

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES 111TH CONVOCATION OF RASHTRASANT TUKADOJI MAHARAJ NAGPUR UNIVERSITY



NewDelhi,(KCN):The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the 111th convocation of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University at Nagpur, Maharashtra today (December 2, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that research and innovation play an important role in the development of any country. She was happy to note that Rashtrasant

Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University is encouraging research, innovation and technology development. She noted that faculty members of this university have been granted more than 60 patents by the Indian Patent Office. The university has an Incubation Center to encourage start-ups culture among the students. She urged students and faculty to

do research and innovation keeping in mind the local problems and needs and also implement those innovations. The President said that today the whole world is a global village. No institution can remain cut off from the world. She urged Nagpur University to promote interdisciplinary studies and international collaboration. She emphasised that only by

sharing research and innovation with each other, we can face the challenges before the world. Speaking about the use of technology, the President said that any resource can be used or misused. The same fact applies with technology too. If we use it properly, it will be beneficial for the country and society and if we misuse it, it will be harmful for humanity. Today the use of artificial

intelligence is making our lives easier. But its use for Deepfake is a threat to society. She stated that moral education can show us the way. Addressing the students, the President said that getting a formal degree is not the end of education. They should remain curious and keep learning. Today, when rapid changes are taking place in the field of technology, it becomes even more important to keep learning continuously. The President told students that they are the asset of the nation and society. The future of India rests on their shoulders. Adverse circumstances may come in their life but they should not be afraid of them. She advised them to face those situations with their knowledge and self-confidence, to stay connected with their loved ones and to have faith in their abilities.

Former Koraput MP Jayaram Pangi Joins Congress



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Former Koraput MP Jayaram Pangi today joined the Congress party in the presence of OPCC President Sharat Patnaik at Congress Bhawan in Bhubaneswar. Senior Congress leaders including Bijay Patnaik, Niranjan Patnaik and Prasad Harichandan were present on this occasion. A prominent Tribal leader, Jayaram Pangi said that he joined this party to strengthen the Congress and overthrow the BJD government. To save the state, he urged the people of the state to oust BJD in the

upcoming elections. After joining Congress the ex-MP said, "Congress will come to power in Odisha & Congress is also the most preferred party of the tribal people of the State". Pangi also said the BRS couldn't take shape in Odisha. Earlier, Jayaram Pangi was in Telangana Chief Minister KCR's Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS). Before that, he was in BJP, BJD and Janata Dal. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly four times and once to the Lok Sabha. In 1977, Jairam Pangi was first elected to the Legislative

Assembly from Pottangi on a Janata Dal ticket. In 1990, he went to the Assembly for the second time on a Janata Dal ticket from Pottangi Assembly Constituency. In 2000 and 2004, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly from the Pottangi seat on the BJD ticket. In the 2009 general election, Jayaram Pangi was nominated by BJD from Koraput Lok Sabha seat and he won the election. In 2017, he left BJD and joined BJP. In the 2019 general election, he was defeated from the Koraput Lok Sabha seat on a BJP ticket.

Cyclonic Storm Over BoB: Leaves Of Field Officers Cancelled For 5 Days In 5 Odisha Dists

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha Government on Saturday cancelled the holiday and leave of all field officials in five districts in the southern part of the state as heavy rainfall is likely to occur in the areas due to the impending cyclonic storm over the southwest Bay of Bengal. Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment has written to the Chief



District Agriculture Officer and Deputy Director of Horticulture in Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam district regarding dissemination of advisory, in view of possible rain from 3rd to 6th December 2023 and cancellation of leave for 5 days. "Referring to IMD's Special Bulletin dated 2nd December 2023 and in view of possible heavy rain due to impending cyclonic storm over South-West Bay of Bengal all the field officials of the above districts are hereby informed to be on high alert during the warning period from 02.12.2023 to 06.12.2023 and sensitize the farmers on the advisory as attached herewith. The holiday on Sunday (3rd December) for the above Districts is hereby cancelled." the letter read.

5T Chairman Reviews Puri Srimandir Parikrama Project

Emphasis laid on hassle-free darshan system for devotees, efficient crowd management system.



Bhubaneswar / Puri(KCN) : On the instructions of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, 5T & Nabin Odisha Chairman, VK Pandian, visited the Puri Srimandir early Saturday morning to review the Parikrama project. This morning from 5 to 7 am, Mr Pandian reviewed the entire Parikrama project area. He directed the officials concerned to take steps for a hassle-free darshan system for devotees, crowd control, and, as well as speeding up the restoration work of the Mutts and

landscaping. During the review, Mr. Pandian recommended the restoration of Emar Mutt, Punjabi Mutt etc. along with the restoration of the Dola Bedi area along with the painting of the front part of the Parikrama project. Along with this, Mr Pandian suggested removing the vending zone from both sides of Bada Danda from Singhadwar to Marichikote Street and placing it somewhere else for hassle-free darshan of the devotees. Similarly, Mr Pandian

Earthquake Of 5.6 Magnitude Hits Bangladesh, Tremors Felt In Kolkata

Kolkata(KCN): An earthquake rattled several areas in Bangladesh on Saturday morning, registering a magnitude of 5.6 on the Richter scale. The epicentre of the quake was located 48 kilometres southwest of Comilla. The National Center for Seismology reported that the

earthquake occurred at 9:05 AM local time in Bangladesh. The quake originated at a depth of 55 kilometers below the Earth's surface. Similar tremors were also felt in Kolkata. Additionally, various districts in North Bengal, including North 24 Parganas, Howrah, and

Hooghly, experienced seismic activity on Saturday morning. This seismic event adds to a recent series of earthquakes felt in Bangladesh, with earlier occurrences reported in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Rangpur, Chuadanga, and Noakhali.

Boipariguda IIC Dismissed From Service After Arrest In Corruption Case

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Station IIC. A huge Odisha Director General of Police (DGP) Sunil Kumar Bansal has dismissed Boipariguda IIC from service after his arrest in a corruption case. The dismissed police officer, identified as Sushanta Kumar Satpathy, had served as Boipariguda Police

amount of ill-gotten cash was seized from him earlier this week. "In consonance with zero tolerance policy of

the State Government towards corruption, DGP Sunil Kumar Bansal has dismissed tainted Inspector of Police Sushanta Kumar Satpathy from service under Article 311(2)(b) of Indian Constitution following his arrest in a corruption case", the Odisha Police informed.



21 Bills To Be Taken Up In Winter Session Of Parliament

New Delhi(KCN): A total of 21 bills including two financial bills are likely to be taken up during the upcoming Winter Session of the Parliament. "We are bringing in 19 Bills and two are financial items. There are a total of 21 items. The three bills are from the Home Ministry. There is a bill on Central University, constitutional order," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said. The list was released on the day when an all-party meeting was held on Saturday, ahead of the commencement of the

Winter Session on Monday. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam are among the key bills that will be taken up by the Parliament this session. Other Bills that will be taken up include the Repealing and Amending Bill (as passed by the Lok Sabha), the Advocates (Amendment) Bill (as passed by the Rajya Sabha) and the Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill (as passed by the Rajya Sabha).



Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said that the Winter session will commence on December 4 and will conclude on

December 22. "There will be 15 sittings in a period of 19 days," he said. Speaking about the all-

party meeting, Pralhad Joshi said, "30 leaders from 23 parties were present in today's all-party meeting under the

chairmanship of Rajnath Singh. We have received several suggestions." The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment) Bill, Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill will also be taken up. In addition to this, the Post Office Bill and The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners

(Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill are also on the cards. The Boilers Bill, Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill and Central Universities

(Amendment) Bill, 2023 may also be taken up. Among Financial Business, there will be a Presentation, Discussion and Voting on the First Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2023-24 and the introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill. The Presentation, Discussion and Voting on Demands for Excess Grants for the year 2020-21 and the introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill will also be taken up.

Library Club of Rajdhani College, DU organizes National Level G20 Quiz

New Delhi, (KCN): The Library Club of Rajdhani College organizes a National Level Online Quiz competition on G20 theme. The title of this competition was "Importance of Students and Library in Nation Building". Library Club is a unique club which came with the motto to encourage students to connect with latest development in different areas essential for the development of mankind.

This year G20 held first time in India since its formation. India's G20 Summit 2023 theme was Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam that means 'The World is One Family'. The important issues such as food security, climate and energy, development, health and digitalization were the main focus of the summit. The Quiz was held at Rajdhani College in which more than 700 students participated. In this Quiz students from diverse parts of



India enrolled. Students from different States like Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka,

Kerala, Haryana, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Jharkhand took

part with full zeal and enthusiasm. The convenor of the Library Club Dr.

Sanjeev Kumar Sharma informed student about the role of books and its importance in future. He said that the students are the building block of the Nation and hence they should be educated with good moral and valuable ideas. All the participants made this competition successful by showing their endurance, courage and honesty. In the competition, first place was secured by Anjali, B.Sc. Mathematics Honors,

Rajdhani College, second place by Arsh Arya, B.A, Banaras Hindu University, and third by Swati Mishra, B.A Political Science Hons., Bharti college, University of Delhi. Students were felicitated by Principal Prof. Rajesh Giri and Convenor Dr. Sanjeev K. Sharma. Participants who stood first, second and third were also awarded with exciting cash prizes and certificates. The program was graced by the presence of Dr.

Yudhveer Singh Sharma, Dr. Mohani Agarwal and Dr. Surbhi Khana who also shared their experiences with the participants. During the award distribution ceremony, all the members of Library Club and student team members, Mamta, Kumar Rishav, Leena, Chandan, Aman, Jyoti, Himanshu, Megha, Rajendra, Jayantika, Brijesh, Rishabh and Vishwajeet, were present and actively participated.

Breath Alert: Bhubaneswar's Doctors Sound the Alarm on Air Pollution Crisis!

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Ahead of National Pollution Prevention Day, Bhubaneswar's medical luminaries issue an urgent health advisory, sounding the alarm on escalating air pollution. In a dynamic press conference by SwitchON Foundation and CARE Hospital, doctors, including Dr. Mamata Panda and Dr. Pragyan Kumar Routray, championed immediate action against the health menace.



Vinay Jaju, MD of SwitchON Foundation, declared air pollution a health emergency, stressing shared responsibility. Kunal Hota, CARE Hospital's Marcom Manager, called for collaboration to raise awareness. Dr. Mamata Panda, a CARE Hospital pediatrician, highlighted fetal health impacts, urging environmental mindfulness. ****Citizen's Role in Air Pollution:****
- Stop burning wood/trash

- Choose eco-friendly commuting
- Implement waste management
- Adopt energy-saving practices
****Citizen's Role in Air Pollution Protection:****
- Use N95 masks on smoggy days
- Choose a plant-based diet
- Use high-efficiency air purifiers
- Avoid outdoor activities during high pollution
****Institution's/Office Role:****

- Promote waste reduction
- Adopt green infrastructure
- Make workplaces cycle-friendly
****Government's Role:****
- Disseminate air pollution info
- Establish emergency response plans
- Manage Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste.
The press conference revealed Bhubaneswar's air quality nosediving from "Moderate" to "Very Poor" in

November 2023. Dr. Sanjiv Kumar Mishra, Utkal Hospital's Oncologist, warned of cancer risks from prolonged exposure. Dr. Arpita Priyadarshini, UPHC, flagged serious health risks, especially for vulnerable groups. Dr. Pragyan Kumar Routray underscored air pollution as a major threat, citing WHO data. This health advisory is a rallying cry for action, urging all to join the fight for a pollution-free future.

International Women Atrocities Eradication Day Observed




Paralakhemundi, (KCN): On behalf of Sakhi One Stop Centre (SOSC) & ISRD organization, International eradication on atrocities against women organizes. Deputy Director of ISRD Nageswar Choudhry presided over the meeting where Collector Smrutiranjana Pradhan graced as chief guest &

DSWO Maujamani Nayak as guest of honor. Speakers briefed on various acts & rules. Need of gender equity will bring mainstreaming women. Sibani Panigrahi district Coordinator of OLM analysed on PC & PNDT Act. Director of ISRD Sudhir Sabat detailed on cautions on child marriage & cyber

crime. DCPO Arun Kumar Tripathi quipped on women trafficking which is danger for protection of women. Role clarity be the advocacy point of view he added. A human chain formed with a signal to message filled vehicle for awareness. Supervisors, anganwadi workers, staff of various

organizations were present. Facilitated by Head of SOSC Sunita Rath among others Anita Mishra, Manjula Choudhry, Madhusmita Padhi, Sunita Behera, Swagatika Das, Monalisa Behera & others coordinated. KSunita Program Officer of DSWO office conveyed vote of thanks.



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Bigg Boss Tamil 7: Vanitha Vijaykumar Allegedly Attacked By Evicted Contestant Pradeep Antony's Supporter

Popular south actress and former Bigg Boss Tamil 3 contestant Vanitha Vijayakumar has reportedly been attacked by a man who claimed to be a fan of actor Pradeep Antony, the evicted contestant of the ongoing Bigg Boss Tamil Season 7. Vanitha took to her X (formerly known as Twitter) handle and

dropped a shocking photo of her injured face. Her post showed her injured eye, and visibly swollen and discoloured face. The actress, in a series of posts, alleged that she was attacked by a mysterious man in the middle of the night and suspects a 'Bigg Boss Tamil 7' connection. She alleged that the attacker

was apparently unhappy with the fact that she supported the red card issued to Pradeep in the Kamal Haasan-hosted reality show. 'Bigg Boss Tamil' season seven is currently in full swing on Vijay TV and Disney Plus Hotstar. Vanitha's daughter Jovika is also one of the contestants. Vanatha,

who reviews the show on a daily basis, had a late-night dinner and went to park her car at her sister's place when the unfortunate incident happened. "Ni support vera (You escaped) and hit me hard on my face and fled away. I was in so much pain bleeding in my face and yelling. No one around was around I am I called my sister to come down she urged me to go report this incident to police but i told her I lost trust in the process (sic)", she further wrote. She continued, "I took first aid and left home with rage and not able to identify my attacker. He laughed like a lunatic which haunts my ears. Taking a break from

everything as i am not in a physical condition to appear on screen. For those who support disturbed ppl danger is just a feet away (sic)." Vanitha, who has been active on social media, continues to express her thoughts and comments on the controversies around the 'Bigg Boss 7 Tamil'. Actor Pradeep Antony recently got expelled from the Bigg Boss Tamil 7 over reportedly his inappropriate behavior towards female co-contestants. Ever, since his exit from the show, the actor has been hitting the headlines for his social media posts. "It is my personal space which I use to share my happiness with my friends. It is not that I

don't consider you my friend but I'm not in a place I can trust and let anyone inside my life. My Instagram page has photos of friends and family. I feel social media is a mix of positives and negatives and it can tend to attack you on a very personal level. I can take criticism well, but I don't want my friends and family's privacy to be attacked. I'll share the portion of my life I want to share with the public on Twitter on whatever platform I feel comfortable with, but certain things I only want to to share and enjoy with my very close ones and not be judged. I hope you understand my situation," he shared.

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

Raghuraaman, 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.

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Why the Dream of Violence-free Women's Society Unfulfilled?

-Lalit Garg-



'International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women' is celebrated every year on 25 November by the United Nations to eradicate increasing incidents of violence, exploitation and harassment against women all over the world, and this is a serious problem plaguing the entire world. The United Nations organizes many events that highlight the need to do something more to eliminate this type of violence against women. Women's groups and voluntary organizations undertake various initiatives to highlight the worrying situation of women in society, and the resulting adverse effects on women's physical, mental and psychological health. Many women's rights activists and organizations support feminist movements on this day to free the world from violence against women.

The Day also honours Mirabal Sisters, whose three sisters, Patria Mercedes Mirabal, María Argentina Minerva Mirabal, and Antonia María Teresa Mirabal, were brutally murdered on this day in 1960 on the orders

of political activist Dominican ruler Rafael Trujillo (1930-1961). These three sisters had strongly opposed Trujillo's dictatorship. Women's rights supporters and activists have celebrated this day since 1981 to commemorate the death of these three sisters. With the development in the country and the world, instead of subsiding, the violent thoughts towards women have been emerging in newer forms. To overcome this violent social thinking and ideology, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is a day related to the existence and identity of women, which gives the message of consciousness of responsibility, a call to develop a new civilized and decent thinking towards women. This day guards those crossroads from where there are possibilities of deviation of life ideals and violence against women; it stops those aspirations whose violent pace is very fast, but which reflects the wild race of society without any aim. One of the objectives of celebrating this day is to make resolutions to control increasing violence against women. This day is a unique medium to make women powerful, progressive and cultured.

Every hour more than five women or girls are murdered by someone in their own families. Nearly one in three women has been a victim of physical and sexual violence at least once in her life. No less than 86 percent of women and girls live in

women have experienced physical and sexual violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime. Adult women account for 51 percent of all human trafficking victims detected worldwide. The European Union

cyber-crime and workplace harassment etc. According to NCRB data, a total of 32,559 rapes took place in India in 2017, in which 93.1 percent of the accused were close relatives. According to the report of National Crime

still continues against women and instead of decreasing, it is increasing. Today, it is necessary to discuss general women of the society suffering from violence and oppression. It is unfortunate that

violence due to discrimination against minorities. This situation is frightening even in the context of India. Even though the Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is currently doing commendable work for women empowerment, yet in the modern era, not only thousands of minorities, but also common women are far away from their full rights. Even though the government has prepared hundreds of schemes for women- upliftment, there is still a lack of education and awareness among women. Ignorant of their duties and rights, the world of women has been confined to the kitchen. Women of tribal communities in India are unaware of their rights and their life is still like a tragedy.

The mentality of regarding women as inferior and of secondary status has penetrated into every fiber of the Indian society. The real question is how to change this mentality. Over the years, the tendency to hide crime and fear the criminals has started to end, from movements like MeToo or the laws made after Nirbhaya incident. Therefore, such crimes may not be complete, but still they are coming to light in large numbers. An unjust person continues to do injustice, as long as he is tolerated. To create

this belief among women, a fundamental change is also needed in the justice system and mentality. People in the country do not have complete knowledge about women's rights, and it is not followed with full seriousness and will-power. Despite all the claims of women empowerment, women are far away from their real rights. They have to understand that accidents do not choose the person and the time and it is not their fault that all this happened.

Not only the polluted and distorted ways of the male society have to be changed, but also the roots of those reasons have to be uprooted due to which women are forced to drink poison again and again. World Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is an opportunity for non-governmental organizations, international organizations and governments to raise public awareness about violence against women. The world must pave the way for genuine respect for the human dignity of women, so that the work of securing their real rights can be practical. So that words like rape, gang-rape, women oppression, women violence cease to exist in this world

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countries without legal protection against gender-based violence. Violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent and widespread human rights violations in the world. This crisis has intensified in a variety of settings, including workplace and online spaces, which is further exacerbated by after-effects of pandemic, conflicts, and climate change. It is estimated that 35 percent of women worldwide have experienced physical and sexual violence by a non-partner at some point in their lives. However, some national studies show that 70 percent of

reports one in 10 women have experienced cyber-harassment since the age of 15. The risk is highest among young women between the ages of 18 and 29. Violence against women is a global epidemic. No less than 70 percent of women experience violence sometimes or other in their lifetime. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data also highlights the increase in crimes against women. These crimes include rape, domestic-violence, assault, dowry harassment, acid attack, kidnapping, human-trafficking,

Bureau-2017, the highest numbers of cases numbering 5562 were registered in Madhya Pradesh; while Rajasthan stood second in this list with 3305 rape cases. In Rajasthan, there has been a terrible mentality of killing girl babies as soon as they are born. With some thought and contemplation, we come to know that sexual harassment against women, including gossiping, eve-teasing, prostitution, forced pregnancy, buying and selling of women and girls, violent behaviour resulting from war and gruesome torture in prisons are rampant. It

women in developed and developing countries are under the shadow of oppression, exploitation, discrimination and harassment. Minority Rights Group International, in its annual report titled 'The Situation of the World's Minorities and Indigenous Peoples', describes how women from minority and indigenous communities around the world are more likely to be victims of violence, whether in times of conflict or peace. Mark Latimer, executive director of this organization, said that women across the world have to suffer the brunt of physical

Intellect, Imagination & Prakriti

Soura Chandra Mohapatra



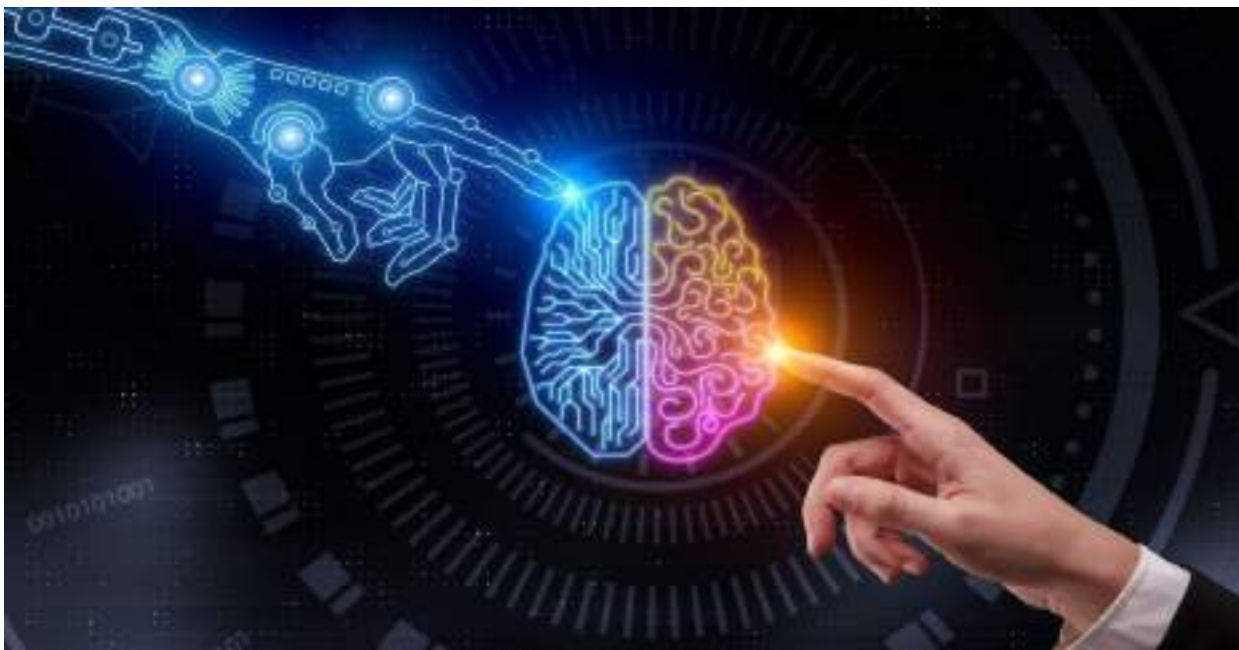
Three things prompt us to speak and write: first is the intellect, the second is imagination, and the third is Prakriti. It has taken millennia to transition from instinct to reason, a radical cultural shift. When we speak and write, it is the intellect, a dimension of the mind, that speaks and writes. It is predominant in our day-to-day living. We use the intellect at home, work and in other places wherever it is warranted. We train this intellect right

from school by reading and listening to academic lectures. Our intellect makes us what we are. Our rational mind makes us look externally and not internally. When we use intellect, it involves an effort that puts us through a lot of thinking and questioning, which is a functional aspect of intellect. Without this, knowledge would not have flourished. We would not have seen the phenomenal knowledge that has given us many things, including comforts. So, we cannot speak and write spontaneously. We think before we speak and write, having to exert considerable effort and energy.

The second is imagination, another

dimension of the mind that borders on emotion. It is creative and expresses as art. It is also a way of communication, but it occurs through symbols and imagery. Intellect has given us knowledge and the imagination of art. Imagination is more important than intellect, for intellect is limited to knowing and understanding, while imagination embraces the entire world and beyond. The more one imagines, the stronger the mind gets and one can control one's thoughts better. The power of imagination is the key to innovation.

Sometimes, the intellect collides with imagination to invent. This happens in science. Most



inventions in science have happened this way. Pure intellectual inquiry can result in the culmination of ideas. But imagination makes ideas new, hitherto unknown. our ego and makes us more self-centred. It is the intellect transformed into the ego that

performs the twin functions of speaking and writing through the medium – the body. Similarly, imagination in which there is a presence of ego that prompts creation cannot be ruled out.

But there is another thing also that prompts and guides us

to speak that we fail to recognise. It is Prakriti that takes the place of the intellect and imagination and performs the twin functions of speaking and writing. When Prakriti overpowers us, intellect and imagination have little roles to play. The body

just becomes an instrument in her hands. In the realms of intellect and imagination, we have learnt that intellect and imagination are mere prompters and the body performs the twin functions.

When Prakriti uses us, our speaking

and writing become spontaneous and natural. This can happen only when we establish perfect harmony with the Prakriti by our Jnana nishta, which refers to self-knowledge that is fully assimilated and established in our living. It brings us closer to Prakriti. Then we become instruments in her hands. It is then that Prakriti speaks and acts through us. Our speaking and writing become spontaneous and natural. We do not exert any effort. For this reason, sages speak spontaneously, without volition. They do not use intellect and imagination, unlike us.

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The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah at a meeting

Ayodhya Airport To Be Ready By December 15, In Time For Ram Temple Opening

New Delhi, (KCN): Over a month before the inauguration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday announced that the first phase of the international airport in the city will be ready by December 15. The airport will be called the Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram International Airport and will be able to accommodate Boeing 737, Airbus 319, and Airbus 320 aircraft.

The chief minister, who visited the airport site with Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Minister of State for Civil Aviation, VK Singh, said Ayodhya is emerging as "an epitome of New India", aligning with Prime



Minister Modi's vision, according to a statement by the Uttar Pradesh government. After holding review meetings with key officials, Yogi Adityanath said, "Initially, Ayodhya had a modest airstrip spanning

178 acres, but now it is being built as a major international airport." He said the state government has provided 821 acres of land for the project and work is being undertaken on a war footing under the supervision of the

Airport Authority of India. This, he said, was part of his government's commitment to ensuring the development of Ayodhya as well as providing essential infrastructure to the city's residents. Mr Scindia said efforts have been

made to reflect the cultural ethos of Ayodhya in the airport. A 65,000 sq ft terminal is under construction in the first phase, with a capacity to handle 2-3 flights per hour. Work on a 2,200-metre runway is also underway to facilitate the landing of aircraft like the Boeing 737, Airbus 319, and Airbus 320. The minister said the length of the runway will be extended to 3,700 metres in the second phase, allowing wide-bodied aircraft like the Boeing 787 Dreamliner and the Boeing 777 to land directly in Ayodhya. The area of the terminal will be 5 lakh square feet. PM Modi will attend the inauguration of the Ram Temple, which is scheduled for January 22.

After Peace Deal, Manipur's Oldest Armed Group Welcomed At Kangla Palace Grounds

Imphal (KCN): The Manipur government today welcomed members of the state's oldest valley-based armed group that has signed a peace deal, and expressed hope that more groups would lay down arms to join the peace process in the strategic border state. Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh led a ceremony and organised a mass lunch at the grounds of the Kangla Palace - the seat of power of the past Manipur kingdom - in the heart of the state capital Imphal, where every member of the United National Liberation Front (UNLF) of the Pambei faction also shook his hand. "We are



looking forward to other valley-based groups to join the peace process so that a solution towards peace can be brought to Manipur. The UNLF is a 60 years old organisation that never agreed to talk,

but this time they have reposed faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, so it's a major achievement," Mr Singh said. The UNLF had been fighting a guerilla war for a sovereign Manipur as the

group - similar to other valley-based banned organisations like the People's Liberation Army (PLA) - considered illegal the merger of the pre-Independence Manipur kingdom with India.

UNLF general secretary Ch Thanil said they are happy to join the peace process and will do everything to ensure lasting stability. "We will talk peacefully and if the amicable solution comes, we will sign the final deal... The present crisis is a very small matter. Actually, some people from outside have been behind this disturbance," Mr Thanil said, referring to the recent ethnic clashes between the hill-majority Kuki tribes and the valley-majority Meiteis. The descriptor "valley-based" for the UNLF indicates it was an armed group with origins in Imphal valley and other districts not classified as hill areas.

Danish Ali Writes To Speaker On Mahua Moitra Ethics Panel Meetings

New Delhi: BSP MP Danish Ali on Saturday claimed that the report of the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee in the "cash-for-query" allegation against Mahua Moitra had a full paragraph that purportedly refers to his conduct during the panel's meetings and urged Speaker Om Birla to get it deleted before its tabling in the House.

The report of the Ethics Committee recommending the expulsion of Trinamool Congress MP Moitra will be tabled in the Lok Sabha on Monday.

In a letter to Mr Birla, Mr Ali, who is a member of the ethics panel, cited rules to state that the chairman of the committee is not empowered to mention in a committee report about any individual member or his conduct or the opinion expressed by the member or members in the committee meeting.

"I have noticed that the recent report by the ethics committee named 'cash-for-query' contains some shocking and completely unwarranted facts about me. I would like to draw your kind attention to the fact that there is a full paragraph in the report which is purportedly referring to my conduct during the meetings..." the BSP MP said in his letter to Mr Birla.



"As a matter of fact and in law that it is completely beyond the jurisdiction of the hon'ble chairman of the committee to have inserted that offending paragraph," he said and demanded that the paragraph about him must be deleted before the report is presented in the House.

Posting his letter to Mr Birla on X, Mr Ali said, "Lok Sabha Ethics panel, while examining cash-for-query allegations, has gone beyond its remit to comment on my objections during meeting. It seems by targeting me a message is being sent that no member should speak out against ruling party. This amounts to throttling opposition voice."

According to the agenda papers circulated by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Ethics Committee chairperson Vinod Kumar Sonkar will lay on the table of the House

the panel's first report. The committee, at a meeting on November 9, adopted its report recommending Ms Moitra's expulsion from the Lok Sabha over the "cash-for-query" allegation.

Six members of the panel voted in favour of the report, including Congress MP Preeti Kaur who had earlier been suspended from the party. Four members of the panel belonging to opposition parties submitted dissent notes.

The opposition members termed the report a "fixed match" and said the complaint filed by BJP Lok Sabha member Nishikant Dubey, which the panel reviewed, was not supported by a "shred of evidence".

Ms Moitra can be expelled only if the House votes in favour of the panel's recommendation.

The Winter Session of Parliament begins on Monday and is scheduled to continue till December 22.

77 People Who Went Missing In Sikkim Flood Presumed Dead



Gangtok (KCN): The 77 people who went missing in the flash flood in Sikkim have been presumed dead as they could not be found even after two months of the disaster, Chief Secretary VB Pathak said on

Saturday. To help their families get various kinds of benefits, including compensation, it has been decided to follow the procedure adopted during natural disasters in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and settle the matter, he told reporters.

A total of 77 people went missing in the flash flood that struck the state on October 4. Two bodies were later found, but their identities could not be ascertained, he said. The state government is providing compensation assistance of ₹ 4 lakh, while ₹ 2 lakh is being provided from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. "We have decided to adopt the procedures followed in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh to settle the matter of missing persons," VB Pathak said. The families will be able

to avail of the benefits only after the issuance of the death certificates, he said.

"We expect to settle all missing persons' cases by January," he added.

The families will first need to file a missing complaint at the police station, and then it will be thoroughly examined at different levels before being published in newspapers, social media and government gazette as per process, VB Pathak said.

In case, a person from outside Sikkim went missing, the family has to lodge a complaint with the police in their state, which will then be transferred here for examination, he said. The flash flood in the Teesta river basin created chaos in the state on October 4, killing at least 46 people, besides the 77 missing persons.

Retired Judges Have A Tight Fist Grip On Arbitral System: Vice-President

New Delhi (KCN): Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar attended the inaugural session of the 6th International Chamber of Commerce India Arbitration Day on Saturday, emphasizing the need for significant changes in the country's arbitral system. Mr Dhankhar expressed concerns over the dominance of retired judges in the system, calling for introspection and legislative reforms to encourage diversity

and inclusion. Mr Dhankhar said, "We are having explosive economic growth. India's economy is rising as never before. World entities have held out us as a favourite destination of opportunity and investment. The kind of progress we have recorded and the rate at which we are going has amazed the world." Highlighting the explosive economic growth in India, Mr Dhankhar noted that the



nation's economy is rising at an unprecedented pace. Mr Dhankhar said, "Nowhere on the planet, in no other country, in no

other system, there is such tight fist grip on the arbitral system by retired judges. In our country, this is at large". However, he pointed out

that the arbitral system is tightly controlled by retired judges, limiting opportunities for other qualified individuals. The Vice President applauded Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud's remarks on the lack of diversity in appointing arbitrators. Justice Chandrachud's statement, as quoted by Mr Dhankhar, highlighted the dominance of retired judges in the field, suggesting an "old boys

club mentality" within the arbitration space. Mr Dhankhar praised the Chief Justice for his bold stance, stating that such remarks would contribute to strengthening the arbitral process in India. "He goes on to add, and I salute him for this, he said while other qualified candidates are overlooked, he implied this reflects an old boys club mentality within the arbitration space," said Mr Dhankhar.

Cong Holds Tulsi Jatra

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a novel protest for Lord Jagannath, Opposition Congress today organized Tulsi Jatra from Bhubaneswar to Puri demanding reopening of all gates Srimandir for devotees and Ratna Bhandar for repair & inventory. The Congress workers collected tulsi or basil leaves from houses across 314 blocks of the State and brought the holy leaves to Congress Bhawan, from where the Tulsi Jatra was started towards Puri. The tulsi leaves took out to Puri in vehicles decorated as

Raths with placing idols of Lord Jagannath and his siblings placed at the top. Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) president Sarat Pattanayak, OPCC in-charge A. Chellakumar, former presidents Prasad Harichandan & Jaydev Jena, campaign committee chairman Bijay Patnaik, MLAs Taraprasad Bahinipati, Suresh Routray and many other senior Congress leaders took part in the Jatra, which was started from Congress Bhawan here and culminated at Puri. The Congress leaders



and activists took out the yatra till Rajmahal Square in Bhubaneswar

from there they went to Puri. The Congress members again held a

rally at Puri Grand Road before offering the tulsi to Lord Jagannath.

“As the government has closed down three doors of the Puri temple, devotees are suffering. So, today, Congress people from all over Odisha brought tulsi to offer Lord Jagannath,” said Shri Chellakumar. OPCC President Shri Pattanayak said they organized the yatra to wake up the government from deep sleep so that they can reopen all four gates of the Jagannath temple so that devotees can have smooth darshan.

“Though we had raised this demand before the beginning of holy Odia

kartik month, the government did not listen to it. So, today we hold this unique protest praying to Lord Jagannath to enlighten the government to reopen the doors and Ratna Bhandar,” he said.

The Congress also demanded reopening of the temple's treasury ‘Ratna Bhandar’, which has remained closed since 1978. The temple's treasury should be reopened for its repair and inventory of valuables stored inside its chambers, the president said.

Senior BJD leader

Amar Prasad Satpathy said the Congress doesn't have any issue in its hands, so it is playing religion politics. On November 9, the Congress staged agitation named as ‘Sankirtan Satyagraha’ in which the leaders and workers performed ‘Sankirtan’ in front of different Jagannath temples across the state over the same demanding reopening of four gates of the temple. Prior to this, the party had staged demonstrations in Puri on October 16 over the same demand.

Konark Festival 2023 Dazzles with a Symphony of Dance and Music



Bhubaneswar (KCN): The Konark Dance and Music Festival 2023 commenced with a breathtaking inauguration, setting the stage for an enchanting showcase of Odissi classical dance and Bharat Natyam by world-renowned artists. A constellation of dignitaries, including State Tourism Minister Ashwini Kumar Patra and Sports Minister Tusharkanti Behera, graced the event, elevating the grandeur of the opening ceremony. The brilliance of Odissi maestro Jyotsnarani Sahu lit up the night, paying homage to Shri Jagannath and Aditya Narayan through captivating traditional dance performances. Day one featured not only the mesmerizing Odissi dancer Guru Jyotsnarani Sahu but also a visual art extravaganza by Praveen Kumar and Bengaluru's Chitrakala School of Dance,



creating a visual symphony under the open sky. The 34th edition of the Konark Dance and Music Festival promises a global spectacle, with renowned classical dancers transforming it into a cultural magnet. Odisha's rich heritage

takes center stage, contributing proudly to India's cultural tourism. Dr. Sangita Goswami, a music connoisseur, remarked, “The Konark Festival reflects the essence of our culture. The beautifully orchestrated presentations resonate

globally, offering a fresh experience to art and culture enthusiasts.” As the festival unfolds, it pledges to deliver a cultural symphony echoing far beyond Konark, solidifying its status as a standout celebration in India's vibrant cultural calendar.

OMC-ORMAS join hands for skilling of unemployed youth

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society (ORMAS) in collaboration with Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) has come up with an initiative of placement-linked skill development and training programme for the unemployed youth of the mining districts. The initiative aims at providing employment to the unemployed youth of Jajpur, Keonjhar, Rayagada, Sundargarh, and Koraput districts



under various trades in different private companies across the state and country. Additional chief secretary of Steel and Mines DK Singh said the initiative is the beginning of placement linked skill development and training programmes and

more trades will be incorporated in future in the mining districts which will not only enhance their skills but also help them become self-reliant. CEO of ORMAS Guha Poonam Tapas Kumar said training will be imparted to the youth in

two trades. The residential programme will also include soft skills like computer, general knowledge, language proficiency skills and fitness, she said. Under the initiative, 3000 unemployed youth in the age group of 18-35 will receive free skill development training and will be placed in various private companies in next three years. Principal secretary of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water department Sushil Kumar Lohani also spoke.



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CII EXCON to aid India to become the 2nd largest CE market in the world by 2030

Bhubaneswar(KCN) : The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized a roadshow in the city today to announce EXCON 2023. The event witnessed the participation of industry leaders, senior government officials and stakeholders from the infrastructure and construction equipment sector. EXCON, South Asia's largest construction equipment exhibition organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is scheduled from 12 - 16 December 2023 at the Bangalore International

Exhibition Centre, Bengaluru. EXCON is poised to propel India to become the 2nd largest and fastest growing construction equipment market in the world by 2030. The event will spread over 30 lakhs sq. ft of display area and is expected to attract over 1200 exhibitors from India & abroad including countries like the USA, UK, France, Germany, Italy, UAE, South Korea, Singapore, Turkey, Sri Lanka, Romania & Czech Republic. The 5-day exhibition would attract over 80,000



business visitors from all over the world. The Government of

Karnataka is the Host State for EXCON 2023.

Mr Sakthi Kumar VG, Member, EXCON 2023 Steering Committee &

Managing Director, Schwing Stetter (India) Pvt Ltd said, "We are thrilled to introduce the Twelfth Edition of EXCON, embracing the theme, 'Building India's Tomorrow.' This theme encompasses the

fundamental pillars of Technology, Globalization, Sustainability, and Inclusivity. EXCON 2023 is far more than just an event; it serves as the driving force behind India's unceasing progress. It strives to embody our robust infrastructure development, solidifying India's eminent position as a global hub for construction equipment manufacturing." Mr Sashi Sekhar Mohanty, Chairman, CII Odisha State Council said, "The vibrant coastal hub of Bhubaneswar has made impressive strides in its infrastructure, education, and across various sectors, making it a magnet for potential investments. The city's

transportation networks have undergone significant improvements, and an array of development projects is currently in progress, promising to take the city's infrastructure to unprecedented levels. As we come together under the EXCON banner, we recognize the pivotal role that infrastructure plays in shaping our shared future. We invite the leaders in the construction equipment industry to embark on this transformative journey with us. Together, our goal is not only to showcase state-of-the-art technologies but also to champion cost-effective solutions that will propel our city and its inhabitants to even greater heights".

KISS Model to be Replicated in the Philippines: Mr. Rufus B. Rodriguez



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): "I shall file a bill in Congress that will mirror the noble endeavour of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) in the Philippines and establish a school dedicated to providing free education to individuals from indigenous communities in the country", said Mr. Rufus B. Rodriguez, Hon'ble Member of the

House of Representatives of the Philippines. Addressing 40,000 indigenous students of KISS in a special programme, he said, KISS truly inspired him and he would soon move legislation in his country to establish the KISS model. He lauded the initiatives of Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT & KISS for

championing the cause of the tribal communities and empowering thousands of indigenous children through free education. He also invited Dr. Samanta to the Philippines and shared his valuable insights for setting up the proposed institute. Invoking Mahatma Gandhi and his teaching, he said that KISS and Dr. Samanta are shining

examples of offering selfless dedication and service to society. Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy on social service is truly reflected in KISS, he added.

Expressing his gratitude, he said, there has been a good relationship between India and the Philippines for many years. There is a similarity between the culture and tradition of India and the Philippines. The name 'Kalinga' is synonymous with the Philippines, as the 'State of Kalinga' is the name of one of the states. In his welcome address, Dr. Samanta spoke about the yeomen services provided by KISS for empowering the tribals and realizing the cherished dreams of the tribal children. Among others, Pro-Chancellor KISS-DU Prof. Amareshwar Galla; Vice Chancellor Prof. Deepak Kumar Behera; Registrar Dr. P. K. Routray, and other senior functionaries of KISS were present.

L&T and VMware join hands to accelerate digital infrastructure adoption across verticals

Mumbai.: Smart World & Communication (SWC) business of L&T, a leading Indian multinational engaged in EPC Projects, Hi-Tech Manufacturing and Services and VMware Inc, a leading global provider of multi-cloud services have announced a strategic partnership to accelerate the adoption of digital infrastructure solutions across industries, through incubation of a VMware Centre of Excellence (COE). The offerings would include an AI and automation-led 'Intelligent, secure SD-WAN on-demand' solution, to help clients improve the experience and efficiencies across their enterprise networks. This partnership will help clients attain digital versatility through multi-cloud solutions, leveraging VMware suite of products. The partnership will focus on innovation in the areas of cloud engineering and disaster recovery, improving the resilience of businesses and enterprises. L&T SWC will also leverage VMware's cutting-edge Telco Cloud products to create unique value propositions for clients through robust, secure Industry 4.0 solutions across verticals over 5G/IOT/Edge. "With the advent of 5G, we believe, the market is set to see large scale adoption of Industry 4.0 solutions across manufacturing, healthcare, education and other industries. L&T SWC and VMware joinhands to build a robust suite of digital infrastructure solutions, to help businesses become highly agile, versatile and resilient," says Mr. J. D Patil, Whole-time Director and Senior Executive Vice President for L&T's Defence Business & Smart Technologies Business.

Policybazaar findings indicate a higher propensity to purchase insurance in tier-2 & 3 cities after the Covid outbreak

Bhubaneswar : Policybazaar, one of India's largest online insurance marketplaces, conducted an online survey to understand the changing consumer sentiment towards insurance purchase, household finances and investments over the last two years of the pandemic. Policybazaar surveyed 5000 consumers to closely understand the behavioral shift in insurance buying trends. Interestingly, the findings revealed a growing level of propensity to buy insurance, especially in tier-2 and 3 cities of India. At 89%, the highest number of respondents willing to renew their health cover belong to tier-2 cities, as compared to 77% from tier-1. Similar trends

were observed in term insurance, where 59% of respondents who want to increase their coverage belong to tier-3 cities, as compared to 26% from tier-1 cities. The survey results clearly point towards the sense of urgency spurred by the pandemic with respect to insurance awareness across the country. The pandemic has definitely given the cognitive push when it comes to health insurance purchase. Out of the respondents who had contracted Covid, 25%* were hospitalized. We found out that 18% of them ended up spending over Rs 15 lakhs, and 22% were not adequately covered by their existing policy. Also, it is disquieting to see that 13% of those who got Covid did not have health insurance in

place. These figures clearly demonstrate that one should opt for at least Rs 15-20 lakhs coverage for each family member. However, health insurance purchase trends definitely drive positive optimism. As many as 62% of the total respondents had an active policy and didn't just depend on their corporate cover. The figures also vouched for the fact that Covid had acted as a catalyst in health insurance purchase. While 50% of these policies were bought after Covid first wave, 41% were purchased after the Delta wave. Also, 80% of these policies were family floater plans, thereby revealing a higher inclination towards ensuring sufficient coverage for the entire family.

Symphony limited ropes-in ace cricketers Harbhajan Singh and Shikhar Dhawan for a unique AI-led campaign

Bhubaneswar: India's most loved air cooler brand Symphony limited has roped in the country's sought-after cricketers Harbhajan Singh and Shikhar Dhawan for a unique AI-led nationwide initiative. The brand has partnered with Rephrase AI to create hyper-personalized video films for over 2,300 retailers across India. This is the first time in the consumer durables industry that a brand has leveraged artificial intelligence and initiated geo-targeting for each retailer. The heartwarming videos will witness India's popular cricketers appreciating dealers for their constant support and efforts for providing

great customer service. Known for being one of the largest homegrown brands, Symphony has always supported small and local businesses and has been a strong advocate of Vocal for Local. Along with the personalized videos, Symphony has also given letter of recognition, a certificate and a couple of goodies as a token of appreciation. The brand has taken this thought a notch higher by paying a tribute to the work of their trade partners. It strikes an emotional chord by going out of the way in reaching out to the people that matter. Commenting on the initiative, Mr. Anuj

Arora, Global Chief Marketing Officer, Symphony Limited says, "We are ecstatic to have partnered with reputed cricketers, Harbhajan Singh, and Shikhar Dhawan. They came on board to create AI driven customized videos for our dealership partners who are an integral part of our company. The objective is to create brand love and deepen the bonding with our trade partners. We are consistently brainstorming and innovating to come up with intriguing campaigns. With this initiative, we hope to strengthen our relationships and reach new heights together."

'DigiSaathi' - 24x7 Helpline for information on Digital Payments now enabled on additional channels

Mumbai : DigiSaathi - a 24x7 helpline for Information on digital payment products and services is setup by NPCI on behalf of a consortium of payment system operators and participants (banks & non-banks). DigiSaathi will be accessible on WhatsApp for the customers to access all the information they need pertaining to digital payment products and services. DigiSaathi will assist the users with all their queries on digital payments via the chatbot facility on WhatsApp by simply messaging on +918928913333. The facility will soon also be available on other social media channels as well.

Launched recently by Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), DigiSaathi is an automated response system that helps customers in addressing their queries related to multiple products and services under the payments system umbrella including Cards (Debit/Credit/Prepaid), UPI, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, AePS, NETC, BBPS, USSD, PPI Wallets, ATM, QR (UPI/Bharat), NACH, TReDs, CTS, MTSS, Mobile and Net banking. The Consortium of Payment System Operators and Participants including ecosystem Partners, Banks, Card Networks,

PPIs, Fintechs, Payments Council of India (PCI), and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) came together for implementing this to empower people to adopt digital payments with even more conviction. DigiSaathi is available in both English and Hindi for customers wherein they can access information about any of the digital payment products and services. It even guides them on how to avail or use any particular product or service. DigiSaathi also helps customers with their transaction-related queries, by guiding them and sharing the contact details of concerned banks/Institutions.

Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd announces results for Q4 2022 & FY

Mumbai : Kansai Nerolac Paints Limited (KNPL), one of the leading Paint companies in India, today at the Board meeting announced its audited results for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2022.

For the quarter, the company earned Net revenue from operations of Rs.1412.8 Crores, a growth of 4.2% over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. For the year, the company earned Net Revenue from operations of Rs.

5948.9 Crores a growth of 24.7% over the corresponding period of the previous year. EBITDA was at Rs. 82.9 Crores, a de-growth of 59.9% over Q4 of 2020-21. PAT was at Rs. 24.5 Crore, a de-growth of 80.9% over Q4 of 2020-

21. For the year period EBITDA was at Rs. 647.3 Crores, a de-growth of 23.3% over previous year. PAT for the year was Rs 374.3 Crores, a de-growth of 29.5% over previous year. The Board has recommended a final

dividend of 100 % (1.00 ? per share). In addition, the Company had declared interim dividend of 125% (? 1.25 per share) paid on November 22, 2021. Accordingly, the total dividend is 225 % (? 2.25 per share) for the

financial year ended March 31, 2022, as compared to total dividend of 525% (? 5.25 per share) including Special Dividend of 200% declared last year. Commenting on the results, Mr. Anuj Jain, Managing Director,

Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd said, "The quarter witnessed impact in terms of demand for decorative on account of the steep price increase towards end of Q3 FY 21-22. In Automotive, Passenger Vehicles demand was good

though impacted because of supply side constraints. On raw material costs, the quarter continued to witness inflationary pressures along with volatility in crude and exchange rates on account of the tough geo-political situation globally.

both teams in a second
innings shoutout.
Bangladesh were in
early trouble but skipper
Najmul Hossain
Shanto's 105, along with
half-centuries from
Mushfiqur Rahim and
Mehidy, left New
Zealand with a steep
target, one which they
fell well short of.

Brief scores:
Bangladesh 310
(Mahmudul Hasan Joy
86; Glenn Phillips 4-53)
& 338 (Najmul Hossain
Shanto 105; Ajaz Patel 4-
148) beat New Zealand
317 (Kane Williamson
104; Tajjul Islam 4-109)
& 181 (Daryl Mitchell
58; Tajjul Islam 6-75) by
150 runs.

Rinku fell to a yorker from Jason Behrenorff but he and Jitesh had ensured that India had a fighting total on the board. Was it close in the end? Not really. Australia needed 67 runs from the last five overs and the conditions for chasing weren't as easy as the first three T20Is, but that said, Guwahati and what Glenn Maxwell did to India was always looming large. And of course Matthew Wade was still at the crease, needing no invitation to dispatch a no-ball from Mukesh Kumar from a six. It didn't help that Matthew Short was dropped by Mukesh, a catch that was more keeper's than him. But Deepak Chahar conceded only six runs in the 17th over along with picking the wicket of Matthew Short with a slower delivery, setting up the stage for Avesh Khan to come in and bowl two of the last three overs for 1/17.

Brief Scores: India 174/9 (Rinku 46; Dwarshuis 3-40) beat Australia 154/7 (Wade 36*; Axar 3-16) by 20 runs

place in the ODIs side. There are speculations that Virat Kohli might skip the ODIs which appear true, but sources close to him have denied suggestions that he will abandon white ball cricket for an indefinite period. The leadership for the ODI side is not clear, and it remains uncertain whether Rohit Sharma will lead; there is a possibility that he might opt out. However, Rohit is expected to lead in the two Tests in India. Currently, the captain is overseas and was unavailable for comment.