

# 421 new officers join Odisha Civil Service 4 Indians In Forbes Most Powerful Women List 2023



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Wednesday called the newly recruited state civil services officers as agents of transformation for a new Odisha and asked them to dedicate towards the betterment and welfare of people. Patnaik said this while addressing the ‘Nijukti Parba’ programme for the newly recruited Odisha Civil Services officers. As many as 421 officers joined the OCS cadre on the day, the appointment letters of which were distributed by the chief minister. Noting that people are at the centre of the democratic system, Patnaik said, “Your every thought and action should be directed

towards the betterment and welfare of the people of Odisha.” “You are not just civil servants, but the real agents of transformation for a new Odisha, an empowered Odisha,” Patnaik said, adding that the state government has been focusing on recruitment drives for the youth. Noting that most of the departments have been following regular calendar to fill up their vacancies, the chief minister said as many as 1,269 civil service officers have been recruited in the last five years. While welcoming the officers, the chief minister said, “Your journey has just begun, work hard, stay

committed.” “I expect nothing less than your absolute best,” he said suggesting the newly recruited officers to follow 5T (team work, technology, transparency, timely completion of projects leading to transformation) principles and “Mo Sarkar” (My government) programme. The chief minister also launched the Quarter Management System 2.0 developed by CMGI (Centre for Modernizing Government Initiative) as an initiative of the general administration department under 5T Principle. This will be a complete faceless end-to-end online quarter management solution for all stakeholders.

**New Delhi(KCN):** Business magazine Forbes has released its annual list of the World’s Most Powerful Women for 2023, and it features four Indians. These women have not only shattered glass ceilings but also etched their names on the global stage, showcasing the diverse and influential voices emerging from India. To determine the rank, Forbes had four metrics: money, media, impact and spheres of influence. India’s Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has bagged the 32nd spot in Forbes’ annual list of the World’s 100 Most Powerful Women, joining prominent figures such as US Vice President Kamala Harris, musician Taylor Swift and even Barbie. Among the Indian women featured are HCL Corporation CEO Roshni Nadar Malhotra (rank 60), Steel Authority of India Chairperson Soma Mondal (rank 70) and Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (rank 76). Nirmala Sitharaman (ranked 32) Nirmala Sitharaman, 64, is a senior figure in the



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and has been India’s Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs since 2019. Ms Sitharaman served as the 28th Defence Minister from 2017 to 2019, making her India’s second female defence minister and finance minister after Indira Gandhi. In 2022, Forbes ranked her 36th in the 2022 list of the world’s most powerful women and this year she was ranked 32nd. Roshni Nadar Malhotra (ranked 60) Roshni Nadar Malhotra, 42, is an Indian billionaire and philanthropist. She is the chairperson of HCL Technologies, making history as the first woman to lead a listed IT company in India. As the only child of HCL founder Shiv Nadar, she is recognised as the richest woman in India, according to the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich

List (2019). Ms Malhotra has consistently been ranked among the world’s most powerful women by Forbes, holding the 54th position in 2019, 55th in 2020 and 60th in 2023. Soma Mondal (ranked 70) Soma Mondal, 60, is the current Chairperson of the Steel Authority of India, making history as the first woman in this role since January 2021. Born in Bhubaneswar, she graduated in Electrical Engineering in 1984. With over 35 years of experience in the metal industry, she started at NALCO and rose to become Director (Commercial) before joining SAIL in 2017. Ms Mondal’s career milestones include being the first woman Functional Director and Chairman at SAIL. Beyond her corporate achievements, she holds the position of Chairperson of SCOPE and was honoured as

‘CEO of the Year’ at the ETPrime Women Leadership Awards in 2023. She ranks 70th on the list. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (ranked 76) Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, 70, is a prominent Indian billionaire entrepreneur. She founded and led Biocon Limited and Biocon Biologics Limited in Bangalore, India. Besides her role in the biotechnology companies, she was the former chairperson of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. Ms Mazumdar-Shaw has received numerous accolades, including the Othmer Gold Medal in 2014 for her contributions to science and chemistry. She was featured on the Financial Times’ Top 50 women in Business list in 2011. Forbes recognised her as the 68th most powerful woman globally in 2019, and in 2020, she was honoured as the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year. She ranks 76th in the Forbes List of powerful women 2023. The rankings are based on money, media presence, impact, and spheres of influence.

## Man dies while making preparations for father’s cremation in Odisha

**Koraput(KCN):** In a heart-wrenching incident, a 27-year-old man died while making preparations for his father’s cremation in Kamta village of Odisha’s Koraput district Wednesday. The man, identified as Benudhar Mandal, was a social activist. “Mandal’s 67-year-old father died at his residence around 1am early Wednesday. Later, Mandal’s family brought the body of his father to their native village at Kamta for last rites. While the relatives and family members were busy making arrangements for cremation, Mandal went to the backyard to relieve himself when a tree branch fell on him and he died,” said a police official of B Singhpur police station. “Mandal sustained severe head injuries and was immediately rushed to the Community Health Centre at Borigumma where the doctors declared him ‘brought dead’,” the police official said.

## Odisha SRC Asks Collectors For Assessment Of Damage To Crops Due To Cyclone Michuang-Induced Rain

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) on Wednesday asked the District collectors for an immediate assessment of damage to crops due to rain triggered by Cyclone Michuang. SRC Satyabrata Sahu, IAS has written to all Collectors regarding the submission of a report on crop damage due to C y c l o n e “MICHAUNG”. According to the SRC, widespread rain has been observed across that state during the last couple of days under the influence of Cyclone “MICHAUNG”, which might have caused damage to standing Kharif crops & horticulture crops.



To ameliorate the sufferings of the affected farmers, Agricultural Input Subsidy (AIS), as per norms of the State Disaster Response Fund, will be provided to farmers sustaining crop loss of 33% and above. The SRC urged the District Collectors to conduct field-level crop

loss assessment through a joint inquiry by the officials of the Revenue & DM Department and Agriculture & FE Deptt through eye estimation to ascertain the crop area damaged of 33% & above and submit ULB/ Block/ GP/ Village wise report as per the format enclosed by 12.12.2023 positively.

While assessing the extent of crop loss, the land schedule/RoR of affected farmers should be verified by Bhulekh. Collectors will accord approval of crop loss (farmer-wise extent of crop area damaged as assessed) and intimate requirement of funds for disbursement of AIS as

admissible. “Geo-tagged and time-stamped photographs of the damaged crop area must be taken during assessment and preserved in the Case Records. The Supervising Officers (Sub-Collector/ Tehsildar/ Addl. Tehsildar/ DAO/ BAO) shall conduct test checks to ensure the correctness of the assessment and shall append a certificate to that effect on the damage reports submitted to Collectors for approval. It is made clear that the crop loss/ area of crop loss already reported as affected by floods & heavy rain during the current year shall not be included in the current assessment,” the letter further read.

## Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to visit Tamil Nadu Thursday to assess flood situation



**New Delhi(KCN):** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Tamil Nadu Thursday to assess the flood situation in the state and hold a meeting with Chief Minister M K Stalin, sources said. Singh, who will travel to Tamil Nadu as a representative of the central government, will conduct an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas. The defence minister will visit Tamil Nadu to see

the damage caused by the recent floods besides holding a meeting with the chief minister, the sources said. Officials from the Union Home Ministry will accompany the defence minister during his trip. Residents of Chennai grappled with stagnant water and power disruption in several areas and its suburbs on Wednesday, two days after Cyclone

Michaung wreaked havoc in the metropolis and neighbouring districts, even as civic agency personnel were involved in relief and rehabilitation efforts. The state government said power was kept suspended in some areas as a “preventive measure” as the cables were under water, while asserting all efforts were being taken to restore normalcy.

## Modi ji fulfilled the dream of one symbol, one constitution and one head in the country: Shah

**New Delhi (KCN):** Since India became independent, the Congress government remained in power for a long-time but no effort was made to remove Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir. The bitter truth about the condition of Jammu and Kashmir during the Congress government isn’t hidden. Riots ensued all around in J&K, never-ending terrorist incidents, stone pelting, Jihadi riots, crying

innocent people, this was the reality of Jammu and Kashmir. Despite being a part of one country, Jammu and Kashmir had its own flag, its own constitution, and even its own government. For a long time, voices were raised in the country to abolish Article 370 and 35A from Jammu and Kashmir, but every time the Congress rejected this demand outright and refused to even talk

about it. Due to its selfishness, the Congress party worked to earn its political profits by keeping the people of Jammu and Kashmir in the dark. But under the leadership of Modi government, a different picture of Jammu and Kashmir is visible for the better. Before coming to power, the Modi government had decided that it’ll eliminate the principle of 2 symbols, 2 constitutions and 2

heads from the country. That is exactly what happened, because on August 5, 2019, under the leadership of Modi ji and the able guidance of Amit Shah, taking a historic step, Article 370 and 35A were abolished from Jammu and Kashmir forever and made Jammu and Kashmir an integral part of India forever. During the winter session of Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Union Home and Cooperation



Minister Amit Shah clearly stated that the

Modi government has made the dream of one

symbol, one constitution and one head come true in India. BJP has been running with this slogan for 70 years and the Modi-Shah duo has made this slogan true. It is noteworthy that after the repeal of Section 370 and 35A, a new wind of development has started blowing in Jammu and Kashmir. Tourism has increased in Jammu and Kashmir, terrorist incidents have decreased, incidents of

stone pelting are rarely heard. The centre continuously allocates budget for the development of Jammu and Kashmir. J&K, which was considered a hub of terrorist activities, today has an atmosphere of peace. After all this, it would not be wrong to say that the picture of Jammu and Kashmir hasn’t completely changed under the Modi government’s tenure.



## You are love You are divinity

Saikat Kumar Basu



You are shade to the tired traveler  
You are water for the thirsty labour  
You are rain for the farmer  
You are the wind for the nature  
You are the sky for the rain  
You are the fragrance for the temple  
You are the flower for the worshipper  
You are the power for the wind  
You are the flower for the fragrance  
You are the tree where the flower resides  
You are the lake for the swimmer  
You are the mountain for the hiker  
You are the snow for the explorer  
You are the mystery for the researcher  
You are the fire for the engine  
You are the fuel for the nation  
You are the hope for the society  
You are the mountain where the lake forms  
You are the plates for the mountain  
You are the water for the snow  
You are the magician for the mystery  
You are the bliss of the kiss  
You are the pebbles to lit the fire  
You are the tank for the fuel  
You are the roadside flower that makes my day  
You are the source of the hope  
You are the kiss of the bliss  
You ARE THE sweetest wildflower that no one cares BUT MAKES MY EACH DAY A NEW BEGINNING  
You are the Buddha for the roadside flower blooms  
You are my divine gift of God

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The Author is a Canada based indian Agro Scientists

## THE DAY

Kalyani dash



The day I saw you  
I feel like nothing can attract my eyes now..  
The day I thought you  
I feel like no one can enter into my heart now..  
The day I feel you  
I feel like no one can give me happy like you now..  
The day I know you  
I feel like its needn't to know anyone now..  
The day I love you  
I feel like I can't live without you now..

berhampur,6371217251

## HOPE FOR A CHEERFUL WORLD

By Santyona Jena

Swinging in air green trees,  
Dancing sun on the seas,  
Fragrant flowers, also colorful  
Hope for a world, very cheerful!

All will go by the path of love,  
Holding hands, even pass the time of tough,  
Without war, life will be peaceful,  
Hope for a world, very cheerful !

Gems of Happiness will adorn the world,  
Joy and peace will be written in bold,  
Everything will seem very beautiful,  
Hope for a world, very cheerful.

C/o. Kabir Ku. Jena, Advocate  
Rajabagicha, P.O. - Telenga Bazar,  
Cuttack-753009, Mob. : 9437674009  
E-mail : santyonajena@gmail.com



## Quotation of the Day

“ With the new day comes  
new strength and new thoughts. ”  
— Eleanor Roosevelt



## Major Buddhist Region Of Odisha

(Shibangi Dhara), Bandana Sahoo



The main Buddhist Region of Odisha is known by the name of Boudh bihar and which is also known as Hirak Tribhija. Lalitgiri of katak city and Ratnagiri and

wells are present. It is believed that Buddhist monks were carrying out their daily work by taking water from this pond. Udayagiri is a Buddhist stupa and complex of Bihar group present in Odisha.

Another major attraction of Lalitgiri is the chaitya room present there. The first circular stupa found in mining times in Odisha is where Boddhist monks are believed to gather for

Tibtar history, the kaal chakra of Ratnagiri Dasam Satak was an important part of the progress of Tantra. Which gives proof of Kritiraj Abiskar being a sign of the many stupas, metal decipline and injustice period in that period.

A large deposit was mined in 1958 and 1961, the result of which brought to light many facts.The main stupa of 9th century was built on top of an earlier site, which

# Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

INTRODUCTION  
The Jallianwala Bagh massacre marked a turning point in India's struggle for Independence. A memorial was set up by the Government of India in 1951 at Jallianwala Bagh to commemorate the spirit of Indian revolutionaries and the people who lost their lives in the brutal

the events preceding it. The Indian National Congress had assumed self-governance would be granted once WWI ended but the Imperial bureaucracy had other plans. WHAT LED TO THE JALLIANWALA BAGH MASSACRE The Rowlatt Act (Black Act) was passed on March 10, 1919,

prohibit Gandhi from entering Punjab and to arrest him if he disobeyed the orders. Sir Michael O' Dwyer, the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab (1912-1919), suggested that Gandhi be deported to Burma but this was opposed by his fellow officials as they felt it might instigate the public. Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew

Commission and highlights the mindset of the British authorities: "He (Irving) was directed by the Government of Sir Michael O'Dwyer to deport Dr Kichlew and Satyapal. He knew that such an act would lead to a popular outburst. He also knew that none of these popular leaders favoured violence. He invited the two gentlemen to his house on the morning of April 10th and they unsuspectingly responded to the call no doubt relying on his honour as an Englishman. But after they had been under his roof for half an hour as his guests, they were caught hold of, and removed towards Dharماسala under police escort! Mr Irving told this story without showing any sign of having done an act which very few Englishmen would care to do." On April 10, 1919, the infuriated protestors marched to the Deputy Commissioner's residence to demand the release of their two leaders. Here they were fired upon without any provocation. Many people were wounded and killed. The protestors retaliated with lathis and stones and attacked any European who came in their way. One of the mishaps was the attack on Miss

Sherwood, Superintendent of the Mission School in Amritsar. As per her testimony, on April 10, 1919, she was intercepted and beaten by a mob which screamed "Kill her, she is English" and "Victory to Gandhi, Victory to Kitchlew". She was attacked until she fell unconscious. The mob went away assuming she was dead. However, a counter-narrative is provided by the 'Lokasangraha', a weekly published out of Bombay, which denies claims of severe harm, stating instead that the wounds inflicted were infact minimal. APRIL 13, 1919 - JALLIANWALA BAGH MASSACRE After passing the Rowlatt Act, the Punjab Government set out to suppress all opposition. On April 13, 1919, the public had gathered to celebrate Baisakhi. However, the British point of view, as seen from the documents present in the National Archives of India, indicates that it was a political gathering. Inspite of General Dyer's orders prohibiting unlawful assembly, people gathered at Jallianwala Bagh, where two resolutions were to be discussed, one condemning the firing on April 10 and the other requesting the authorities to release their leaders.



massacre. It stands as a symbol of struggle and sacrifice and continues to instill patriotism amongst the youth. In March 2019, the Yaad-e-Jallian Museum was inaugurated showcasing an authentic account of the massacre. P O L I T I C A L BACKDROP The massacre of April 1919 wasn't an isolated incident, rather an incident that happened with a multitude of factors working in the background. To understand what transpired on April 13, 1919, one must look at

authorizing the government to imprison or confine, without a trial, any person associated with seditious activities. This led to nationwide unrest. Gandhi initiated Satyagraha to protest against the Rowlatt Act. On April 7, 1919, Gandhi published an article called Satyagrahi, describing ways to oppose the Rowlatt Act. The British authorities discussed amongst themselves the actions to be taken against Gandhi and any other leaders who were participating in the Satyagraha. Orders were issued to

and Dr Satyapal, the two prominent leaders who were a symbol of Hindu-Muslim unity, organised a peaceful protest against the Rowlatt Act in Amritsar. On April 9, 1919, Ram Naumi was being celebrated when O' Dwyer issued orders to the Deputy Commissioner, Mr Irving to arrest Dr Satyapal and Dr Kitchlew. The following extract from the Amrita Bazar Patrika, dated 19th November, 1919, talks about the witness account of Mr Irving in front of the Hunter

prayer and meditation. Another Buddhist kirti of Hirak triangle is Ratnagiri. It is situated on top of a small mountain. A Buddhist stupa here is also called Mansi stupa. This Buddhist Bihar is just 20 kilometres away from Jajpur's Chandikhola. Ratnagiri was a major part of the post Buddhist Mulbihar, Malbihar. It is situated in the valley of Brahmani and Birupa rivers of Jajpur district of Odisha. It is a part of Puspagiri Biswabidyalaya along with Lalitgiri and Udayagiri. In the first half of the 21 century, during the region of the Gupta King Narasinha was established and by the twelfth century, it was at the beginning of a peak progress. According to Pag Sam Jan Jang of

belonged to the Secret area. The currency of that time in the name of Siri Ratnagiri mahabihariya Aryabiksu sanghas helps in identifying it. This ancient Buddhist Bihar of Odisha is a part of Lalitgiri, Udayagiri and Ratnagiri ancient Puspagiri Biswabidyalaya. According to ancient discipline, it's historical name was Madhabpur Mahabihar. This is a good tourist destination outside Odisha, where a museum has been built on an ancient base containing many bones of Goutam Buddha and along with this, many representative settlement have also been kept here for the public to see. Many tourists come to visit here throughout the year.

Jajpur

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## Padmaavat To Jodha Akbar: Bollywood Films That Faced Karni Sena's Opposition

Karni Sena National president Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi was killed in broad daylight by unknown gunmen today in Rajasthan's Jaipur. According to reports, unidentified intruders fired at Gogamedi and his gunman Narendra at his house. Karni Sena has always been in the news for various controversies. In the tumultuous world of Bollywood, one name has consistently echoed through the corridors of controversy - Karni Sena. This socio-cultural organization, known for its vehement protests, has repeatedly thrust itself into the limelight by vehemently opposing various Bollywood releases.

Padmaavat

The Karni Sena said that Bhansali's "Padmavati" depicted a Rajput queen in an unfavourable way, which sparked significant controversy in 2017. During filming, Bhansali was attacked and the movie's sets were vandalised. Actress Deepika Padukone was once threatened with death and had a bounty placed on her head due to a rumour that the movie featured a romantic scene involving Padmavati and Allauddin Khilji. The director worked hard to refute the rumour. The movie was retitled "Padmaavat" and eventually released in January 2018.

Tandav  
Chief of the  
Maharashtra Karni



Sena, Ajay Sengar, took issue with the web series Tandav on Amazon Prime. Sengar stated that a reward of Rs. 1 crore would be given to anyone who would cut the tongue of someone insulting Hindu gods. The scene in the middle of the row featured Mohd Zeeshan Ayyub portraying the Hindu god Mahadev in a theatre production while he was a college student named Shiva.

Laxmii  
Karni Sena served a legal notice to the film's producers. The Sena stated in their announcement that the movie's title is "derogatory and offensive" to Goddess Laxmi and that it is giving the public the "wrong message" about the "ideology, customs, gods, and goddesses of Hindu religion." Even more, the Hindu Sena demanded in a letter to

Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, that the film's production team face the appropriate consequences. As a result, Laxmii Bomb had to be changed to Laxmii by the creators. Manikarnika  
Karni Sena protests against Kangana Ranaut's Manikarnika. Because they thought Kangana Ranaut's Manikarnika depicted a romance between Laxmibai and a British officer, the Karni Sena was likewise offended by the movie. They further asserted that it was against their tradition for the queen to be seen dancing in the movie to a particular song.

Jodha Akbar

The group gained notoriety in 2008 after staging a protest against Ashutosh Gowariker's Jodha Akbar. Because of how widespread the protests had become, no theatre would agree to screen the movie, and Jodha Akbar was eventually not released in Rajasthan. The group had claimed that Jodha was not Akbar's wife and that there was "blatant distortion of history" in the movie. Amidst the release of Veer, Salman Khan posters were set ablaze by Karni Sena activists in Udaipur. They said that some of the movie's scenes denigrated their community. They even caused damage to a few theatres that were showing the movie.

## Dhak Dhak: Fatima Sana Shaikh Takes A Road Trip Of Self-Discovery



Having always impressed the audience with her impeccable performances in her films, Fatima Sana Shaikh is on her way to delivering yet another one. The trailer of her upcoming film 'Dhak Dhak' has been released and nothing to doubt Fatima is leading her way ahead with an immensely intriguing story and an interesting character.

Bringing a never seen before avatar, the actress is seen riding on the bike on the road of self-discovery with a bunch of other talented actors 'Dhak Dhak' trailer showcases Fatima as a travel blogger, Sky. Carrying a bold, fierce, and modern personality, the actress seems to have stepped into this new character effortlessly piquing the excitement to watch her in the film. The

trailer of 'Dhak Dhak' has indeed come as an absolute treat for Fatima's fans. It would be exciting to see the actress in this new coming-of-age drama along with a bunch of talented actresses like Ratna Pathak Shah, Dia Mirza, and Sanjana Sanghi featuring with her. It is to be noted that that 'Dhak Dhak' is the maiden production of actress Taapsee Paanu. The film will bring a never-seen-

before story of four women, all different from each other, and daring to ride bikes to world's highest motorable road, the Khardungla Pass. The film stars Fatima Sana Shaikh, Ratna Pathak, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi in lead roles. Apart from 'Dhak Dhak', Fatima has interesting films in her future line. She will be next seen in Sam Bahadur and 'Metro.. In Dino'.

## Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' Postponed? Fans Speculate It Might Clash With Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3'

: After Pathaan's massive success at the box office, Shah Rukh Khan is all set to collaborate with Atlee for 'Jawan' and the superstar's looks leaked from the sets have kept fans excited. However, the latest update on the film is that it has been postponed. Film trade analyst Ramesh Bala

took to his Twitter handle and wrote, "SRK - Dir #Atlee's #Jawan release is being pushed from June to October." This left the fans confused as Salman Khan's Tiger 3 is also headed for a Diwali release so pushing the release date might led the two films to clash at the box office. "Oct means

Diwali period? But, 2023's Diwali is pre-occupied by @BeingSalmanKhan's #Tiger3," a user commented. "Well, hang on! Diwali is on 12th Nov this year. #Tiger3 on 10th Nov. Maybe #Jawaan on 1st Friday of Oct?," wrote another user. Jawan is helmed by Atlee. It also

stars actress Nayanthara and Vijay Sethupathi. The film is billed as an event film with high-octane action sequences. Shah Rukh's production company Red Chillies Entertainment has produced it. Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3' on the other hand, is all set to release on November 10.



## Ritesh Sidhwani, Farhan Akhtar Organise Grand Success Party For Bambai Meri Jaan

Excel Entertainment is one of the leading production houses in Indian cinema and has always hit a chord with its content on every platform. While they have proved their mettle in the theatrical medium, their hands on the digital platform also have no match. Recently, the production house boomed the digital entertainment sector with their widely acclaimed show 'Bambai Meri Jaan'. The much-acclaimed show, released on Amazon Prime Video, served audiences with top-notch content, taking them into a completely new world



led by exceptional talents Avinash Tiwary and Kay Kay Menon. The show met with

widespread acclaim from every corner, with fans and audiences praising the

content and the performances of the cast. Following the massive success of

the show, Excel Entertainment reported organizing a grand success party

to celebrate the success of the show. The success party was attended by the producers of the show, Farhan Akhtar, Ritesh Sidhwani, cast Avinash Tiwary, Kritika Kamra, Vivan Bhatena, director Shujaat Saudagar, and Rensil D'Silva, amongst others. Excel Entertainment, which was co-founded by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar, has time and again served the audience with several blockbuster films such as 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara', 'Dil Chahta Hai', and many more.

# Is Artificial Intelligence a danger to humanity?



If you are not inundated with articles on Artificial Intelligence (AI), you have probably been living under a rock. Several of these articles raise images of a dystopian future based on machines taking over mankind. If you are sufficiently apprehensive about the future awaiting mankind, let me try to offer my analysis of what AI is and is not, and how it might shape our world in the foreseeable future. AI is not a recent phenomenon, although it has assumed greater currency of late in terms of specific hardware and software such as ChatGPT. The term was first coined in 1956 by John McCarthy, a computer scientist at Stanford University. He defined it as "the science and engineering of making intelligent machines." Since then, several scientists and engineers have worked in this area and we have seen many periods of hectic activity as well as dry spells due to lack of funding for

research. The other term I wish to briefly introduce is the Turing test, named after Alan Turing, who postulated that if a machine can engage in a conversation with a human without being detected as a machine, it has demonstrated human intelligence. The development of devices like Alexa and software such as ChatGPT are probably a result of researchers trying to meet the criteria for the Turing test. First, a little understanding of AI is in order. AI, in its current avatar, is nothing more than sophisticated pattern recognition. The programs look for patterns in consumer behaviour, in speech, in text, in photographs, in medical diagnostic scans, etc. The software is "trained" to recognise patterns using a very large database of words, pictures, numbers, and scans. For example, if a customer tends to purchase certain products from a retail outlet on a regular basis, AI will be able to detect this purchasing pattern and the customer can be sent customize mailings/ ads that match his/her preferences. When it comes to facial recognition, the

picture is divided into a number of dots or pixels. The software analyses the pixels to determine patterns which give information about facial features. Then the software would

making mistakes due to gaps and shortcomings in the data used in the training. These mistakes have occurred in facial recognition in the US

used by the program. This does not allow us to have an audit trail. Second, people place very great faith in output from software and do not question it, assuming that

would free the human to add greater value by providing inputs that computers cannot. A good example of this is the use of auto pilot in airplanes. The longest, and the

automobile, or even the computer. Each innovation has resulted in the elimination of the drudgery of repetitive human tasks, whether physical, or mental. In 1870, agricultural workers comprised half of all workers in the US; in 1900, about one-third of all workers; and in 1950, less than a fifth of all workers. Today the number of agricultural workers is around one percent of all workers. The reason for this reduction is an increase in mechanisation and farm sizes over this period. The question that ought to be asked is not whether technology displaced people; it certainly did. Rather we should be asking whether people would like to do the work being done by machines today for what consumers would be willing to pay for it. The answer, arguably, would be a no. Similar scenarios have been observed in non-physical work situations such as calculating, accounting, etc. where computers have effectively replaced humans, and rightly so. How many people today would enjoy adding numbers all day long? There are several

human jobs that are ripe for automation. One of the most denigrating and dangerous jobs in India is that of manual scavenging. Would an AI powered solution not be a great way to eliminate the risk of death that manual scavengers face today. There can be many other such jobs which should not be done by humans. The rule that Japanese companies, such as Toyota, use is if a task is dirty, difficult, or dangerous, it is a good candidate for automation. To this list we can also add boring and repetitive, with no value added. In conclusion, I feel that both the hype and the fear attributed to AI is overdone. If the test of AI is that it should be able to mimic a human, we need to remember that humans can make mistakes and computers cannot. At the same time humans can find an opportunity failure or mistake, such as the discovery of penicillin. A computer cannot do that because it has to be told what to look for. Ultimately, humans decide what AI should be used for, not the other way around. Let us do this judiciously.

**Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout Punjab**



compare the pattern it has been trained on with the pattern on a photograph to determine if the two photographs are of the same individual. The accuracy, or correctness of the answers developed by AI is dependent on the data used to train it. Training is done by feeding a large amount of data into the software, then letting the software answer the question that is being asked. By providing human feedback regarding the accuracy of the answer, the software gets "trained" so that it can improve its ability to decipher the pattern on its next attempt. There is ample evidence of AI

where the program has incorrectly identified an individual as a suspect in a crime not committed by him/her. There are several examples of AI programs showing clear bias based on race, gender, age, etc. when the database used to train the software has been deficient or biased. Irrespective of the sophistication of the software, none of them are 100 % reliable. Some people may say that neither are humans. There are two major dangers in letting a software make decisions. First, most AI software is like a black box. It is not possible to question the logic

computers cannot make mistakes like humans. But as I have mentioned, there have been several instances where AI has made an error. It would be incorrect to completely hand over the responsibility of an entire human task to a computer program, especially when we are not sure of the reliability of the program. If the error results in a wrong conviction of a person, the consequences are huge from a human perspective. What we can, and probably should do, is to automate the repetitive component of the human task. This

most boring part of flying an aircraft is when it is flying at its cruising altitude. It is the take-off and landing that requires the expertise of a human pilot. Therefore, a plane can be put on auto pilot at cruising altitude as constant attention by the pilot is not needed. But we do not eliminate the pilot. We let the auto pilot relieve the stress in a long-haul flight. The pilot can override the auto pilot if the situation demands it. Any technological development has led to reduction in human labour. Whether it was the steam engine, the tractor, the

## The Speaker Young Minister



Today is the second death anniversary of Sarat Kumar Kar, who was invited to join Congress by non other than Lal Bahadur Shastri, the most honest PM of India. This is my humble tribute to this great politician who should ideally have been CM of Odisha after his mentor Biju Pattanaik. In my class 8th in school our class teacher Suryamani Sir questioned one

day, 'Who is the Education Minister of our State ?' We all looked at each other. Banamali Pattnayak was our Education Minister till 1971 January and it was August the same year. - Banamali Pattnayak, we all shouted. - 'You are wrong', Sir said. Then he said with pride.. 'Sarat Kumar Kar is our new Education Minister.' It was a new information for all of us. We got more astonished when he came to our school

as Chief Guest of our Annual Function. He was a friend of Loknath Saha, our dear teacher. He was the youngest Minister that time in the country and the record still remains in his name. I met Sarat Kumar Kar in election meetings till 1980. Time moved like a wild river. I had almost forgotten Sarat Kumar Kar as after a brief stint of three years from 1977 to 1980 as a Member of Parliament he lost two consecutive elections. He

bounced back in 1990 and became the Minister for Art and Culture in the state. One day we met at Odisha Bhawan, New Delhi. He recognised me as I was once a student leader. - 'What about holding a National Book Fair at Bhubaneswar ?' He asked. He and his brother Rajat Kumar Kar were great speakers on Medieval Odia Poetry and were book lovers. - 'Yes Sir. But, we need a proposal from the state.' I replied.

No problem. His PS immediately prepared a camp letter. Our Director Arvind Kumar was elated. We did a successful event with his active cooperation. Biju Pattnayak, the then Chief Minister, Odisha inaugurated that first ever National Book Fair at Bhubaneswar. My next meeting with Sarat Babu happened accidentally again at Odisha Bhawan. I was doing inauguration of Sampratika Odia Kabita, the first ever anthology of Contemporary Odia

Poetry by a national body like NBT. Dr JP Das and Dr Ramdarash Mishra agreed to jointly release that book. I invited him to join us though I had a fear that he may have protocol issue being a former Cabinet Minister. But I was astonished when I found him entering to the hall with his Samdhan ( Mother in law of his son ) Manorama Biswal Mahapatra, herself a noted poet. Sarat Kumar Kar was the blue eyed boy of Biju Pattnayak at one

point of time. He was introduced to Bijubabu by Lal Bahadur Shastri, then PM. He became a member of BJD after death of Biju Pattnayak and was speaker of Odisha Assembly when Navin Pattnayak became CM for the first time. BJD left him, but he was emotionally with Bijubabu till his death. I went to the Koushambi residence of his son Sobhan and met him with his wife Professor Anima Kar, renowned vocal artist a decade ago.

Our meetings didn't end there. I was invited as guest to a function of Jhumuka Odia children's magazine at Bhubaneswar. He was also a guest there. But, he was not in a position to recognise people. - 'We had Manas Babu, my friend there at NBT once upon a time,' he said. **Visiting Professor of Development Communication Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India**

## India Extends Techno-knowledge Support to Enhance Fishery & Dairy Production in South Mekong Basin Countries through ICAR-CIFRI

**Kolkata, (KCN):** An International Workshop cum Training Programme on Sustainable Fisheries and Dairy is being organised at ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, Kolkata. It started today (December 6, 2023) and will continue till December 19, 2023. The programme is attended by 24 international delegates from four countries- Cambodia, LaoPDR, Myanmar and Vietnam. The objectives of the programme are reviewing the current management practices, identifying and addressing the constraints, risks and other problems and proposal of possible improvements; demonstration of relevant technologies and skills that are essential for fisheries enhancement and dairy production in the context of food and nutritional security. The programme inaugurated by Dr. H. Pathak, Secretary, DARE and Director General,



ICAR as Chief Guest of the function and; Dr. J. K. Jena, Deputy Director General (DDG) Fisheries and Animal Sciences; Ms. Paramita Tripathi, IAS, Joint Secretary, Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and Prof. Shyam Sundar Dana, Vice Chancellor, WBUAFS graced the occasion. Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR- CIFRI said, the training programme envisages to be a platform for regional

capacity- building effort aiming at synthesizing and distilling knowledge from R&D and practical experiences of inland open-water fisheries and dairy in the region and effectively and efficiently extending the knowledge and skills of professionals who are involved or likely to be involved in operations and monitoring of inland open water fisheries and dairy management through bilateral cooperation of India with the participating countries.

ICAR-CIFRI, a premier institution established in 1947, has taken lead in this programme and involved experts from ICAR sister organisations such as NDRI, Kolkata, IVRI, Kolkata and West Bengal University of Animal and Fisheries Sciences (WBUAFS). Fisheries and dairy are essential sectors for food and nutritional security in the developing world. They provide livelihoods for millions of people and contribute significantly to national economies.

However, these sectors are facing a number of challenges, including climate change, overfishing, and pollution. Sustainable practices are essential to ensure that these sectors can continue to provide food and nutritional security for future generations through inland fisheries management, livestock production, preservation, protection from diseases and improvement of stocks and dairy development. Such training program-cum-workshops would be of immense help in strengthening knowledge and brotherhood including sectoral development of fisheries and dairy in these Asian countries. In addition, the training programme will focus towards capacity building on sustainable fisheries and dairy for the countries in the global south, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs, under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC).

## EAST COAST RAILWAY OBSERVED MAHAPARINIRWAN DIWAS

Bhubneswar, (KCN) Bharat Ratna Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Mahaparinirwan Diwas was observed at East Coast Railway headquarters, today. Senior Officers and staff of East Coast Railway headed by General Manager, Shri Manoj Sharma offered floral tributes to late Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on behalf of ECoR family. Principal Chief Personnel Officer Shri Siddharth Kati and Chief Personnel Officer



Shri Surya Prakash coordinated the programme. Mahaparinirwan Diwas was also observed in all the Divisional

Headquarters of East Coast Railway at Khurda Road, Waltair & Sambalpur by respective Divisional Railway Managers.

## MAHAPARINIRWAN DIWAS OBSERVED IN SAMBALPUR DIVISION



**Sambalpur, (KCN):** Mahaparinirwan Diwas Bharat Ratna Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Division. Shri Vineet

Singh, Divisional Railway Manager, Sambalpur offered floral tributes on the photograph of Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. Shri Anand Singh, Additional Divisional Railway Manager and all officers and staff also offered floral tributes. Shri Jusuf kabir Ansari, Sr. Divisional Personnel Officer, Sambalpur coordinated the programme.

## CBI CONDUCTS SEARCHES AT AROUND 13 LOCATIONS IN WEST BENGAL & KARNATAKA IN AN ON-GOING INVESTIGATION OF A CASE RELATED TO ALLEGED IMPS TRANSACTION WORTH Rs. 820 CRORE (APPROX) IN UCO BANK ACCOUNTS

**Kolkata, (KCN):** The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted searches at around 13 locations including Kolkata (West Bengal) & Mangalore (Karnataka) at the premises of accused & others including private persons/bank officials. During searches, electronic evidence including mobile phones, laptops, computer systems, email archives, and debit/credit cards were recovered. A case was registered on complaint from UCO Bank, against two Support Engineers working with UCO Bank and other unknown

persons on the allegations of suspicious Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) transactions amounting to approximately Rs. 820 crore. It was alleged that between November 10, 2023 and November 13, 2023, IMPS inward transactions originating from 14000 account holders across seven private banks were directed to 41000 account holders within UCO Bank through the IMPS channel. It was further alleged that this intricate network involved a staggering 8,53,049 transactions and these transactions were mistakenly posted

in the UCO Bank account-holders' records, despite the originating banks registering failed transactions. Consequently, an approximate sum of Rs. 820 crore was allegedly found its way into UCO Bank accounts without proper debits from the originating banks' account holders. It was also alleged that several account holders exploited this situation, illicitly withdrawing funds from UCO Bank through various banking channels, thereby benefiting wrongfully from the transaction. Investigation is continuing.

**Kolkata, (KCN):** ICAR-CIFRI celebrated 'World Soil Day-2023' on the United Nations declared theme "Soil and Water: A Source of Life" on 5th December at its Headquarter in both offline and online mode connecting all its regional centres. A total of 150 participants including scientists, students, research scholars, fishers (total of 30 nos. including 14 nos. of women fishers) participated in the programme. Dr. Niharendu Saha, Professor, Department of Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal, an eminent soil scientist of international reputation was the Chief Guest on the occasion. In his inaugural speech, Dr. B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI welcomed the audience and



emphasized the importance of soil, water, their interrelation and also the balanced nutrition in fish production. He also elaborated ICAR-CIFRI's efforts in disseminating the message among the fishers and explained how ignorance or carelessness

can pollute the ecosystem of fish production. Dr. Das also availed the occasion to inform the gathering about various technologies and products developed by the institute useful for enhancing income of inland open water fishermen. In his speech, the chief guest,

Dr. Saha enlightened the audience about the importance of Soil in agriculture in general and fisheries in particular and the need of celebrating Soil Day. He warned with data and statistics about the loss of top soil, thus putting threat on agricultural

production, degradation and pollution causing deterioration of the ecosystem inviting imminent, inevitable and irreversible consequences to the nature. He also mentioned measures to be adopted to avoid such consequences. On this occasion ICAR-CIFRI distributed Water and Soil Health Cards to fishermen of 20 major floodplain wetlands of lower Gangetic region (West Bengal) mentioning recommendations to be followed, thus in total about 200 fishermen were benefitted. The farmers expressed their happiness to be the part of this occasion and shared their experiences with the scientific community. They also appreciated ICAR-CIFRI's assistance and contributions in this regards.

## Hilsa Spawn Ranching in river Ganga at Maldah under Hilsa Ranching Programme



**Kolkata, (KCN):** As a part of Hilsaspawn ranching activity, under Namami Gange programme a spawn ranching was conducted on 2nd December, 2023 at Shimultala Char, Malda, West Bengal, near West Bengal-Jharkhand boarder. During the event more than ten thousand spawn (10025) of Hilsa, breed in Hilsa ranching station at Farakka were ranched in river Ganga under third phase of NMCG project. Dr. B. K. Das, Director, CIFRI highlighted the significance of the

ranching program and informed that, till date CIFRI have ranched more than 26 lakhs Hilsaspawn and 92568 adult Hilsa in different region of middle stretches of river Ganga covering West Bengal, Jharkhand, since last four years. He also said that due to this continuous ranching programme fisher of Maldah, W.B. to Gajipur, Uttar Pradesh is getting Hilsa during their regular fishing activities. These activities are adding new horizon to "Arth Ganga" concept of NMCG. It will in turn help the poor fisherman

in near future and also improve their livelihood simultaneously. He also added that rise in Hilsa fish population through ranching will aid in increase of other aquatic animals in river Ganga including the Gangetic Dolphin. He also aware the fishermen not to indulge in destructive fishing methods like use of small mesh size net for juvenile Hilsa catch, poisoning the river bed for fishing etc. The overall program was successfully conducted with the whole hearted support from the CIFRI-NMCG team.

## 29th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) opened to celebrate "International Friendship through Films" on December 5, 2023

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** 29th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) opened by Chief Minister of West Bengal Smt. Mamata Banerjee in presence of galaxy of National and International film personalities including film directors, film producers, Diplomats, Bureaucrats, industrialists, large no. of civil society members, as well as film aficionados to celebrate "International Friendship through Films" on December 5, 2023. The Film Festival is being organised from December 5-12, 2023. Keeping in view popularity of KIFF and to encourage wider people's participation in Inauguration Ceremony was organised at Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata. 29th KIFF opened with 1963 romantic comedy Bengali film Deya Neya by Sunil Bannerjee,



This year, a total of 219 movies from 39 countries is being screened from December 5 to 12 across 23 venues in the city. These include 72 feature films and 50 shorts and documentaries. Spain is the focus country at the film festival and six works from the country is being screened. Australia is the special focus country and its films is being screened too. A retrospective of Australian Cinema of New South Wales born Oscar winning Film Director Bruce Beresford is being celebrated. The title song of the festival, written by

Srijato, composed by Indraadip Dasgupta and sung Arijit Singh is highlight of this year. The festival is offering special tributes Indian filmmaker Mrinal Sen, Indian actor Dev Anand, British feature-film, theatre and documentary director Lindsay Anderson, English actor, film director and producer Richard Attenborough, American actor Charlton Heston, Senegalese film director, producer and writer Ousmane Sembene, Indian playback singer Mukesh and Indian Hindi-Urdu Poet, lyricist and film producer Shailendra all having birth centenary this year. Homage is being paid to

Italian actress, model, photojournalist Gina Lollobrigida; Spanish film director, photographer Carlos Saura; English film critic and historian Derek Malcolm; Indian cinematographer Soumendu Roy and Iranian filmmaker Dariush Mehrjui, who all passed away in 2023. The KIFF 2023 has an International Competition section (Innovation in Moving Images), under which 13 films from across the world will vie for the Best Film and Best Director Golden Royal Bengal Trophies, including Russian figure skater and world champion Maxim Shabalin's drama "The Four Seasons" (2023). The KIFF 2023 will also include a screening of the Russian science fiction film "Mira" (2022), directed by Dmitry Kiselev, as well as a retrospective of movies by director Pavel Lungin: "Taxi Blues" (1990),

"Poor Relatives" (2005), "The Island" (2006), "Tsar" (2009), "The Conductor" (2012), "The Queen of Spades" (2016), "Leaving Afghanistan" (2019). People of India specially West Bengal have historical Friendship with people of Russia. Selection and screening of Russian films will be strengthening cultural relationship between people of both nations- Russia and India. In view of current effort of strengthening of Australia-India multi-dimensional relationship, Celebration of Australian Cinema as special focus country will be catalyzing enhancement of Cultural Relationship between both nations. KIFF was started in 1995. 29th KIFF is playing important role in strengthening multi-dimensional goodwill and trade relation between Cultural Capital of India - Kolkata and the World.

# Special Package For Welspun

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Odisha Cabinet today approved a special incentive package for transformational industrial projects proposed by the Welspun Group in Cuttack and Sambalpur districts, Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena said. The State Cabinet has approved a special incentive package for the Welspun Group's ambitious projects in Choudwar, Cuttack, and Nildungri, Sambalpur. These projects, with a combined investment of over Rs 6600 crores and employment potential of

over 20000, are set to usher in a new era of industrial growth and job creation in the State, Shri Jena said. Revitalizing Textile Industry and Employment in Choudwar, Cuttack The Integrated Textiles Manufacturing Unit in Choudwar, with an investment of Rs 3000 crores, is going to revive the textiles manufacturing tradition at Choudwar. This project is expected to generate over 10,000 direct jobs and an equal number of indirect jobs, significantly impacting

the socio-economic fabric of the region, he said. Similarly, the establishment of the Plastics Product Manufacturing Unit and DI Pipe Making Unit in Nildungri, Sambalpur, with an investment of over Rs 3600 crores, is set to create a large number of employment opportunities in the region, he said. This project, being the first major initiative in



the Biju Economic Corridor, is expected to further stimulate the growth of ancillary industries, creating additional job prospects for the local population. The Cabinet has also decided to develop an Utility Corridor at Gopalpur. The Utility Corridor between

Gopalpur Port and TATA Steel Industrial Park at Gopalpur to be executed through IDCO to provide logistics facilities required for existing and upcoming industries in the Gopalpur Industrial Park. The State Cabinet today approved the project with a cost of Rs 128.88 crores excluding GST. The cost includes construction, maintenance of the project during defect liability period of 5 years and operation and

maintenance period of 10 years, said the Chief Secretary. Further, it was decided at the highest panel of the State Government to amend the Odisha MSME Development Policy, 2022 for promotion of MSMEs in the State. Another proposal for amendment to Odisha Food Processing Policy 2022 was also approved by the Cabinet. With these amendments, a differential amount of financial benefit can be extended to those who have availed similar incentives from the

Government of India, if the state policy offers higher incentives. Provision of reimbursement will be added which will give an entrepreneur two options i.e. exemption or reimbursement to choose from. This will help those MSMEs who do not want to delay their project waiting for exemption orders to be issued. They can rather pay the stamp duty and land conversion premium upfront to expedite their project execution and seek reimbursement later.

## Kalinga Herbal Fair Open

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Ayurvedic system of medicine is an integral part of the age-old Shree Jagannath culture. This system of medicine is closely associated with Odia culture and tradition. Like Kerala, Odisha has ample opportunities for Ayurvedic treatment. Because there is continuous forest growth in Odisha, for this, the State Government is taking various steps through the State Council of Medicinal Plants. At the same time, there is a need for cooperation of the people and awareness among them as there is no side-effect to Ayurvedic treatment, said Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Pradeep Kumar Amat while inaugurating the 16th Kalinga Herbal Fair-2023. Satyabrata Sahu,



Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Revenue & Disaster Management and Devidatta Biswal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of The Forest Force graced the occasion. Speaking as the Chief Guest at the fair held at the IDCO Exhibition Ground here today, Minister Shri Amat said that the fair is an excellent tool to create awareness among the masses to

make Ayurvedic medicine popular. Shri Sahu ACS FE&CC said that Odisha is a storehouse of natural resources. Medicinal plants are widely used in the Shree Jagannath culture. Post Covid-19 pandemic, the popularity of Indian Ayurvedic medicine is increasing steadily. Therefore, the demand for medicinal plants is also increasing. Farmers, self-help groups, van suraksha samitis and other social organisations can benefit

from the emphasis on increasing production along with cultivation of medicinal plants. For this, the State Government has provided all kinds of facilities and arrangements for concessions, Shri Sahu said. Debidatta Biswal, PCCF & HoFF said that ayurvedic, allopathic and homoeopathic systems of medicine are different but not indistinguishable from each other. Every treatment method has its independence. Like Kerala, Odisha has huge potential for Ayurvedic treatment. The Kalinga Herbal Fair is providing a beautiful platform to vaidyas, doctors, farmers, government and non-governmental organisations, pharmaceutical companies.

## TRAI Seeks Rule Response

**New Delhi:** Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) today released draft Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Repealing Regulations, 2023; for inviting comments of stakeholders. The TRAI notified regulation on quality of service of dial-up and leased line internet access service, 2001 (4 of 2001) on 10th December 2001.

This regulation is applicable to all the Basic Service Operators and Internet Service Providers, including the incumbent operators viz. BSNL, MTNL and VSNL. The purpose of laying down Quality of Service Parameters was to ensure customer satisfaction by laying down norms of network performance, which the service provider is required to achieve by proper dimensioning



of his network; measure the Quality of Service from time to time and to compare that with the specified norms so as to monitor the level of performance, provided by various service providers and to protect the interests of subscribers of the Internet services. It has been noticed that these regulations were issued when the dial up service was the only service available for accessing low speed internet. With the

passage of time, the telecommunication networks both wireline as well as wireless have evolved to offer high speed broadband service on xDSL, FTTH, LTE, etc, technologies. Whereas the leased line access services are generally offered by Internet Gateway Service Providers (IGSPs) holding an ISP licence to enterprises, is a Service Level Agreement (SLA)

based service. Being SLA based service, the agreement among the contracting parties has sufficient provisions to safeguard concerns regarding service quality. Hence, the regulation on quality of service of dial-up and leased line internet access service, 2001, appears to be no more relevant in the present context. In view of the above, Authority intends to repeal the Regulation on quality of service of dial-up and leased line internet access service, 2001 (4 of 2001) with effect from date of its notification in Official Gazette. The draft Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Repealing Regulations, 2022 regulation is available on TRAI website [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in) and shall be open for comments of the stakeholders up to 17 April 2023.



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## VILGAM CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP: 2023



Handwara Jk(Aasif Malik): As part of country wide celebrations of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav to commemorate 25 years of Operation Vijay, a Cross Country Championship was organised at Vilgam Army Camp for the Boys of Ramhal, Kupwara, Magam, Taratpora and Zachaldara Blocks. The

motive of the sport event was to channelise the energetic youth to a self-confident, organised and a competent workforce of the community to bring impact in the socio economic stature of the region. The competition was designed for a distance of 7.5 km for the age group of 13 - 16 years and 10 km for the age group of 17 and above years. The

event was participated by a total of 326 boys with full spirit and enthusiasm. To further motivate the students and instill the competitive spirit amongst the boys, a Cash prize of ₹5000 for 1st, ₹3000 for 2nd, ₹1000 for 3rd and ₹300 consolation prize for next 7 places were given for each category. Master Mohd Suleiman, Master Shakir Mohideen & Master Aadil Rasood deedad proved themselves to be fastest than others and secured 1st, 2nd & 3rd position in the 13-16 years category and Master Bilal Mohideen Mir, Master Zakir Nazir Lone & Master Faizan Ah Lone secured 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions in the Over 17 Years category respectively. Such sport events organised by Army Camp plays a vital role in identifying local talents and encouraging them to hone their capabilities which are widely appreciated by the locals.

## Stay in Charge – the OnePlus 10R 5G Launches in India

**Bhubaneswar :** Today, global technology brand OnePlus officially launched the OnePlus 10R in India. The OnePlus 10R is equipped with 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition – the fastest wired charging ever in a OnePlus smartphone and one of the fastest wired charging standards in the industry. The device is powered by the customized and exclusive MediaTek Dimensity 8100-MAX chipset and has a 120 Hz Fluid AMOLED display, along with the largest and most advanced cooling system in any OnePlus device to date.

“The OnePlus R series exists to make the seamless integration of top-of-the-line hardware and software more accessible to a wider audience of gaming enthusiasts. The OnePlus 10R takes this concept to the next level by offering industry-leading technologies like 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition at a competitive price point,” said Navnit Nakra, India CEO and Head of India Region, OnePlus India. “Our fastest ever charging technology, combined with the MediaTek Dimensity 8100-MAX chipset, a high refresh rate display, and an advanced cooling system enable the OnePlus 10R to deliver truly exceptional performance.”

The OnePlus 10R with 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition can deliver a day’s power after just 10 minutes of charging and its 4,500 mAh battery can be recharged from 1-100% in 17 minutes. 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition is TÜV Rheinland certified for safe fast charging, meaning it has gone through rigorous testing to ensure the device delivers a charging experience that meets OnePlus’ high standards.

## JSW Paints launches its innovative product that focuses on consumers' health & well-being at home

**MUMBAI :** JSW Paints, India’s environment-friendly paints company and part of the US \$13 billion JSW Group, has launched its product campaign focusing on the Halo Aquaglo range. JSW Paints Aquaglo is India’s first water-based paints for wood & metal surfaces with Germ Block Zn2+ion technology. Previously, Indian consumers were using solvent-based enamels, popularly known as "Oil Paint", for painting wood & metal surfaces. These contain chemicals and solvents that have a strong odour and have a high VOC (Volatile Organic Content). As a result, these paints are not recommended for kids and people with health

conditions as the solvents pollute the home with their unhealthy fumes post-application. Such paint products They also take a relatively long time to dry, creating inconvenience for the family at home and can be smelly for a week or two. On the other hand, JSW Paints Aquaglo is 100% water-based, has low odour, dries quickly and is completely family-friendly. Due to its quick-drying benefit, it enables the painting to be finished in a very short time as well. It also retains its shine for a longer period. The Aquaglo campaign brings the focus back on consumers’ overall health and well-being through the Bollywood

star and JSW Paints brand ambassador, Alia Bhatt, as she urges consumers to #PaintKaGKBadhao. The campaign also includes well-known artist and stand-up comedian Atul Khatri and brings to life the mass hysteria related to any new idea. Alia’s reaction to the strong smell of solvent-based paint being used on her newly painted door results in a social media tsunami and a cascade of jokes & banter with everyone joining in for a laugh, misconstruing Alia’s point that the oil paint on the door causes pollution, as doors cause pollution. This highlights the low level of awareness among consumers about the

availability and benefits of water-based paints for wood and metal. Aquaglo is also the first paint for wood & metal in India with Germ Block, making it very safe for the family. The campaign is on air across leading TV channels across India and Disney+ Hotstar streaming platform. The campaign is conceptualized by TBWA\India According to Anuradha Bose, Chief Marketing Officer of JSW Paints, "Following the successful disruption of our Any Colour One Price initiative, we are now delighted to launch our thoughtful product innovation, Aquaglo. It aims to change yet another convention in paints of using only 'oil paint' for wood & metal.

Our new campaign draws consumers’ attention to the clear benefit of adopting a water-based Aquaglo range of paints for painting wooden doors, metal grills and other such surfaces in their homes. Paint Ka GK badhao is a clear call to action to make India sit up and choose wellness and comfort." Speaking about the Aquaglo campaign’s attempt to change Indian paint consumers’ expectations, Govind Pandey, CEO, TBWA\India said, “Paint category has been dominated by the same market leaders for decades without any real challenger. JSW Paints is the disruptor that is questioning the status quo prevailing in the industry.

## Apeejay Education and AWS announce new accelerator program

**Bhubaneswar :** Apeejay Education, an academic institution in India established for more than 50 years, and Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, today announced the launch of the National Education Policy Accelerator Program (NEPAP), an initiative to

enable academic institutions in India to align with the technology requirements documented in the Government’s National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). This is the first program in India to support the technology transformation of education institutions as

per the NEP 2020. The NEP 2020 aims to strengthen India’s education sector that directly contributes to the country’s growth and development, demonstrating the need to integrate technology in education to improve learning and teaching at all levels. The

accelerator program will address two key tenets of the NEP 2020 – on the extensive use of technology in teaching, learning, education planning, and management; and in the creation of open, interoperable, evolvable, public digital infrastructure in the

education sector to support multiple platforms and point solutions. The accelerator program will guide academic institutions on multiple aspects of the NEP 2020. It will support academic institutions by conducting digital innovation workshops to focus on

identifying and prioritizing unique challenges of the academic institutions, and co-building solutions or proof-of-concepts (POCs) using technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AWS will drive these workshops based on the Amazon Working

Backwards innovation methodology, which uses design thinking to identify and define a customer-focused problem or opportunity and develop prototypes. Through the accelerator program, AWS and Apeejay Education will support academic institutions with AWS credits, capacity

building workshops, and access to dedicated resources, to build and implement the POCs. Apeejay Education will bring expertise on the use cases of digital solutions in the education sector, and support with testing the solutions to extend the reach to other institutions across India.

## Burlington English empowers Educators in Rourkela, Odisha with '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme'; aims to skill 50,000 educators countrywide

**Rourkela (KCN) :** Providing a unique opportunity for educators and school principals in Rourkela, Burlington English organised, '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme' to empower them with leadership skills and elevate English language teaching-learning levels as aligned with the recommendations of the National Curriculum Frameworks (NCFs) and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The 15-city programme is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of educators and aims to

train 50,000 educators nationwide over a year. This one-day leg of the programme, held at The Central Park, Rourkela, Odisha, covered crucial topics like Linguistic Confidence, Language Development Insights, and Tech Integration for Skills. Ms. Salony Priya, Master Trainer, Burlington, and Founder of Ummeed, conducted an insightful session for the educators, providing them with valuable tools and techniques to foster a dynamic learning environment. Amit Baveja, Managing Director, Burlington English, expressed his



enthusiasm for the programme, stating, "The '21st Century Educator's Engagement Program'

reaffirms Burlington English's commitment to fostering educational excellence. As the

programme advances nationwide, Burlington English remains dedicated to empowering

over 50,000 educators and contributing to the enhancement of the education system. We

believe that investing in the professional development of educators across the country is crucial to delivering quality education that prepares students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century." Ms. Salony Priya also shared her thoughts on the importance of the programme, saying, "It is essential for educators to adapt to the changing educational landscape and equip themselves with the tools needed to nurture the holistic skill development of students. These engagements make

educators alive to the national and global issues, with a long-term perspective. It's indeed the need of the hour and am glad to curate it with Burlington English. The session was so well received and found relevant by the participating educators, and the insights along with the strategies suggested are carried from workshop to school for effective changes." Empowering educators in Rourkela is just the beginning. Burlington English is committed to making a lasting impact nationwide, with the '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme.'

