

People Friendly Revenue Admin

Konark (KCN): Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management, Satyabrata Sahu said that after implementation of 5T, many technological interventions have been initiated to reduce physical interface between Citizens and Government offices. Mandatory timeline in cases of land record services has been drastically reduced through process re-engineering. Shri Sahu was speaking in the Senior Officers' Conference held on 15 February 2023 at Eco-Resort, Konark. ACS Department of Revenue and DM along with three District Collectors of Cuttack, Khurda & Boudh expounded upon People friendly Revenue Administration. Revenue & DM Department



provides an array of services, which are completely online except in cases of statutory requirement. Shri Sahu said that sale transaction report flows automatically to Tahasil Office to institute mutation case and Registered Sale deed is sent to the doorstep of Citizens through Speed Post. Record number of Record Of Right (RoR) have been corrected within one day and seven day of Registration of sale/purchase transaction

in last few years. In 2022, approximately, two lakh RoRs have been corrected & sent to Citizen either through speed post or Rajaswa Rath. In six components of Digital India Land Records Modernization Program, 20 districts of Odisha among 75 districts of India have attained more than 99% of its objectives, for which 20 districts will be conferred platinum award by Union Government. Virtual Courts have been started recently in 80

Tahasils & approximately, 3,000 cases have been disposed after hearing through virtual platform. Department is expediting Hi-Tech Survey for speedy & accurate land record services. Hi-Tech Survey has been completed in Deogarh district and it is being expedited in Sonepur & Sundargarh district. In order to mitigate the issues of skilled manpower, Department is working to create more Licensed Surveyors

through Skill Development & Technical Education training Department. Department has taken steps to deliver Miscellaneous & Caste certificates free of cost & based on self-declaration. Approximately, 50 lakh Resident & Income certificates have been delivered on the basis of self-declaration after introduction of 5T charter in last 3 years. Mandated timeline has been reduced in Miscellaneous & Caste Certificates through digitization of the process & process re-engineering. Department has instructed all Tahasildars/ Additional Tahasildars to institute 100 mutation cases for column 2 correction in RoR & 100 partition cases based on mutual consent in every month.

Marriage turns into tragedy, 3 dead after being hit by SUV in Berhampur

Berhampur, (KCN): A marriage celebration turned into tragedy in Berhampur of Ganjam district after at least three women were killed after being hit by an SUV late Tuesday night. The mishap that occurred at Mandiapalli village under Gopalpur police limits also left as many as 12 persons grievously injured. The deceased have been identified as Swapna Reddy (22), Sanju Reddy (23) and Bharati Reddy (12) of Lanjipalli area. According to sources, the mishap took place when the groom's family was waiting for the bride's side for 'Barana' ritual after the completion of the marriage.



Suddenly, a speeding Scorpio vehicle heading towards Gopalpur rammed into the procession leading to the death of three persons on the spot. All the injured have been admitted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital. Among them, the health conditions of

two-three persons are stated to be critical. They may be shifted to Cuttack if needed. The driver of the vehicle has managed to flee the spot following the mishap, sources added. Meanwhile, the police have reached the spot and started an investigation into the matter.

Bank In All Panchayats

Konark (KCN): In order to ensure that banking services reach every nook and corner of the state, State Government plans to cover each Gram Panchayat by a Brick and Mortar Branch. Principal Secretary Finance, Vishal Dev said that the State Government in Department of Finance is carrying out consultation with SLBC, RBI, NABARD & Controlling Heads of major banks for devising a low-cost branch model to be deployed across the State so as to cover all unbanked GPs. Speaking in the Senior Officers' Conference Shri Dev said that financial inclusion is a high priority agenda of the Government. It's a process by which Government ensures access to appropriate financial products and services for the vulnerable groups such as weaker sections and low-income groups at an affordable cost in a fair



and transparent manner by mainstream institutional players. He however said that for the state of Odisha, financial inclusion is still a critical challenge since banking penetration in the state is quite low. Though there is an increase in the banking network in the state over the last 5 years, the same is not uniformly distributed across all districts. Odisha has 6794 GPs, out of which 2630 GPs are covered by 5695 Brick & Mortar branches. Rest 4160 GPs are covered by BCs / CSPs & IPPB Access Points. There are 4 GPs in the State without any

banking touch points. Even though the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of banking network in the State is 2.58 Percent during the last 5 years against the CAGR of 1.55 Percent at national level, the availability of brick and mortar branches across the state is uneven. Most of the branches are concentrated in certain regions because of business profitability. The District wise no of branches per lakh of population clearly indicates that more than 20 districts are falling behind the state average of 13.57 Percent.

People in the remotest part of state are still struggling for basic banking services including direct benefit transfer.

Since banking is an essential services for financial inclusion, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has a vision that not a single citizen in the remotest corner of the State is deprived of availing basic banking services including Direct Benefit Transfer. Shri Dev informed that the State Government has taken several proactive initiatives to encourage the bankers to set up brick and mortar branches in all Unbanked GPs through infrastructure support by providing rent free space to the scheduled commercial banks for a period of 5 years, engagement of Women SHGS as BCs in all unbanked GPs in the State, Institutionalizing Chief Minister's Award to the Best Performing Banks every year etc..

West Bengal Budget should provide Job opportunities - Jain

Kolkata (KCN): The Finance Minister has announced a very liberal scheme for settlement of disputes to provide relief to tax payers from the pending litigations under the West Bengal Sales Tax Act, 1994, West Bengal Value Added Tax Act, 2003, Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, etc. It is a welcome step. Earlier in the year 2020 also State Government had brought out a scheme for Settlement of Dispute (SoD) which had resulted in settlement of 28,697 cases. More than 25,000 cases are still lying pending for settlement in Tribunals and Courts. Tax Advocate Narayan Jain said that under the new Scheme all the disputed tax like arrear tax, interest, penalty or late fee pending before any authority on the 10th February, 2023 will be



settled if application is made on or before the 31st day of May, 2023. It is expected that prescribed percentage of disputed tax will have to be paid and one will get waiver of interest, penalty or late fee. Another welcome measure is extension of stamp duty rebate for home buyers till 30th September, 2023. The stamp duty valuation

or circle rate will be reduced by 10 per cent and stamp duty payable will be 2 per cent less than normal. Jain has also welcomed this extension. The budget has also proposed the measures for employment to youth by announcing loan of Rs. 5 Lakh for youth between the age of 18 to 25. However the amount of

Rs. 5 Lakh may not be adequate for setting up even a small industry. It should be reviewed and made realistic. The funds allocated for various social welfare schemes should reach the beneficiary. The allocation for Environment is only Rs. 101 Crore, for Housing Rs. 271 Crore, Industry, Commerce enterprises is 1397 Crore, Tourism Rs. 491 Crore, Transport Rs. 2030 Crore, Information Technology & Electronics Rs. 202 Crore, Micro Small & Medium Industry is Rs. 1218 Crore. These need to be revised upwards. In Calcutta pollution level is alarming and almost next to Delhi. The Government need to take appropriate steps for providing job opportunity, as this is a serious problem that even educated youth are unable to get jobs in our State.

BJP terms Naba Das' killing as 'arranged murder', Congress cautions BJD leaders against same fate

Bhubaneswar: Expressing their dissatisfaction in unison, Opposition Congress and BJP in Odisha on Wednesday put question marks on the ongoing investigation into the high-profile Naba Das murder case. As per All India Congress Committee (AICC) Odisha in-charge A Chellakumar, those who are raising their voices are being suppressed under Naveen Patnaik-led BJD government's rule. He also warned

other leaders of BJD that they may face fate similar to late Minister Naba Das. "Today Naba Das is murdered, tomorrow some other BJD leaders will face the same consequence. Voices are being suppressed under Naveen Patnaik's rule in the State," said Chellakumar. "I have seen the video during Naba Das' murder. There seems to be a conspiracy behind the murder and the ASI is not the only

person who has been involved in the case," he said. The senior Congress leader also said that he has no faith in the investigation process. "BJD is resorting to hooliganism in the State. A coterie group is running the Chief Minister like a puppet. Congress will raise issues like deteriorating law and order situation, Naba Das murder case, corruption, chit fund and mining scam in the upcoming Assembly



session," said Chellakumar. BJP leader Pradip Purohit also slammed

the ruling BJD over Naba Das murder case. "There is a huge conspiracy behind the

murder. I have also told earlier that the conspiracy has been made by others who

want to capture power after Naveen Patnaik," said Purohit. Purohit also alleged that Crime Branch officials are acting as shields for the persons who are involved in the conspiracy. Meanwhile, senior BJP leader Bijoy Mohapatra alleged that Naba Das' murder is an arranged murder. "Accused Gopal Das has met Naba many times earlier. Then the question arises why didn't Gopal kill him earlier. The investigation is now

confined to Gopal which is why there is no headway. Truth behind the murder is being hidden," said Mohapatra. "Naba's business rivals and friends have not been quizzed yet. Gopal was undertaking orthopedic treatment. There is doubt about Gopal's unstable condition. The motive behind the murder is yet to be revealed even after 15 days. It seems as if Gopal himself is investigating him," he added.

A letter to my lover

DWIT DAVID PHILIP

Ohh my Love, you are above all,
Not just humans and works, but over all the
nouns and verbs of the world.

Adjectives and adverbs are my fashion,
Prepositions, conjunction, and punctuations
are my exaggeration and time consumption.

Puppy, pets, children, and mothers are loved
one, I reason,
Passionate lover is crying being in thorns
and blood, 'I have been forgotten'.

Work is worship I call,
But it's lust, as it's not murmured from your
beautiful blossom and soul.

Prayers and scriptures are acts of knowing
and submissions,
But can't see you, though I am engaged in
devotions.

From today it's my confession,
Being on your soothing skin day and night,
puls is behind, is my submission.



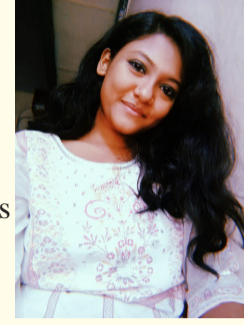
You come Lord to my life,
I am not too old, still I have passion, vigor,
and tears, can be a bride.

klldavid@rediffmail.com
9437104303

Chaibasha, Jharkhand, India

Bleeding and murdering

Shreeta sikruti kuanr,
What poem shall suffice
The hunger in you?
Broadcasting yellow skies
Luminary of a red death
Of burning stars
Chained by horror and scars



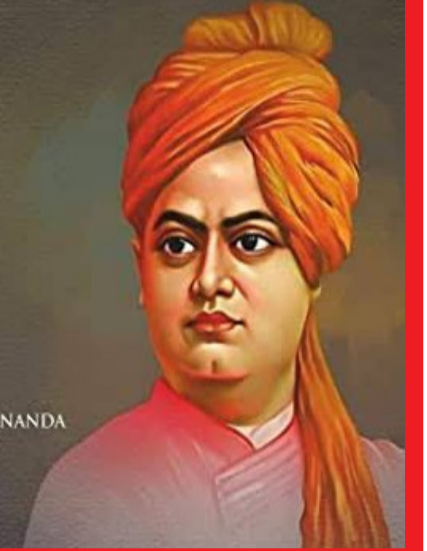
What song shall complete
The lover in you?
For you watch
Time fall into the mouth of monsters
Rattle the events like the crocodile's mouth
Unfinish undone unsunken
So shall you rise
This new moon
With a roar of victory and new word
That speaks for the sinner's fate.

Dagarapada, Bls.

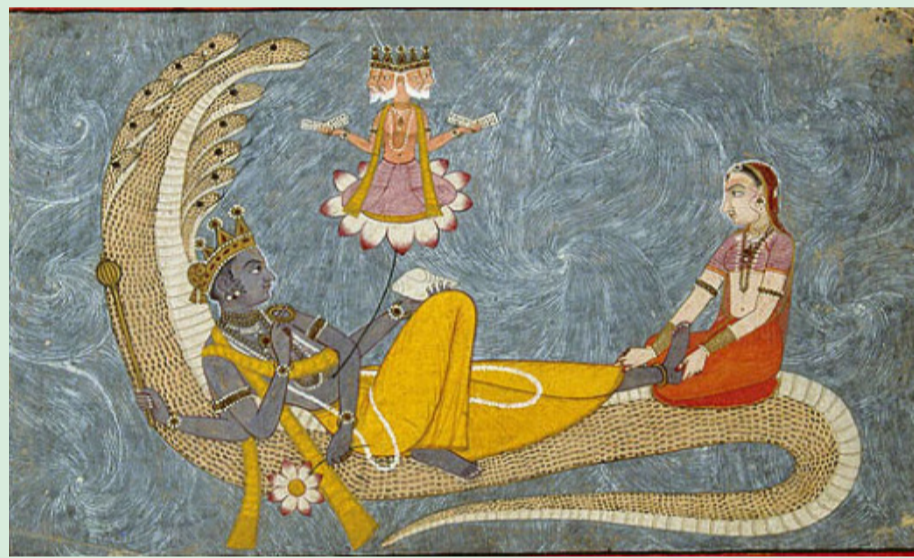
Quotation of the Day

"Everything Is Easy
When You Are Busy.
But Nothing Is Easy
When You Are Lazy."

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA



Lord Padmanabha and His Dasas



Travancore, locally known as Thiruvananthapuram or Trivandrum is currently the capital of Kerala. Previously known as Ananthasayanam named after Lord Vishnu, Trivandrum has many legends associated with its origin. It is believed that the origin of Trivandrum is connected with the origin of the Padmanabhaswamy Temple. One of the stories associated with it is that of a woman who found a baby boy in the Anantha Kadu (the spot where the temple stands today, previously a jungle). She fed the crying baby and left him under the shade of a tree. When she returned, she found a five-headed cobra protecting the baby from the sun. The baby, believed to be an incarnation of Lord Vishnu was then offered milk and Kanji (rice soup) in a coconut shell. When the then Maharaja learnt about this incident, he ordered a temple be erected at that spot. Another version of the story is about Vilwamangalam Swamiyar, a saint to whom the consecration of most temples of the Malabar is credited. He used to perform his daily prayers to the Salagramams ((sacred stones that

are believed to be incarnations of Vishnu) and close his eyes as a form of meditation towards Mahavishnu so that one day he could see him. Every day during his prayers, he was disturbed by a child. Until one day out of rage, he caught hold of the child with his eyes still closed. Before the Saint could open his eyes the child revealed his true form as Mahavishnu and declared that he would only manifest in the Anantha Kadu (jungle). Never having heard of Anantha Kadu, he started running in the possible direction of this jungle. He often heard the jingle of a child's waist ornament and kept following it. Finally, he reached a place where he could hear the cry of a baby. He saw a mother threatening the baby that if he continued to cry she would throw him into the Anantha Kadu. The saint asked the lady to direct him towards the Kadu. There, he kept exploring the area until he reached a place where there was a huge Mahua (Madhuca Longifolia) tree. Suddenly, the huge tree fell. Swamiyar saw Lord Vishnu lying on Adishesha and Brahma the creator, seated on a lotus that stems from the navel of Lord Vishnu. The Gopuram or the gateway of this temple is very similar to the temples of Dravidian style mostly found in Tamil Nadu. No other major temple in Kerala has a Gopuram of such an elaborate nature. Sri Padmanabhaswamy is considered the principal deity of the Royal Family of Travancore. They were also the greatest devotees of the Lord. The origin of this is

(Pradakshina) around him. The deity heard his prayer. It is believed that this tree that fell was used to carve the image of the deity that is inside the Padmanabhaswamy Temple. It was the then Maharaja of Travancore who ordered that a temple be constructed over this image. This marked the origin of the very famous Sri Padmanabhaswamy Kshetram of Thiruvananthapuram. What makes the Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple unique is that it is the only major temple structure in Kerala that represents an amalgamation of the Dravidian style of architecture and the indigenous features of the architecture of Kerala. It is one of the most famous Vaishnava Shrines of South India and is one of the few temples where Lord Vishnu is represented in the reclining form lying on Adishesha and Brahma the creator, seated on a lotus that stems from the navel of Lord Vishnu. The Gopuram or the gateway of this temple is very similar to the temples of Dravidian style mostly found in Tamil Nadu. No other major temple in Kerala has a Gopuram of such an elaborate nature. Sri Padmanabhaswamy is considered the principal deity of the Royal Family of Travancore. They were also the greatest devotees of the Lord. The origin of this is

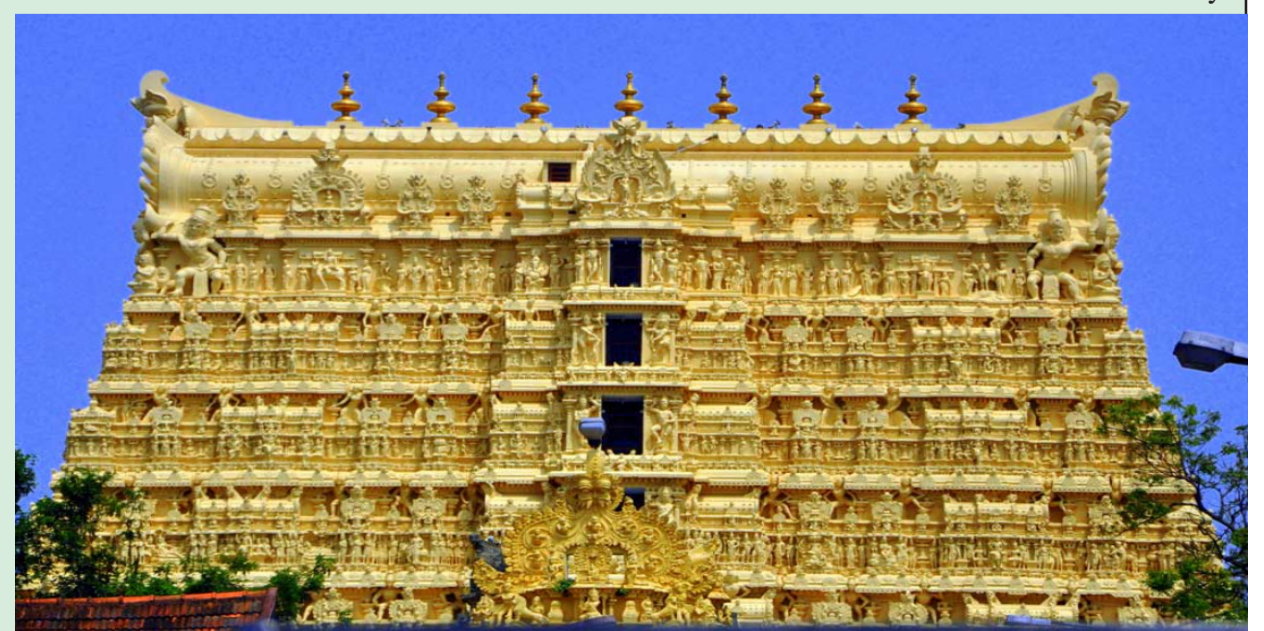
traced back to the reign of Maharaja Marthanda Varma who took an epoch-making decision that changed the lives of the members of the Royal Family. Marthanda Varma who succeeded to the royal throne in 1729 is considered one of the greatest rulers of the region. Also known as the maker of Modern Travancore, Marthanda Varma strengthened fortifications, maintained disciplined troops who were trained by a Flemish officer, annexed neighbouring areas and most importantly took a keen interest in the maintenance of the Padmanabhaswamy Temple. A few structures were added to the existing one during his reign. He also reconsecrated the idol of Lord Padmanabhaswamy embedding twelve thousand Salagramams. In December 1749, he took the major step of dedicating his kingdom to Sri Padmanabha and assumed the title of Padmanabha Dasa (servant of the Lord). Since that day, Travancore did not belong to any one person or the Royal Family but belonged to the Lord. Marthanda Varma's last words to his nephew, Rama Varma were "No deviation whatever should be made in regard to the dedication of the Kingdom to Sri Padmanabhaswamy and all further territorial acquisitions should be made over to the Devasom." It was Marthanda Varma's sister's son, Rama Varma who succeeded him which is what made the Royal Family of Travancore different from other Royal Families. The Royal Family of Travancore followed

the Muramakkathayam or the Matrilineal system. In this system, the women of the family had more authority than the men and they were the ones to fulfil the duty of providing an heir to the Royal Family. Thus, the heir apparent to the throne was always the Maharaja's nephew (his sister's son). Also, it was not the wife of the Maharaja who earned the title of Maharani but it was his sister. This meant that if the Maharani died and left behind only sons there was nobody to succeed to the throne. As a result of this, there have been situations where the family had no female to provide the rightful heir. In such cases, they quite often adopted female children who could fulfil this duty. Adoption was a common phenomenon among the Travancore Family from the earliest time. Interestingly, Marthanda Varma himself was the son of a Princess who was adopted into the family. Adoption was done from the Kolathiri family which was of an equally reputed status. Young girls were adopted into the Royal Family who were to become the Ranis of Attingal. Attingal was often called a Queendom as it was ruled by the Ranis of the Royal Family. It did not fall under the direct

authority of the Maharaja of Travancore until the reign of Marthanda Varma who 'amalgamated Travancore with Attingal.' In the 5th century, two princesses were adopted into the Venad family (to which the Royal Family of Travancore trace their lineage) and were given the authority to use the revenues generated from certain estates around Attingal since then the Ranis of the Royal Family were called the Ranis of Attingal. Examples of such adoptions can be seen in 1857 and 1900. Two girls were adopted into the Royal Family in 1857. These girls were placed into the family as the Senior Rani (Maharani Lakshmi Bayi) and the Junior Rani (Maharani Parvati Bayi). Years later, the Junior Rani died leaving behind three sons (Kerala Varma, Rama Varma and Marthanda Varma) whereas the Senior Rani had no heir. This again left the family in a situation where adoption was the only option. The Senior Rani, Maharani Lakshmi Bayi was under pressure to take forward the lineage and to look for young girls who could be adopted. Hence, again in 1900 two girls were adopted into the family as Senior Rani

(Maharani Sethu Lakshmi Bayi) and Junior Rani (Maharani Sethu Parvati Bayi). Unfortunately, in 1901 during the reign of Mulam Thirunal, the family went through a troubled phase that almost created a situation where there was no male heir to succeed the throne in the years to come. It started in October 1900 when the first Prince, Aswathi Thirunal died suddenly, followed by the death of Elaya Raja Chathyam Thirunal who was the heir to the Royal Throne. The situation worsened when the Senior Rani, Maharani Lakshmi Bayi died on 15th June 1901. A letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government based at Fort St. George to the Secretary to the Government of India, explains the then position of succession in the Travancore state. A series of deaths in the family had led to a situation where, in case the ruling Maharaja, Maharaja Mulam Thirunal too died early, there would be no male heir to take the Royal Seat. The reasons were, firstly, the Senior and the Junior Rani who were recently adopted into the Royal Family were only four and three years of age respectively, which meant that they could not provide an heir in the immediate years. Secondly, even if one of them had a male

heir, he could not have become the Maharaja until he was eighteen years of age. Such a situation meant that there would be no male heir until 1930. Fortunately, Maharaja Mulam Thirunal ruled for thirty nine years till 1924. It was Maharani Sethu Lakshmi Bayi, the Senior Rani who acted as regent until the heir Chitra Thirunal turned eighteen and was eligible to take over the Throne in 1931. The Royal Family of Travancore continued to be the greatest devotees of Lord Padmanabha. Since he was the principal deity of the Royal Family, they managed the functioning of the Padmanabhaswamy temple. The Ruler of Travancore was considered the custodian of the Temple which changed in 1971 due to the amendments made in the constitution which recognised the State of Kerala as the custodian of the temple. Many believe that the Royal Family made large amounts of donation in terms of gold, precious stones to the Lord which today lies in the secret vaults of the temple. The Temple is known across the world for the enormous amounts of wealth that were recently discovered. The debate as to who owns this treasure continues to be contested even today.



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

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

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

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



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



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

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

Paying an ode to

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

'Gully Boy' to 'Darlings'- Vijay Varma has come a long way

Gully Boy, India's official entry to the Oscars celebrates 4 years today, and while the film was highly celebrated for its impactful performances, it was dark horse Vijay Varma who stood for the sheer potential he showed and for holding his own despite the strong and established cast.

The actor was praised for his performance as Moeen Arif, and his portrayal instantly caught the attention of audiences and critics alike. From thereon, Vijay continued to impress with web series' like A Suitable Boy, She and Mirzapur 2 and Ok Computer, all of which he won rave reviews for. But it was finally with Darlings, that Vijay



Varma cemented his position as the 'King of Grey' as his character 'Hamza' was yet another example of Vijay's incredible prowess as a performer who constantly raises the bar with every project he takes on. Critics spoke about how Vijay 'nailed

the character', 'was like a chameleon', 'terrific and absolutely scintillating' making audiences feel the dread that Badru (Alia Bhatt) felt everytime his character Hamza came home. From being a supporting cast

alongside Alia Bhatt in Gully Boy to being a parallel lead opposite her in her production Darlings, the actor has come a long way in the last 4 years and his journey has been nothing short of inspiring.

It's no surprise then that after his phenomenal performance in the film, he is now part of some of the most exciting theatrical and OTT content including Sujoy Ghosh's untitled next alongside Kareena Kapoor Khan, Reema Kagti's Fallen and Sumit Saxena's untitled project that took almost 100 days of immersive, relentless work. Each of these are versatile and challenging but nothing that the actor can't pull off!

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

Success of Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan is the victory of the age-old, exploitative, nepotistic top-heavy system, says Vivek Agnihotri



The Kashmir Files director Vivek Agnihotri, who had previously criticised Pathaan amid the controversy over the Besharam Rang song, recently credited Shah Rukh Khan for the success of the Siddharth Anand directorial. However, he said in the podcast, "They will go back to their fundamental beliefs that audience is an idiot and you just need star power and lot of marketing hype to make a film successful."

"After Pathaan, I have a feeling that everybody will fall back to the same old system because Pathaan's success is the success or in today's environment I would choose the word victory. It's the victory of the age-old, exploitative, nepotistic top-heavy system," he added.

The filmmaker further said that Pathaan's success should also be credited to those who threatened to boycott the film and made 'stupid statements' against it. He said that the film's promotions had turned into a political campaign, adding that Pathaan worked purely because of SRK's charisma and his fan following.

"The way he marketed it, the way he took it on his shoulders 'that, okay it's my film and I am responsible for it' which is pretty good. I also think that some credit should also go to people who were making stupid statements against the film and people who were unnecessarily protesting and asking for boycott and these are different people from regular 'Boycott Bollywood' gang," he said.

Pathaan has now become the highest grossing film in the history of Hindi cinema. The movie has grossed Rs 901 crore worldwide. While it has grossed Rs 558 crore in India, it has raked in Rs 343 crore in the overseas market.

The movie also features Deepika Padukone, John Abraham in the lead, followed by Dimple Kapadia, Ashutosh Rana and others in pivotal roles. Speaking about the immense success of 'Pathaan', Shah Rukh Khan had shared "The four years that I had... Covid had good and bad parts. I didn't work. I was with my children. I saw them grow up. My last film had not worked and people had said my movies now won't work. So, I thought of an alternate career: cooking Italian. In these four days, I've forgotten my last four years."

Rana Daggubati Unveils First Glimpse of Lakshmi Manchu's 'Agninakshatram'

Actress Lakshmi Manchu is set to essay the role of a cop in the upcoming film 'Agninakshatram', the first glimpse of which was unveiled by 'Baahubali' star Rana Daggubati recently.

The film also stars Lakshmi's father Mohan Babu Garu, Samuthrakani, Viswant Chitra, Siddique and few others. The film is touted as a high-octane crime thriller which will put the audiences on the edge of their seats.

Talking about

Lakshmi's look and character in the film, Rana said: "Lakshmi is going to surprise everyone with this film. She plays a cop and a badass one! I have seen some rushes and it really looks fabulous. Lakshmi is a dear friend and I'm more than happy to reveal a glimpse of the movie."

Lakshmi shared her excitement as she said: "Rana is a close friend, a confidante and he supports me in everything I do. I am happy to see him wish the team well, he has been

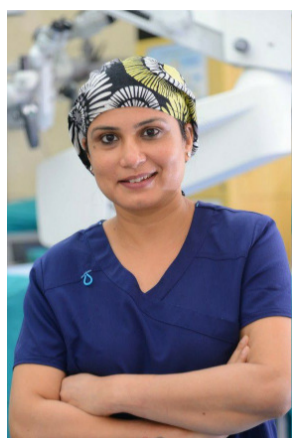


excited for this project of mine right from the beginning. It is an extremely special one."

She further added, "Sharing screen space with dad is beyond a dream come true and to top it off, to produce this gives me that much more extra joy. I just can't wait for this to hit the screens."

Produced by the father-daughter duo under their home banner, Sree Lakshmi Prasanna Pictures and Manchu Entertainment, the film is directed by Vamsee Krishna Malla.

Is your child mouth breathing???



Dr Shweta Gogia

We often come across parents who complain that their child has been mouth breathing and has a noisy breathing especially during sleep. Most of us don't take this seriously, thinking that this could be normal. But these symptoms if persistent, point towards a serious problem which should not be ignored. The most common reason for the mouth breathing and snoring in young children is adenoid hypertrophy.

Adenoid tissue is basically a tissue located at the back of the nose, where the nasal passage opens into the airway. This tissue is normally present in all children and undergoes some degree of increase in size as the child grows and attains immunity against the common infections. But this is temporary and after sometime they regress in size and child doesn't have any major issues in breathing. But the problem arises in children who have persistent problems of nasal blockage which results in mouth breathing. Subsequently, these children also have recurrent episodes of throat infections along with fever, ear pain, decreased hearing. A number of

these children also have the problem of bedwetting, abnormal body movements during sleep, learning difficulty, failure to grow properly. The child is uncomfortable and lacks interest in surroundings in severe cases. This can be related to the size of the adenoid tissue which may be completely blocking the back of the nose and causing extreme discomfort to the patient. Due to the blockage of the back of the nose or nasopharynx, these kids have ear problems such as decreased hearing which can also affect the speech of young children. The reason for this is that the middle ear space is kept healthy by the passage of air

through a tube which opens in the nasopharynx known as the eustachian tube. This has the function of aeration of the middle ear along with drainage of any liquid or fluid that builds up in the middle ear and is responsible for normal hearing. In cases where this tube is not functioning properly hearing abnormalities can occur and sometimes the person can also start having discharge from the ear. Adenoid tissue enlargement causes the dysfunction of the eustachian tube, resulting in hearing problems in young kids. Since the children cannot express the problem, this can go unattended for a long period of time and

result in permanent problems. Another serious issue which can arise due to the abnormal growth of the adenoid tissue is lack of proper oxygen supply to the body especially when the child is sleeping. This results in what is known as sleep apnea in children. The decreased oxygen levels in the body of the child who is growing has serious implications especially on the neurological developmental of the child. These children can have learning issues and also have behavioral issues. Also because of the mouth breathing associated with the adenoid tissue enlargement, children have dental problems such as dental caries, bad breath from the

mouth, misaligned teeth, high arched palate. These children start to develop a typical facial morphology known as the adenoid facies, wherein child has an open mouth even while breathing at rest or may have a noisy breathing, dull look on the face, nasal stuffiness, high arched palate and overriding teeth. Therefore, it is very important to recognize the problem and treat it so that the children receive treatment and don't face permanent deficits. Adenoid tissue growth or adenoid hypertrophy is graded according to the space it occupies in the nasopharynx which is the space in the back of the nose. Grade 1 and 2 can be

managed with medical treatment of the child and usually the children respond well to the treatment. However, in cases where the tissue occupies more than 50% of the space, medical management may not provide complete relief and the child can continue having symptoms. These cases need to see an ENT specialist for discussing the management of the child. The severity of the case may require surgical management of the condition. The surgery for adenoid tissue enlargement is a sophisticated surgery wherein the tissue is removed endoscopically, without any cut or scar. The modern methods of removal of the tissue ensures complete removal of

the tissue with minimal or no blood loss. It is a highly advanced and safe procedure which doesn't require prolonged hospital stay and can be done as a daycare procedure. There is minimal postoperative care and child doesn't experience any significant pain in the recovery. About a week or ten days later, the caregiver or the parents see a vast change in the child who is now sleeping comfortably, eating well and is in a much happier space.

The author is Senior consultant, Department of ENT Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi
drshwetagogia@gmail.com

UP- From BIMRU state to heaven for investors

How UP has become the prime destination for investment in India

Vivek Shukla



In its brand new avatar, Uttar Pradesh, also known as the holy birth place of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna, is attracting top business houses of both India and the world to invest generously. That is beyond any debate as from Mukesh Ambani to Kumar Manglam Birla and from N. Chandrasekhar of Tata group to Daniel Bircher, CEO of Zurich Airport Asia and other top names of corporate world were there in Lucknow recently during the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 to announce their willingness to invest huge amount of money in the state.

The investment proposals, when implemented, would lead to the generation of 92.50 lakh (9.25 million) job opportunities, chief minister Yogi Adityanath said at the

UP Global Investors Summit. With the U.P. Global Investors Summit - 2023 attracting investment proposals worth ₹32.92 lakh crore, the state government has been able to achieve nearly double the revised target of ₹17.3 lakh crore and more than three times the initial target of ₹10 lakh crore for the event. In all, 18645 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) have been signed. These include investment proposals of ₹4.28 lakh crore received for the Bundelkhand region and ₹9.55 lakh crore for eastern Uttar Pradesh.

If we look back, Uttar Pradesh received investment intents of ₹4.68 crore in 2018 of which ₹4 lakh crore investment has started on the ground. Uttar Pradesh tops in the country in terms of launching of investment proposals on the ground (after they were) received during investor summits. Uttar Pradesh has formulated its new industrial policy. To

attract investment, the state has amended the old policy. The state is giving capital subsidy to entrepreneurs. The problem faced by traders due to GST (Goods and Services Tax) has been also addressed. They can opt for capital subsidy or GST. The best practices of industrial policies of various states have been included in our policy.

Now, the question is how Uttar Pradesh is transforming from a BIMARU state to an investment hub? Well, Experts say that earlier, few businessmen wished to invest in Uttar Pradesh but the scenario is changing fast.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and chief minister Yogi Adityanath, the golden period of Uttar Pradesh has started. Today, India is the destination for investors from across the globe. And, in India, Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the prime destination for investment.

Large investment



has been made in the infrastructure sector. Before the BJP came to power, there were two airports in the state. The BJP government has activated nine airports. The work on new airports is continuing. Soon, the state will have 21 airports for domestic flights and five airports for international flights. The trial run of flights will start from the Jewar airport at the beginning of 2024. Zurich Airport Asia is building the Jewar airport.

Surely, no other state has probably got such a huge investment at a single investor summit. Both foreign and domestic investors have

responded with great enthusiasm to invest in U.P. The state government, at the instance of the chief minister, had sent eight teams abroad to hold international roadshows in 21 cities in 16 countries and these teams brought investment of about ₹7.12 lakh crore. The UPGIS-2023 has 10 partner countries. Diplomats from different countries had met Yogi ahead of the summit, committing that their country would invest or cooperate with the state.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 in the presence

of UP chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and others. Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 is the flagship investment summit of the Government of Uttar Pradesh which will bring together policymakers, industry leaders, academia, think tanks and leaders from across the world to collectively explore business opportunities and forge partnerships.

Daniel Bircher, CEO of Zurich Airport Asia said that the Zurich Airport is celebrating its 75th anniversary just as India is celebrating 75 years of independence. He mentioned the long-

standing partnership with India where Zurich Airport supported the development of the Bengaluru Airport two decades ago and is presently developing the Noida International Airport. He underlined the direct connectivity of the Noida International Airport with the Yamuna Expressway. Chairman of Dixon Technologies.

Perhaps not many people know that almost 65% of the mobile phones sold in India are manufactured in Uttar Pradesh. If Uttar Pradesh has become the capital of Mobile phone industry, the dynamic policies of the Uttar Pradesh Government should be highlighted. During the summit, Dixon Technologies Chairman Ravi Vachani said that Dixon Technologies is looking at exporting almost 100 billion dollars worth of mobile phones. All the industry leaders showed optimism towards the opportunities

emerging in Uttar Pradesh.

That the land of Uttar Pradesh is known for its cultural splendor, glorious history and rich heritage. But, it was also known a BIMARU state with poor law and order situation. However, Uttar Pradesh has established a new identity within 5-6 years. Now Uttar Pradesh is known for good governance, better law and order situation, peace and stability. New opportunities for wealth creators are being made here in UP. The efforts for better infrastructure in UP are bearing fruits. UP will soon be known as the only state with 5 International airports. Freight corridor will connect the state directly with the sea coast in Maharashtra. It goes without saying that other states should follow UP.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor

Ready to spend Rs 1,000 crore on Kondagattu Anjaneya Swamy temple: CM KCR

Jagtial, Feb 15: Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao said that the State government was ready to spend Rs 1,000 for the development of the Kondagattu Sri Anjaneya Swamy temple in the district so as to make it India's biggest Hanuman temple. On Wednesday, he visited the temple and offered special prayers at the popular temple. Speaking on the occasion, he said that his government was ready to spend even Rs.1,000 crore for development of the temple and its surroundings. The CM announced an allocation of R.500 crore



for the development of the temple in addition to the Rs 100 crore announced in the State budget for 2023-24, taking the total allocation to Rs.600 crore. He conducted a review meeting with the officials for more than two hours on the development of the

pilgrim place located on a hillock. "We should see that Kondagattu would earn the name as the biggest Hanuman pilgrim centre in the country. It should also attract the people living in the world. In order to do this, all facilities should be made available for the benefit of the

devotees. The ghat roads that lead to the temple on the hillock should be constructed in a way to avoid the accidents," he said. According to KCR, the temple facilities should be expanded to 850 acres of the land including 86 acres of parking space. He said that the temple should be expanded without touching the presiding deity in the sanctum Santorum as per the Agama Sastra rules and Vastu. "Water should be supplied to the temple on the hillock through the pipelines from the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project,

electric substation, hospital, bus station, Pushkarini, cottages, water tanks, mandapam for the devotees who take the deeksha should be constructed as a part of comprehensive development project," he said, adding that he would again visit the temple and review the development of the temple soon. Ministers Koppula Eshwar, Indrakaran Reddy, Gangula Kamalakar, MP D Damodar Rao, architect Anandasai, CMO Secretary Smitha Sabharwal, Collector Yasmin Bhasha, and others attended the meeting.

Ambassador of Switzerland to India and Bhutan Dr Ralf Heckner visited Sikkim, meet Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang-Golay

New Delhi: Ambassador of Switzerland to India and Bhutan Honourable Dr Ralf Heckner accompanied by a delegation of Swiss ??? companies met Chief Minister Honourable Shri Prem Singh Tamang-Golay in Gangtok. They discussed issues related to environment conservation and Swiss collaboration on sustainable growth in Sikkim. Chief Minister Honourable Shri Prem Singh Tamang-Golay said, "It was a pleasure to meet the Ambassador of Switzerland, Honourable



Dr Ralf Heckner at my official residence. Speaking about Sikkim being an environmentally conscious state, I informed the Ambassador regarding the initiatives of the state government toward environment conservation. I sought the assistance

of Honourable Dr Heckner in the development of various projects and discussed the prospects of collaborating in the future. I thank Honourable Dr Heckner for his visit and hope he has a pleasant stay in our beautiful state."

Taxmen At BBC Offices For 2nd Day, Most Employees Asked To WFH



New Delhi: Searches at the BBC's offices in Delhi and Mumbai continued all night, spilling over to the second day as Income Tax officials investigated the UK national broadcaster, weeks after it aired a controversial documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the deadly Gujarat riots in 2002. The BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), in an email to employees, urged all but its broadcast department to work from home. "Employees can refrain from answering questions on personal income if asked so. They should answer other salary-related queries," said the broadcaster, advising its staff to cooperate with the officials and "answer questions comprehensively". As the opposition parties and press bodies condemned the

searches, the US said it is aware of the survey but is "not in a position to offer judgement". State Department spokesperson Ned Price said: "We support the importance of free press around the world. We continue to highlight the importance of freedom of expression and freedom of religion or belief as human rights that contribute to strengthening democracies around the world. It has strengthened this democracy here in this country. It has strengthened India's democracy." There has been no official response from the UK. Tax officials who started the "survey" on Tuesday morning will today focus on accounts and question the senior management of the BBC, sources said. Tax authorities are investigating allegations of unauthorized tax

benefits, tax evasion, "significant" diversion of profits and non-compliance of rules by the BBC, said the sources. The BBC had been served notices in the past but had been "defiant and non-compliant", they claimed. On Tuesday, visuals showed some employees arguing with the officials, accusing them of barging in without a warrant. The officials used the keyword "tax" to search for information on the desktops after asking employees to log in, a BBC journalist told NDTV. Several opposition parties accused the government of targeting the BBC for a two-part series that was critical of PM Modi over the riots that swept Gujarat in 2002, when he was Chief Minister. The Editors' Guild of India said the raids were part of a wider "trend of using government

agencies to intimidate or harass press organisations that are critical of government policies". The BBC series, "India: The Modi Question", was taken down from public platforms last month. The Centre used emergency powers under IT Rules to block YouTube videos and Twitter posts sharing links to the documentary. The government slammed the documentary as "hostile propaganda and anti-India garbage". Protesting what they called censorship, opposition leaders and students organised public screenings of the documentary, which led to many campus clashes. As the searches took place, the ruling BJP slammed the BBC for what it called "venomous, shallow and agenda-driven reporting" and said the Income Tax department should be allowed to do its job. "If they have not done anything illegal, then what's the worry?" said BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia. He also mocked the BBC as "Bhrasht, Bakwas Corporation (Corrupt, nonsensical corporation) Last week, the Supreme Court rejected a request for a complete ban on BBC in India over the documentary, calling the petition "entirely misconceived".



The Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh graced the seminar of 'Sustenance in MRO and Obsolescence Mitigation: Op capability Enhancers in Aerospace Domain' organised by the Indian Air Force as part of 14th Aero India, in Bengaluru

Anti-Terror Searches Against ISIS Sympathisers' Across 3 States: Sources

New Delhi/Bengaluru: Around 60 locations across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala were raided by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) today in a massive crackdown against suspects having links with the terror outfit ISIS, sources have said. Searches are being carried out in connection with last year's blasts in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore and Karnataka's Mangaluru, they said. The October 2022 blast in Coimbatore killed Jameza Mubin - who was questioned by the central anti-terror agency over alleged ISIS links in 2019, police said. Mubin was driving a car with two open cylinders and one of them exploded last year in October, police said. A search of his house later led to the recovery of "low-intensive explosive



material". Those seemed to be meant for "future plans", Tamil Nadu police chief C Sylendra Babu had said. In December, NIA had taken over the November 19 Mangaluru auto-rickshaw blast that injured two people - including the prime suspect. Mohammad Shareeq, who allegedly had tried to make a bomb in September too, was carrying a low-intensity

Improvised Explosive device or IED when it exploded. A burnt pressure cooker fitted with batteries was found inside the auto. Karnataka police had said that the blast was not accidental but an "act of terror with the intention to cause serious damage." A group that calls itself 'Islamic Resistance Council' had claimed the responsibility of the auto-rickshaw blast.

Typed in English and printed with Shareeq's photo, the letter said he "attempted to attack the Hindutva Temple in Kadri, a bastion of the Saffron terrorists in Mangalore". Intelligence sources say Shareeq had visited forest areas in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala in November with the intention to establish the ISIS terror module in South India.

CM Hemant Soren & Health minister Mr Gupta must interven to Call off the month long strike of NHRM, GNM, ANM

Ranchi: 2023 State Health Minister Banna Gupta should leave his obstinacy in the interest of public interest and take positive initiative in the direction of breaking the strike and hunger strike of NRHM, GNM, ANM, contractual employees in front of Raj Bhavan from January 17 without

any delay and justify their constitutional rights and rights. on demands Their demands should be considered sympathetically so that 35 national programs including vaccination can be successfully run across the state due to the strike of mercury medical workers. "Jharkhand



Bachao Morcha's central convenor cum ex-candidate Hatia Assembly Constituency Vijay Shankar Nayak also said that due to the strike of mercury medical workers, the medical system across the state has become paralyzed and common people have to face a lot of difficulties. Vaccination of children is being done Including 33 national programs have been affected by this strike, which is not right in the interest of the state and the public. Mr. Nayak demanded the popular Chief Minister of the state, Mr. Hemant Soren, in the public interest, to

intervene immediately on these points and personally take a concrete initiative to break the strike of mercury medical workers, so that the 28-day-old strike Can be abolished and throughout the Raj The medical system which has come to a standstill due to their strike, can be restored smoothly.

Skilling For The World

Bhubaneswar; Usha Padhee, Principal Secretary Skill Development and Technical Education has said that the efforts of the State Government in tying up with international partners like ITEES and ADB for setting up the World Skill Center, opening up avenues for international placements for the trainees, bringing laurels for the country from the World Skills competition and benchmarking various initiatives against international best practices demonstrates sincere efforts for Skilling Odisha. The session on Skill Development in Odisha carried the theme "Skilling for the World". The brand Skilled in Odisha has been created with the intention of drawing national and international attention to the skilling ecosystem in Odisha. The session started with providing the

context in which skilling becomes imperative for India and Odisha, being home to one of the youngest population in the world. The growth in labour force has to be met with a concomitant growth in opportunities for skilling. The demographic dividend of the nation is slated to peak by 2041. The skilling requirements have to be organised keeping in view this enormous opportunity. The twin issues of access and quality of technical education discussed, which reflects in the number of youth obtaining technical education and the percentage who are employable, from among those who are trained. Odisha is well poised to tap the opportunity as the GSDP of the state is growing at a higher level than the national average, generating more jobs in the process. The

session deliberated on the twin pillars of access and quality in the sectors of long term skilling (ITIs and Polytechnics) and short term skilling (PLTP, PMKVY and DDU-GKY). The commitment towards both these seemingly hard-to-achieve twin goals has been addressed to some extent through the establishment of the World Skill Center, which works in a hub-and-spoke model with the ITIs and Polytechnics. The challenges were also discussed which include skewed distribution of training infrastructure, inadequate coverage when compared to the youth population, gender inequality in technical education and lesser industry connect with the skilling institutions. The roadmap towards a stronger skilling system includes creating pathways between mainstream and



vocational education in line with the NEP, tailor made solutions for skilling people who are traditionally excluded, making districts the fulcrum of skill development by bolstering the skill development committees, moving towards skilling in new age areas etc. Kalahandi district showcased various initiatives in skilling including the mega drive undertaken for

employing girls in Tata Electronics Systems Ltd and for graduate trainees in Vedanta. Block Welfare Extension Officer has been designated as the Nodal Officer of Skill Development to create synergy between various initiatives at the block level for skill development activities. Student counseling activities to generate awareness about opportunities and employment drives for

youth are some of the other initiatives. In long term skilling, the extension center of CTTC has been opened in the ITI Bhawanipatna campus so that ITI students can get advanced training. Keonjhar district has successfully used funds from DMF and OMBADC to further skilling in mining areas so that the youth can profit from the opportunities in the sector. Some of the initiatives include the CoEs in ITI Barbil, OSME Keonjhar and the GCE Keonjhar. The JN Tata Vocational institute is a fine example of industry led skilling. In short term skilling, the heavy motor vehicle driving training centre in Jhumpura and the Tassar Skill Park in Bhagamunda offer training in roles which are suited for the local requirements. The district also presented the initiatives it has planned to strengthen district based skill courses like agri tools, solar pumps, cold storages etc.

Spike In Ore Exports

Bhubaneswar: With iron ore exports is on rise, Market Analysts are upbeat about rise in State Revenue during this fiscal from the Metal Sector. Export orders dropped May 2022 onwards on the back of weakened commodity cycle, strict Covid control measures in China -the key export market. Most importantly, Government of India imposed stringent export duty on steel making commodities including high grade ore. This resulted in less collection of Non Tax Revenue from Metal Sector. However, after withdrawal of iron-ore export duty, exports jumped in the State, officials admit. Similarly domestic iron ore prices are also witnessing an increase, which will boost production and despatch. While Odisha has produced 147 Million Ton of iron ore in 2021-22, this year, till January 124 Million Ton of iron ore was produced which is at par with last year. In 2021-22, despatch permissions for 140.64 Million Ton quantity of iron ore were issued, out of which 8.95 Million Ton was issued for export purpose i.e. 6.4 Percent of total despatch quantity, officials say. This year, till January 112 Million Ton Quantity of despatch permissions were issued, out of which share of export was 4.18 Million Ton. In May-2022, the Government of India imposed flat 50 Percent export duty across all grades of iron ore and 45 Percent on iron ore pellets. This led to drastic reduction in demand of iron ore for exports as well as from pellet industry. As a result, between June to November 2022-23, Odisha witnessed fall in iron ore despatches as well as exports, being meagre 0.57 Million Ton between June-November 2022. However, after the withdrawal of export duty in November, iron ore despatches have picked up once again along with exports. Between December and January alone, iron ore exports have jumped to 2.54 Million Ton and it is expected that overall despatches of iron ore would touch around 140 Million Ton by end of March this year, officials feel.

Two charred to death as bike catches fire after mishap near Cuttack

Cuttack: In a tragic accident, two youths were charred to death after the motorcycle they were riding caught fire following a mishap on Cuttack-Paradip road late Monday night. The mishap occurred near Kandarpur toll gate. The identities of the deceased have not been ascertained yet. As per reports, the duo hailing from Tirtol of Jagatsinghpur district was heading to Cuttack on a bike

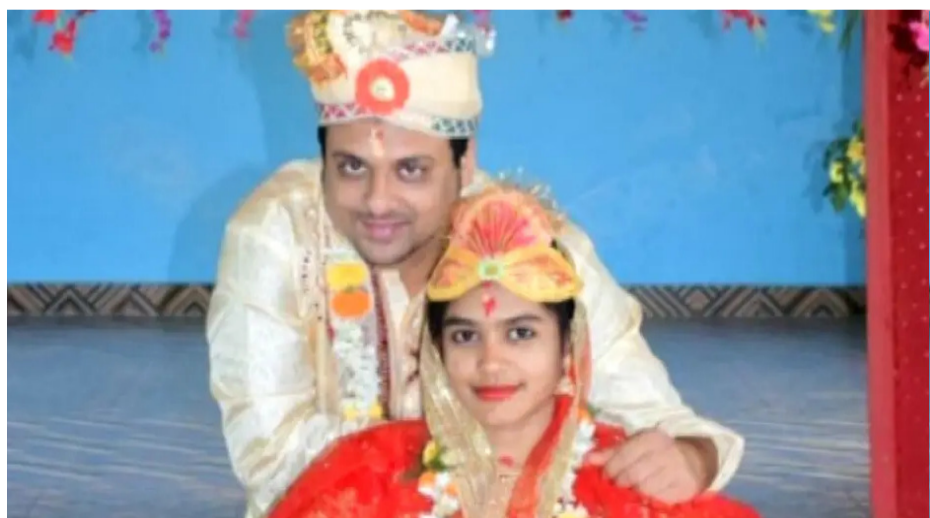


when the vehicle hit a concrete mixer along a road. The bike caught fire after the collision leaving them critically

injured. Though Kandarpur police took the duo to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack, they were

pronounced dead. The police seized the bike and concrete mixer and further investigation is underway.

True love never fails! Odisha man who married wheelchair-bound ladylove recalls struggles on Valentine's Day



Balasore(KCN): Falling in love is easy, but maintaining a relationship that withstands the test of time is certainly a tough challenge. And, who knows this better than Subhranshu Mohapatra. A native of Khaira area of Balasore district, Subhranshu overcame all the challenges and tied the nuptial knot with his wheelchair-bound

ladylove Debasmita Panda in November last year. On this Valentine's Day, the couple walked down the memory lane and remembered their incredible love story that weathered through all ups and downs in life. Subhranshu and Debasmita were studying in Soro College when love blossomed between

them. They were very sure from the day one that they would take their relationship to next level and live together forever. Their relationship had also received consent from both families. All was well in the lives of the lovebirds until an unexpected health problem hit the love story hard. Debasmita developed a

neurological problem and lost her ability to walk. "We are very happy for our togetherness now. We struggled a lot for this. It was normal for us to tie the knot despite my illness. However, the society looks other way. So when I slightly recovered from my illness, we decided to go ahead and tied the knot," recalled Debasmita. "From the very first day of our relationship, we promised each other that we will live together forever whatever the circumstance might be. We were already married at heart. I do not think I have not done any great work by marrying the love of my life," said Subhranshu.



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Aditya Birla Fashion raising Rs.2,195 Cr. of primary capital from GIC JATNI ROB WORK IN PROGRESS

The board of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited ("ABFRL") in its meeting today approved raising of upto Rs.2,195 Cr. by way of preferential issuance of equity and warrants to an affiliate of GIC, Singapore's sovereign wealth fund ("GIC").

GIC will invest Rs. 770 Cr. now towards subscription of equity and warrants, followed by up to Rs. 1,425 Cr. in one or more tranches within 18 months upon exercise of warrants. Post the entire investment, GIC will own ~7.5% equity stake in ABFRL. Aditya Birla Group will hold

~51.9% stake in the company post the completion of this transaction.

ABFRL plans to use this capital to accelerate its growth engine built around strength of its current businesses along with a rapidly evolving play in emerging high-growth business models.

Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman Aditya Birla Groupsaid, "Indian Apparel industry is set for robust long-term growth due to strong fundamentals of a large and growing middle class, favourable demographics, rising disposable incomes and aspiration for brands.

ABFRL has become one of the leading players in this market through its diversified portfolio of strong brands, wide distribution & established business model and is well positioned to benefit from this opportunity. I am delighted to welcome GIC, a global institutional investor, as along-term partner in the company's exciting growth journey. An investment of this nature serves to underscore ABFRL's strong position and dynamic growth model".

Commenting on the investment, Mr. Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL

said, "In the last few years, ABFRL has built a strong presence across all large and attractive segments of the Indian fashion market through organic & inorganic actions. This capital infusion will allow us to accelerate the growth of this platform of strong brands and well-established retail formats in the fast-growing branded apparel market & fortify our position as one of the leading players in the industry. We look forward to benefit from GIC's extensive experience of investing in businesses globally and its long-term orientation as we

plan to expand our presence and significantly enhance our digital play in the coming years to benefit from rapidly evolving consumer habits".

Mr. Choo Yong Cheen, Chief Investment Officer of Private Equity for GIC said, "We are delighted to partner with Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail to bring our long-term capital and resources to support its next phase of growth. ABFRL has a strong track record of building brands and its new business lines, including innerwear and ethnic wear, have strong structural tailwinds.

Bow String Girder launching started

Bhubaneswar: The long awaited and public centric Road Over Bridge (ROB) at Jatni near Khurda Road Railway Station is going to be completed at the earliest. Bow String Girders launching work on the Bridge has been started in Railway portion. Connecting Road to the Bridge has almost been completed. Khurda Road Division administration has made a commendable work yesterday by launching the second Bow String Girder (36 MT assembly of Floor System) in position without affecting train movements in the busy Howrah-Chennai Main Line. This was successfully aligned within one hour. Planned Traffic & OHE Block of all yard lines was taken without traffic disruption.

The work for Bowstring Girders of length 48 meters and width 13



meters has started on Railway portion of the ROB. The total assembling of all the strings of Girders will be targeted to complete with minimum traffic block. Two Cranes of capacity 400 tonnes were utilised for this purpose.

Railway's strategic planning and co-ordination amongst all agencies resulted in overcoming the main hurdle of lack of sufficient space in the market area for keeping the machinery and equipments. Space available on Jatni Market side for keeping

machineries for the construction work but on the other side (Kudriary side) space constraint due to ongoing construction work. The project was stalled since 2013 due to heavy encroachments and extremely restricted work space, etc. Apart from this, the old Foot Over Bridge (FOB) was earlier dismantled and new FOB of 36 meters span & 3 meters wide was constructed for the communication between Jatni Market and Kudriary Bazar of this area.

79% of students indicate they would like to rearrange the furniture

Mumbai: Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group, announced today that its business Godrej Interio, India's leading furniture solutions brand in home and office spaces, launched a trend report "Design Blueprint for 21st Century Learning Spaces". Education in India at the cusp of a revolution as it transforms from an instructional mode to an experiential mode. The Government of India's revamped National Education Policy (2020) aims at promoting

multidisciplinary and technology-led education. Godrej Interio's latest trend report by their Workplace and Ergonomics Research Cell revealed trends that will shape the future of learning and are in alignment with the government's policy.

According to the trend report, 21st-century learning spaces should accommodate the unique needs of each student. Further, they must support the positive human relationships needed for effective learning, both formally

and informally. The report further says these spaces are student-centred and tech-enabled which must enable individual and group learning, encourage innovation and foster a sense of healthy community.

The report highlights the 5 broad aspects that comprise 21st Century Learning Spaces- Adaptable, Inviting, Smart, Comfortable and Safe. Adaptable spaces support multiple learning modes in the same space and facilitates 'Me & We' Work. According to the

report, 79 percent of the students indicate they would like to rearrange the furniture to suit individual needs and group discussions. In addition to this, 94 percent of teachers who can change their layout agree they can teach effectively, compared to 40.5 percent who can't change their layout. Therefore, the learning environment must be adaptable, allowing for easy transitions between lecture mode, group presentation, and discussions. Inviting spaces encourage

creativity by transforming a 'boring, restrictive, or intimidating' space to one that is 'inviting, relaxing and invigorating'. Therefore, underutilised spaces like wide corridors must be redesigned to create semi-open spaces for collaboration and tutoring. The report also highlights that the 21st century learning spaces are Smart where in technology can help personalise learning for students, stimulate their curiosity and boost experiences with 98.3% of teachers feeling that technology is beneficial in classrooms.

I look forward to further strengthening the Olympic Movement in our country: Mrs. Nita Ambani

Mumbai: IOC Member, Mrs Nita Ambani lauded the launch of India's first 'Olympic Values Education Programme' (OVEP) by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) today in Odisha, emphasising that OVEP combines the twin powers of education and sport in instilling the core values of Olympism. The OVEP is a practical set of resources designed by the IOC to introduce young people to the Olympic values of excellence, respect and friendship. The programme aims to disseminate this values-based curriculum to help children become active, healthy and responsible

citizens. A landmark initiative in India's Olympic movement, the launch of OVEP comes as a build-up to the prestigious IOC 2023 Session.

Earlier this year, Mrs Ambani led a delegation for India's bid to host the IOC Session in 2023, where India was near unanimously awarded the rights after a gap of 40 years. The IOC Session in India marks a new era in Indian sports history, giving a boost to India's ultimate Olympic aspirations with a sports ecosystem in the country which would encourage and empower the youth to hone their skills and bring global laurels. Mrs Ambani is part of

multiple Olympic Movement commissions and OVEP which falls under Olympic Education is especially close to her heart as it helps inculcate core Olympic values in children.

"India is a land of great opportunities and infinite possibilities," said IOC member Nita Ambani. "We have over 250 million children in our schools, brimming with talent and potential. They are the champions of tomorrow, the future of our nation. Only a small number of children in the world may become Olympians, but every child can be touched by the ideals of Olympism.

LG INTRODUCES GAME-SHIFTING TECHNOLOGY WITH 2022 OLED TV LINEUP IN INDIA

Bhubaneswar: LG Electronics, India's leading Consumer Durable brand today announced the availability of its highly anticipated 2022 OLED TV lineup. Widely praised at CES 2022 for their outstanding picture quality, enhanced performance, and sleek designs, the latest products also promise an incredibly seamless experience with blazing and immersive visuals. The 2022 OLED lineup introduces the widest range of OLED TVs, from the world's biggest 106 cm (42") OLED TV that is perfect for smaller room spaces and ideal for every gamer

that seeks to be closer to the action. In addition to this, LG is also introducing the LD OLED evo in their C2 series. Attributed to LG's OLED leadership, this has enabled the invention of the first Rollable OLED TV, the LG Signature R OLED that pushes the boundaries of engineering and user-centric design to enhance any space and complement any lifestyle. OLED TV price range starts from INR 89,990 and Rollable OLED TV is priced at INR 750,000. Hak Hyun Kim, Director-Home Entertainment, LG Electronics India said, "This year marks 25 years of our commitment to the Indian market,

demonstrating our continuous efforts to amalgamate technology and design innovations to meet the evolving needs of our consumers. The unique offerings of our latest lineup demonstrate our perseverance to deliver differentiated user experience and a new way of thinking about our consumer's home entertainment space while once again confirming LG's leadership in the premium TV market. OLED TV portfolio is expanded to address various segments of consumers and with our new line up we are confident of strengthening our market leadership in OLED TV."

Paree Sanitary Pads initiative

Bhubaneswar: Paree Sanitary Pads, a homegrown brand by Soothe Healthcare has been actively working towards pedestalizing the issue of menstrual health of women in India. Continuing with the same promise of prioritizing menstrual needs, the brand on Menstrual Hygiene Day increased its support towards Female Police Officers under their initiative Paree #ChampionforChampions. Through this initiative, Paree collaborates with and salutes the real champions who work tirelessly for our safety with their heavy-duty performance.

As per data on Police Organizations compiled by Bureau of Police Research & Development, only 10% of police force in the country is females and through this initiative Paree aims to reach out to approximately 20,000 female police personnel. As a brand, the aim is to support the working conditions of the female police officers and at the same time highlight and improve their sanitization needs.

This year for Menstrual Hygiene Day, Paree Sanitary Pads collaborated with female police departments of more than 50 cities to provide them with the right menstrual protection and promote the message of menstrual hygiene across the nation. In the state of Odisha, thousands of female officers have joined hands with the brand for the awareness drive. With #ChampionForChampions, Paree salutes the officers for their service and contribution to the society that makes them the true champion.

AU Bank extends its top-of-the-line AU Royale programme

Mumbai: AU Small Finance Bank, the largest Small Finance Bank and one of the fastest-growing retail Banks in India, has launched two new products under its affluent banking programme AU Royale- 'AU Royale Salary' and 'AU Royale Business' Current Account.

The affluent segment in India is consistently growing. As the Hurun India Wealth Report 2021 estimates, Indian millionaire (USD) households are set to rise by 30% over the next five years. As this segment is experiencing a steady growth, its expectations from banking are ever evolving. Considering this, AU Bank had launched its Royale programme designed specifically to cater to the everyday banking requirements of this segment. While the Bank was already offering customized premium products for HNIs and NRIs, now it has launched niche products, 'AU Royale Salary' and 'AU Royale Business', specially curated for the salaried and business class respectively.

Commenting on the launch Mr. Uttam Tibrewal, Executive Director, AU Small Finance Bank said, "Over the years, we have seen growing interest from the affluent segment towards our personalized services and higher returns.

Parle Agro builds further growth opportunities for Farmers and Fruit Processing Partners across India

Bhubaneswar : India's largest beverage company, Parle Agro has always been at the forefront of innovation in the development of iconic fruit-based beverages like Frooti and Apy which have captured the hearts of India. In order to cater to the massive demand of their products nationally and globally, Parle Agro is focused on updating their internal infrastructure and also aggressively building capabilities and capacities of their fruit processing partners across India.

Since 1985, Parle Agro has worked consistently with Fruit Farmers and Processors within India with a vision to encourage their

development and give them opportunities to elevate their earnings. Parle Agro continues on this path and has invested heavily in their processing partners to help them extract their highest potential. Subsequently, the company has taken a determined stand to source 100% from India itself. Historically, Parle Agro has always sourced fruits from India while importing from China too, to meet their apple juice content needs. But now, the company has completely stopped sourcing apple juice imports from China and are sourcing them entirely from India alone through its network of Indian farmers.

Parle Agro's foray into

the fruit based category in 1985 began with procuring 1,000 MT of mango fruit from their local fruit processing partners to create the company's popular mango based drink, 'Frooti'. Parle Agro has grown exponentially to currently procuring around 150,000 MT of mango fruits into high quality mango pulp; increasing their consumption of mangoes by 150 times. Parle Agro's range of fruit-based products currently utilize around 210,000 MT of fruit collectively. Over the past decade and a half, the company's consumption of fruits has increased fivefold. Approximately one third of the fruit pulp produced in India is consumed by Parle Agro.

Johnson & Johnson Vision's new campaign film #DekhteRehJaoge inspires India's youth to follow their passion

Bhubaneswar: Johnson & Johnson Vision India, a division of Johnson & Johnson Private Limited, recently launched its latest campaign #DekhteRehJaoge. The campaign stands out for featuring real users of ACUVUE® lenses and highlighting their experiences as they take on new challenges fearlessly and making their vision their very identity. The film gives a sneak peek into the lives of different ACUVUE® Contact Lens users on their journey to explore their creative freedom, encouraging the Gen Z and millennial audience to keep hustling. It reflects ACUVUE®'s vision to influence consumers to be bold in owning up to their true personality. The quirky reimagination of the iconic song 'In aankhon ki masti' makes the film captivating, providing a compelling background to the narrative. ACUVUE® Contact Lenses are designed to

offer clear vision with comfort and the confidence to go out and push boundaries instead of holding back. Talking about the launch, Tiny Sengupta, Business Unit Director, Vision Care India, Johnson & Johnson Vision, adds, "Our aim at Johnson & Johnson Vision is to give India's youth a confident new perspective of looking at the world with the contact lenses that complement every aspect of their personality. We are excited to see these lenses be a part of our consumers' lives and break myths and apprehensions around contact lens usage. ACUVUE® is the #1 selling brand family of contact lenses worldwide* and through this campaign we want to encourage more people to go and fearlessly face the world with confidence. Contact lens usage is still low in India. Our aim is to get more people to try our lenses, realize the ease and

comfort of wearing them, and get hooked onto the confidence it builds! We are aiming to increase contact lens penetration in India and get new wearers into the category, simultaneously promoting eye health awareness". Speaking about the importance of routine eye check-ups Ashok Pandian, Optometrist and Consultant- Professional Education & Development, Vision Care India, Johnson & Johnson Vision, adds, "Regular eye examinations with an optometrist are important in ensuring good eye health. It is especially important now, given the current context of increased screen time as we continue to work from home. Another important consideration here is embracing contact lenses to address vision corrections or even to enhance one's looks. It can also improve all aspects of quality of life, including work, leisure and sports.

Akeem Jordan, Alick Athanaze earn Test call-up for South Africa tour

New Delhi: Alick Athanaze, the captain of the Windward Islands, and Barbados pace bowler Akeem Jordan have earned their maiden call-ups to West Indies' 15-member squad for the upcoming two-match Test series against South Africa, starting in Centurion on February 28.

Athanaze, who first came into prominence in the Under-19 World Cup played in New Zealand in 2017-18 by averaging 104.50, has 1154 runs at an average of 31.18 in first-class cricket. He has also been in fine form in the ongoing four-day West Indies Championship, having scored 41 and 51 against Trinidad and Tobago, alongside his career-best 141 versus Guyana.

Jordan has bagged 24 wickets at an impressive average of 17.62 in first-class cricket. In the



current first-class season, he took a five-for versus Guyana and subsequently bagged 7 for 113 versus Jamaica.

Meanwhile, left-arm orthodox spinner Jemel Warrican and batter Nkrumah Bonner have been left out. Jayden Seales isn't available for selection due to a knee injury, with the paceman

also undergoing surgery. His pace colleague Anderson Phillip isn't match-fit, although he has resumed training.

Lead Selector, Desmond Haynes said: "Athanaze is one of the young players who we have invested in, and he played well in the 'A Team' and CWI President's XI. He

showed great promise in the CG United Super50 last year and then got his first hundred in the West Indies Championship last week. We believe he should be given an opportunity at this level. He has also shown leadership, as captain of the Windwards at the start of this season."

"Jordan has been very

impressive from last year, he has continued to bowl well, and has been excellent in the first two matches so far this year. He is very skillful, can bowl the new ball, and looks to put the ball in the right areas. He is also a sharp fielder and good catcher close to the wicket. This will be a challenging tour. There is no easy away tour in Test cricket. South Africa have a good team, but I am sure we will be up for the task and will do well in these two Test matches," he added.

Squad: Kraigg Brathwaite (Captain), Jermaine Blackwood (Vice Captain), Alick Athanaze, Tagenarine Chanderpaul, Roston Chase, Joshua Da Silva, Shannon Gabriel, Jason Holder, Akeem Jordan, Alzarri Joseph, Kyle Mayers, Gudakesh Motie, Raymon Reifer, Kemar Roach, Devon Thomas

Warwickshire sign Glenn Maxwell for 2023 T20 Blast



New Delhi: Warwickshire have signed Australian allrounder Glenn Maxwell for the 2023 T20 Blast, the club confirmed on Tuesday (February 14). Maxwell will be the club's second overseas signing after Pakistan seamer Hasan Ali.

Maxwell is expected to join the squad after his IPL stint with Royal Challengers Bangalore. "It's an amazing signing - he's one of the fastest scorers in world cricket - and I'm sure he'll be a

favourite with Bears fans," Coach Mark Robinson said. "He's the perfect T20 batter for us: he's a power hitter with a fantastic range of shots which makes it hard for opposing sides to set fields, plus he's an outstanding fielder. I can't wait to welcome Glenn into the fold."

The 34-year-old allrounder has previously had stints with Hampshire, Surrey, Yorkshire and Lancashire in the county circuit. In what has been

a stellar T20 career, Maxwell has a strike rate of over 150 in the format having played over 350 games. "I can't wait to get stuck into a new challenge with the Bears," Maxwell said. "Edgbaston is a great place to play cricket with extremely passionate fans and I'm looking forward to joining an exciting list of players."

The allrounder hasn't featured in any format so far in 2023 after getting sidelined last November with a fractured leg.

Shreyas Iyer declared fit ahead of Delhi Test



New Delhi: Shreyas Iyer has been declared fit ahead of the second Test against Australia in Delhi, the BCCI confirmed on Tuesday (February 14). As a result, the middle-order batter will join the squad in New Delhi after getting clearance from the BCCI Medical Team.

Iyer has been

sidelined for close to a month with a back injury that ruled him out of the New Zealand ODIs recently. His last appearance for India came in the ODI series against Sri Lanka last month. Even though he was named in the Test squad for the Australia series, Iyer didn't recover

in time to join the group for the first Test in Nagpur.

In his absence, Suryakumar Yadav was handed a Test debut. The swashbuckling batter made only 8 in the solitary innings as India picked up an innings win. Iyer, who had nailed down his spot in the XI recently, is now expected to return to the XI in Delhi. The second Test begins on February 17.

India's squad for second Test: Rohit Sharma (Captain), KL Rahul (vice-captain), Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KS Bharat (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), R. Ashwin, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, Mohd. Shami, Mohd. Siraj, Umesh Yadav, Suryakumar Yadav

Motie takes 13-for; West Indies clinch series

New Delhi: Gudakesh Motie followed up his first innings effort of 7 for 37 with a six-wicket haul to pilot the West Indies to an emphatic series-clinching innings and four-run win over Zimbabwe, in the second and final Test in Bulawayo.

Zimbabwe, who began the afternoon session at 46 for 2, lost the set Innocent Kaia early, with the opener falling to the impressive Motie. Milton Shumba and Craig Ervine (72) did stitch a timely stand of 30. However, just when the duo looked set to convert the stand into a substantial one, Motie castled Shumba. The batter didn't exactly help his cause by advancing down the deck a bit too early.

Motie also dismissed Zimbabwe's hero from the



first Test, Tafadzwa Tsiga, to leave the home side in all kinds of trouble at 102 for 5. Zimbabwe's slide didn't end there as Shannon Gabriel and Motie combined to remove Donald Tiripano and Wellington Masakadza. Despite losing wickets at the

other end, Ervine essayed sweeps and reverse sweeps while facing Roston Chase and Motie and kept the scorecard ticking over for a brief period.

Unfortunately, right after the Tea break, Zimbabwe lost their last three wickets for the

addition of just 15 runs. Roston Chase removed Brandon Mavuta while Motie won an LBW appeal against Ervine, with the Zimbabwe skipper missing out on the flick. The left-arm spinner duly sealed the deal by dismissing Victor Nyauchi.

Earlier, after a lengthy delay due to wet outfield, play had resumed in the morning session. The West Indies, who began the day at 290 for 8, lost their last two wickets for just two runs and were bowled out for 292. Meanwhile, Nyauchi finished with a five-wicket haul. The hosts, behind by a sizeable 177 runs, commenced their second innings too on a poor note, losing Tanunurwa Makoni and Chamu Chibhabha inside seven overs.

Brief scores: West Indies 292 (Roston Chase 70, Raymon Reifer 53; Victor Nyauchi 5/56) beat Zimbabwe 115 (Innocent Kaia 38; Gudakesh Motie 7-37) and 173 (Craig Ervine 72; Gudakesh Motie 6-62) by an innings and 4 runs.

Sultana 57 in vain as Australia secure comfortable win

New Delhi: Nigar Sultana's 50-ball 57 proved too little in the end as Australia cruised to a comfortable 8-wicket win at St George's Park, on Tuesday. Georgia Wareham's 3 for 20 played a pivotal role in limiting Bangladesh to 107 for 7 - the lowest score in a completed innings so far in the ongoing T20 World Cup.

Opting to bat, Bangladesh found themselves in a tricky situation early on with Darcie Brown's pace proving too hot to handle. The young pacer dismissed the openers before Sultana steadied the innings. The Bangladesh skipper got going by cracking two boundaries off Brown

and then taking the attack to Alana King.

A 44-run stand with Shorna Akter had Bangladesh well placed to put up a competitive total. However, Wareham cleaned up Shorna and Rumana Ahmed in quick succession to pull back Bangladesh's momentum. The inability to pick quick singles and twos also hurt their cause, and so did a flurry of wickets towards the end which didn't allow Bangladesh to post a strong total.

Nonetheless, they had the Australians troubled in the initial overs. Beth Mooney as well as Alyssa Healy were slow to get going, and the former was even caught at slips for 2 in the third over. Just



when Bangladesh looked to be on the offensive, Healy transferred the pressure on the bowlers by regularly stepping out of the crease and hitting the spinners down the track and forcing them to err on their lengths in the powerplay. Even as Healy struggled to get to the pitch of the ball, the arm extension allowed her to pick a six off Nahida Akter and a boundary over the mid on fielder off Salma Khatun.

The error deliveries that followed were neatly crunched through the offside for boundaries. Healy even got a reprieve on 25, in the seventh over, when she put down at long off. On a pitch where scoring wasn't easy, the Australians resorted to caution yet again, but were quick to pick up

singles, which came despite some fine effort in the field by the Bangladeshis.

The spinners controlled the scoring rate through the middle overs and even had Healy caught at cover, but couldn't fully transfer the pressure back on the Australians. Lanning and Ash Gardner curbed their natural game and helped the defending champions overhaul the target with 10 balls to spare, courtesy an unbeaten 33-run stand off 35 balls.

Brief Scores: Bangladesh 107/7 in 20 overs (Nigar Sultana 57; Georgia Wareham 3-20, Darcie Brown 2-23) lost to Australia 111/3 in 18.2 overs (Meg Lanning 48*, Alyssa Healy 37) by 8 wickets