

President Murmu Hosts Sultan Of Oman



New Delhi(KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu received His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Sultan of Oman at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (December 16, 2023). The President also hosted a banquet in his honour.

Welcoming His Majesty on his first State Visit to India, the President said that Oman holds a unique place as India's oldest strategic partner in the region, and as a cornerstone of its West Asia Policy. India recognizes and greatly values Oman's crucial

role in fostering peace and stability in the region. The President was happy to note that relations between India and Oman have now truly become multifaceted. Trade and investment ties have grown steadily, and excellent progress has been made in the areas of culture, health and education. Looking towards the future, she said that Oman's 'Vision 2040' and India's ongoing growth journey create the perfect backdrop for us to collaborate extensively in strategic areas. The President appreciated

the valuable participation of Oman in this year's G20 Summit and other related meetings, under India's Presidency. The President also noted the important role played by the Indian diaspora in Oman's development, and lauded their contributions to strengthening India-Oman relations. Both leaders agreed that this visit will serve as a solid foundation for further strengthening India-Oman bilateral ties, promoting regional stability, and ushering in a new era of cooperation and progress.

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated 59 mega lift projects in 13 districts of the state under the Parvati Giri Mega Lift Irrigation project. About 80,000 hectares of dry land have been provided with irrigation facilities for Rs 2.05 crores.

Along with this, the Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for 33 mega lift projects. After the completion of all these projects, 50,000 hectares of land in 9 districts could be irrigated. Participating in the program through video conferencing, the Chief Minister said that he is meeting the farmers at his house every day and discussing various issues with them. The Chief Minister expressed his happiness by expressing the fact that the farmer brothers are availing

various schemes of the government.

Highlighting the various schemes implemented by the state government for the farmers, the Chief Minister said that the state government's agriculture budget has tripled in 5 years and has now reached Rs 25,000 crore. He said that KALIA Yojana has proved to be very beneficial for the farmers. The state government has spent Rs 600 crore on crop insurance premiums for farmers. Similarly, interest-free loans up to Rs. 1 lakh are also provided.

Highlighting the development of irrigation in the state, the Chief Minister said that the irrigation development program has been accelerated under the 5T initiative. Farmers are getting irrigation facilities from



major projects like Upper Indravati, Lower Indravati, Deo and Subarnarekha. Apart from this, other big projects like the Gangadhar Meher Project and Lower Suktal are also going to be operational soon, he said. Stating that 20 in-stream storage structure projects are being done by the state government for the convenience of getting water in the rivers, the Chief Minister said that these projects will enrich the agricultural sector of the state and increase the income of the farmers. On this occasion, the Chief Minister launched

the e-megalift App developed by OCAC. Notably, the Parvati Giri Mega Lift Irrigation Project started in the state in 2011. So far 208 projects have been completed and 2,64,330 hectares of agricultural land have been irrigated. Similarly, 170 projects have been taken up in the second phase for providing irrigation facilities to 1,13,540 hectares of land.

State Water Resources Minister Tukuni Sahu attended the program and said that today will be a memorable day for the water resources department and our state. Anu Garg, Development Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary of the Water Resources Department, delivered the welcome address and the Engineer-in-Chief of the Water Resources Department gave the vote of thanks.

5T Chairman VK Pandian Receives Rousing Welcome In Ganjam



Bhubaneswar(KCN): As per the direction of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, 5T and Nabin Odisha Chairman, VK Pandian visited Ganjam District to review the progress of various developmental works in the district and interact with students, farmers, Mission Shakti Group members and other stakeholders.

Pandian reviewed the progress of the ongoing temple transformation project of Maa Budhi Thakurani Temple at Berhampur for Rs 18.91 Cr. He also reviewed the ongoing college transformation work of Kambeya Dora Junior Science College, Pochilima in Hinjilicut Block for Rs. 1.71 Cr.

He participated in the Nua-O Program being organised at Mini Stadium, Hinjilicut and interacted with students of all colleges of Hinjilicut Municipality, Hinjilicut Block and Sheragada Block. He discussed with the students how the Nua-O program provides an avenue for youngsters to showcase their talent and helps achieve overall personality development in addition to their academic achievements. Later, in Hinjilicut, he garlanded the statue of Prabapurus Sri Biju Patnaik and paid obeisance. He also visited the Rural Industrial Park of Sheragada where he interacted with Mission Shakti members and discussed various livelihood projects being undertaken by them. 5T Chairman emphasized the 05 Major benefits that have been extended

by the Hon'ble Chief Minister for Women - Ticket in the newly rolled LACCMI Bus at just Rs. 5; Meal in all Aahaar Kendras at Rs. 5; Financial support of Rs. 5000 is being provided to pregnant women and lactating mothers under MAMATA Yojana; Interest-Free Loan up to Rs. 5 Lakhs for Mission Shakti Groups and Additional Rs. 05 Lakhs for Women beneficiaries taking the total to Rs. 10 Lakhs for BSKY beneficiaries. He interacted with the farmers of Sheragada and Hinjilicut Block at Sheragada Block Office Ground and discussed with them the additional irrigation facilities that have been undertaken in

both blocks to augment the income of the farmers and prevent distress migration. He informed the farmers that an additional 12,000 Ac of land will be irrigated for 186.5 acres for 65 Nos of Irrigation projects covering 21 GPs in Sheragada Block. These projects will benefit 10,000 farmers taking the area under irrigation from 60 to 90% in Sheragada Block. Similarly, 1535 Ac will be further brought under irrigation for 20.45 Crs for 37 Nos of projects covering 14 GPs in Hinjilicut Block. These projects will benefit 2000 farmers taking the area under irrigation to 99.50% in Hinjilicut Block.

Parliament Security Breach Accused Mahesh Kumawat Arrested



New Delhi(KCN): Delhi police today made the sixth arrest in the Parliament security breach case where two men jumped into the House and released coloured smoke. Mahesh Kumawat was taken into custody today for allegedly helping the 'mastermind' Lalit Jha escape from Delhi.

Sources said police are likely to seek the Parliament's permission to recreate the December 13 incident that unfolded on the anniversary of the 2001 attack on it.

Lalit Jha, who hails from West Bengal, was sent to

seven-day police custody on Friday after his arrest last night. Police claimed in the Patiala House court that he admitted that the accused met many times to hatch the conspiracy to breach Parliament security. Besides, he was also required to be interrogated to ascertain whether the accused had association with any enemy country or terrorist organisation, police said.

UNION MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS, SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW CONFERS 'ATI VISHISHT RAIL SEVA PURASKAR'



Kolkata(KCN): The Union Minister of Railways and heads of Production Units of Railways and PSUs of Railways were present on the occasion. Eastern Railway bagged the Best Workshop (Rolling Stock) Shield for Liluah Workshop on the occasion of the 68th Railway Week Central Function - Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar-2023, organized at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on 15.12.2023. Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Union Minister for Railways handed over the coveted Best Workshop (Rolling Stock) Shield to Shri Amar Prakash Dwivedi, General Manager / Eastern Railway. Shri Yatish Kumar, Chief Workshop Manager / Liluah was also present on the occasion. Besides Eastern Railway awarded with Best Workshop (Rolling Stock) Shield for Liluah

Workshop, two employees Eastern Railway viz Shri Kartik Singh, Senior Divisional Engineer and Shri Aman Anand, Loco Pilot (Passenger) were also awarded by Hon'ble Railway Minister for their exemplary contribution and dedicated service.

Addressing the gathering after conferring the awards, the Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw congratulated the awardees for their exceptional work and effort. He said the transformation work is going on at full pace in Railways under the

leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He said "More electrification has been done in 9.5 years than in the past 40 years.. Lack of Investment, which was the biggest problem for railways, is now a thing of the past." The Union Minister asserted that "People's

expectations with the railways is being fulfilled now. Hon'ble PM often says this is the golden period of railways and you all are the strength behind this. This commitment of all railway employees makes everyone feel proud that we are all doing this for our nation. Railway infrastructure is being developed at record speed and scale. Several new things are happening which is helping achieve a strategic goal."

Talking about the massive potential savings in logistics costs, Shri Vaishnaw said "Such transportation, if done by road, involves higher costs along with fuel cost. As per an estimate, there will be 3000 Million tonnes of new cargo, and if railway gets half of it then it will potentially save 16,000 crore litre of fuel and Rs. 1,28,000 crore will be saved through this which will

be a big achievement and saving for the nation." Elaborating on the economic growth of the nation, the Union Minister said that in 2014, India was on 10th spot in global economies while in 2004, India was already in the 10th spot and therefore, it was a lost decade. Now, India is at the 5th place and in the coming years, under the leadership and vision of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, India will soon achieve the 3rd position.

Shri Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Railway Minister further added "We should all change the colonial mindset and by 2027 we will become one of the top three. Railways will play a vital role in India's growth journey. We are saving huge amounts in logistics costs alone. We are all lucky that we have our Prime Minister who is so emotionally attached with railways.

Awareness and Discerning interactions in Cyber space are weapons to fight evolving Cyber-terrorist

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): A conclave on "Cyber-terrorism and Data Siege" was organised by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Kolkata on 15th December 2023.

The conclave focused on fundamentals of cyber security, governance and raising awareness about cyber crimes. Informative sessions on topics such as Data Protection, Operation Technology (OT) Security and incident response was organised during the conclave.

Mr. Hari Kishore Kusumakar, IPS, ADG & IGP-Cyber Cell, West Bengal Police; Mr. Sanjay Kumar Das, WBCS (Exec.), Additional Secretary, IT Department & State Information, Security Officer, Government of West Bengal; Ms. Manosh Roychowdhury, Co-Chairperson, Techno India Group; and Mr. Alok Chattopadhyay,

Deputy Director & Advisor, ICC attended the conclave and deliberated on various aspects of Cyber Security. A large no. of Cyber security experts and IT professionals attended the conclave.

Cyber crime is continuously evolving in cyber space with development new technologies at a fast space.

Collective efforts of all stakeholders in Information Technology industry including Government, end users/ consumers can facilitate minimising cyber crime. Government needs to strengthen cyber security legal frameworks as well as create Infrastructures to implement cyber laws in effective manner.

Today, India is facing shortage of trained manpower to fight cyber crime. Government in collaboration with various educational institutions including institutions of higher learning need train and



develop quality human resources to train and develop professionals for policing & to fight cyber crime at different levels in upcoming times.

Continuous and sustained Awareness program on various evolving cyber crime need to be conducted through various media. Since cyber technology has made in road in early stages of learning in development of education from preteen stages, sensitization on

cyber crime need to be started as a part of learning experience from early stages of learning. Awareness will facilitate as well as will empower every individual irrespective of age to take discerning decisions from early stages of life. Ms. Manosh Roychowdhury, Co-Chairperson, Techno India Group, said, "Our educational institution plays a pivotal role in propagating awareness about cybersecurity and

its impact amongst the students. In the era of digital media, we are becoming increasingly dependent on the internet..... We must understand that the impact of an attack on any educational institution is an attack on society. It must be our collective effort to safeguard ourselves from malicious damage. In order to face these challenges, educational institutions must deploy state-of-the-art cyber security measures.

requirement." Mr. Sanjay Kumar Das said, "Cybersecurity and cyberterrorism are two distinctive concepts faced by today's society. Knowingly or unknowingly, we face such threats. Cyber terrorism is far and beyond cybersecurity. Cyber terrorism is a force that we need to withstand.... Cyber threat or terrorism can be fought with deep-skilling. It is high time we must skill ourselves.... The 2013 strategy on cybersecurity talks about the need for best practices.... Vulnerability creeps in at any moment. It is time we think about securing our data. West Bengal is coming up with Security Operations Centres (SOC) and Network Operations Centres (NOC) to safeguard data. There are a lot of opportunities in this field. We are collaborating with universities too." Mr. Hari Kishore Kusumakar, IPS, ADG & IGP-Cyber Cell, West Bengal Police, said, "Many people don't know about the nitty gritties of cyber terrorism and data siege. We are still in the evolution stage. Cops always face the dilemma of finding digital links to prove a case in the court. Currently, there is one cybersecurity cell in every police station. However, we need to equip ourselves in a better manner. We are expanding our pre-emptive measures on the digital front. Deep Fake and AI generated voice is a rising challenge for us as it has become easy to create and superimpose faces and voices. Moreover, our reliance on the web for information poses challenges too. Any information taken from the net needs to be verified as the virtual world is boundaryless. Awareness therefore is the best way forward."

NIT Warangal inks MoU with CSIR-IIMT



Hanumakonda, Dec 16 (KCN): National Institute of Technology (NIT) Warangal inked a

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Institute of Minerals and Materials

Technology (IMMT) Bhubaneswar. Speaking on the occasion, Director of NIT Warangal Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, and Director, CSIR-IIMT Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Bhubaneswar signed and exchanged the MoUs.

3.87 Cr Gets Free Rice

Bhubaneswar (KCN): About 3.87 crore people in Odisha are now being provided free rice. It is being distributed under the food security schemes of both the Union and State Governments. Apart from this, some other schemes also provide free rice.

The National Food Security Act was enacted in 2013 during the UPA government. At that time, the Central Government used to procure rice and wheat and supply it to the states at just Rs. 3 per kg. For this, the central government had to bear Rs 28 to 30 per kg.

When rice and wheat reached the state, the State Government used to provide the popular rice by paying a subsidy of Rs. 2 per kilo on it. The Centre is no longer giving wheat to Odisha on the basis of the National Food Security Act ever since it was asked to stop wheat and replace it with rice even though it was available at the same rate.

In March, the State Government estimated that 3,76,59,648 beneficiaries were getting rice worth Rs 1,000 under the National Food Security Act. In the



meantime, after the Central Government announced to provide rice to the beneficiaries completely free of cost, now rice is available free of cost instead of rupees. About 81 crore 35 lakh people will get free rice and wheat for the next five years by making 5 kg per head under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana across the country. The central government will spend at least Rs 11,80,000 crore from the exchequer in this regard. It is worth mentioning here that the population of the country is estimated to be around 4.5 crore, out of which about 387 lakh people are being



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Saurabh Shukla-Directorial Dry Day Is The Comedy Drama You Need To See - Here's How You Can Watch It

Jitendra Kumar-starrer 'Dry Day' is a powerful and emotional story that delves into the complexities of addiction, love, and the extent of a man's sacrifices for his family. Directed by Saurabh Shukla, and produced by Monisha Advani, Madhu Bhojwani, and Nikhil Advani, under the banner of Emmay Entertainment, the comedy drama features Jitendra Kumar, Shriya Pilgaonkar, and Annu Kapoor in pivotal roles. The film is set to premiere exclusively on Prime Video in India and across more than 240 countries and territories

worldwide on December 22. Dry Day is the latest addition to the Prime membership. Prime members in India enjoy savings, convenience, and entertainment, all in a single membership for just ₹1499/year. Dry Day is a story of an imperfect hero who challenges societal conventions, rebelling against norms out of love for his unborn child. The trailer of this comedy drama features Jitendra Kumar, Shriya Pilgaonkar, and Annu Kapoor in pivotal roles. Dry Day intricately explores the societal impact of alcoholism, presenting a thought-provoking narrative rooted in social relevance.

Speaking about the film, Director Saurabh Shukla



said, "The movie is a social satire presented with a hilarious tragic-comedy of errors with lots of drama and emotions. Dry Day gives an important and relevant message about alcoholism and I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to craft this film, aiming to entertain

and enlighten the audiences. It brings me immense joy to partner with streaming service Prime Video, Emmay Entertainment, and a talented bunch of actors, collectively breathing life into a compelling and beautiful narrative."

"Dry Day is a captivating blend of comedy and drama, offering a

rollercoaster of emotions," shares actor Jitendra Kumar. "It was an exhilarating experience playing the character of Gannu the movie. Getting into the skin of this intriguing character was like adding a new skill to my toolbox. The character's struggle of defying all odds in pursuit of trust adds depth to the narrative of the film. I'm excited for audiences to witness this unique journey on screen. The film's fusion of heartwarming moments and compelling storytelling is something I can't wait for people to experience and appreciate."

Jee Le Zaraa: Real reason behind Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt starrer's delay revealed and it's not date issues

Jee Le Zaraa is one of the most talked about movies starring Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt. The movie was announced a couple of years ago and there has been much excitement around the same as it is. Farhan Akhtar along with Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti are making this all-female road

trip movie happen but there have been a lot of hiccups already. Whether Jee Le Zaraa is being shelved or not, has Priyanka Chopra said no

to the script, etc. have grabbed headlines in the last couple of days. But fresh reports revealing the real reason for the delay have surfaced. A lot of fans have questioned Farhan Akhtar about the delay of Jee Le Zaraa which is supposed to star Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt in the lead. There have been numerous reasons that have surfaced for the delay in making of the new movie. Recently, reports surfaced talking about Priyanka Chopra opting out of Jee Le Zaraa because she did not like the script. She was supposed to come down to India during Parineeti Chopra's wedding and sign the contract which did not happen. But that's not the case, as per a report in Koimoi.com, Priyanka is very much a part of the movie. She has not opted out of the project nor has she said 'no' to the script

Sushmita Sen says her father was 'not happy' about her wearing a swimsuit at pageant, stopped speaking with her because she decided to pursue showbiz

Sushmita Sen created history when she became the first Indian to win the Miss Universe pageant back in 1994. While Sushmita has always spoken about how supportive her family was, in a recent interview, she opened up about how her father did not speak to her when he learnt that she would be participating in Miss India. Even when she had to wear a swimsuit for one of the rounds in the pageant, her father was quite upset about it.

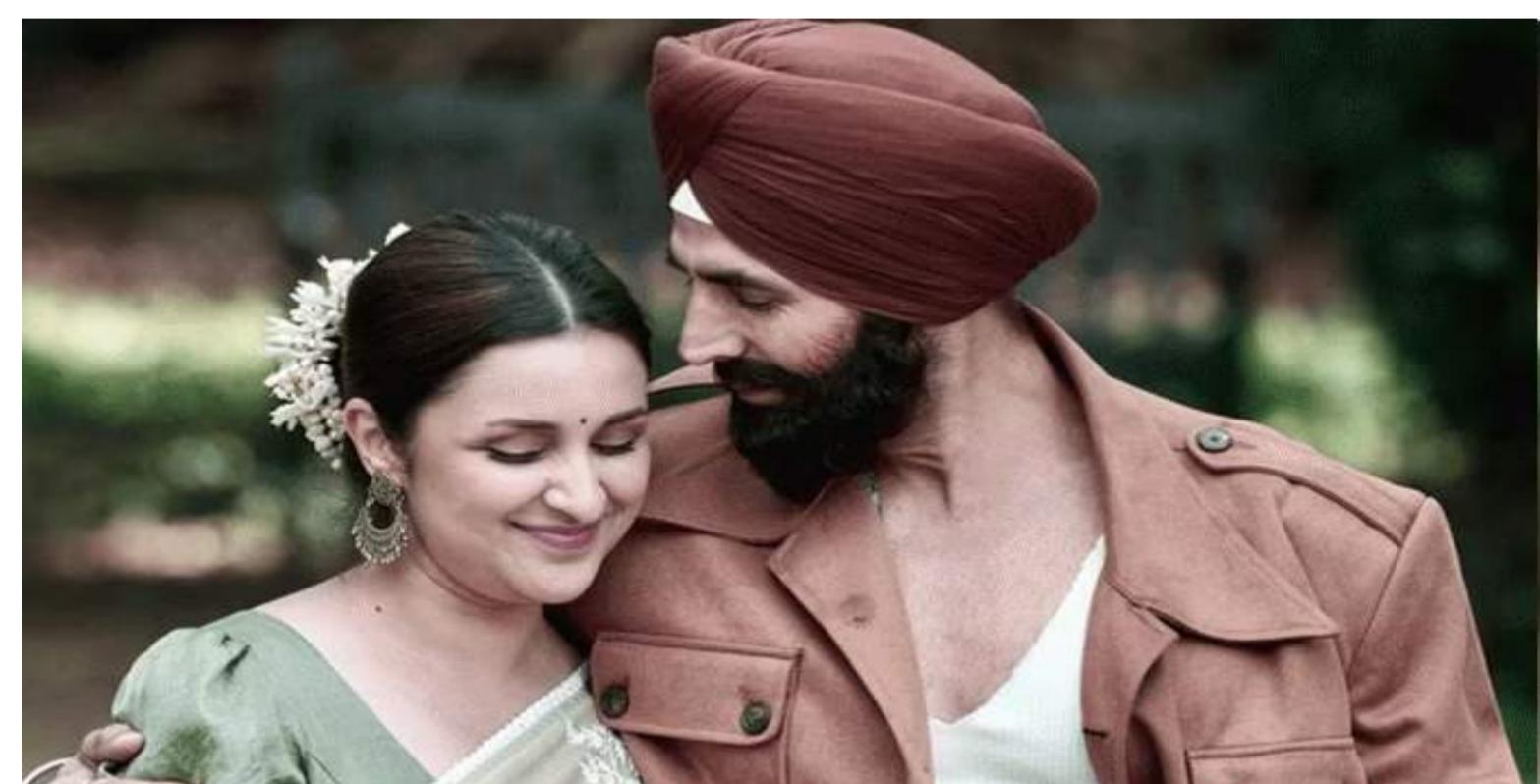
Talking to Mid-Day, Sushmita said that she was all of 18 when her life changed, and at that point, her father wanted her to be an IAS officer. "My father wanted me to be an IAS officer, so

I was studying accordingly. When the bomb was dropped on my father that she is going to Miss India, my father didn't speak to me for a bit," she said. Sushmita said that when she entered the world of pageants, her father was quite concerned as she had not even finished her graduation at that point. "I never went to a college and graduate,

which was a big problem for my father because he always said, 'Beta, do whatever, just have a degree,'" she recalled. Recalling the time she had an "emotional moment" with her father, Sushmita shared that he wasn't too happy about the fact that she would be wearing a swimsuit on stage. "I remember having this very emotional moment with my father when I

promised him, I said 'Baba, I have to wear a swimsuit, it is a part of the show. I cannot not wear it but I promise you I will add respect to it. It won't be crass.' He was not very happy with that, but when I won Miss India and I told my father that I will represent my country, that, for my father, being a defence person, he had balled his lungs out," she recalled. In 1994, the Miss Universe pageant was held in Manila, The Philippines, and while her mother and brother had traveled with her, her father was in India and watched the show on television. Sushmita Sen said that he watched the delayed broadcast with the rest of the country.

Mission Raniganj: Akshay Kumar, Parineeti Chopra's Romantic New Poster Released



Akshay Kumar's 'Mission Raniganj: The Great Bharat Rescue' is all set to arrive in theatres this week. The film, a survival drama, is one of the highly anticipated films to come out this year. It is based on a true event that occurred at West Bengal's Raniganj in 1989 when almost 65 workers found themselves trapped inside a coal mine. The heroic engineer - the late Jaswant Singh Gill played a vital role in rescuing the trapped miners from the mine. While the film is only 4 days away from its release, Akshay Kumar took to his X handle to share a new poster showing the romantic side of his character Jaswant Gill. Actress Parineeti Chopra plays his love interest in the film. In the poster, Akshay looks dapper in khakhee pants, brown jacket and a turban with his arm around Parineeti's shoulder. The actress is seen dressed in a pastel green saree with a shy expression on her face. "There's nothing more #Keemti than love @ParineetiChopra,

here's a gift for your special day, coming tomorrow! Watch the story of Bharat's true hero with #MissionRaniganj in cinemas on 6th October," Akshay wrote sharing the still. The makers, Pooja Entertainment also shared a powerful poster of the film that featured an ensemble cast including Parineeti Chopra, Kumud Mishra, Pavan Malhotra, Dibyendu

Bhattacharya, Rajesh Sharma, Virendra Saxena and Shishir Sharma with the lead actor Akshay Kumar. The makers of 'Mission Raniganj' dropped the film trailer recently. Akshay, who is seen playing the late IIT Dhanbad engineer Jaswant Singh Gill, is seen racing against time to rescue the miners trapped in the coal mine is the highlight of the film.

The 'Khiladi' actor once again proved that no one can showcase a real-life story better than him on the big screen. The trailer also highlights Jaswant

Gill's innovative rescue technique, which is being used for the first time ever. ?The trailer also shows Parineeti Chopra in the role of Gill's wife. The immensely talented supporting cast features Kumud Mishra, Rajesh Sharma, Pavan Malhotra, and Ravi Kishan. All in all, the film promises to have impactful and poignant performances by an ensemble and talented

cast. Vashu Bhagnani Presents, A Pooja Entertainment Production - 'Mission Raniganj' has been produced by the powerhouse team of Vashu Bhagnani, Jackky Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, and Ajay Kapoor, and directed by Tinu Suresh Desai. This cinematic marvel is set to hit theaters on October 6, 2023.

My Kaziranga Tale



My narration of the story of Bipul Mahanta, my friend, brother of Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, former Chief Minister of Assam, has nothing to do with Bipul as a person. I have experienced rising of the family members of Ministers, Politicians and Bureaucrats to top positions in Government Organisations including NBT and Sahitya Akademi, but Bipul was a difference. He applied for the post of Assistant Editor in NBT and was offered the post of an Editorial Assistant.

Alas, his brother moved towards Numaligarh. It came to my mind that we should inform the Caretaker that we will reach late and will take dinner, for Aiyusman had already frightened us by saying that we can't get anything to eat outside after 8 pm....our only resort is the Numaligarh Refinery Guest House. I telephoned the Caretaker of the Guest House. But the response I got frightened me more...the gentleman at the other end replied that he has to find out from the register if we have confirmed booking as our names could not be located, instead there were two rooms booked for the night. And, the night was fast approaching. We started

Prof. MANAS RANJAN MAHAPATRA

joking... Sir, if we reach and find that we don't have reservation, we may have to spend the night with Rhinos as Kaziranga is next door.

It took us half an hour to cross Kaziranga, so huge ! Aiyusman informed that Kaziranga has opened just two days back. We did not have a booking, else we could have stayed therewith Rhinos as Aiyusman wanted. We reached Numaligarh.

My anxiety was

over when I found that there are rooms booked for us. Satish and I relaxed over a glass of whisky and we went to dine. We were tired, soon deep sleep embraced us.

I got early in the morning, so

fresh. The friend in the kitchen provided a cup of black tea and I walked out to discover Numaligarh. What I discovered was fabulous. Numoli Kunwori (Numali Kumari) was the daughter of Cachari King after the name of whom Numaligarh has been named. It was a fort and the fort has 3 stories, all revolving around Numoli Kunwori. The first story is, Numoli Kunwori was the princess of Cachar kingdom. The king was old and ailing. There were a lot of enemies around. Suddenly the king died. But, Numoli did not disclose it outside and ascended throne. People came to know about it and started accusing her that she did not allow them to pay their

last respect to their beloved king. It created a lot of repentance in the mind of Numoli as she kept the news of her father's death secret. Moved by her own repentance and emotion, she jumped to the river and committed suicide.

The second story is

equally tragic. Numoli Kunwori, princess of Cachar Kingdom grew up and took charge of the Kingdom from her father. She was a brilliant administrator but failed in love with a Commoner. Those days royal people were not allowed to marry commoners. Failing to maintain a balance between own love with a commoner and the responsibility as a ruler, she jumped to the river and committed suicide. Time was getting ripe to prepare to proceed to Dimapur. I saw a small river 'Kalyani' flowing nearby. Numaligarh Refinery has 3 Guest Houses, Doyang, Dhanshiri and River View, the third one at the bank of the river. The caretaker is a youth

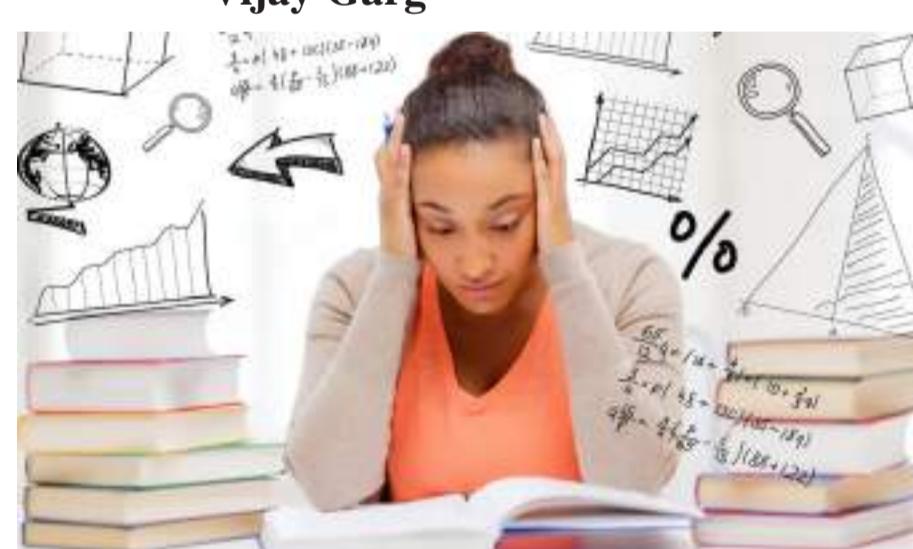
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Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

The stress on the students started to increase due to the announcement of CBSE, ICSE and state board exam Dates.



The announcement of the dates of CBSE, ICSE and State Board examinations in December must have given sleepless nights to many candidates. Of course, many such efforts have been made by the government so that the stress level among the candidates remains minimal, but the fear of failure and the pressure of scoring more marks can trouble the children. Parents also see their children's exam



results as linked to 'brain', so to keep it well, it is necessary to improve the daily routine along with intake of adequate nutrients. During times of stress, the secretion of 'adrenaline' also increases, due to which our heart beat increases and the muscles become tense. An easy way to handle this is to control your breathing. For this, '4-7-8 technique' of pranayama can be practiced. This involves inhaling your breath for four counts, then holding it for seven counts and slowly releasing it for the next eight counts. Action should be taken. Due to this, the heartbeat becomes normal and the stress of the body

starts reducing. The possibility of children having irregular eating habits also increases during examination time. But 'good bacteria' is necessary to maintain proper digestion. For this, many 'probiotics' are available in the market, but a good option at home is to consume sugar candy with fresh curd or fresh butter. Today, dependence on mobile and internet is also a factor in increasing children's daily routine. Now that these things have become mandatory, it is important for children to limit 'screen time'. It is important to increase physical activities. To maintain the balance of a healthy body and a healthy mind, we should remember four pillars - First, exercise for at least 40 minutes. Due to this, 'happy hormone' is secreted. According to the

spiritual units. Just one examination is not the ultimate goal of our life, hence our life does not depend on success or failure in it. The good thing is that CBSE Board has made many changes this time. Since the exam pattern has been made such that 70 percent of the questions will be from practical aspects, it is expected that the children will rise above the mentality of rote learning and study the subjects. Will try to understand the practical aspects of. This will also increase their skill and efficiency.

**Retired Principal
Educational Columnist Malout Punjab**

President to be Present at 69th Convocation of IIT Kharagpur

Kolkata, (KCN): IIT Kharagpur gears up to celebrate its 69th Convocation on December 18, 2023. Smt. Droupadi Murmu, the President of India will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr. C V Ananda Bose, the Governor of West Bengal and Shri T. V. Narendran, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Kharagpur will also be present at the occasion. This year IIT Kharagpur is proud to bestow the

D.Sc Honoris Causa to Mahamahopadhyaya Bhadreshdas Swami, Shri Sundar Pichai, Shri Ravinder Nath Khanna and Shri. Ajit Jain. The Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 will be bestowed upon Prof. Ramchandra Prabhakar Gokarn. Eight Life Fellow Awardees of the Institute including Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat; Prof. Ravikumar Bhaskaran; Prof. Prem Vrat; Dr. Samir V Kamat; Shri 'Kris'

Gopalakrishnan; Dr. V Narayanan; Dr. Sreedhara Panicker Somanath and Dr. Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe will be awarded along with 24 distinguished alumni of the Institute. Nine students will be awarded the Institute gold medals in their respective field of study and 26 institute silver medals will be awarded to M.Tech, MCP, MBA, EMBA, LLM, and MHRM.

SER BAGS ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SHIELD AND 10 OUTSTANDING SER EMPLOYEES AWARDED WITH ATI VISHISHT RAIL SEVA PURASKAR - 2023



Kolkata, (KCN): The 68th Railway Week Central Function – Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar-2023 was organised at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on Friday (December 15, 2023). Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, the Union Minister for Railways presented the Awards to Railway personnel for their outstanding services and Shields to the Zonal Railways & PSUs for best performance in the particular field. South Eastern Railway (SER) bagged the Electrical Engineering Shield. Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager and Shri Naveen Kumar,

Principal Chief Electrical Engineer received the Shield on behalf of South Eastern Railway. Ten employees of SER were also awarded for their exemplary contribution and dedicated service. They are, Shri Satyajit Mondal, Sportsperson, Shri Ronald W A Braggs, Chief Commercial Inspector, Shri Samarendra Tapna, Chief Commercial Inspector, Ms. Shalini, Technician Grade-II/Mechanical/C & W, Shri Manuj Kumar, Head Constable/RPF, Shri Anoop Lal Rajak, Assistant Sub Inspector/RPF, Shri Narhari Das, Loco Pilot, Shri Arvind

Pradeep S, Divisional Operations Manager, Md Pyar Ali, Sr. Section Engineer/TM and Shri Surendra Kumar Singh, Assistant Signal & Telecommunication Engineer (Project). Altogether, 100 Railway Employees from all over the country were awarded and 21 Shields were presented to Zonal Railways & PSUs. Chairman and CEO, Railway Board and Members of Railway Board, General Managers of all Zonal Railways and heads of Production Units of Railways and PSUs of Railways were also present on the occasion.

Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan participates in virtual inauguration of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra



Medchal, Dec 16 (KCN): Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan took part in virtual inauguration of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a nationwide initiative flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the MPDO Office in Bommaraspeta, Medchal Malkajgiri District on Saturday. Governor Dr. Tamilisai expressed deep gratitude to the Prime Minister's visionary leadership and commitment to public welfare through various flagship schemes. She

emphasized the importance of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in accelerating the saturation of the schemes and ensuring timely delivery of benefits to all eligible beneficiaries in Telangana. The event featured the solemn administration of a pledge for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, followed by inspiring testimonies from successful beneficiaries who shared their personal experiences of transformation under various government

Employability Skills Training Programme concludes at Govt. Pingle College



Hanamkonda, Dec 16 (KCN):

Six-day Employability Skills Training programme organized by the Telangana Skills and Knowledge Centre (TSKC) of Govt. Pingle College for Women (Autonomous) in collaboration with the NAANDI Mahindra

Pride Employability Skills Training for the final year undergraduate students concluded on Saturday, according to TSKC Coordinator Dr S. Kavitha and TSKC Mentor Mohammad Rafi. Speaking on the occasion, Principal and member of the Executive Council of Kakatiya

University Prof. B. Chandramouli advised the students to learn communication skills and technical skills to face the challenges in the competitive world. Mahindra Pride Trainers Shivarajan Reddy and Dasharath Ram Reddy imparted training to two batches of students

simultaneously for six days. 118 students attended the programme. Some of the topics covered during the training are Professional Grooming and Body Language, Communication Skills, Goal-setting, Interview Preparation, Group Discussion, Professional Ethics, Critical

Thinking, Project Presentation, Digital Identity, Problem Solving and Money Management. Vice Principal Dr. G. Suhasini, Controller of Examinations Dr. D. Ramakrishna Reddy, Academic Coordinator Dr. D. Parvathi, Dr. Shabeen Fatima, T. Aruna and students were also present.

INDIAN ARMY ORGANISES ESM RALLY TO HONOUR VETERANS AT KUPWARA KASHMIR

Srinagar, (Aasif Malik):

In a remarkable show of gratitude and solidarity, Vajr Division Kupwara of the Indian Army, hosted a stirring Ex-Servicemen (ESM) rally at Kupwara Zangli Garrison on 16 Dec 2023.

The rally was attended by more than 300 ex-servicemen, Veer Naris, War Widows and their dependents from Kupwara District gathered at the event. This rally served as a tribute to the valiant soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice during the 1971 Indo Pak War. The rally was held on the occasion of Vijay Diwas reflecting its focus on connecting with veterans and their families and addressing their various needs and concerns. Major General Girish Kalia, VSM General

Officer Commanding Vajr Division personally interacted with the Veer Naris (war widows), Ex-Servicemen, and their dependents, underscoring the Indian Army's unwavering support and commitment to their well-being. The GOC emphasized the Army's goal of delivering quality healthcare, dignity, and effective problem-solving for Veer Naris, Veer Mats, and Veterans alike.

At the event, a multitude of facilitation stalls were set up, offering services such as assistance with pensions, documentation, banking, welfare schemes, medical benefits, and Aadhar cards. Several notable agencies participated, including Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme, helpline, Record Offices, and leading banks like State Bank of India, J&K Bank, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank alongside representatives from the civil administration and District police Kupwara. The rally served as a vital platform for veterans and their families to engage directly with both military and civil authorities, resolving long-standing issues and grievances. The Indian Army reiterated its commitment to ensuring the utmost care and support for the extended family of veterans,

pledging to address their needs promptly and compassionately.

The ESM rally was the culmination of an extensive effort by Indian Army's Vajr Division which diligently interacted with veterans to create a comprehensive database of grievances. This data facilitated swift and efficient resolutions through multiple agencies during the rally, showcasing the Indian Army's commitment to recognizing and honouring its veterans, fallen heroes, and their families for their unwavering loyalty and selfless service to the Nation. The event concluded on a note of profound gratitude, with all attendees reassured that the nation and the Indian Army would forever remain indebted to their immense contributions.

Inaugural of Industry Outreach as part of R&D Conclave

Warangal (KCN): As part of the R&D conclave, the industry outreach is organized today to discuss on bridging the gap between industry and academia. The inaugural of the program was conducted in Bose Hall of Seminar Halls Complex, NIT Warangal.

After lighting the lamp, Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi welcomed the industry leaders and academicians. He said it is need of the hour to research in the areas where industries or society see opportunities. He said all our institutions should start developing ideas that can be startups solving societal issues.

Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Director, CSIR-IMMT, Bhubaneswar spoke on the importance of retaining our talent. He said most of the students are dreaming about going to America forgetting that Telangana, Andhra Pradesh are not less than America. He said "Companies like Google, Microsoft and others

have CEOs from India. We should understand where we are lacking and what should be done to retain our engineers. We are publishing thousands of patents but not even 2% of them are converted into action".

Dr. S. Glory Swarupa, Director General, nimsme stressed on unemployment - one of the most important issue that the country is facing. She said this issue can be addressed if we start thinking about creating opportunities through entrepreneurship. She urged all the NITs to work in the direction of creating companies. She said, "One district one product should be the mission and we should keenly work on this ideology".

Dr. J. R. Joshi, Project Director, DRDL presented an overview of research in other countries. He said according to May 2023, there are 99,000 startups in 670 districts in India. He said "We need to develop our research ideas that can help industries". He further said "Center of Excellences have to be created in NITs and NITs should work in collaboration with industries in solving world class problems". MoU signed between CSIR-IIIMT and NIT Warangal. Later at the inaugural, NIT Warangal inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT) Bhubaneswar. The MoU helps in collaborative work within both the institutions to strengthen research and consulting. As per the MoU, both the institutions will share research facilities, develop joint research proposals for external funding, joint PhD and M.Tech guidance. Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director, NIT Warangal and Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Director, CSIR-IIIMT, Bhubaneswar signed and exchanged the MoUs. Stalls set up at V. R. Shastry Innovation and Incubation Center. As part of the Industry Outreach, stalls were set up at V. R. Shastry Innovation and Incubation Center. Around 20 industries, 20 NITs have set up stalls and the delegates explained the research activities and initiatives in their organizations. This set up helped NIT Warangal and other NITs understand the best

Sounding the Alarm: Olive Ridley Turtles' Haven in Peril Without Coast Guard Vigilance

Bhubaneswar (KCN): In a distressing turn of events, the vital nesting site for endangered Olive Ridley turtles, situated at the Devi river mouth, is facing significant challenges due to the glaring absence of maritime and Coast Guard patrols. Despite the annual endeavors by the Odisha government to safeguard these marine ambassadors during their crucial meeting and mating season, a lack of coordination and illegal activities continue to jeopardize the turtles' safe nesting and breeding process.

Every year, as November unfolds, Olive Ridley turtles embark on a remarkable journey spanning thousands of miles to the Gahirmatha area of Kendrapara district, the Rushikulya estuary of Ganjam district, and the Astarang Wildlife forest range at the Devi river mouth under Puri district. However, since 1997, a compromised security system has allowed illegal trawlers to exploit this area, resulting in untimely turtle deaths and disruption of the mating and breeding process.

Alarming reports suggest negligence from Astarang wildlife forest range officials in sea patrolling, raising concerns about their cooperation with trawler owners involved in illegal activities. Despite the Odisha government's substantial financial investment in protecting these endangered species, allegations of malfeasance among



some forest officials cast a shadow over the effectiveness of conservation efforts. In response, Puri wildlife division officer P. Ramaswamy has taken steps, deploying two patrolling boats and forming a dedicated turtle squad of 10 individuals. However, the continued absence of noticeable Coast Guard patrols, even after a month and a half, is causing heightened concern among local environmental workers. Environmental activists

stress the pivotal role of involving the Coast Guard at the grassroots level to effectively curb illegal activities. They underscore the necessity for practical cooperation, extending beyond coordination meetings, to secure the well-being of Olive Ridley turtles. Puri wildlife divisional officer Mr. Ramaswamy asserts his commitment to stringent action, emphasizing the urgent need to address this critical threat to marine life.

Prep For Co-op Week

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The State Government has decided to celebrate the 70th All India Cooperative Week 2023 throughout the State from November 14 to 20 on a larger scale. This was decided at a preparatory committee held under the chairmanship of Cooperation Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak here today.

The meeting held at Lok Seva Bhawan was attended by Co-operation Secretary Arvind Agrawal, Special Secretary Satish Kumar Mishra, Registrar of Co-operative Societies Uddhav Charan Majhi, State Co-operative Bank President T Prasad Dora, Co-operative Union President Prabashini Sarangi, Joint Secretary Sangram Keshari Rout and other department officials.

The celebrations provide an opportunity for Cooperatives to highlight their success



stories, project their achievements and chalk out a future action plan which will provide a direction to the growth of the Cooperative movement. A detailed discussion about the celebration of the Cooperative Week was held during the meeting.

Co-operative societies are playing an important role in strengthening the economy of the State and also country as well as the livelihood of farmers and small traders. There is a need to further expand the cooperative movement,

said Nayak. Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the Odisha Government is committed to building a "New Odisha, Strong Odisha", he said. The Minister said Odisha has topped many agriculturally advanced States in the country and has achieved a unique success rate of 100% in its agricultural market under all RMCs. Therefore, with the aim of spreading the message of cooperatives to every household and involving

5T Empowers Urban Zones

Bhubaneswar (KCN): In a bid to streamline urban planning services in the State under 5T framework, the Government has initiated a series of transformative measures in the recent times. The latest being a reform in the institutional setup which is intended to augment the capacity of the Development Authorities.

G Mathivathanan, Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development is spearheading 5T



Initiatives in Urban Sector. In all the Municipal Corporations except Bhubaneswar, the Commissioners have been designated as the

Vice-Chairpersons. This will not only add to the strength of the Development Authorities by bringing in decision making closer to the local senior functionaries, it will also fast-track delivery of town planning services to the citizens in a time-bound manner.

The alignment of the Municipal Corporations and the Planning Authorities will improve the efficacy of the institutions by optimization of the resources.

Notifications have been issued by Government in H&UD Department in respect of Sambalpur Development Authority and Rourkela Development Authority today. The government has already migrated to a state-of-the-art and modern online platform-SUJOG for delivery of hassle-free municipal services including Building Plan Approval. These progressive initiatives are expected to bring the urban Governance closer to the people and enhance the quality of service.

Kalahandi Foundation Day: CM Naveen Inaugurates Saheed Rendo Majhi Medical College

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated the newly built Rendo Majhi Medical College in Bhawanipatna and flagged off the most ambitious Laxmi Bus Service. The Chief Minister also inaugurated and laid foundation stones of various developmental projects worth more than Rs 1200 crore. The college has

100 MBBS seats while the National Medical Commission has granted permission for admissions.

The facility has been named after the legendary freedom fighter from the district, Rendo Majhi. Kalahandi MP Basanta Panda, Health Minister Niranjan Pujari and 5T Chairman VK Pandian were present at the



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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times in a year. By expanding of our test center

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is

the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves – truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

Berhampur, September 2023: TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) is fully prepared to ensure a seamless and uninterrupted power supply during the forthcoming festive season. As part of our commitment to safety, TPSODL has undertaken several initiatives and released essential guidelines for temporary structures and pandals.

To ensure safety and reliability, TPSODL strongly advises obtaining temporary connections from our authorities for any temporary pandals and

TPSODL
TP SOUTHERN ODISHA
DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Tata Power and Government of Odisha)

shops erected during the festive season.

In our pursuit of uninterrupted power supply, TPSODL has deployed dedicated teams from the Fuse Call Centre (FCC) to monitor and maintain seamless electricity

provision at all pandals. These teams will also vigilantly ensure that there is no unauthorized hooking or access to TPSODL lines, guaranteeing a festive filled with uninterrupted joy. TPSODL's 24x7 Call Centre, in conjunction with

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers – Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO – which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples – Bhubaneswar – celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group – from the small Odisha town of Berhampur – widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' – The Journey of a Young Woman – the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves – truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

or visit the nearest Fuse Call Centre/office.

Mr. Amit Garg, Chief Executive Officer of TP Southern Odisha Distribution Ltd, stated, "We are fully prepared and committed to providing uninterrupted power supply to all pandals during this auspicious festive season. We urge the public to seek proper electricity connections and adhere to all safety measures. In the event of any emergency, please reach out to our toll-free helpline number." TPSODL wishes everyone a safe, joyous, and electrifying festive season.

Odisha Startup Yatra a hit among student community, received more than 500 ideas in just 5 days

Odisha Startup Yatra and Xpress to cover three coastal districts from September 18th onwards



Bhubaneswar: Odisha

Startup Xpress, a flagship initiative of the Government of Odisha to nurture entrepreneurial mindset in the state at grassroots level, has received and collected more than 540 Ideas in just 5 days, with participation from 5618 students across 47 colleges and 12 schools. Today, the Startup Vans visited 8 colleges and 2 schools of Cuttack and received 72 ideas with participation from 858 students.

In silvercity of the

state, Cuttack – the

Yatra covered Eight

educational institutes

namely Ajay Binay

Institute of

Technology (ABIT),

Ravenshaw

University, Shaila

Bala Women's

university, Udayanath

Autonomous College

of Sc. & Tech, Govt

ITI Cuttack, DRIEMS

College, Ganpati

Institute of

Engineering and

Technology(Polytechnic)

& Madhusudan Law

University. Whereas

Startup Xpress visited

Cambridge School a

in and

BidanasiMunicipality

High school.

Odisha Startup Yatra

& Xpress, taking its

journey forward will

tour three coastal

districts namely

Kendrapara,

Jagatsinghpur and

Puri from September

18 (Monday) to foster

entrepreneurship and

innovation at district

level.

After successful

completion of

Khordha and Cuttack

tour, this program is

now set to engage with

students and startups

in three coastal

districts.

During this tour

Odisha Startup Yatra

& Xpress will cover

four colleges and one

school of Puri namely

XIM University(Puri),

SCS Autonomous

College, Government

ITI, College of

Engineering and

Pharmaceutical

Sciences and St

Xavier High School

respectively. In

Kendrapara,district

the vans will visit

Kendrapara

Autonomous College

and St Joseph's

School, whereas in

Jagatsinghpur district

it will visit

Suddhananda

Vidyalaya, SVM

Autonomous College

and Paradeep College.

After remarkable

achievements in the

past edition, this year

Odisha Startup Yatra

aims to leap forward

by visiting 200+

colleges and 60+

schools thus

impacting 25,000+

students. With a core

focus on guiding and

empowering young

minds at the grassroots

level in the realms of

innovation and

entrepreneurship, the

initiatives seek to

equip them for

harnessing the ample

opportunities within

the startup ecosystem.

BOB Financial and HPCL launch co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) – a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL B o B c o - b r a n d e d contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as well as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network. Cardholders of HPCL B o B c o - b r a n d e d Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points. The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman, SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit

Harmanpreet sees fielding as the biggest positive after record win

New Delhi: Despite dominating with both bat and ball - winning by a record margin of 347 runs - skipper Harmanpreet Kaur believes India's strong performance in the fielding department was the biggest positive and paved the way for their dominating show in the one-off Test against England at the DY Patil Stadium.

"We made the runs we wanted to make and the bowlers backed us in every department. They knew their plans..." she said before adding, "The biggest positive for our team is our fielding. When you're fielding for 90-odd overs, it is important to maintain energy and we

did that. The fielding set the tone and everything else fell into place."

Quite unlike England, who pinned their batting struggles on the spin-friendly nature of the pitch, the Indian players adjusted adeptly to conditions that were quite different to what they are used to playing on either, dominating with both bat and ball from the opening day. Harmanpreet Kaur, the Indian skipper who had played only three Tests in her career before this game, credited the experience of head coach Amol Muzumdar, a domestic cricket legend, for helping chart out the plans.

"When you're batting, you get an idea of how the wicket is behaving. When I batted in both innings, I got an idea about the wicket, which ball was working in which position and what field would best help that. This is where the coach's experience really came in handy. I did not have any red ball captaincy

experience so I trusted him with key decisions like bringing Shubha in to bat one down, or the bowling strategies. Even today, the first 40 minutes were key and he believed we should capitalise on the conditions in the

morning here and we did the same. His (Amol Muzumdar) experience really helped us." She also praised the bowlers for bowling according to the plan and working well with the 'funky' field placements. "We

worked out our field placements according to balls that might work against certain batters," the Indian captain said. "We get that sense from when we bat. And credit to our bowlers because they adapted to the fields we were setting and going according to the plans laid out. We sometimes do it just to play mind games with the opponent. We saw that there was a phase where England wanted to sweep against the offspinner and so we kept the short square leg for that phase which made that ploy difficult for them. After all

that, it is important to bowl in the right areas and execute their plans."

up her maiden Test fifty.

The Indian skipper had come into the match having scored only 38 runs in her three previous Tests. In the first innings, she was dismissed one short of the half-century mark with an unfortunate dismissal, getting her bat stuck at the crease while attempting to get back. In the second innings, her unbeaten 44 played an important role in steady India's innings.

"For me, the priority is to get the team to a solid position when I come out to bat. I have not been one to fixate on personal milestones. That said, good individual scores go a long way in ensuring we gain confidence. "At the same time, when we batted second, we were looking for a lead of 500, we get extra safety with regard to runs and then we tried harder. Unfortunately we lost early wickets in the second innings. We were still in a good place. So there was a thought to keep individual milestones on the side and look for what works best for the team. More than us batting, it was important to give the bowlers those 40 minutes in the morning to make best use of the conditions... So we backed that plan."

Henry to undergo MRI scan to ascertain extent of hamstring injury



New Delhi: Henry pulled up midway after experiencing tightness in his right hamstring during his sixth over. Henry pulled up midway after experiencing tightness in his right hamstring during his sixth over. © Getty New Zealand's injury woes showed no signs of abating as ace fast bowler Matt Henry picked up a hamstring injury which cut short his participation in the team's 190-run defeat to South Africa in Pune. Henry pulled up midway after experiencing

tightness in his right hamstring during his sixth over and following a brief on-field consultation with the team physio, trudged off the field and took no further part in the rest of the innings. He did, however, come out to bat at No.11 and faced nine balls. According to New Zealand Cricket, Henry will undergo an MRI scan in the next 24 hours to ascertain the extent of his injury. Henry was the not the only casualty on the day in what has been an injury-riddled campaign

for the 2019 finalists, who now face a nervous final week to seek qualification to the final-four of this edition. James Neesham, who completed Henry's over and went on to bowl five more, suffered a bruised right wrist after being struck by the ball. Although an x-ray cleared him of any broken bones, the injury saw him slide down the batting order to No.9, from where he bagged an eight-ball duck.

New Zealand were effectively left with exactly 11 fit squad members during the course of their game in Pune. Mark Chapman (calf injury) and Kane Williamson (thumb injury) weren't considered for the game and will be reassessed again in Bengaluru in the build-up to the crucial fixture against Pakistan on Saturday.

New Delhi: South Africa and India will play their first ODIs since the men's World Cup at the Wanderers on Sunday, a fact they will no doubt want to use to draw a line under their exits from the tournament. And with a T20I World Cup just more than six months away, they may get away with doing so more quietly than usual in what could be relatively low key ODI rubber.

That said, quiet matches involving India have yet to be played. The focus is always sharper when they are around, for reasons that go beyond cricket. So besides anything else the result on Sunday, and in the other two games, will be taken as an indicator of whether or not a corner has been turned for the better.

Of the XIs in the sides' last World Cup games, six of South Africa's

players are in the ODI squad compared to three of India's. That illustrates the difference in the depth available to these teams. It also tells us they aren't afraid to experiment. Among the missing are Temba Bavuma and Rohit Sharma, World Cup captains both. As well as Kagiso Rabada and Mohammed Shami, their teams' leading fast bowlers. And, of course, Quinton de Kock and

Virat Kohli - batting icons of the age. T20Is are held up as a gauge for players' readiness to make the step up to other formats at international level. For instance, will Rinku Singh's 39-ball 68 not out in the second T20I at St George's Park on Tuesday earn him a crack on Sunday? But these ODIs could also offer insights the other way around. Might Tony de Zorzi - who has appeared

in two Tests and as many ODIs but no T20Is - be able to use them to stake a claim as an all-format player going into the T20I World Cup?

Maybe these questions will be seen as inopportune. In the pressure-cooker world of big cricket, we should welcome the room to breathe that this series represents. We are days away from the Test series, weeks away from the SA20 and months away from the IPL. Things that would seem to matter more are ranged around this rubber like some of Joburg's finest thunderclouds around a patch of blue sky. But, right here and right now, what matters is three ODIs that don't seem to matter. For some - perhaps those who want to watch cricket for cricket's sake for a change - that will matter most of all.

Rohit Sharma - the astute leader on assault mode

New Delhi: A highly respected Indian cricket legend recently made a distinctive observation about four of the most celebrated Indian batsmen from different eras. He stated, "Sunil Gavaskar knew how to score centuries, while GR Viswanath did not. Virat Kohli knows how to score centuries, but Rohit Sharma doesn't." It's essential to note that this remark was not intended to disparage any of these batsmen. The legend did not mean to criticize them. Nevertheless, he preferred to remain anonymous when sharing his thoughts during the India-Bangladesh game in Pune recently. Shortly after this conversation, Virat Kohli managed to

achieve a century in the most unlikely situation during the match, after Rohit Sharma had laid a solid foundation for the victory as if to prove the point that legend was making.

A batsman with 45 international centuries, including three double centuries in the ODIs, the remark may not amuse all of Rohit's fans. However, it is undeniable that Rohit has displayed exceptional selflessness in this World Cup. He excelled both as a batsman and as a captain in the last match against England, where he scored the highest individual score of 87 and adeptly marshaled the bowling resources to defend an under-par total of 229. He consistently explained in a tone that

prioritized the team's goals over personal milestones, and he even faced a question before the Sri Lanka game in Mumbai on Wednesday about whether he should be more selfish.

"It's not like I just have to go and swing the bat. I have to swing it well, play well and keep the team in a good situation. This is my mindset," Rohit replied, stating that he has inherent advantages being an opener. "I have that advantage or you can call it a benefit that I am starting the batting and there is no pressure of wickets because everything is 0-0, so when you have to start like that, you can be fearless and you can play the way you want to play," Rohit



only reflected an assertion that he is only doing his job. Rohit has scored 398 runs at an impressive average of 68, including one century and two half-centuries. His ability to provide a strong platform for other batters has been instrumental in India's unbeaten record throughout this campaign. In five out of the six games played,

So whatever the situation demands at that time, I try to play according to the situation," he elaborated on his approach to the batting.

Batting apart, it was also obvious that his captaincy stood out during the World Cup so far, and that is something that did not miss the outside attention. "His leadership style reflects the way he bats,"

it did. Rohit is also an astute and a cerebral leader, displaying intelligence in making strategic bowling changes. I've heard he excels in understanding the nuances of player match-ups. He actively participates in team meetings covering various aspects such as bowling, batting, and fielding.

Kiran More, another former chief selector who had the opportunity to observe Rohit's development as a captain while being a part of the Mumbai Indians set-up, was equally effusive in his praise. More stated, "We often talk about (MS) Dhoni's cool demeanor, but in reality, Rohit is just as composed. His management skills are

exceptional, and he stands by players even when they haven't performed well. I've witnessed this at the Mumbai Indians team. Whether it's a victory or a loss, Rohit remains equally cool, and his unwavering attitude inspires his players. He may not rely heavily on technology, but his leadership is characterized by simplicity and uncluttered thinking." But Rohit said the calls he makes are what he thinks are in the best interest of the team. "I totally believe that whatever calls we make on the field, it is in the best interest of the situation of the team and what is going to happen from here on now, next five overs or 10 overs.