a 9.30 AM flight on Friday. When contacted over his mobile phone, one of the rescued labourers, Dhiren Nayak said, “The workers from Odisha have been discharged from the hospital and we are now heading towards Dehradun. Our flight from New Delhi to Odisha is at 9.30 am tomorrow.” Similarly, another Odia labourer Bisweswar Nayak said, “We were

Odisha: Utkal University Gets NAAC A+ Grade

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Utkal University in Odisha capital here has been awarded A+ grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) recently. A NAAC team had visited Utkal University from September 26 to 28 this year. The varsity has been awarded a final grade point of 3.26 by the NAAC team, sources said.

The university has received a grade point of 3.57 in curricular aspects; 3.33 in teaching-learning and evaluation; 3.15 in research, innovations and extension; 3.65 in infrastructure and learning resources; 3.11 in student support and progression; 2.62 in governance, leadership and management and 3.37 in institutional values and best practices

Notably, Utkal University had been awarded A grade by the NAAC with a final grade point of 3.16 a few months ago. The varsity had secured A+ grade during an assessment by the NAAC in 2016.

Many people including educationists, intellectuals and former students of the varsity had expressed concern over the drop in NAAC grade to Utkal University. The Higher Education department had then planned to file an appeal before the NAAC seeking a fresh assessment of the varsity.

It is worth mentioning here that Ravenshaw University in Odisha's Cuttack city has recently been awarded A++ grade with a final point of 3.58 by the NAAC.

BJP Edge In Rajasthan, Close Fight In Madhya Pradesh, Telangana: Exit Polls



New Delhi(KCN): Exit polls are predicting two strikes out of three in the heartland states for the BJP and one for the Congress. While Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel gets to retain his job, his counterpart in Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot, might just lose his, they indicate. There also seems a high possibility that Madhya Pradesh could go to the BJP -- again.

The biggest upset, though, could be reserved for Telangana, where K Chandrasekhara Rao's Bharat Rashtra Samithi has been in power since the inception of the state in 2014. Five exit polls seem to be in no doubt that the BRS will be replaced by the Congress in this election. A fourth is also giving the Congress an edge.

six exit polls feel a hung house could be in the cards. Only two predict the BJP-MNF's ruling alliance have a slim chance of victory. Only one predict a sweep for the new party Zoram People's Movement (ZPM). Nine exit polls on Chhattisgarh, by and large, predict a second term for the Congress, which has been banking on Bhupesh Baghel's report card for the last five years. The number of seats allotted to the party has been within the margin of early 40s to mid-50s. The majority mark in the 90-seat state is 46.

Odisha: ASI Completes Laser Scanning Of Jagannath Temple Ratna Bhandar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has completed laser scanning of Jagannath temple Ratna Bhandar at Odisha's Puri town. A 16-member team of the ASI took two days to complete the laser scanning of the outer portion of the temple treasury. The team captured photos of 45 points on the outer wall of Ratna Bhandar and the process is on for documentation of those pictures, sources said. "We have completed the laser scanning of outer wall of the Jagannath temple Ratna Bhandar and informed this to shrine authorities. If required, we will seek permission from the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) to



conduct laser scanning of the inner portion of Ratna Bhandar,” said an ASI Superintendent DB Gadanaayak. The experts will examine the photos taken during the laser scanning to detect any crack on Ratna Bhandar wall. A blueprint will be prepared for renovation of the structure, he added.

Administrator Ranjan Kumar Das said shrine authorities are waiting for the findings of the laser scanning to know the exact structural status of the temple treasury. "We will examine the findings and take appropriate steps in this regard. Now, we cannot say anything regarding the structural status of Ratna Bhandar," he added.

Air Pollution Accounts For Over 2 Million Deaths Annually In India: Study

New Delhi(KCN): Outdoor air pollution from all sources accounts for 2.18 million deaths per year in India, second only to China, according to a modelling study published in The BMJ. The research found that air pollution from using fossil fuels in industry, power generation, and transportation accounts for 5.1 million extra deaths a year worldwide. This equates to 61 per cent of a total estimated 8.3 million deaths worldwide due to ambient (outdoor) air pollution from all sources in 2019, which could potentially be avoided by replacing fossil fuels with clean, renewable energy, the researchers said. These new estimates of fossil fuel-related deaths are larger than most previously reported values suggesting that phasing out fossil fuels might have a greater impact on

attributable mortality than previously thought, they said.

The team, including researchers from Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Germany, used a new model to estimate all cause and cause-specific deaths due to fossil fuel-related air pollution and to assess potential health benefits from policies that replace fossil fuels with clean, renewable energy sources.

They assessed excess deaths - the number of deaths above that expected during a given time period - using data from the Global Burden of Disease 2019 study, NASA satellite-based fine particulate matter and population data, and atmospheric chemistry, aerosol, and relative risk modeling for 2019, in four scenarios.

The first scenario assumes that all fossil fuel-related emission sources are phased out. The second and third scenarios assume that 25

per cent and 50 per cent of exposure reductions towards the fossil phase-out are realized. The fourth scenario removes all human-induced (anthropogenic) sources of air pollution, leaving only natural sources such as desert dust and natural wildfires. The results show that in 2019, 8.3 million deaths worldwide were attributable to fine particles (PM_{2.5}) and ozone (O₃) in ambient air, of which 61 per cent (5.1 million) were linked to fossil fuels. This corresponds to 82 per cent of the maximum number of air pollution deaths that could be averted by controlling all anthropogenic emissions, according to the researchers. Attributable deaths to all sources of ambient air pollution were highest across South and East Asia, particularly in China with 2.44 million per year, followed by India with 2.18 million

per year, they said. The researchers found that most (52 per cent) of deaths were related to common conditions such as ischemic heart disease (30 per cent), stroke (16 per cent), chronic obstructive lung disease (16 per cent) and diabetes (6 per cent). About 20 per cent were undefined but are likely to be partly linked to high blood pressure and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, they said.

Delhi's Air Quality Sees Slight Improvement After Light Showers

Dr. Shuchin Bajaj, Consultant Internal Medicine, Ujala Cygnus Group of Hospitals, New Delhi noted that air pollution in India has emerged as a critical public health concern, contributing significantly to premature deaths. "The pervasive levels of pollutants, such as particulate matter (PM), nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide, pose severe respiratory and

cardiovascular risks to the population. High concentrations of PM_{2.5}, tiny particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs, have been linked to respiratory diseases, heart ailments, and other health complications," Bajaj, who was not involved in the study, told PTL.

"Prolonged exposure to these pollutants is associated with increased mortality rates, particularly among vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly," he added.

Phasing out fossil fuels would result in the largest absolute reductions in attributable deaths in South, South East and East Asia, amounting to about 3.85 million annually, the researchers said. This is equivalent to 80-85 per cent of potentially preventable deaths from all anthropogenic sources of ambient air pollution in these regions, they said. In high-income countries that are largely dependent on fossil energy, about 4.6 lakh (0.46 million) deaths annually could potentially be prevented by a fossil fuel phase out, representing about 90 per cent of the potentially preventable deaths from all anthropogenic sources of ambient air pollution, according to the researchers. The ongoing COP28 climate change negotiations in UAE "offer an opportunity to make substantial

progress towards phasing out fossil fuels. The health benefits should be high on the agenda," they said.

Dr. Girdhar Gyani, Founder Director, Association of Healthcare Providers (AHPI) noted that toxic pollutants in the air pose severe health risks along with premature deaths.

"Therefore, we strongly recommend caution among the common population to use protective measures like wearing masks and choosing public transport, which can significantly reduce personal exposure to toxins," Gyani, who was not involved in the study, told news agency PTI.

"Collaborative efforts from both governmental bodies and citizens are necessary to mitigate the adverse health effects caused by this environmental crisis," he added.

Odisha tribal land transfer row: Odisha BJP to launch state-wide strike

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Demanding the complete withdrawal of the Odisha government's decision to allow the scheduled tribe people (ST) to transfer their land to non-tribals in scheduled areas, the state unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is going to launch a state-wide strike in all tribal-dominated blocks from tomorrow.

Addressing a press conference, BJP spokesperson Manoj Mohapatra informed this on Thursday. "We are going to launch a strike from tomorrow in all tribal-dominated blocks and we will continue this till the government doesn't withdraw its cabinet decision," said Mohapatra. No comments have



been received from the ruling BJD in this regard. On November 14, the Odisha Cabinet decided to amend The Odisha Scheduled Areas Transfer of Immoveable Property (by STs) Regulation, 1956. In the cabinet meeting, it was decided that ST persons can gift,

exchange for public purposes, or obtain a loan by mortgaging a plot of land in a public financial institution for agriculture, construction of a residential house, higher studies of children, self-employment, business or establishment of small-scale industries

or transfer it in favour of a person not belonging to ST community for these purposes. However, the government's decision had put it in the crosshairs of the Opposition BJP and the Congress who demanded immediate withdrawal of the

decision. The Opposition parties have warned to stage protests across the State in the coming days if the Cabinet decision regarding the transfer of tribal lands is not withdrawn. Following this, the government kept the decision on the back burner. Later, bowing to the severe protest from the Opposition parties, the government on November 24 decided to send the amendment of the Odisha Scheduled Areas Transfer of Immoveable Property Regulation, 1956 to the Tribal Advisory Council for review. After making some necessary changes, the council will submit the same.

Stranded Odia labourers return from Central Africa after BJP National VP Jay Panda's intervention

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Following the intervention of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National Vice President, Baijayant 'Jay' Panda, labourers stranded in Gabon in Central Africa are safely returning to their homes. Of the 21 labourers from several parts of India stranded in Gabon in Central Africa, five labourers returned to India in the first phase. Moreover, five more labourers are returning to Odisha's Kendrapara today. The office of the BJP National Vice President on Thursday informed this in a press release. In the first phase, five labourers returned to India on November 26. In the second phase, five

labourers are returning to Odisha's Kendrapara today. The rest 11 labourers will return in phases, stated the press release. Notably, as many as 21 labourers including 14 from Odisha, four from Bihar and one each from Rajasthan, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh had gone to Gabon through an agent, with the hope of earning a livelihood. While the agent promised them a job with a monthly salary of Rs 50,000, they had given him Rs 1 lakh each. After reaching there, they were allegedly forced to live a wretched life. The company authorities subjected them to physical and mental

torture and forced them to work for over 12 hours every day. In a video message, they had informed about their plights to their respective family members. The worried family members had turned to Baijayant Panda through BJP's Kendrapara district vice president, Krushnachandra Panda and requested him to take steps to bring them back to India. In turn, the BJP's National Vice President contacted the Indian Ambassador, briefed him about the Indian labourers' predicament and requested assistance and support to bring the labourers back to India safely.

MLAs, Different Organisations Meet 5T Chairman Shri Pandian at Naveen Niwas



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Anugul MLA Sri Rajani Kanta Singh, Dhenkanal MLA Sri Sudhir Kumar Samal and about 10 organisations today met 5T, Nabin Odisha Chairman Shri VK Pandian at Naveen Niwas and wished him for the new Responsibility. They congratulated him

and appreciated his spirit and efforts in the transformation of Odisha. Thanking the organisation members, the 5T Chairman said that Odisha, under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik, is going through a transformation drive. Our only objective is to fulfill the dreams of the

Chief Minister, he said. The Organisations which met the chairman are Periodical Editors & Publisher's Association, Shri Niranjana Mishra & Shri Khirad Kumar Jena, Odisha Without Border, Minority Development Parishad, Jayadeb A/C, Lokaseva Foundation, Odisha Kendupatra Karmachari Sangha, All

Odisha Upgraded School Guest Faculties Lectureres Association, Odisha Mamata Programme Coordinator Association, Bhadrak Muslim Jamat, All Odisha Additional Computer Programmers Association, V.K. Pandian Fan Club, Odisha Rajya Nigam Karmachari Mahasangha.

28CR For Akhandalamani

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The State Government has approved Rs 28.04 crore Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) Scheme for redevelopment of Baba Akhandalamani Temple in Bhadrak district. Department of Revenue and Disaster Management has recently accorded in-principle approval to the R&R Scheme proposed by the Bhadrak District Administration. Following the approval of R&R Scheme, the Works Department has a c c o r d e d Administrative Approval for direct purchase of private land, trust board land and deity land measuring 1.695 acres and rehabilitation & resettlement assistance to 98 families for redevelopment of Baba Akhandalamani Temple Complex. Department of Works has set certain conditions to purchase



the required land. The PWD has asked the concerned officials to give due diligence while purchasing lands from SC and ST owners while 12 per cent per annum additional market value will be given only from the date of negotiation to the

date of purchase only on original bench-mark value of land. The average sale price of the Kisam of the case land as situated in the nearest village or nearest vicinity, the Department said. As per the R&R Scheme, out of 98 plots,

54 plots are owned by private individuals while 20 plots belong to Trust Board and remaining 24 plots are in the name of the deity. While compensation of Rs 26.29 crore will be provided to the affected families, Rs 1.02 crore to be provided as assistance for self-relocation, and Rs 48.99 lakh to be given as maintenance allowance. Similarly, Rs 2.04lakh to be provided as assistance for temporary shed and Rs 4,08,268 earmarked for transportation. In total the R&R amount stood at Rs 1,75,56,112. As part of its 5T initiative, the State Government is redeveloping the famous Shiva Shrine in Bhadrak with a total estimated cost of Rs 42 crore. Last month the Bhumi Pujan for the Holy work was conducted in presence of local public representatives.



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Sam Bahadur Screening: From Ananya Panday To Aditya Roy Kapur - Stars Turn Up For Vicky Kaushal's War Drama

Ahead of Sam Bahadur's much-awaited release, the makers of Vicky Kaushal-starrer organized a star-studded screening. Despite a big clash with Ranbir Kapoor-starrer, the buzz is strong around 'Sam Bahadur' where Vicky promises to be at his finest. Acknowledging the same, Bollywood stars - Rekha, Ananya Panday, Aditya Roy Kapur, Karan Johar, amid others - arrived in style for the screening of 'Sam Bahadur'.

'Dream Girl 2' actress Ananya Panday attended the premiere and looked gorgeous. The actress wore a mid-dress in the shades of

maroon and black and paired it with black pumps and minimal makeup. Her rumoured boyfriend, Aditya Roy Kapur, was spotted at the star-studded event in casual wear. He styled his basic white T-shirt and denim look with a checked shirt and sneakers.

Veteran actress Rekha, often making heads turn with her suave arrived at the event looking immaculately stunning. She opted to wear a black saree with a golden border. She complemented her look with her hair tied in a bun and flaunted red lips.

Directed by Meghna



Gulzar, the film stars Vicky Kaushal, Sanya Malhotra and Fatima Sana Shaikh in the lead roles. In the film, Vicky will be seen portraying the role of India's war hero and first Field

Marshal Sam Manekshaw.

Recently, the trailer was launched and was lauded by many. The 2-minute-40-second trailer showcased Vicky (as Sam Manekshaw) in a

fierce avatar holding his own against several high-profile leaders, including Indira Gandhi, the then-prime minister. At the end of the trailer, Vicky delivers a powerful

dialogue and says, "Aaj ke baad koi bhi officer ya jawan..mere written order ke bina apni post se peechhe nahi hatega..aur main wo order kabhi nahi dunga."

Sam Bahadur is based on the life of India's first Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw. His career in the army spanned over four decades and five wars. He was the first Indian Army officer to be promoted to the rank of Field Marshal and he led the victory in the 1971 Indo-Pak war, which led to the creation of Bangladesh. The film is all set to hit the theatres on December 1.

Salaar Director Prashanth Praises Prabhas As 'Pan-India Star With Heart Of Gold'

Among the most well-known directors and screenwriters in the Indian film industry is Prashanth Neel. Fans who have adored Prabhas in his priceless action

Salaar, an action/thriller movie starring pan India star, Prabhas is going to be a massive movie that has been creating a buzz on social media platforms. The film's

rival gang. Vowing revenge, Salaar sets out to destroy the rival gang and bring their leader to justice.

The film's teaser received a positive

show you the aggression. I was sold on this aspect and have explored this quality in Salaar too. His personality perfectly suits for Salaar. He is a giant, who is very gentle."

This only serves to highlight how Prabhas has managed to keep his grounded demeanour in spite of his enormous success! People are clamouring for their favourite hero to return to the big screen as he prepares for his impending release! Salaar is scheduled to be released on December 22, 2023.

On the work front, apart from Salaar, Prabhas will also be seen in the highly awaited film, Kalki 2898 AD. The film boasts an ensemble cast of some of the biggest names in Indian cinema, including Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, Deepika Padukone, and Disha Patani. Each actor brings their unique talents and charisma to their roles, ensuring that the film will be a feast for the eyes and ears.



films will undoubtedly be in for a treat when they see him enter the action genre. Having contributed to projects such as 'KGF 1' and 'KGF 2', he has won the hearts of many people. Fans are now anxiously awaiting the highly anticipated Salaar, which will feature the dynamic duo of Prashanth Neel and Prabhas!

story is set in the fictional town of Salaar and follows the titular character, who is a powerful and ruthless gangster. The film is said to be a stylish and action-packed thriller that will feature Prabhas in a never-seen-before avatar.

Salaar's life is turned upside down when his best friend is killed by a

reception from fans and critics alike. The teaser showcased Prabhas's intense performance and Prashanth Neel's stylish direction. Recently, director Prashanth Neel was seen, talking about this massive superstar. He quoted, "Prabhas sir can show innocence like nobody else. But at the same time, he can also

Prabhas, Deepika Padukone's Project K To Create History, To Be First Indian Film To Debut At San Diego Comic-Con



There's good news for Bollywood lovers who have been waiting for a long to get an update on Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Kamal Haasan and Prabhas-starrer 'Project K'. According to Variety, The hugely-anticipated Indian big-budget sci-fi film will unveil exclusive footage in the presence of talent at the San Diego Comic-Con (SDCC). Kicking off the SDCC celebration, Vyjayanthi Movies will offer fans a look at the film as part of an opening night party on July 19. On July 20, the film's

team will host a panel titled "This is Project K: First Glimpse of India's Mytho-Sci-fi Epic" with Deepika, Prabhas and Haasan during which the film's full title, teaser trailer and release date will be revealed, Variety reported. Interestingly, the stars will also feature in a performance on SDCC's largest stage. "This exclusive event will transport guests into India's most ambitious cinematic universe yet with their captivating storytelling, futuristic setting, and 'Spice Punk' aesthetic inspired by the film," the producers said

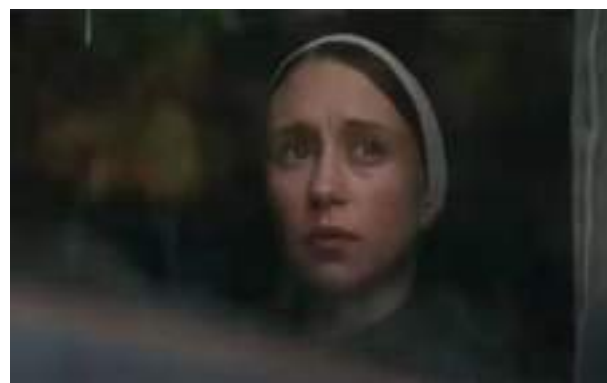
in a statement.

Director Ashwin also expressed excitement. He said, "We are thrilled to present 'Project K's' debut at San Diego Comic-Con. India's storytelling tradition has ancient roots, with its epics serving as the origins for many civilizations worldwide. A world as big as this needs a platform as big to introduce it to the people. Comic-Con felt like the perfect place, where the honesty and enthusiasm needed for 'Project K' will be found."

The Nun 2 Trailer Teases Returns Of 'The Conjuring' Universe

The makers of 'The Nun' are all set to come up with the film's sequel. On Thursday, they unveiled the film's trailer and it has definitely left fans excited. The sequel, which is headlined by Taissa Farmiga, is set to be out on September 8.

As per Variety, the film begins in 1956 after a priest is viciously murdered in France. According to the film's official logline, 'The Nun 2' follows Sister Irene (Farmiga) as she once again comes face to face with the demonic Valak. Farmiga returns alongside Bonnie Aarons and Jonas Bloquet who will reprise their roles as Valak and Maurice "Frenchie," respectively. "The Nun 2" will introduce new additions to the "Conjuring" universe, including Katelyn Rose Downey as Sophie, Anna Popplewell as Marcella and Storm Reid as an



unknown new character. The USD 2 billion franchise began in 2013, with the original "The Conjuring" film, starring Patrick Wilson and Taissa Farmiga's older sister, Vera Farmiga. The original film was inspired by paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren's nonfiction book, "The Amityville Horror." "The Conjuring's" first spinoff "Annabelle" premiered in 2014. Soon after, "The Conjuring 2" was released in 2016, "Annabelle: Creation" in 2017 and then the second

spinoff, "The Nun" in 2018. Since "The Nun," the "Conjuring" universe has released "The Curse of La Llorona," "Annabelle Comes Home" and "The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It." Directed by "The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It's" Michael Chaves, "The Nun 2" was written by "M 3 G A N" screenwriter Akela Cooper and "Fear the Walking Dead" screenwriters Ian Goldberg and Richard Naing.

Towards a Brighter Tomorrow: India's G20 Presidency and the Dawn of a New Multilateralism



Today marks 365 days since India assumed the G20 Presidency. It is a moment to reflect, recommit, and rejuvenate the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, 'One Earth, One Family, One Future.'

As we undertook this responsibility last year, the global landscape grappled with multifaceted challenges: recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, looming climate threats, financial instability, and debt distress in developing nations, all amid declining multilateralism. In the midst of conflicts and competition, development cooperation suffered, impeding progress.

Assuming the G20 Chair, India sought to offer the world an alternative to status quo, a shift from a GDP-centric to human-centric progress. India aimed to remind the world of

what unites us, rather than what divides us. Finally, the global conversation had to evolve - the interests of the few had to give way to the aspirations of the many. This required a fundamental reform of multilateralism as we knew it.

Inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive — these four words defined our approach as G20 president, and the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD), unanimously adopted by all G20 members, is testimony to our commitment to deliver on these principles.

Inclusivity has been at the heart of our presidency. The inclusion of the African Union (AU) as a permanent member of the G20 integrated 55 African nations into the forum, expanding it to encompass 80% of the global population. This proactive stance has fostered a more comprehensive dialogue on global challenges and opportunities.

The first-of-its-kind 'Voice of the Global South Summit,' convened by India in two editions, heralded a new dawn of multilateralism. India

mainstreamed the Global South's concerns in international discourse and has ushered in an era where developing countries take their rightful place in shaping the global narrative.

Inclusivity also infused India's domestic approach to G20, making it a People's Presidency that befits that world's largest democracy. Through "Jan Bhagidari" (people's participation) events, G20 reached 1.4 billion citizens, involving all states and Union Territories (UTs) as partners. And on substantive elements, India ensured that international attention was directed to broader developmental aims, aligning with G20's mandate.

At the critical midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, India delivered the G20 2023 Action Plan to Accelerate Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), taking a cross-cutting, action-oriented approach to interconnected issues, including health, education, gender equality and environmental sustainability.

A key area driving this progress is robust

Narendra Modi

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI). Here, India was decisive in its recommendations, having witnessed the revolutionary impact



of digital innovations like Aadhaar, UPI, and Digilocker first-hand. Through G20, we successfully completed the Digital Public Infrastructure Repository, a significant stride in global technological collaboration. This repository, featuring over 50 DPIs from 16 countries, will help the Global South build, adopt, and scale DPI to unlock the power of inclusive growth.

For our One Earth, we introduced ambitious and inclusive aims to create urgent, lasting, and equitable change.

The Declaration's 'Green Development Pact' addresses the challenges of choosing between combating hunger and protecting the planet, by outlining

a comprehensive roadmap where employment and ecosystems are complimentary, consumption is climate conscious, and production is planet-friendly. In tandem, the G20 Declaration calls for an ambitious tripling of global renewable energy capacity by 2030. Coupled with the establishment of the Global Biofuels Alliance and a concerted push for Green Hydrogen, the G20's ambitions to build a cleaner, greener world is

undeniable. This has always been India's ethos, and through Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (LiFE), the world can benefit from our age-old sustainable traditions.

Further, the Declaration underscores our commitment to climate justice and equity, urging substantial financial and technological support from the Global North. For the first time, there was a recognition of the quantum jump needed in the magnitude of development financing, moving from billions to trillions of dollars. G20 acknowledged that developing countries require \$5.9 trillion to fulfil their Nationally

Determined Contributions (NDCs) by 2030.

Given the monumental resources required, G20 emphasised the importance of better, larger, and more effective Multilateral Development Banks. Concurrently, India is taking a leading role in UN reforms, especially in the restructuring of principal organs like the UN Security Council, that will ensure a more equitable global order.

Gender equality took centre stage in the Declaration, culminating in the formation of a dedicated Working Group on the Empowerment of Women next year. India's Women's Reservation Bill 2023, reserving one-third of India's Parliament and state legislative assembly seats for women epitomizes our commitment to women-led development.

The New Delhi Declaration embodies a renewed spirit of collaboration across these key priorities, focusing on policy coherence, reliable trade, and ambitious

climate action. It is a matter of pride that during our Presidency, G20 achieved 87 outcomes and 118 adopted documents, a marked rise from the past.

During our G20 Presidency, India led deliberations on geopolitical issues and their impact on economic growth and development. Terrorism and the senseless killing of civilians is unacceptable, and we must address it with a policy of zero-tolerance. We must embody humanitarianism over hostility and reiterate that this is not an era of war.

I am delighted that during our Presidency India achieved the extraordinary: it revitalised multilateralism, amplified the voice of the Global South, championed development, and fought for the empowerment of women, everywhere.

As we hand over the G20 Presidency to Brazil, we do so with the conviction that the our collective steps for people, planet, peace, and prosperity, will resonate for years to come.

Prime Minister, India

Pollution affects Beauty



If the views from your large office windows seem more hazy and compromised than usual, and a wave of colds and coughs have held your coworkers hostage, you have the increasing pollution to blame

The rising air Pollution has become a buzzword nowadays and is affecting the normal functioning of life due to toxic air and a heavy blanket of smog.

Pollution breaks down collagen and oxidizes the lipid layer in the skin, which impairs skin-barrier function. Smog particles are generally too large to penetrate the skin, but they can disturb the barrier, resulting in dehydration, sensitivity, uneven skin tone, dullness, acne, and premature aging.

Skin of women living in a city is more likely to age 10 per cent faster

than those living in rural areas . Airborne pollutants on human skin can contribute to skin aging, atopic dermatitis, skin discoloration, eczema, psoriasis, and acne and can be absorbed through the skin into the body, causing a wide range of diseases. While pollution takes a toll on the environment and health but it also affects natural beauty very adversely. Pollution breaks down collagen and oxidizes the lipid layer in the skin, which impairs skin barrier function.

Highly toxic air containing smoke, soot, acid, and other pollutants severely affects the skin by draining away skin moisture which leads to allergies and pigmentation spots on the forehead and cheeks on dry and rough skin. The toxic haze hanging in the sky cause uneven skin tone, accelerated ageing , wrinkles, and black spot on the face. For many living in big cities like in Metropolitan cities it is completely unavoidable so it is matter of reducing exposure, repairing the damage and protecting

it as much as possible Among the other organs of the body, the skin is also one of the first to bear the brunt of air pollutants, which not only attack the skin's surface but also lead to an accumulation of toxins. In fact, they are potent skin irritants. There are both long and short-term effects of pollutants. Chemical pollutants cause oxidation damage and this can lead to the manifestation of premature ageing signs on the skin, like wrinkles, loss of elasticity, dark patches, spots, etc. Chemical pollutants also disrupt the normal balance of the skin and scalp, leading to problems like dryness, sensitivity, rashes, acne, irritation or allergic reactions, dandruff, and related conditions. They also make the skin and hair dull, lacking vitality. All of us who live and work in urban areas need protective beauty care, whether we are housewives or working women. Of course, for working women, the job may involve traveling long distances to work. The skin is thus more exposed to the pollutants in the air. Cleansing of the skin

Shahnaz Husain

assumes more importance in order to get rid of the impurities and pollutants that are deposited on the skin. If you have dry skin, use a cleansing cream or gel. Deep clean the skin at night, neutralize it with antioxidants and create a barrier with sunscreen. Include antioxidants in your diet and skincare regime. Citrus fruits contain Vitamin C, E, and limonene which lower the risk of cancer and protect your skin from damage. Avoid cleansers containing Sodium lauryl sulphate and sodium laureth sulphates or denatured alcohols as they dry out the skin and can damage our skin barrier over time.

Use skincare rich in antioxidants. Pamper your skin with sheet masks or hydrating overnight masks to repair the damage.

For oily skin, cleansing milk or face wash may be used. For oily skin, also use a facial scrub after cleansing. Look out for products with ingredients like sandalwood, eucalyptus, mint, neem, tulsi, aloe vera, etc., when you buy

cleansers. The anti-toxic and tonic properties of such ingredients have helped in clearing the skin congestion and eruptions that result from exposure to chemical pollutants. Aloe vera, for example, is also a powerful moisturizer and an antioxidant. So are ingredients like apricot kernel oil, carrot seed, wheatgerm oil, etc. the skin needs to be protected. If the skin is prone to eruptive conditions like acne, pimples, or rash, it should be protected with specialized creams that not only protect but also reduce oiliness and deal with the problem.

After cleansing, wipe the skin with a rose-based skin tonic or rose water, to complete the cleansing process and refresh the skin. Soak cotton wool in chilled rose water and tone the skin with it, patting briskly. It also improves blood circulation to the skin's surface and adds a glow. Green tea also makes a good skin toner. If there is a rash or eruptions, add a little rose water to the sandalwood paste and apply it to the face. Wash off with plain

water after 15 minutes. Anti-pollution cosmetics help to provide protection and reduce the damage caused by environmental effects. These are basically "cover creams" that form a barrier between the skin and pollutants. Sandalwood protective cream is very useful to protect the skin from environmental effects. It forms a transparent protective cover. Sandalwood soothes the skin and protects it from irritative reactions and eruptive conditions. It suits all skin types and increases the skin's moisture retention ability too.

The hair also needs frequent washing if one regularly travels long distances for their work. Pollutants also collect on the scalp. Shampoo, hair rinses, serums, and conditioners help to restore normal balance if they contain ingredients like amla, Brahmi, Triphala, bhringaraj, and henna. They also coat the hair and form a protective cover. Mix one teaspoon each of vinegar and honey with one egg. Massage the mixture lightly into the scalp. Leave on for half an hour and then wash the

hair. Rinse well with water. Or, give the hair hot oil therapy. Heat pure coconut oil and apply it to the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Leave the oil on overnight and wash your hair the next day. The impurities and pollutants can also affect the eyes, causing burning or redness. The eyes should be washed with plain water several times. Soak cotton wool pads in chilled rose water and use them over the eyes as eye pads. Lie down and relax for fifteen minutes. This really helps to remove fatigue and brightens the eyes.

if one is also exposed to cold weather, poor diet, a lack of sleep, or simply stress, as many of us are. In the presence of any of these factors along with pollution, the quality of the skin can become further diminished.

To brighten the skin and even skin tone, I recommend products containing Vitamin C to be used in conjunction

with richer creams. Deeply moisturizing creams can truly help repair and hydrate the skin.

Use an air purifier with a humidifier at home and the workplace to lessen the effects of pollution. Humidifiers make the air breathable and maintain the room's humidity.

Eat your greens, Vitamin C rich foods, jaggery and drink loads of fluids rich in antioxidants . Antioxidants can neutralize the effects of pollutants. Lemon, orange, amla, green vegetables, grapefruit, tomatoes and potatoes are some examples of Vitamin C rich foods. My advice is while rely on healthy eating, drinking water, and regular exercise to keep your skin healthy. Making the right choices about our skincare regimen is an equally or even more important part of a successful beauty routine.

It's a rough deal for your skin, but there are plenty of ways to care for it in the face of pollution.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the Herbal Queen of India



The Vice President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar in a group photograph with the participants of the 49th Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (APPPA) at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas, in New Delhi

"What Is 57 Now Will Be...": Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel On Exit Polls Prediction

Raipur(KCN): Hours after the exit poll projections gave Congress an edge over the BJP in Chhattisgarh, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said his party was on course to secure a 'huge majority'. He added that while most surveys are predicting the Congress tally at 57, the number will swell to 75 by the time the results are declared on December 3, the counting day. Speaking to reporters after 5-7 exit poll projections put Congress in the lead, Mr Baghel said the numbers quoted in these polls will stabilise in the next couple of days. "Are the numbers consistent in the seven exit polls? After two days, the numbers quoted in these exit-poll projections will stabilise and settle. Regardless of the exit-poll projections, we are confident of forming the government in Chhattisgarh with a handsome majority," Mr Baghel told reporters on Thursday. Weighing in on one of the projections, Mr Baghel said, "What is 57 now will be 75 in the days leading up to counting



day." The poll conducted by India Today's Chanakya predicted that Congress would get 57-66 seats in Chhattisgarh while the BJP would bag 33-42 seats, with 0-3 seats going to others. On whether the BJP could launch an 'Operation Lotus' if the projected numbers for the state hold, the Chhattisgarh CM said, "They won't be able to do so." "We have a majority, we believe in our hard work and have faith in the people," Mr Baghel added. While three polls predicted a clear victory of Congress, others said that the party was in the winning range. The Congress fought the election with Chief Minister Bhupesh

Baghel at the helm. According to ABP C-Voter predictions, Congress is poised to win 41-53 seats in the state which has a 90-member assembly. The exit poll said BJP is poised to get 36-48 seats and others 0-4 seats. The India Today-Axis My India poll predicted Congress getting 40-50 seats, BJP 36-46 seats and others getting 1-5 seats. The Republic TV exit poll gave Congress 44-52 seats, BJP 34-42 seats and 0-2 polls for others. India TV-CNX poll predicted 46-56 seats for Congress, 30-40 seats for BJP and 3-5 for others. The numbers for Congress and BJP in the Jan Ki Baat exit poll were 42-53 and 34-45 respectively and it predicted 0-3 seats for

others. The P-Marq poll said Congress is poised to win 46-54 seats with 44.6 per cent vote, BJP 35-42 seats with 42.9 per cent vote and others will get 0-2 seats with 12.5 per cent votes. Chhattisgarh went to the polls in two phases on November 7 and 17 and

the counting of votes, along with that in the other four states, will take place on December 3. In 2018, the Congress won 68 seats in Chhattisgarh and the BJP won 15 seats. Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) won five seats, while the Bahujan Samaj Party won two seats.

Ajit Pawar Aide Rules Out Reunion With Sharad Pawar's Faction

Karjat(KCN): Praful Patel, working president of the Ajit Pawar-led NCP, on Thursday said it was a misconception that the two rival factions of the party would soon come together. Speaking at a news conference at the Nationalist Congress Party's two-day conclave here, he also claimed that the majority of public representatives, functionaries and workers of the party supported Ajit Pawar's decision to join hands with the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance.



"There should be no confusion...because some people in the (Sharad Pawar-led) NCP mislead people into believing that we are again coming together. I want to state it very specifically that we are working in the NCP under Ajit Pawar's leadership for Maharashtra's benefit," Mr Patel said. On the meetings between Ajit Pawar and his uncle Sharad Pawar, he said they do not meet often. The Pawar family had come together earlier this month for their annual Diwali get-together (where Ajit and Sharad Pawar were present), Mr Patel said. Ajit Pawar joined the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra in July this year, splitting the party founded by his uncle.

"Your Prayers Reached To God": Uttarakhand Chief Minister On Tunnel Rescue



Nainita(KCN): Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Thursday said that the people in India and across the world were praying to the god for the success in the rescue operation in Uttarkashi's Silkyara tunnel where 41 workers got trapped adding that the rescuers received God's blessings to carry out the successful operation. Chief Minister Dhami laid the foundation stone of various development schemes in Haldwani and participated in other organized programs. Addressing a public event, Chief Minister Dhami said, "People of the state, the entire country and across the world were praying to the god. Their prayers worked. Your prayers reached to the god and then it blessed the rescuers to carry out a

successful operation. In 17 days, the tunnel was opened. It was a very difficult time." Earlier today, workers who were rescued from the Silkyara Tunnel have been discharged from the hospital today and are leaving for their home states. Officials from various states have reached here to facilitate their return to their home states. All 41 trapped workers were brought out safely from the under-construction Silkyara tunnel in Uttarkashi on Tuesday, bringing to an end an ordeal that spanned over two weeks. Meanwhile, Jharkhand Nodal Officer Bhuvnesh informed that workers of Jharkhand will be first taken to Delhi and they will stay at Jharkhand Bhawan in the national capital before proceeding

further to their native state. "We are taking all of them through an aeroplane. There are 15 workers. First, we will go to Delhi and then to Ranchi. We all have our stay in Jharkhand Bhawan. All the workers are doing well. AIIMS authorities have handed over the workers to us," he said. The workers who were rescued from the Silkyara tunnel were brought to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rishikesh, for further medical examination on Wednesday. On November 12, a section of the tunnel between 205 and 260 metres from the Silkyara side collapsed. Workers who were beyond the 260-metre mark were trapped, with their exit blocked.

India Walked The Talk When It Comes To Climate Action: PM Modi

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday called for supporting developing countries with adequate climate financing and technology transfer to deal with climate change. As he heads to Dubai to attend the World Climate Action Summit, PM Modi said India has walked the talk when it comes to climate action while highlighting the importance India attached to the issue during its G20 presidency. "During our G20

presidency, climate was high on our priority. The New Delhi Leaders' Declaration includes numerous concrete steps on climate action and sustainable development. I look forward to the COP28 taking forward the consensus on these issues," PM Modi said in his departure statement. PM Modi will attend the World Climate Action Summit on Friday during the United Nations 'Conference of the Parties' on climate, known as COP28. Several world leaders



are set to attend the climate action summit to discuss ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and effectively combat climate change.

The World Climate Action Summit is the high-level segment of the COP28. The prime minister is scheduled to participate in three

other high-level side events as well. The COP28 is taking place from November 30 to December 12 under the presidency of the UAE.

In his statement, the prime minister said the COP28 will provide an opportunity to review progress made under the Paris Agreement, and chart a path for future course on climate action. "At the Voice of Global South Summit convened by India, the Global South spoke for the need for climate action based on the principles of equity, climate justice, and common but differentiated responsibilities, as well as a greater focus on adaptation,"

PM Modi said. "It is important that efforts of the developing world be supported with adequate climate financing and technology transfer. They must have access to equitable carbon and development space to achieve sustainable development," he said. The prime minister noted that India has walked the talk when it comes to climate action. "Our achievements in different sectors like renewable

energy, energy efficiency, afforestation, energy conservation, Mission LiFE are testament to the commitment of our people towards mother earth," he said. The prime minister said he was looking forward to joining special events including on climate finance and green credit initiative. "In keeping with our civilizational ethos, India has always laid emphasis on climate action even as we pursue social and economic development," PM Modi said.

Mantra For Zero Fatality

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena has harped on 'Zero Fatality' approach as the State is observing Zero Fatality Week from 1 December. A preparatory meeting in connection with observance of Zero Fatality Week from 1-7 December 2023 has been held at Lok Seva Bhawan today under Chief Secretary Shri Jena's Chairmanship. Chief Secretary also focused that as coming December to February are picnic months, we should prepare for zero fatality and also pollution free picnic as there is possibility of pollution of environment due to use of large quantity of polyethylene bags at different picnic spots of the State. Chief Secretary Sri Jena advised all Collectors to achieve better than the

previous time, get all government offices and employees involved and to work out activity plan. He also said to involve School students, NGOs, Civil societies, SHGs in this campaign. BDOs in this campaign. BDOs to get participation of PRI members. SHG members those who have got scooters under 'Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana' and are learners to be sensitized to have less prone to accidents. Road safety Engineering plan, Behavioural changes and Enforcement should be top priority in observance of Zero Fatality week, he urged. Development Commissioner, Anu Garg, DGP, Sunil Kumar Bansal, Principal Secretary, Commerce and Transport, Usha Padhee, Principal



Secretary, RD & I & PR, Sanjay Kumar Singh, Transport Commissioner, Amitabh Thakur and other officials were present. Principal Secretary Shrimati Padhee presented details about road accident scenario in Odisha. There was 8,939 Road accidents, 4,178 fatalities and 7,898 injured occurred during the year 2023 from January to September. There is 2.84 % increase

in accidents in 2023 (Jan to Sept) and 4.89 % increase in fatalities (Jan to Sept) as compared to 2022 of the same period where as there was 11,663 i.e 6.19% increase in road accident in 2022 as compared to 2021 and 7.5 % increasing fatalities in 2022 as compared to the year 2021.

The vision of Zero Fatality Week is to reduce further the rate of increase in road accident and fatalities. The State

Government is committed to address this issue and with aim to Zero Fatality during 1-7 December, 2023, the Govt. in C & T Department has given instruction to all Districts to prepare action plan for each district in response to SOP given to all RTOs.

As per information, in the Zero Fatality Week observed in last April-2023, there was 33 % decrease in accidents and 14.6 % decrease in

fatalities during the same period in 2022. Boudh, Rayagada, Sonepur, Bhadrak, Malkangiri, Nayagada and Sambalpur district are top performing districts that observed 100% reduction in fatalities during that period. Development Commissioner Shrimati Garg said that all Stakeholders to visit Trauma care centres in nearby hospitals so that we can ensure our preparedness and save life

of victims during golden hour of accident occurred. Necessary publicity and awareness drive will be carried out by the I&PR Department to sensitize the public through print, electronic media and social media to reduce road accident and fatality. It was also discussed in the meeting that accident victim, should be promptly attended to whether in private and government facility available. Detail enforcement schedules has been chalked out by the C & T department action against violations like drunken driving, Helmetless driving, use of mobile phones while driving, over speeding, triple riding, insurance, illegal parking, wrong side driving etc. NHAI, RD, R&B authorities has been instructed to hold monthly meeting at least once in a

month for solutions to problems like removal of potholes, repair of barriers, improvement of roads, and identification of black spot prone to accident etc. All stakeholder departments have been sensitize their roles in details. Awareness plan prepared on publicity of Citizen Sentinel App to report violations, Road safety awareness through driving training schools and DTIs, Broadcast road safety awareness messages through various network services, mobile vans to spread road safety measures, awareness programs in schools and colleges during morning assembly, involvement of private stakeholders like truck, bus, dumper owner associations to raise awareness about road safety was discussed. Best performing organisations to be acknowledged and awarded.

Gurujee On Guru Tatwa

Cuttack(KCN): The jubilant celebration of Shree Guru Bhagabat Dibyo Utsav in Bhubaneswar on Kartik Purnima marked the 22nd birthday of this divine scripture, authored by Gurujee Chandra Bhanu Satpathy. Originating 21 years ago on a full moon night, the initial four lines have blossomed into a monumental work spanning 34 thousand lines across eight volumes, exploring the profound facets of the Guru-disciple relationship.

The international acclaim of Guru Bhagabat is exemplified by the declaration of July 13th as Shree Guru Bhagabat Day in three US cities. At the event, Gurujee Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy, the Chief Guest, shared that this magnum opus has been published in seventeen languages, serving as an encyclopedia on Guru Tatwa transcending specificity and guiding individuals on the nuances of the Gurusishya bond. Additional Chief Secretary Revenue, Disaster Management & Forest & Environment & Climate Change, Satyabrata Sahu graced



the occasion. Shri Sahu is an ardent devotee of Sai Baba and Gurujee. Emphasizing the role of artificial intelligence in today's world, Gurujee expressed that, a Guru provides guidance, fostering disciple strength to contribute meaningfully to society. Like Guru, Guru Bhagabat has the power to lead and guide devotees, he said. The festivities included cultural and devotional performances, such as the mesmerizing Odishi dance by Saswat Joshi, a pala on Shree Guru Bhagabat and Bhakti Bhava by Abhiram Satpathy, and the inauguration of Shree Guru Bhagabat Hindi

Gayan Part Two prepared by Sai Ka Angan. Rajiv Joshi senior IAS officer shared his insights on Shri Guru Bhagabat since it's inception and about this new Hindi edition. Deepa Padhy, an Ex Professor of Philosophy analyzed the global glory of Shri Guru Bhagabat and it's utilities for common citizen. Shri Guru Bhagabat special edition of Sai Nirmalya, a leading monthly spiritual magazine was released on this occasion by Gurujee Dr Satpathy. The event featured the cutting of a massive Chena Poda, a traditional Odisha sweet cake, by

Gurujee, accompanied by the chanting of Shree Guru Bhagabat by Tungi members. Attendees, including devotees from Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and New Delhi, witnessed the unveiling of an audio-visual presentation on Shree Guru Bhagabat, adding an enriching dimension to this grand occasion. Ace Moderator, Deba Prasad Dash moderated the event. Earlier the Guru Bhagabat carts converged at the venue in a majestic procession, journeying from various corners of the state.

Black Leopard In Odisha



Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a major piece of good news for the wildlife lovers, An extremely rare black leopard was spotted in Odisha forests during ongoing Tiger Census in the State. This was informed by

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Wildlife, Susanta Nanda in his X (Twitter) handle. He has shared two beautiful pictures of the Leopard, which was spotted in a forest in Central Odisha.

"On going camera trap tiger census in Odisha is throwing up some exciting & unexpected presence of wild fauna in our State," Shri Nanda posted in X. However, he has not mentioned the location for the safety

and security of the rare category of leopard. This extraordinary discovery has highlighted the significance of protecting the unique habitats and species found in the area. Earlier, black tigers or pseudo-melanistic tigers were sighted in Similipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district. With a distinctive dark stripe pattern on a light background of white or golden – the black tigers are rare and have only been camera-trapped in Similipal till date.



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Dalmia Bharat Foundation Signs MoA with BSL to Enable Social Transformationin Bokaro

Bokaro, Jharkhand : Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Bharat Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoA) with Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) to drive its community-centric initiatives in Jharkhandby upskilling 600 youth, annually.The aim of the MoAis to establish a skill training centre to impart short term, placement-basedcourses to local youth in the surrounding villages through DBF’s DIKSHa (Dalmia Institute of Knowledge and Skill Harnessing)centre. The MoAwas signed by

Shri Chaudhary Ratnesh Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. General Manager (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant and Shri Vishal Bhardwaj, Group Head – CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and ChiefExecutive Officer, Dalmia Bharat Foundation.

“Since our inception in 2009, we’ve witnessed our role gradually transform from being a resource provider to a key enabler for positive change in society. While we’ve created a legacy of development and change for the better, we continue to strive to ensure that we meet newer economic and environmental needs and close wider societal gaps as much as possible,”

said Mr. Vishal Bhardwaj, Group Head - CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and CEO, DBF. “Through our leadership and dedication towards achieving social transformation, we will continue to work towards our vision of creating opportunities for people across the nation so that they can reach their full potential and give back to the community. We look forward to our partnershipwith BSLand also call upon our industry peers to join us as we make significant and sustainable differences and ensure social, economic, and environmental progress.

The skill development center at Bokaro Steel City, in association with

DBF, will help strengthen the social ecosystem in Jharkhand.While BSL will provide the necessary infrastructure support, DBF has been entrusted with managing day to day activities of the center including faculty and placement support.

“BSL and DBF share a common vision and value system for bringing about a transformative change in society by leveraging its demographic dividend through empowering the local youth through training that makes them market-ready,” said Mr. Chaudhary Ratnesh Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. GM (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant.“It is our firm belief that this combined expertise and experience

will ensure that the youth being educated at the DIKSHafacility will receive quality and need-based training for the purpose of gainful employment across industries.”

To ensure viable and sustainable income generation,training will be imparted in tradesfor self-employment and tradessuch as Assistant Electrician, Solar PV Installer, General Duty Assistant (GDA) and Customer Relationship Management, to begin with. Subsequently, more courses will be added as per demand and future prospects.The center shall largely focus on the development of the youth residing in BSL’s peripheral villages.

Walkathon organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital on the occasion of World hypertension day

Bhubaneswar: In observance of World Hypertension Day 2022 - commemorated every May 17th, to create awareness amongst people, a walkathon was organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital, Cuttack which covered some important roads of Cuttack city on the day. The walkathon was flagged off by Dr. Sreejoy Patnaik, Chairman & Managing Director and Prof. Dr. Rekha Das, Executive Director of the hospital after a briefing on the purpose of the observation day presented by Dr. Priyadarshi Tripathy, Cardiologist of the hospital. More than 150 employees joined the walkathon with plaque cards and banners carrying awareness message on hypertension prevention and treatment to communicate to the public the importance of hypertension and its serious medical complications, and to provide information on prevention, detection and treatment.

World Hypertension Day was first inaugurated in May 2005 ever since it has become an annual event. The main purpose behind the celebration of the World Hypertension Day is to promote public awareness of hypertension and to encourage citizens of all countries to prevent and control this silent killer, the modern epidemic. Later at Shanti Memorial Hospital, a free hypertension check-up camp was held in which around 100 persons checked their blood pressure and received free consultation.

Flipkart’s Shopsy Summer Store steers tremendous growth for sellers in Odisha

Bhubaneswar: As the summer starts rolling in, Shopsy - Flipkart’s social commerce platform, recently launched the Summer Store, a unique curation to address customers’ nuanced seasonal needs by offering a wide range of products across categories under one umbrella. As a testimony to this endeavor, sellers in Cuttack recorded nearly a 9X growth in sales and sellers in Puri recorded nearly a 16X growth in sales bolstered by the summer store initiative. Sellers in Sundergarh have garnered atremendous 34X growth in their sales over the past month.The summer store recorded increased traction from women buyers which indicates a positive women reseller growth

in Cuttack. Amongst several categories, Hygiene and Wellness, Fashion, Kitchenware and Home Decor emerged as top priorities for customers with demand for products such as deodorants, sunglasses, body washes, essential oils, sarees, table covers, bedsheets and kitchen tools topping the charts.

Shopsy Summer Store is a one-stop-shop for products ranging from electronics, personal care, baby care, food and beverages, apparel, swimwear and kitchenware including air conditioners, deodorants, baby sunscreen, aerated drinks, cotton clothes for men and women, swimsuits and juicer mixer grinders. Of this, deodorants have taken up

the major share of the demand pie clocking over 50% growth, followed by sunglasses which grew by close to 22%. Kitchen tools also contributed to a 6X growth over the past month in Cuttack. This was followed by categories such as kurta sets, cotton sarees, deodorants and body washes that witnessed a 3X jump over the past month in Puri.

Shopsy aims to continue its endeavor to offer a wide range of quality and engaging products for customers at affordable prices, while being a value-based and reliable platform. By providing a simplified social media interface, Shopsy is able to overcome user apprehension of trust and authenticity while shopping online.

LVPEI Receives 'Project of the Year Award' from PMI South Asia for Rural ROP Care Initiative

Bhubaneswar: L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) has received the Project Management Institute South Asia (PMI South Asia) award in the NGO category for its outstanding project in rural Odisha, aimed at managing Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), a vision-threatening eye condition in preterm babies. The award-winning project, titled 'Screening and Treatment of ROP in Pre-term Babies in 8 Odisha Districts,' has been funded by the Cognizant Foundation. It was implemented by LVPEI’s MithuTulsiChanrai campus in Bhubaneswar in collaboration with National Health Mission and Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram. Dr Tapas Ranjan Padhi, the project



lead, along with other team members, accepted the award on behalf of LVPEI. Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) is an emerging 21st-century epidemic and the leading cause of irreversible vision loss in preterm born

babies and/ or babies born with a birth weight less than 2.0 kgs, especially babies who were managed in incubators. The efforts by Ministries of Health over the last two decades to reduce neonatal mortality

have improved the survival of preterm babies. About 30% of the children in NICUs/SCNUs are expected to be affected by ROP and close to 18% of them can go completely blind if they don’t receive

timely retinal treatment within 30 days of birth. Approximately 1000 premature babies are susceptible to go blind every year in Odisha due to ROP.Increased awareness, early detection and appropriate treatmentand follow-up are essential for preventing ROP blindness. LVPEI campus at Bhubaneswar is the only centre in Odisha offering a protocol-based comprehensiveROP care including neonatal retinal imaging,laser,intravitreal injections,mini neonatal intensive care facility,advanced paediatric retinal microsurgeries,low vision, and amblyopia services under one roof.

Western Digital introduces high performance WD Blue™ SN580 NVMe™ SSD for creative professionals in India



Bhubaneswar : In today’s world, demand for visual brilliance and digital content creation is skyrocketing. This is paving the way for more advanced technologies that support the production and consumption of rich content. For consumers, students, and professionals, fast, reliable tools are a must-have to keep their imaginations flowing. Building upon its award-winning SSD portfolio, Western Digital released the WD Blue™ SN580 NVMe™ solid state drive (SSD). The new, NVMe PCIe® Gen 4.0 internal flash drive is purpose-built for the creative enthusiast community

and professionals to use when upgrading current PCs or elevating a custom build. Khalid Wani, Senior Director- Sales, India, Western Digital, said “As the demand for immersive digital content grows in India, so does the need for high-performance tools. With lightning fast NVMe PCIe Gen 4.0 technology, the WD Blue SN580 NVMe SSD turns lengthy load times into a thing of the past. Its slim M.2 form factor accommodates up to 2TB of content, and the 5-year limited warranty ensures peace of mind. Whether you're a professional or an aspiring creator, this SSD is made just for you.

Jaganathan Chelliah, Senior Director-Marketing, India, Middle East and TIA, Western Digital, said, "Today content creators work with resource-intensive applications and large multimedia files such as 4K videos, and they often encounter challenges such as lengthy loading times. Western Digital addresses such concerns with its latest offering-the WD Blue SN580 NVMe SSD. It is designed to boost productivity and enable creative professionals to create more, without the inconvenience of prolonged file transfers or slow program loading."

JioPhone Next ‘Exchange to Upgrade’ Offer

Bhubaneswar: Reliance Retail has launched a limited period Exchange to Upgrade offer for JioPhone Next. As per the offer, customers can exchange a functional 4G featurephone or smartphone for a brand new JioPhone Next for just Rs. 4,499.

The JioPhone Next ‘Exchange to Upgrade’ offer allows many more Indians to embrace a truly smart Digital Life. With this offer existing 4G feature phone and smartphone users will no longer be held back by their device constraints and be able to enjoy the true 4G Jio Digital Life to the fullest. Current users of 4G feature phones will now be able

to migrate much more easily to the large screen digital experience on the world’s most affordable 4G smartphone. Similarly, the current 4G low-end smartphone users too can affordably upgrade to a seamless and enhanced digital life offer by JioPhone Next which runs on Pragati OS – the optimised version of Android that supports a rich suite of applications and usage without compromising on the user experience.

The offer is available through Reliance Retail’s extensive network of JioMart Digital, Reliance Digital and other outlets in the remotest corners of the country, making it

geographically and economically accessible to many more Indians.

It is worth mentioning here that JioPhone Next, designed jointly by Jio and Google, is the world’s most affordable 4G smartphone that comes with a 5.45” HD screen with Corning Gorilla Glass 3 andanti-fingerprint coating, 2GB RAM, 32 GB in-built storage(expandable up to 512GB), 13MP back camera, 8MP front selfie camera, 3500 mAh battery, and a range of other advanced features which include voice fast capabilities, read aloud, translate now, easy and smart camera, automatic feature update, easy media share, OTG support etc.

JK Lakshmi Cement Posted Net Profit up at Rs 161.26 Cr. in Jan-Mar.22

Bhubaneswar: JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd., one of the leading cement companies of India,recorded a turnover of Rs.1497.64 crore in Jan-Mar.22with an increase of 13% over Rs.1321.99 crore in the corresponding quarter Jan-Mar 21. Despite unabated increase in Petcoke and Diesel prices which are hovering at all time high, JK Lakshmi Cement could achieve healthy profitability by continuous improvement in operational

efficiencies, energy cost, better product mix and higher volume. JK Lakshmi Cement’s EBITDA before Other Income moved up to Rs.276.23 crore in Jan-Mar.22 from Rs.267.88 crore in Jan-Mar.21. After providing for interest, depreciation& Exceptional Item, PBT stood at Rs.197.93 crore in Jan-Mar.22 as against Rs.186.53crore in Jan-Mar.21. After Providing for Taxes and Other Comprehensive Income, JKLakshmi Cement’s Profit was up at Rs.161.26

crore in Jan-Mar.22against Rs.138.27 crore logged in the corresponding quarter. During the Twelve months April 21 – March 22 Company’s Salesincreased by 15% toRs.5040.78 crore (Rs.4384.71 crore) and EBITDA was up at Rs.868.52 crore (Rs.864.22 crore). JKLakshmi Cement’s profit at PAT level during this period moved up by 14% to touch all time high at Rs.417.56 crore against profit of Rs.366.24 crore in the same period last year.

Ambuja Cements and ACC’s ChangeTheStory campaign wins Bronze at theABBY Awards

Mumbai: The first sustainability campaign ‘Change The Story’ of Ambuja Cements and ACC, has won a Bronze Award at the recent ABBY Awards 2022, under the Green Award category. This category is awarded to o u t s t a n d i n g communication that features planet c o n s e r v a t i o n , sustainability etc. The

“Change The Story” campaign aimed to create awareness about sustainability and showcase technology-backed solutions that offer effective and measurable outcomes in this regard.

The #ChangeTheStory campaign highlights a non-invasive bubble barrier technology, which will remove around 2,400 tonnes of

plastic waste from Agra’s Mantola canal, thereby preventing its entry into the Yamuna river. The crux of the campaign lay in reaching out to a wide audience across India and globally—and communicating the campaign’s features. The campaign winning this honour at the ABBY Awards—often touted as the Oscars of Indian a d v e r t i s i n g — w a s

designed in collaboration with Alok Nanda and Company and serves as another reminder of the crucial role sustainability plays at Ambuja Cements and ACC.

#ChangeTheStory campaign was rolled out across multiple platforms, including print and digital, reaching out to an approximate 32 million people. One of its lead video films conveyed the

message, through the lens of a scientist, that it’s time to change the story by taking out the plastic and freeing our rivers of their polluted past. The campaign further leveraged the power of music and created a rap song across owned platforms featuring the campaign mnemonic “Bubble Sharma”. This was followed by a bouquet of informative posts and

videos on social media. ACC and Ambuja Cements collaborated with micro and nano influencers to drive engagement around the bubble barrier technology.

The two companies were the first to launch an augment reality-based game in India, which created an immersive experience for users by illustrating the state of marine plastic pollution

and the basic functioning of the Bubble Barrier technology. This game convinces the user to play their role in driving change by encouraging players to “bubble pop” their way to cleaner oceans and safer habitats for marine organisms.

Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and Managing Director & CEO of Ambuja CementsLtd., said that the

award served yet another reminder of the company’s efforts towards sustainability. “We are elated and honoured that a campaign that’s important to us has received the recognition that it deserved. Sustainability and business go hand in hand at Ambuja Cements and ACC Ltd. This will encourage us to further step up our efforts in this direction.”

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