

Media Crusade: Indian Media Congress Rings with Calls for Government Action and Journalistic Recognition





Bhubaneswar,(KCN): Day 2 of the Indian Media Congress held at the Press Club of India in New Delhi became the epicenter for passionate appeals for government intervention. At the heart of this fervor was the 'Democracy and Media' conference, presided over by Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray, editor in chief of Odia Daily PARYABEKHYAK and English Daily THE K A L I N G A CHRONICLE with former BJP vice President Surajvan Singh Kataria as the guest of honour. Both emphasized the urgent need for central and state governments to address the challenges faced by dedicated journalists contributing tirelessly to society. Discussions underscored critical concerns for journalists, highlighting the imperative for safety at work, official recognition, and credentials. Delegates passionately advocated for enhanced working conditions, free health facilities, pension benefits, and bereavement support for families in case of untimely deaths. Other notable figures and guests of honour including Delhi University Professor Meena Sharma, Manoj Singh Tomar (President, Bharatiya Namo Association), Vijay Shankar chaturvedi, President, Indian Accredited Journalists Association, and Ashok Pandey, National President, Bharatiya Shramajibi patrakar Sangha, new Delhi lent their voices to the cause, stressing the pressing need for government action. A momentous occasion unfolded as distinguished journalists, including Nirod Ranjan Patnaik (News 7), P.K. Chaurasia (Dainika Vaskar), Ajay Shulka (Lakshmi Sandesh), Geeta Burma (Khoj Khabar), and six others, were honoured for their outstanding contributions to journalism. The event witnessed a robust turnout with hundreds of media representatives, including key figures like Sanjay Das (President of the association), Rajnikant Samantray (Vice President), and Hrishikesh Mohanty (General Secretary), actively participating in the discussions. As the Indian Media Congress unfolds, the unified voice of these media advocates reverberates, urging authorities to acknowledge and strengthen the indispensable role journalists play in shaping and sustaining a vibrant democracy. This symphony of advocacy intensifies, resonating beyond the conference walls, as journalists collectively strive for a brighter and more secure future in their dedicated service to society.

Odisha Govt Restructures OHMS Cadre With Corresponding Pay Revision



Bhubaneswar(KCN): In another significant step towards attracting and retaining quality manpower for the smooth delivery of health services, the Odisha Government has restructured the Odisha Homeopathic Medical Service (OHMS) cadre with corresponding pay revision in the cadre.

As per the revised structure, the total cadre strength was enhanced to 630 with 399 posts at the base level. Health Secretary Shalini Pandit in a notification to this effect mentioned that there would be 196 posts at the first promotional hierarchy in the pay matrix of level-12 under ORSP Rules.

The number of the posts of Deputy Director in the pay level – 13, would be enhanced to 2 for opening more promotional opportunities in the cadre. The fourth promotional hierarchy in the cadre would be the post of Joint Director in the pay level – 14. The revised cadre would include Joint Director – 01; Deputy Director – 02; DHMO / dy. Supdt / CMO – 32; and, Sr. HMO – 399. The officers in the OHMS cadre welcomed this resolution, and thanked the State Government for the move, the notification stated.

5T Chairman Visits Bhadrak, Reviews Various Ongoing Projects

Bhubaneswar(KCN): As per the direction of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, 5T and Nabin Odisha Chairman V.K. Pandian visited Bhadrak District to review the progress of various developmental works in the district and interact with the general public. Pandian reviewed the progress of the Development of Akhandalamani Temple, Aradi for Rs. 48 Crs. He also reviewed the progress of Major Projects – Mega PWS Project for Chandbali for Rs. 893 Crs; Bhadrak Ring Road for Rs. 100 Crs; Construction of



Integrated Instream Storage Structure at Akhuapada for Rs. 480 Crs; Construction of New DHH & MCH and 100 Bedded Super Speciality Hospital at Bhadrak for Rs. 164 Crs; Construction of Chudamani Harbour in Basudevypur for Rs. 47 Crs; Puruna Bazar to Guzidahara via Maa

Bhadrakali Temple for Rs. 41 Crs; Development of Dhamara Jetty for Rs. 27 Crs. Later, Pandian also reviewed the progress of Three Important Bridges – The bridge over the Salandi River at Dhanakanika, Chandbali for Rs. 80 Crs; Rail Over Bridge at Kenduapada, Bhandaripokhari for Rs.

55 Crs and Bridge over River Mantei at Panchuthikiti, Chandbali at Rs. 52 Crs. All three bridges were received as requests during last visit of Pandian to Bhadrak District. Some of the other major projects have also been taken up after the previous visit of Pandian to Bhadrak District when he attended the grievance meetings and took feedback from the public. He interacted with the public at Aradi, Asurali and Bhadrak Municipality and received grievances on various issues and assured early resolution.

her favour as per SC and ST Atrocity Act,” the Vigilance said. Accused SRA Kanungo had demanded Rs. 25,000 bribe from the victim to process her file and help her get the total compensation amount.

Revenue Assistant Caught Taking Rs 10K Bribe In Jajpur

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha Vigilance on Wednesday apprehended a Senior Revenue Assistant (SRA) of the Office of DIPRO and also in an additional charge, office of DWO, Jajpur, while

taking a Rs 10,000 bribe. “Subrat Kumar Kanungo, Sr Revenue Assistant (SRA), office of DIPRO and also in an additional charge, office of DWO, Jajpur has been apprehended by Odisha Vigilance while

demanding and accepting bribe Rs. 10,000/- as the second and final instalment of the overall demand of Rs 25,000/- from an SC/ST Act Atrocity victim for facilitating the release of compensation amount in

her favour as per SC and ST Atrocity Act,” the Vigilance said. Accused SRA Kanungo had demanded Rs. 25,000 bribe from the victim to process her file and help her get the total compensation amount.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES 9TH CONVOCATION OF INSTITUTE OF LIVER & BILIARY SCIENCES

New Delhi,(KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the ninth convocation of the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) in New Delhi today (December 27, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that ILBS has carved its own niche in a span of only 13 years on the strength of world-class efficiency and integrity. She was happy to note that more than 1000 liver transplants and approximately 300 renal transplants have been performed at ILBS. She stated that India is becoming an international healthcare hub on the strength of institutions like ILBS by providing world-class health services at relatively low cost.



The President said that with the integration of life sciences and modern information technology, revolutionary changes are taking place in the field of healthcare. She termed the establishment of Artificial Intelligence Learning Unit in ILBS as a timely initiative. She urged ILBS to continue to work in the

field of research along with providing treatment. The President said that there is a need to pay more attention to preventive healthcare. It can be said that liver is the security guard of our body. Health problems related to liver are serious in our country and the huge number of diseases caused by them

is a cause for worry. She said that ILBS is expected to make a significant contribution in the prevention of liver diseases. The President said that due to non-availability of sufficient number of organs, many patients are deprived of liver, kidney or any other transplant. Unfortunately, unethical

practices related to organ donation also come to light from time to time. It is the responsibility of an aware society to solve these problems. In our country, there is a need to organize more and more awareness campaigns on a larger scale to encourage people about organ donation. The President advised doctors to take care of themselves. She said that amidst the challenges like long duty hours, continuous emergency cases and night duties, they have to continuously serve the patients with full alertness and enthusiasm. Therefore, it is important that despite all the challenges, they all remain physically, mentally and spiritually healthy and alert.

Narayan Jain elected National President of AIFTP

Kolkata, (KCN): Kolkata based tax advocate Narayan Jain has been elected National President of All India Federation of Tax Practitioners (AIFTP) for 2024 in National Convention presided over by Adv. Pankaj Ghiya. Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge of the Supreme Court of India administered oath of Office to Jain and appreciated the functioning of AIFTP and training of tax practitioners to update their knowledge so that they can represent the matters well. Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya of Calcutta High Court conveyed her good wishes for the success of Convention. Jain reiterated focus on programmes for inculcating Ethics, spreading Education and ensuring excellence in profession of members of AIFTP. Awards were also given for 2023. Appointments made



were Adv. RD Kakra, National Secretary General; Adv. Samir Jani- Deputy President and CA Anil Mathur as Treasurer. Justice R.V. Easwar former Judge, PC Joshi, Premata Bansal, Ganesh Purohit & M Srinivasa Rao chaired sessions. Speakers included CA Dr. Debasish Mitra (on Artificial Intelligence), Debayan Patra, Sumit Nema, Jinesh Vanzara, CA S. Venkataramani, Mukul Gupta, Sanjeev Anwar, Adv. Aditya Ajgkaonkar, G Baskar. BL Mittal, Hitesh Das

(Axis MF), Dr. Srikant Bawsay, Madan Maroti, Abhay Desai and Mahendra Gargieya. Mamta Binani, Rajesh Mishra and Anshu Sethia nicely anchored. Key persons were Sandip Choraria (Convention Secretary), ND Saha, Madhu Sudan Kakra, Deepak Jain, Sajjan Sultania, PR Kothari, KN Gupta, Aghor Dudhwewala, Rajesh Agarwal, Vikash Parakh, Narendra Goyal, DS Agarwalla, Nitesh More, Ashok Kar, Himadri Mukhopadhyay, Abhisek Agarwal, Gaurav Mathur,

Abhisek Jalan, Rajesh Mishra, Tarun Das, Anupam de, GR Sharma, B.L. Dugar, Rakesh Nahar, P.K. Banthia, Pawan Paharia. Cultural programme was by Ganga Pachisia, Mita Paul, Tariq Hussain and Pinky Saha. The programme was organised in association with Legal Relief Society, Direct Taxes Professionals Association, Calcutta Citizens Initiative, ACAE, Calcutta Tax Association, Views Exchange along with ICAI (EIRC) as Knowledge partner.



I miss you

Saikat Kumar Basu

I miss u when i cry
I miss u when I laugh
I miss u when i fight
I miss u when i break
I miss u when i make
I miss u when the sun shines
I miss u when the twilight sets
I miss u when the moon steps
I miss you when the stars smile
I miss u in the dark
I miss you in the light
I miss u when the season changes
I miss u when the time strides on
I miss u when the birds sing
I miss u when the flowers bloom
I miss u when the bees fly
I miss you when the rsin falls
I miss you when the sweat drops
I miss you when I am lost
I miss u when i am tired
I miss you when I mourn
I miss u when i worship
I miss you when I thank God
I miss u when i miss you
I miss you yesterday today and tomorrow.

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Quotation of the Day



A good day is a
good day. A bad
day is a good
story.

- Glennon Melton


DEV

(Shibangi Dhara), Bandana Sahoo

He shines through his beauty
Being alone
to hang one's own destiny
holding karma together like Banjaras
Sometimes here and sometimes there
Like a flying bird.

Anger rubs his nose
His heart is very innocent
If you ever get a chance
Get rid of childishness
At least meet his mischievous eyes.

No matter how much the lips say
He remain very silent



He is also very clever
by looking around.

No matter how big the pain
His heart bears it with great silence
His eyes full of confidence
Overcomes all difficulties with victory.

Let's go to Dev's street
Visit his garden
His heart is fragrant with his name
One day success will kiss his feet
the stains of all hard work will be erased.


Jajpur
7205550713

Symphony

Alok Kumar Pradhan

I murmured the song
that I forgot
after you returned
my bird of love came back
which I blew in the cyclone now in the
changed shape
it was a dove of peace
The broken strings of
my guitar of time
started composing
melodious songs.

That rosy mood of the
lost time
was not over when you



came back
A new plant of green leaves
and its branches were as if waiting for
centuries for
your return

All my forgotten wishes
lost in endless world
became dearest darling
after your return.

Alok Kumar Pradhan is a promising
young Odia poet. He has two
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Ranjan Mahapatra

Remembering Imroz



did not have its Odia Advisory Panel Meeting for 13 years when I joined. My immediate predecessor was a nice person, but had no background of literature and publishing. I took Odisha Sahitya Akademi as a partner in many activities. To my great fortune, Indubhusan Kar, who was an OAS officer, was the Secretary. We together planned to hold an International Conference of Odia Literature, the first of its kind at Delhi. Indubabu and I together roamed around Delhi to meet prominent writers of other languages who can possibly be roped in to participate in the conference to give it a national colour. It was the maiden attempt to put Odia Literature in the national perspective. We went to residences of writers like Indira Goswami, Sisir Kumar Das, Kedarnath Singh and many, and finally reached the residence of Amrita Pritam. It was evening. One gentleman came out. I presumed, he may be Imroz with whom Amrita Pritam was living in for years. He welcomed us and took inside. The room had dreamy light, not very sharp. Indubabu informed Amrita Pritam beforehand. We met her. What a graceful beauty she had. And, a very soft tone. She was a personal friend of Nandini Satpathy, writer and former CM and had visited Odisha a number of times. She agreed to be in the Conference and did it. With Coffee and Pakoda we returned with a happy note. I have been to the house of Amrita Pritam on many occasions for some or the other works of NBT. Many times I met Imroz, who always tried to keep himself away from public eye and used to do painting. Whenever Young Odia Writers used to ask me for help to meet renowned writers in Delhi, I used to send them to Amrita Pritam, Kartar Singh Duggal, Kamaleswar or Kedarnath Singh. Today I fondly recollect memory of Amrita Pritam. She died a bit early. I translated her poems and wrote a piece on her when she got Jnanpith in Alok in 1981. There was a lot of hue and cry when she got Jnanpith. Later I understood that many such awards are given on several considerations and not literary excellence alone. But she was a very good writer. A few years back after the death of Amrita Pritam, Nirakar Das, PRO of East Coast Railways wanted to hold a function to remember the great author and wanted Imroz to be there. He approached me and I called Imroz. 'Manasji, when Amrita was alive, I used to not accompany her, for I always wanted her to remain great alone. Now, after her death I still maintain the same conviction. I don't want to take a share from her greatness.' Imroz politely replied. Amrita Pritam and Imroz had a super natural relationship based on a supra conscious love. Imroz composed several poems on Amrita after her death. He was in his early forties and Amrita in her early sixties when they started living together. Amrita used to lament, 'Jeet, why you came to my life in its evening, you should have come in the afternoon!' Amrita Pritam and Imroz had less physical and more emotional bonding. What a great man!

He always remained aloof from the world of publicity and showmanship, though was a great painter and poet..

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



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Movie Review: Kho Gaye Hum Kahan Is Compelling Coming-Of-Age Story In Digital Age

"We are so obsessed staring at the screen these days that we didn't realize life has gone past us," laments Ananya Panday's Ahaana in a poignant moment in Arjun V Singh's "Kho Gaye Hum Kahan." The hustle of living from one post to another, constant life updates, and the thirst for validation from the many faceless followers on social media are perhaps the story of our lives.

Debutante Director Arjun V Singh takes us into the world of three best friends. Imaad (Siddhant Chaturvedi) is a stand-up comic with a happy-go-lucky attitude towards every situation, including his dating life. If not on stage, he is busy swiping left and right on Tinder, the dating app. Ahaana (Ananya Panday) is Imaad's flatmate, a whiz who is in a long-term

relationship with her boyfriend, whom she hopes to marry. Then there is Neil (Adarsh Gourav), a gym trainer who aspires to have his studio someday. Like any regular 25-year-old, they are following their passion, working hard, and partying harder. Introspection of life happens over several bottles of beer; they keep no secrets from each other, or do they? Even though their parents don't understand their mindset—Imaad's rich father asks him to start working in the family's business, while Neil fails to understand the penny-pinching mindset of his working-class parents, who tell him that he does not know the difference between need and want. Ahaana, a brilliant professional with fancy degrees and medals to her credit, is a pushover who gets walked over by her



boss as well as her boyfriend.

But we live in a world where FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) is a thing. Keeping it private, keeping it real are passé. If it is not on social media, then it may as well not exist. We have given the rite of passage into our lives to strangers and people we are

unlikely to meet since a thumbs up or down from them is what can make or break us. Take Ahaana; her heartbreak after getting dumped by her boyfriend is further amplified when she realizes his new girlfriend has over a million followers.

The unsure Ahana creates a fake account to

stalk her boyfriend and starts putting out happy and sexy touched-up pictures of herself on Instagram to prove her life continues to rock. Imaad, on the other hand, who flits from one fling to another, meets an older and wiser woman (Kalki Koechelin), but being commitment-phobic, continues to see other women. Neil, who is dating his client LaLa (Anya Singh), an influencer, cannot understand her obsession with filtered images and wanting to be constantly seen. One day, when he gets a celebrity client who puts out a post with him, seeing his followers climbing up, Neil finds this as a shortcut to success. After all, the many followers on social media are directly proportional to your success.

The three sucked into the abyss of the

unfathomable digital world see not only their friendship but their own identity as people being destroyed. Who are we? Are we so desperate to be seen that we can destroy ourselves and those around us?

Arjun V Singh gives an impressive and raw narrative of our times. He gets the message across simply: how social media engagement makes us vulnerable to manipulation. Humans are low on emotional quotient but high on compulsive scrolling. Siddhant Chaturvedi is a natural and is on point in his portrayal of Imaad, who is shrouding his emotional baggage under a cocksure attitude. Adarsh Gourav is pitch-perfect as Neil, getting under the skin of his character with ease. Ananya fits in as Ahaana and is relatable in all aspects.

Sara Ali Khan's Christmas Album From London Features Mom Amrita Singh And Dad Saif

It was indeed a merry Christmas for Sara Ali Khan, who celebrated with her mom Amrita Singh and dad Saif Ali Khan in London (separately). Amrita Singh is in London, accompanying daughter Sara, while Saif is holidaying there with wife Kareena Kapoor and sons Taimur and Jeh. Sara posted pictures from her festivities in London and she wrote, "Missed my baby brother (or not so baby). Thank you Santa for this Merry merry Christmas. Ibrahim Ali Khan, I wish you was here. To have pecan pie and celebrate and spread Christmas joy and cheer...And then eat black cod individually with the OG two who to us are extremely dear but for now these pics I shear



(share)."

Sara Ali Khan, who was missing brother Ibrahim big time, shared a picture collage comprising photos of Saif and Amrita. No caption needed. In another Instagram story, the actress wrote, "That's a wrap," adding, "Missing

brother Jaan."

Sara Ali Khan has a super busy schedule ahead. She will next be seen in Ae Watan Mere Watan. Her line-up of films also includes Metro... In Dino and Murder Mubarak. Her last project was Zara Hatke Zara Bachke. Sara Ali Khan also had a

cameo appearance in Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani song Heart Throb. She has featured in films such as Kedarnath (her debut movie), Simmba, Love Aaj Kal. She also featured in the Coolie No 1 remake. Sara was also seen in Atrangi Re.

Suriya Gets Injured On Sets Of Kanguva, Film Shoot Halted



Actor Suriya has been busy with the shooting of his upcoming film 'Kanguva', a Tamil period-drama. The film is directed by Siruthai Siva and the shooting has been taking place at a film city in Chennai. According to TOI report, a grand set has been erected by the makers for the shoot of film. The latest report stated that a rope camera lost

control during the shooting of 'Kanguva' and it fell on Suriya, thus leaving him injured. The report further mentioned that the actor suffered injuries on his shoulder after which the shoot was halt. Fortunately, it was a minor mishap and no major injury was caused to Suriya. According to another report, the actor has

been advised by the doctor for a two-week bed rest. Meanwhile, Suriya was expected to wrap up the film for his portions in 'Kanguva' this month and the entire filming was slated to be over by next month. However, with the latest development, there may be a slight delay in production. 'Kanguva' was announced in August

2022 with the tentative title 'Suriya 42' as it became Suriya's 42nd film in a leading role. The shooting of the film has taken place in Goa, Kerala, Kodaikanal, and Rajahmundry. The official title 'Kanguva' was announced in April 2023.

'Kanguva' stars Suriya in six roles, leading an ensemble cast that includes Disha Patani and Bobby Deol, alongside Natarajan Subramaniam, Jagapathi Babu, Yogi Babu, Redin Kingsley, Kovai Sarala, Anandaraj, Ravi Raghavendra, K. S. Ravikumar, and B. S. Avinash. The film will mark the Tamil debut of Disha and Bobby. It is scheduled to be released theatrically in early 2024 in standard, 3D and IMAX formats. The official release date of the film is yet to be announced.



'The Village' is more than just a series to me. Playing the role of Gautham has allowed me to explore a new genre and work with a magnificent cast and crew. The series has moments that will make one jump in fright, but it also has emotional depth and an underlying social message. As an actor, we are often fortunate to be a part of stories that transcend boundaries, connect with people and create lasting memories. It is a show we are all incredibly proud of and I hope you enjoy watching the series when it premieres, as much as we have enjoyed making it." Actor Divya Pillai, who plays the lead alongside Arya opened up about her experience while working on the series, saying, "I am absolutely thrilled to be part of this project alongside the talented Arya and guided by director Milind Rau.

Arya's Tamil Horror Series The Village Showcased At 54th IFFI 2023 Premiere

Prime Video on Wednesday (Nov 22) premiered the first episode of its highly-anticipated Tamil Original series 'The Village', at the ongoing 54th edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI). Asia's oldest and India's most iconic international film festival.

The event kicked off with the series' team, including Arya, Divya Pillai, Milind Rau and Aparna Purohit, Prime Video's Head of Originals – India and Southeast Asia, ruling the red carpet, along with Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, IFFI, MD, NFDC Ltd., Joint Secretary (Films), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India.

"The Village' transcends typical horror show tropes, creating a world beyond reality with immersive world-building, a compelling narrative, an outstanding soundtrack and unparalleled performances," said Aparna Purohit, head of Originals, India and Southeast Asia, Prime Video. "Milind Rau is a true visionary. Collaborating with him to bring the script to life has been an exceptional experience. Adding to the excitement is Arya, showcasing his talent in his long-form Original series debut, alongside a diverse and stellar ensemble cast from the Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada entertainment industries. Grateful to IFFI for the opportunity to premiere our inaugural Tamil Original horror series, 'The Village', in front of an inspiring audience of cinephiles from across the world. We're confident our customers will savor this unique horror series that we, at Prime Video, are excited to bring to you all!"

Popular Tamil actor Arya, who is making his debut in original streaming with 'The Village', said, "I am honoured to be making my longform OTT debut with the series, working alongside the exceptionally talented Milind Rau and the team at Prime Video.

Concept of building Developed India@2047 from academic culture imbued with New National Education Policy

Prof. Sunil Goyal



The National Education Policy-2020 was launched on 29 July 2020 under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The National Education Policy (NEP)-2020, designed to deal with the new social, economic and technological circumstances, was appreciated all over the country and the world. But as Mahatma Gandhi said, great thoughts and conceptions become meaningless without action. Apprehensions were also expressed in some quarters about the implementation of NEP-2020 and it will now be relevant to account for the completion of three years of NEP-2020. How far has the NEP been implemented? What have been the achievements so far? and, What are the challenges of the future? Before knowing the answer to these questions, it is necessary to understand what are the major objectives

and goals of NEP-2020? A deeper study of the NEP-2020 record will reveal four ideologies: Indigenous Knowledge Tradition, Mahatma Gandhi's vision, Dr Ambedkar's vision of social justice, and PM Modi's dream of a self-reliant India. To realize these high ideals and ideas, especially for the field of higher education, some basic elements were identified in the NEP. These elements embody a dynamic and holistic approach that equally emphasizes learning both theory and application. In addition, emphasis on multilingualism and inculcation of human values and holistic development of students are two notable aspects of this new approach. Given the vastness and diversity of India, implementing the NEP was indeed not easy. Implementing these elements on the ground remains a major challenge. With the concerted efforts of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, University Grants Commission and other stakeholders, it has started to be implemented in phases. But many universities of the country are still behind in this regard, in fact, many do not know exactly what to do and

what not to do. Under the able leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramdas G. Atram, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University of Social Sciences (BRAUSS), Dr. Ambedkar Nagar (MHOW), Madhya Pradesh has taken a pioneering role in the implementation of NEP-2020 in higher education system. BRAUSS has implemented NEP-2020 in a systematic, organized and holistic manner, both in word and spirit, which can be a role model for the entire country. In the first phase, BRAUSS has done this implementation at the graduate level and now preparations are underway for the next phase. Flexibility is a key feature of NEP-2020 so that learners have opportunities to choose their learning paths and courses commensurate with their talent and interest. In this context, looking at new curriculum framework, students have the right to choose courses not only within the subject of their interest but also general electives. In courses, he will also be able to study courses from any other stream. That is, a science person can study social science - humanities or

commerce to management or marketing courses. That is, there will be opportunities to acquire multidisciplinary knowledge along with special knowledge of the subject of interest so that a holistic vision can be developed in the student. The entire syllabus has been structured in such a manner that every year's studies are complete in themselves. If for some reason a student wants to drop out, BRAUSS will give him a certificate after one year and a diploma after two years. Not only this, once you leave, BRAUSS will also give you the opportunity to come back and complete your remaining studies. NEP-2020 lays great emphasis on skill development and employability to build a self-reliant India. Students of every stream will get skill education in BRAUSS. There are many skill courses which will be helpful in the direction of self-employment of our youth. Apart from this, a new and big thing is that internships, apprenticeships, projects, etc. available to students of medical, engineering, law and

management etc. are also available in the traditional program in BRAUSS which will enhance their empirical knowledge. Not only this, entrepreneurship is also now part of the BRAUSS Curriculum. If the student creates an enterprise, BRAUSS will give credit by treating it as a course. Multilingualism is another key point of the NEP. BRAUSS is a pioneer in this field as well. The teaching and study of all Indian languages mentioned in Article 8 of the Constitution has started. Along with 'Teaching and Learning of Indian Languages', the NEP also emphasizes on 'Teaching and Learning in Indian Languages'. Not only in humanities - social sciences but also for science, law, commerce, and management. In this respect, BRAUSS has done a great national service. BRAUSS was also instrumental in transforming the Social Science and Humanities curriculum prepared by the Ministry of Education, GoI, for the SWAYAM portal into Indian languages. BRAUSS, Prof. Sunil Goyal was instrumental and played an important role. Recognizing the important role of research and innovation in the progress of the nation, a lot of

emphasis has been laid on it in the NEP. BRAUSS has also taken a big initiative in this direction. Research, extension & training has now become part of the curriculum at the undergraduate level at BRAUSS. Additionally, keeping in mind the spirit of social justice enshrined in the Indian Constitution and NEP, BRAUSS has kept very low fees for admission of economically weaker sections of society in their new programs. But the overall development of the students and thus the nation will not take place unless they are equipped with human-moral values and holistic-balanced personalities. Western lifestyle, the world shrinking in technology, virtual life instead of real life, gadget games instead of physical sports, increasing loneliness, etc. have started taking the youth in a dangerous grip. The result is the creation of such unbalanced personalities which are proving to be unproductive, burdensome and sometimes dangerous for the society and the country. To deal with them at the academic level, the Academic Council, under the leadership of Hon'ble

Vice Chancellor Prof. Ramdas G. Atram of BRAUSS, has created very innovative courses. In order to build the character and overall development of the students as well as to inculcate in them the Indian knowledge tradition and human values, Prof. Sunil Goyal has designed such 'Value Addition Courses' in which stress is being laid on teaching and learning by following the Gandhian method of practical and empirical study (forty percent). This is not only on courses oriented towards science, but also on humanities and social sciences. The same applies to courses based on literature. All these courses are credit courses. The NEP also talks about reskilling. In this context, under its Ability Enhancement Scheme (AES), BRAUSS has also made provision for admitting older people (senior citizens) so that they can increase their qualifications. To enhance the quality of teaching-research, the NEP envisages a 'cluster' in which students of one institution will be able to move to another institution to study a subject or course. In this context too, BRAUSS took the initiative. The 'cluster'

model' created by BRAUSS. Prof. Sunil Goyal under the guidance of hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Ramdas G. Atram for various colleges, in this regard, by, has been appreciated at the national level. However, there are still challenges in the full implementation of the NEP: inadequacies of financial resources, infrastructure problems, lack of Indian vision for research and discourse, key milestones of research, the limitations of the admission process for Ph.D. in the university, coordination with foreign universities etc. are many points which have to be seriously considered. Overall, the implementation of NEP-2020 designed to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century has been done by BRAUSS. This will prove to be a model for other higher education institutions of the country, no doubt.

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Wedding season: Hacks to Darken Your Mehndi Naturally

Shahnaz Husain



It's the season of weddings, and who doesn't like the hands with some beautiful mehndi on them? Mehendi ki raat is one of the most important pre-wedding ceremonies. Functions like Haldi, Sangeet, and Mehndi are celebrated with great pomp and show. As for weddings, it is celebrated as part and parcel of the wedding, where intricate designs are painted on hands and feet. Henna or mehendi is a part of wedding rituals and is said to bring prosperity to newlyweds. It is believed that the darker the stain, the deeper the bond. That is one reason brides

are keener to get a brilliant and dark mehendi stain. It is stated that Mehndi is a fertility symbol and is hence utilized in wedding rituals. Majorly, the mehndi ceremony is a very special function for a bride. From the design of the mehndi to the writing of the name of the groom, the bride takes care of almost everything to perfection. You have been patiently sitting through the mehndi application and the hard part is over now you want your mehndi to be dark and bold but have no idea how to do so. These tips might come in handy. You can get the deep dark colour of henna naturally through simple ways and easy steps. Before applying henna, it is important to clean the skin and apply moisturiser. This way, there won't

be any effect of chemicals on your skin. Try to minimise the use of soap on the hands to keep the colour long-lasting. Leave the henna for a longer duration---- Natural henna is initially light orange and then darkens considerably after a day or two. That is why it is always recommended to get Mehndi done 2 days before the big event. Keeping the henna for a longer duration helps in locking colour and yields better results. You can even keep it overnight by covering your mehendi with socks or wrapping your hands in cling film to keep the mehendi intact all night. Once you wash off the henna, dip your hands in cold water for two minutes. Cold water closes the skin pores and may seal the color for a longer time. Fumes Of Clove: Running your hands over the fumes of

cloves will help with the penetration of the mehendi on your palms. Take a few cloves and heat them on the pan over a medium flame. You can take clove smoke to make the colour of Mehndi completely dark. The fumes of the cloves will dry up the lemon and sugar mixture and help lock in the colour of the henna for a long-lasting design. The fumes work wonders when used with the lemon and sugar mixture. Another ingredient which is added to the henna mixture in some parts of India is walnut husk, which also gives a nutty brown colour and adds to the henna colour, making it last longer. All kinds of acidic substances, like tamarind, vinegar, etc., have been added to henna, but lemon juice is the most popular. Using lemon and sugar mixture on

your hands and feet post application of mehendi will make the mehendi design richer and dark. Also, be sure not to overuse the mixture. Boil some water with sugar in it. Add lemon drops to it. Apply your mehendi as it is and once it dries, apply this mixture on top of the mehendi designs at least thrice on your mehendi. The sugar keeps the mehendi in contact with the skin for deeper penetration, while the lemon juice acts as a catalyst for dye release and deep penetration of colour. Lemon juice is added to the henna to bring out the colour. You can mix the henna in a glass, ceramic or plastic bowl, using a plastic spoon. Since henna becomes dry easily and cracks, it tends to fall off in pieces. That is why sugar is added, to make it stick to the skin for a longer time. Apart from lemon juice and sugar, many

people also add coffee and tea water, to get a richer colour. The tan in tea is said to help the colour. These ingredients are added to the henna powder and mixed into a paste with warm water. A few drops of jasmine oil is also added, so that the mixture is not too sticky. After mixing the henna, wrap it and seal it. Keep it in the refrigerator overnight. Henna stains the skin easily. If you wish to apply it on the nails, first clean your nails and trim them. Push back the cuticles. Soak the fingers in warm water for 10 to 15 minutes. This softens the nails and skin around it and the henna paste is better absorbed. Apply oil. Once the mehendi has dried, Rub your hands together gently until all of the mehendi has been removed. Protect your mehendi with a

layer of coconut oil, mustard oil, cocoa butter, Vicks or mango pickle oil. It will stimulate the henna for deep penetration into the skin. After applying henna, avoid waxing or shaving on that part. Many methods are used for applying mehendi, starting from toothpicks and match sticks to cones and stencils. After applying the henna, if small bits fall off, just fill in with more of the paste. The longer the paste is kept, the darker the colour. The henna paste should be removed by scraping it off. It should not be washed off. As far as the designs are concerned, there is immense variety. Fine lines, floral, paisley and highly intricate designs are done, with great detail. The artistry is such that it can only be admired. Sometimes, no

designs are followed and the paste is applied to cover the entire hand. During weddings, women in India cover the palms, forearms, feet and even the lower part of the legs with intricate henna designs. Henna, of course, has several benefits. Research has revealed that it is a natural antiseptic and anti-irritant. It is still used in Ayurveda to soothe and heal heat rashes and skin allergies. It has been used for treating burns, bruises, cuts and skin inflammations. Used on the hair, it has been known to control scalp disorders like dandruff, itching and related conditions. In fact, it is a natural cleanser and restores the acid-alkaline balance of the skin.

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

54 Years of Innovative Health Care by CMRI, Kolkata

Kolkata(Saikat Kumar Basu):The Calcutta Medical Research Institute (CMRI), part of CK Birla Hospitals, celebrates 54 years of innovative healthcare in Kolkata. Over five decades, CMRI has consistently upheld principles of Clinical Excellence, Ethical Conduct, and Patient Centricity, consolidating its position as a trusted healthcare provider. The commitment to unparalleled patient service and clinical excellence has driven advancements in various specialties, including orthopaedics, pulmonology,

interventional radiology, and neurology. Continuing on the journey of excellence, CMRI takes great pride in its collective accomplishments and uses this international recognition as fuel to propel even further. This achievement stands as a testimony to CMRI's unwavering commitment to providing top-notch healthcare and pushing the boundaries of medical expertise not just in the east india but across borders like Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan for over decades. CMRI, stands as a symbol of futuristic, modern, and

technologically advanced healthcare, dedicated to transforming lives through compassionate care and cutting-edge advancements. The commemorations of CMRI's inception shone a spotlight on patients who conquered complex treatments, emphasizing the integral role played by CMRI's distinguished medical team and its futuristic state-of-the-art medical infrastructure. In a press conference, patients expressed gratitude and embraced a renewed existence following close encounters with life's fragility, CMRI's



compassionate care and unwavering commitment to medical excellence. The hospital's focus on transformative technologies in departments like orthopaedics, pulmonology, interventional radiology, neurology has elevated its standing as a beacon of futuristic healthcare. The nursing unit at CMRI stands as a paragon of

exceptional healthcare, where proficiency intertwines seamlessly with compassion. Their tireless efforts create a haven of healing, where each patient is not merely attended to, but cared for with unmatched devotion and warmth. Distinguished doctors at CMRI, including Dr. Raja Dhar, (HOD & Director, Pulmonology); Dr. Rakesh Rajput (HOD &

Director, Orthopaedics); Dr. Anupam Golash (Consultant - Plastic Reconstructive Surgery); Dr. Ajay Aggarwal (Consultant - Neurosurgery); Dr. Deep Das (Consultant - Neurology); Dr. NVK Mohan (Consultant - ENT); Dr. Avik Bhattacharya (HOD of Interventional Radiology) and Dr. Shyam Krishnan

(Consultant - Pulmonology); have been instrumental in pioneering advancements. Mr. Sombrata Roy, Unit Head at CMRI, CK Birla Hospitals, expressed sincere appreciation to the entire team for their exceptional contributions to well-being. He emphasized CMRI's commitment to advancing clinical excellence through futuristic approaches and state-of-the-art technologies, making a positive impact. He elaborated, stating, "In our pursuit of transformative processes, our steadfast dedication lies in enhancing patient

experiences as our paramount objective. We immerse ourselves in clinical excellence, ensuring satisfaction and convenience at every juncture. CMRI's commitment extends to scholarly pursuits, actively participating in national and international forums. The success stories resonate with the prowess of our advanced facilities, driving us to expand diagnostic and treatment capabilities well beyond conventional boundaries. This emphasizes our enduring focus on a patient-centric approach, showcasing our unwavering commitment to excellence in healthcare."

“Shining Star Talent Honor 2023 Award” to Journalist Satish Kumar Dash.

New Delhi(KCN): Odisha journalist Mr. Satish Kumar Das has been awarded "UNICORN BOOK OF WORLD RECORD" for vaccination of women and children, promotion of vaccination centers during Covid-19 and online classes for school children during the Covid period for broadcasting news. Shri Das has been honored with the “SHINING STAR TALENT HONOURS 2023” award by the organization. Shri Dash is being congratulated on this. Shri Dash first worked in ANI,



then Bharat 24 and now he is working in Times Now Navbharat. For this in India, the selection committee has selected talented journalist from Odisha, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Delhi, Haryana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Chandigarh. Satish Kumar has been associated with many reputed news channel and newspaper of the country. Till now he has received many honors and awards.

Governor participates in PM Modi's virtual address for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra



Hyderabad, Dec 27 (KCN): Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan participates in virtual address of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (urban) participants at the municipal ground at Lalapet in

Secunderabad. The event also featured the solemn administration of a pledge for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, followed by inspiring testimonies from successful beneficiaries, who shared their personal experiences of transformation under various government programs under the theme 'Meri Kahani Meri Zabani' (My Story, My Voice). The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is a nationwide campaign aimed at achieving widespread and successful implementation of the government's flagship schemes.

Bhubaneswar,(KCN):Dr. Debabrata Panda, Assistant Professor, Department of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resources, Central University of Odisha was conferred with the prestigious Abasara Beuria Memorial Nature Conservation Award 2023 by the Orissa Environmental Congress (OEC) in its 14th Annual Conference. Ms. Priyanjoli Roy, Research Scholar, Dept. of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resource, Central University of Odisha was awarded Padmashree Dr. Ajay Parida Young Scientist Award by the 14th Odisha Environment Congress. The 14th Odisha Environmental Congress was held at RMNH, Bhubaneswar during 22-23 December 2023 at Bhubaneswar. The felicitation of Dr. Debabrata Panda and Ms. Priyanjoli Roy was



held in the presence of Dr. Aurobino Behera, Working Chairman, OEC, Prof. S. N. Patro, President OES, Mr. Jagadananda, Member Secretary, CYSD and other Officials of OBS. At the Central University of Odisha, Dr. Debabrata Panda has been engaged in characterising Traditional rice, millets, niger, and wild plants of Koraput. He has also collected more than 130 vital genetic resources of indigenous rice, 30 local Finger millets, 30 local accessions of Niger and

08 different wild edible Yams from different tribal pockets of Koraput and taking the initiative for their conservation and commercialization to boost the local economy of tribal people. Ms. Priyanjoli Roy presented a paper on “Impact of Urbanisation on Aquatic Ecosystem Health with special reference to fish fauna: A case- study from Eastern Ghats of Southern Odisha, India”. She is working under the supervision of Prof. S.K.

Palita, Dean, SBCNR. While the first Abasara Beuria Memorial Nature Conservation Award was awarded in the honour of Late Ambassador Abasara Beuria and the Padmashree Dr. Ajay Parida Young Scientist Award is awarded every year in the honour of reputed scientist and former Director Institute of Life Science Padmashree Dr. Ajay Parida. For this Award, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Honourable Vice Chancellor of the University, congratulated Dr. Panda and the research Scholar Ms. Priyanjoli Roy and encouraged them to work more on local biodiversity (flora and fauna) and on the crops to boost the livelihood and local economy of tribal people. Prof. Sharat Kumar Palita, Dean of the School of Biodiversity, also congratulated him.

AIIMS Bhubaneswar Observes "Good Governance" Day in Tribute to Founder Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Former Prime Minister remembered on his 99th Birth Anniversary

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): AIIMS Bhubaneswar commemorated "Good Governance Day" on the auspicious occasion of the 99th birth anniversary of the late former Prime Minister and legendary statesman, Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The event, held yesterday, paid heartfelt tributes to the visionary leader who played a pivotal role as the founder of AIIMS

Bhubaneswar, bringing about a revolutionary transformation in the healthcare sector of the state. AIIMS Bhubaneswar Executive Director Prof (Dr) Ashutosh Biswas expressed profound respect and admiration for the contributions of Atal Bihari Vajpayee to the establishment and development of the national institute. The institution reflected on

the dynamism of the late leader and acknowledged his enduring impact on the healthcare landscape. To mark this significant occasion, a meeting was convened at the AIIMS Bhubaneswar premises, attended by Dean (Academics) Dr. P R Mohapatra, Dean (Research) Dr. Satyajit Mishra, Dean (Exam) Dr. Soubhagya Kumar



Jena, MS Dr. Dillip Kumar Parida, Deputy Director (Administration)/c Rasmi Ranjan Sethy, and Dr. Ashok Kumar Jena, alongside faculty members, students, and staff. Distinguished dignitaries and personalities from various sectors paid floral tributes at the statue of Late Vajpayee located within the AIIMS

Bhubaneswar campus. The installation of the statue commemorates the visionary leader's foundational role in AIIMS Bhubaneswar, with the foundation stone laid on 15th July 2003. Notably, AIIMS Bhubaneswar stands as the second AIIMS in the country and the only one whose foundation stone was laid by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurates AI-enabled Repository on Mahatma Gandhi- 'Gandhipedia'

Kolkata, (KCN): ‘Gandhipedia’ – an AI-enabled repository tailored to deconstruct the social connect of Mahatma Gandhi, his life, philosophy, and teachings, was inaugurated today by Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, the Union Minister of State (I/C) for Law & Justice and Minister of State, Parliamentary Affairs and Culture at Science City Kolkata in presence of Shri A. D. Choudhury, Director General, NCSM, Shri Samarendra Kumar, Dy. Director

General, NCSM, Dr. Animesh Mukherjee, Principal Investigators of Gandhipedia project and Prof. IIT Kharagpur, Smt. Priyanka Chandra, Director, AKAM, Ministry of Culture and other distinguished guests. The project was announced during the 2019 budget speech by the Union Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman and now it is set to redefine our access to the life and wisdom of the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. On the occasion

of the 150th Gandhi Jayanti the Government of India aspired that Gandhipedia will sensitise youth and society at large towards Gandhian values. Complying with this commitment, the portal is being launched for the people. The ‘Gandhipedia’ portal is a testament to the collaborative efforts of IIT Kharagpur, IIT Gandhinagar, and the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous S&T institution under the

Ministry of Culture. Gandhipedia is a revolutionary way to access and explore Mahatma Gandhi's legacy. Not just a digital archive, it's an interactive web portal meticulously organised to facilitate easy access and relevance for users, built around seven key texts. Network mapping characters and locations mentioned throughout his writings, allowing the user to pinpoint specific information within seconds. Queries across his 100-volume Collected Works are a

breeze. Navigation has features like "Key Texts," weaving each book into a tapestry of “Key Persons” and “Key Places”, showcasing historically significant people and locations that shaped Gandhi's life or "Letters" to connect with Gandhi's correspondents. "Virtual Tours" retrace his footsteps, while "Photos/Videos" and "Last Journey" offer powerful visual narratives. This AI-powered platform isn't just a repository; it's an immersive journey into

the Mahatma's life and teachings, waiting to be discovered by visitors worldwide. To mark the importance of this event, Shri. A. D. Choudhury, Director General, NCSM mentioned, “at NCSM, we believe science museums transcend physical walls, extending their reach through digital innovation. Gandhipedia embodies this philosophy, offering an interactive, immersive experience that makes Mahatma Gandhi accessible to all, across

generations and geographies. Through this collaborative effort with IITs, we share a commitment to enriching public understanding of not only science but other disciplines like history, and Gandhipedia stands as a shining example of this synergy.” Prof. Animesh Mukherjee, Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT-Kharagpur and Dr. Mayank Singh, Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT-Gandhinagar are the Principal Investigators

for this project which commenced in August 2019. The success of Gandhipedia paves the way for further expansion possibilities. NCSM has already signed an MoU with the IIT Kharagpur and IIT Gandhinagar aiming to extend the coverage of this portal beyond Mahatma Gandhi, encompassing the invaluable works and influences of numerous other freedom fighters who have played pivotal roles in shaping our nation's history.

State To Monitor Drug De-Addiction

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has decided to set up a State Monitoring Cell for planning and coordination of the drug de-addiction activities being taken by the Government in the State. This decision was taken at the first meeting of the State Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) Committee held here recently under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with

Disabilities (SSEPD) Bishnupada Sethi. Shri Sethi, who is Chairperson of the Committee, advised for strict implementation of cigarette ban order and visits to the institutions, hospitals for assessment of preparedness and implementation. The committee discussed about formulating State Abhiyaan Activities, guiding and overseeing the implementation of District Level NMBA, increase community participation and public cooperation,

ensuring formulation and implementation of the District Level NMBA in identified vulnerable districts in the State, conducting training programmes for the service providers at State level, district level, and below district level, developing a Social media strategy for the State Abhiyaan and implementation. Volunteers (retired Government officers having interest in the drug de-addiction field, parents, etc.) will be enlisting to create mass awareness. Sports & Yoga will be



promoted in the educational institutions and de-addiction centres will be done involving other departments and partners. It was decided to collaborate with NGOs and other civil organizations for taking up NMBA across the State. The Government has also decided to conduct a national short film festival on the theme of "Drug Menace" like the one done by the Commerce and Transport Department on Road Safety matters.

Similarly, the SSEPD Department will work closely with the Department of Excise, Government of Odisha & Narcotics Control Bureau for more activities on reducing drug demand and drug addiction. Commissioner of Police Soumendra Priyadarshi, who was present in the meeting, threw light on DREAMS project (De-addiction, Reformation & Entrepreneurial Assistance for Making a Safe Society)- an initiative started by Commissionerate of

Police of Bhubaneswar UPD and various such awareness programmes taken up by the Commissionerate of Police on De-addiction projects in Bhubaneswar & Cuttack. He stated that the Commissionerate of Police on De-addiction matters in Bhubaneswar & Cuttack. Further, he emphasized on physically reaching out to the educational institutions and creating awareness among the students on substance abuse.

Chennai police arrest Odisha man for 'murdering' his mother-in-law 28 years ago

Berhampur(KCN): Twenty-eight years after he was booked for murdering a woman in Chennai, a man from Odisha's Berhampur town was arrested by Chennai police here Tuesday. The accused identified as Harihara Pattjoshi (51) was just 23 when he stabbed Rama (48), his mother-in-law (mother of his estranged wife), at her Nanganallur residence in Chennai on August 9, 1995, police said. He had also allegedly attacked his estranged wife Indira (21) and brother-in-law Karthik (24). After committing the crime, he fled from Chennai and managed to dodge the cops for close to three decades, police



said. Police had registered a murder case in Chennai's S:8 Adambakkam police station and started investigations. During the probe, Chennai cops visited Berhampur on numerous occasions to arrest him, but returned empty-handed, police said. "We formed a team and raided different places in Berhampur and its

adjoining areas suspecting the fugitive might be hiding. A four-member police team from Chennai was also camping in the city for the last one week to assist local police," Berhampur SP Saravana Vivek M said. During one of the search operations, the team found him at a location in Gosaninuagaon police station area and arrested

him, he said. Police said the accused was working in an advertisement company in Chennai when he had married Indira on July 14, 1994. Indira was working as a telemarketing executive in another company. They met due to the work related assignments and fell in love. Within a few months of their marriage, the couple separated due to domestic violence and Indira filed for divorce in a local court. This enraged Pattjoshi who attacked his wife, mother-in-law and brother-in-law on August 9, 1995. While his mother-in-law died, others were severely injured in the attack, police said.

Chorus for BeMC expansion, district status grows louder




Berhampur(KCN): Demand for merger of suburban areas on the outskirts of Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) area and the formation of Berhampur district has gained momentum with people from various walks of life raising their voices over the issue. Recently, a peaceful protest meeting was held near the Gandhi statue in Gandhinagar against the government's indifference and callousness in implementing the Orissa High Court judgment regarding the merger of suburban areas into BeMC fold and the creation of Berhampur district. President Sanjeev Kumar Patnaik, vice

president Devi Prasad Das, joint secretary Sudesh Kumar Pote, organisational secretary Srikanth Padhihari and assistant secretary BV Sagar addressed the gathering. Claiming that BeMC is the smallest municipal corporation in India, the speakers addressing the meeting alleged that the government has neglected Berhampur residents as it never implemented its promise to form a larger civic body by including 18 suburban panchayats into the fold of BeMC based on the gazette notification of 2008. They alleged that they have been agitating for the last 12 years, but the government is not paying any heed to their

demand. Even though there was a clear directive from the Orissa High Court, the government continued to ignore it, causing dissatisfaction and anger among the local residents. Notably, all ministers including the Chief Minister, secretaries and other officials have been apprised of their demand by the city-level joint action committee. A delegation of the committee met the then 5T Secretary and submitted a memorandum to him regarding the merger of suburban areas with BeMC, district status to Berhampur and construction of Brajnagar tower line road when he visited Berhampur and

Gopalpur constituencies in August. The then 5T Secretary had announced in the meeting the steps being taken in this regard and promised to inform them of the developments within one month. But neither the government nor the office of the present 5T Chairman has given any information to the committee ever since. Similarly, before the elections in 2019, when the state government was mulling over formation of a new district, a demand letter was given to the state government by the committee regarding the formation of Berhampur district. They warned of intensifying their protests and holding demonstrations every week in various parts of the Silk City



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Heritage British Cemetery of Balasore Vandalised

Bhubaneswar (Anil Dhir): The British Cemetery at Barabati, Balasore is one of oldest colonial era cemeteries of the State. The dilapidated and abandoned graveyard has 33 gravestones including spires and tombs dating back to the 18th century. For the British, Balasore was a favoured maritime centre. The strategic location of the place bordering the Bengal province had also drawn the Dutch, French and Portuguese maritime traders to this coastal town. Besides many

merchants and mariners, the graveyard also has the tombstones of both Sir Henry Rickett, the first collector of Balasore (1827-36), his wife Lady Rickett. Lady Rickett died in Balasore while Sir Henry Rickett died in England in 1886. As per his last wish, his mortal remains were ferried by sea to this place and buried beside his wife grave. 'Henry neither forgot Balasore nor Oriya' is inscribed on the then British administrator's tomb. The cemetery also has the graves of, Captain Morgan who had freed



Balasore from the Marathas and of Sir Francis Walter, the hero of British Royal Navy who led several battles in Madras, Goa, Harispur, Pipili port and Balasore. It also houses tombstones

of five clergies. The inscriptions have corroded with the passage of time. The cemetery was built between 1776 and 1881. The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural

Heritage (INTACH) had been entrusted to restore the old place a few years ago and a boundary wall was constructed with the MPLAD funds of Dr. Manmath Nath Das under the supervision of the then Collector Ashwini Vaishnaw. INTACH, Balasore Chapter has listed this site as a heritage site along with 73 other built heritages of the district a list of which was shared with the District Administration. However, in recent months the place has become a den for anti-social elements who have vandalised this

historically important place by demolishing the compound wall, exposing the cemetery to the vagaries of street dogs and cattle. Some of the marble head stones of the tombs too have been removed. The overgrown vegetation is also spelling the ruin of this heritage site. The future administration of British cemeteries in India had been repeatedly raised during the Transfer of Power before Independence. Before 1947, most were maintained by the local Executive Engineer in consultation with the

local Chaplain. In 1949 the British Government decided not to support the maintenance of the European cemeteries in India and to leave the task of caring for the graveyards to the Christian congregations. The Governments of India had given assurances that they would protect cemeteries from destruction and desecration. A few graveyards were placed under the protection of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and of State authorities. However, many of these extraordinary legacies of

British India lie strewn across the nation, most of them in forgotten, weed-covered cemeteries that have little or no future in modern India. These decaying colonial-era graveyards in India became targeted for conservation starting in the 1970s by the British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia (BACSA). Uday Ranjan Das, the Convener of Intach's Balasore Chapter has written to the District Authorities to have the cemetery wall reconstructed and to have the place cleared of all vegetation.

14TH NATIONAL SAFETY CONCLAVE 2023 SAFETY FOR EXCELLENCE

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Vision Zero is a concept that aims to eliminate all work related fatalities, severe injuries & illness. "Mission Possible" in workplace refers to the set of initiatives to be designed to make certain goals achievable within the working environment. Both concepts underline the importance of prioritizing safety & setting attainable goals at workplaces. In line with the above objective, 14th edition of 'National Safety Conclave', the flagship event of Institute of Quality and Environment Management Services (IQEMS), Bhubaneswar was held on Dec.20-21, 2023 at hotel, The New Marriion, Bhubaneswar. The event is being organized in association with Institute of Public



Enterprises, Hyderabad and Odisha State Productivity Council. The Conclave is supported by Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India & Ministry of Labour and ESI, Govt. of Odisha. Shri Vinod Kumar, IFS (Retd), Chairman, NSC-2023 gave the welcome address. Shri Debabrata Panigrahi, CEO, IQEMS & Convener delivered the thematic address to the august gathering. In his

thematic address, Shri Panigrahi opined that vision Zero is commitment intended for creating & sustaining safe & healthy work atmosphere at workplace. The conclave was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Shri R.S. Gopalan, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary, Dept. of Labour & Employee State Insurance; Guests of Honour Shri Anupam Saha, IAS, Labour Commissioner & Director, Directorate of Factories & Boilers, Dept. of Labour & ESI,

GOO; Shri Krishnedu Mondal, Director of Mines Safety, Govt. of India; Prof. Karl- Heinz Noetel, President of Global Acting International Section of the ISSA, Germany; Shri G. Rajesh, IFS, Director Mines, Govt. of Odisha; Distinguished Guest HE Mr. Jha Liyou, Consul General, The Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Kolkata; Guest of Honour Shri Ashok Kumar Tripathy, IAS (Retd), former Member Board of Revenue, Govt.

of Odisha.

A Souvenir was released by the Chief Guest to mark the occasion & "Kalinga Mines Safety Excellence Award" for the performance year 2022 was presented by the Chief Guest Shri R S Gopalan, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Department of Labour & ESI, Govt. of Odisha along with Distinguished Guest Mr. Zha Liyou & other Guests of Honour presented to the Winners of 23 different mines "Kalinga Mines Safety Excellence Award 2022" for excellence in the field of mines safety.

Speakers from regulators, Govt. organizations and leading industries / organizations presented 32 papers in the two days technical sessions.

Ashok Leyland reaches yet another milestone, showcases 'CNG engine H series' at EXCON

Chennai,: Ashok Leyland, the flagship Company of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer today showcased 'CNG engine H series' at the ongoing EXCON 2022, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Based on strong leverage of Auto BSVI engine development, the CNG engine H series (4 and 6 Cyl) is designed for off highway / CEV clients, and this product will be

the first of its kind in the CEV / mining and off highway segment. The H series CNG engine has a number of features, including ECU-controlled gas leak detection; improved cold start capability; enhanced lower end torque and flat torque from 1200rpm to 2000rpm; gear-based torque control for better fuel economy; durable engine valves and valve seats for CNG operation; proven, durable engine for CEV application;

turbocharged engine provides higher torque, fuel efficiency, better drivability, and transient response; maintenance-free engine. The CNG engine H series also fulfils CEV V standards without SCR or DPF, and features proven multipoint sequential gas injection for dependable performance; a 500 hours oil drain interval; and the maximum power in the sector. Sharing his views, Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman,

Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland's expertise in engineering has paved the way for the company to establish itself as a key player in the CNG engine sector, and we aspire to continue to do so by expanding our portfolio of CNG Engines and technology solutions. Ashok Leyland aims to make India's CNG engine sector self-reliant, and to be one of the leaders in the "Make in India" narrative." Present at the event Dr

N Saravanan, CTO, Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland has a track record of catering to customer needs with world class products that generate higher profitability. With the increasing need for better fuel efficiency and use of alternate fuels, we have a solid pipeline of such technologies. We aspire to lead the market in this segment, as the need for engines with alternative fuels grows".

AIC-GIM Foundation, Climate Collective and the Taj Hospitality Brand collaborate on a Global Single Use Plastics Challenge

Panaji: The consumption of Single Use Plastics (SUP's) in the food and beverage industry grew dramatically during the Covid-19 outbreak and is now expanding at a 2.5-fold rate. With the aim of reducing single use plastic from the F&B industry in Goa, Atal Incubation Center Foundation at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM) in partnership with Climate Collective Foundation and IHCL's Taj hospitality brand is bringing the Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Challenge.

The SUP challenge is inviting innovations to reduce single use plastic

from the F&B sector. The selected solutions will get the opportunity to test their ideas in Goa with the Taj hotel network of Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL). "As a company, we want to put a strong emphasis on sustainability as a way of life for everyone, which thus culminates in the adoption of a variety of sustainable business methods. We are happy to collaborate with AIC-GIM Foundation and Climate Collective Foundation for the Global SUP challenge which will reduce the usage of Single Use Plastics across our properties in Goa" said Mr. Vincent Ramos,

Area Director, Indian Hotels Company Limited.

The SUP Challenge will assess the volume of single-use plastics waste reduced through piloting and scaling ventures' innovations along with environmental impact avoided, such as waste diverted from landfills, incineration or avoided entirely. Additionally, the challenge will guide startups to fine-tune their business cases for F&B industry and insights derived from their pilots will contribute to a study around understanding the environmental impacts of alternatives to single-use plastic packaging.

Symphony, in partnership with AEEE, invests in the 'SAHARA Programme'

Bhubaneswar : Symphony Ltd., in partnership with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), initiated the first-of-its-kind pilot programme "SAHARA", an initiative for Supporting Affordable Heat Action for Resilient Academic Institutions in India by deploying Evaporative Air Coolers. It is envisioned to enable a pathway to achieve Thermal Comfort for a Billion Lives (TCBL). This initiative aims to mainstream energy efficient, affordable and sustainable cooling solutions in India's academic Institutions to bring a paradigm shift at the ecosystem level and enable TCBL. With

around four trillion-person cooling degree days, India is characterised by tropical and sub-tropical climatic conditions coupled with a lack of access to cooling, rising temperatures and ever-evolving socio-economic trends such as rapid population growth and urbanisation, which will not only amplify the climate change-induced heat stress but would also fuel the demand for space cooling. SAHARA programme would act as a catalyst for disseminating knowledge about the thermal comfort situation in India's academic institutions. It could bring about systemic changes on multiple fronts in the long term.

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'You cannot carry on like an animal' - Shamsi on social media bullying

New Delhi: Tabraiz Shamsi has revealed that his celebration after dismissing Suryakumar Yadav earned him and his wife online abuse and has called for more vocal opposition from those who suffer violation on the web. But his own experience could serve as a cautionary tale for those considering raising their heads above the electronic parapet. As he has done several times in the wake of taking a wicket, Shamsi removed a boot and held it to his ear - as if he was talking into a phone - after he had Yadav caught at long-off during the second T20I at St George's Park on December 12. Some India fans, Shamsi said, did not appreciate the gesture. "People took it in a negative way; they

thought it was disrespectful," Shamsi told Cricbuzz. "I had so much abuse hurled at me. It was probably the worst it's ever been. There was also abuse hurled at my wife. I didn't appreciate that. It's uncalled for. It's fine if you want to have a dig at the players, but to involve family and say nasty things, that pushes it to another level.

"I feel that if players don't say anything about it, then people think they have free licence. More people need to speak up and say it's not OK. Yes, we're all trying our best. Yes, your team might not win or you might not agree with certain things. But you need to behave like a human being. You can't carry on like an animal."

Shamsi took to social media the day after the Gqeberha match to

respond to his detractors, writing: "It's just a fun celebration which a lot of kids enjoy and means no disrespect towards the batter. All you guys hurling abuse are just giving other genuine cricket-loving fans from your country a bad name."

Far from quelling the matter or furthering the debate, Shamsi's post earned him more doses of vicious bile.

"M*****r don't ever try to do this in front of Indian players," one reaction read. "We will put your attitude in your ass. Don't try to ruin your career. Keep your attitude and arrogance in your pocket. Bowlers like you are available in pedestrian [areas] on every corner of India. So shut up. Just shut up."

Another advised Shamsi to "stay within your



limits" and said he was "like a worm licking the shoes of the Indian team", adding, "you are a m*****r". Shamsi acknowledged public figures were on the wrong side of the social media equation: "People know that because we are

sportsmen we can't really say anything back, and they take advantage of it. I'm never shy to express my opinion, so from time to time I let people have a piece of my mind - if they're stepping over the line. But you can never win that battle." That didn't stop him from

joining the discussion about the ICC's stymieing of Usman Khawaja's attempts to raise awareness about Israel's asymmetric war on Gaza. The ongoing bombardment has claimed the lives of more than 20,000 Palestinians, most of them civilians, in

retribution for Hamas' October 7 terrorist attack that killed 1,200 Israelis and saw more than 200 taken hostage. Khawaja was warned off wearing boots inscribed with "all lives are equal" and "freedom is a human right" - as he has done at training sessions - during the first Test against Pakistan in Perth, lest that breach the ICC's rules on perceived "political, religious or racial" messaging by players. Then he was charged with breaching clothing and equipment regulations for wearing a black armband in the same match. Khawaja said the armband denoted a "personal bereavement". The ICC said he had not obtained permission to wear it, and refused his request to wear an

image of a dove - a symbol of peace - on his bat during the second Test at the MCG.

Shamsi posted: "I would like the ICC to explain what exactly has [Khawaja] done wrong? Why the double standards?" Many cricketers have taken a knee in support of Black Lives Matter (BLM) - West Indies still do wear a BLM logo on their collars - and Marnus Labuschagne has a stylised eagle on his bat, representing his favourite bible verse... "For those that hope in the Lord, he shall renew their strength," the verse reads. "He shall soar on wings like eagles. He shall run and not grow weary and talk and not be faint." Here's hoping that reaches Gaza.

IPL title rights: BCCI outlines stringent conditions; may disallow Chinese brands

New Delhi: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is actively seeking a title sponsor for the Indian Premier League (IPL) and has outlined stringent conditions for prospective bidders. Notably, the BCCI has indicated that it may not entertain bids from Chinese companies or brands, citing its reluctance to be associated with firms from countries that do not have friendly relations with India. The reserve price for the rights is INR 360 crore per year. While specific countries or brands have not been mentioned explicitly, the BCCI's decision stems from the public backlash and a negative experience with Vivo, a Chinese smartphone maker. This situation arose in the aftermath of the border standoff between India and China. Subsequently, Vivo chose to exit from the five-year sponsorship agreement, relinquishing the rights to the Tata Group. Reads that particular clause in the Invitation to Tender (ITT) document, "Each bidder which is a corporate entity must not be incorporated in a



jurisdiction/territory with which India does not have a friendly relation. In the event, any corporate(s) which is a shareholder or a proposed shareholder in the Bidder is incorporated in a jurisdiction/territory with which India does not have friendly relations, the Bidder will be required to provide a detailed chart of the shareholding in such Bidder or its ultimate Parent Company and the details of ultimate owners/beneficiaries of all shareholders which are body corporate in such Bidder or its ultimate Parent Company along with the Bid Documents as a material obligations".

The BCCI is also rejecting bids from companies associated with fantasy games, sportswear, and cryptocurrency, in

addition to betting and gambling firms. The BCCI has outlined specific criteria for ineligibility, including companies directly or indirectly linked to gambling and betting firms, fantasy gaming, cryptocurrency trading, cryptocurrency exchange, cryptocurrency tokens, and alcohol products. Notably, there is a peculiar prohibition on firms involved in the production of sportswear. "Bidders operating/engaged directly or indirectly in athleisure, performance wear and sportswear," will not be eligible, says the ITT. Companies operating from the jurisdiction of tax havens will not be allowed, says the ITT and points out countries like Mauritius and British Virgin Islands. The need for a new title

ponsor arose as the previous deal with the Tata Group concluded after the last season. The upcoming sponsorship agreement is set to span five years, extending until 2028. The reserve price of Rs 360 crore is aligning with the value the Tata Group had been paying for the preceding two seasons.

Cricbuzz has gathered that the initial response to the sponsorship tender hasn't been particularly encouraging. However, there is still some time left for interested parties to purchase the Invitation to Tender (ITT) document and participate in the bidding process. Given the IPL's status as one of the premier leagues globally, it is anticipated that a reputable firm will come on board at a favorable price.

The ITT document, which is a prerequisite for participating in the bidding, will be available for purchase until January 8. The bidding process is expected to take place around January 13-14.

Ineligibility of Bidders:

- (a) Bidder, including any of its Group companies:
- (i) should not be engaged in betting or gambling services or similar

services in India or anywhere in the world; (ii) should not provide any betting or gambling services or similar services to any person in India; and (iii) should not have any investment or ownership interest in any Person engaged in betting or gambling services in India.

(b) Bidder, including any of its Group companies should not be directly or indirectly engaged in business of crypto trading or crypto exchange or crypto token or any business of similar nature.

(c) Bidder operating/engaged in multiple brand/project categories one of which is relating to alcohol products or tobacco, is not permitted to submit a Bid with respect to the Brand Categories of alcohol products and tobacco. The Bidder is permitted to submit a Bid with respect to any other non-prohibited Brand Category.

(d) Bidder operating/engaged directly or indirectly in fantasy gaming. To clarify, a Bidder, including any of its Group companies, engaged or operating in the business of fantasy sports gaming, is not permitted to submit a Bid.

New Delhi: After acquiring the Texas franchise of Major League Cricket (MLC), the Super Kings franchise have set their sights towards promoting grassroots cricket by incepting a cricket academy in their home base, the Dallas Metropolitan area. The location in Lewisville (Dallas suburb) is set to be the Super Kings' ninth state of the art training centre after successful offshoots in London and Tamil Nadu.

"We're super-excited about bringing Super Kings Academy to the USA and see a tremendous potential for the growth of the sport, our ability to contribute to the grassroots cricket to take it more mainstream and taking existing talent to the next level. Dallas being the home-base for Texas Super Kings, we're even more thrilled to launch our first academy there, as it creates strong synergies with our long-term plans in the market", said Louis Mariano, Director of Cricket at the Super Kings Academy.

While it would seem a natural progression for a Major League franchise to invest at grassroots and establish cricketing ecosystems, the Super



Kings may also have a finger on the pulse of a highly thriving cricket coaching industry. The Dallas Metro area is home to eight cricket academies with an estimated total enrollment of over 600 kids throughout various stages of the year. It is learnt that the annual gross receipts account to over USD 1.75m for the cricket coaching industry in Dallas. The advent of the Super Kings academy is likely to cause a major churn in the cricket coaching industry not only in Dallas but throughout America, as the Super Kings seek to leverage their loyal fan base to spike enrollment at their academies. The academy will start off with an indoor facility with six full length cricket lanes equipped with video analysis tools, extended

space for fielding and conditioning, and access to an outdoor ground for regular match practice. The Super Kings also expect to add another turf cricket field close to their indoor location as part of their medium and long-term plans. The Super Kings' endeavour into grassroots cricket in Dallas will be a major shot in the arm for the sport to make inroads into the wider American community with no cultural links to the Commonwealth. The Super Kings with its might of resources and bodies are well placed to make cricket mainstream in Dallas Metro schools. The Super Kings could take a lot of heart from full house attendances at their home games at the Grand Prairie stadium to usher in a new era for cricket in an already robust Dallas youth cricket scene.

'We have one eye on the T20 World Cup' - Hathurusingha

Dhaka: Bangladesh are hopeful that their maiden ODI win in New Zealand will prepare them for the upcoming T20I series against the hosts. Bangladesh managed to break the ODI jinx in New Zealand after 18 successive defeats and in T20I cricket, they have an abysmal record again losing all nine matches in this part of the world so far.

"We haven't won a T20 game over here. This was the same as one-day cricket but then we managed to win the last game," Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha told reporters ahead of the first game in Napier.

"Certainly it will help (ODI win over New Zealand at Napier) mentally when you have a good win always you feel good and

because you have done something you want to repeat again no matter what the format is and that will give us confidence leading into the T20Is," he said.

Bangladesh will also be looking forward to keep their unbeaten streak intact in the shortest format having won all the three T20I series they played so far in 2023 with the wins coming against England,

Ireland and Afghanistan at their own back yard. A T20I series win in New Zealand will be the icing on the cake for the tourists as they prepare for the next T20 World Cup. Bangladesh will play 11 T20Is before the showpiece event that includes these three matches against New Zealand while they are also scheduled to host Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

Apart from that the players will be playing in the Bangladesh Premier League as well. "Plan wise condition dictates. Lot of the plans we want to play at the same time we want to keep one eye on the T20 World Cup and so we are trying to get our plans right for that," Hathurusingha said. "We got 11 games now and then the BPL as well but this is a national team so we are trying to get

our combination and give the players kind of roles that they will play during the World Cup and so that's the plan," said Hathurusingha, adding that they are not losing their sleep over lack of games ahead of the tournament.

"I said 11 matches from now to the World Cup and that's what we got in terms of matches. Whether it's ideal or not that's all we got, we have to get our plans and

roles right within that period," he added. Hathurusingha also reserved praise for Soumya Sarkar after he scored a century in the second game while picking up three wickets in the third game. "Very happy with the way he (Soumya) performed and I always knew that he is capable of playing," the coach said. "He has shown before when I was here

and we all say that class is permanent. Form affects many things, especially what goes through your head. The more clear you are and the more you understand the role and the more comfortable you are with the environment, every player maximizes their potential. He is in good head space and there is no reason that he can't perform in the T20 World Cup.