

Union Finance Minister Rules Out Special Category Status To Odisha

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Once again the Government of India has rejected Odisha's decade-long demand for Special Category Status (SCS) as it faces natural calamities almost every year.

Speaking to media persons here on Friday, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said no more special category status will be given to Odisha or any other State, as per the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

"The Finance Commission has said no special status can be given. However, it was considered for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during its bifurcation," she said.

The Union Finance Minister was here for Post-Budget interaction with industry and press.

She also commented on the concerns raised by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on reduction of funds in the Union Budget for MGNREGA and paddy procurement.

The fund allocation for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) has not gone down. It is a demand driven scheme and as and when the demand increases, the Centre provides money, said Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman here on Friday.

Addressing a post-budget press conference here, Shrimati Sitharaman said, "Budget time allocation is one thing....and the scheme itself is a demand driven scheme, as and when demand increases, we provide



funds for it. This has been done in past years since 2014."

"If you look into the past years, we have added some money in the supplementary budget for MGNREGA. Even during Covid pandemic, the allocation for the scheme has crossed Rs 1 lakh crore," she said.

"We make an allocation during the budget estimate and throughout the year. As and when the demand

goes up, we revise it and in the supplementary grants, we add more. This is in contrast with what happened between 2004 to 2014," said Shrimati Sitharaman.

Notably, against Rs 73000 crore allocation in the budget estimate (BE) of 2022-2023, the current allocation reduced to Rs 60,000 crore.

"So, to look at the budget time figure and to say that you brought it down is not right. It

develops as the demand develops and we keep giving it as the demand develops and by end of the year we also ensure it gets spent," she added.

Commenting on funding for procurement of wheat and rice, she said that the government has not brought it down at all.

Shrimati Sitharaman said the total amount given to the farmers is very high as the minimum selling price has gone up. "The total amount spent on procurement is at an all-time high now. You can be sure there is no coming down in these figures," she said.

"The quantum of procurement in the eight years compared to any time prior has gone up. And because the minimum support price (MSP) rate is high, the

total amount given to farmers after procurement is also very high," said the Finance Minister.

"Total amount spent on procurement is all high now," she added. She also said there is no shortfall of fund for Ayushman Bharat yojana.

The Finance Minister also made it clear that the Centre is not going to make any disinvestment in its PSU Nalco.

Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), said the Centre's divestment aim follows a calibrated strategy and "we do not want to distort the market. Divestment should be realistic."

Odisha's Biggest, First Green Model Jail To Come Up At Jamujhari

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The biggest jail of Odisha will come up at Jamujhari on outskirts of Bhubaneswar city, which will be the new address of the Special Jail located at Jharpada here in the state capital.

The proposed jail will be built in an area of 50 acre at Jamujhari near Bhubaneswar city. This will be the state's biggest and first green model prison with zero carbon emission. The jail be designed to accommodate 2500 prisoners, informed Director General (Prisons) Manoj Chhabra today.

According to reports, Odisha Government has approved the project for construction of the state's biggest prison. The construction work will be completed in two years following which existing Jharpada jail will be shifted to Jamujhari.

As per the project plan, the new jail will have a hospital, amphitheatre, library, gym, bakery unit and food processing unit for jail inmates. It will also have a large space for women prisoners.

Jharpada jail has been overcrowded and located in a densely populated area. At present, nearly 1200 prisoners are lodged at the jail. As there is no space, further expansion of the jail could not be possible. The jail needs to be relocated to the model jail from the security point of view, Chhabra added.

Currently, Odisha has 87 jails accommodating total 18,596 prisoners. The Circle Jail at Choudwar in Cuttack is considered to be the biggest jail with 1156 inmates.

Task Force For Spurious Drugs Golden Moment for Indian Sports Odisha CM Inaugurates Sports Facilities after Legends

Bhubaneswar(KCN): As another significant development in comprehending and containing the sale of spurious drugs, Special Task Force formed for drug enforcement by Government of Odisha found inter-state transaction of its supply, distribution and sale.

More specifically, the spurious medicines ceased from Ashok medical hall of Bargarh district and Amit medical agencies of Jharsuguda district in Odisha was suspected to have procurement and supply link with Baby enterprises, JP medicals and Guru Kripa medicals of Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. The investigating team had rationale to suspect the link.

Following this, Odisha



Government in Health and Family Welfare department constituted a Special Expert Team for Inter-State investigation.

Assistant Drugs Controllers namely, Sudarshan Biswal, Tusar Ranjan Panigrahi, and Dharmadev Puan along with Police officers were taken as Members of the Team. They would soon proceed to Varanasi for carrying forward further investigation. In this regard, Secretary Health and

Family Welfare Shalini Pandit requested her counterpart in UP Government urging her to issue necessary instructions to the concerned authorities in UP for providing necessary cooperation and help to the Investigating Team from Odisha.

Shrimati Pandit wrote, "You may appreciate that the matter related to spurious drugs needs to be attended with utmost priority in larger public interest. Hence, a team of investigating officers along with police is being deputed to Varanasi...Necessary instructions may be issued to the concerned authorities in UP to extend their cooperation to the Team for taking the matter to a logical conclusion".

Golden Moment for Indian Sports Odisha CM Inaugurates Sports Facilities after Legends

The CM also inaugurated the Second Campus of KISS DU

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Friday inaugurated the second campus of KISS DU and various sports stadiums in both KIIT and KISS campuses.

The second campus has been built at Rs 100 Cr, housing academic buildings, a large library and hostels for 3000 girls and as many boys. The programme was attended by ST and SC Development Minister Jagannath Saraka and BMC Mayor Sulochana Das, among others.

The sports facilities inaugurated by the CM included the Rs 500 Cr Biju Patnaik Multipurpose Indoor Stadium; Dilip Tirkey Hockey Stadium; Abhinav Bindra Indoor Shooting Range; Rahul



Bose Rugby Stadium; Debasish Mohanty and Shiv Sundar Das Cricket Stand; Viswanathan Anand Chess Hall; Leander Paes Tennis Stadium; Dutee Chand Athletic Stadium; Amiya Mallick Athletic Stand; Shrabani Nanda Athletic Stand; Minati Mahapatra Cycling Velodrome; Pramod Bhagat Badminton Indoor Hall and Sradhanjali

Samantaray Football Stadium. All these legends except Anand and Bindra (who were present virtually) were present on the occasion and participated in a seminar on the sidelines of the event. They hailed the efforts of Dr Samanta, saying his decision to name the sporting facilities after the sporting legends in a university is unique.



Odisha Sports Secretary R. Vineel Krishna also

occasion. "We have set an example for others by naming the sports facilities after the sporting legends. This is a historic occasion for all of us. No other place in this country has so many sporting facilities named after so many sportspersons," the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta said, expressing his gratitude to the CM for inaugurating the sporting facilities.

Annual day of Maharishi public school, Bhubaneswar celebrated



Bhubaneswar (KCN) :20th Annual day of Maharishi public school, celebrated with Lightening of Lamps by invited guests & Vedic chanting by Pundits at

Guru kelucharan Mahapayra Auditorium, Bhubaneswar Noted Odishi Dancer Padmashree Iliana sitarist, BMC Mayor Madam Sulochana das,

State Planning Board Member & Former Bhubaneswar MP Prof Dr Prasan pattasani , Noted Physician Dr Banamber Ray , Former North Bhubaneswar

MLA Priyadarshi Mishra & Lipi Pattasani Mishra, BJD Women Vice President Sanjukta Mohanty, Nayapalli Corporator Manasirani Sunderray, Middle

Bhubaneswar MLA Ananta narayan Jena were the invited guests of the Celebration. Secretary, MPS Smt Hena mahapatra

spoke about the teachings & philosophy of His Holiness Maharishi yogi and thanked teachers,staff and Parents for their all

time cooperation and constant support Students were highly motivated by speeches given by the honourable guests. Cultural performances by

students were the center of attraction of the evening and Was highly appreciated by the Audience.The Meeting was concluded with vote of thanks.

CM Naveen Patnaik unveils BMC-ICOMC tower, launches Safa app

BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday inaugurated the swanky BMC-Intelligent City Operations and Management Centre (ICOMC) tower on Janpath road and the Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC) that will serve as a digital platform for integration of different city services. Naveen also launched the Safa application of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) to provide sanitation service to bulk waste generators for safe disposal of

garbage in the city. The state-of-the-art tower, constructed by the Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL) on 4.04 acre land in 24 months at an investment of nearly Rs 74 crore will act as city's service headquarter and facilitate various city-level services, said mayor Sulochana Das. BMC commissioner Vijay Amruta Kulange informed that the BSCL office has already started working in the new tower, while BMC office will also be shifted to the place soon.



The 11-storey building has the ICCC on the first floor and second floor and BSCL office on the fifth floor. BMC headquarters will move to 3rd and 4th floor of the tower. The government has facilitated the Deloitte Capacity Enhancement Centre in the rest of the floors. The project designed as a green building is eligible for

5-star certification, said an official. He said the 187-seater Ekamra Hall at the building will help BMC to hold its Corporation meeting and other official meetings. On the other hand, BSCL officials said the new ICCC, also known as Bhubaneswar Operation Centre (BOC), will help in safe mobility, responsive city operations and management along with optimisation of expenditure by providing real-time data support on city services including citizen centric applications, traffic signal monitoring system, grievance management, city transport, tracking of solid waste vehicles, street light management, city enforcement management and water tanker management, WiFi services among others. Housing and Urban Development minister Usha Devi, secretary G Mathivathanan, deputy mayor Manjulata Kanhar, BDA VC Balwant Singh and other dignitaries were present.

Union Education Minister calls for improving skills of teachers in Odisha



BHUBANESWAR: Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan called for improving skills of teachers to strengthen the overall school education system. Speaking at the two-day review meeting of strengthening teaching, learning and results for states (STARS) programme that began in

Bhubaneswar on Thursday, the union minister said the future of students will be bright if the skills of school teachers is honed. Progress of the World Bank and state-funded STARS programme being implemented in Odisha and five other states - Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh -

was reviewed by Pradhan. He asked the officials concerned and teachers to strengthen the education sector on the basis of National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020. Suggesting them to use technology in teaching and learning, he said the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) is the foundation of the NEP. Calling upon the six states to implement the NEP and join the PM Shri Yojana, he said sports and game-based curriculum should be emphasised for the betterment of students. "STARS programme has a very big role in implementing the NEP-2020 in India. More than Rs 5,000 crore has been spent in the six states," he said

Water quality of Brahmani being monitored: Chief Secretary to Orissa High Court

CUTTACK: Chief secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra has claimed before Orissa High Court that the water quality in Brahmani river and its tributaries is being monitored by the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) at 41 stations. For improvement in the water quality of Brahmani Odisha Water Supply & Sewerage Board (OWSSB), actions are being taken for treatment of domestic wastewater in Rourkela, Talcher and other places along the river, Mohapatra said in an affidavit filed on Tuesday. The HC had earlier asked the chief secretary to file an affidavit giving an updated status report on implementation of the Central Pollution Control Board (CBCB)'s suggestions/



recommendations given to make Brahmani river and its major tributaries pollution-free in 2015. In his affidavit, Mahapatra said a 2 MLD sewage treatment plant (STP) is operating in Talcher municipality area for treatment of waste water of the town prior to discharge of water to Brahmani river. One 40 MLD capacity STP has been partially commissioned for

treatment of the waste water generated in Rourkela city and the trial run is on. Further, 15 septage treatment plant (SeTP) with total capacity of 255 MLD has been commissioned in the catchment area of the river. Fecal sludge generated in the city are being transported to a treatment plant by the cesspool vehicle operator. The treated water of the plant is being utilised for gardening purpose,

Mahapatra stated in the affidavit. The court was hearing the suo motu petition registered by it regarding the pollution caused in Brahmani river and its major tributaries in 2014. Taking note of the affidavit the division bench of S Muralidhar and Justice M S Raman fixed April 4 for further consideration with responses, if any from CPCB and SPCB.

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Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar: Ranbir Kapoor-Shraddha Kapoor set the Valentine's Mood Right for Delhi and Pune Fans

The makers of highly anticipated rom-com of the year 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar' started their city promotions with a bang this valentine's day as the film gears up for a grand festival release on Holi. The film has constantly been the talk of tinsel town ever since its trailer launch but the excitement went a notch higher with its latest song release Pyaar Hota Kayi Baar Hai which is touted to be the RK's entry song in the film. Audiences showered immense love on the song as it was meant to be a dedication to all the singles during valentines. However, apart from the peppy music and quirky lyrics, the highlight of the song was Ranbir's charismatic dancing moves. The love garnered by the audience was so much



that the makers decided to treat Ranbir and Shraddha's fans on 14th February.

Shraddha Kapoor surprised her fans at DPU University and Seven Wonders Park in Pune where an enormous crowd

gathered just to catch a glimpse of the 'Marathi Mulgi'. The Pune-kars poured immense love on the star's visit to their city. So much that hours after her visit there were videos all over the internet where we see Shraddha



waving to her fans from the car sunroof. Her car was barely able to move due to the crowd such was her stardom in the city. On the other hand, our very own Makkaar aka Ranbir Kapoor was seen promoting the film at a

live music event organised by the makers called 'Makkaar Night' along with music composer Pritam and five other notable singers in Delhi NCR. RK treated 15,000 fans with a h i g h - o c t a n e

performance and his mind-blowing entry on stage which took the crowd by surprise. Fans couldn't have asked for a better valentine's day gift from both stars.

Both events were a huge success, but the fans have now been demanding to see the duo together during promotions before the release. The audiences loved their chemistry so much in the trailer and the song Tere Pyaar Mein that now they can't wait to see them together. Fans have been requesting the makers and actors on social media to get them together for promotions. Well, let's see if the makers fulfil the wishes of the fans anytime soon or else the audiences will have to wait for 8th march to see them in theatres.

Shah Rukh Khan starrer 'Pathaan' Tickets at Flat Rs 110 Across Indian Theatres on Friday



The spy action film 'Pathaan', which stars the Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone and John Abraham will be available at reduced ticket prices in theatres across India on Friday. The film will be available for exhibition at flat Rs 110 across cinemas in India.

The move is being

done to celebrate the film's performance at the box-office as it has single-handedly bailed the Hindi film industry out of troubled waters and has set the cash registers ringing collecting Rs 963 crore gross worldwide.

To celebrate Pathaan being the highest-grossing Hindi film worldwide in the

history of Hindi cinema, top theatre chains of India - PVR, Inox, Cinepolis, Miraj, Movietime, MuktaA2 and other participating cinemas have come together to celebrate this Friday as 'Pathaan Day'.

The SRK-starrer 'Pathaan' has minted Rs 498.85 crore in India (Hindi - Rs

481.35 crore, Dubbed - Rs 17.50 crore).

The film, produced by Yash Raj Films and directed by Siddharth Anand, tells the story of the titular spy, who fights the odds to save the nation from the evil plans of an ex-RAW agent who turned rogue after his family was attacked and killed.

'Shehzada' records low advance booking collection, scores only Rs 1.50 crore nett

Kartik Aaryan and Kriti Sanon starrer 'Shehzada' has hit the screens today and the excitement is high for fans of the two lead stars. However, the advance booking for this entertainer doesn't look very promising.

'Shehzada' has scored low in advance booking, which opened over the weekend. The film has earned around Rs 1.50 crore nett in advance collection, reports boxofficeindia. Hollywood biggie 'Antman And The Wasp' is expected to earn advance in the range of 'Wakanda Forever'.

Directed by Rohit Dhawan, 'Shehzada' is an official Hindi remake of 2020 Telugu hit 'Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo', which featured Allu Arjun and Pooja Hegde in the lead roles. Speaking about comparisons with Allu Arjun, Kartik had told ETimes, "With every film, I am being compared to something or someone. So I am okay with not reacting or not thinking about it. When I was offered the film also, I never thought of such things. Because I know that these things always happen with every film - I have seen the same pattern during Bhool Bhulaiyaa and now again during Shehzada. This is a normal question which has been asked again and again to me. But I am okay, I have done my own things and with the character. And I hope what I have done, people will like it."

Hardik Pandya and Natasa Stankovic's son waves 'no' to the paparazzi as they return home after a grand Udaipur wedding



Hardik Pandya and Natasa Stankovic had a wedding of their dreams in Udaipur this week, where they renewed their wedding vows. After celebrating three years of togetherness, the couple

decided to get hitched in a grand manner. They had a white wedding as well as a traditional Hindu marriage ceremony.

On Thursday evening the couple returned home with son Agastya and were

clicked at the airport. The two year old toddler seemed to be annoyed seeing the paparazzi and started waving 'no' at the photographers. Hardik and Natasa seemed amused with their son's antics.

Hardik Pandya and Natasa Stankovic had announced their wedding on social media with priceless pictures from the rituals. The couple had shared, "We celebrated Valentine's Day on this island of love by renewing the vows we took three years ago. We are truly blessed to have our family and friends with us to celebrate our love." For their Hindi wedding, the couple wore bespoke ensembles from Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla. Sharing

details about their attires, the designers had shared, "Hardik is an absolutely majestic groom in this regal, off-white jamdani sherwani, masterfully hand-embroidered with gold zardozi. Red and green bead highlights add jewelled glam to his look. Natasa is a spectacular bride in custom Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla couture. She exudes radiance and romance at its most divine in a lavishly embroidered gota ghagra, blouse and dupatta, shining like only a Goddess can." Hardik had proposed to Natasa on a yacht in Dubai, when they welcomed 2020 together. The couple later got hitched amid the pandemic and welcomed son Agastya in July 2020.



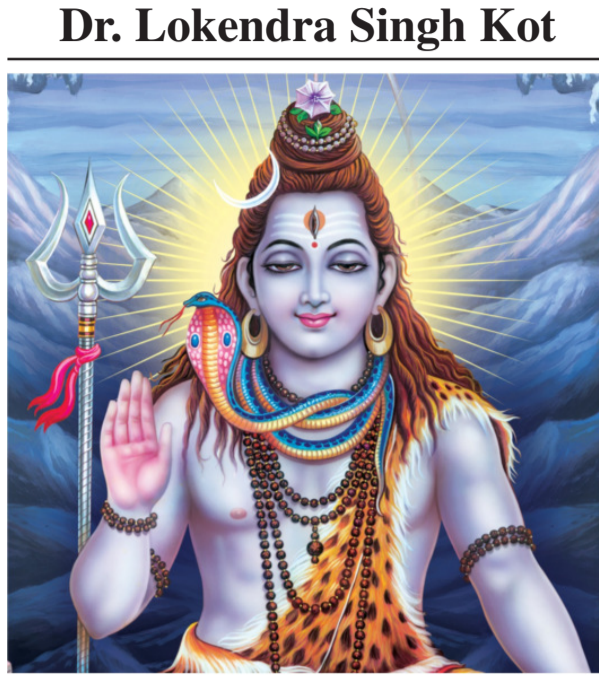
The whole world is made up of Shiva



Whenever something obscene comes to be seen or heard, Shiva, Shiva, Shiva comes out of the mouth spontaneously. All the light that is there in the world is Shiva and wherever a fault is seen or heard in it, the memory of that unique light is automatically mentioned. Only Shiva compensates for every shortcoming because this supreme power is the follower of Shiva only. That's why they become Neelkanth by using poison as well. That's why it is said that there is no such problem or challenge in this world which cannot be solved because all the burden has been taken by that Shiva element on itself. That is why it is said that God, nature does not give you any problem which you cannot solve. From the outside, it seems like a big problem, but when there are two or four of them, then it

seems that it is not a big deal to deal with it. It is the Shiva element that awakens our inner courage, strengthens our faith. Shiva is basically a Sanskrit word which means the destroyer of all troubles and problems. There are different interpretations of the name Shiva in Vedas, Upanishads but the purpose is the same. In Yajurveda, Shiva has been considered as the giver of peace, the meaning is that peace is found at the end of problems and troubles. Shiva is such an energy that has kept power with peace. That's why he has also been given the form of Ardhanarishwar. Strength with peace may seem opposites but they complement each other. Where single element ideology has never existed in Indian culture. Wherever it is, there is no meeting of the two powers. Whether they are in the form of male or female or they have been variable-changeable, conscious-subconscious, mind power-life force, god-demon etc. One meaning of Shiva is zero. That means two directly after zero. One does not come in between. In the arithmetic of spirituality, one does not

come at all, all the other numbers come. Indian spirituality does not say that there is only one path. There are many paths to reach the ultimate being that you can walk on which interests you and reach your destination. All the scriptures also advocate the same thing that as many people there will be as many minds and as many options. That's why it is said in every scripture that you should do this or that and if you don't want to do that much then do this. That means lots of options. That's why thirty-three thousand gods and goddesses have been created in a planned manner here so that you can worship those you like by making them your favorite. Shiva is the alternative of all those choices. Shiva himself has 108 names. Where there are the least rules and regulations, that is Shiva. They wear ashes. Which is the symbol of this world being momentary. Dhatura wears Bilvapatra, which is a symbol that the thorns that come in life or the crossroads of decision, then only by surrendering to Shiva, the thorns go away from your path and you can



Dr. Lokendra Singh Kot

take the right decision at the crossroads of decision. The three leaves of Bilva Patra represent our three rajjas, tamas and sattva. A little Rajas so that we can work, a little Tamas so that we can sleep properly and Sattva because it is the basis of life. That's why among the three leaves of Bilva Patra, the middle Satva leaf is bigger and the remaining two are smaller. Fruits in Shiva worship so that what we want comes true, flowers so that we blossom like them and water so that the two characteristics of water come inside us. First, of struggle because

wherever the water goes, the mountain makes its way even in the rough path, the struggle itself shows the life and the second is the humble spirit, like the water, it gets molded in the way it is. Put in the vessel, it becomes like that. This is essential for human life. Linking Shiva with zero is also very scientific. Where there is nothing, there is Shiva i.e. sky element. In Indian spirituality it is said that when you attain zero, then only you become a brahmagyani. A Brahmagyani feels in the void that he is the creation himself. Because calling

someone a Brahmagyani means that he has realized that the universe is himself. If you want to inhabit this creation within you even for a moment, you have to become that emptiness. Only emptiness can contain everything within itself. The one who is not zero, cannot contain everything within himself. The ocean cannot be contained in a vessel. This planet can contain the ocean, but cannot contain the solar system. The solar system can accommodate the planets and the Sun, but the rest of the sky cannot accommodate the Ganges. If you go step by step like this, eventually you will see that only emptiness can contain everything. And in the end it is said that the biggest void is the Shiva element under which everything comes. Explaining the word 'Shiva', it has been said- 'Shete Sarva Jagat Yasmin Iti Shiv' which means the one in whom the whole world is sleeping, is called Shiva. Each and every part and part of Shiva is the simplest expression of this whole world. Shiva's hair is completely a symbol of space which is

made of sky element. It is infinite and its expansion is infinite. The one who holds all, good, all bad. There is also a moon on Shiva's Jata, which is the symbol of coolness, of the mind. The whole game is done by the mind, so the mind can be balanced only through Shiva. Trinetra Dhari is called because two eyes are only for seeing the world, while the third eye is the symbol of knowledge and wisdom. Staying in the present, with the help of wisdom, the future can be known and the best decisions can be taken. The selection of the serpent represents the conscious, alert state of Shiva, where the meditative state expresses the Turiya state. Trishul is the symbol of physical, divine and spiritual currents and at the same time it is also a symbol of power. Damru is the symbol of that infinite sound which is aspired by everyone. Shiva's Nandi being four legged is the symbol of Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha and is the symbol of infinite waiting, patience. Nandi is the symbol of that devotion which is eager to meet its God

but within the limits. The proof of this is that Nandi is the best medium to convey any message to the meditative Shiva. That's why the feet of Nandi are touched before Shiva. Shiva takes away fear, anger and ego and therefore this can be achieved only by him, that is why Mahamrityujaya Mantra also says, Om Trimbakam Yajamahe S u g a n d h i P u s h t i v a r d h a n a m U r v a r u k a m i v B a n d h a n a n M r i t y o r m u k s h i y a M a m r i t a t ? We worship that Trinetradhari Lord Shiva who nurtures this world with his power, we pray to him to free us from the bondage of birth and death and grant us salvation. Just as a cucumber after ripening from its vine falls on the ground by itself, in the same way give us salvation by giving us freedom from all the bondages of birth and death from this vine-like worldly life.

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Letter To Editor

Dear Editor

I have accidentally came across this video clip in a social media platform. It's about an individual named Raju, from Kollam, Kerala. Not sure, if this is his correct name. He lives on the street and is mentally unsound and survives on begging. No one knows about his past. Nor is he able to communicate much. He uses simple organic sources available to him such as mud, soil, plant materials like leaves and grasses, pieces of bricks for his outstanding wall paintings. He has no brushes for his paintings. Unfortunately such a great street artist has no place or future to look for, has no available humanitarian support or any resources available. Yet he continues with his outstanding artworks with no complaints or expectation from life or anyone. In spite of his hardships he is happy within his own artistic world. For us it's a big lesson of life to be able to focus and continue with our passion; no matter whatever the world holds for us. To live life simply without any expectations from anyone and be focused on our passion.

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MahaShivaratri- divine glory reminds us our capabilities and help us in attaining success



We have heard popular stories of MahaShivaratri and have found it in many of the texts like Shiva Purana and associated Puranas. Shiva temples on 18th February will be reverberated with the chants of "Om Namah Shivaya" and vedic hymns on the occasion of Maha Shivaratri. MahaShivaratri is celebrated to commemorate the wedding of Lord Shiva and Parvati, who are the most beautiful couple. Hindus all over India and abroad are celebrating Maha Shivaratri today. Maha Shivaratri, literally translating to the 'Great night of Shiva' is celebrated with great fervor by the Hindu community. It is said that Lord Shiva is pleased with those who keep awake

and pray to him with full devotion without asking anything in return. Maha Shivaratri is dedicated to Lord Shiva and his wife Goddess Parvati. It is said that on this day, Lord Shiva saved the world from a pot of poison that emerged from the ocean during Samudra Manthan. The great festival of MahaShivaratri is celebrated every year on the fourteenth fortnight of the waning moon during the month of Phalgun. This is because this day is very dear to Lord Shiva, he manifested as Shiva Linga on this day for the first time. Lord Shiva had married to Goddess Parvati on this auspicious day. There are few more reasons for this day being celebrated as Shivaratri. MahaShivaratri is not only one of the magnificent festivals in India but also in Nepal and other regions where Lord Shiva is worshipped. Among the various popular shrines, Amarnath temple

Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit



pilgrimage or Mount Amarnath (about 140 km from Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir) is believed to be the holiest in Hinduism. The festival is celebrated to receive the grace of Lord Shiva. Shiva has the divinity of all the gods, he is the giver of all the wisdom, and he is the father of the entire universe. On Shivaratri various offerings are made to the Shivalingam. As part of Maha Shivaratri's Abhishekam, the Shiva linga, a signifier of Shiva's abundant power is given a

ritualistic bath. According to Shiva Purana on the eve of Maha Shivaratri, the devotees bathe the linga with milk, honey, ghee, curd, and sandalwood paste while chanting 'Om Namah Shivaya'. Traditionally, bael leaves, which have to be a stalk with three leaves, are kept on top of the linga. Ber or jujube fruit is also given as a special offering to the God on this day. It is said that on the day of MahaShivaratri, one gets the fruits of worshipping the whole

Shiva family along with the worship of Lord Shiva. One gets rid of the bad karma and enriches his life with joy and prosperity. The devotees definitely achieve their desired goals. One receives the blessings as progeny, health, longevity, fortunes, wisdom, and freedom from hindrances. Though there are numerous texts related to lord Shiva, there are endless names of Shiva too. But as per the major scriptures, to receive the grace of Lord Shiva, the most appropriate mantra is the panchakshari mantra "Om Namah Shivaya". This mantra is considered very pure and potent of all. This mahamantra has to be chanted as much as possible during the Maha Shivaratri vrata (fast). It blesses the devotees with the desired results. On MahaShivaratri, many devotees observe fast and chant 'Shivjiki Jai' in Hindi and 'Om Namah Shivaya' in Sanskrit. They later celebrate

MahaShivaratri by drinking thandai, which is made up of bhang (cannabis), almonds and milk. It is said that Lord Shiva liked this drink and devotees take it in the form of prasad along with sweets. The appearance of Lord Shiva is very wonderful and special. He is eternal, indestructible, self-manifest, unborn and is completely free from aging, death, birth. He is the ultimate shelter of all the beings. He provides the quiescence to everyone and he dissolves the whole creation back to the origin by opening his third eye during the pralaya. He is the beginning and end of the world. Wearing a garland made from rudraksha and applying turmeric vermilion or holy ash on forehead symbolizes a holy ritual on this religious festival.

B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society, Jodhpur Tekra Satellite Ahmedabad - 380 015

SwitchON Foundation launches Move for Earth movement to celebrate and inspire Climate Action

Kolkata: SwitchON Foundation, an East India based award-winning not-for-profit entity, working across four major verticals – Clean Energy, Water, Climate Smart Agriculture, Skill Development and Sustainable Cities, today launched the second leg of the 'Move for Earth'

them to be the ambassadors of change. SwitchON Foundation, along with various partners, plans to host a series of activities in cities, towns and villages across different states of India apart from Odisha to build resilience with future friendly skills, technologies and practices to mitigate the

crisis. The initiatives being taken up by SwitchON Foundation in this regard are praise worthy and I wish all success in this endeavour."

Present at the occasion, Dr. Hadibandhu Panigrahi, Sr. Environment Scientist, Odisha Pollution Control Board said, "There is a



movement to celebrate and inspire Climate Action with a purpose to build a smarter and brighter future for ourselves, our children, our farmers and life on earth. Vinay Jaju, Co-founder of SwitchON Foundation will be cycling over 3,000 km across different states in East India including around 500 kms in Odisha and connecting with over 10,000 farmers, women and youth, to address issues related to the issues to be addressed are clean air and sustainable mobility, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy.

SwitchON Foundation, celebrating its 15 year anniversary announced the schedule of this six-day Cycle Yatra across Odisha as part of the 'Move for Earth' movement, which will engage Farmers, Youth, Government, Financiers, Technologists and Civil Society Organizations through its journey, and offer solutions to community-specific issues related to water, soil, energy and clean air, that are directly impacting the livelihood and health of citizens. This movement aims to unite and amplify the collective voice of Climate Champions, equip communities with key tools, resources, new age skills and create a networked ecosystem for

climate crisis our planet Earth faces.

Mr. Vinay Jaju, Co-founder SwitchON Foundation said, "In 2008, we, the founding team of SwitchON Foundation, set out on a bicycle ride from Kolkata to New Delhi. The ride inspired and sparked the impetus to a 15-year-journey of serving and strengthening communities through clean energy and other sustainable ways of living. Today, in the face of a devastating climate crisis we have decided to take on a similar ride to celebrate and inspire climate action. The Cycle Yatra will engage Farmers, Youth, Government, Financiers, Technologists and Civil Society Organisations." Commenting about the initiative, Dr. Gadadhar Mohapatra, Rtd. IFS (FE&CC) expressed, "It is really encouraging to witness such a great initiative by SwitchON Foundation to Move for betterment of the Earth, for amelioration of the climate change crisis. I congratulate SwitchON Foundation for taking up such a noble awareness drive. The deteriorating environment today needs rejuvenation and creating awareness for active participation of masses is one of the primary needs for a long term solution of the

dire need to shift the way we live our lives in a climate constrained environment. The Move for Earth initiative by SwitchON Foundation is an effort to promote that necessary shift. I congratulate SwitchON Foundation for taking the initiative and wish them by best wishes. "

"I congratulate SwitchON Foundation for creating opportunities for the different stakeholders and engaging them in a unique and transformational way. This movement will definitely make a difference and connect lives in a positive way," said Sri Arabinda Dhali, MLA, Jayadev. This initiative will encourage urgent climate action and facilitate purposeful events and activities that will range from skill development training, stakeholder meetings, seed festivals and buyer-seller meets, to handicraft fairs, millet and tech expos, street art and puppet shows. In each state the ride will conclude with a Citizens Jury for Earth in which small groups of farmers and urban youth will interact with experts and get involved in the process of making recommendations on our collective future, leveraging the values of democratic decision making.



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah attends the 76th Raising Day celebrations of Delhi Police as Chief Guest, in New Delhi

Will Strengthen International Bodies To Promote Hindi: India

Suva: India aims to strengthen organizations that work in the direction to promote the Hindi language in the international arena, and the language laboratory is one of the steps which will help the teachers to get training on the same, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said. While responding to a media query over MoS V Muraleedharan's announcement regarding the laboratory lab, MEA Secretary (East), Saurabh Kumar said, "The announcement of the language laboratory was made by Muraleedharan ji. With this, teachers will be able to get training. Right now we are focusing on software. Once our internal action is complete then we will give this language lab to Fiji." "For Fiji, we have the developmental and capacity-building

program, which is working well," he added.

He also stated that to promote Hindi in foreign lands, India will strengthen the "Hindi promotion organization."

Mr Kumar started his briefing by thanking all the ministries for making the "World Hindi Conference" a successful event.

"The 12th World Hindi Conference was held in Nadi, Fiji from 15 to 17th February. This (Indian) govt is giving importance to the promotion and dissemination of the Hindi language. We express our deep gratitude to the Govt of Fiji for all the support," he said.

"Around 900-1000 people participated in this conference and people from over 30 countries participated. During this conference, 14 foreign scholars & institutions were



honored. 21 scholars and institutions from India were honored," he added. The three-day Hindi World Conference event concluded today. In these three days, Jaishankar held bilateral meetings with Fiji's leadership during his first-day-long visit to Suva on February 16. According to the statement, Mr Jaishankar called on the President of Fiji, Ratu Williams Katonivere at the State House and launched along with the Fijian President, the Government of India-funded project for the Solarisation of the Pacific Heads of State Residence at the State House in Suva,

according to the Ministry of External Affairs statement.

The project is the inaugural pilot of the Solar Head of State initiative launched by the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) in Fiji and funded by the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, as per the statement.

He had meetings with the Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka and senior members of the Fijian cabinet including the three Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers for Home Affairs, Health, Education, Multi-ethnic Affairs, and Sugar. During the bilateral

meeting with the PM, both leaders took stock of the bilateral relations and discussed ways and means to further strengthen the development partnership between India and Fiji in various areas, including capacity building, health, education, agriculture, and Information Technology. EAM, Ministers of State V Muraleedharan, and MPs attending the 12th World Hindi Conference also visited the Siva Subramanya Kovil in Nadi.

During his visit to Suva, EAM inaugurated the renovated Giritmit Gallery in the Fiji Museum, which has been supported by the Government of India under bilateral grant-in-aid. The Gallery showcases the journey of the Giritmits (Indian indentured laborers) in Fiji, the statement read.

NYKS to Host 14th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme in City to Sensitise about Country's Rich Heritage

Kolkata: To sensitise the tribal youths residing in the remote areas of the country about the country's rich cultural heritage and help them preserve the same for the future generation, besides developing their personality in the wake of constant threat of being swayed away by the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in the wake of extreme poverty, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) in association with NYK-North Kolkata is going to organise the 14th Tribal Youth Exchange programme sponsored by Union Ministry of Home Affairs from February 20 to 26, 2023 at Vivekananda

Yuva Bharati Krirangan, Salt Lake, Kolkata. Various dignitaries including MPs, MLAs, social workers, personnel from CRPF, BSF will be present at the colourful inaugural programme On February 20, 2023.

According to the State Director of NYKS, West Bengal & Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri Rajib Majumdar, the main objective of organising such an event is to enhance their power of understanding life, make them realise their legitimate career aspirations through employable skills and provide them necessary guidance and career counselling.

Shri Majumdar also stated 200 tribal youths with their escorts in the age group of 15 years to 29 years from eight districts of four States-Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand will be arriving in the city to showcase their socio-cultural stints as well as expose them to the techno-industrial development, education and employment opportunities available and also to disseminate awareness regarding various welfare schemes of Government of India. Besides, he said, helping hand will be provided to these tribal youths to develop emotional linkages with their peer groups and

enhance their self esteem. These youths will be toured to the various places of interests of the city like Birla Planetarium, Indian Museum, Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), Victoria Memorial and Belur Math and also endeavours are on to make them introduced to the Governor of West Bengal, Shri C V Ananda Bose at Raj Bhawan. They will also be able to witness the glimpses of cultural heritage of the city as several cultural organisations in and around the city will perform in front of them. As Shri Majumdar mentioned, tribal youths

from eight LWE districts of four States of India—Chhattisgarh (Dantewada, Narayanpur and Sukma, Jharkhand (Gumla, Sarakela Kharsawan and Khunti), Madhya Pradesh (Balaghat) and Bihar (Lakhisarai) is going to participate in this programme. From Dantewada there will be 20 participants, from Narayanpur- 30 participants, from Sukma again- 20 participants, from Gumla - 30 participants, from Sarakela Kharsawan- 20 participants, from Khunti - 30 participants, from Balaghat - 30 participants and from Lakhisarai-20 pa

RSS & BJP are behind the violence

Ranchi: RSS and BJP leaders are responsible for the violence that broke out in Panki amid preparations for Mahashivratri.

The above things were said today by the Central Vice President cum former candidate of Adivasi Moolvasi Janadhikar Manch, Hatia Vidhansabha Vijay Shankar Nayak. He further said that BJP, R.S.S and anti-communal harmony forces by spreading communal riots in the state by politics of polarization of votes and by conspiring to throw the state into the fire of violence, a conspiracy is being hatched to defame the Chief Minister of the state government, Hemant Soren, whom Jharkhandi society and tribal natives Never tolerate public rights forum Will not Mr. Nayak further said that there is Jama Masjid in Panki of Palamu, there was never a



toran gate on Mahashivaratri. BJP and R.S. By spreading religious frenzy, the toran gate was installed by the people of SK, so that the people present in the mosque stopped it, then stone pelting houses were set on fire, two-wheelers and four-wheelers were set on fire. Many people died in this incident. Got injured too. This development has indicated that BJP and R.S. SK people are making malicious efforts to come to power by rioting Hindu Muslims in the state before elections, which Adivasi

Moolvasi Janadhikar Manch condemns in strong words and demands from the state government that they should take care of the victim's family. Give compensation to the people and fair to the injured Do the work of providing medical arrangements. Shri Nayak further said that the RSS and BJP leaders were directly responsible for this incident.

People are guilty. The Palamu violence has been planned He has requested the Chief Minister of the state to get the incident of violence and arson investigated by the SIT and the strictest action should be taken against the culprits, whoever they may be from any class, so that the sectarian, fascist, communal forces can be curbed. It can be done and there should be no repetition of such incidents again in the state

Curtains Come Down On Three-Month Long KIIT Silver Jubilee Celebration

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The three-month-long KIIT Silver Jubilee Celebration (Soil to Silver) came to an end on Thursday. During this period, big-ticket academic and cultural events were organised including the AllIndia Vice-Chancellors conference, corporate conclave, parents meet, staff conference, a mega blood donation camp, among others. A minute of silence was observed at the concluding ceremony as a mark of respect for the victims of the Turkey - Syria

earthquake disaster. Several students from these two countries are pursuing their higher studies at KIIT. Addressing the gathering, Dr Samanta commended the students and the staff for their whole hearted support and discipline in making the three-month-long programme a big success. He said that during the entire period, classes and examinations were also conducted smoothly. "Nobody thoughts that the silver jubilee celebrations will be



conducted successfully for three months. All thanks to the almighty. The programme has no parallels across the globe. I am leaving behind a legacy, a tradition and it is up to the future generation to

take it ahead," he said. Dr Samanta said the spirit of the celebration – academic to humanity – was ably captured with the conduct of the all-India VC conference at the beginning of the

celebration and concluding with the mega blood donation camp that recorded a collection of 4030 units of blood. Former chancellor of KIIT and professor emeritus L N Mitra

said that Dr Samanta has thrown a challenge before the faculties to give their best matching the world-class infrastructure that he has created. KIIT Student Shivani Sangita Sârangi, who



won the best actor award (female) in the recently held 31st State Film Award, was felicitated by the Founder on the occasion. KIIT President Saswati Bal, KIIT and KISS Vice President Umapada Bose, KIMS

Pro VC Dr CBK Mohanty, KIIT VC Prof Sasmita Samanta, KIIT and KISS Secretary R N Dash addressed the gathering. KIIT Registrar Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty delivered the vote of thanks.

39th Annual day Celebration of B.B College Baiganbadia

Baiganbadia (KCN): The Committee Dr.Rajendra Kumar Das under the chairmanship of the Prioncipal Dr.Sandeep Kumar Pattnaik on 15th February 2023. The Higher Education Minister S.J.RohitPujari was the Chief Guest highlighting the duty of Educational Institutions and the aim and the future of the students he also said that the youth are the future of this country as well as state and they should be character full to develop their personality as well as they should be hungry for knowledge and the teacher in this field. He also inaugurate the Boys Hostel funded by University Grant Commission (U.G.C.). The Ex-Minister and Present M.L.A.Bangriposi constituency S.J.SudamMarandi was the Hon'ble Speaker on the occasion. He advise the students remain punctual, discipline and sincere to achieve success in life. The guest of honour Dr.HemantaGhadeiRegional Director also advised the student to be laborious. The Founder



Secretary S.J. Kedar Chandra Nayak advised the students to enhance the dignity of the institution and be attentive in their study. Mrs.Dipika Singh Chairman Kuliana Block hilted how to increase the excellency and behaviour among the students. The ZillaParisad Member S.J. DurgaMarandi was the Guest of Honour in this functions and advised the students to develop their strong personality to built the future of the nation. Another ZillaParisad Member S.J.Ananda Shankar Tudu was also the Guest of Honour in this function and advised the students to built the career in the higher education. All the Readers of this

institution such as Mr.Jahangir Kabir, Mrs.Meghamala Behera, Dr.A.M.Bhuyan, Dr.Srinath Samal, Dr.Kedar Chandra Parida, Dr.Sanjukta Mohanty, Dr.Subhendu Das, Dr.Sarat Mohanty, Dr.Bijay Kumar Mohanta, Mr.Arun Kumar Kar, Mr.S.K.Sahu, Mr.S.K.Dash, Mrs.U.Mishra, and Mrs.B.Panda and all the lecturers Mr.S.K.Sahu, Mrs.J.Dash, Dr.A.Dhal, Mr.S.K.Pathi, Mr.A.Behera, Mrs.S.Murmu, Mrs.P.Sathua, Mrs.S.Mohapatra, Mr.A.Biswal, Mr.S.Bhuae, Mr.A.Acharya, Mrs.N.Mohapatra, Miss.Ipsita Parida, Miss. Rashmita Sen, Miss.

Parishmita Mohanta, Miss.Nikhita Das, Miss.Gouri Mani Tudu, Miss.Rachita Das, Miss.Shila Hembaram and all the demonstrator Mr.R.Mohanta, Mr.S.K.Patra, Mr.K.C.Mohanta, Mr.D.K.Kar, Mr.S.Bode, Mrs.D.Sau, and Mr.D.Sahu and all the non-teaching Members Mr.P.K.Mohapatra, Head Clerk, Mr.S.Dutta, Jr.Clerk, Mr.AlokPatra, Jr.Clerk, Mr.S.Giri, Jr.Clerk, Mr.J.Palbabu, Mr.S.S.Barik, Jr.Clerk, Miss.B.Swain, DEO, Mrs.M.Rout, Jr.Clerk are actively participate in this function to make programme grant success. Atlast Mr.P.K.Basa Reader in History gave the Vote of thanks. The meeting ended with National Anthem followed by Cultural Programme.

23rd Annual function was organized by SSVM Borda



Barda: The 23rd annual festival has been held at the Barda Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir under Bhawanipatna block of Kalahandi district. Mr. Niroj Kumar Sahu president over the said function as chief guest Kalahandi MP Mr.Basant Kumar

Panda, Chief Speaker Mr. Suman Kumar Rath, Principal of +2 College, Bhawanipatna Panchayat Samiti Chairman Mr. Prafulla Sahu and Barda Sarapanch Mrs. Reena Rani Jal as the honourable guest. participated

prominently. Mr. Nirakar Sabar was the manchasin of the program. Principal of the school Mr. Indubhushan Sahu read the annual report while Mr. Roshan Lal Chhatter program management and guest introduction Mr. Manas delivered the

lecture. Ms. Nandita Jain (M.B.B.S), Ms. Neha Jain (software engineer), Mr. Vishal Ranjan Padhan (software engineer) and Mr. Kamaraj Tanti (O.A.S) were honored for the pride and glory of the school. Prizes were awarded to various meritorious students in the school. Children's batika dance, Bhajan Odissi, pyramid and folk dance Ghumura were performed in the cultural programme. School Guruji/Guru Shri Mohan Sahu, Gitanjali Thanapati, Sobanti Thakur, Anita Lenka, Samita Padhan, Amit Padhan, Abani Sahu, Hemant Bagarty, Nibhrut Padhan, Khushiram Sahu, Anita Bhoi, Sujata Bhoi contributed to this. Finally, Mr. Dhananjay Gahir gave thanks to all the participants.

Sarat Chandra Pati memorial english competition held AT 42 Mouza

Cuttack Sadar, (KNS) : Sarat Chandra Pati memorial english competition held with some school students at Cuttack Sadar 42 Mouza under guidance of Subhasish Pati. Those students who won in the competition gained awards respectively. In this function Samaresh Pati, Devi Prasad Tripathy, Rashmi R a n j a n Acharya, Satyabrata



Kar, Susanta Kumar Mohaty and other members were present

which made the program a grand success.

Working Journalists Association of India's Inaugural Meeting to be held on 19 th February at Delhi

BHUBANESWAR: "The inaugural meeting of the Working Journalists Association of India, an apex body of journalists, will be held on February 19 (Sunday) at the Pregs Club of India, New Delhi. Sarada Prasad Nanda, the

Resident Editor of the Odisha edition of the Pioneer is the chief advisor of the Working Journalists of India. The association has cordially invited all to participate in the meeting. Venue: Press Club of India, 1, Raisina Road, near Sastri

Bhawan / Krushi Bhawan/ Rail Bhawan, New Delhi, Date: 19.03.2023, Time : Evening: 6 pm. Dinner at 8.30 pm. The participants would be provided accommodation in the Odisha Niwas and hotels

in Paharganj, said Sunil Kumar Mishra, chairperson of Working Journalists Association. contact no. 9773842732, Delhi and Whatsapp, 9437832226, 6370660226, Odisha and Email ID is sm64084@gmail.com.



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Vedanta-owned BALCO appoints Rajesh Kumar as new CEO, Whole Time Director



RAIPUR: Vedanta-owned Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd (Balco) in Chhattisgarh's power-hub Korba district gets a new Chief Executive

Officer (CEO) and Whole Time Director Rajesh Kumar who replaced Abhijit Pati. Kumar has 36 years of experience in operations, maintenance, project

implementation and productivity improvement in Tata Steel's Indian and Thai units. With a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT

BHU, and a gold medalist in finance from XLRI, Jamshedpur, Kumar has immense experience in organisational excellence, the

implementation of large projects, the commissioning of new plants, the mergers and acquisitions of numerous companies and achieving quality benchmarks.

Pati will now serve as Vedanta Aluminium's Chief Transformation Officer.

The Vedanta acquired a 51% share in Balco, which was a public sector enterprise till 2001. Balco is India's largest manufacturer of aluminium and operates a 0.57 million ton per annum aluminium smelter in Korba, about 220 km from Raipur.

We export 50% of telecom gear made in India, says Nokia



NEW DELHI: Finnish telecom gear maker Nokia is growing its manufacturing capacity in India, and increasing its investment under the Production-linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. The company, which calls itself the largest telecom manufacturer in the country, also said it is exporting 50% of what it is manufacturing in its Chennai factory.

"We have been manufacturing in India now for almost 12 to 14 years. We are the largest telecom manufacturer in India, and we have a big factory in Chennai, which is also exporting 50% of what we manufacture there. We manufacture and export 2G to 5G equipment all over the world. We exported 5G equipment to the US and other countries, even before 5G was launched in India," said Amit Marwah, Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs. Calling the PLI scheme

a right move, Marwah said India can become a telecom gear manufacturing hub. In a bid to boost domestic investments and export in the telecom and networking products Department of Telecommunications (DoT) notified the PLI Scheme on 24 February 2021. It allocated Rs 12,195 crore for implementation of the scheme for over a period of five year from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26. "We are a part of that PLI scheme, and one of the beneficiaries. We have enhanced our investments under the PLI scheme of India. Also, we are growing our manufacturing base to add more capacity at the same time look at new products," added Marwah.

Telecom operators Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel, both have chosen the Finnish company as a vendor to supply 5G gear. However, the country's

third-largest telecom operator Vodafone Idea is yet to decide on rolling its 5G network. On supplying gear to debt-laden Vodafone Idea Limited (VIL), Marwah said, "We are hopeful that we are working with them." "Some good things have already happened with it. And we are hopeful that we are working with them," said Marwah. India can become a telecom gear mfg hub. Calling the PLI scheme a right move, Marwah said India can become a telecom gear manufacturing hub. In a bid to boost domestic manufacturing, investments and export in the telecom and networking products Department of Telecommunications (DoT) notified the PLI Scheme on 24 February 2021. It allocated Rs 12,195 crore for implementation of the scheme for over a period of five year from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26

The new BMW F 900 XR launched in India

Bhubaneswar: The new BMW F 900 XR is launched in India today. The adventure sports tourer will be available as completely built-up units (CBU) and can be booked at BMW Motorrad dealerships. Deliveries of this new profile bike will commence in June 2022. The adventure sports tourer, thenew BMW F 900 XR offers an uncompromising mix of sportiness and touring capabilities. The bike is a perfect amalgamation of sports-style design and dynamics coupled with

a we-inspiring performance. The showroom price of BMW F 900XR Pro is INR 12,30,000.

Mr. Vikram Pawah, President, BMW Group India said, "BMW Motorrad has brought the world's finest premium motorcycles to India and created a distinct place for itself among motorcycle enthusiasts. XR represents an uncompromising combination of athleticism and long-distance riding performance. The new

profile of adventure sports tourer BMW F 900 XR's unique performance is combined with powerful features that further enhance riding in a distinctive and future-oriented style of a genuine XR. The sporty riding fun, straightforward handling and unique features makes this bike a value-added package for the ultimate thrill-seekers."

'XR' stands for an uncompromising mix of sportiness and touring capability. The new BMW F 900 XR is

powered by water-cooled 4-stroke in-line 2-cylinder 895 cc BS6 engine with four valves per cylinder, two overhead camshafts and dry-sump lubrication. With an output of 105 hp (77 kW) at 8500 rpm and a maximum torque of 92 Nm at 6500 rpm, the engine enhances sporty riding dynamics and pleasure. The high torque engine offers just the right speed range to get the most fun out of the power. The motorcycle sprints from 0-100km/hr in just 3.6 seconds and achieve a top speed of

over 200 km/hr.

The suspension is technological benchmark in the mid-range segment. The Multifunctional instrument cluster with 6.5-inch full-colour TFT screen of the new BMW F 900 XR offers an unrivalled level of quality in terms of display and information in its segment. BMW Motorrad Multi-Controller gives the rider quick access to vehicle and connectivity functions. In addition, the bike is equipped with BMW Motorrad Connectivity App.

SMP, Kolkata Ranks 5th in cargo Handling Amongst Indian Major Ports

An All-time Record Cargo handling at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata

Kolkata: The Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMP, Kolkata), Shri, P.L. Haranadh today informed that SMP, Kolkata handled an all-time record Cargo Traffic of 54.254 million tonnes (MT) during the April, 2022 to January, 2023 compared 47.282 million tonnes (MT) handled during April, 2021 to January, 2022 and thus registered a highest growth of 14.75% which is much higher than the national average. Shri Haranadh further said, SMP, Kolkata ranked fifth in Cargo handling amongst Indian Major Ports during April, 2022 to January, 2023



vis-a-vis its ranking of 6th during April, 2021 - January, 2022. Shri, P.L. Haranadh, Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata said that Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) handled 40.162 MT of cargo during April, 2022 to January, 2023 vis-à-vis 34.749 MT during April, 2021 to January, 2022 (an increase of 15.58%).

Kolkata Dock System (KDS) handled 14.092 MT of cargo in April, 2022 to January, 2023 vis-à-vis 12.533 MT during April, 2021 - January, 2022 (growth of 12.44%). During April, 2022 to January, 2023, SMP, Kolkata handled rail-borne traffic of 28.823 MT (KDS-4.92 MT, HDC-23.903 MT) against 24.974 MT

(KDS-4.91 MT, HDC-20.064 MT) in April, 2021 to January, 2022, registering a growth of 15.41%. During April, 2022 to January, 2023, 1221 rakes were received and 1249 dispatched at KDS; at HDC, 5293 rakes were received and 5300 were dispatched during the same period.

Shri Haranadh also stated that major commodities which attributed to this growth of traffic and SMP, Kolkata to achieve this feat, include LPG, Vegetable Oil, Other Liquid, Manganese Ore, Iron & Steel, Pulses/Peas, Coking Coal and Container etc. at Kolkata Dock System and POL

(Crude), LPG, Other Ore, Coking Coal, Non Coking Coal, Fly Ash and Lime Stone etc at Haldia Dock Complex.

The Chairman said that this success has been achieved due to growth of diverse cargo, arrival of new and additional cargo coupled with multi-faceted user-friendly measures like better services, improved facilities, cost-effective and customer-friendly charges and all-out efforts of the employees of the port. SMP, Kolkata is expected to handle more than 65 MT of Cargo by the end of 2022-23 against 58.175 MT of Cargo handled during 2021-22.

Vedanta Aluminium bolsters efforts towards conserving biodiversity

New Delhi : On International Day of Biological Diversity, Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, announces that it is intensifying efforts towards nurturing biodiversity in the areas of its operations in Odisha & Chhattisgarh, as part of its sustainable development agenda. The company has embarked on conservation projects for indigenous bird species that include

constructing birdhouses, artificial nests, and bird baths at multiple locations inside its plants and townships. Supplementing this effort, its Business Units are developing fruit orchards and gardens with medicinal plants, reviving butterfly parks, and undertaking a slew of other initiatives. The day also saw Vedanta Aluminium's employees kick-off of the annual cleaning of local water bodies and community

ponds, by volunteering for the activity. Vedanta Aluminium's operation at Lanjigarh, in Kalahandi district of Odisha, is located in a richly biodiverse region. More than 380 faunal and 940 floral species have been recorded in the core (inside plant area) and buffer (upto 10 kilometres from the plant) zones, including native and migratory birds, reptiles, mammals, amphibians, macrophytes (large aquatic plants), medicinal

plants, and more. The region also supports 26 floral and faunal species of conservation interest, identified by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Similarly, Vedanta Aluminium's operations in Jharsuguda (Odisha) are home to nearly 30 native species of trees and plants, while some Schedule I fauna species like Elephant, Sloth Bear, Indian Rock Python, Common Indian Monitor and Pea Fowl

also inhabit the region. BALCO, Vedanta's subsidiary based in Korba (Chhattisgarh), is also surrounded with rich flora and fauna, recording over 20 species of flora, 30 species of butterflies, 11 species of invertebrates, 72 species of birds and 18 species of mammals. Nurturing biodiversity is a critical pillar of Vedanta Aluminium's approach to ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) excellence for sustainable development.

Capri Global Capital Ltd reported consolidated Profit after Tax of Rs 418mn

Mumbai: The Board of Directors of Capri Global Capital Ltd. (CGCL), a non-deposit taking and systemically important NBFC (NBFC-ND-SI) on Saturday, May 21st, 2022 announced the audited financial results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2022.

CGCL reported a Consolidated Profit after Tax of Rs 418mn, up by a sharp 54% YoY but lower by 36% over a stronger Q3 FY22 PAT

Rs 649mn. One-off elevated credit cost driven by write-offs as well as proactive provisioning caused the sequential dent in quarterly profit. However, the core earnings performance was robust with an operating profit growth of 84% YoY and 7% QoQ. This cushioned the impact of higher credit costs and is also indicative of the earnings strength of CGCL. Net interest margin for

Q4FY22, excluding spreads on co-lending AUM, was 9.7%. Adjusted for one-off spreads in Q3 FY22, the NIMs declined 43bps QoQ. The Company believes NIM is bottoming out and going ahead, a reversal to upward trajectory shall happen. The FY22 Consolidated RoE was 11.3% while RoA closed at 3.3%. The company maintains its +15% RoE guidance for medium term.

India vs Australia, 2nd Test: Mohammed Shami Stars As India Dominate On Opening Day Against Australia

New Delhi: Mohammed Shami Stars As India Dominate On Opening Day Against Australia. India vs Australia, 2nd Test: Mohammed Shami Stars As India Dominate On Opening Day Against Australia. Mohammed Shami in action during the second Test in New Delhi. © AFP

Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin as India restricted Australia to 263 on the opening day of the second Test here on Friday. Opener Usman Khawaja (81, 125 balls) made amends for a horrendous first-Test outing at Nagpur with an attractive knock while Peter Handscomb (72 not out, 142 balls) played with determination at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Friday, but their efforts weren't enough as the visitors were all out in 78.4 overs. At stumps, India were 21 for no loss with Rohit Sharma (13 batting) and KL Rahul (4 batting) at the crease. Shami's (14.4-4-60-4) repertoire of deliveries was on full display as he struck with the new,

semi-new and old ball, while Ashwin (21-4-57-3) and Jadeja (21-2-68-3) came up with breakthroughs just when



The pitch was a typical slow turner but had better carry than the Nagpur wicket and it did help Khawaja, as he was able to hit through the line during his knock that had 12 fours and a six. Shami must be given credit for the way he bowled after Rohit Sharma pressed him from the other end in the first session. Mohammed Siraj, despite going wicketless, deserves credit for softening up David Warner, who struggled during his 50-run stand with Khawaja. Two short balls -- one hitting the Australian opener on the elbow and the other flush on the helmet -- did unnerve the opener. Shami then came wide off the crease and angled one into Warner. The line was immaculate with a

fuller length and Warner could only jab at it. Ashwin then came into the act as Australia, from a comfortable 94/1, lost Marnus Labuschagne (18) and Steve Smith (0) in the space of two deliveries. Labuschagne got an off-break that turned quite a bit and found him plumb in front, while Smith edged one to Kona Bharat, whose amazing reflexes and good technique paid rich dividends. In the post-lunch session, Shami bowled another probing spell getting the better of Travis Head, who came in for Matt Renshaw for the second Test. Shami came closer to the stumps and bowled one which wasn't at a drivable length and Head's thick outside edge flew to Rahul, who took a nice catch wide of second slip.

Kaniha: In an initiative aimed at encouraging sports among the local rural youth, NTPC Kaniha organised a rural volleyball tournament at PTS Township on February 17, under CSR. Thirty four teams from the surrounding villages participated in the one-day tournament. Inaugurating the tournament, Shri K S Sundaram, ED, Talcher Kaniha said that sports



was an important activity in the life of every individual and it helps us to stay healthy. Shri A K Sehgal, GM(O&M), Shri R K Das, GM(Project), Shri Y M Murlikrishna, GM(Operation), Shri Rafiqul Islam, AGM(CSR), Shri B K Pandey, AGM(HR), representatives of Unions and Association and members of Sports Council, NTPC

Kaniha were present on the occasion. The tournament witnessed thrilling contest as the teams fought it out on the court drawing cheers and encouragement from the spectators. Meanwhile, with the successful commissioning of the third part capacity of 50MW Nokhara Solar PV project at Bikaner, Rajasthan, NTPC group installed capacity has increased to 71,594 MW.

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Cheteshwar Pujara Gets Guard Of Honour From Teammates On 100th Test



New Delhi: On a 'milestone occasion', Cheteshwar Pujara earned a much-deserved Guard of Honour from his India teammates as he walked onto the Arun Jaitley Stadium, wearing India's Test jersey for the 100th match. Skipper Rohit Sharma had a big smile on his face as the entire Indian team clapped for Pujara and honoured him on his historic occasion. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) also shared a video of Pujara getting the Guard of Honour on social media. Pujara also received a special 100th Test cap from the legendary Sunil Gavaskar who couldn't stop hailing the veteran battle for his contributions to Indian cricket. Gavaskar hoped Cheteshwar Pujara would become the first Indian to score a century in his 100th Test, adding that the veteran batter has been a role model for "hard work and self-belief". Pujara became the 13th

Indian to reach the 100-Test milestone when he took the field in the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia here. Flanked by his family and teammates, Pujara, the Indian batting mainstay in the longest format of the game, received a special cap from Gavaskar to honour his achievements. "Welcome to the 100th Test club, and I wish and pray you that you become the first Indian to score a big hundred in your 100th Test and lay the foundation for yet another win in Delhi," said Gavaskar who featured in 125 Tests. The former India skipper lauded Pujara for putting his "body on the line for India." "When you go out to bat, it's as if you're taking the India flag with you. You've put your body on the line for India. "You've taken the blows, you got up, and you made bowlers earn your wicket. Every single run you scored is

a big plus for India. You've been a role model for what hard work, self-belief, and dreams can do." The 35-year-old Pujara, who made his Test debut in 2010, has 7,000-plus runs in the format and 19 centuries. "Legends like you have inspired me. As a young cricketer, I always dreamt of playing for India, but I never thought I'd be playing 100 Test matches for India," Pujara said. "I believe Test cricket is the ultimate form of the game and it tests your temperament; there are so many similarities between life and Test cricket. "If you can fight through the tough periods, you always come out on top. I feel really proud and to all the youngsters out there, I encourage you to work hard and strive to play for India. "Thanks to my family and friends for their support. Thanks to the BCCI, media, and my teammates and support staff."

After Nagpur Humiliation, Australia Issued 'Anil Kumble Warning' By Ex India Batter For Delhi Test

New Delhi: After Nagpur Humiliation, Australia Issued 'Anil Kumble Warning' By Ex India Batter For Delhi Test. After registering a marvelous win in the first Test in Nagpur, Team India is all set to face Australia in the second Test of the four-match series in Delhi from Friday. NDTV Sports Desk Updated: February 17, 2023 07:44 AM IST Read Time: 2 min

After Nagpur Humiliation, Australia Issued 'Anil Kumble Warning' By Ex India Batter For Delhi Test. Anil Kumble took 10 wickets against Pakistan in 1999. After registering a marvelous win in the first Test, Team India is all set to face Australia in the second Test of the four-



match series in Delhi from Friday. The Rohit Sharma-led side completely dominated the visitors as they claimed a win by an innings and 132 runs. As both the teams are now gearing up for the second match, which will be played at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, former India batter Ajay Jadeja has warned the Pat Cummins-led side that at the same venue, the legendary Anil Kumble took a 10-wicket haul against Pakistan in 1999. "Delhi can be expected to have very low bounce, in case they put in some grass then the wicket becomes decent for batting also. Anil Kumble had taken his 10 wickets here at Delhi against Pakistan.

Test, a feat achieved after 13 years of sweat and toil. While Pujara would like to savour the momentous personal milestone with a 20th Test ton, one can't but paper over the concerns around India's top-order. Save skipper Rohit Sharma, who was regal in attack and classical in defence during his hundred on a slow turner in Nagpur, the others failed to get going in the opener. Besides Rahul, the list of strugglers includes the peerless Virat Kohli and, to an extent, Pujara. Kohli is leaving no stone unturned to up the ante while facing the spinners. Round two of Kohli versus Nathan Lyon and Todd Murphy could be equally enticing.

'Best time to bowl is under the lights' - Brook on England's declaration

London: England batter Harry Brook has admitted that England's early declaration on the opening day of the pink-ball Test against New Zealand was dictated by the conditions. Having batted 58.2 overs, England declared their innings at 325/9 in order to put New Zealand under pressure against the new ball under the lights. The decision was indeed vindicated as veteran James Anderson removed Kane Williamson and Henry Nicholls whereas Ollie Robinson got rid of Tom Latham to leave the hosts reeling at 37/3 by stumps. "Yes, the gamble paid off," Brook said after the first day's



play. "The best time to bowl is under these lights. You can extract the most amount of swing and seam so why not try and expose their top order to that? It's the hardest time to bat and we've got three of the best bowlers to ever play the game. And thankfully we got three wickets.

"It just happened like that, to be honest. There was no plan at dinner to declare. Me and Foakesy (Ben Foakes) were still batting together and if I hadn't got out, the plan would've been the same. But because I got out the plan changed, and Stokesy said if there are two bowlers in at the

same time, give them a couple of overs and we'll try and utilise the lights." Brook was instrumental in England putting up a 300-plus total as he hammered 89 off just 81 deliveries as the visitors recovered from a tricky 154/4 to eventually finish with over 300 on the board.

At one stage, Brook appeared to be on course to breaking the record for the fastest Test ton by an Englishman. While admitting that the prospect of breaking the record did play on his mind, Brook is hopeful of putting these distractions away going ahead in the future. "Yes, I was aware of the record," he conceded. "The BBC told me the other day and it did stick in my mind a little bit. I was aware of that fastest century one as well. Obviously, I need to get that out of the back of my mind and concentrate on getting to a 100. To be fair, I went for it a couple of times in Pakistan. I'm not bothered now to be honest. I'm just glad that I've got another Test 89."