

minister swooning in muscovy

CONCLUSIONS

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disrupting normal life.

Show-stopper performances of Odissi and Kathak mesmerise audience on the finale of 34th Konark Festival

Konark(KCN): The finale of 34th Konark Festival 2023 filled the winter air with energetic performances of Odissi and Kathak. General Manager, East Coast Railway Shri Manoj Sharma, OTDC Chairman Dr. Lenin Mohanty, Former Bureaucrat Shri Ashok Tripathy, Chairperson Konark NAC Ms Sanjukta Tripathy and President OSNA Guru Aruna Mohanty inaugurated the evening show by lighting the ceremonial lamp. The first half of the show saw Kumkum Mohanty and Group from Geeta Govinda Charitable Trust,

Bhubaneswar. The troupe performed Abhinaya – Maa Bhavani which depicted Maa Bhavani as the destroyer of demons “Shumba Nishumba” and how her power extended to save Lord Shiva’s powerful meditation by destroying the Mahishasura, the Doyen the Devils, in one of the Hindu pantheons. Mancha Pooja, Pallavi in Raag Hansadheani, and Abhinaya Maa Bhabani are three Abhinaya pieces composed by late Pandit Bhubaneswar Misra and Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra. The last sequence Abhinaya - an episode from the



Ramayana epic “Bichitra Ramayana” was written by

Biswanath Khunita. The second set of performances saw Luna

Poddar & Group of Kolkata performing Prerna Centre of three Odissi dance Performing Arts, recitals of SURYA

JYOTI, DARBARI and RANG BASANT choreographed by Guru Luna Poddar. Surya Jyoti is a Vandana dedicated to Lord Surya, symbolizing the seven colours of the rainbow and the seven chakras in the body. Raag Darbari Kanada is a choreographic piece that transports audiences back to India’s royal courts, showcasing Kathak dance’s intricate elements and Rang Basant was an artistic piece inspired by Padma Bibhushan Pt. Birju Maharaj ji’s Perennial Poetry. Set around the Teentaal Vilambit Madhya and Druthlaya time cycles, the piece celebrated

nature and emotion, flowing like color, river, time, seasons, and life. During the finale of the 13th International Sand Art Festival being held in Chandrabhaga beach, sand artists participating in the festival for the past five days were felicitated for showcasing the best of this unique artform at the Konark Festival. The theme of the day was “Wonders of the World for the international artists, Monuments of India for participating states, Temples of Odisha and Manabasa Gurubara” for participants from Odisha based on which captivating sand sculptures were created.

National Seminar on ‘Translation: Practices and Possibilities’ at CUO



Korput,(KCN):A two-day National Seminar on the theme ‘Translation: Practices and Possibilities’ was inaugurated at the Department of Odia Language and Literature (DOLL) of the Central University of Odisha at the Sunabeda Campus on 5th December 2023. Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor of the University inaugurated the seminar and presided over the inaugural session of the Seminar. Prof. Tripathi in his presidential address stressed the need for compiling data in translation works in Odia and other languages. He also spoke on Anubad Samiky Samiti especially for Odia, Hindi, and English as the need of the hour. The CUO is geared up to be the center point in translation studies across the world, he believed. Prof. Basanta Kumar Panda, Director, Center

of Excellence for Studies in Classical Odia, Govt. of India attended as the Chief Speaker. Prof. Nrusingha Charan Panda, Registrar I/c and Dean School of Languages; Prof. Kalidas Mishra, Department of English, Sambalpur University and Shri Krishna Singh, Eminent Social Activist attended as the Guests of honor. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Rudrani Mohanty, Associate Professor and HOD, Dept. of Odia Language and Literature(DOLL), CUO, and Convener of the National Seminar. She welcomed the guests and briefed about the importance of organizing the seminar. Translation provides an avenue to access the world, she pointed out. The Chief Speaker, Prof. Basanta Kumar Panda highlighted the contribution of Atibadi Jagannath Das and Rabindra Nath Tagore as

inspirational figures for translation. Even in the age of multilingualism, translation maintains its own identity. He added that translation is a bridge between cultures. The Guest of Honour, Prof. Kalidas Mishra, in his speech highlighted the importance of coordination between literal translation and sense translation. The world itself is an example of translation by our Creator, he noted. Prof. Nrusingha Charan Panda, said that translation is the art and workshops on translation are the need of the hour. He further said we can reach the mass through translation works. The guest of the ceremony, Shri Krishna Singh, said that translation should be looked at from a global perspective and we should publish more books on translated works. The formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Alok Baral, Assistant Professor,

Dept. of Odia Languages and Literature, CUO. Also present on the occasion were Prof. Prakash Chandra Pattanayak, Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Tribal Studies, Dr. Pradosh Swain, Dr. Ganesh Sahu and Dr. Satyanarayan Sarangi, Faculty members, DOLL, CUO, Dr. Ramendra Kumar Parhi, Head I/c, Dept. of Education, Dr. Sourav Gupta, Head I/c, Dept. of Journalism & Mass Communication, Dr. Sanjeet Dash, Assistant Professor, DELL, CUO, Dr. Chakradhar Pradhan, Associate Professor, HOD, Dept. of Hindi, Dr. Sony Parhi, Faculty J&MC, Dr. Telaram Meher, Guest faculty, J&MC and other guests of the audience Dr. Shankuntala Baliarsingh, Dr. Ratnottama Das, Dr. Mridula Mishra, Dr. Bijayananda Singh, faculty members, researchers, and students.

Odisha to include Millets in Biotechnology policy: Minister Panda

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha government is taking steps to include millets in the Biotechnology policy, state Science and Technology Minister Ashok Chandra Panda said Tuesday. According to the minister, the government has taken the step keeping in view the productive role millets plays in the current developed economy. Speaking in the plenary session on ‘Global Bio India-2023’ at New Delhi, Panda said bio, water and marine resources in Odisha add substantial potential for growth of biotechnology.



Panda said that better interventions, supportive industrial policy, special bio-park and startup ecosystem in Odisha encourage education, research and innovation, entrepreneurship, product development and manufacturing to enable

the state to become one of the top biotech innovation and investment destinations in the country. Principal Secretary, Science & Technology Department Chithra Arumugam, said the state government promotes

biotech startups through technology incubators. She said Bharat Biotech will manufacture vaccines in coming days from the special biotech park built by the state government at Andharua, near Bhubaneswar. The state biotechnology policy, Arumugam said will be revised in order to bring major developments in this field. 10 startups including the Institute of Life Sciences (ILS) and Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster (BCKIC) participated in the exhibition organised by the Science & Technology Department.



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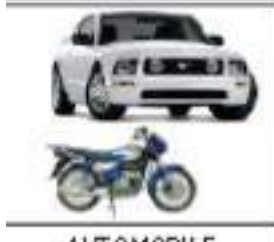
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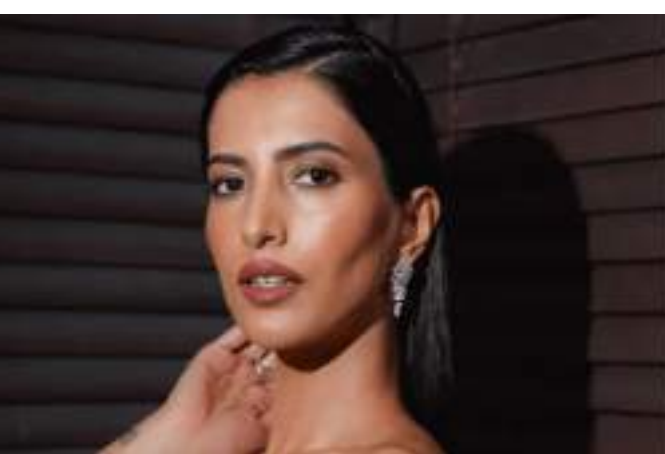
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Wildcard Manasvi Mamgai Gets Evicted From Salman Khan's Show

Bigg Boss 17 Weekend Ka Vaar episode brought a lot of excitement, drama, and revelations with it. In the latest episode, Salman Khan reveals the names of the contestants who breached the contract before entering the show and made shocking revelations about them. The conversation started with Salman Khan questioning the contestants regarding who knew each other before entering Bigg Boss 17. He suggested the contestants not to lie.

Salman then asked the contestants who connected with each other before entering the show. Vicky Jain then confessed that he called Neil two days before going inside Bigg Boss. Salman then asked Isha Malviya if she called someone before entering the show, and she mentioned that she called Abhishek Kumar. Salman asks Samarth if



he knows about it and the latter accepts.

Neil and Vicky talk about their recent altercation. Mannar and Jigna Vora

talk about Munawar and say that the latter has been maintaining a different approach towards Ankita and Vicky. Mannara says Vicky talks very

differently about the couple when he is in the room, away from them, but is different in front of them. She says that he speaks to them even after getting nominated. Salman welcomes singer King on the stage. King sings 'Tu Aaja', one of his most popular tracks for the Bigg Boss housemates. He makes housemates play 'Dil Ka Darwaza' with each other.

The cast of 'Dori' - Amar Upadhyay, Sudhaa

Chandran, and Mahi Bhanushali come on the Bigg Boss stage and promote their upcoming TV show.

Salman talks about the nominations. He says five people are nominated - Sana Raees Khan, Manasvi Mamgai, Arun Mashetty, Isha Malviya, and Samarth Jurel. he announces that Manasvi has been eliminated due to lowest number of votes. Manasvi bids her adieu to the house and walks out. Meanwhile, Abhishek, Arun and Sunny Arya get into another heated argument.

Shah Rukh Khan Unveils New Dunki Posters Featuring Taapsee Pannu, Vicky Kaushal, Anil Grover

Released on Shah Rukh Khan's birthday, the 'Dunki Drop 1' indeed came as an absolute treat for the audience and fans with its endearing narrative and went on to touch millions of hearts.

Drawn from real-life experiences, 'Dunki' is a saga of love and friendship that brings together these wildly disparate stories, and provides hilarious and heart-breaking answers.

On November 4, two posters of 'Dunki' were released that introduced 5 characters of the ensemble cast together, featuring, Shah Rukh Khan, Taapsee Pannu, Vikram Kochhar, Anil Grover, and Vicky Kaushal. The two new posters of the film show the joy of friendships and the challenges the lead cast go through together to achieve their dreams.



Sharing the posters on social media, Shah Rukh Khan wrote, "Hum bilkul usi tarah dikh rahe hain jaise Raju sir ne apne 'Ullu ke pathon' ko imagine kiya tha... Inke baare mein bahot kuch share karna abhi baaki hai..." (We look exactly the way Raju sir (Rajkumar Hirani) had imagined his 'Ullu ke pathon' to be. There is still much more to share about them).

The first poster shows Shah Rukh Khan accompanied

by Taapsee, Vicky, Vikram and Anil, all dressed formally and holding files, as they confidently head for an interview.

The second poster depicts the same group navigating a rough terrain in an isolated area. While the others look lost and confused as they are stuck in the middle of a desert, Taapsee appears to be unfazed by the physical strain is seen smiling while looking at Shah Rukh. In both the photos, Shah

Rukh is seen leading the group. A Red Chillies Entertainment, and Rajkumar Hirani Films presentation, produced by Rajkumar Hirani and Gauri Khan. Written by Abhijat Joshi, Rajkumar Hirani and Kanika Dhillon, Dunki is slated to release this December 2023. The film is based on the concept of Donkey Flight, an unlawful backdoor entry technique for nations like the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States of America. Shah Rukh will be seen in the role of a man named 'Hardy' in 'Dunki', who desperately wants to move to London along with his buddies. 'Dunki' will release in India on December 22, 2023 and will clash with Prabhas' Salaar: Part 1 - Ceasefire at the Box Office.

Samantha Ruth Prabhu Climbs 600 Steps Barefoot, Prays to Palani Murugan



Samantha Ruth Prabhu climbed 600 steps of the Palani Murugan temple in Tamil Nadu on February 13 draped in an all-white churidar-kurta and offered prayers at the temple.

She also lit a camphor diya and tweeted on the same. She was

accompanied by her 'Jaanu' movie director C. Premkumar and other friends. The actor, who suffers from Myositis, an autoimmune disease condition that causes acute muscular pain, has started shooting for the web series 'Citadel' in which she shares screen space with Bollywood

actor Varun Dhawan.

'Citadel' is the Indian version of the international sci-fi action web series of the same name created by the Russo Brothers. In the international series, Priyanka Chopra plays the lead.

The Indian web series is directed by the

director duo Raj and DK, who had helmed the popular web series, 'The Family Man', in which Samantha played the role of Raji, a Sri Lankan Tamil militant.

She had recently tweeted: "I am thrilled to be part of this brilliant universe conceptualised by the Russo Brothers AGBO. I am also looking forward to working with Varun for the first time. He is someone who is full of life and cheer when you are around him." Samantha is awaiting the release of her Telugu mythological movie 'Shakunthalam' in which she shares the screen with Prakash Raj and Dev Mohan. The movie is to be released on April 14.



Karan Johar reviews 'The Romantics', asks Aditya Chopra if he can share their personal pictures clicked over the decades

The 'Romantics', which released on OTT on the occasion of Valentine's Day, has received an emotional review from Karan Johar. He confessed to binge-watching the four episode long docu series, which got him thinking about old school filmmaking.

"I realised the purity, the innocence and the conviction we all collectively had... is so lost today for most of us.... Yash Chopra is not

just a legend of romance... a connoisseur of chiffon, music and beauty... a maestro of musicals... he was also a pillar of belief and conviction... is there any conviction left today? We are burdened by media commentary... box office opening analytics, research engines (all probably relevant to the technology and times) but where did good old fashioned conviction vanish," shared Karan Johar.



He went on to state how the series made him reflect on his own journey and added, "The rom doc reminds us of the past that seemed so organic and



heartfelt.... Makes me want to go back to that zone of filmmaking.... I am so deeply inspired by the YRF story... it's

origin and it's journey.... Having learnt everything I know from the corridors of the studio I stand blessed and watching The Romantics made me so self aware... of my strengths and my failings.... Thank you @smritimundhra for weaving a narrative out of the archives and actually making an audience go through the many emotional beats through the 4 episodes... just brilliant!"

Paying an ode to

Chopra scions, Aditya and Uday, KJo added, "And finally my Best friend has a face and how beautifully articulate was he!!! Adi does that mean I can post all the images we have shared over decades that you have threatened to never speak to me if I put out ??? #justasking #loveyouAdi congratulations to my dearest friend @udayc for being such a force behind this."

WORLD HINDU CONGRESS AND THE GLOBAL SHIFT IN DEMOGRAPHY

M.R.LALU



There has been a lot going on in the news lately, the events in Gaza and the protest against the Israeli aggression and much more. In India, the election fever in five states has successfully been spread to the rest of the country and predictions to see its outcome as a semifinal before the 2024 battle has also begun. The Uttarakhand tunnel crisis made occasional ripples while political mudslinging from the states going to polls took the headlines. Silent, yet making a global impact on the essence and presence of the Hindu religion, the World Hindu Congress has come to an end in Bangkok, Thailand. Conducted for three days from November 24 to 26, one of the largest intellectual gatherings of the Hindus has now become a platform for its people from across the globe to assemble and discuss the issues and propagate the values. This time the Congress maintained

its theme “Jayasa Aayatnam Dharmah which means “Dharma, the Abode of Victory.” Ever since its first assembly in Delhi in 2014 there has been significant progress in passing awareness on the challenges that the Hindu society faces globally. The Congress assembled in Chicago in 2018 the second time and the present one in Thailand was the third. Undoubtedly, its first gathering in 2014 must make us infer the sense of urgency with which the Modi government must have given it a beginning. The significance of such an intellectual gathering was intended to discuss matters that concern the Hindu community across the globe with adequate guidance being framed while giving it a nudge in order to consolidate its political bargaining powers and to strengthen its cultural as well as spiritual depth. Contradictory to the present political posturing of the opposition parties in India, the World Hindu Congress came out with a startling declaration. The WHC decided to denounce the term Hinduism and

declared to embrace Hindutva and Hindu Dharma to refer to the world's oldest and eternal religion. Dharma for all positive reasons is a better term suitable to refer to the Hindu way of life in the Indian context. The religious texts that the Hindus consider holy are deep reference guides on aspects of Dharma and the world began to seriously ponder on those subjects of spiritual contemplation as Christianity and Islam had failed to naturally flourish maintaining a justifiable momentum of inclusion and coexistence. War savagery, ethnic unrest and intense religious radicalization took hold of the human conscience making amiable coexistence a Himalayan challenge and search for better ideals began to gain thrust. Hindu religious philosophy fits in this vacuum. And it is seen as an adequate alternative which can profess, propagate and promise solutions to a deeply divided world. The term Hinduism, according to the Hindu Congress is defined as an oppressive and discriminatory attitude of belief. The

declaration in the Congress preferred the word Hindutva as the accurate term that includes all that the word “Hindu” implies. Now, the political opposition that often stands against the eternal values of the Hindu Dharma will have to discover new phraseology to frame more abusive vocabularies against it. Probably, compelled by the recent vitriolic attacks on Sanatan Dharma, the WHC called for more closeness among organizations that stand for the Hindu cause and ideally put forth its commitment to bring them together with more openness chiseling their unity. To politically corroborate it, the Hindu unity has always been a tricky conflicting affair. Those who stood to make it viable had stumbled politically with meager progress being made in the beginning. But the impact of the efforts got pronounced to a reasonable and visible range ever since Modi came to national politics with his relatively modified and an intensified

version of the Hindu way of politicking. Of course the challenges that the majority in the country is frequently made to face need better calculations to defend. Often the Hindus have to face confrontational political arrogance from multiple corners and the ethnic confusion and the disarrayed existence of caste and gender disparities often pushed it harder to the corner of political irrelevance. Warmongering in the name of exclusive religious beliefs have turned the world into a space of horror and uninterruptedly disgraceful maligning by certain groups and individuals hold Hinduism also deeply vulnerable internationally. Attacks on Hindu temples and centers in some countries could be seen as an intolerant tendency vehemently articulating its disgraceful alignment worldwide with hostile forces that for years have been waiting for the fall of a congenial belief system. The demographic scenario all over the world has dangerously

been altering. Pew Research Center's recent findings have some alarming facts to fire up our thoughts for a world that is largely going to tilt in the Islamic way by 2050 with its population possibly outnumbering Christianity. According to it, the newborns in Islam will outnumber the Christian births by 2035 and the former would gain a steady momentum in its population by drastically altering the present demographic status. Being the fastest growing community, Muslims by 2050 will make up to 10% of the overall population of Europe. Of an expected total population of 9.3 billion by 2050, the Muslim population is projected to increase by 73% while the Hindus and the Christians will keep an average momentum of 35% population growth. Anger and outcry in the streets of different European countries against Israel's retaliation in Gaza was an indication of the adverse impact on the European free world's democratic freedom and values. The Hindu

population is projected to arrive at 1.4 billion worldwide while the Jews, probably the smallest religious group, are expected to stay at 16.1 million. So, the challenges to catch-up with the pace of Islam are multiplying and India with its multicultural social design remains more exposed to aggression and rift among various religious groups. Challenging democracy and its powerful monarchy, almost 300000 protesters crowded in the streets of the United Kingdom and they sloganeered for the eradication of Israel soon after the Israeli retaliation began post October 7 Hamas horror. Open criticism on the Jihadi sympathizers and their grouping in the streets of the country had resulted in Suella Braverman's expulsion from the Rishi Sunak cabinet. Literally, the trend booming with rapidly corners the anti-Jihadi narratives as far right and a media caucus is deliberately glorifying its exclusivist radicalized madness. Expectations have been raised and alarming bells were sounded in the WHC

on threatening facts that are gaining attention and sympathy worldwide. The changing demography of the European region and the flashpoint on which India's administration balances its complicated chemistry of societies has been extensively debated. Islam is still a no go area for the governments and reformists alike as it invites furious reactions if questioned. The Udaipur butchery is a perfect example for the deep seated animosity that silently reverberates in India's underbelly. A trickle of reality is dripping in with a shudder and instances that happened in Udaipur and elsewhere in the country is calling for caution. The jubilation for the Ram Temple inauguration and the speculation on a possible Modi comeback in 2024 is the juncture in which the WHC culminated at Bangkok.

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Gajraj's wrath

Dr. Laxman Sahoo



Take the elephant, take the horse, play my penkali. Elephant is my companion. The close relationship between humans and elephants can be understood from some of these mind-blowing songs. Elephants have amazing memories. They also transfer their traditional practices and memories from generation to generation. How do we think they got into the population, the garden or the field, the mine? But we forget that they came back remembering their original places, which we now occupy. This is a true story of conflict between elephants and humans. Despite years of population growth and continuous deforestation, the way elephants have started to encroach on human settlements and wreak havoc is a matter of deep concern. Hungry and thirsty elephants or elephants are often

seen in any village, town, industrial area or street to satisfy their hunger. Their rates of violence and premature death in the last two-three years are alarming. From Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Kerala, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh and other states, there are often very scary pictures and stories of elephant attacks. Even now, gruesome pictures of their orgies have emerged from many states. In the last two-three years, the truth has come to light about the elephants of Madhya Pradesh-Chhattisgarh living in their own herds. They travel hundreds of kilometers at night and cause danger everywhere. Many people think that gazelles wander away from the forest in search of food, which is not true. In fact, they return to their old place, which was once their abode. But now they have become concrete jungles or fields and barns of our progress. Elephants have

amazing memories. They also transfer their traditional practice weight and memory from generation to generation. Some wonder how they got into the population, gardens or fields, mines? But forgetting that they have returned remembering their original places, which we now occupy. This is a true story of conflict between elephants and humans. Secondly, due to the rapid destruction of forests, various animals and birds in the forest such as monkeys, deer, sambar, wild boars, dogs, jackals and other so-called animals are invading the human habitations. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change told Parliament in March this year that more than 1,500 people have lost their lives due to elephant attacks in India in the last three years. The data shows that there has been a slight increase in human conflict. 585 people died due to elephant attacks in 2019-2021, 461 in 2021-2021 and 535 in 2022. Many people were also disabled due to the

attack, the exact number of which is not known. The death toll shows that every year around five hundred people lose their lives in our country while hundreds of elephants also die. This astonishing number is ten times higher than that of humans who are preyed upon by animals such as tigers or leopards. From 2015 to 2020, about two and a half thousand people have been killed by elephants. In February 2019, Parliament was told that 1713 humans and 373 elephants had died in the past three years. The fact also came to light that most of the 226 elephants died due to electrocution. 62 elephants died after hitting the railway tracks, while 59 were killed by poachers and 26 by poison. Billions of rupees have been spent on compensation for elephant and human deaths. But the fact is that humans are creating obstacles in the path of elephants. A survey found that there are 88 routes in India. 'Rite of Passage', an eight-hundred-page study published in 2017, contains important

information on how elephants have been traveling for centuries. It contains information about 101 Indian corridors of elephants. Out of them, 28 are in South, 25 are in Central, 23 are in North East, 14 are in North West Bengal and 11 are in North West India. Agriculture was started in two of the three corridors, while railway lines or roads were built in two-thirds. Two corridors have been disrupted by mining and quarrying that have led to eleven canals. Alteration or elimination of corridors creates many obstacles to the free movement of elephants. Because of this, the angry elephants started returning to their old habitat. In today's densely populated areas, they began to migrate in search of food and water. It is also true that their numbers have decreased drastically in the last hundred years. Three species of elephants, which are among the largest animals on earth, inhabit the African savannah, the African forest. Calculations are made using Asian numbers or symbols as well as letters. There

are only fifty to sixty thousand Asian elephants left in the world. According to the 2017 India census, their number is 27,312. A huge elephant can weigh five to six thousand kilograms and be three meters high and six meters long. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has a 'Red List' of endangered species, updated from Switzerland. It lists Asian elephants as 'endangered'. Information about sixteen thousand scientists and thirteen hundred partner organizations from all countries is available here. There is a lot of hope that their conservation can be done according to appropriate measures. There is talk of an elephant sanctuary, but once the area is decided, they forget to build it, which really reduces interest. Conflicts between humans and elephants are increasing rather than decreasing as various development projects are opened everywhere. The Lemru Reserve in Chhattisgarh was hastily approved in 2007 to prevent

increasing human encroachment on the elephants' old habitat. of which one corridor will be occupied. The Forest Department will appoint separate officers and staff to monitor them. Those who will monitor every activity of the elephants. At the time of declaration, its area was fixed at 3,827 square kilometers. But in a notification issued in October 2021, after five years it was reduced to 995.48 square kilometers. It is surprising that Ghan Hasadeva Aranya is also not included, which is rich in ecology and biodiversity. There is expansion of mines and construction of new coal mines. The area was reduced due to permits. The question arises whether we are seeing the development or conservation of endangered wildlife? Because of such confusion, our public representatives and government, those who care about nature and wildlife, need to think without bias. Certainly, there are no concrete measures or clear strategies to protect others from Gajraj. Also, the

forest department does not seem to be serious about proper diagnosis. If this is not an irony, then what is it that, even armed with modern resources, we have not found any safe or effective way to attack or control elephants? Is it the responsibility of high-paid and high-ranking forest officers to prepare documents for violence, assault and compensation? Whether anything actually happens on the ground or not, but we are always at the top of the paper filling. Surely something impossible and possible must be avoided and some truth must be revealed. So day by day the terrible anger of Gajraj and the increasing number of deaths are happening, it must be stopped. Truly Gajraj is a very beautiful and intelligent creature, till yesterday he was our companion, today he became a friend again.

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Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund

Kolkata, (KCN):In a written reply to the unstarred question raised by MPs Shri Ajay Kumar Mondal, Ms locket Chatterjee, Smt Navneet Ravi Rana and Shri Sunil Kumar Pintu in the Lok Sabha today regarding the welfare schemes and new initiatives started for the betterment of fishermen and fisheries industries, the Union Minister of Fisheries, animal Husbandry and dairying, Shri Purushottam Rupala stated that the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a flagship scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) with an investment of Rs. 20,050 crore for a period of five years with effect from Financial Year 2020-21 to 2024-25 for holistic development of fisheries and aquaculture

and welfare of fishermen is at the core of the scheme. The fishers welfare related activities supported under PMMSY inter-alia include; livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers' families during fishing ban period, insurance cover to fishers and fishing vessels, boats and nets to traditional fishermen, communication/tracking devices, sea-safety kits, support to traditional fishers for acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels, alternative livelihood activities like seaweed culture & bivalve culture, training & skill development, providing cold-chain and marketing facilities and also fishing harbours and fish landing centres facilities for safe landing and berthing of fishing boats/vessels and

smooth operation of post-harvest activities. The Department of Fisheries, he said, during the last financial years (2020-21 to 2022-23) and current year(2023-24) accorded approval to the proposals of various States/UTs and other implementing agencies to the tune of Rs. 17118.62 crore including the proposals of Government of West Bengal, Maharashtra and Bihar for development of fisheries and aquaculture including the activities related to welfare of fishermen.

It is estimated that about 10.97 lakh fishers, fish farmers and other stakeholders are benefited under PMMSY including 4553 beneficiaries in West Bengal, 17117 in Maharashtra and 66,072 in Bihar.

It is to be noted that besides, to promote easy access to credit facility

for aqua-culture farmers, fish farms and fishing activities, the Government of India during the FY 2018-19 extended the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to fisher and fish farmers to help them to meet their working capital needs. So far, a total of 1,69,476 KCCs have been issued including 1387 in West Bengal, 19,733 in Maharashtra and 9809 in Bihar. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, with effect from financial year 2018-19 has implemented Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) with a total fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore. FIDF inter-alia provides concessional finance for development of various fisheries infrastructure facilities to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including

State Governments/ Union Territories and State entities for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has so far accorded approvals to a total of 121 proposals of various States/UTs at a total outlay of Rs. 5588.63 crore for creation of fisheries infrastructure including the proposals amounting to Rs. 27.99 crore of Government of West Bengal, Rs. 943.69 crore of Government of Maharashtra and whereas the Government of Bihar has not submitted any project proposal so far under FIDF. The district-wise details of projects approved for the State of West Bengal and Maharashtra under FIDF are furnished at Annexure-I and Annexure-II.

Purandar Mishra Elected to Chhatisgarh assembly Will be lone Odia MLA in New Assembly



Raipur/Bhubaneswar, (KCN):. President of Greater Odia Samaj of Chhattisgarh State and Bhartiya Janata Party's candidate Purandar Mishra had a landslide victory from Raipur North Assembly Constituency. Shri Mishra defeated his nearest rival Kuldeep Singh Juneja of Indian National Congress by a whopping margin of 23052 votes. While Shri Mishra pulled 54279 votes, Shri Juneja could manage only 31227 votes. Shri Mishra would be the lone Odia MLA in the newly elected Chhattisgarh assembly. Shri Mishra also holds the position of Chief Patron of the Chhattisgarh branch of World Odisha Society. Shri Mishra has founded the largest Jagannath Temple in the state of Chhattisgarh at Gayatri Nagar in Raipur which comes under his constituency. The entire Odia community from nook and corner of Chhattisgarh, devotees of

Lord Jagannath across the globe and worldwide members of world Odisha society became jubilant and euphoric after receiving the news of Shri Mishra's election-winning news today afternoon. Thousands of Odia and non-Odia gathered in the evening at the Jagannath temple in Gayatri Nagar to celebrate Shri Mishra's thumping victory with pomp Splendor and much fanfare. Congratulations and best wishes have been showering in from Sri Mishra's fans, followers, and well-wishers from Odisha, all over the country and abroad, non resident Odia leaders from India and abroad have also sent goodwill messages to Sri Mishra. congratulating

Shri Mishra for his spectacular victory World Odisha Societies chairman Kishore Dwibedi said in a message that Shri Mishra will be the true representative of Odias inhabiting Chhattisgarh and will come up to their hopes, aspirations, and expectations.

Purandar Mishra has the privilege of heading the Apex Odia organization in Chhattisgarh state namely Greater Odia Samaj, the Samaj consisting of representatives of 24 caste-based Odia communities representing 35 lakhs of Odia inhabitants of Chhattisgarh recently unanimously elected Shri Mishra as president.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT OF PM-KISAN IN WEST BENGAL

Kolkata, (KCN):In a written reply to the unstarred question raised by MP Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal in the Lok Sabha today regarding the development report of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme launched by the Government especially in the State of West Bengal for the F.Y. 2022-23 and 2023-24, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar stated that the Pradhan Mantri

Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector Scheme, being implemented w.e.f. December 1, 2018. The Scheme aims at providing financial assistance to all landholding farmer families across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the Scheme, an amount of Rs. 6000/- per year is transferred

in three-four installments each of Rs.2000/- directly into the Aadhar seeded bank accounts of the farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Under the PM-Kisan Scheme, over 2.80 lakh crore has been transferred to over 11 crore farmers across the country including West Bengal. In West Bengal, PM-Kisan Scheme was onboarded in FY 2021-22 and since then 51,14,346 farmers have received benefits worth over 7380.46 crore.

Status of MGNREGS Jobcards and Funds Due for Allocation in West Bengal

Kolkata, (KCN): In a written reply to the unstarred question raised by MP Smt Aparupa Poddar, regarding the status of MGNREGS jobcards, the funds allocated to West Bengal, the amount due for the State in the last three years in the Lok Sabha today, the Union Minister of State for Rural Development, Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti stated that State/UT-wise details of new job card issued to households under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee

Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) in the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are given at Annexure-I. The Minister also stated that State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are given at Annexure-II. She said, Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by

providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Request for Job card by a household in Rural Area is a continuous process. Also, updation / deletion of Jobcard is a regular exercise being conducted by the State Governments, she added. The Minister detailed out the financial allocation status pointing out that financial allocation of Rs. 60,000 crores has

already been made for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) for the financial year 2023-24 at Budget Estimate (BE) stage. Further, an amount of Rs.10,000 crore has been provided by the Ministry of Finance as an advance from the Contingency Fund of India. Out of this, an amount of Rs.66,994.17 crore has been released as on 28.11.2023. She said, Ministry seeks additional funds from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the

demand for work on the ground.

The Minister said, As per data available in NREGA Soft and PFMS an amount of Rs.5553 crore is the pending liability under wage and material components for the State Government of West Bengal. Release of funds to the State of West Bengal has been stopped from March 9, 2022 as per provision of Section 27 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 due to non-compliance of directives of the Central Government.

'One Flag, One PM, One Constitution' Not A Political Slogan: Amit Shah

New Delhi(KCN): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday asserted that the concept of "one flag, one head, one Constitution" was not a political slogan and the BJP firmly believes in the principle and finally implemented it with regard to Jammu and Kashmir.



Responding to a remark by Trinamool Congress' Saugata Roy in the Lok Sabha that "ek nishan, ek pradhan, ek samvidhan (one flag, one head, one constitution)" was a "political slogan", Shah wondered how a country

could have two prime ministers, two constitutions and two flags. While responding to a remark from the opposition benches, Mr Shah said, "Whosoever

did it was wrong. Narendra Modi has corrected it. Your approval or disagreement does not matter. The entire country wanted it." This comment was made in

an apparent reference to the abrogation of provisions of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. Mr Shah went on to state that "one symbol, one head, one constitution" was not an election slogan. "We had been saying since 1950 that a country should have one PM, one flag and one constitution and two will not do and we have done it," he said. Soon after Mr Roy ended his speech on the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation

(Amendment) Bill and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said while the TMC leader mentioned Syama Prasad Mukherjee, he should have also recalled his sacrifice.

Mr Roy said he had taught in a college named after Mukherjee and "ek nishan, ek pradhan, ek samvidhan" was his slogan and it was a "political slogan". Mr Shah then rose to hit back at the TMC member.

Cultural Exchange Programme with US Poet at Sahitya Akademi



Kolkata, (KCN): Sahitya Akademi organised a cultural exchange programme at its city office auditorium on Monday (December 4, 2023) with renowned English poet Dante Micaux of USA. The welcome address was delivered by the Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Eastern Region, Dr Devendra Kumar Devsh. he spoke in brief about the writings of the poet. Eminent Bengali poet

Shri Subodh Sarkar while speaking on the poet, explored the connection between USA, Kolkata and Santiniketan. He also referred to notable American poets like Allen Ginsberg and others. Dante Micaux read out many of his poems, including 'Song into Holiness', 'Song of the Hija', 'Prantik Station' and 'The Second Beautiful Harvest'. His poems display his understanding of Indian

culture through the employed imagery. Dante spoke about his earlier encounters with Indian culture and how he was brought among a section of Indian diaspora. At the end of the poetry reading session, Dr Sarkar presented the Bengali translation of two of those poems followed by an interactive session. Shri Kshetrabasi Naik, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

"Sachin Pilot's Phone Tracked During 2020 Rebellion": Ashok Gehlot's Aide

New Delhi: Outgoing Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's OSD Lokesh Sharma on Tuesday alleged that the then deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot's movements and phone were tracked and monitored by the Gehlot government in the run-up to and during the rebellion Pilot had staged in 2020.

There was no immediate reaction from Congress leaders Gehlot and Pilot or their aides on the allegations.

Mr Sharma, who was denied a ticket to contest the Rajasthan assembly polls and has been criticising Mr Gehlot for the party's defeat in the elections, also said if the incidents of September last year, when a legislature party meeting was not allowed to take place by Gehlot loyalists, had not happened and the Congress observers had carried out the agenda for which they had come, the picture in Rajasthan would have

been different. The Congress leadership wanted to effect a leadership change and bring in Mr Pilot as the chief minister. He said the differences between Mr Gehlot and Mr Pilot "harmed" the party's prospects. "When the political crisis of 2020 had come and Pilot ji had left with his 18 MLAs, then in such a situation, the government does put its machinery in to use and everyone is monitored, where do these people go, who do

they meet and who do they speak with. So that is done and in that manner their monitoring was also done," Mr Sharma alleged. He claimed that the monitoring was happening from before the rebellion as there was some idea that such a thing could happen. Asked about the details of the monitoring, Mr Sharma told PTI, "I said monitoring was being done continuously which includes all these things -- movement, who are

they speaking with, those things were being tracked and monitored." Mr Sharma claimed that elections could have been fought better and the main reason for defeat was that ticket distribution was not done properly. BJP Wins Big In Rajasthan As Ashok Gehlot's Welfare Schemes Fail "There was no-anti incumbency against the government but people did not want to see many of the MLAs return as their representatives.

ASI to install steel support for Natamandap beam of Shri Jagannath Temple

CUTTACK: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) will install a stainless-steel box beam for strengthening the cracked beam inside the Natamandap (dancing hall) of Shri Jagannath Temple at Puri. Indicating this in a report submitted in the Orissa High Court on Monday, amicus curiae NK Mohanty said ASI had started the process and taken necessary steps for purchase of stainless-steel material required for fabricating the box beam.

“The ASI has finalised the design of the box beam. This design is also needed to be vetted by the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA). For this the technical expert committee of SJTA is expected to hold a meeting this week,” Mohanty said. The high court is monitoring repair and renovation inside the Natamandap as part of adjudication on a PIL for conservation of the 12th century shrine filed by Abhisek Das, a resident of Cuttack in 2016.



Taking note of the amicus curiae's report, the division bench of Acting Chief Justice BR Sarangi and Justice MS Raman fixed December 18 for further monitoring of the progress of the repairs. Earlier on November 15, the court had asked the amicus curiae to submit a report after every 15 days, while directing ASI to start the work for strengthening the cracked beam inside the Natamandap from the next day. In his report Mohanty said ASI had started

work on November 17 with de-plastering of pillar heads on the north-east and south-east sides inside the Natamandap to assess the damage, if any to the original structures. He further stated an estimated 120 working days having six working hours per day is needed to complete the strengthening of the cracked beam. ASI had taken up the repair of Natamandap after completion of the restoration work of Jagamohan.

DRIP Care For 45 Dams

Bhubaneswar(KCN): As many as 45 dams have been included under Government of India's Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) in three different phases, Union MoS for Water Resources, Bishweswar Tudu said on Monday. While replying to an unstarred question of Rajya Sabha MP Sasmit Patra, the Union Minister said the DRIP Phase-I was implemented during April 2012 to March 2021 with financial assistance from the World Bank with the objective to improve the safety and operational performance of selected dams along with accompanying dam safety institutional strengthening. Under the scheme, physical rehabilitation of 223 dams located in 7 States including 26 dams from Odisha were undertaken at the cost of Rs 2567 crore, he said. After completion of DRIP Phase-I program, Government of India has taken up DRIP Phase-II & III scheme. The scheme envisages



rehabilitation and safety improvement of 736 dams located in 19 States, with a budget outlay of Rs 10,211 crore. The scheme is of 10 years' duration, Tudu said. Out of the total proposed cost for DRIP Phase-II & III, Rs7,000 crore is an external loan and Rs 3,211 crore would be borne by the respective participating States and the three central agencies. The Phase II is currently operational since October 2021 with budget outlay of Rs 5107 crore, and being co-financed by the World

Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Under the Scheme, detailed project proposals called Project Screening Template (PST) of 123 dams costing Rs 3937 crore have been approved by the World Bank. So far, contract(s) for rehabilitation works costing Rs 1529 crore at 82 dams have been awarded by various implementing agencies, he said, adding, in Odisha, six dam projects have been undertaken with a cost of Rs 30.01 crore. Under DRIP II & III

Scheme, he said, Odisha Water Resources Department is one of the implementing agencies. PST of 13 dams costing Rs 65 crore has been submitted by the State Government to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for approval of the World Bank. PSTs for 9 dams costing Rs 53 crore have been approved by the World Bank, wherein rehabilitation works at 6 dams costing Rs 31.67 crore have been awarded by the State and are under implementation, the MoS stated. Further, the rehabilitation works at selected dams, would help in enhancing safety and operational performance of the dams, in turn ensuring that the given dam serves its intended purpose sustainably. Also, the scheme has provision for preparation of dam specific operation and maintenance manuals as well as emergency action plans, which will help in improving the disaster resilience of the dams as well as the downstream community, he added.

BMC Fines Rail Centre



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh on the Managing Officer of the East Coast Railway Community Centre for dumping waste at public places. Not only this, the Railway Staff Benefit Community Hall at Mancheswar, which had dumped wet and dry waste, was sealed in the presence of BMC Commissioner, Vijay Amruta Kulange.

This morning, the Commissioner BMC made a surprise visit to Ward 9 area. During a visit to the community hall and market area in Mancheswar area of the Railways, they found wet, dry and plastic waste scattered on the roadside. In particular, it was clear that the wet, dry and plastic waste coming out of the community hall had been deliberately dumped on the roadside. The BMC

Commissioner had directed that the community hall be sealed on the spot after it was found that the staff in charge of the community centre of the East Coast Railway was handling the waste in a shoddy manner. The rule of segregation of waste wet and dry has been strictly implemented for all kalyan mandaps and community halls in the BMC area and will be applicable in this regard

as well. Despite repeated and various means of awareness, if the authorities, event agencies or individuals do not implement the waste management rules or inform the BMC on the Safa Bhubaneswar App; Then strict action will be taken against the concerned organisations or individuals,” commissioner Raktokh said. According to the rules, the Safa Bhubaneswar app has to be used to lift the waste. You have to pay the required fees for this. This is because dumping of waste is affecting the living standards of the common citizen. The BMC had said that the railway community hall will remain closed till the fine is collected. Ten hours after the sealing, the Secretary of the Community Hall Managing Committee deposited Rs 1 lakh with the BMC. The BMC later removed the seal from the community hall.



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Odisha Government Announces Ground Breaking Subsidy Scheme at Global Stainless-Steel Expo 2023

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Government has unveiled an ambitious Special Subsidy Scheme to boost the stainless-steel Industry within the state. This momentous announcement was made during the inauguration of the Global Stainless-Steel Expo 2023 (GSSE 2023) in Mumbai, further solidifying Odisha's commitment to becoming the 'Stainless Steel destination' for the world.

The GSSE 2023 event, was inaugurated by esteemed dignitaries including Shri. Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries, Government of Odisha; Mr. Abhyuday Jindal, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless Ltd.; Dr.

Aruna Sharma, GSSE Steering Committee Member and Former Secretary, Ministry of Steel; and Ms. Anitha Raghunath, Director, Virgo Communications and Exhibitions.

In his inaugural address, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, Mr Abhyuday Jindal said, "It won't be an exaggeration to say that stainless steel is omnipresent, and even for a big event like the G20, stainless steel adorned the roads. Be it the art installations in Lutyens Delhi or the security barriers, stainless steel made its presence felt. It was a historic moment to witness stainless steel reach the moon when the Chandrayaan-3 made a



soft landing on the lunar surface recently." He also touched upon the industrial park in-the-making in Odisha by his company, and said it is the first-ever stainless steel Industrial park in India with the vision to strengthen the industry.

A special report on stainless steel titled 'India's Amritkal' by SteelMint was unveiled at the event. According to the report, the stainless-steel industry struggled to regain equilibrium due

to the lingering impact of weakened global and domestic demand. This demand contraction reverberated throughout global melt-shop production, with the first quarter of CY23

witnessing a 5% year-on-year decline to 13.66 million tonnes (mnt). China led this dip with 8.27 mnt. The report also underlined that the Indian Stainless-Steel industry quickly recovered by FY23, reaching about 3.5 mnt. Looking forward, SteelMint's forecasts are intriguing, estimating demand to rise to 4.5 mnt by FY25. Shri Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries, Government of Odisha (Orissa), is making significant contributions to the stainless-steel sector and the minerals sector. Being the largest

producer of iron ore and bauxite in India is indeed a noteworthy achievement. Odisha's status as the largest producer of iron ore and bauxite showcases its rich mineral resources. This positions the state as a critical player in the raw materials supply chain for various industries, including steel and aluminium. He announced Jindal Stainless steel Plant is a massive 1.2 MTPA stainless steel plant and proposed plant expansion to 3.2 MTPA by Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL) in Odisha is a game-changer. This

investment represents a substantial commitment to the stainless-steel sector in the state and will likely contribute to its growth and prominence in the industry. "The demand for stainless steel in India is expected to grow at an average of 9 to 10 per cent per annum over the next few financial years, doubling the growth rate of 4.5 per cent in the last five financial years," said Ms. Anitha Raghunath, Director of Virgo Communications and Exhibitions, the organizer of the GSSE Expo.

RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

Mumbai: RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA's toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL's toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building toy manufacturing in India.

Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started its India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market.

"Keeping with our

honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar India, this collaboration with Plastic Legno's deep experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets," said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited.

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand – Rowan, making RBL one of the leading

toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India's largest chain of toy stores.

"We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno's experience in Toys production and Hamley's commercial outreach, will complement one another to enable the JV Company to achieve greater heights and successes. We have important development plans to implement, always in the spirit of creating a cultural background in this specific sector in India. We are ready for the challenges of the future, but when there is a group like RBL alongside, we are sure that together we can do a great development," said Paolo Sunino, Co-owner, Sunino Group.

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India registers 3, 53,188 unit sales

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022.

The company's total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic.

Commenting on the sales performance in May'22, Mr. Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, "The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May'21 as frequent lockdowns in wake of second wave marred the performance during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon."

TVS Motor Company registers sales of 302,982 units

Hosur: TVS Motor Company sales was at 302,982 units in May 2022. The year-on-year growth is not comparable due to the low base of sales in May 2021 because of the localised lockdown imposed by the Government of India during that period.

Two-Wheeler Total two-wheelers sales grew from 154,416 units in May 2021 to 287,058 units in May 2022. Domestic two-wheeler sales grew from 52,084 units in May 2021 to 191,482 units in May 2022.

Motorcycle sales grew from 125,188 units in May 2021 to 148,560 units in May 2022. Scooter sales of the Company grew from 19,627 units in May 2021 to 100,665 units in May 2022.

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

premium two-wheelers. We are working aggressively with alternate sources and taking every effort to improve supplies at the earliest. Some improvement has been seen this month. We are optimistic that volumes will revive to normal levels once the semiconductor supplies improve.

The Company's total exports registered sales of 110,245 units in May 2022 as against 114,674 units in May 2021. Two-wheeler exports recorded sales of 95,576 units in May 2022 as against 102,332 units in May 2021.

Three-wheeler of the Company grew by 28% from 12,473 units in May 2021 to 15,924 units in May 2022.

The domestic two-wheeler sales include TVS iQube Electric sales of 2,637 units in May 2022.



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Stryker, a global leader in medical technology, has launched an awareness campaign in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, during World Stroke Week to highlight stroke as a leading cause of disability in India and promote prevention and improved treatment options. Through this initiative, Stryker aims to unite individuals, healthcare professionals, and policymakers in the fight against stroke to save lives and enhance the quality of life for survivors. Stryker is closely working with various stakeholders on the public health emergency related to stroke, which has disabled 96 lakh people and led to an annual loss of approximately 2.3 Lakh crore to the Indian economy. *According to the Global Burden of Disease (2019), the state of Odisha ranks among the top 10 states in India for disability-adjusted life years (DALY) caused by brain stroke. Odisha ranks fifth among all states when it comes to the average mortality rate due to ischemic stroke, as per data from the Global Burden of Disease. This loss can be

significantly reduced with the right and timely administration of already available treatments and through better awareness about the issue. A panel discussion comprising of Dr. Somnath Jena, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery and Neurointervention, HOD-Deptt. of Neurosurgery, SUM Ultimate Medicare and Dr S Mohanty- Director Medical Education & Training Odisha was organised. During the discussion, Dr. Somnath Jena, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery and Neurointervention, HOD-Deptt. of Neurosurgery, SUM Ultimate Medicare, addressed challenges faced by stroke survivors, including physical and communication disabilities, cognitive changes, work and income loss, and caregiver burden. He emphasized the growing stroke epidemic in India, particularly in the northeastern states, where stroke is the leading cause of death. Dr. Jena also discussed available treatments, such as intravenous tissue plasminogen

activator (IV-tPA) and mechanical thrombectomy. He highlighted the effectiveness of mechanical thrombectomy, which can be administered up to 24 hours after symptom onset and, when combined with IV-tPA, has shown significant efficacy in terms of functional independence at 90 days. The latest guidelines for stroke prevention and management released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare highlight the technological breakthrough in clot removal in ischemic stroke through mechanical thrombectomy. Over the past five decades, the incidence of stroke has doubled, with approximately 87% of ischemic stroke cases and 13% haemorrhagic stroke cases. *India witnesses around 17 lakh new stroke cases each year, resulting in a projected annual economic loss estimated at ₹2.34 trillion. Despite a 50% increase in stroke prevalence from 1990 to 2019, stroke has not received the attention it urgently requires from the government.

Aditya Birla Group formally launches TMRW – a Digital First 'House of Brands' venture in the Fashion & Lifestyle space

Mumbai: Aditya Birla Group today announced the formal launch of its new 'House of Brands' entity – TMRW. This move is in line with the group's strategy to launch and back new-age digital ventures. TMRW, an Aditya Birla Group venture, will create India's largest portfolio of disruptor brands in the fashion & lifestyle space and enable the next phase of direct to consumer (D2C) growth in India, which is poised to be a \$100bn market by 2025. Over the next 3 years, TMRW will acquire as well as incubate 30+ innovative, customer-obsessed brands. The venture will also enable multiple founders to operate within a synergistic 'house of brands' platform that share a common vision and shared capabilities.

Aditya Birla Group has appointed ex Facebook & Bain executive, Prashanth Aluru, as the CEO & Co-Founder to lead the build out of this new venture. Prashanth

will set-up a nimble and agile founding team with the right skill sets and capabilities. Prashanth comes with extensive experience in Digital & Technology across strategy, growth and investing. He also brings to the fore rich entrepreneurial experience in helping build and scale new age ventures in Digital & E-Commerce.

Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL said, "The formal launch of our D2C business, TMRW, is a key milestone for the company. This venture has the potential to become a significant growth engine by tapping into the new wave of entrepreneurial energy in India. Our aspiration is to build a portfolio of 30+ brands in the next 3 years. With the launch of this venture, we intend to double down on our ongoing program of strategically attracting new pools of capital that are seeking investment in high-growth businesses. We are confident that this

foray will successfully meet the aspirations of digitally native consumers and also create long-term value for investors and other stakeholders." Prashanth Aluru, CEO and Co-Founder, TMRW said, "I am excited to embark on this journey to build TMRW - a long-term enduring platform that will be home to the leading disruptor brands that provide the new age digitally savvy consumer what she is looking for across Fashion & Lifestyle. With the backing of the Aditya Birla Group and the right profile of long-term investors we will bring in, we are confident of powering the growth of several brands that shape the next phase of digital commerce growth till 2030 and beyond. With a new age Digital first DNA, at TMRW, we will jointly create an ecosystem of the most-loved disruptor brands partnering closely with highly competent founders."

Bhubaneswar(KCN): East Coast Railway has observed Hindi Diwas at its headquarters in Bhubaneswar and its three Divisions at Waltair, Khurda Road, and Sambalpur. To mark the occasion, the staff and officers of ECoR, led by its General Manager Shri



Manoj Sharma, took an oath to promote Hindi. Hindi Diwas is

significant as it promotes national integration, bringing

together linguistic communities in India. It is celebrated every

HINDI DIWAS OBSERVED AT ECoR:

year to promote the culture and heritage of Hindi and the importance of the language in our culture. Mukhya Rajbhasha Adhikari and Principal Chief Electrical Engineer Shri Alok Sahay coordinated the programme.

