

## Lok Sabha passes three criminal law amendment bills to replace IPC, CrPC, Evidence Act

New Delhi(KCN): Lok Sabha Wednesday passed three key bills that seek to overhaul the criminal justice system, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah asserting that the focus is on delivering speedy justice rather than handing down punishment.

Relying to the debate, Shah said the three bills — Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill — also have a clear definition of terrorism and scrap sedition as a crime while introducing a new section titled “offences against the State”. Members of the Congress, DMK, TMC and other opposition parties were not present during the debate after 97 of their colleagues were suspended from Lok Sabha for “unruly” behaviour in the House.

While many opposition parties have been critical of the bills that seek to replace the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act, only a handful of non-NDA members, including Hyderabad MP and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi, MPs of the Biju Janata Dal and Bahujan Samaj, were present in the House.

“I am astonished at how some people defend and save the lives of terrorists in the name of ‘human rights’. Remember, this is neither the rule of Britishers nor of Congress. This is Modi’s rule.

“No arguments to save terrorists will be entertained here,” Shah said, adding the Modi government has explicitly brought ‘terrorism’ under the purview of the criminal justice system.

“We have changed the definition of Sedition

from ‘Rajdroh’ (offences against the government) to ‘Deshdroh’ (offences against the Nation),” he said noting IPC Section 124, or the Sedition Law, has been repealed. The purpose of the new law is “not to save the government, but to save the country. In a healthy democracy, everyone has the right to criticise the government, but we will not allow anyone to say anything demeaning about India,” Shah said. “The sedition law made by the British, under which Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel...

Many of our freedom fighters remained in jail for years and that law continues till date. “When they were in opposition, they used to protest, but when they came to power, they misused it. For the first time, the Modi government completely abolished the sedition law,” he said.

Shah said the first duty



of the state is justice. “J Judiciary, Executive and Legislature are the three pillars of democracy. The makers of our Constitution divided the work among these three to give strong administration to the country. Today, for the first time, these three together will give the country a justice-centric criminal system and not

a punishment-centric one,” he said. For the first time, laws are going to be made according to the spirit of our Constitution under the leadership of Modi. “I am proud to have changed these three laws after 150 years. Some people used to say that we do not understand them, I tell them that if you keep

The bills were first introduced during the monsoon session of parliament in August. After the standing committee on home affairs made several recommendations, the government decided to withdraw the bills and introduced their redrafted version last week.

Relying to the debate, which started Tuesday and continued Wednesday, Shah said three major amendments have been brought in the bills and these include

giving relief to medical professionals who sometimes face intimidation from kin of patients.

Shah said the three proposed laws were drafted after comprehensive consultations.

“I personally had 158 meetings. Not only every

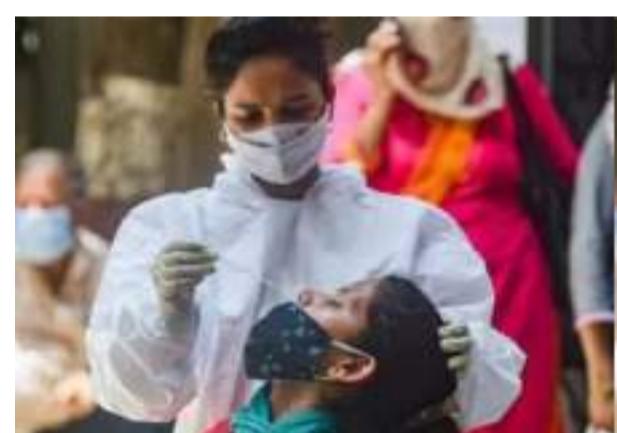
line, I have read every comma and every full stop of the bills,” he said.

Highlighting achievements of the Narendra Modi government, the home minister said it delivers on every promise it makes. “We had said that we would remove Article 370 and 35-A, we removed it. We had promised that we would end terrorism.. And give a free hand to the security personnel, we delivered.

“We have said we will construct the Ram temple in Ayodhya and as promised the idol of Lord Ram will be consecrated January 22,” he said amid ‘Jai Shri Ram’ chants by members of the treasury benches.

Participating in the debate, Owaisi alleged that the new criminal bills are a threat to the civil liberties and rights of the people as they give sweeping powers to the police to act as “judge, jury and executor”.

## No Covid case detected in Odisha in last week: Officials



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha government Wednesday said the state hasn’t reported any Covid case over the past week, amid an uptick in infections in various parts of the country.

The government is on

alert and strengthening its surveillance system, they said.

After attending the Covid-19 review meeting with Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Odisha Health Minister Niranjan Pujhari said, “Kerala,

Goa and Karnataka have reported some cases of new variants of Covid-19. Though the new variant is not dangerous, the Centre has asked us to remain alert, enhance testing and strengthen surveillance.”

Senior citizens have been advised to remain cautious, he said.

Director (medical education and training) Sachidananda Mohanty, who was also present at the meeting, said not a single Covid case was detected in the last seven

days even after testing more than 3,000 samples.

“We are prepared well.

We are following Centre’s advisory,” Mohanty said.

“JN.1 variant has not been detected in Odisha so far. The government is keeping a watch on the situation and necessary guidelines will be issued if required. In case of detection of such a case, genome sequencing will be carried out,” said director (health services) Bijay Mohapatra.

He appealed to people to

go for Covid tests in case of related symptoms. The state has sufficient beds and logistics for treatment of patients, Mohapatra said.

As many as 21 cases of Covid-19 sub-variant JN.1 have been detected across the country till now, NITI Aayog member (Health) Dr VK Paul said.

## Diarrhoea situation under control: ADM

Rourkela(KCN): The additional district magistrate (ADM) of Sundargarh, Dr Subhankar Mohapatra said Tuesday that the diarrhoea situation is improving in this town and the number of patients seeking admission to hospitals is slowly decreasing. However, he urged people to remain cautious and maintain personal hygiene. “The diarrhoea situation is improving given the discharge and admission rates, but we cannot lower our guard.

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Through the media, I request all to remain careful,” Mohapatra said at a press conference here Tuesday. “We have sufficient medicines to tackle the situation, so there is nothing to worry,” the ADM added. Mohapatra however, contradicted the death toll which has appeared in sections of the media. “Officially we have reports of five deaths from the Rourkela Government Hospital. I cannot comment on the figures provided by private medical facilities,” Mohapatra informed. Mohapatra also talked about the number of patients admitted to various hospitals. “A total of 580 patients infected with diarrhoea have been admitted to hospitals. Out of them, 429 are from the Rourkela urban area. So far 244 patients have been discharged,” Mohapatra said. He added that the Ispat General Hospital (IGH) has kept five ICU beds reserved for diarrhoea-hit patients and Dr PK Mohapatra has been appointed as the nodal officer.

Mohapatra when asked about the reason behind the outbreak of the disease informed that investigations are still on. “However, stool samples suggest the presence of E Coli bacteria. Only after we have a final report we can give a proper explanation for the outbreak of the disease,” stated Mohapatra. Mohapatra however, gave a clean chit to WATCO when asked about the leaks found in some of the main water distribution pipes.

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Odisha: Poet Ashutosh Parida to receive Sahitya Akademi Award 2023

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Kendra Sahitya Akademi Wednesday announced that Odisha’s Ashutosh Parida will be awarded prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award 2023 for his poetry book ‘Aprastuta Mrutyu’.



Notably, Parida was unanimously selected by the jury amongst 10 authors in Odia language. Sahitya Akademi announced its awards for books in 24 languages in India. The award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper plaque, a shawl and an amount of Rs1 lakh in cash will be presented to the awardees each at the award presentation function to be held March 12, 2024 in New Delhi.

Notably, Parida has been conferred with several other awards for his contribution to literature.

1988- Gokarnika Samman by Gokarnika Sahitya Samaj, Dharmasala  
1990- Odisha Sahitya Akademi Puraskar for the book Ipsita Krodha 2003- Bhanuji Rao Smarak Puraskar 2011- Sachidananda Routray Kabita Samman by Sheshore Sahitya Academy 2017- Gangadhara Mehera Kabita Samman by Utkal Sahitya Samaja

## LS approves Telecom Bill 2023; provides for govt control on communication network in emergency

New Delhi(KCN): A bill allowing the government to temporarily take control of telecom services in the interest of national security, and providing a non-auction route for the allocation of satellite spectrum was approved by the Lok Sabha Wednesday.

The Telecommunications Bill, 2023, which was passed by a voice vote after a short debate, also allows the Centre to take possession of a telecom network in case of any public emergency or in the interest of public safety.

The bill, piloted by Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, provides for

stopping transmission and intercepting messages in case of public emergency, in the interest of the public, to prevent incitement for committing offence.

“The bill will promote structural reforms in the telecom sector,” Vaishnav said.

“On the occurrence of any public emergency, including disaster management, or in the interest of public safety, the central government or a state government or any officer specially authorised in this behalf by the central government or a state government, if satisfied that it is necessary or expedient so to do, by

notification—take temporary possession of any telecommunication service or telecommunication network from an authorised entity,” the bill said.

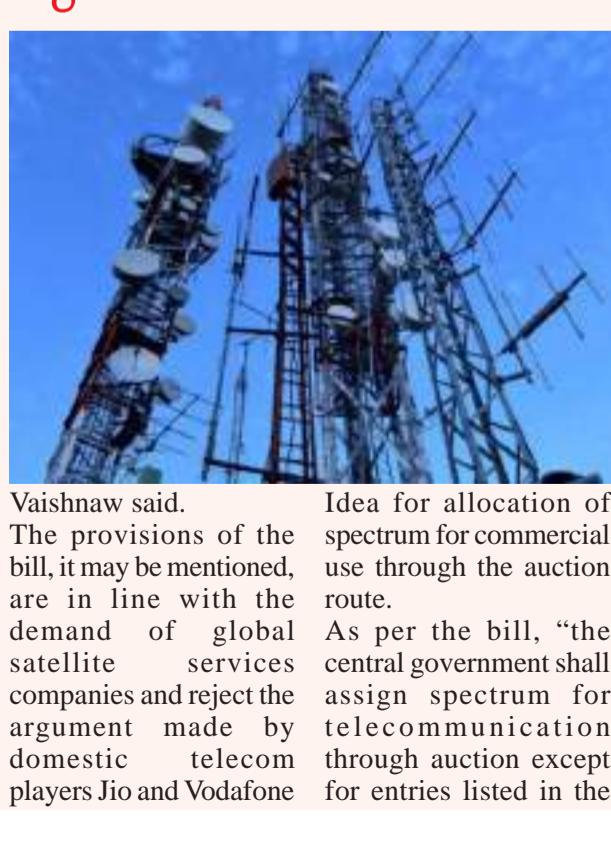
According to the bill, the press messages of correspondents accredited to the Centre or state governments shall not be intercepted or detained unless their transmission has been prohibited under rules applicable for public emergency, public order etc.

The bill provides for the allocation of spectrum to satellite communications companies through auction except for entries listed in the

First Schedule for which assignment shall be done by administrative process.”

The first schedule has 19 cases for which spectrum will be assigned through the administrative process including global mobile personal communication by satellites, national long-distance and international long-distance services, mobile satellite services, VSAT, In-Flight and maritime connectivity, BSNL and MTNL.

The bill also provides protective measures for telecom infrastructure and reinforces provision for smooth roll-out of networks especially optical fibre cables. The Centre has also proposed the exemption of telecom networks installed on any property from any claims, encumbrances, liquidation or the like, relating to such property.



Vaishnav said. The provisions of the bill, it may be mentioned, are in line with the demand of global satellite services companies and reject the argument made by domestic telecom players Jio and Vodafone

Idea for allocation of spectrum for commercial use through the auction route. As per the bill, “the central government shall assign spectrum for telecommunication through auction except for entries listed in the

## Love and Wisdom "An ode to my Grandpa"

Aubaid Akhoon

"An Angel, I lost,  
The one who meant the world to me,  
The one who cared, cared like nobody,  
The one who cherished me like nobody.



The one whom I adored solely,  
The way he embraced me with his love is uniquely profound.

The one who cherished me with his every touch,  
To him, I poured my heart out,  
The one whom I refer to as the peace of my mind.

Surely, to own such a guide was my pride,  
The one whom I called my Grandpa.

From him, I learned Love, how it heals and conquers all.  
He taught me the worth of patience and how fruitful it is to endure pain.  
The value of forgiveness he taught, and even the bliss of hush.

And one day Almighty saw him getting frail,  
And He called him home.  
That day Allah (swt) broke my heart just to prove that He takes the best.

Neelofar  
NEET Aspirant  
R/O Chanpura Sgr

## Expert Insights on Planning a Career in Fashion Designing

Prof. Manas Ranjan Mahapatra

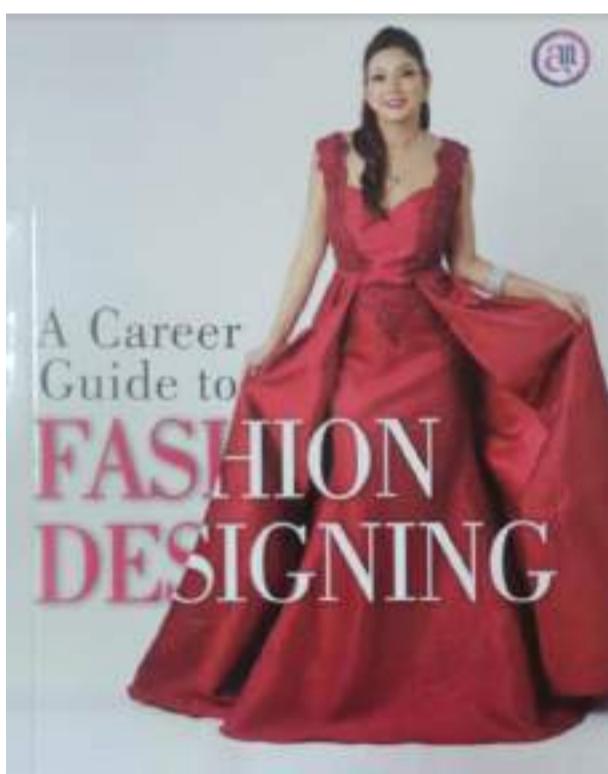


I lived a larger life throughout the country and abroad. Naturally, my remembrance is larger. Now also, I live locally and think globally.

Feel good when a deserving young author especially a deserving one like Dwijendra Kumar gets applause. But I get angry when a cunning youth pockets an award meant for seniors.

My interest is unlimited. It includes Fashion Communication too. Every student should be concerned about what to do after taking their 12th grade exams. They don't know much about different employment options, though. As a result, their selections are dominated by predetermined inclinations for engineering and medical courses. Those with strong math and physics skills choose engineering programs, whereas biology majors are more likely to pursue careers in medicine or biology. They have no idea that these two fields, which for many years were the top choices for millions of 12th grade passouts, are now almost fully occupied. Individuals with degrees in management, information technology, public relations, and advertising, as well as holders of diplomas and degrees from numerous other professional courses, are frequently in a better position to get employment. Among

these professional training programs is the course in Fashion Designing. Along with food and a place to live, clothing is one of the three necessities for human survival. India holds a significant position in the production of clothing for both the large home market and



international exports. An estimate places the value of India's apparel and textile sector at \$170 billion USD, or 7% of the country's overall industrial output and 14% of its export revenue. Therefore, it makes sense that India has a sizable apparel and textile industry with lakhs of manufacturing facilities in addition to boutiques, buying houses, retail showrooms where clients may purchase clothing directly, etc. To assist them in continuing to innovate with designs and styles and to work on particular designs and styles that fashion Buying Houses or Individual buyers have to offer, all of these require skilled fashion professionals. Aptly titled A Career Guide to Fashion Designing, a recent publication provides

materials, training facilities, etc. An eminent editor who has worked with me in NBT, author of this book Dwijendra Kumar has extensive experience producing books in addition to writing news, features, and articles about fashion. He has once worked with Press Trust of India, the country's top news agency, at its New Delhi headquarters in the past.

**Visiting Professor of Development Communication**  
**Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India**  
**Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India**

## Oh hands don't close me.

DWIT DAVID PHILIP

A hand helps eating,  
A hand helps lifting,  
A hand helps blessing,  
A hand stops when heart is controlling.



A hand goes for a beating,  
A hand goes for piercing,  
A hand goes for tearing,  
A hand stops when heart is controlling.

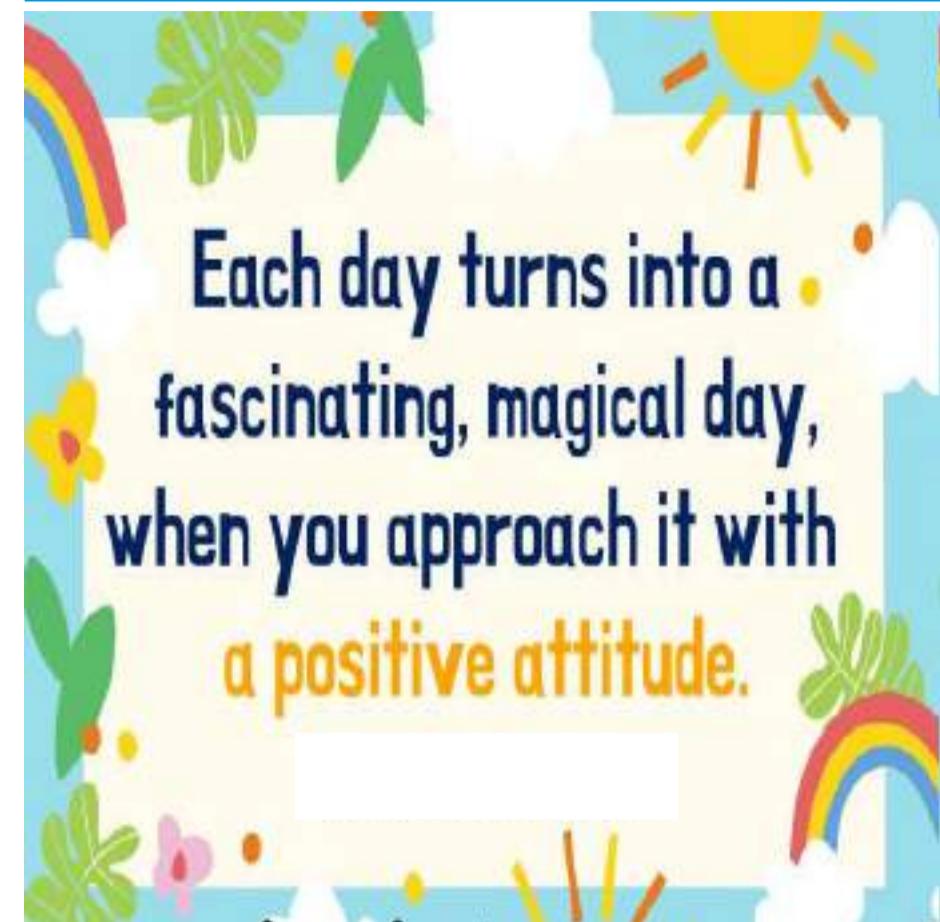
A heart is a heart still it is pumping,  
A heart is a heart still it is divine,

Hand as well as Heart has meaning, till it's opening.  
If heart dies, it's some one's hand that extends to close the eyes.

Oh hands don't close me, I am still alive.

Advocate and Social Worker  
(Wrote in Union Church, Bhubaneswar)  
[www.pensofdavid.com](http://www.pensofdavid.com)  
9437104303

## Quotation of the Day



## Dakshina Meru: The Brihadeswara Temple



India's diverse culture, history and exceptional architecture are reflected on the temple walls that have been preserved through the centuries. With the rise of Hinduism, India witnessed the establishment of numerous temples dedicated to various deities of the Hindu pantheon. With temples scattered throughout the country, each of them unique in their own way, attempts were made to classify them on the basis of their region, architectural style and complexity.

According to the Shilpashastra the temples of India can be classified into three types: Nagara Style (North Indian style), were the temples belonging to the land between the Himalayas and the Vindhya.

Dravidian Style (South Indian style) were the temples belonging to the land between the rivers Krishna and Kaveri. Vesara Style (a hybrid of northern and southern style) were the temples belonging to the land between the Vindhya and the River Krishna.

Certain features that distinguish a Dravidian style of architecture from the other two styles are: Vimana - The Vimana is the tall structure surmounting the sanctum sanctorum (garbhagriha). A pyramidal structure and square in plan, the vimana has several tiers placed one above the other in a decreasing order.

Stupika - Stupika is the large stone that tops the last tier of the vimana. The stupika is topped with the finial adding to the height of the vimana.

Gopurams - Gopurams are tall gateways peculiar to the South Indian style of temple architecture.

The gopurams evolved with time and became the focal points in the later temples of South India. The later temples have taller gopurams, often taller than the vimana itself. Some of the best examples of Dravidian style temples are in the Southern region of Tamil Nadu.

Out of these, the Brihadeswara Temple at Tanjavour built by the mighty ruler, Rajaraja I of the Chola Empire, is known for its grandeur and exceptional architectural features.

Tanjavour had been a prominent Royal city from the time of Muttaraiyars who founded and made it their capital. There are different versions of the origin of the name Tanjavour. One version says it is derived from the name of an asura, Tanjan. It is believed that Tanjan created

neighbouring areas as a result of which Sri Anandavalli Aman and

Sri Nilameghapperumal (Vishnu) had to destroy him but before doing so Lord Vishnu granted Tanjan his last wish of naming the city after him. Others believe that it is derived from the word

Thanjam which means refuge/asylum in Tamil. Hence Tanjavour means, the 'City of Refuge'.

Tanjavour witnessed a series of rulers come and go, from the Cholas to the Nayakas, the Marathas and finally the British. Amongst them all, the dynasty responsible for making Tanjavour what it is today, were the Cholas.

The Cholas were great devotees of Shiva. One of the earliest temples created by the Cholas was the Nataraja Temple at Chidambaram. Rajaraja I, who ascended the throne in 985 CE made large donations and gave gifts to the temple at Chidambaram in the year 1004 CE. In gratitude, the temple authorities gave him the titles of 'Sri Rajaraja' and 'Sivapadasekhara'.

It is believed by some that it was at this time that he felt the need of a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva at his capital, Tanjavour. Others are of the opinion that after Rajaraja expanded his empire, he came to be known as the 'Lion among the Emperors'. He built this grand temple dedicated to Lord Shiva in order to commemorate this achievement.

Rajaraja I, started the construction of the Brihadeswara Temple in the nineteenth year of his reign. A major source of information related to its building and construction has been the inscriptions that run throughout the temple's plinth.

One inscription reads,

'The King, on the two hundred and seventy fifth day of the twenty fifth year of reign (A.D. 1010), presented a gold covered finial to be planted on the top of the vimana of the temple'. This means that it took a mere six years for this architectural brilliance to be completed.

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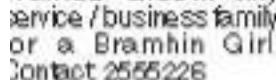
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## Prithviraj Sukumaran Lauds Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire Director Prashanth Neel, Calls Him 'Confident'

Ahead of the grand release of 'Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire', anticipation among fans is at an all-time high to witness Pan India star Prithviraj Sukumaran in this actioner. Touted as a

ace filmmaker. Sharing details about the same, the actor said, "I mean the first time I heard the script of Salaar was a couple of years back, a few years back. And it was a new

and when an actor comes up with a new idea or if you want to walk to Prashanth for a scene you want, and if you're able to convince him, he will change everything around you. He will change the



magnum opus — mass entertainer, the film promises a compelling narrative, combined with powerful performances and multilingual brilliance. Directed by the visionary Prashanth Neel, fans are eager to understand what attracted Prithviraj Sukumaran to the film and his experience of collaborating with the

narration by Prashanth, it took me about 30 seconds after the narration to say I want to do this. I think I have a fantastic role and yes, it is a Prashanth Neel film, who wouldn't want to work with him." Further, showering praise on Director Prashanth Neel, Prithviraj Sukumaran added, "He's so confident with his craft, in narrating,

plan of shoot entirely around the new idea that you have pitched. He's got such a solid command on his craft and that is one of the most enjoyable things about working with Prashanth. He likes being surprised." Helmed by Prashanth Neel under the Hombale Films banner, 'Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire' is slated for release on 22 December 2023.

## Talvaar Turns 8: Revisiting Exceptional Performance Of Sohum Shah, Who Played Investigative Officer

As 'Talvaar' marks its 8th anniversary today, we can't help but recall on the exceptional performance of Sohum Shah, who portrayed the role of an investigative officer in this gripping crime drama. Despite his limited screen time, Shah managed to leave an indelible mark on the audience and industry alike, establishing himself as a true bonafide performer.

Sohum Shah has always been an actor who seamlessly embodies his director's vision of the character on screen. With Meghna Gulzar's direction in 'Talvaar', he had the opportunity to delve deep into the psyche of his character. In doing so, he not only met but exceeded all expectations, delivering a performance that was widely praised by critics and audiences alike.

One of the key aspects of Shah's portrayal in 'Talvaar' was his ability to bring authenticity and depth to his character. As an investigative officer tasked with unraveling a complex murder case, he displayed a remarkable range of emotions and nuances, making the character feel real and relatable. His dedication to his craft was evident

in every scene, from his meticulous attention to detail to his flawless execution of even the most challenging sequences, he didn't just

play the character but became the character. The collaboration between Sohum Shah and Meghna Gulzar in 'Talvaar' also serves as a

prime example of the powerful synergy that can be achieved when a talented actor joins forces with a visionary director. The film's

**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.

## Vijay Deverakonda Expresses Gratitude For 'Kushi' Success, Says 'Love Knows No Language'



Actor Vijay Deverakonda's latest release 'Kushi' with Samantha Ruth Prabhu successfully managed to strike a chord with people. The film, which performed well at the box office, is now streaming on OTT platform Netflix. On receiving audiences' love

for his role in 'Kushi', Vijay said, "We made 'Kushi' with the belief that love knows no language and emotions have no boundaries. Seeing the overwhelming love pour in again with its OTT release is incredibly gratifying. Whether you're

watching it in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, or Hindi, I hope the film brings as much 'Kushi' to your hearts as it has to ours." Written and directed by Shiva Nirvana and produced by Mythri Movie Makers, 'Kushi' hit the theatres on September 1 in Telugu,

## Laapataa Ladies: Aamir Khan Productions Continues Its Winning Streak With Another Quality Film On Horizon

Several production houses in the entertainment industry strive to create high-quality films that entertain society and appeal to a broad audience. Aamir Khan Productions is undoubtedly one of the most prominent production companies in the entertainment industry today.



While films such as 'Rang De Basanti', 'Dangal', and 'Dil Chahta Hai' stand as strong pillars of their brilliance in delivering engaging and compelling cinema, the production house is now gearing up for the release of their 11th and most ambitious film, 'Laapataa Ladies', which is eagerly anticipated by audiences.

In the past, the production company has funded ten films of various genres, and the most important thing is that the majority of them have been accepted and loved by audiences.

Aamir Khan productions have a high success rate in addition to being one of the most qualitative film production houses. The films produced by them have been box office successes, and the

successes, and the

success can be attributed, in large part, to Shah's outstanding performance, which breathed life into the character and added depth to the narrative. It's a testament to his dedication to his craft and his ability to elevate any project he's a part of. Up next for Sohum Shah is his production venture 'CrazXy' and as he continues to take on new challenges and work with acclaimed directors, audiences can look forward to witnessing more exceptional performances from this talented artist.

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# Political discipline: A perfect lesson



In the recent assembly elections, the ruling BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have taught a big lesson to the Congress. The lesson is that a nation never stands still. Every five years people's aspirations change. Therefore, it is impossible to win elections by dividing the people and making laws. In three states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, despite the party being in power in two states, the Congress has fallen due to its disconnection from the people. But the Congress has won in the southern state of Telangana. However, in the 119-member assembly, its number was higher than that of the former ruling party Bharat Rashta Samiti and the BJP, MIM and other opposition and independent members. So the BJP cannot remain silent for long in the MLA capture game called 'Operation Lotus' in Hyderabad.

As an enemy, the

BJP is as unforgiving as it is ruthless. But if the old soldiers of politics are sitting at the door of the Congress, then the flow of new voters will be unknown to him! The BJP has secured a single majority in two consecutive Lok Sabha seats. With Modi's 'very friendly' relationship with some ambiitious businessmen, the party is now so integrated that it is impossible to compete with the Congress and other parties in a traditional poster-fest. Election war. But a struggle which, while inconsistent, does not exceed the bounds of possibility, is a demonstration of the electorate's ability to read the minds of various sections. Modi has once again proved that he is also better than others in this field. If the opposition fails to bridge this gap, it is doubtful whether any national party other than the BJP will count in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. This will certainly pave the way for a single party dictatorship like Russia or Arab Shahi in India.

Elections were also held in Mizoram, northeastern India. But without bringing it into

the present discussion, it may be said that the elections in four states in November were a test of preparation for the Lok Sabha elections before 2024 for the Congress. In that test, the congressional plan fell short in three states. Sometimes hard work, sometimes the Congress's seats in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh fell from 282 to about 40 percent in both the 2018 and 2023 elections. But apart from Madhya Pradesh (where there is lack of simultaneous planning and consistency) in other two states BJP's vote share is not higher than Congress.

In Rajasthan, the difference is only 2.16 percent. Although the Congress' total vote is substantial, it is spread over a limited number of constituencies. The main reason for this is that the pulse of the states with the ANC is now difficult after being ousted at the center for almost a decade. As a result, parties at the state level are now dependent on the whims of the state president or chief minister. For example, Sanjay Gandhi's Doon Schoolmate Kamal Nath became the Chief

Minister after the Congress's victory in Madhya Pradesh in the 2018 elections in Madhya Pradesh. But due to the conspiracy of co-leader Jyotiraditya Scindia and BJP, his government was completed within fifteen months. But the Congress accepted him as the state party. But after that he started following BJP with concern. He promoted his Hanuman bhakti to the masses. A 101 feet tall statue of Lord Sri Hanuman was erected in the election area. Gradually, Kamal Nath became close to Dhrendra Shastri, the controversial saint of Bageshwar Dham. Shastri is a supporter of 'Hindu Rashtra'. He is perfect in magic. There was a media frenzy about him when he ducked like Satyajit Ray's Mahapru from the Logical Magic Challenge.

Kamal Nath is not just a preacher of 'soft Hindutva'. The Congress Chief Minister of neighboring Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel, built 'Ram Bangaman Path' with government funds and built the temple of 'Kaushalya

Ma'. Voters believe that the traditional 'anti-Hindu' image of the Congress is at the root of this quest for Hindutva. But how much is this 'soft' Hinduism caste of the Congress compared to the long established and aggressive Hinduism of the BJP? This time in Madhya Pradesh, BJP's vote is 8 percent more than Congress. It was necessary to fight not against Hinduism, but against secularism.

On the other hand, at the instigation of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Rahul Gandhi, a non-aligned 'thinker' of Congress, started clamoring for reservation and enumeration of OBCs, but his results had no effect. In fact, 'Mandal politics' is a four-decade old story. Modi understood his vanity. Recently said, in his opinion four castes are poor, youth, women and agricultural workers. This is a journey through 'Mandal' and 'Kamandalu' on the way to elections.

Congress leaders have made many financial promises beyond their means. Under Baghel, the minimum support price of paddy in the state is Rs 2,600 per quintal, which is the highest in

the state. If Zite makes a comeback, the MSP for sure producers will jump to 3600. In Madhya Pradesh, Kamal Nath and BJP Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan were engaged in an auction. Shivraj's famous 'Ladli Bahana Yojana' (L-B-J) - Government assistance - Rs 1,000 if a girl reaches 21 and remains unmarried, Kamal Nath gives Rs 1,500. Shivraj was forced to pay 1,250 and informed that the interest would increase to 3,000. Despite this, 80% of the women-voters in the state gave the palm, proving that one fish caught in a net is worth more than lakhs of fish in the river.

Besides, everyone understands that without central compassion there is no help for a dear brother or sister. In the first ten months of this year, the Shivraj government has spent Rs 11,000 crore on the agricultural sector.

From Indira Gandhi to Narendra Modi, all leaders consider the poor as an inferior class. But the character of the poor changes with time. Indira thought bank nationalization would make a living; But there are bank robberies and

insurmountable financial shortages. Yet for decades the Congress has heard only one thing: farmer loan waivers. Since 2004, Sonia Gandhi has been trying to get money for hundred days of work. But there is no copyright in it. Even after ignoring Mahatma Gandhi twice, Modi has been using Mahatma Gandhi's name for 10 years. The fact that the poor are turning towards Modi is evident in the electoral reality of the nation's aspiration and constituency, Bashavathi. Thus, 26 out of 112 districts are from four states. Their total assembly constituencies are 81, of which the BJP has won 52. In the 2018 election, this number was 23.

It is clear that the vast empire of parties and government coalitions controlled by the BJP is able to retain the trust of many sections. The essential 'story' for him is Hindu nationalism. This is a small sign of concern for the few natives who have started in Western democracies. But its acceptance by a large population is overwhelming.

Whenever there is widespread protest

anywhere, protesters are imprisoned without trial. While Rahul Gandhi talked about Modi's 'friendship' with industrialist Adani, two of his party's chief ministers continued to sign MoUs with Adani. All the governors sent to opposition states by Modi and his friend Amit Shah, who sit for months doing nothing on bills sent by the Rajya Sabha. If the court sees this behavior, it passes the statute of limitations for hearing. Everything seems to be just a headache for some opposition advocates, or a big blow to Rahul Gandhi...! It seems that the Congress has failed to read the minds of the common people.

Evicting Modi in 2024 is like covering the entire body to get rid of the dust. It is really interesting to ride in the political arena. Now the 138 year old team wants to invent some such magical tricks in the next five months to survive..

**Tara Nilay, Plot-854/A, Chachara Shabarsahi, Mukund Prasad Khurda-55, contact : 9040151475**

**Dr. Laxman Sahoo**

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## Triumph Unleashed: Yuba Odisha - Naveen Odisha 2023 Closes with Grandeur



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In a dazzling finale to 16 days of empowerment, the Integrated Youth Development Program reached its zenith at Ratanpur Science Higher Secondary School in Astarang block, Puri district. Themed "Yuba Odisha - Naveen Odisha 2023," this groundbreaking youth initiative, sponsored by the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Govt. of Odisha, celebrated its closure with the distinguished presence of Chief Guest Tushar Kanti Behera, Minister for Sports, Youth Affairs, and Home, Govt. of Odisha. Minister Behera, in his address, underscored the youth's pivotal role in shaping

Odisha's destiny, boldly declaring that the state's journey to the top hinges on their progress. Confidence, effort, perseverance and hard work were lauded as guiding principles for a brighter future. Presided over by School Principal Chittaranjan Pardha, the event featured Swadhin Kumar Nayak, Vice President of the Puri District Council, as the keynote speaker. Nayak praised Odisha's transformative journey over 24 years, crediting the BJD government's relentless efforts. The event's significance, post the 1999 super cyclone, served as a testament to Odisha's resilience and achievement. Throughout the program, students

showcased diverse talents in various competitions. Distinguished guests of honour including Rutu Raj Rout, Purandar Biswal, Saraswati Swain, Ashok Tripathy, Gadadhar Kandi and Bhimsen Swain, added prestige to the occasion. In a gesture of acknowledgement, winners were felicitated by the guests, solidifying the commitment to nurture Odisha's youth talent. The Integrated Youth Development Program's closing ceremony stands as a beacon of hope, inspiring the next generation to excel and propel Odisha to the coveted position of the nation's number one state.

## A work shop on POSH act organised by NPSPL

Barbil (KCN): Women in today's world are educated. They dream and want to work towards their dreams. To give them a safe society, this workshop on POSH (prevention of sexual harassment) act was held at Bhadrasahi, community hall in Keonjhar District. It was organized by the Tanto base company, Narveram

Power and Steel Pvt Ltd. The training program was conducted by Mrs. Arunima Patra, founder member of Tanvi Consultancy. Women from Tonto, Bhadrasahi and Jhargao village were participated in the programme. The trainer briefed all the participants on what the action was, its origin and most importantly what

kind of harassment it was under the rules. The Posh training introduced them to the applicable legal framework and best practices at work. "This program will not only empower women to fight against injustice, it will also inspire them to be more empowered," said Piyush Pandey, head of human resources at the company.

## Annual Sports Competition of Bijipur Govt UP School held



Bijipur, (KCN): With participation of 253 students along with teachers, guradians, guests and eminent persons the annual sports events of Bijipur Govt UP School, Brahmagiri inaugurated on 18th December 2023 in the school campus. Mr. kabiraj Jena, Block Education Officer, Brahmagiri attended the programme as Chief Guest. Inaugurating the programme he expressed that sports is the secret of good health. That should be ensured for every children and it should be added in their daily routine. ABEOS of the block Mr. Prasant Kumar

Jena, Ms Gitanjali Dash, Mr. Kumar patra were joined as Hon'ble Guest. Mr. Sarbeswar Palai, Social Worker, CRCC Ms Sasmita Dash, Mo School Representative Mr. Bijay Kumar Kar were also deliberated speech to encourage children towards sports. Various sports events like; High Jump, Long Jump, Skipping, chocolate race, math race etc were conducted. Initially the sports torch was fired at Maa Harachandi temple and it was installed at school with support of Mr. Maheswar Plalai, President and Mr. Manoj Kumar Kar, Vice

President of School Management Committee. Thereafter Chief Guest hoisted sports flag and started the games. On that day newly installed first aid kit and water purifier inaugurated by the Chief Guest. The programme conducted for 2 days and students enjoyed a lot. Ms. Purnima Tripathy, Headmistress of the School managed everything in coordination and cooperation of School Management Committee and teachers. Guardians, guests appreciated the effort of Headmistress and the all stakeholders associated with the school.

## Eye On 2024 Andhra Polls, Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan Kalyan's Show Of Strength

Hyderabad (KCN):



Telugu Desam Party chief N Chandrababu Naidu and Jana Sena Party leader Pawan Kalyan kick-started their campaign for next year's Andhra Pradesh election by sharing the stage at a public meeting in Vizianagaram on Wednesday evening. Drone videos of the event showed tens of thousands of supporters crowded into the venue, emphasising the sway the alliance has over voters in the state.

This was the first joint address by Mr Naidu and Mr Kalyan since the alliance was announced in September. "This is about the future of Andhra Pradesh," the latter said then, flanked by Mr Naidu's son, Nara Lokesh, and brother-in-law, Nandamuri Balakrishna.

All four - Mr Naidu and his relatives, and Mr Kalyan - were together this evening, in an important show of strength. The event itself had its own significance; it was the concluding

ceremony of a 3,132 km padayatra, or foot march, by Mr Lokesh. The march has been seen as helping the 40-year-old step out from his father's shadow and establish himself as a mass leader in his own right.

Five special trains and several buses ferried large numbers of supporters to the meeting that wore a festive atmosphere, and where large cut-outs of TDP founder, the late NT

Rama Rao, and Chandrababu Naidu, as also those of Mr Nara Lokesh, Mr Kalyan, and Mr Balakrishna, were put up. This was also Mr Naidu's first public outing after spending nearly two months in Rajahmundry Central Jail in connection with the alleged ₹371 crore Skill Development Corporation scam case. Significantly, Mr Naidu had also been given the

all-clear to participate in political activities, but that was too late for his party to contest the election in neighbouring Telangana, where the Bharat Rashtra Samithi of ex-Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao was beaten by the Congress. Last month the former Pradesh Chief Minister was released first on medical bail and then on regular bail. It was while he was in jail that Pawan Kalyan met him, and

declared his Jana Sena would ally with the TDP for this election. He also backed Mr Naidu in his fight against the corruption charges.

Last week Mr Naidu ramped up his attacks on the YSR Congress Party in power in Andhra, declaring next year's state election a "battle" between the people of the state and the ruling party. He mocked Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy for being afraid of losing power.

In 2019 the YSRCP swept Andhra Pradesh, winning 151 of 175 seats. The TDP won just 23 - down from the 102 it claimed five years earlier. The Jana Sena was the best of the rest - with one seat - and the BJP and the Congress got zero, underlining the strength of regional parties in South India. The BJP, meanwhile, has tied up with Mr Kalyan's party for the 2024 Lok Sabha election, but has remained cold to Mr Naidu's overtures, complicating the Jana Sena-TDP relationship.

## With Eyes On 2024 Lok Sabha Elections, Congress Begins 'UP Jodo Yatra'



Saharanpur (KCN):

Gearing up for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the Congress began its 'UP Jodo Yatra' on the lines of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' from here on Wednesday to raise issues related to the farmers, labourers, youth and women.

The Congress also aims to connect the people of the state during this yatra, which assumes significance as it comes after the grand old party's recent electoral defeat in three states. Starting the yatra after offering prayers at the 'Sidh Peeth Maa Shakambhari Devi', Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee (UPCC) president Ajay Rai stressed that people, including the farmers, labourers, youth and women, are troubled in the state and the issues of every section will be

raised during this yatra. Alleging that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has created distance between the people, Rai said the aim of the Congress' 'UP Jodo Yatra' is to connect the people of the state. "Congress will reach out among the people and call upon them to join the yatra," he added.

Asserting the yatra is

aimed at strengthening the party before the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, Rai said it is not a common man's government in Uttar Pradesh.

"The BJP government closes its ears to the problems of the farmers. It is not able to give the right price to the sugarcane farmers. The BJP gives tickets to the rapists in the elections,

continuously increases the prices of petrol and gas but there are no employment opportunities," Rai said. "Taking inspiration from the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' taken out earlier by party leader Rahul Gandhi, 'UP Jodo Yatra' has been started from here and will end at Shaheed Smarak in Lucknow. If the public supports us, we will

overthrow the BJP government in 2024," he added.

The Congress leader said over 300 party leaders will take part in this 18-day yatra.

Rai further said the local workers of the districts through which this yatra will pass will also join it. "Street meetings will also be held at 161 places during this yatra. During this, the Congress workers will meet the common people and know about their problems. We will also put forward the views of the Congress Party before the public," he added.

Congress spokesperson Anshu Awasthi said the yatra led by Rai passed through Behat on the first day and ended at Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Chowk of Gangoh Municipality.

## Mehbooba Mufti's PDP Favours Pre-Poll Alliance With National Conference In J&K

Srinagar (KCN):

Favouring a pre-poll alliance with the National Conference for the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, the PDP on Wednesday said the people of the Union Territory should unite to achieve the larger goal. PDP Parliamentary Board chairman Mohammad Sartaj Madni said the party wants the constituents of the Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration

(PAGD) to remain together. "The PAGD was formed after Mehbooba's struggle. She brought all together. Mehbooba is the anchor of the PAGD. So, we do not want any rifts in it. There will be nothing from our side to suggest that we do not want the alliance. We want that all the people of J-K get united for a larger goal to achieve that goal," Madni told reporters here. He was responding to a

question on the leaders from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the National Conference (NC) trading barbs publicly and whether a pre-poll alliance was a possibility. When asked if the party had finalised the candidates for the Lok Sabha polls next year, the PDP leader said the parliamentary board will decide that in another meeting. Responding to a question

about the government's claims of an improvement in the security situation, Madni said if all is well, then let them conduct the elections. "They have deferred the panchayat and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) polls. If all is well, then why are these elections or assembly polls not taking place? We want all to be well so that elections are conducted and the people get their government," he added. Commenting on the

Supreme Court's recent ruling on Article 370 issue, Madni said the party has pinned its hopes with God. "The last court, above the Supreme Court, is there and we have pinned our hopes on that. Let us see what God does," he said. When asked if the PDP has any further plans, Madni said the party leadership will sit and discuss the issue first and then see what can be done.

## Jindal Stainless Ignites Children's Literature Festival

Kalinga Nagar (Sapan Kar) :-

Committed to nurturing future generations, Jindal Stainless Limited, Jajpur organised a Children's Literature Festival in Danagadi, Jajpur, on December 16, 2023, as part of its CSR initiatives. The day-long

event, in collaboration with Ankur Foundation, aimed to unlock hidden talents in children and instill a love for literature. Over hundreds of enthusiastic children from more than 10 local schools participated in a world of creativity through engaging activities like

storytelling, puppet making, sketching, origami making, and theatrical performances. Expert storytellers, puppeteers, and theatre artists enthralled the young audience with their interactive sessions, providing valuable guidance and igniting their imaginations. Unit Head, Jindal Stainless, Jajpur, Mr Deepak Agrawal graced the event as the chief guest and formally inaugurated the literature festival. Chairperson, Danagadi Block, Smt. Archana Das, further affirmed the festival's significance,

commending Jindal Stainless and Ankur Foundation for their collaborative efforts in encouraging creativity in children. She praised the participating children for their enthusiasm and awarded prizes and certificates to the budding young talents at the closing ceremony.

# 5763 CR Credit For SHG

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Crore. While the State Government has set a target for the Banks to extend Rs.15,000 Crore Credit to the Self Help Groups(SHG)s in Odisha, Bankers have disbursed Credit of Rs.5763.86 Crore as on 30 September, 2023.

State Government in Department of Mission Shakti has set the financial target of Rs.15,000 Crore of Credit for 2023-24. Latest review on Credit Disbursement reveals that 45,046 SHGs have been extended the amount of Rs.5763.86

This achievement is only 38.43 Percent of the Annual Target for 2023-24 and Bankers have been reminded about the Annual Target and Annual Credit Plan, which needed to be implemented during this Financial Year.

Average Loan Size per SHG has been increased to Rs.3.82 Lakh, which is needed to be increased up to Rs.4 Lakh per SHG, officials say.

Principal Secretary Finance, Vishal Kumar Dev and Secretary



Mission Shakti Sujata Rout Karthikeyan have been urging the Bankers to achieve the target as the State Government has set the target on 5T Mandate.

Several Public Sector Banks have achieved the target beyond 50 Percent and performed well so far extending Credit Facilities to SHGs, some of the major private sector

banks are needed to scale up their Credit Plan for helping out the SHGs. So far districts are concerned, Ganjam has achieved the highest with 59.47 Percent of the target, while Deogarh is second with 52.7 Percent and Mayurbhanj is third with 51.53 Percent. These districts are 'Best Performing

Districts" for SHG Credit Linkage and these organizations are doing exceedingly well in expanding their financial activities, officials admit.

Similarly Credit Disbursement in Housing Sector is also not up to the mark. As on 30 September, 2023, Banks have extended Rs.2520.63 Crore for Housing Credit.

Achievement in Housing Sector is only 38.11 Percent and there is needed to be more Credit facilities to be extended to the needy, officials say.

Similarly on Education Sector, more is needed to be achieved as only 31.64 Percent of the target has been achieved as on 30 September.

Regular monitoring of the Credit faculties' for SHG, Housing, Education and Export Sector is being taken up by the State Government.

Now the Banks are to scale up Credit facilities during coming months, so that Annual Credit Plan Target will be achieved and this will help in impoving economy of the State, said officials.

## World Odia Conference in Feb



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The State Heritage Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, today decided to organize the first Ever World Odia Language Conference at the state capital Bhubaneswar for three days in February 2024. State Tourism, Odia Language, Literature and Culture Minister Ashwini Kumar Patra, Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena and Commissioner and

Secretary of Odia Language, Literature and Culture Department Sujata Rout Karthikeyan briefed the media in this regard. According to the decision, the "World Odia Language Conference" will also be organized at the state, national and international levels. Eminent linguists and linguists of national and international repute will be invited to

speak at the theme session of the conference. Students from all over the state will be included in it in a big way. Special attention will be paid to them for the promotion of Odia language among the youth. During the conference, educational institutions/universities will organise their respective programmes.

## Property List not yet submitted

**Ranchi(KCN):** Despite the orders of the Ministry of Home Affairs, many IAS and IPSOs of Jharkhand have not given the details of their personal movable and immovable assets under the Immovable Property Return (IPR). However, the ED of the IAS and IPSOs should check their movable and immovable assets under the Immovable Property Return (IPR). The above things were said today by Vijay Shankar Nayak, Central President of Jharkhand

Information Rights Forum, former MLA candidate cum Central Vice President of Tribal Moolvasi Jan Adhikar Manch. He further said that there are many such IAS and IPS who have not yet made public the details of their assets despite the orders of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, by asking the list of officers from the Ministry of Home Affairs, ED should check the assets of those officers so that their illegal property can be seized. Mr. Nayak further said that since the formation of

Jharkhand, the IAS and IPS officers of Jharkhand started looting the wealth and property of Jharkhand with both hands. The situation is so alarming today that if at present private movable and immovable property of all IAS and IPSOs of the state is honestly investigated by ED, then almost 80% IAS and IPS officers are disproportionate to their income under Prevention of Money Laundering Act. Hotwar will be in jail in the property case. Mr. Nayak further said that there is no dearth of IAS officers like Chhavi Ranjan and Pooja Singhal in Jharkhand, if there is



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## Science City host lecture on " Black Hole" by internationally acclaimed physicist James Beacham



**Kolkata(PARTHA ROY):**Science City, a unit of the National Council of Science Museums, Ministry of Culture Government of India organised a lecture on "The Other End of a Black Hole" by Dr. James Beacham, an internationally acclaimed physicist at the world-renowned Large Hadron Collider(LHC) at CERN, Switzerland who delivered on the topic of exploration of Black Holes – the universe's most enigmatic objects, on 19th December 2023 at its

premises in Kolkata. Dr. Beacham, a leading researcher at the forefront of particle physics, delved into the mysteries of the Black Holes. From their mind-warping properties to the fate of anything that crosses their event horizon, Dr. Beacham, in his lecture, separated fact from fiction, shedding light on the current scientific understanding of the cosmic marvels. Dr. James Beacham spoke on current understanding of the shape, appearance and behaviour of Black

Holes. "As a part of its social responsibility, Science City is committed to providing a platform for the interaction of students, and teachers with leading scientists from around the world. This is one such attempt. Indian scientists have been involved in the design of many components of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, one of the seven megascience projects in which India is actively involved. At the same time, Black Holes are always mysterious and intriguing and I hope this lecture will delve deep insight into many questions hovering in the young minds and inspire them to pursue a career in science" – said Shri Anurag Kumar, Director, Science City, Kolkata. Around 350 students and teachers from 8 schools in Kolkata participated in the programme.

Professor Dr. Sujoy Kumar Biswas unveiled "Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" Music Video featuring Prof. Dr. Chandrani Biswas and Smt Jharna Bhattacharya alongwith himself.

Professor Dr. Sujoy Kumar Biswas, Director & CEO of Techno India University and Techno India Group, and a polymath unveiled his latest musical endeavor the enchanting music video titled "Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" where

he has lent his soulful voice to this captivating song as well as acted. Dr. Biswas, is a trained Indian classical music singer as well as a distinguished

academician, acclaimed Engineer and Valuer. Prof. Dr. Chandrani Biswas, professor of English literature at St. Xavier's College Kolkata and wife of Professor Sujoy Biswas and a

trained singer in Hindustani classical music, is also part of the music video. The heartwarming narrative of "Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" unfolds against the backdrop of the picturesque Bengal countryside. The video beautifully captures the essence of the song's theme—an individual's yearning to return to their roots. Dr. Sujoy Kumar Biswas and Prof. Dr. Chandrani Biswas portray an enamored couple, exploring the idyllic countryside, sailing on crystal clear river waters, and reveling in the simple joys of life. As the story unfolds, the video introduces a village belle played by Ms Jharna Bhattacharya – writer, poet, lyricist and model who portrayed with grace, who pines for her estranged lover. The influence of legendary author Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay is palpable as she reads from his work, adding a poignant layer to the narrative. "Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" is a melody steeped in nostalgia, painting vivid images of rural Bengal—singing Bauls, dew-kissed lotus leaves, swaying paddy fields, the soul-stirring Bhatiali music, and the melancholy tales of boatmen and lost love. The lyrical richness and melodic beauty of the song, combined with breathtaking visuals, create a 'slice of life' experience that will resonate with a diverse audience.

"Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" is not just a song; it is a journey, an experience, and a celebration of the rich tapestry of Bengal's cultural landscape.

## Empowering Women of Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal through Backyard Fish Farming

**KOLKATA(KCN):**Women are an integral part of society and to achieving gender equality and empowering all women is one of the main concerns for Sustainable Development Goal. In this regard, ICAR-CIFRI has taken up a vow towards "Mission 3000" which includes economically empowering 3000 women across the country under the SCSP/TSP/NEHE programme during the year 2023-2024. Under this initiative, ICAR-CIFRI has organized one awareness and input distribution programme



on 16th December, 2023 to support 104 Nos. rural fisher-women of "Kalikamora Tangan River Mohila Farmers' Producers Company" from the villages Kalikamora, Aminpur, Buniadpur, Banshkhari, and Sihole of Dakshin Dinajpur, West

Bengal. The economy of the Dakshin Dinajpur is mainly dependent on paddy and aquaculture which is the backbone of the community. ICAR-CIFRI is started to play a major role in increasing their livelihood using small-scale aquaculture in their backyard ponds.

Dr. B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI emphasized the importance of fisheries in the livelihood of the rural women and also said that CIFRI would extend its support to the rural livelihood improvement of the area. In this event, CIFRI

distributed fisheries inputs to 104 SC women-fishers who have backyard ponds with an average area from 0.02 ha to 0.04 ha in their backyard. ICAR-CIFRI has distributed 5 kg of IMC seeds and 40 kg of fish feed to each beneficiary in this programme under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan Scheme. This programme was organized in collaboration with a local NGO namely Hemnagar Sundarban Dreams. The whole idea is to make the rural women

## JSW Infrastructure begins commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Terminal in Odisha

Paradip/ Bhubaneswar : JSW Infrastructure, India's leading ports company and part of US\$ 13 billion JSW Group, has begun commercial operations at Paradip East Quay Coal Terminal in Odisha. This is a fully-mechanized terminal at Paradip Port Trust with an annual coal handling capacity of 30 million tons. The coal terminal has been built as a cape compliant terminal and will handle capesize vessels once the dredging at Paradip Port is completed. The terminal has capacity to unload 25 rakes per day and can load two vessels simultaneously. The infrastructure of the terminal is built to ensure higher productivity while reducing overall logistics

cost to power producers. The company has invested approximately Rs 1,300 crore to establish this terminal at Paradip Port. Paradip Port Trust awarded JSW Infrastructure to develop a fully-mechanized coal terminal on Build, Operate & Transfer basis for 30 years. Following the commissioning of this coal terminal, JSW Infrastructure's current cargo capacity crosses 150 MTPA. It aims to have a total cargo handling capacity of 200 MTPA by FY24.

Commenting on its coal terminal at Paradip, Mr Arun Maheshwari, Joint MD & CEO of JSW Infrastructure said, "Paradip Port continues to be an attractive sea route for coal movement. With the

commissioning of this terminal, India can now offer cape size shipments with efficient operations. During the last few months, steam coal prices globally have witnessed sharp increase forcing thermal power plants and other coal based industry to switch to domestic coal. Start of this coal terminal has come at the right time to fill up the demand gap of domestic coal. Through high productivity and larger shipment size, we hope to reduce overall logistics costs for our coal cargo customers. As the country pursues PM's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the total thermal coal demand in India is expected to remain strong and our endeavor would be to maximize fulfillment by domestic producers.

Commenting on its coal terminal at Paradip, Mr Arun Maheshwari, Joint MD & CEO of JSW Infrastructure said, "Paradip Port continues to be an attractive sea route for coal movement. With the

## Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV

Bhubaneswar : Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, "OK Google" to issue a voice command.

RELIANCE NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE RECORDS STRONG GROWTH INFY22

Mumbai : Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited, a JV between Reliance Capital and Nippon Life of Japan, announced its financial results for the year ended March 31, 2022. The key performance highlights as on March 31, 2022 include:

Commenting on the company's strong performance in FY22, Mr. Ashish Vohra, ED &

CEO, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance said, "FY22 continued to pose its own set of challenges with the outbreak of the second, and then the third wave of the pandemic. We are grateful for the support we have received from our customers, employees, distributors, service providers and their families, that powered our journey of providing maximum value to each one of our stakeholders."

Mr. Vohra further highlighted that in a volatile economic environment of today, there is a heightened appreciation of Life Insurance for ensuring certainty of life coverage as well as financial investments. These guarantees are designed to drive durable long-term returns and to help customers fulfill their

life goals and form the bedrock of our business model. The company paid death claims, maturity and survival benefit payouts of over Rs. 1,877 Cr in FY22 and achieved an impressive claims settlement ratio of 98.7% for FY22, up from 98.5% in FY21. The company expeditiously settled 3,517 Covid related claims worth Rs. 117 Cr. within an average period

## IACC(EIC)'s immediate Past President Sujoy Biswas launched music video on reconnection to the roots



estranged lover. The influence of legendary author Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay is palpable as she reads from his work, adding a poignant layer to the narrative. "Bare Bare Ami Ashbo Phire" is a melody steeped in nostalgia, painting vivid images of rural Bengal—singing Bauls, dew-kissed lotus leaves, swaying paddy fields, the soul-stirring Bhatiali music, and the melancholy tales of boatmen and lost love. The lyrical richness and melodic beauty of the song, combined with breathtaking visuals, create a 'slice of life' experience that will resonate with a diverse audience.

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## Know the big-earners: Shubham Dubey, England flex batting muscles to level series

**Dubai:** Shubham Dubey, the 29-year-old hard-hitting southpaw from Vidarbha, was picked by Rajasthan Royals for INR 5.8 Crore who fended off interest from Delhi Capitals. Known for his big-hitting ability, Dubey had made a mark by smashing a quickfire 58 against Bengal to help his side win in the record run-chase against Bengal in this season's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. Dubey, who has featured in 20 T20s since making his debut in 2021, has scored 485 runs at a strike rate of 145.20. In this season's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, he smashed 225 runs at a strike rate of 187.28.

**Sameer Rizvi:** Several former Indian cricketers believed that Sameer Rizvi would spark a bidding war, and he did, fetching INR 8.4 Cr at



the IPL auction on Tuesday. The batter was courted by Gujarat Titans and Delhi Capitals before Chennai Super Kings bagged him at the massive price.

**The 20-year-old Rizvi,** who has played only 11 T20s, made an impression at this year's

UPT20 league - not only finishing as the highest run-getter at the tournament but also scoring the fastest century of the tournament.

**Kumar Kushagra:** A hard-hitting wicketkeeping-batter, Kumar Kushagra was

picked by Delhi Capitals for INR 7.20 Crore. The 20-year-old from Jharkhand has made a strong impact early on in his domestic career with several noteworthy innings across formats. Inconsistency, however, has been his biggest failing. He didn't enjoy

the most productive season in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy and Vijay Hazare Trophy this season, but clearly there's enough talent that has not missed the eyes of the franchises who went on a bidding war for him.

**Sushant Mishra:** In a young career ravaged by injuries, Sushant Mishra has probably not had the opportunity to make an impact in senior cricket the way he would've liked. After a promising age-group career, the 22-year-old Jharkhand pacer has managed to feature in only 4 T20 games with only one noteworthy performance (4 for 28 vs Vidarbha) to show. However, Gujarat Titans found enough potential in him to spend INR 2.2 Crore for his services, staving off competition from Mumbai Indians.

**London:** In the space of four days, Phil Salt hit 11 fours and a whopping 19 sixes across two T20I innings - each worth 100-plus runs - as he set the tone for England's comprehensive, series-leveelling win over West Indies at the Brian Lara stadium in Trinidad. Jos Buttler and Liam Livingstone flanked him with fiery fifties of their own as England outbatted West Indies in the crucial game.

**England's jaw-dropping start**

In only the previous fixture, Salt had smashed 109 off 56 balls in a successful run-chase and has now followed that up with a similarly superlative effort while batting first. In the crucial



fixture to keep the series alive and drag it to the fifth game, Salt smashed 119 off 57 with as many as 10 sixes to his name. The overcast conditions pushed West Indies to put England in to bat and Salt made them rue the decision. The makings of his incredible knock were there to be seen in the very first over, when he hit Matthew Forde for a four and a six.

It wasn't just Salt that made jaws drop on the evening as Jos Buttler swung for the fences from the beginning too, starting off by going after Akeal Hosein in the fourth over which fetched 15 runs. Salt was brutal against Forde who kept missing his lengths and getting punished. In a 22-run over, Salt hit two fours and a six. England had 68 runs in the PowerPlay with Salt contributing 39 of those. The onslaught didn't stop after the PowerPlay as Buttler got stuck into Gudakesh Motie in the seventh over, hitting him for two fours. In the eighth, Salt reached a 23-ball fifty and looked set for another big knock just hours after 10 IPL teams in Dubai opted not to make a big for the Englishman. Motie became the bowler to go

front of them. Not that, they had another choice. So what ensued was

chaos as Moeen Ali dismissed Brandon King on the first ball but also ended up conceding 20 runs in the over. This

was how the rest of the PowerPlay went as West Indies tripped and punched back in equal measure as Kyle Mayers (12 off 5), Nicholas Pooran (39 off 15) and Shai Hope (16 off 8) fell inside the first six overs.

Yet, by the end of that phase, West Indies had 87 runs to their tally.

Were they able to consolidate?

Not really. England kept

pegging holes into their big-hitting intentions with wickets. Rovman

Powell fell in the eighth

over for just four while

Sherfane Rutherford who'd started well was

dismissed by Rehan Ahmed for a 15-ball 36 in the 9th over. At this

stage, West Indies were at 120 for 6, with only

Andre Russell standing tall between England a win. While he swung his bat around like only he

knows, England chipped away at the other end. He hit five

sixes and three fours en

route to a 25-ball 51 but the lower-order just

didn't stay put to let him attempt

the unthinkable. Instead,

West Indies folded for

192 in the 16th over.

**Brief Scores:** England

267/3 in 20 overs (Phil Salt 119, Jos Buttler 55, Liam Livingstone 54\*)

beat West Indies 192 in 15.3 overs (Andre Russell 51; Reece Topley 3-37, Rehan Ahmed 2-42) by 75 runs

## Felt like I couldn't face people: Rishabh Pant

**New Delhi:** Rishabh Pant was arguably India's best batter in 2021 and 2022. Two glorious years, countless accolades and achievements, well on his way to etching his name as one of the better wicketkeeper-batters in the world. Heading into 2023, with a World Test Championship final in sight and a home World Cup lurking, Pant was by far the front-runner for India in both white and red-ball cricket.

All of this came to a screeching halt when Pant met with a horrific car accident on December 30, 2022. It has been close to a year since then, and Pant has undergone rehabilitation for the best part of 2023. Looking back at the near-fatal accident, Pant said that he was lucky to be alive, and spoke about the challenges that faced him in the aftermath of the accident, both physical and mental.

"The kind of accident I had, [I'm] lucky to be



alive," Pant recounted in an interview to IPL. "I think it was very challenging, especially the first part I would say more from a physical point of view because in the starting there was a lot of pain to be endured. But just looking at the journey till now, I think it's been going really well from a recovery point of view. I felt like I couldn't face people and all, and I felt like I had to do something which gives me

confidence. "It's been really amazing because whenever we are playing, we feel no one loves us because there is always pressure and so many things. Yes, it's a hard time but I came to know people love us, respect us and the kind of appreciation and concern people have shown over a period of time because of my injury, it was heartfelt, crazy for me, because it means a lot as an individual when you're

going through a very rough time. It's not only physical [recovery], it's also mentally (taxing) and if your supporters and the people support you and love you, it means a lot, and it really helps in recovery."

While admittedly not a 100 percent back to full fitness yet, Pant will become the first reigning captain to sit at an IPL player auction, at the 2024 edition in Dubai.

"You know, as a kid, I

used to think one day I might be able to sit on the (auction) table," Pant said. "I never thought that I will make it happen but somehow things are in place and I'm able to do it, and lucky to be able to do it. I think it will be an amazing experience because this is something new."

Pant also admitted to nerves ahead of being a part of the auction contingent, but also expressed his excitement and the prospect of learning something new with his presence at the auction table.

"Nervousness is definitely one point I've to work on because whenever you do something exciting or new, the nervousness is always there. Yes, this is my first time but I want to grow as an individual and learn whatever I can from it. It's really exciting because I don't know many people have done it or not, but I would love to be part of it - something exciting, something new."

later.

"We were very tempted to play him (Rishad) last game as well. As we

know our record here,

it's challenging for us

since we haven't won a

game. We are losing lot

of wickets early on and

that is one reason we

had gone with an extra

batsman but going

forward, we are looking

a leg spinner, so he is our

one leg spinner we

really want in the XI,"

said Hathurusingha

adding that interruption

due to rain in series

opener hampered their

planning to a great

extent.

Hathurusingha said that

they are expecting high

scoring game in Nelson

while adding that he is

## Can't expect Soumya to fill Shakib's shoes - Hathurusingha

**Dhaka:** Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha said that they are finding it hard to replace Shakib al Hasan in the playing XI as they prepare for the second game of the three-match series against New Zealand, scheduled in Nelson on December 20. New Zealand won the series opener by 44 runs in a rain-curtailed game to go 1-0 up, and would like to maintain their winning record after beating them on 17 successive occasions in 50-over format in their own backyard.

Shakib missed the series due to finger injury that he sustained during the World Cup while stand-in skipper Najmul

are finding it hard to make a combination and that's why he (Soumya) is very important for us as an all-rounder to make up our XI," he said, adding that he is not sure why Soumya is failing to score runs despite being in good touch at domestic level.

Soumya, who dropped two catches in the opening game, made a duck while giving away 63 runs in six overs that he bowled without any success. In the last five ODIs his scores read 0, 32, 1, 0, 0.

"I just saw him for the first time this match, so I don't know what his problem is; he has been scoring runs domestically and we

need someone who can bowl and bat because you know Shakib al Hasan is not here," he said.

Hathurusingha added that they are expected leg-spinner Rishad Hossain, who starred in practice game against New Zealand XI ahead of the series making 87 runs along with picking three wickets, to be part of the playing XI sooner than

