

PRESIDENT OF INDIA ADDRESSES THE VALEDICTORY SESSION OF UP GLOBAL INVESTORS SUMMIT-2023

New Delhi: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu addressed the Valedictory Session of UP Global Investors Summit-2023 in Lucknow today (February 12, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that she was happy that her visit to Uttar Pradesh is taking place on the occasion of this great festival of development of the state. The President said that apart from being the largest state of the country in terms of population, Uttar Pradesh ranks first in India in many areas in terms of contribution to the country's economy. Uttar Pradesh ranks first in India in total

production of food grains, including wheat. It also ranks first in the country in the production of sugarcane and potato. In the production of mango and peas also, this state contributes the most. Similarly, Uttar Pradesh is the leader in milk production. Being rich in agricultural products, Uttar Pradesh has a lot of potential for agro-based enterprises. She was happy to note that sessions on 'Leveraging Food Basket of India: Opportunity for Food Processing' and 'Unlocking Opportunities in Dairy and Animal Husbandry Sector' were organized during the Summit. Underlining the fact that



political stability and continuity of administration prove very helpful for investors, the President said that at present, Uttar Pradesh has a stable and decision-making government. She said that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has envisioned far-sighted

policies and implemented those. As a result, Uttar Pradesh is capable and ready to play the role of growth engine of New India. She said that through this Summit, an investment of about rupees 35.5 lakh crore is expected to provide

opportunities to lakhs of people. The President noted that Uttar Pradesh has about 95 lakh MSMEs which is the highest number of MSMEs in the country. She said that apart from being the backbone of the country's industries, MSMEs also provide the

largest number of employment opportunities after the agriculture sector. She expressed confidence that the MSME sector of Uttar Pradesh will play a major role in the economic development of India. The President said that it is a matter of happiness that in achieving the goal of making India a five trillion dollar economy, Uttar Pradesh has resolved to make Uttar Pradesh a one trillion dollar economy. Uttar Pradesh would contribute towards one fifth of India's economy. She said that efforts to boost the economy in Uttar Pradesh would also strengthen the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. The President noted that

infrastructure is being developed very fast in Uttar Pradesh. She said that India's self-reliance in defence would get a boost by the development of Defence Corridor in Uttar Pradesh. This would also bring investment and generate employment. The President noted that several efforts are being made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to maintain a balance between development and environment. Efforts such as development of Renewable Energy, Green Energy Corridors, and energy transition under the National Green Hydrogen Mission would help India in achieving the target of Net Zero

emission. The President said that in the growing investment climate, the culture of self-employment gets a boost. She noted that efforts are being made for the start-up revolution in Uttar Pradesh. She expressed confidence that Uttar Pradesh would also have a leading position in the field of self-employment by these efforts. The President appreciated the efforts to make Uttar Pradesh a Preferred Investment destination. She expressed confidence that Uttar Pradesh would gain global fame as the 'Best Investment State'. She said that if Uttar Pradesh becomes more prosperous, India would also be more prosperous.

Prez Murmu appoints 13 new Governors; accepts resignations of Maha, Ladakh Guvs

New Delhi: Accepting the resignations of Bhagat Singh Koshyari as Governor of Maharashtra and of Radha Krishnan Mathur as Lt. Governor of Ladakh, President Droupadi Murmu appointed 13 new Governors. The official communication reads: "Lt. General Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retired) as Governor of Arunachal Pradesh; Lakshman Prasad Acharya as Governor of Sikkim; C.P. Radhakrishnan as Governor of Jharkhand; Shiv Pratap Shukla as Governor of Himachal Pradesh; and S. Abdul Nazeer as Governor of Andhra Pradesh; Gulab Chand Kataria as Governor of Assam" Above are the fresh appointments. However, the states of the few current Governors have been changed. Their new placements are: Justice (Retd) Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, Governor of Andhra Pradesh appointed as Governor of Chhattisgarh; Anusuiya Uikye, Governor of Chhattisgarh appointed as Governor of Manipur; La. Ganesan, Governor of Manipur appointed as Governor of Nagaland; Phagu Chauhan, Governor of Bihar appointed as Governor of Meghalaya; Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Governor of Himachal Pradesh appointed as Governor of Bihar; Ramesh Bais, Governor of Jharkhand appointed as Governor of Maharashtra; Brig (Dr) B.D. Mishra (Retd), Governor of Arunachal Pradesh appointed as Lt. Governor of Ladakh.



'Grand picture of developing India': PM inaugurates section of Delhi-Mumbai Expressway

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Delhi-Dausa-Lalsot section of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway in Rajasthan's Dausa on Sunday. He also laid the foundation stone for 247 km of national highway projects to be developed at a cost of more than Rs 5,940 crore. The inauguration of the highway section in Rajasthan holds a political significance as the state will go to the Assembly polls in December. "The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is one of the most advanced expressways in the world which presents a grand picture of developing India," he said on the occasion. "For the last nine years,

the Central government is continuously making huge investments in infrastructure. This budget has allocated Rs 10 lakh crores for infrastructure which is five times more than the allocation in 2014," he said in the presence of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. He informed the gathering that in the "in past few years, Rajasthan has received

Rs 50,000 crore for highways". "Delhi-Mumbai Expressway and the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor are going to become two strong pillars of progress for Rajasthan and the country," Prime Minister Modi added. The 246 km Delhi - Dausa-Lalsot section of the Delhi Mumbai Expressway has been developed at a cost of more than Rs 12,150 crore. The operationalisation

of this section will reduce the travel time from Delhi to Jaipur from the existing five hours to around 3.5 hours and provide a major boost to the economic development of the entire region. Delhi-Mumbai Expressway will be India's longest expressway with a length of 1,386 km. It will reduce the travel distance between Delhi and Mumbai by 12 per cent from 1,424 km to 1,242 km and travel time will be reduced by 50 per cent from 24 hours to 12 hours. It will pass through six states - Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra and connect major cities like Kota, Indore, Jaipur, Bhopal, Vadodara and Surat.



Odisha Cabinet Meeting Today; 15 Proposals Likely To Get Nod



Bhubaneswar(KCN): A meeting of Odisha Cabinet led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik is scheduled to be held at Lokseva Bhawan here tomorrow (February 13). The Cabinet will approve the draft Budget proposal for 2023-24 financial year during its meeting on Monday, sources said. As many as 15 proposals of Health, Energy, Rural Development, Agriculture, Public Works, Urban Development, Water Resources, and Commerce and Transport departments are likely to get the Cabinet approval tomorrow, sources added. Notably, the Budget Session of Odisha Assembly is scheduled to commence on February 21. Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari will table the annual Budget of 2023-24 fiscal on February 24. The House will discuss the Budget proposals on February 27, 28 and March 1. The Appropriation Bill on the Budget will be tabled in the Assembly on March 4. This will be the last full-fledged Budget moved by the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) government in Odisha in its fifth term.

Justice Raghubir Dash resigns as OHRC member; Opposition slams Odisha govt

Bhubaneswar, (KCN)- Justice Raghubir Dash has resigned as member of the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC). The development comes days after the Odisha government appointed Justice Satrugana Pujahari as OHRC Chairman. In his resignation letter addressed to the Odisha Governor, Justice Raghubir Dash wrote, "The newly appointed chairperson of OHRC is definitely a right person who has the ability to raise the reputation of the institution to the next level by his tireless efforts to protect the interests of the victims of Human Rights violations." Dash further wrote, "However, my conscience as well as sense of self-respect dissuades me continuing



to hold the office of a member of the OHRC under the chairperson designate who, as a judge of High Court of Orissa, was junior to me." It is pertinent to mention here that the state government had recently appointed Justice Satrugana Pujahari, a former Judge of Orissa High Court, as the new OHRC Chairman. Apart from this, the government had reappointed advocate Asim Amitabh Dash as its member.

Justice Ratnakar Dash (Retd.) said, "The government taking such a step was not appropriate. It (Odisha government) should have asked whether the person being roped in for the post is junior or senior to him (Raghubir Dash). It will definitely hurt one's self-respect and one will feel suffocated. Though it's his personal decision, I would have made the same decision." On the other hand, the BJP alleged misgovernance in the State while the Congress alleged lawlessness in Odisha under the BJD rule. "When a senior Judge is already a member, appointing a junior is unfortunate. He (Dash) has made the right decision," said BJP leader Sudarsan Nayak. "Under this government, there is no rule.

Ford Super Duluxe model car used by Netaji be brought back to Odisha

DHANBAD(Ajit Das) /Cuttack (Bubun Panda): A car claimed to have been used by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the 1930s and found abandoned in the warehouse of a closed plant OF Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) has attracted visitors in Dhanbad. The car was discovered in 2014, the now-defunct Barari Coke Plant of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) in the Putki Bahihari area in the second week of this month, according to the general manager of Putki Bahihari mines, K C Mishra.

After lot of protest and hue and cry by the Union, going on indefinite fast for preservice of this car, The BCCL management realizing the car's historic value shifted it to the Koyla Nagar-based guest house on July 22. It was learnt from few old-timers in the area that Netaji used it when he visited the area between 1930 and 1940 when he was the president of the Tata Labour Association. The car has been identified as Ford Super Deluxe model and it belonged to Bose's uncle Ashok Bose who was a chemical engineer at the Barari Coke Plant



of the East India Company. Mr Ajit Das from Cuttack visited Dhanbad during 1st

week of Feb 23, and carried a few queries about the car, it was learnt that the Car was actually in limelight during 2014, and the Engine, some vital accessories have been stolen/taken away by some unknown persons. The car is of utmost National importance and should be restored to its original glory for placement and display at Netaji museum Cuttack. One Mr Sudhir kashyap has offered to restore the car and give it back to the museum for display. Many representations have been made to the Honorable CM of Orissa to bring this car from Dhanbad, and the public is waiting for this great event to happen.

Ancient Civilisation Unearthed At Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary In Odisha

Nuapada: Researchers unearthed remains of an ancient civilisation at Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha. The ancient civilisation was found during a survey conducted by Khariar Autonomous College's Department of Archaeology and Museology, Nuapada, inside Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha. The survey was conducted by a team of researchers comprising of lecturers Dr Ranbir Singh and Himanshu Sekhar Mahakud, Folk Culture researcher and journalist Mayadhar Saraf and 15 students of the college. The team of researchers surveyed the fact by visiting various waterbodies and the Jonk River basin. First, they

examined an abandoned Manikgarh located around 4,000 ft above the sea on the river basin. According to researchers, the structure was a rectangular hill fort with over 300 metre-high rock compound wall. It is believed to be the witness to History. The team found remains of fort boundary scattered at various places. They also discovered ancient paintings coloured with pigment engraved inside a cave situated around 150 metre down the Manikgarh fort. This discovery will help in adding a new chapter to the pre-historic study of the district, said Dr Ranbir Singh. The team of researchers had also visited Jumlagarh fort, which is

situated at right side of the Jonk River with a distance of only 5 km from Manikgarh fort. Its fortification was completely different from Manikgarh fort. According to the researchers, the fort was built in bricks and rocks. It was rectangular in size. It has two entrance points on east and west directions. The fort boundary has guard rooms each in all four corners as well as two each in north and south. As the ancient forts are situated in dense forest and far away from urban areas, the excavation work was interrupted. More fact about the ancient civilisation will come to fore if the Archeological Survey of India comes forward for the excavation, Dr Singh said.

House damaged in fire accident, claimed for compensation



Barbil. 11th Feb (KCN) : A house at Laxmi Nagar of ward No 12 under Barbil Municipality of Keonjhar district in Odisha caught fire damaging several items kept in the house. As per information Prakash Sahani and his wife Saraswati Sahani had set fire to the garbage behind their house. The fire gradually spread to

Ishwar Singh's house who is neighbour of Sahani family. As there was no one in the house, the fire took its fiercest form destroying the property of Iswar Singh. Upon getting information locals rushed to the spot and tried to douse the leaping flames by pouring water and informed fire brigade. The house

owner and neighbours claimed that the fire was a result of negligence of Sahani Family and claimed for compensation towards damage. However Sahani family has agreed to give rupees fifty thousand against the damage. But as per information, Iswar Singh denied to receive the amount demanding more compensation.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA ATTENDS CIVIC RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH IN LUCKNOW

LUCKNOW: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu attended the civic reception hosted in her honour by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in Lucknow this evening (February 12, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the warm welcome she received in Lucknow has made her first visit here as the President unforgettable. The President said that the traditions and sentiments emanating from Kashi, Ayodhya, Mathura and Sarnath unite all Indians in one thread. Naimisharanya, Gorakhpur, Magahar and many other holy

places of Uttar Pradesh have witnessed India's flourishing spiritual power. The spiritual energy of such holy places would continue to provide strength to our country for ages. The Kumbh in Prayagraj has been a major religious, spiritual and cultural event since ancient times. In the year 2017 UNESCO has recognized Prayagraj Kumbh Mela as 'Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity'. Lucknow, situated on the bank of Gomati, on one hand is associated with our oldest traditions, and on the other it has been a major centre of culture, literature, politics and art and skills in the

medieval and modern times as well. The President said that along with the development of the economy, it is also necessary for economic and social progress to be just and inclusive. It is our national priority to bring all the deprived sections of the society and women within the ambit of inclusive development. She was confident that Uttar Pradesh would contribute significantly in ensuring economic, social and political justice through women empowerment. She said that in the history of political empowerment of women, Uttar Pradesh has unique records. The President said that

Odisha Woman Builds Ram Mandir To Fulfill Husband's Last Wish

Bhubaneswar: A woman of Shyamakhunta area of Mayurbhanj district in Odisha reportedly sold out the landed properties of her family to fulfill her deceased husband's last wish of building a temple for Lord Ram.

The temple built by the woman was consecrated on January 31, villagers said.

Basanti Ghosh and her husband Prahallad Ghosh of Podaastia village under Shyamakhunta block of Mayurbhanj district had been staying in Baripada town for last several



years. The issueless couple had decided to build a Ram Mandir at their native Podaastia in 2012. They had in fact started construction work for the temple on their ancestral land in the

village, sources said. However, the construction work was halted following Prahallad's untimely demise in 2018, they added. "Around 20 per cent of the temple

construction work had been completed at the time of Prahallad's untimely demise in 2018. The construction work could not be resumed due to the onset of Covid-19 pandemic in

2020. Shortage of money was the biggest hurdle for completing the temple work," said a villager.

However, Basanti was determined to fulfill her husband's last wish. She had sold out her family's entire landed properties to collect money to complete the construction work for Ram Mandir, he added.

"The temple was consecrated on January 31. I am extremely happy for fulfilling my husband's last wish. This temple belongs to the people Podaastia," said an emotional Basanti.

Girl Dies, Sister Turns Critical After Having Roasted Frog Meat In Odisha's Keonjhar

Keonjhar: A six-year-old girl died while her younger sister turned critical after consuming roasted frog meat at Guruda under Bamebari police limits in Odisha's Keonjhar district.

The deceased was identified as Sumitra, daughter of Muna Munda. Her sister Megha has been admitted to the District Headquarters Hospital for treatment

According to reports, the two sisters and their family members had on February 9 eaten the meat, following which the two girls fell ill during night.

While Sumitra died the next morning, Megha was hospitalised.


On being informed, police reached the spot, recovered the body for post-mortem and started an investigation.

The reason of the death can be ascertained after post-mortem, police said.



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Srinagar's Lone Multiplex Continues to Remain Jam-Packed Since Pathaan's Release

Kashmir Valley saw the return of cinema after 30 long years, and with the release of Shahrukh Khan starrer 'Pathaan' movie, the lone multiplex in Srinagar has been running housefull shows. Thousands of people in the valley have watched the movie in this theatre since its release and the numbers hardly seem to go down.

Srinagar's multiplex is running six shows of the Pathaan movie every day. And most of the shows are running housefull. The moviegoers of the valley are extremely ecstatic to finally watch films on a bigger screen.

And the theatre is witnessing so much love from the people, that the multiplex even tweeted thanking the people of Kashmir for showering so much love. "Kashmir has shown "extraordinary love" to Pathaan and Shah Rukh Khan. Today with 'Pathaan' frenzy gripping the nation, we are grateful to KING KHAN for bringing the treasured HOUSEFULL sign back to the Kashmir Valley after 32 long years. Thank you ShahRukhKhan," tweeted Inox Theatres.

"The movie released on 25th January, and We had not expected this



much rush. It's after a gap of 32 years that a cinema opened in the Kashmir Valley, and to watch Shahrukh Khan on Silver screen, we have seen a huge number of people coming to watch the movie, which we had not expected. It's still running Housefull and more than 11000 people have

watched the movie so far. And I am sure it will further grow. It's not only in Srinagar but from various districts of Kashmir region who are coming from far off areas to watch the movie on big screen," said Obaid Ahmad, Staff, Inox Srinagar. Shahrukh Khan fans

not only from Srinagar but other far-flung districts of the Kashmir region are coming to the cinema to watch his film on bigger screen. And for the young generation of the Valley, they have never seen a theatre in their lives. Kashmir has had dozens of Cinema Halls till the early 1990, but with the start of insurgency, all the cinema halls in the valley were shut down.

"I cannot explain it in words, It's such a feeling. Last time I went to Jammu to see Shahrukh Khan's cameo in the Brahmastra movie. As there was no theatre in the

valley. But now we have a theatre here and it's great. We do deserve to have means of entertainment. I wish we have theatres in every district of the Valley. Everyone should have access to movies and entertainment," said Adnan Ahmad, Local Youngster. The Multiplex located in Srinagar's Shivpora area has three screens and a total seating capacity for around 520 people. And despite snowfall and Minus degree temperatures, these film lovers are braving all these harsh weather conditions and coming to the cinema.

Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon Unveil Shehzada new poster, Announce Film's Advance Booking

Actor Kartik Aaryan on Saturday (Feb 11) unveiled the new poster of his upcoming family entertainer film 'Shehzada'. Taking to Instagram, Kartik shared the poster which he captioned, "Baat Jab Shehzada ki ho toh Discussion nahin karte...Seedha Ticket Book Karte hain."

In the new poster, actor Kriti Sanon could be seen putting a crown on Kartik's head. Helmed by Rohit Dhawan, the family entertainer film stars Kartik, Kriti Sanon, Paresh Rawal, Manisha



Koirla, Ronit Roy and Rajpal Yadav in lead roles. It is all set to hit the theatres on February 17, 2023.

Soon after the 'Dhamaka', actor shared the poster, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. Meanwhile, some

seen ala vaikunthapurramlou," another fan commented.

'Shehzada' is an official Hindi remake of the Telugu film 'Ala Vaikunthapurramloo' which starred actor Allu Arjun in the lead role.

Apart from this, he also has director Kabir Khan's next untitled film, Hansal Mehta's next 'Captain India' and a romantic musical 'Satyaprem Ki Katha', which marks his second collaboration with Kiara Advani after the blockbuster hit 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'.

Tollywood Star Rana Daggubati, Father Named in Land Grabbing Case



Tollywood star Rana Daggubati and his father, noted film producer D. Suresh Babu, have landed in legal trouble in a case of alleged land grabbing here.

The 'Baahubali' actor and his father have been named in the case filed by local businessman Pramod Kumar, who has alleged that father and son are pressuring him to vacate land that belongs to him.

The third additional chief metropolitan magistrate court at Nampally in the city has issued summons to them in this matter. According to the complaint, the disputed land in Shaikpet was leased out to him in 2014 by Suresh Babu. When the lease ended, Suresh Babu allegedly decided to sell the property to him for Rs 18 crore and a deal was struck.

Ranbir Kapoor, Deepika Padukone's 'Tamasha' to Re-Release in Theatres for Valentine's Week

Bollywood stars Ranbir Kapoor and Deepika Padukone's 2015 romantic drama 'Tamasha', directed by Imtiaz Ali, is all set for a re-release in cinemas to celebrate Valentine's week.

'Tamasha' is a film that portrayed the essence of



love in modern times from a whole new perspective. It is all set to hit the theatres across the nation with its release in all the PVR cinemas.

Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment took to their social media and shared the poster of Tamasha while announcing the re-release of the film in the caption with: "This Valentine's week, celebrate their love story with your loved one! Tamasha re-releases in all @pvr cinemas official near you!" Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment was established by Sajid Nadiadwala in 2005. The production house currently has 'Bawaal' and 'Satyaprem Ki Katha'.

Kunal Kemmu on his nephew Taimur yelling at paparazzi: Now if he doesn't like it he is gonna say it

Starkids and especially the younger ones have always been paparazzi's favourites to capture. And having said that, more often than not, the tiny kids couldn't really react or respond to the same. However, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Saif Ali Khan's kid Taimur recently yelled at the shutterbugs refraining them from clicking his little brother Jeh's pictures. After which his son was trolled and criticized by the netizens.

Now, his Uncle Kunal Kemmu came out to his support and shared, that a child cannot be blamed for a reaction to this. He also added that his wife Soha too keep their daughter



away from the shutterbugs. When asked if the paparazzi should actually draw a line on this, Kunal replied in the

affirmative. He said that they surely must cut back on this and also added, it's also the people who sit there

care yeah and they don't have to be diplomatic. If they don't like something, they're like 'I don't want it'.

Kunal added that a kid is a kid at the end of the day and he can do whatever he wants, or whatever she wants. "Now if you are going to come into their face and take a picture, and now somebody has a problem with how the kid is behaving, then it's that person's problem". The Malang actor said that Taimur is a grown-up now and earlier he couldn't speak and he was in somebody's lap and somebody was clicking and he couldn't do anything. Now if he doesn't like it he is gonna say it.

Priyanka Chopra is making temperatures soar with her latest pool pictures and Nick Jonas finds them fiery

Priyanka Chopra is enjoying her time in Los Angeles, most of which is spent lounging by the pool at her plush mansion. On Saturday, the actress blessed the gram with her latest pool pictures, wherein she slayed in two-piece gingham swimsuit. "Instagram vs reality," PeeCee had captioned the clicks. Nick Jonas was quick to drop a comment and wrote, "Damn" with a fiery emoji. Previously, Priyanka had shared a series of pictures and videos from the pool

while grooving to 90s music.

Earlier this year, Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas turned parents via surrogacy. The couple had announced in January, "We are overjoyed to confirm we have welcomed a new baby girl via surrogate. We respectfully ask for privacy during this special time as we focus on our family. Thank you so much." It was recently reported that Priyanka and Nick have named their baby girl Malti Marie Chopra Jonas. The



couple has taken inspiration from their own moms to name their daughter. 'Malti' comes from Priyanka's mother

Madhumalti Chopra while 'Marie' is inspired from Nick's mother Denise Marie Miller Jonas. However, the

couple is yet to formally announce their daughter's name. On the work front, Priyanka Chopra will be soon be seen alongside Sam Heughan in 'It's All Coming Back To Me'. The film has been slated for release on February 10, 2023. Apart from this, Priyanka also has web series 'Citadel', which is helmed by the Russo Brothers. She will also be seen in Farhan AKhtar helmed 'Jee Le Zaraa', which also features Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt in lead roles.

Proposed Amendments relating to TDS



The Finance Bill, 2023 has proposed as many as 122 amendments in direct taxes. We are giving here some amendments proposed in TDS provisions.

1. Amendment of sec. 194N for increasing threshold limit for co-operative to withdraw cash without TDS:

a) Section 194N provides that a banking company or a co-operative society engaged in carrying on the business of banking or a post office, which is responsible for paying any sum to any person (referred to as the recipient) shall, at the time of payment of such sum in cash, deduct an amount equal to 2 per cent of such sum, as income-tax. There requirement to deduct tax applies only when the payment of amount or aggregate of amount in cash during the year exceeds Rs. One crore.

b) However, in case of a recipient who is a non-filer tax is to be deducted at the rate of 2% on any sum exceeding Rs. 20 lakh but not exceeding Rs. 1 crore in aggregate during the financial year

and, at the rate of 5% on sum exceeding Rs. 1 crore in aggregate during the financial year.

c) Non-filer means a recipient who has not filed any income-tax return for all of the 3 asst. years relevant to the three previous years immediately preceding the previous year in which such payment is received.

d) It has been proposed to amend section 194N by inserting an proviso to provide that where there is a co-operative society, the provisions of this section shall have effect, as if for the words "one crore rupees", the words "three crore rupees" had been substituted.

This amendment will take effect from 1st April, 2023.

2. Amendment of sec. 197(1) for Extending the scope of deduction of tax at source to lower or nil rate

a) Section 197 relates to grant of a certificate of tax deduction at lower or nil rate. It provides for as sessee to apply to the Assessing Officer for TDS at zero rate or lower rate, if the tax is required to be deducted u/s 192, 193, 194, 194A, 194C, 194D, 194G, 194H, 194I, 194J, 194K, 194L, 194LB, 194LB B, 194LBC, 194M, 194O and 195. If the Assessing Officer is satisfied that the total income of the recipient justifies the

deduction of income-tax at any lower rate or zero rate, he is required to give an appropriate certificate to the assessee.

b) Section 194LBA, inter-alia, provides that business trust shall deduct and deposit tax at the rate of 5% on interest in come of non-resident unit holders. Representations have been received that in some cases rate of deduction may be required to be reduced due to some exemption, for example exemption u/s 10(23FE) allow ed on notified Sovereign Wealth Funds and Pension Funds. However since certificate for lower deduction u/s 194LBA cannot be obtained u/s 197, benefit of exemption is not available at the time of tax deduction.

c) To remove this difficulty, it is proposed to amend sub-section (1) of section 197 to provide that the sums on which tax is required to be deducted u/s 194LBA shall also be eligible for certificate for deduction at lower rate. This amendment will take effect from 1st April, 2023.

3. Omission of clause (ix) of the proviso to section 193 for Removal of exemption from TDS on payment of interest on listed debentures to a resident

a) Section 193 provides for TDS on payment of any income

to a resident by way of interest securities.

b) The proviso to section 193 provides exemption from TDS in respect of payment of interest on certain securities. Clause (ix) of the proviso to the a f o r e s a i d section provides that no tax is to be deducted in the case of any interest payable on any security issued by a company, where such security is in dematerialized form and is listed on a recognized stock exchange in India in accordance with the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 (32 of 1956) and the rules made thereunder.

c) It is seen that there is under reporting of interest income by the recipient due to above TDS exemption. Hence, it has been proposed to omit clause (ix) of the proviso to section 193. This amendment will take effect from 1st April, 2023.

4. TDS and taxability of online games

(i) Section 194B provides that the person responsible for paying to any person any income by way of winnings from any lottery or crossword puzzle or card game and other game of any sort in an amount exceeding ten thousand rupees shall, at the time of payment thereof, deduct in c o m e - t a x

Narayan Jain

thereon at the rates in force.

(ii) Section 194BB provides for similar provisions for deduction of tax at source for horse racing in any race course or for arranging for wagering or betting in any race course.

(iii) Section 115BB provides for the rate of tax on winnings from lotteries, crossword puzzles, races including horse races, card games and other games of any sort or gambling or betting of any form or nature.

(iv) It is seen that deductors are deducting tax u/s 194B and 194BB by applying the threshold of Rs 10,000/- per transaction and avoiding tax deduction by splitting a winning into multiple transactions each below Rs 10,000/-. This is a g a i n s t the intention of legislature.

(v) It is also seen that in recent times, there has been a rise in the users of online games. There is a need to bring in specific provisions regarding TDS and taxability of online games due to its different nature, being easily accessible via the Internet and computer resources with a variety of playing options and payment options.

(vi) Accordingly, it has been proposed to:—

a) amend section 194B and 194BB to provide that deduction of tax under these sections

shall be on the amount or aggregate of the amounts exceeding ten thousand rupees during the financial year;

b) amend section 194B to include "gambling or betting of any form or nature what so ever" with in its scope;

c) amend section 194B to exclude online games from the purview of the said section from the 1st day of July, 2023, since a new section 194BA is proposed to be introduced for deduction of tax at source on winnings from online games from that date;

d) insert a new section 194BA in the Act, w.e.f. 1st July 2023, to provide for deduction of tax at source on net winnings in the user account at the end of the financial year. In case there is withdrawal from user account during the financial year, the income-tax shall be deducted at the time of such withdrawal on net winnings comprised in such withdrawal. In addition, income-tax shall also be deducted on the remaining amount of net winnings in the user account at the end of the financial year. Net winnings shall be computed in the prescribed manner.

e) to provide in the proposed section 194BA that in a case where the net winnings are wholly in kind or partly in cash and partly in kind but the part in cash is not

sufficient to meet the liability of deduction of tax in respect of whole of the net winnings, the person responsible for paying shall, before releasing the winnings, ensure that tax has been paid in respect of the net winnings;

f) to provide that if any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of new section 194BA, the Board may, with the prior approval of the Central Government, issue guidelines for the purpose of removing the difficulty. Every such guideline issued by the Board shall be laid before each House of Parliament, and shall be binding on the income-tax authorities and on the person responsible for deduction of income-tax on any income by way of winnings from online game;

g) to provide the definition of "computer resource", "internet", "online game", "online gaming in term diary", "user", "user account" in the proposed section 194BA;

h) to amend section 115BB to exclude income from winnings from online games from the purview of the said section from the asst. year 2024-25, since it is proposed to introduce section 115 BBJ to tax winnings from online games from that asst. year;

i) to insert a new section 115BBJ in the

Act with regard to tax on winnings from online games to provide that where the total income of an assessee includes any income by way of winnings from any online game, the income-tax payable shall be the aggregate of—

- the amount of income-tax calculated on net winnings from such online games during the previous year, computed in the prescribed manner, at the rate of thirty per cent; and

- the amount of income-tax with which the assessee would have been charge able had his total income been reduced by the net winnings referred to above;

j) to provide the definition of "computer resource", "internet", "online game" in the proposed section 115BBJ.

The amendments proposed for section 194B and section 194BB will take effect from 1st April, 2023. The proposed section 194BA will take effect from 1st July 2023. The amendment proposed for section 115BB and the proposed section 115BBJ will take effect from 1st April, 2024 and will accordingly be applicable for the asst. year 2024-25 and subsequent asst. years.

(Contd.)

(The author is a tax advocate and National Deputy President of All India Federation of Tax Practitioners.)

Why Agra can become Footwear capital of the world

Time for Agra to replace Guangdong as the footwear hub of the world

● Vivek Shukla



As India is currently holding the chairmanship of powerful G-20 and would host the G-20 summit later this year where head of the states of member countries as well as those who would be invited by the government of India, the city of Agra sees a huge opportunity to become footwear capital of the world replacing China's Guangdong. Those who closely watch Indian footwear industry are of the view that in view of Agra's hosting series of programmes related to G-20 summit and delegates from the major countries would throng the city of Taj Mahal, they would have firsthand experience with the various stakeholders of footwear industry. That would go a long way in establishing Agra as an undisputed monarch of

footwear Industry.

It goes without saying that you cannot discuss Indian footwear Industry without bringing in Agra. Almost 40 per cent population of Agra is involved with the booming footwear industry. Surprisingly enough, Agra footwear industry is also pinning hope on Rishi Sunak, the Prime Minister of Britain. It believes that Rishi Sunak can also help their cause. How? As Britain is a big market for Agra footwear, it is possible that Britain's economic recovery could also lead to significant gains for the Agra footwear industry. Rishi Sunak will too attend the G-20 summit in Delhi.

Apart from Agra, the other major production centers in India are Chennai, Ranipet, Ambur in Tamil Nadu, Mumbai in Maharashtra, Kanpur in U.P., Jalandhar in Punjab, Agra, Delhi, Karnal, Ludhiana, Sonapat, Faridabad, Pune, Kolkata, Calicut and Ernakulam. About

1.10 million are engaged in the footwear manufacturing industry. Says Agra Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Chamber (AFMEC) Chairman, Puran Dawar, "Britain could come out of economic depression under Rishi Sunak which, in turn, could boost Agra footwear industry."

According to Ravish Kumar, Director of Ruddaro International, the leading footwear export company of Agra since over 75 years says, "Agra footwear currently attracts a duty of 4.5 percent for entering in Britain, which could be removed if India and the Britain reaches a mutual trade pact under Rishi Sunak" adding, "The proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries will be a major stepping stone in making trade easier between the two countries." At present, the annual footwear export to the UK from Agra was about 600



crore, which could rise to over 1000 crore with the FTA.

It must be remembered that the footwear sector is a very significant segment of the leather industry our country; rather it is the engine of growth for the entire Indian leather industry. India is the second largest global producer of footwear after China, accounting for 13% of global footwear production of 16 billion pairs. India produces 2065 million pairs of different categories of footwear (leather footwear - 909 million pairs, leather shoe uppers - 100 million pairs and non-leather footwear - 1056 million pairs). India exports

about 115 million pairs. Thus, nearly 95% of its production goes to meet its own domestic demand. Surely, these numbers are mind-boggling. Says Ravish Kumar, "Footwear exported from India are Dress Shoes, Casuals, Moccasins, Sport Shoes, Horrachies, Sandals, Ballerinas, Boots, Sandals and Chappals made of rubber, plastic, and other materials. Government has permitted 100% Foreign Direct Investment through the automatic route for the footwear sector."

If Agra and other Indian cities where footwear production is going on in a big way grow even faster, it is the duty of Centre/State

governments to build world class vocational institutes offering various undergraduate, post-graduate, diploma and certificate courses in Footwear Design, Manufacturing, Management and Technology. To name a few, Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI) CFTI Agra stays ahead in the race of producing industry ready professionals. A Govt of India organization functioning under the aegis of Ministry of MSME, CFTI, Agra is one of the oldest institute of its own kind since 1963 developing human resources for footwear and allied industry through various long term, short term and need based training programmes at its campus in Sikandra. However, there are concerns expressed that it lacks good faculty. Therefore, efforts have to be made so that CFTI like institutes have very accomplished faculty. There cannot be two

views that job creation is arguably one of the most important parameters to judge how successful a government has been in envisaging and implementing its economic policies. The micro, small and medium enterprises sector is one of the major employment generators in several sectors while footwear segment is no exception employing over 20 lakh people across India. Well, India has immense potential in the footwear sector and can increase production and export 10 times in the near future. About 7,000 small industries units are connected with the footwear sector which holds great significance to the economy and foreign exchange earnings of the country. Nearly 40% employed in the sector are women and for every 1000 pairs that are produced/sold, 425 jobs are secured. India is the second largest producer of footwear and leather garment and can become the world

leader.

The stakeholders adopt a quality control order so that imports could be limited and good-quality exports may be achieved. Strong global branding through road shows, e-platforms and global JVs will help the sector make a mark globally.

While prospects for India's Leather footwear industry has brightened in view of declining production of leather footwear in the Western European countries, the industry in India has to go in for substantial capacity enhancement in order to fully utilize this opportunity. However, it is unfortunate to note that India's export share to world import for leather footwear is around 2-3 percent only given the potential of Indian footwear makers. It has to be increased and for that Agra's footwear industry must play a major role.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor 9818155246

Maharashtra Gets New Governor After BS Koshyari's Resignation

New Delhi: Maharashtra was among 12 states to get a new Governor as President Droupadi Murmu made crucial appointments this morning. The President also appointed a new Lieutenant Governor for the Union Territory of Ladakh. Ramesh Bais, former Jharkhand governor, will replace Bhagat Singh Koshyari as Maharashtra Governor. Mr Koshyari's exit from Raj Bhavan has been welcomed by Opposition leaders who had earlier accused him of hurting Marathi sentiment with his controversial remarks on icons. Eighty-year-old Koshyari had last month told Prime Minister

Narendra Modi that he wished to step down from the top post. "Governor Koshyari has expressed his desire to spend the rest of his life in reading, writing and other leisurely activities," read a statement issued by the Raj Bhavan. Mr Koshyari, an RSS veteran who has served as a Chief Minister and an MP in both Houses of Parliament, was appointed Governor in 2019. During his tenure, he frequently hit headlines over his multiple run-ins with the Uddhav Thackeray government and his controversial statements. In fact, soon after his appointment, he sparked a row by presiding over an early morning oath

ceremony for Devendra Fadnavis even before Mr Thackeray and the Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance of Shiv Sena, Congress and NCP could stake claim to form government. Thereafter, the Uddhav Thackeray-led government and the Raj Bhavan clashed on several issues, including the reopening of temples after the Covid pandemic, refusal of a state plane for Mr Koshyari's visit to Dehradun and a special Assembly session following the rape and murder of a woman in Mumbai's Sakinaka. Mr Koshyari sparked a row in November last year when he said Chhatrapati Shivaji was "an icon of the old days".



The Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur participate in the closing ceremony of Khelo India youth games 2022 organized at Boat club, Bhopal, in Madhya Pradesh

India's oldest NGO Bengal Home Industries Association organised "Spring Fest" to empower artisans

Kolkata, (Partha Roy): A two-days "Spring Fest" was organised by probably India's oldest NGO "Bengal Home Industries Association (BHIA)" at its premises on Rashbehari Avenue in Kolkata.

In Spring Fest, artisans showcased crafts of jute, dokra, basketry, mora, shola, oyster shell and a few others on 10th and 11th February 2023.

Artisans from different districts of West Bengal participated in the festival and gave live demonstration of their crafts.

Puppeteers entertained the visitors with puppetry and folk music of Bengal.

Festival also showcased wide range of high quality handloom and handcrafted textile products including silk, linen, a range of home made food products including prickles of various fruits, wide range of home decor items including home furnishings items, lamp shades, wooden items, terracotta items



including toys and many more.

A wide range of high quality women wears including sarees, scraves, jackets, jewellery from shells and other eco-friendly items were on display.

Spring Fest was visited by diplomats, elites of the society, including foreigners visiting Kolkata, many of whom were awe-struck by high quality craftsmanship of various products on display and sale.

Festival provided buyers opportunities to interact directly with craftspersons and to get insight into various crafts.

An audio-visual talk on "Massart" of Durga idols was presented by architect & public art specialist Sayantan Maitra to give birds eye view on wide range of craftsmanship involved in creation of Durga Puja idols and pandals in Kolkata as well as availability of unique creative talents as human resources in Bengal. In fact, Durga Puja of Kolkata has received intangible heritage of humanity certification and honour from UNESCO.

Spring Fest was brain child of Mrs. Nandini Mahtab, wife of Dr. P.C. Mahtab, current

President of Bengal Home Industries Association and Head of Royal Family of Burdwan whose grand father was one of the Patron and founder member of Bengal Home Industries Association in 1916 alongwith Lady Carmichael, famed artist Shri Gaganendranath Tagore and many other public spirited elite citizens of Kolkata of the time. Mrs. Nandini Mahtab is Princess of Royal families of Joyentia Hills & Rangpur now in Bangladesh. Mrs. Nandini Mahatab is directly involved in

promotion of decaying and dying arts & crafts of Bengal over last several decades and successfully rejuvenating the dying art & crafts by creating infrastructure,

providing resources, including funding, raw materials etc to artists and crafts persons. Mrs. Mahtab also facilitating marketing of various creative artworks and products of artisans and crafts persons through Bengal Home Industries Association outlet.

Spring Fest opening ceremony was attended by Shri. G M Kapoor State President of INTACH, Ms. Nayantara Pal Choudhary Honorary Consul of Norway in Kolkata, famed & iconic personalities Smt. Gini Sen, Smt. Madhuchanda Karlekar, Smt. Mahua Bose, Shri Shankar Bose, Shri Rajesh Sen and other members of management committee of Bengal Home Industries Association besides Mrs. Nandini Mahtab.

Danish Siddiqui, three others win Pulitzer for harrowing pictures of India's Covid deaths



New York: The Pulitzer Prize for feature photography went to Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave and Danish Siddiqui of Reuters for photos of the Covid-19 toll in India. Siddiqui was killed in Afghanistan in July. Pulitzer Prize 2022 winners in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music were announced at 3 pm (Eastern Time) on Monday. The winner's list included The Washington Post, including Indians Abidi, Irshad Mattoo, Dave, and the late Siddiqui of Reuters in Journalism.

The Pulitzer Prizes also awarded a special citation to journalists of Ukraine, acknowledging their "courage, endurance and commitment" in

covering the ongoing Russian invasion that began earlier this year. Last August, the Pulitzer board granted a special citation to Afghan journalists who risked their safety to help produce news stories and images from their own war-torn country. Jurors of journalism's top honours also recognized coverage of the January 6th attacks on the Capitol, the withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Surfside condominium collapse in Florida.

Reuters photographer Danish Siddiqui was posthumously awarded a Pulitzer along with Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, and Amit Dave for their images of Covid's toll in India. Siddiqui was killed last year while covering a

clash between Afghan special forces and Taliban insurgents.

The Washington Post won the Pulitzer Prize in public service journalism for its coverage of the Jan 6 insurrection at the US Capitol, an attack on democracy that was a shocking start to a tumultuous year that also saw the end of the United States' longest war, in Afghanistan.

Five Getty Images photographers were awarded one of the two prizes in breaking news photography for their coverage of the riot. The other prize awarded in breaking news photography went to Los Angeles Times correspondent and photographer Marcus Yam, for work related to the fall of Kabul.

New Mexico wildfires turn into firefighters' nightmare as strong winds worsen blaze

Las Vegas: Strong, fast winds complicated work for firefighters in northeast New Mexico on Sunday (May 7) as they battled two major blazes, though the rural area's major population centre appeared to finally be safe from the worst danger. "It's been a challenging day. The winds have picked up; they haven't let up," fire spokesperson Todd Abel said Sunday evening.

The rural area's largest town Las Vegas, New Mexico, population 13,000 sits on the eastern edge of the fire area and appeared safe for now thanks to fire lines dug with bulldozers and other preparations over the past week. But the northern and southern edges of the blaze were

still proving tricky for firefighters to contain, particularly given winds as fast as 50 miles per hour (80 km per hour), Abel said.

The fire's perimeter stretched more than 60 miles (96 km) from Las Vegas, New Mexico, on the southeast flank to near Holbrook about 50 miles (80 km) south of the Colorado line.

The National Interagency Fire Centre said early Sunday that more than 20,000 structures remained threatened by the fire, which has destroyed about 300 residences over the last two weeks. The fire centre said full containment wasn't anticipated until the end of July.

The ferocious winds were expected to

continue with little break Sunday night and at least into Monday. Strong, gusty winds are in many ways firefighters' worst nightmare, especially in conditions so hot and dry as the crews in the Southwest have been battling since early April.

In addition to fanning and spreading the flames, such winds ground airtankers and light planes that can drop water directly on the fire or lay down retardant ahead of its path to allow bulldozers and ground crews to dig firebreaks in places where there's no highways or roads that can help stop the progression of the flames. In extreme conditions, like the ones



in New Mexico, even the helicopters that typically can get up in the air "at least during the early morning hours before winds start to pick up in the afternoon" are grounded.

That means they're unable to gather intelligence about the overnight developments

critical to making new attack plans or placing new orders for firefighters, engines and more aircraft from across the region where demand grows exponentially as summer nears and the more traditional fire season begins.

Aircraft were able to fly early Sunday but were grounded by early afternoon, Abel said. "It's not good, obviously; it takes away a tool in our toolbox, but we're not stopping," said fire spokesperson Ryan Berlin. Firefighters are prepared to protect homes if needed in several other rural communities along the state highway that connects Las Vegas to Taos, a small community popular for outdoor recreation activities like skiing. Officials repeatedly urged people to evacuate if they have been told to do so. "It's a dogfight out there folks," fire spokesperson Bill Morse said Sunday evening.

As of early Sunday, the biggest blaze northeast of Santa Fe had grown to an area more than twice the size of Philadelphia. Thousands of residents have been forced to flee their homes. For now, the city of Las Vegas appears to be safe, said Berlin. Some residents of the area were able to return to their homes on Saturday, and some shops and restaurants had reopened. "We even started to repopulate a section of town already," he said. "Our concern right now is on the southwest portion of the fire which the wind is helping us out, sort of, because it's blowing the flames back into the fire." But Wendy Mason with the New Mexico Forestry Division

warned that "by no means" is anyone "out of potential danger." "Just because the winds are coming from one direction doesn't mean they can't change direction so it's better to be prepared and have residents ready to go," she said. Nationwide, close to 2,000 square miles (5,180 sq km) have burned so far this year, with 2018 being the last time this much fire had been reported at this point, according to the National Interagency Fire Centre. And predictions for the rest of the spring do not bode well for the West, where long-term drought and warmer temperatures brought on by climate change have combined to worsen the threat of wildfire.

Senior Officers Meet On 14 Feb

Bhubaneswar(KCN): A two days long Senior Officers' Conference of the State Administration will be held here at the State Convention Centre in Lok Seva Bhawan from 14 February. There will be a brainstorming session of Senior Officers, during which the top Officer of the concerned department will address and make presentations on the topic. The prime focus will be given on Transformation Priorities and Pro-People Governance, Development in Urban and Rural areas, Health Care and other issues official sources said. Secretary to Chief

Minister V K Pandian will guide the Senior Officers including all District Collectors about transformation initiatives taken by the State Government and future roadmap on 14 February. The Transformation program and 5T Initiatives will take centre stage during the session. Housing and Urban Development Principal Secretary G Mathi Vathanan, will be presenting on the issue of effective delivery of urban services-driven by technology and community. Health and Family Welfare Secretary Shalini Pandit will address the officers on quality healthcare for

all. She will make detail presentation on Ama Hospital and Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY). Similarly, Mission Shakti Secretary Sujata R. Karthikeyan will present the Road Map Mission Shakti and on conversion of SHG to Small and Medium Enterprises. The State Government has increased the interest subvention benefit on SHG loans from Rs.3 lakh to Rs.5 lakh making it 0 percent effective annual rate of interest under Mission Shakti loan. Over the next five years, Mission Shakti has provisioned to distribute loans to the tune of Rs 50,000 crore and provide interest



subvention benefits amounting to Rs.1200 crore to the SHGs. Principal Secretary Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Arabinda Kumar Padhee will deliberate on Crop Diversification while Electronics and IT

Principal Secretary Manoj Mishra will address on the topic, Technology—the cornerstone of governance; officials say. Commerce and Transport Principal Secretary Usha Padhee will be deliberating on

'Skilling for the World' whereas Industries Principal Secretary Hemant Sharma will present the scenario in which Odisha has turned as India's leading investment destination. On the second day of the Conference on 15

February, MSME Principal Secretary Saswat Mishra will deal on Startups and MSMEs - Driving Odisha's economy; School and Mass Education Secretary Aswathy S on Vision of a new Odisha—the dreams of the Gen-X; ACS Water Resources, Anu Garg on Rural Prosperity through irrigation and ACS Tourism Surendra Kumar will be presenting Road Map on making Odisha a Tourism Hub. Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Principal Secretary Sushil Kumar Lohani will be focusing on implementation of rural water supply, drinking water projects

while Commerce & Transport Principal Secretary Usha Padhee will be presenting on development of connectivity including telecommunications, railways and air in Odisha. Principal Secretary, Finance, Vishal Kumar Dev will be presenting the Road Map providing banking services in rural zones of the State. Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue, Satyabrata Sahu will be dealing on steps taken to make people friendly Revenue Administration. Secretary Roopa Roshan Sahoo will be presenting on Odisha's story of tribal empowerment—Janajati Sanskruti Pragati, officials say.

Saffron Connect Missing

Bhubaneswar(KCN): When BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda named Sunil Bansal as the central party's representative and Odisha in-charge in August 2022, there was lot of enthusiasm among the saffron rank and file. Everybody in the Odisha BJP and also in the saffron outfit was upbeat as Shri Bansal was instrumental behind ushering in BJP for the second time in Uttar Pradesh. He was projected as a saviour of BJP in Odisha. The enthusiasm has fizzled out. Now, the workers do not take the name of Odisha-In-

share. It is another factor that there is no decline in the vote share of BJP even though it lost elections one after another with the exception of the Dhamnagar by-poll where the party successfully exploited the sympathy wave. In Padampur, BJP had fielded an able and popular candidate, but he lost. This was the only by-poll in the state where at least four Union Ministers like Narendra Singh Tomar, Ashiwini Vaishnaw, Dharmendra Pradhan and Bishweswar Tudu besides all the 8 MPs and 21 MLAs campaigned for the BJP

possible so far. Political analysts have already categorically said that BJP's All India strategy would not work in the land of Naveen Patnaik where he is deeply rooted with people. The BJP is fighting against a regional party which has over one crore members while the number of voters in the state remained at 3.29 crore. Naveen, on the other hand, is growing stronger day by day. The BJD Supremo connects with people in a big way, which is missing with BJP and Congress. Naveen has a specific strategy based on which

people earlier. The basic strength of any political party lies in villages and at the booth level. Though, BJP's Master Strategist, Amit Shah, gave a clarion call to the party's rank and file to strengthen the booths, nobody has bothered to work seriously on it. Every saffron leader is interested in appearing on television news channels instead of hitting the dust in the nook and corner of the state. It has almost become a fashion in the saffron party to appear on television. Naveen Patnaik is only seen on TV while attending some meetings while Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, considered as the face of BJP in Odisha, appears to be fond of being in limelight for any reason.

In BJP, everybody also wants to be a leader as the central party has not yet named or projected any one as its head in the state. BJP's 8 MPs do not sit together and so also the MLAs. There seems to be a lack of coordination among the elected people's representatives.

While Samir Mohanty and his spokespersons address press meets in the party's state headquarters, MP Aparajita Sarangi and Leader of Opposition Jaynarayan Mishra prefer to have their own set of journalists and meet them at their respective residences. Suresh Pujari, Pratap Sarangi, Bishweswar Tudu, Jual Oram and other senior leaders prefer to work in their own style instead of having any common goal.

The BJP MPs elected from Odisha, are also worried that they were not heard by the central leadership before the Union Budget. Though some of them tried to push some projects in their constituencies, the centre quietly ignored them.



Charge with gusto, and so far, his contribution has remained confined to attending meetings. No one still claims that Shri Bansal's strategy would bring in big changes to BJP in Odisha. It was also said that both Sunil Bansal and Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had put in their best efforts in Uttar Pradesh ensuring the success of Yogi Adityanath despite the strong farmers' agitation in the northern state. The same Bansal-Pradhan pair is also involved in Odisha and both are striving for the upliftment of BJP in the state. However, there is no perceptible change in the party position. The BJP already had at least 40% vote share in the state and it was the responsibility of the state and the central leadership to raise the

nominee, Pradip Purohit. It was the popularity of Purohit that ensured that BJP's vote share remained intact. The extensive campaign by Union Ministers, MPs and MLAs had an impact even though they failed to motivate the people in favour of BJP. Since the BJP already has about 40% votes, it may be claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is popular among the people of Odisha. And it is also a fact that under no circumstances Shri Modi can work for the BJP in the state exclusively. The leaders like Sunil Bansal, D P u r a n d e s w a r i, Dharmendra Pradhan, Samir Mohanty, Jaynarayan Mishra, its MPs, MLAs and office bearers have responsibilities to help BJP to capture more votes which has not been



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'UnserHaus' by BSH Home Appliances - Kolkata's new luxury address

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

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

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

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

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

Mahagram offers door to door banking services through Kirana stores

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Amazon.in launches 'Back to School' store

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

revolutionize agriculture".

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

applications.

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

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

Bhubaneswar: Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group announced that its Godrej Appliances plans to strengthen its presence and expand its network of exclusive brand outlets further, inaugurating its first store in Chandol, Kendrapara district in the state of Odisha, India. This will be the brand's 26th exclusive outlet in Odisha under Bhubaneswar branch.

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

Inspire Hub spread over 1200 sqft, strategically located on the Chandol main road, in collaboration with its channel partner Jagannath Electronics.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The exclusive brand outlet will display the

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

Annual General Meeting of Vitesco Technologies

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

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

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

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

Raj Petro Specialties strengthens its leadership team with Prasad Vaze's appointment

Bhubaneswar: Mr. Prasad Vaze has been appointed as the Senior Director - Lubricants Business at Raj Petro Specialties Pvt Ltd., a Brenntag Group company. He will lead the comprehensive lubricants Business Units, including Speciality, Industrial and Automotive lubricant businesses.

Mr. Prasad Vaze is a result-oriented business leader with more than 25 years of extensive experience in customer-centric roles. Mr. Vaze has served in numerous senior leadership roles, including leading retail operations, profit centre management, developing business strategy and channel

development & management.

Commenting on the appointment of a new member in the leadership team, Mr. Mehul Nanavati, Managing Director, Raj Petro Specialties Pvt Ltd. stated, "We are thrilled to have a seasoned industry leader join our team. With Prasad onboard, we are confident that he will accelerate the growth momentum. His unique domain expertise will further help strengthen Raj Petro's market position and expand footprint across markets."

Ms. Archana Gharte - Head HR said, "We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Prasad Vaze, our newest member to the LT team. He will be

taking on the important hat of managing Raj Petro's Lubricants Business, and we wish him all the best for his journey! With his knowledge and extensive experience, we are confident that Prasad will assist Raj Petro in reaching new heights."

On his appointment Mr. Prasad Vaze said, "I am very thrilled to take on this new role. My vision is to create a world class experience for our consumers and channel partners. Our aim is to leverage Kyros, Onwo and Zoomol brands, explore humongous potential that India and international markets offer and grow the Lubricant business profitability."

LV Prasad Eye Institute Organizes a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gardner, Healy power Australia to dominating start

New Delhi: A career-best return of 5 for 12 - and a maiden fiver across formats - by Ash Gardner helped Australia register a thumping 97-run win to set the ball rolling for the 2023 T20 World Cup campaign. After piling on 171 for 9, the defending champions bundled out New Zealand for 76 at Boland Park in Paarl.

Put in to bat, Australia's innings was a story of two halves - the first of which was led by a 70-run stand for the second wicket between Alyssa Healy and Meg Lanning, after Beth Mooney fell for a second-ball duck. Healy and Lanning's attack - characterised by a high-percentage of boundaries - laid the foundation for Australia's strong total.



The second half, on the other hand, belonged to New Zealand, who triggered a batting collapse, courtesy three-wicket hauls by Lea Tahuu and Amelia Kerr. Once Lanning was cleaned up by Kerr for a

33-ball 41, and Ash Gardner followed soon after, New Zealand found a way back to take control, but an assured half-century alliance between old mates Ellyse Perry and Healy ensured that Australia

retained control.

While Healy notched up a half-century, Perry struck a breezy 22-ball 40. Even as Australia's lower order couldn't make much of an impact, the side could post a strong total on the board,

which in the end proved far-fetched for New Zealand, who never turned up in the chase.

The dangerous duo of Suzie Bates and Sophie Devine, were cleaned up and trapped legbefore, for first-ball ducks in the first over of the chase, by Megan Schutt. Even as Berdine Bezuidenhout attempted to revive New Zealand's innings, her efforts prove far from enough. A bit of self-destruction only added to their woes, with Maddy Green getting run out, barely a few inches outside the crease.

Gardner ran through the lower order, whose attempts to swing for quick runs only backfired on them as they folded in 14 overs.

Australia call up left-arm spinner Kuhnemann

New Delhi: Australia are flying in left-arm spinner Matthew Kuhnemann ahead of the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2023. The spinner is coming in as a replacement for legspinner Mitchell Swepson who is leaving the touring squad for the birth of his child.

Kuhnemann could get a look-in as early as the Delhi Test starting on February 17, if Australia decide to tinker with their spin combination that played in Nagpur in the first Test. Australia had gone in with two offspinners with debutant Todd Murphy also picking up a seven-wicket haul. They had opted against picking a

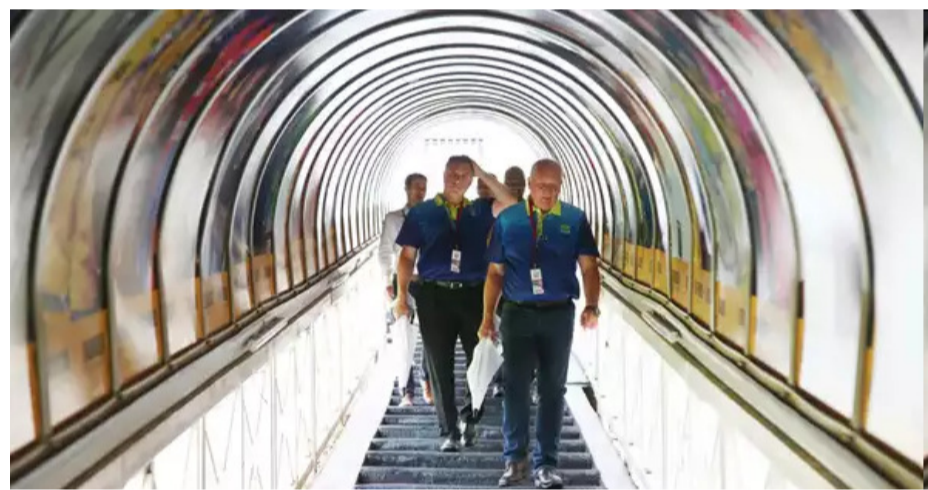


left-arm orthodox spinner in Ashton Agar who is also part of the squad in India. Australia lost the first Test by a comprehensive margin of an innings and 132 runs, and conceded 400 runs on a spin-friendly surface.

The visitors are also

expecting the return of Mitchell Starc from injury in the second Test as well as assess the fitness of allrounder Cameron Green. Kuhnemann has not played a Test so far for Australia but has played four ODIs after making his debut in June 2022.

SA20 final postponed to February 12 due to persistent rain



New Delhi: The inaugural SA20 final between Pretoria Capitals and Sunrisers Eastern Cape, which was initially scheduled to be played at the Wanderers on February 11, has been postponed to February 12, because of wet conditions and inclement weather. The game will start at 13:30 hrs local on the reserve day.

There has been persistent rain in Johannesburg for the last

few days but the forecast for Sunday is better.

"The ground preparation for the match has been compromised, with the pitch remaining under covers for three days and over 200ml of rain falling since Wednesday this week. The SA Weather Service has predicted more showers for the remainder of Saturday, with a clearer outlook predicted for Sunday," stated the

media release from SA20.

Graeme Smith, the league commissioner, added: "We've engaged the match officials, teams, groundsman, stakeholders and the SA Weather Service, and postponing the match is the best decision to allow for the possibility of a full match in drier conditions. We want to give the teams and spectators a memorable Final."

'Unko Flight Se Hi Rough Patches Dikh Rahe The..., ' Ravindra Jadeja Owns 'Pitch Debate' With Hilarious One-Liner on Australian Cricketers

New Delhi: Ravindra Jadeja made a triumphant return to the Indian cricket team after a five-month absence, earning the Player of the Match award in the first Test against Australia in Nagpur. He delivered a nearly flawless performance, taking five wickets with the ball and scoring 70 crucial runs in the first innings. Following the match, Jadeja responded to Australia's complaints about the pitch, suggesting that they had already formed opinions about the playing surface before they even arrived in India. He also questioned why there was a problem with India playing to their strengths. "I feel they were



seeing the rough from the moment they sat on the flight. The atmosphere they created that it would spin; it didn't spin that much. If we see, they got out more to straight balls. We also got out lbw on straight balls," said Jadeja to Star Sports.

"This is bound to happen in India because we will obviously play to our team's strength. Our fast bowlers are also good, but spinners win more matches in India and pick up wickets, so why shouldn't we go with our strength," he added.



This was Jadeja's first international game since the 2022 Asia Cup. He missed the 2022 T20 World Cup due to a knee injury that required surgery. In his comeback match in the Ranji Trophy between Saurashtra and Tamil Nadu in January, he

took an impressive 7 wickets in Chennai. In addition to Jadeja's all-round brilliance, India's convincing win over Australia was also due to contributions from Rohit Sharma's 84 runs, and Ravichandran Ashwin's five-wicket haul.

Cummins wants batters to find 'better methods' to counter spin

Nagpur: A comprehensive loss to India by an innings and 132 runs, inside three days, in Nagpur was also Australia's second defeat in 16 matches in the current cycle of the World Test Championship. A lot of it had to do with the quality of the Indian spinners, said Australia captain Pat Cummins, who added that the Australian batters will have to find better methods to counter the likes of R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja in the remaining three Test matches.

Jadeja's 11th Test five-wicket haul, which came in the first innings, helped India bowl Australia out for 177 after the visitors had opted to bat. Rohit Sharma's ton led

India's reply, and along with useful knocks from Axar Patel and Jadeja, the hosts posted an imposing 400 to gain a sizeable lead. Steven Smith's unbeaten 25 was the only knock of defiance in the second innings as India needed just 32.3 overs to knock Australia out for 91, with Ashwin picking up his 25th fiver to equal Anil Kumble.

"A lot of it was good bowling, two masters of their craft, fresh legs, they bowled really well. In saying that I don't think much is going to change in the next couple of games. That's what we're going to come against, so we have to find better methods. You saw Smithy and Alex Carey at times put the pressure back on the bowlers. I think it takes a bit of

bravery, it's easier said than done," Cummins said at the post-match press conference on Saturday (February 11).

"If you're just facing ball after ball and the bowler's pretty good, you're going to get one with your name on it," said Cummins. "Again, that will be the conversation this week. If we get the same conditions, same bowlers, what are we going to do differently? I think at times probably being more proactive."

The 91 all-out in the second innings was Australia's lowest second innings total in India and it was also India's third biggest innings win against Australia. Marnus Labuschagne's 49 being the highest score for Australia across two



innings highlighted their batting woes but Cummins said this loss was a lot easier to put behind compared to closer defeats.

"I think sometimes it's almost easier to put behind those kinds of losses. You are looking at small margins, you have to have a hard look

at your game and the big strides you need to change to give yourself the best chance next week. We've had a really good run the last

12 months. There haven't been many losses in that change room. I don't think we need to reinvent the wheel, it's just tweaking different approaches to how we play and maybe particular methods."

Australia were without Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and Cameron Green, with all three at various stages of recovery from their respective injuries. Cummins ruled out Hazlewood's participation in the second Test in Delhi, which starts on February 17, while he is hopeful of Green's return to the eleven.

"Starcy lands today or tomorrow into Delhi. I think Joshy might not be quite ready for Delhi. He's getting up and running now, he's

pretty close, but I don't think he'll be quite ready for Delhi. Greeny's a bit of a wait and see. Still hoping (he could return), he's had a couple of good hits out here. He's bowling pretty good, the next couple of days we'll assess it."

Regarding the exclusion of the in-form Travis Head in favour of the right-handed Peter Handscomb, Cummins added: "We were confident it was our best XI this week. We know the quality Travis. He's a huge part of this team but we were confident in the 11 guys out there. He's been really good around the group. He's been working really hard on his game like he always does."