

Mohanty had then moved the High Court on October 17 challenging the Family Court's verdict. The actor had alleged that Varsha refused for consummation of their marriage and caused mental cruelty to him by her conduct towards him and his family members.

Odisha Celebrates Triumph in Startup Landscape with Successful Odisha Startup Leadership Conclave 2023

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Startup Odisha, an initiative of the MSME Department, Government of Odisha, today marked a significant milestone with the successful Odisha Startup Leadership Conclave 2023. The event showcased the state's commitment to fostering a robust and dynamic startup ecosystem. In collaboration with The Economic Times (Government), The Odisha Startup Leadership Conclave 2023 brought together various eminent dignitaries such as—Shri Naveen Patnaik, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Pratap Keshari Deb, Hon'ble Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME), Government of Odisha, Dr. Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman, Startup Odisha, Saswat Mishra, Principal Secretary, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) Department,

Government of Odisha and Chithra Arumugam, Principal Secretary, Science and Technology Department, Government of Odisha etc. The event also saw diverse group of participants, including startup leaders, founders, venture capitalists, technology investors, and experts. The conclave served as a unified platform for meaningful discussions on the untapped potential of Odisha's burgeoning startup ecosystem. The event saw participation of 350 notable delegates. Shri Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha, was the Chief Guest at the Conclave. He delivered his address virtually. In his virtual address, the Chief Minister said, “Odisha Startup Leadership Conclave is a testament to our commitment to positioning Odisha as an ideal destination for innovation and investment. Our state is ready to embrace and support innovation and we believe that together,



we can catalyze the growth of a vibrant startup ecosystem.” Shri Pratap Keshari Deb, Hon'ble Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME), Chief of Honour at the conclave said, “Odisha has a thriving and robust ecosystem comprising more than 1800 startups, out of which more than 700 are led by women.

This ecosystem is enabled by 27 incubators and 15 nodal agencies, aided by a progressive Odisha Startup Policy 2016. “The essence of a startup lies in its ability to dream, to innovate and disrupt the status quo. It is a testament to the courage and resilience of individuals who dare to challenge conventional norms, who envision a

future that transcends boundaries and who embark on a journey to turn their dreams into reality. The Odisha Startup Leadership Conclave is not just an event; it is a rallying point for the dreamers and doers who will shape the future of our state.” Dr. Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman, Startup Odisha during

his special address said, “Our mission is to equip startups with the essential tools to transform their ideas into prosperous businesses, thereby making significant contributions to the socio-economic development of Odisha. Startup Odisha aspires to ascend as the premier Startup Hub in India, with a steadfast

goal of nurturing 5000 startups by the year 2025. Agriculture, manufacturing, sports and ports are the domains where startups could play an integral role and Startup Odisha is committed to help budding startups in these sectors that hold the potential of introducing transformative innovations to the industry. Additionally, Startup Odisha has funded 350 Startups directly and has generated more than 15000 new jobs and this is only set to grow.” The Conclave featured key sessions that delved into various aspects of fostering a resilient and world-class startup ecosystem in Odisha. These sessions encompassed topics such as the empowerment and transformation of the startup ecosystem in the region, with a particular emphasis on encouraging and inspiring youth towards innovation and entrepreneurship.

Delegates explored the journey from idea to impact, unlocking new growth opportunities for startups and witnessing the elevation of startups, innovation, and entrepreneurship to new heights in Odisha. Additionally, there was a focus on the role of technology in port startups and their contribution to the state's economy. The Conclave also highlighted the importance of women leaders in building a sustainable startup ecosystem. Alongside these discussions, the event included Masterclass sessions, fireside chats, and addresses by visionary leaders, attracting the participation of high-ranking government officials and industry leaders. The comprehensive program aimed to facilitate knowledge exchange and collaboration for the advancement of Odisha's startup landscape.

“Transforming Odisha’s millet landscape: Odisha Millets Mission’s sustainable approach of FPO marketing”

Bhubaneswar(KCN) : As the year of millets comes to a closure, millet-based campaigns were seen throughout the year. On the other hand, for the past several years, Odisha has held the baton as a millet-leading state, achieving the promotion of healthier dietary choices and increasing farmers' income through its sensational millet magic approach. An outlook that includes adopting a solution-based method and targeting grass-root problems faced by the farmers in the state, majorly not getting enough for their yields. Tackling this and several other issues, aiding the Farmers Producers Organisations has been the state's one of the numerous responses. Farmers Producers Organisations or FPOs, are groups formed by

farmers themselves and act as an aggregator for member farmers, including from inputs to output, which then enhances the economy of scale and bargaining power of member farmers. In the case of unsold lots, logistics arrangements are to be made by FPO. In simplified terms, the end goal of a FPO is to increase the producer's income through an organisation of their own. A small producer enters the market with low-volume produce, which often falls short of taking advantage of economies of sale. When it comes to agricultural marketing, a chain of intermediaries frequently operates in an opaque manner, leaving the producer with little of the value that the final customer pays. An organisation with multiple beneficiaries

and a huge volume of produce can eliminate this unpleasant chain of intermediaries, and the primary producers can get a good return on their yield. In Odisha specifically, adopting this approach has worked wonders for local farmers. The Odisha Millets Mission, an active body dedicated to overseeing the movement of millet acceptance in the state, has encouraged several FPOs to create marketing avenues for the rural population. Each block in the state is set to have an active, functioning FPO, used to disseminate information, provide necessary business training, and help farmers sell their produce at a much higher rate. At a service price of Rs 31.5 per quintal (including labour expenses) plus 1% of the

MSP, the FPOs are free to sell the processed millets on the open market or assist in aggregating the produce and supplying it to the Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation of Odisha Limited (TDCCOL). The increased interest in working to create new FPOs has pushed the state's millet economy. Helping various women self-help groups register themselves as FPO gives these hard-working individuals a better chance at market representation, empowering them to take on challenges. Despite having a small budget, the FPOs have proven to be a dynamic choice to address multiple issues at once, which will ultimately lead to increased aid as the Odisha Millets Mission enters its next phase.

Odisha: Smart Braille classroom to be set up in school for blind at Burla

Sambalpur(KCN): A state-of-the-art smart Braille classroom will be set up in Odisha government-run school for the blind at Burla in Sambalpur district, an official said. The Sambalpur Municipal Corporation (SMC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) for this purpose Thursday, the official said. As per the MoU, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) will provide the funds for developing the smart Braille classroom, while the corporation will execute the project, SMC commissioner Vedbhushan said.



The smart Braille classroom represents a cutting-edge, interactive learning approach equipped with an audio system and a distinctive feature designed to capture and analyse children's usage patterns. Principal of the government school for the blind, Susama Sahu

said the smart classroom will make learning easy and interesting for the visually impaired students. The students here will also gain technical knowledge. ‘Annie’, a comprehensive Braille self-learning device, that makes learning fun, engaging, and intuitive

for blind students will be used to teach the students in the smart classroom for the visually impaired, she said. A teacher of the school said ‘Annie’ is a learning system that uses touch-friendly devices to teach. It guides students with a friendly voice, so they don't need constant help. However, the teacher suggested that training for educators on the smart Braille classroom concept would be essential before its launch. The school for the blind, deaf and dumb was established at Burla in 1972. In the year 1980, the school was taken over by the government. In the year 1992, the school for the deaf and dumb and school for the blind was separated.



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Varun Tej, Manushi Chhillar-Starrer Air Force Action Film Makers Drop Big Update



The suspense will soon be over as the title for India's biggest Air Force action film will be unveiled tomorrow. The Hindi-Telugu film, also stars Manushi Chhillar as a radar officer. VT 13, inspired by true events, will take us through the biggest and the most deadly attacks witnessed by India and the victory of our Indian Air Force over their enemies by demonstrating strong courage to protect their country.

The highly anticipated film is produced by Sony Pictures International Productions and Sandeep Mudda from Renaissance Pictures, co-produced by Nandakumar Abbineni and God Bless Entertainment and is written by Shakti Pratap Singh Hada, Aamir Khan and Siddharth Raj Kumar.

Shah Rukh Khan's Jawan Becomes First Film To Cross USD 16 Million At Box Office In UAE

It's almost a month since Shah Rukh Khan's action-entertainer 'Jawan' has been released but its craze among the audience doesn't seem to settle down at any cost. One after the other, the film is creating new records at the Box Office not just in India but also across the world. Having set its strong feet in different parts of the world, 'Jawan' has now made a distinctive mark in the UAE market as well, as the film has emerged as the #1 Indian film in the Middle East with its phenomenal collection figures.

Talking about the same, Nelson D'Souza, Vice President International Distribution, said, 'Jawan' has been received



exceptionally well in international markets and continues to perform exceptionally well, becoming the first Indian film to cross USD 16 Million in the Middle East and emerging as the #1 Indian Film while raking in an outstanding 44.43 million in overseas till

date. There is nothing quite like this we have seen before and we are now looking forward to even more exciting times ahead with Dunki! - Nelson D'Souza, Vice President, International Distribution

'Jawan' is spreading its magic in the UAE market.

The film has become the first film to cross the whopping collection of USD 16 Million and has made it the #1 Indian film in the Middle East. Well, among many, this is indeed yet another example of its success and the unprecedented love that the film is receiving from the audience. Well, as we see, Jawan is constantly on the rise, it would be interesting to see how the film will create more records in the future. 'Jawan' is a Red Chillies Entertainment presentation directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan, and co-produced by Gaurav Verma. The film was released worldwide in theaters on September 7th, 2023, in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu.

Prime Video's Maitri: Female First Collective Hosts Its First Session In Chennai

Prime Video released the latest session of 'Maitri: Female First Collective', hosting its maiden discussion in Chennai. Launched last year, the collective is an endeavour to create a safe space where women from the Indian media and entertainment industry can come together to discuss their experiences, challenges and successes, and offer their perspective on bringing about a positive shift.

The session featured 8 eminent women from India's various entertainment industries, ranging from award-winning prolific actors who have worked across languages like Malavika Mohanan, Aishwarya Rajesh and Madhoo, to women who have left an indelible mark behind the camera, like creator, writer, showrunner & producer Reshma Ghatala, writer & director Swathi



Raghuraman, and cinematographer Yamini Yagnamurthy, in addition to Aparna Purohit, creator - Maitri & head of India Originals, Prime Video, and Smriti Kiran, creator and curator of Maitri & founder, Polka Dots LightBox.

Sharing personal anecdotes, the participants discussed the existing gender dynamics in the film industry, the challenges faced by female professionals, including stereotyping, colourism,

ageism, and much more. Surprisingly, the women noted how the issues were similar irrespective of whether they worked in front of the camera or behind it, or whether they worked in production or corporate roles. The core discussion also touched upon the true essence of feminism and empowerment, what gender-equality really means for the trailblazers gathered in the room. An interesting insight that was shared by all was

that true equality can be achieved when the industry stops tagging a particular role, a narrative or a job as woman-oriented or male-oriented. The group as a whole agreed that age-old conditioning often restricts the personal and professional growth potential of women, and can be changed only if it is internalized in one's home and social environment.

The interaction also highlighted the critical role that streaming was

playing in improving female representation, creating new opportunities for actors, regardless of their age, body size, or skin colour, and for creators to tell all kinds of unique stories.

"Equitable representation opens up a new world for young girls to draw inspiration from, making it all the more important to have women in positions of influence, where they can provide a platform for newer voices and open up doors for more women," said Aparna Purohit, creator - Maitri & head of India Originals, Prime Video. "However, we know that change is a gradual process. It is, therefore, important for us to continue having these discussions across the country, and we are thrilled to have hosted our first session in Chennai. Even though it is only a year old, Maitri has managed to drive change in the right direction. It is heartening to see people

having a conversation about diversity, equity and inclusion when writing or planning their projects."

Speaking about the need to have such conversations frequently, Smriti Kiran, creator & curator of Maitri and founder, Polka Dots LightBox said, "There is an undeniable need for spaces where women can voice their stories without any fear. Creating an environment that allows women to share their experiences without judgement is the first step in enabling any change, whether it is in the industry or society. This is precisely why we have to keep the conversation going relentlessly. Thrilled that Maitri is in Chennai today, tomorrow it will be in another part of India. We will continue to connect women across sections and states through conversation and collaboration."

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



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

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

in a statement.

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

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

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

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



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

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

Christmas time: Churches where Viceroy of India used to pray

Vivek Shukla



As Christmas is just couple of days away, churches across India are decorated for the big occasion. It is also high time when we talk about some of the most iconic churches our country and their architects. Henry Medd was among many young architects who came to New Delhi to assist masters like Sir Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Bakar when work was going on in a great pace to design series of new buildings in the brand new capital in the early part of last century. While assisting his seniors, he made a lasting mark in designing two landmark churches of the capital. His class was very much evident if you visit the Cathedral Church of the Redemption and the Sacred Heart Cathedral. In these two churches, Viceroy of India used to visit

for prayers before India got independence. Both were built by mid-1930s. Before they came up, the Viceroy used to visit St. James Church, Kashmiri Gate. Medd also designed High Court building at Nagpur and was Chief Architect to the Government of India from 1939 to 47. When he was barely 23, he joined the office of Lutyens here. And later he worked under the watchful eyes of Sir Herbert Baker for a very extended period here from 1919-31. Thus, he had the good-fortune of working under two great architects of their times. “Generations of people in capital have grown up in these banal buildings of New Delhi. Of course, that’s why architecture is so important. Medd was a master without any debate,” says Father George Solomon, a priest of Holy Trinity church of Delhi, “Medd was in full flow when he was designing these two churches. Here he was given complete freedom to practice his

philosophy of integrating built-form with landscape as a total environmental concept, every part of these churches speak a different language.” As far as Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart is concerned, it is located at Gol Dak Khana Roundabout. “It is a bold, elegant design in the Lutyens

sloping roofs. Looking at the Cathedral from outside the lack of windows adds to its massive appearance. After the capital of India was moved from Calcutta to Delhi the chaplain of the nascent city envisaged a massive Gothic church on the lines of Westminster Abbey. Sir Edwin Lutyens, the architect of Rashtrapati Bhavan, rejected the concept. He felt that Westminster Abbey, with all its glass

after the capital of India was moved from Calcutta to Delhi the chaplain of the nascent city envisaged a massive Gothic church on the lines of Westminster Abbey. Sir Edwin Lutyens, the architect of Rashtrapati Bhavan, rejected the concept. He felt that Westminster Abbey, with all its glass

the Redemption, it is located on north of Jaipur Column at a shouting distance from Parliament House. Though the exterior of the church is ordinary, with red sandstone roofing, the interior is very striking. “The interior of this Anglican Church has small recessed openings that

to his seniors the plantation of neem, jamun and amaltas trees in New Delhi area,” says Monodeep Daniyal of Delhi Brotherhood Society that established St Stephen’s College and St. Stephan’s hospital in Delhi. Noted author R.V. Smith, who knows about Delhi more than anybody else says, “Even though Medd designed these churches so many decades ago, they still look contemporary and good. I feel that well designed church buildings should convey a clear message and enhance the worship experience. It is my belief that people will continue to be attracted to church architecture that is honest and intentional in its message, meaningful in its experience and which glorifies God.” Medd had helped Baker a great deal in finalizing the finer details of the Council House (now Parliament) and Secretariat buildings (North and South blocks).

Medd was a master of building materials. He went into the minutest details. He never imposed his ideas on his juniors and other colleagues. Medd believed in using building materials in their original form. Medd was a contemporary architect who was interested in local culture, conditions and climate. Apart from that, he also designed High Court building at Nagpur and was Chief Architect to the Government of India from 1939 to 47. It was not only in capital that Medd made his mark as a very fine architect. He also designed the High Court building of Nagpur. Even after New Delhi was built, Medd decided to stay back here only and left only India got independence. To be fair with him, his career bloomed in India. He was Chief Architect to the Government of India (1939-47). He passed away in 1977.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor



stands on a broad base and rises in massive blocks to the tower, topped by a dome. On top of that dome a cupola stands on narrow pillars, carrying a cross soaring high above the body of the church. The buff sandstone walls contrast with the bright red tiles of the

tradition with an Italianate south front enriched by an oval mosaic. In the same colour scheme as Medd’s earlier Cathedral Church of the Redemption, this one is a definite improvement, “ informs Father George Solomon. In the early days

windows would only be fit for ‘frying bacon’ in the heat of the Delhi summer. Henry Medd, who eventually designed the Cathedral, heeded Lutyens warning and that is why the Cathedral does not have many windows. As far as the Cathedral Church of

filter the sunlight. It also has a fine organ as well as a striking stained glass window. The best part of Medd’s work was that he used to give lot of space for gardens. That you can see in both churches. It is said for him that he did extensive research before recommending

Let the Food Nourish your Body, Mind and Soul

Prof. Dr. Jyotiranjan Champatiray



With drastic changes in the lifestyle, maximum people are cooking at home than ever before and in the process, they are also discovering the unique connection between cooking & happiness. That’s also one of the positive aspects of staying at home. Certainly, when you are happy and peaceful in the kitchen, it strangely makes your food taste delicious. But why does that happen? It happens because everything is energy. The energy you are experiencing at the time of cooking can make a huge difference to the final outcome of a dish. If you feel ‘calm’ and satisfied within, then you essentially permeate

‘calmness’ into the food. Likewise, if you feel sad and gloomy then you infuse such energy into your food. So, when you eat the food you not only absorb various nutrients, but also the ‘energy’ instilled into it. The energy with which you prepare food is greatly important and therefore you should always try to infuse spiritual energy into your food. Here’s how, Prepare Food with Utmost Sanctity. Mother Nature provides us with food that nourishes the physical body and helps it grow. No one can survive without it. We take food and thus this physical body has also been named ‘Annamaya Kosha’- the food sheath, the first layer of the body. The next sheath is the ‘Pranamaya Kosh’- Life force sheath, followed by the ‘Manomaya Kosh’- the mind or thought

process layer, then the ‘Vijnanamaya Kosh’- the intuition sheath and finally, the ‘Anandamaya Kosha’- the spiritual bliss sheath. In India, before we start eating, we offer prayers and express our gratitude for the food we eat. Some people chant the

Gayatri mantra while cooking. So, when you prepare food with sanctity, these spiritual feelings get transferred in the food and then into family members as well who consume it. When you prepare food in a bad mood, it turns out to be tasteless, but when

you prepare it happily, it’s delicious. Therefore, prepare food with utmost sanctity while blessing your children, chanting mantras and with a positive frame of mind. Let the Food Nourish your Body, Mind and Soul, Also, when you are about to eat your food, you

must offer prayers and along with that express gratitude towards God for all that you have. Take a bite of food and know that you are offering it to God only because your soul is a part of God. So, consume food with love, and then the food will convert into life-juice. It will

nourish your body, mind, and soul. When you consume Sattvic food, your mind also becomes Sattvic and then you move on the path of selfless deeds. However, if the food is Rajasic or Tamasic, the mind and deeds also become like that. The Sattvic Impact of Sattvic Food. You understand God, His blessings, the scriptures, and words of the Guru, and move on the path of devotion naturally when you consume Sattvic food. And therefore in meditation practices, seekers work on their food habits first. Food nourishes both the body and the mind- the subtle form of the body- as both are connected. That’s why when the body is in trouble, it affects the mind and when the mind is disturbed, it affects the body. Further, almost seventy percent of diseases of the body are the

outcome of a disturbed mind and stress. Therefore, in older times, it was a popular belief that one should not consume food at the house of those with whom they don’t have good relations. So, avoid eating just anywhere. When you have Sattvic food at home, it impacts your thought process in a positive way. These are just a few of the various ways to prepare and consume food mindfully and in a Sattvic way. Practice them, try to find the spiritual meaning in them, and also experience a culinary delight over the sacred nature of preparing & eating food.

HOD & Professor, Deptt. of Paediatric, Fakirmohan Medical College & Hospital, Balasore, Mob. : 9437124074, E-mail : dr.jyotiranjan@rediffmail.com





The Union Minister for Women & Child Development and Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Irani and the Minister of State for Women and Child Development and AYUSH, Dr. Munjapara Mahendrabhai attend "National Programme on Aanganwadi – cum - Crèches (Mission Shakti)", in New Delhi

"No Partiality, Protesting Wrestlers Won't Be Singled Out": Brij Bhushan

New Delhi(KCN): "No Partiality, Protesting Wrestlers Won't Be Singled Out": Brij Bhushan New Delhi: The protesting wrestlers will not face any sort of vendetta politics and they will get the required support from the new federation, outgoing Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh said on Thursday after the panel backed by him emerged victorious in the keenly-followed elections. Brij Bhushan, who is facing sexual harassment charges from women wrestlers, assured that the new dispensation will work impartially. Rio Olympics medallist Sakshie Malikkh, though, announced her retirement from the sport, saying she won't compete under the presidency of a man who is backed by the former WFI boss. Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia are still active and hope to qualify for the 2024 Paris Games. The two

wrestlers also expressed disappointment that Brij Bhushan loyalist Sanjay Singh had become the new WFI chief but did not follow Ms Malikkh in quitting the sport. The three top wrestlers had launched an agitation against Brij Bhushan accusing him of sexually exploiting several women wrestlers, early this year. "All wrestlers will get support from the WFI. There will be no partiality. A lot of wrestlers, new and established ones, had sat on dharna on the first day of the protest (January 2023). No one will be singled out on that basis," Brij Bhushan told PTI when asked if the federation would support the wrestlers who had protested against him. "We have to look after the game and not the mistakes of the wrestlers. If they will suffer due to their mistakes, then the federation will not be impartial."

Asked if he will



continue to call the shots in the day-to-day running of the federation, Brij Bhushan said he won't interfere but, if his help is sought, he will offer suggestions. "They (new body) will control wrestling, if they want to take suggestions I am open to give," he said. It is also expected that the new body may change a few policy decisions that the ad-hoc panel had taken. The Bhupender Singh Bajwa-led ad-hoc body had recently announced that the Olympic quota won by the wrestlers will not belong to that

particular wrestler but to the country and the quota-winning wrestler will also have to undergo selection trials to book his or her place in the national team for the 2024 Paris Game. "Whatever decision the ad-hoc panel has taken, if they are for the good of wrestling we will continue with that," he said. The BJP MP, interestingly, claimed that they have swept the posts even as the new secretary-general and senior vice-president emerged from the rival camp, led by CWG gold medallist wrestler Anita Sheoran.

"The entire panel is ours. Whoever has won, has won from our votes," he said. Former Railways Sports Promotion Board secretary Prem Chand Lochab is the new secretary-general while Devender Kadian, who was seen with the wrestlers during their media address at Press Club of India after the WFI polls, grabbed the post of senior vice-president. The former WFI boss, who had a 12-year run in the federation, said the last 11 months were very unfortunate not only for him but also for the sport. "It was a very sad time for me personally as well for the wrestling fraternity and in a way for the country since the country's image was dented (due to allegations against him)," Brij Bhushan claimed the protesting wrestlers were exposed as time passed by. "When the protest started on January 18, an atmosphere was created that there might be some truth. Some wrestlers got influenced but when

we, the media, and the entire country started to ask for proof, they got exposed gradually," he said. Asked what got his panel the winning mandate despite such a large-scale agitation against him, the Kaiserganj MP listed a few factors. "For 11 months the way the sport and the wrestlers suffered, it contributed (to our win). We had done something good for the sport in our tenure and the result of that is before everyone today," he said, adding, "And I had firm belief that whenever elections will be held, our supporter will win the election because we worked as a team for the sport." Brij Bhushan suggested that the newly-elected body should conduct the U-15 and junior nationals before December 31. "My suggestion is that before December 31 if cadet and junior nationals do not happen, then it will be a loss. So my request to the new dispensation is to conduct U-15 and junior nationals first," he added.

PM Meets Speaker, Discusses Security Breach In Parliament, Karnataka Assembly

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla this evening to discuss the recent security breach in Parliament, sources said. The meeting took place after the Lok Sabha adjournment indefinitely. After last week's breach in the security of Parliament -- when two men smuggled in smoke bombs and let it off during the house proceedings -- whatever steps and security measures are needed, should be taken, sources quoted PM Modi as saying. The Prime Minister also spoke of the recent incident in Karnataka Assembly, where a man, impersonating an MLA, went inside and stayed for a while. The 72-year-old man, who slipped in undetected, was arrested after spending 15 minutes wandering in the House among the legislators. The police had said he managed it because the marshalls do not know every MLA by sight yet. Investigations are still on into the matter. The incident at parliament was more serious, raising multiple questions about the security measures that have been upgraded during the shift to the new building. Cocking a snook at the multi-layered security, the men had apparently smuggled in the smoke canisters inside their shoes. They were meant as protest measure to draw attention to the plight of farmers, the situation in Manipur and the growing unemployment across the country. All the people allegedly involved are in police custody. Four were arrested that day and the alleged mastermind, Kolkata-based teacher Lalit Jha, later surrendered. Investigators said off the record that there appeared to be no organised terror group behind the plot. Still, they are conducting an in-depth questioning of the accused.

Light Rain Likely In Delhi On Friday, Air Quality 'Very Poor'



New Delhi(KCN): Generally cloudy skies with light rain are expected in Delhi on Friday, and the minimum temperature is expected to dip to 5 degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department said. The national capital on Thursday recorded a minimum temperature of 6.4 degrees Celsius, two notches below the season's average. The mercury recorded a high of 23 degrees Celsius, a notch above normal, according to the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) weather bulletin. The 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) on Thursday settled in the 'very poor' category with a reading of 361, according to data from the Central Pollution Control Board. An AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'. The relative humidity at 5.30 pm was at 64 per cent, the bulletin said.

Nothing More Harrowing For Man Than To See Wife Act As Widow: Delhi High Court

New Delhi(KCN): No experience can be more harrowing for a husband than to see his wife behave like a widow while he is alive, the Delhi High Court said, adding that such a conduct amounts to "extreme cruelty". A marriage cannot survive if a spouse deprives the other of conjugal relationship and doing so is also an act of cruelty, the court said. "Nothing can be a more harrowing experience for a husband than to see his wife act as a widow during his lifetime, that too in a situation where he was seriously injured and expected nothing more than care and compassion from his significant other half. Undeniably, such conduct of the appellant/

wife can only be termed as an act of extreme cruelty towards the respondent/husband," a bench of Justices Suresh Kumar Kait and Neena Bansal Krishna said. The High Court's judgment came while dismissing a woman's appeal challenging a family court's decision granting divorce in her husband's favour, holding that she acted with cruelty towards him. "We thus, conclude that the evidence on record proved that there is no chance of reconciliation between the parties and such long separation peppered with false allegations, police reports and criminal trial can only be termed as mental cruelty. "The marital discord

between the parties has pinnacle to complete loss of faith, trust, understanding, love and affection between the parties. This dead relationship has become infested with acrimony, irreconcilable differences and protracted litigations; any insistence to continue this relationship would only be perpetuating further cruelty upon both the parties," the bench said. It said the bedrock of any matrimonial relationship is cohabitation and conjugal relationship. The couple got married in April 2009 and had a daughter in October 2011. The woman left her matrimonial home a few days before she delivered the child.



Glimpses of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at Mirza, Kamrup, in Assam

Diarrhoea Under Control

Rourkela(KCN): With diarrhoea claimed six lives in steel city Rourkela, Health Secretary Shalini Pandit today visited the hospitals and reviewed the situation with the local administration. More than 1,500 persons have been infected and at least six died due to diarrhoea in a span of the last seven days. The patients have been admitted to Rourkela Government Hospital (RGH), Ispat General Hospital, Medical College Sundargarh,

and other private hospitals in the city. The team discussed with all the stakeholders and held meetings with the authorities of all private medicals, Rourkela government hospital, IGH, Medical College in Sundergarh, Hi-tech medical college in the presence of senior health officials.

“The situation has been stable since yesterday as cases are not rising. The new patients who are coming to the hospital complain of



mild symptoms as water and food inspection has been stepped up. We expect that the situation will

come under control within the next two to three days,” Shrimati Pandit said. Usually, diarrhoea is

caused by food and water contamination, but here, cases have come from different areas. So,

epidemiology and microbiology study of the cases is being conducted. The community medicine department at Sundergarh Medical College has started the analysis, she added. A team from SCB, Cuttack and RMRC, Bhubaneswar will also join the study to find out the sources of the outbreak. They will also suggest remedial measures to prevent the spread of the disease further, Shrimati Pandit told reporters. She also informed 10

PHCs in the city will function 24x7 from today onwards. Meanwhile, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan wrote a letter to Union Health Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya seeking urgent central assistance to Rourkela and nearby affected areas in Odisha to control and address the recent outbreak. “The severity of the outbreak of diarrhoea in Rourkela and the potential risk it poses to public health is alarming. The disease is suspected to be

caused by water contamination, leading to severe health complications among the affected populace,” read the letter.

Keeping in mind the welfare of the people of Rourkela and nearby areas, he sought personal intervention of the Health Minister in immediate facilitation of central assistance to Rourkela and other affected areas in Odisha, for controlling and addressing the diarrhoea outbreak.

More Anti Maoist Camps

Bhubaneswar(KCN): To further intensify anti-Maoist operations in the State, the Police Department has decided to set up 11 new police camps in the left-wing extremists (LWEs) affected areas, Director General of Police Sunil Kumar Bansal said here today.

Shri Bansal said after chairing the Strategy Conference on Left Wing Extremism held here at Police Bhawan, Bhubaneswar.

Bansal said that the formation of the new camps would make the battle against the ultras more effective. The Police department is now focusing on dealing with the challenge from Kandhamal-Kalahandi-Boudh-Nayagarh (KKBN) and Nayanpuri divisions of the outlawed CPI (Maoist).

Noting that the elections are going to be held in 2024, the DGP said that the Maoist-affected districts will pose a major challenge to the police and appropriate steps would be taken to deal with the situation. “We need to remain cautious during the election period and ensure that the polls are held without any incident. Despite the deployment of forces, the presence of the ultras in



some pockets is also being felt and putting up posters,” said the DGP. He further informed that Odisha shares its border with Chhattisgarh and some rebels from either side cross over.

It was decided at the meeting to deploy high-tech drones in the anti-Naxal operations.

In his inaugural address, DGP appreciated the efforts by District Police, SIW, SOG and Central Armed Police Forces for their combined efforts in bringing about remarkable improvement in LWE situation in the State.

He thanked various Departments of the Government for extending unflinching support in the fight against the Maoist

menace. The DGP stated that the major focus is now on Kandhamal-Kalahandi and Boudh axis, which has emerged as the new flash point of Maoist activities.

He hoped that combined efforts by all the stakeholders will have a decisive advantage in the fight against the Maoists. Director, Intelligence, Sanjeeb Panda said that the aim of this Conference was to revisit the strategy and response to combat the problem in a more effective manner.

Shri Panda also emphasised that Security Forces must have proactive approach against the Maoists in South-Central Odisha i.e. Kandhamal-Boudh. He appreciated SPs of

Koraput and Malkangiri for showing great leadership in bringing down naxal incidents to nil in the last one and half year.

The Director Intelligence stated that Maoists may try to carry out demonstrative acts of violence in the run up to the General Elections – 2024 to make their presence felt and boost the morale of the rank and file and hence, Security Forces must be watchful to this.

A wide range of issues relating to the LWE problem in the State and way forward to combat the menace were discussed in this Conference.

The participants gave their thoughts and suggestions in this regard.

It was emphasized in the Conference that the intelligence gathering mechanism would be further strengthened and anti- – LWE operations would be further intensified in the affected areas with special focus on Boudh.

Among others, ADG (Operations) S Devdatta Singh, Intelligence DIG Anup Kumar Sahoo, Special Intelligence Wing (SIW) DIG Umashankar Dash and Superintendents of Police (SPs) of 10 Maoists-affected districts attended the meeting.

BJD Supports RS Chief

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Biju Janata Dal (BJD) came in support of the Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar, who mimicked Trinamool Congress MP Kalyan Banerjee in presence of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and many opposition MPs. Taking it to X, BJD leader in Rajya Sabha, Sasmit Patra said, “The Constitutional position of Hon’ble Chairman Rajya Sabha and Vice President of India is a revered institution which upholds Constitutional and Parliamentary richness of India. It’s extremely sad and unfortunate that such a mimicry of him and his position has been done and he has been

humiliated.” Belittling of institutions and Constitutional authorities is unacceptable and what has been done is completely wrong, he said.


Similarly, senior RS Member Amar Patnaik said he stood in the Rajya Sabha in support of the Vice President of India who has been subjected to humiliation by some of my colleagues.

“Saddened that this happened within the precincts of the Parliament. While expressing ourselves freely, we as public representatives also have a responsibility to adhere to the highest standards of decency and civility in public life and more so in the

Parliament,” he said. The RS Chairman, who is the Vice-President of India is not just a person occupying that chair, but is the second highest constitutional authority of the country, Shri Patnaik said, adding, “We can’t belittle this Chair and the Authority in any manner as it would reflect adversely on our Parliament as well as democracy. Let’s uphold the parliamentary tradition we’re proud of, and what the People of India rightfully expect us to do.”

Earlier in the day, President Droupadi Murmu expressed her dismay at the manner in which Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar was “humiliated” in the

Parliament complex. She stressed that the elected representatives must be free to express themselves, but their expression should be within the “norms of dignity and courtesy.” “I was dismayed to see the manner in which our respected Vice President was humiliated in the Parliament complex. Elected representatives must be free to express themselves, but their expression should be within the norms of dignity and courtesy. That has been the Parliamentary tradition we are proud of, and the People of India expect them to uphold it,” the President posted on her official social media handle.



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‘UnserHaus’ by BSH Home Appliances - Kolkata’s new luxury address

Bhubaneswar: BSH Home Appliances Group, one of the world’s leading home appliances companies today launched its first ‘UnserHaus’ in Kolkata. This is BSH’s only experience center in India to house all its three brands – Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau under one roof. Located at Salt Lake city’s Adventz Infinity @ 5, this new experience center is all set to welcome customers as well as Kolkata’s strong architecture & design community. The company already has two other stores in Kolkata – a multi-channel Bosch & Siemens Brand Store in Dhakuria and a Bosch Studio in Shakespeare Sarani. UnserHaus is the German name for “Our House”. It is a place where comfort, convenience, inspiration,

and memories reside in every corner. The philosophy and core ethos of BSH’s UnserHaus are focused on building long-lasting trust with all customers & business partners. Keeping this in mind, the space is designed to ensure that all visitors feel at home when they visit, helping them experience the products as if they were in their own house.

Commenting on the launch of UnserHaus, Kolkata, Neeraj Bahl, MD & CEO, BSH Home Appliances (India & SAARC) said, “Kolkata is one of our high performing markets and we’re thrilled to further expand our presence here by opening doors to our 101st retail space*. The new-age Indian consumer continues to look for offline experiences especially in

the home and cooking category and we’re glad to offer this state-of-the-art, practical space where buyers can get a first-hand experience of our innovation-fueled appliances across all three brands Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau. This is our sixth experience center in India and the only one to house all our three brands. We look forward to continued growth momentum in the city and we’re confident that this space will also boost our presence in key neighboring cities as well.”

*The company now has six experience centers across Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai and Kolkata, and an India-wide retail network of 95 brand shops (80 brand stores for Bosch and 15 brand stores for Siemens).

EICHER TRACTORS Launches PRIMA G3 - Premium Range of Tractors for Next-Gen Farmers

Bhubaneswar: EICHER TRACTORS, from the house of TAFE - Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited, world’s third largest tractor manufacturer, announced the launch of the EICHER PRIMA G3 Series - all new range of premium tractors for the new-age Indian farmer who demands style, substance and solidity. The EICHER PRIMA G3 is a new series of tractors in the 40 - 60 hp range, that offers Premium Styling, Progressive Technology and Perfect Comfort built with decades of unmatched experience. Launching the EICHER PRIMA G3 series, Mallika Srinivasan, CMD - TAFE said, “The

Eicher brand, for decades, has been well-known for its trust, reliability, ruggedness and versatility in both the agriculture and commercial space. The launch of the PRIMA G3, brings to the progressive farmers of a modern India, more productivity, comfort and ease to match their new aspirations, and offers an enhanced value proposition that Eicher has always promised.”

The new PRIMA G3 boasts a new age design with its distinct aerodynamic hood, that makes a unique style statement and offers easy access to the engine with its one-touch front-open, single piece bonnet. The bold grille with high

intensity 3D cooling technology and wrap-around headlamps and Digi NXT Dashboard are a perfect fusion of bold and elegant looks, which provide higher cross air flow and long hours of continuous operation. The youthful sporty steering wheel with a spinner knob offers effortless control.

Dr. Lakshmi Venu, DMD, TAFE Motors and Tractors Limited (TMTL) said, “Young and progressive farmers of India are seeking to maximise returns from farming operations while focusing on technology and agri-tech solutions, and the PRIMA G3 would be the ideal partner in creating an ecosystem that will

revolutionize agriculture”.

Engineered with state-of-the-art customer-centric technology, the EICHER PRIMA G3 range comes the High Torque - Fuel Saver (HT-FS) liquid cooled engine, that provides greater efficiency for higher productivity and more fuel savings. The C o m b i T o r q Transmission offers perfect pairing of the engine and the transaxle to deliver maximum power, torque and productivity. The new multispeed PTO provides 4 different PTO modes, making the EICHER PRIMA G3 compatible with multiple agricultural and c o m m e r c i a l

applications.

Sandeep Sinha, CEO - TAFE said, “We are delighted to launch the new PRIMA G3 series with a world-class styling and international technology, that offers premium automotive excellence in style, fit and finish, and robust build quality. The Eicher PRIMA G3 is a reflection of Eicher’s hallmark durability and reliability. The PRIMA G3 is equipped with ergonomic operator stations, new steering controls for a comfortable, safe and long hours of productive use. We will ensure that our customers have easy access to the new Eicher PRIMA G3 series.”

Mahagram offers door to door banking services through Kirana stores

Bhubaneswar: Mahagram is a social enterprise focusing on Financial Inclusion that has enabled banking from the mom-and-pop store around the corner through fintech solutions. The company’s mission is to enable rural women to save money at the local Kirana (or grocery) stores, instead of traveling miles to the nearest bank branch.

Recently, Mahagram has tied up with a public sector bank – the Bank of Maharashtra to roll out the ‘Bank Sakhi’ project in Odisha. The fintech

would provide financial technology and infrastructure support to augment rural financial inclusion. As part of the tie-up, the company has onboarded more than 11,000 bank sakhis (women) on the BharatATM platform to help the rural citizens avail themselves of basic banking services at their doorstep or the next door Kirana stores.

Mahagram aims to increase the ratio and habit of household savings in rural India. “At Mahagram, we are indulged in offering basic banking services

like deposit and withdrawing transactions to consumers but it is now high time for rural people to save money. We are focusing on Financial Inclusion the flagship project of Modi government, by helping lot of beneficiaries to open bank accounts under the ‘Jan Dhan Yojana’. We are also emphasizing on rural women because they are the ones who run households. Our vision for 2022 is to offer women the service of recurring deposit.” says Mr. Ram Shriram, CEO, Mahagram.

Godrej Appliances offers wide range of home appliances and enhanced shopping experience to consumers

Bhubaneswar: Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group announced that its business Godrej Appliances plans to strengthen its presence and expand its network of exclusive brand outlets further, inaugurating its first s t o r e in Chandol, Kendrapara district in the state of Odisha, India. This will be the brand’s 26th exclusive outlet in Odisha under Bhubaneshwar branch.

Towards strengthening the supply chain and creating a next-level experience for customers in Kendrapara, Godrej Appliances has launched its exclusive brand outlet - called Godrej

Inspire Hub spread over 1200 sqft, strategically located on the Chandol main road, in collaboration with its c h a n n e l partner Jagannath Electronics.

Convenience and comfort are primacies for consumers today. This is evident from the gradual increase in demand for premium products, even in tier II and tier III cities. Moreover, with the pandemic in the backdrop, appliances have emerged as a necessity in every Indian home.

EBOs solidify Godrej Appliances’ already extensive network across the country, fulfill the premium product requirement of its

customers and most importantly give them a much wider display to choose from thus enhancing their purchase experience. The brand currently has 120+ exclusive outlets across the country and aims to have 140+ EBOs by this financial year.

Speaking on the occasion of the launch, Sanjeev Jain, National Sales Head - Godrej Appliances said, “We have always endeavored to be as close to our customers as possible. We believe our Exclusive Brand Outlets will give even greater value to our loyal customers. With our exclusive showroom, we have the opportunity to

showcase our entire range of best-in-class appliances at a single location. Odisha is an important market for us and we look forward to delighting our customers with the best shopping experience.”

Adding further, Sanjay Kumar Behera, Owner of Jagannath Electronics said, “We are extremely delighted to have partnered with Godrej Appliances, which is a highly respected and trusted brand. We are sure that our outlet will prove to be a great destination for the discerning customers of Chandol through its unique offerings from Godrej Appliances.”

The exclusive brand outlet will display the

entire range of Godrej appliances including refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, dishwashers, air coolers, deep freezers, microwave ovens, thermoelectric technology-powered Godrej Qube and UV-C technology-based Godrej Viros shield. To top it, there are inaugural assured gifts on purchase of select models for customers. Consumers will also be able to avail one-year free extended warranty on select models and one year of product insurance, exclusively, at every Godrej Appliances’ exclusive brand outlet. The brand also provides priority after-sales service to every Godrej exclusive store customer.

Annual General Meeting of Vitesco Technologies

Regensburg: Vitesco Technologies, a leading international developer and manufacturer of cutting-edge drive systems for sustainable mobility, held its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) today. The AGM was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In separate votes, the shareholders formally approved the actions of all the Executive Board members during their term of office in the 2021 financial year. The actions of all members of the Supervisory Board in office in 2021 were also approved for their respective terms. “We are delighted to have received this vote of confidence from the Annual General

Meeting. We regard this outcome as a clear mandate to continue the successful collaboration and positioning of Vitesco Technologies as a supplier of sustainable drive solutions with a clear goal,” said CEO Andreas Wolf.

All current members of the Supervisory Board representing the shareholders who were up for election were re-elected to office. The members of the Supervisory Board who represent the employees will be elected separately. A complete list of all Supervisory Board members and the results of the voting at the AGM are available on the Vitesco Technologies website under ‘Annual General Meeting’.

LV Prasad Eye Institute Organizes a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk

Bhubaneswar: L V Prasad Eye Institute’s MithuTulsiChanrai Campus in Bhubaneswar organized a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk on 8th May 2022. This walk is part of the ‘Whitathon’ event organized by LV Prasad Eye Institute across its campuses in Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam and

Vijayawada. Celebrity actor, Mr Sabyasachi Mishra, will be flagging off the walk.

Whitathon is L V Prasad Eye Institute’s annual cause-related event focusing on raising awareness and funds for early diagnosis and treatment of Retinoblastoma – a Life and Vision-threatening Eye Cancer in Children. One of the most common

symptoms of Retinoblastoma is White Reflex (white glow) in a child’s eye. Through this walk, LVPEI aims to raise awareness among the public that if they spot a ‘White Reflex’ in a child’s eye, it could be a sign of eye cancer that needs immediate medical intervention. Hence, the event is named ‘Whitathon’.

Dr Devjyoti Tripathy,

Ocular Oncologist, MithuTulsiChanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar, L V Prasad Eye Institute said, “Our aim is to raise awareness about early detection and treatment of retinoblastoma eye cancer in children. No child should die of eye cancer because of lack of awareness and treatment. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Sabyasachi Mishra for joining us for

the Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk and spreading awareness about Retinoblastoma. We also acknowledge the support received from Aroh – Giving Hope, an NGO working for children with Cancer and their families.”

Dr Tripathy further added that it is time to make detailed eye check-ups a part of mandatory paediatric examinations.

Bank of Baroda launches Industry-First end-to-end Digital Co-Lending Platform

Mumbai: Bank of Baroda (Bank), one of India’s leading public sector banks and named the Best Technology Bank by Indian Banks’ Association (IBA), today announced the launch of an end-to-end Digital Platform to facilitate co-lending of loans in partnership with NBFCs. The platform provides seamless integration between the Bank and multiple NBFC partners to strengthen, accelerate and simplify the co-lending process. The platform uses rule-based algorithms for underwriting, enables credit assessment checks, enables Retail, MSME, Agri co-lending product offerings and

increases process efficiency. The digital co-lending platform has state-of-the-art capabilities to handle both the option 1 (Non-Discretionary) and option 2 (Discretionary) models of co-lending for secured as well as unsecured products as per the latest RBI guidelines on the co-lending model.

Shri Vikramaditya Singh Khichi, Executive Director, Bank of Baroda said, “The Digital Co-Lending Platform will pave the way for both Bank of Baroda and our NBFC partners to seamlessly integrate and enable lending to borrowers with improved TAT. Co-

lending is a priority area for the Bank and we believe that this state-of-the-art platform will help to achieve significant milestones in the coming years. The Bank is targeting to partner with at least 10 NBFCs and also to build a Rs.10,000 crore co-lending loan book through the digital platform in the next two years.”

Shri Akhil Handa, Chief Digital Officer, Bank of Baroda added, “The Digital Co-Lending Platform is an agile tech-driven multi-dimensional solution that provides an end-to-end solution for the complex accounting issues which are common under co-lending.

Amazon.in launches ‘Back to School’ store

Bhubaneswar: With the opening of schools and resuming of offline classes, Amazon.in announced the launch of ‘Back to school’ store – a one stop destination to simplify the shopping needs of children. The specially curated store offers deals on a wide range of products across study essentials like stationery, laptops, tablets, mobile phones, PCs, headsets & speakers, printers, Amazon devices, home furnishing among others

to help parents, teachers and students with school supplies and to create an effective learning and productive environment. The offers and deals will be available till 12th June 2022.

Here are some popular products customers can choose from the ‘Back to school’ store on Amazon.in. All offers & deals are from participating sellers. HONOR MagicBook X 15, Intel Core i3 Anti-Glare Thin and Light Laptop – It has stylish

appearance with premium aluminum metal body with 16.9MM thickness, 5.3 MM narrow bezels and the weight of the laptop is only 1.56kg, which allows you to carry it easily, making it very convenient for school, travel, and work. It is available for starting INR 37,990 on Amazon.in. Lenovo Tab M10 FHD Plus Tablet, Platinum Grey - Make way for the stylish 8.1 mm Tab M10 FHD Plus.

David Houghton steps down as Zimbabwe men's coach

NewDelhi:In his resignation letter, ZC revealed, Houghton mentioned that had "lost the changeroom" after 18 months in charge. In his resignation letter, ZC revealed, Houghton mentioned that had "lost the changeroom" after 18 months in charge. © Getty Zimbabwe Cricket (ZC) have confirmed that their senior men's head coach Dave Houghton has resigned from his position with immediate effect. The board revealed that it plans to keep Houghton involved and is looking "to re-assign him to a new role within the organisation". An interim technical team, which will be announced in due course according to ZC, will be in charge of the team during the tour to Sri Lanka in January. Zimbabwe recently



failed to qualify for the T20 World Cup, where they lost to Namibia and Uganda, but the last nail in the coffin was their loss to Ireland in both the ODI and T20I series. In his resignation letter, ZC revealed, Houghton mentioned that had "lost the changeroom" after 18 months in charge and felt that a "new voice" was

needed to take the team forward. "I have always had Zimbabwe cricket at heart and, though my coaching of the national team comes to an end, I would love to be involved in other areas," Houghton said after tending his resignation. "The talent base in Zimbabwe is enormous. How we move

players from talented to performing well on the international stage is a great project to be involved in."

ZC Chairman Mr. Tavengwa Mukuhlani said: "Dave will always be a legend of our game and it is with regret that he felt the changeroom needed a new voice.

"While the past few

months have been disappointing as we failed to qualify for both the 50-over World Cup and the T20 World Cup, they should not obscure all the work he has done over the past year to rebuild the foundations for long-term success.

"Dave leaves the team with our sincerest thanks for his tireless efforts and we are looking forward to working with him in a different role as we seek to change our on-field fortunes."

The board also informed that after its meeting on Wednesday, it has appointed a three-member committee chaired by Lloyd Mhishi "to probe the World Cup qualification failures as well as to review ZC's cricket affairs structure". The committee, whose other members are Godfrey Nyadongo and Blessing Ngonzo, has been given three weeks to submit its findings.



key players," Desmond Haynes, CWI Lead Selector, said. "However, we have had a very strong red-ball program being run over the past year, which has unearthed significant talent throughout the region. The selected players have passed each test given to them and must now be given the opportunity to showcase their skills in the test arena. Australia away is always a challenge, but we are confident in our team."

Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph has been appointed as the new vice-captain. West Indies will play a four-day warm-up fixture before taking on Australia in the first Test in Adelaide beginning on January 17. The second Test will be a pink-ball affair, set to commence on January 23 at the Gabba.

Squad: Kriagg
Brathwaite (C)
Tagenarine Chanderpaul
Alick Athanaze, Kirk
McKenzie, Joshua da
Silva, Alzarri Joseph
(VC), Kemar Roach
Kevin Sinclair, Kaven
Hodge, Justin Greaves
Akeem Jordan
Gudakesh Motie, Tevin
Imlach. Shamar Joseph
Zachary McCaskie

Kevin Sinclair, who was picked for the India series but didn't get a game, has been retained. Apart from him, the other uncapped players picked in the squad are batter Zachary McCaskie, wicket-keeper Tevin Imlach, allrounders Justin Greaves and Kavim Hodge, fast bowlers Akeem Jordan and Shamar Joseph. Gudakesh Motie, whose last Test appearance was against South Africa in March, has been recalled. Holder and Mayers will be looking to pursue T20 deals in January, according to CWI.

"The squad has been affected by the unavailability of some

A pretty special night for us as a family: Mitchell on IPL Auction

New Delhi: New Zealand's 32-year-old Daryl Mitchell was back home packing up a gift for his daughter who was turning five the next morning when 1000s of kilometers away in Dubai the IPL Auction was on. Mitchell had one previous IPL gig to his name in 2022 when Rajasthan Royals picked him up for his base price of INR 75 Lakh. He played just two games, was subsequently released and then went unsold before the 2023 season.

But a busy 18-odd months including an eye-catching ODI World Cup campaign in India meant there were going to be takers this time around. To be precise, there were three of them jostling for the New Zealander before five-time champions Chennai Super Kings sealed the deal at a whopping INR 14 crore. "It was obviously a pretty

special night for us as a family, sitting here with my wife watching the whole auction," Mitchell said. "To see your name come up and then to go through that whole experience is definitely something that will stick with us for the rest of our lives."

"Your heart starts to pump a little bit, as you see the paddles going up. But having been through the auction before and going unsold, it was a pretty special night last night to experience that," he added.

Starting off from a modest base price of INR 1 Crore, the tussle was largely two-way with Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings vying for him aggressively. But at the point where DC exited the bidding, in came CSK at INR 12 Crore. PBKS persisted and dragged it out till INR 13.75 Crore and nearly had their man until CSK raised their



baton at the very last moment before the hammer came down, to take the bidding to 14 Crore. PBKS pulled out and CSK got their man - a spin hitter who can fill the void left by Ben Stokes's exit in the middle-order. Mitchell was grateful for how the night transpired and reckoned a life-changing contract like that sets the family up well for the future.

"She [his daughter] has got a pretty good present, waking up to that - not that she understands what's going on. But that's the whole thing about these sorts of situations - it helps set up your family in many ways so that they can grow up and enjoy the things they love.

"For me, that's the really cool thing about it. They're the ones that are

the reason why you do all this," Mitchell said. Besides the joys of a big contract and the chance to play under the most successful IPL captain, Mitchell will also have familiar faces in his corner with Devon Conway, Mitchell Santner and Rachin Ravindra, who CSK snapped up in the recent auctions for INR 1.80 Crore.

Usman Khawaja In Trouble Again For Wearing Black Armband To Support Civilians In Gaza

New Delhi: Australia's opening batter Usman Khawaja has been making headlines this month but not because of his cricketing achievements. Khawaja has been quite vocal with his stance on war between Israel and Palestine and maintains that peace should be restored in war-torn Gaza. He was to wear a pair of shoes in the first Test vs Pakistan that read 'All Lives Are Equal'. But a last-minute call taken by International Cricket Council citing the Clothing and Equipment Law. As per the law, no cricketer can wear anything on the cricket field except what is

allowed under the rules. Khawaja posted a video on his social media, saying that he was not going to wear the controversial shoes but will surely look to get the permission to play with them.

Khawaja also said, in the same video, that some people were trying to make it a political matter when all that he was saying is that all lives in this world, irrespective of race or religion, are important and no life, especially of children, should be lost.

The opening batter wore a black armband during the first Test. Turns out, Khawaja did not have the required permission to even wear that. News Corp

reported that ICC allows cricketers to wear the black armband only when a cricketer is going through a personal bereavement. In Khawaja's case, it was not such a case.

The ICC's clothing and equipment regulations state that: "In determining whether a message is for a 'political, religious or racial cause', the starting point is that the ICC and its members acknowledge and agree that cricket should be used as a tool to bring people and communities around the world together and not as a platform to draw attention to potentially divisive political issues, rhetoric or agendas.

Gujarat Titans Head Coach Ashish Nehra Breaks Silence On Hardik Pandya Leaving Franchise

New Delhi: Hardik Pandya leaving Gujarat Titans (GT) after leading the team into the final for back-to-back season was the biggest shocking news ahead of the IPL 2024 Auction. This was the first time that an IPL winning captain was traded out by a franchise as Mumbai Indians (MI) bought him from GT. Soon after the trading was done, Hardik was named as the captain of the MI side as he replaced Rohit

Sharma, who made MI what it is today. For the first time since Hardik's departure, GT coach Ashish Nehra has reacted to his exit, saying that replacing Hardik is very difficult but they have faith in the leadership skills of Shubman Gill, who is their new captain. "To replace a player like Hardik Pandya is difficult considering his talent and experience. We have seen how he (Gill) has shaped up in the past three-four years. He is



24-25 years of age but he has a good head on his shoulders," Nehra said in a virtual post-auction press meet on Tuesday night.

Nehra also said that they are going to back Gill to the hilt as captain and results will not be the only scale on which he will be rated upon as leader.

"We believe in him. That is why we made him captain. I am not someone who will always go by results. Yes, results are important but when

you come to captaincy, you have to look at other things also. We are confident that Gil is the right person (for captaincy)," Nehra added.

Nehra also spoke on the extra-ordinary prices being shelled out to buy some players, particularly Mitchell Starc and Australian captain Pat Cummins. Starc fetched Rs 24.75 crore at the auction as he was bought by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) while Cummins was sold to Sunrisers

Hyderabad (SRH) for a whopping Rs 20.50 crore. GT was one of the teams who kept bidding for Starc. Nehra was asked if Starc was overpriced, to which he said, "There is nothing like being overpriced in the IPL. Everybody knows what Starc can do. He is a proven player. We needed a fast bowler and every team had different strategies. We have to be satisfied with what we have. For a bowler like Starc, I don't think that is a surprise."