

Padampur To Get District Status In A Year: Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik



Bargarh(KCN): In a major announcement, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today said Padampur will get district status within a year. The CM was addressing a public

meeting at Jharabandha during his visit to Padampur Assembly Constituency. Besides inaugurating various welfare projects in the area,

Patnaik also disbursed financial assistance of Rs 1.23 crore to the members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) of the region. "My government has accepted the

suggestions given by common people for development. The Paikamal PHC has been converted into a CHC. An amount of Rs 90 crore has been sanctioned for

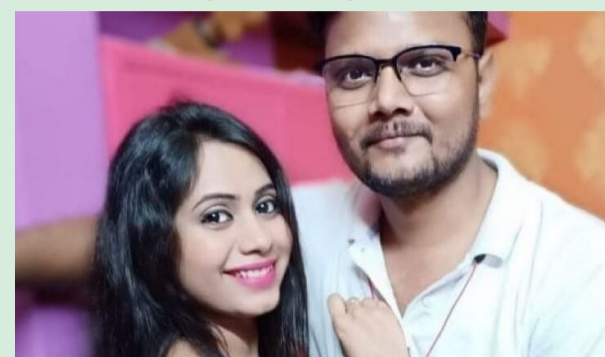
developmental projects in Padampur. It will become a district within one year. I keep my promises. I believe in action, not words," said Patnaik. An action committee demanding district status for Padampur had met the CM at his residence in Bhubaneswar in November, last year. The committee members had said the discussion with Patnaik was fruitful as he gave them assurance to accord district status to Padampur subdivision of Bargarh by December 31, 2023.

MLA Bijaya Shankar's Estranged Girlfriend Somalika Meets LoP Jayanarayan Mishra

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Trouble might escalate for Tirtol MLA Bijaya Shankar Das as his estranged girlfriend Somalika Das today met Leader of Opposition (LoP) Jayanarayan Mishra urging him to raise the matter in the Odisha Assembly.

Somalika had accused Bijaya Shankar of developing physical intimacy with her on the promise of marriage. She further alleged that he forced her to undergo abortion twice.

"Police are not taking action against Bijaya Shankar despite registration of case as he is an MLA of the ruling party. He is roaming freely. Police registered the case only after the intervention of Orissa High Court. As I have no



trust in the ruling party, I met the Leader of Opposition seeking help," said Somalika. Notably, the Orissa High Court had recently directed the Jagatsinghpur police station IIC to register a case against Bijaya Shankar on the basis of a complaint lodged by Somalika. Alleging police inaction, Somalika had moved the High Court seeking registration of case against the

lawmaker. She had mentioned in her petition that police was not registering case against the MLA despite filing of an FIR on May 13, 2022. Worth mentioning, Somalika had levelled a serious allegation against the legislator accusing him of not turning up for marriage at a court in Jagatsinghpur even as the two had applied for marriage registration at the office of the sub-registrar in the district.

Odisha Woman Kills Stepson For Property

Nayagarh(KCN): A woman allegedly killed her stepson, who was a divyang, to get entire family property here in the district. The incident was reported from Similisa village under Dasapalla police limits in Nayagarh district. According to reports, divyang Bijay Pradhan was earning for the family by driving an autorickshaw. His marriage was fixed recently, which was

opposed by his stepmother. He was admitted to the Dasapalla CHC on February 11. Later, he was shifted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. However, he died while undergoing treatment late on Saturday night. Sources said that Bijay's stepmother had been torturing him for property. Reacting to it, the 37-year-old man consumed poison. However, family sources

termed the incident as a murder. He was beaten to death by his stepmother. His father had also helped her in the crime, alleged deceased Bijay's aunt (mother's sister) and uncle (mother's brother). On the other contrary, the deceased's family claimed that he was hospitalised after falling on the ground due to some reason. Till the last report came in, no complaint had been filed with the police.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA TO VISIT ARUNACHAL PRADESH FROM FEBRUARY 20 TO 21
New Delhi: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu will visit Arunachal Pradesh from February 20 to 21, 2023. On February 20, 2023,



the President will grace the 37th Statehood Day celebrations of Arunachal Pradesh and attend a civic reception to be hosted in her honour by the State Government at Itanagar. On February 21, 2023, the President will address the special session of Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly at Itanagar.

BJP reiterates CM Naveen's resignation demand over law and order situation, burns effigy in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Bhubaneswar district BJP Yuva Morcha on Sunday took out a rally and staged a demonstration at Baramunda. Later the agitating members of the Yuva Morcha burnt the effigy of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and demanded his resignation. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has been staging protests and demonstrations across the State protesting against the crumbling law and order situation in the State. As a part of this ongoing protest, the

Bhubaneswar district BJP Yuva Morcha on Sunday took out a rally and staged a demonstration at Baramunda. Later the agitating members of the Yuva Morcha burnt the effigy of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and demanded his resignation. The Saffron party said the ongoing protest would be intensified in the coming days. "The State has witnessed several incidents starting from Pari to the Naba Das

murder cases. So much so that, women in the capital city are also not feeling safe. Even, policemen are also not safe. Every section of the society is in a state of insecurity. Protesting this, the Bhubaneswar district BJP Yuva Morcha took to the street today and demanded the resignation of the Chief Minister. Our such protests would continue till the Chief Minister has resigned," said BJP's Bhubaneswar district unit president Babu Singh.

In its response, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) said whatever the BJP is doing is politically-motivated. "I am not comparing with anyone. But they should consider the crime situation in the States ruled by their party. The number of crimes is increasing. The horizon of crime is also increasing. It is our foremost duty to contain this. They should come with suggestions. While the Chief Minister is attending programmes at Padampur in Bargarh district, they (BJP) are doing such things there in Bhubaneswar with an aim to get political mileage," said BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra. Meanwhile, BJP State general secretary Lekhasri Samantsinghar launched a scathing attack on the BJD-led government over the Naba Das murder case and Jayanarayan Mishra-Dhanupali IIC issue.

Three Of Family Killed As Truck Hits Auto-Rickshaw In Odisha's Angul

Angul(KCN): In a tragic incident, three persons of a family died as a truck hit an auto-rickshaw in which they were travelling near Khalagaon in Odisha's Angul district, late last night. The deceased were identified as Pitambar Pradhan, his relative Gundicha and his brother Munna of Kulasinga village under Bantala

police limits. According to reports, the three and Pitambar's wife Jambu were returning home in the three-wheeler after leaving his daughter at her in-laws' place in Nuaraiguda. The ill-fated vehicle and a truck collided head-on killing Pitambar and his relative on the spot. Munna and Jambu sustained critical injuries in the road accident and

were rushed to Bantala Hospital. Munna was later shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital as his condition deteriorated. However, he succumbed to injuries at the hospital. The driver of the truck fled the spot with the vehicle after the incident. Police have recovered the bodies for post-mortem and initiated an investigation.

Post Nadda Visit To Odisha, BJP Toughens Its Stance Against BJD, Naveen Patnaik

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With nearly one year left for the next assembly and general elections, BJP – the principal opposition party in Odisha – has become aggressive against the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD government. Following the completion of Presidential poll, the BJP has started attacking the BJD government raising several issues including woman blackmailer Archana Nag honey trap case and suicidal death of prime accused in lady teacher Mamita Meher murder case. Notably, in both the cases, involvement of

ministers and senior BJD leaders were alleged. The attack of the BJP against the BJD government has sharpened further in the past one and half months following the visit of BJP national President J.P. Nadda. The saffron party has been strongly criticising the government on every issue and that too, the target is the chief minister. Demanding resignation of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the Odisha BJP has hit the street over deteriorating law and order situation in the state.

The BJP has been claiming that the law and order situation has collapsed in Odisha because three major incidents happened in the state in a short span of time. Cabinet Minister Naba Das was killed by a police official in broad daylight on January 29 while a young IAS officer and his driver were attacked by the sand mining mafia in Balasore district on February 3. Besides, the BJP is also demanding action against BJD MLA Bijay Shankar Das for allegedly harassing a girl, to whom he was



supposed to marry. In this case, police registered a case against the MLA after intervention of the Orissa High Court. Stating such cases of law and order problem has not been reported in Odisha, the BJP is

holding demonstrations and road blockades in different parts of the state including capital city Bhubaneswar. Apart from its bid to trash the image of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and his government over the law and order issues,

the BJP is also highlighting Centre's free rice scheme to woo the voters. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan – a big face of Odisha BJP – MLAs and other BJP leaders have united to fight against the BJD government, which is in power since 2000. Leader of Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra continuously targeted the government over the minister's murder case. Alleging top-level minds behind the murder, he has demanded CBI probe into the case. "There are a lot of issues against the BJD

government and party. But the BJP has to raise all such issues. It is a challenge before the BJP to maintain its aggressiveness and tempo against the state government till next election," said political observer Prasanna Mohanty. On the other hand, the ruling BJD has also always become ready with a counter strategy to BJP's every move. When the BJP launched three-day state-wide demonstrations, the BJD has also hit the streets over reducing the budgetary allocation on paddy procurement

and discontinuation of distribution of 5 kg free rice under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). The regional party has been demanding an apology from Mishra for his alleged misbehaviour to a lady cop during a protest. However, the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD has till now confined its attack on the Odisha BJP and its leaders. They are not making any critical statement against the top-level BJP leaders like Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Amit Shah and Nadda.

CUO organizes special lecture on 'Union Budget-2023-24'

Koraput: A Special lecture on 'Union Budget-2023-24' was organized by the Department of Economics, Central University of Odisha on 16th February 2023 at the Department of Economics, Main Campus, Sunabeda. Prof. Dukhabandhu Sahoo, Head of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Management, IIT Bhubaneswar was the distinguished speaker for the programme. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathy, conveyed his best wishes for a successful programme and hoped the students will learn different aspects of the Union Budget 2023-24. The program was started with Dr. Minati Sahoo, HoD, Department of Economics, delivering the welcome address and introduction to the topic. Prof. Sahoo highlighted the 'Amrit Kaal' and the 'Saptarishi' which represented the seven major goals to be achieved during the 25 years of 2022-2047. He also analyzed the receipts and expenditures of the three years from FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24. The percentage share of different heads from which income is generated by the



government and the percentage share of different heads towards which expenditure is incurred by the government were mentioned by him. He also clearly analyzed the major announcements made by the government regarding the seven priority sectors like inclusive development, reaching the last mile, infrastructure and investment, unleashing the potential, green growth, youth power and financial sector. He praised the steps of the government regarding the setting up of new nursing colleges and opening of ICMR labs which were highly essential to meet the demand for healthcare facilities in the highly populated country. He has also encouraged the recruitment of teachers and support staff for the Eklavya Model Residential Schools serving the tribal students, simplification of the Know Your Customer process, Green credit program, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, strengthening of Skill India Digital Platform, collateral-free guaranteed credit of ₹2 lakh crore to MSMEs and many more which would increase the employment and income in the country. He also discussed the income tax structure and changes in income tax slabs under the new tax regime. There was a healthy and productive interaction session between the resource person and the participants. The vote of thanks was then delivered by Dr. Prasant Kumar Behera, Asst. Prof, Dept. of Economics, CUO. The program was attended by faculty members, students and research scholars from different departments. The session was compered by Ms. Manisha Gupta, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Dept. of Economics, CUO.

CUO Scholar receives "Professor Baidyanath Mishra Best Paper Award- 2023"

Koraput: Ms. Manisha Gupta, Ph.D. Research Scholar (Ph.D.) of the Department of Economics, Central University of Odisha was conferred with "Professor Baidyanath Mishra Best Paper Award-2023" along with a cash prize of ₹10,000 in the 55th Annual Conference of Orissa Economics Association. The conference was held at Kalahandi University on 11th-12th February 2023. Her research paper



on the topic "Bauxite Mining and Food Security: A micro-analysis in Koraput District, Odisha" was selected for the award. The research

paper is the collective work of her and Dr. Minati Sahoo, Research Supervisor and Head (I/c) of Department of Economics, Central University of Odisha.

The work is an attempt to study the impact of bauxite mining on the food security of the local people in the mining region of the Koraput district of Odisha.

Eye camp held at AK Bidyamandir campus 42 Mouza.

Cuttack Sadar (KCN) - One Eye camp organized at AK Bidyamandir Dadhibamanpur Cuttack Sadar 42 Mouza for all students. Eye Specialist Dr. Lopamudra

Behura, Akhilesh Sinha and SK Kashim presiding the camp with more than hundred numbers of students examine there eyes with Distribute merit certificate them. In this Seva work

School Chair Person Dr. Chabdana Behera, Advisor Dr. Anirudha Khilar, Principal Antaryami Sahoo delivered there valuable speech towards students. The eye camp organized with

maintain by School Administrator Khetramohan Senapti, All teachers and staffs. In future regularly Eye camp will organize at school campus Dr. Behura promised.

2 Brothers Killed In Road Mishap In Odisha's Rayagada



Rayagada: Two brothers were reportedly killed when a pickup van hit the motorcycle they were riding on JK Pur-Kalyansingpur road in Rayagada district of Odisha today. The deceased have been identified as Bulu Beniya (37) and Manoj Beniya (25) of Rampur village in Karlakana

panchayat under Kolnara block in Rayagada district, police said. According to sources, the mishap occurred when the duo was returning home after finishing some work in Rayagada town at 4 pm. The speeding pickup van (OD18G-0755) hit the motorcycle (OD18K-5572) from

the front. Bulu and Manoj died on the spot, sources said. On being informed by the locals, a police team led by Chandili Inspector In-Charge (IIC) Yashwant Hial reached the spot and seized the pickup van. However, the driver managed to escape, sources said. Seeking adequate

compensation and stern action against the driver of the pickup van, the victims' family members along with the villagers staged a road blockade on the spot. Vehicular traffic on JK Pur-Kalyansingpur road was halted due to the agitation, sources said.

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Popular TV Actresses Seek Blessings at India's Most Revered Lord Shiva's Temples on Mahashivratri

To celebrate one of India's largest and most sacred festivals, Mahashivratri, &TV artists Kamna Pathak (Rajesh, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan), Vidisha Srivastava (Anita Bhabi, Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai) and Neha Joshi (Yashoda, Doosri Maa), visited the most revered Lord Shiva temples. Vidisha Srivastava (Anita Bhabi) visited her hometown, Varanasi, to attend the Shiv Mahotsav at the world-famous Kashi Vishwanath temple. Kamna Pathak (Rajesh Singh) visited her hometown Indore and then witnessed the grand celebration at one of the most revered Lord Shiva temples in Ujjain – the Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga temple. Neha Joshi (Yashoda) sought blessings at Haridwar's famous Shiv temple – Shiv Ki Pauri.

Talking about her visit to Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga in Ujjain, Kamna Pathak, essaying Rajesh in &TV's Happu



ki Ultan Paltan, said, "One of the unique Mahashivratri celebrations is held at the Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga temple. The temple celebrates 'Navratri,' a nine-night festival during this time. In this ceremony, known as shrungar, Mahakal (Shiva) is dressed in various attires. Since I have lived in Indore, I have witnessed grand Mahashivratri celebrations many times. But I still love coming back here to be a part of it every year. During

Mahashivratri, the city has a different vibe and energy, which I enjoy. I was fortunate to relive this experience and receive blessings at one of India's most revered temples this year. I seek Lord Shiva's blessings for every new beginning in my life. I also returned to my hometown of Indore, indulged in my favourite street foods, and shopped at my favourite Sarafa Bazar. During this trip, I was able to reconnect with old Indorian friends and relive my youth."

Vidisha Srivastava, essaying Anita Bhabi in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, visits Kashi Vishwanath mandir in Varanasi and says, "The sacred festival of Mahashivratri is observed with zeal and devotion throughout the country. But the grandeur of this festival in Varanasi is on another level; after all, it is 'Shiv Ki Nagri. The sacred festival here is celebrated with full faith and devotion. This year, I had the opportunity to return to my hometown and

receive blessings from Baba Kashi Vishwanath. I couldn't think of a better way to commemorate this occasion. The temple was beautifully decorated, and lakhs of Shiv bhakts were gathered to seek blessings. It is not a one-day event. At Kashi Vishwanath, two devotees dressed as Shiv and Parvati lead the entire crowd in a dance. Their other wedding rituals are also performed with grandeur in various events. It was a truly surreal experience. The grand celebrations were spectacular, and chanting 'Har Har Mahadev' with lakhs of Shiv Bhakts was a spiritual experience. In addition, I visited my home and school to relive some memories. At my favourite stalls, I gorged on my favourite dishes, such as Tamatar Chaat, Samosa, Kachori, Jalebi, and Malaio. This Mahashivratri was a true celebration for me. I pray that Lord Shiva keeps us

blessed and that we keep entertaining our viewers of Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai." Talking about her visit to the famous Shiv Ki Pauri temple in Haridwar, Neha Joshi, essaying Yashoda in &TV's Doosri Maa, says, "Mahashivratri is celebrated with much fervour and enthusiasm in Haridwar. And I consider myself fortunate to have witnessed this magical moment in this holy town. I began my day with Ganga aarti and later sought blessings at Shiva's temple. I also saw the famous Prakasheshwar Mahayatra, in which Shiva's gans (attendants) dressed as ghosts and rakshasas (demons) chanted 'bum-bum bhole,' which was an amazing experience. I had always heard about and seen pictures of the celebration but seeing it in person was surreal. I am grateful and would like to wish everyone a Happy Mahashivratri."

Tollywood Actor Taraka Ratna Passes Away at 39



Tollywood actor Nandamuri Taraka Ratna on Saturday night breathed his last at Bengaluru's Narayana Institute of Cardiac Sciences, where he was admitted on January 27 after he collapsed during a padyatra of TDP general secretary Nara Lokesh in Kuppam town of Andhra Pradesh. He was 39.

Taraka Ratna is survived by his wife Alekhya Reddy and a daughter. Taraka Ratna was the grandson of TDP founder, legendary actor and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao. He was the cousin of Junior NTR, Kalyan Ram and Lokesh. The body is likely to be brought to Hyderabad on Saturday night.

The young actor collapsed after he suffered a massive heart attack during Lokesh's padyatra in Kuppam in Chittoor district. He was immediately rushed to a hospital in Kuppam

where he was given PCR. His heart had reportedly stopped functioning.

A few hours later, he was shifted to Narayana Institute of Cardiac Sciences in Bengaluru, where his condition remained critical. The management of the hospital had brought a few cardiology specialists from the US.

He was reportedly treated with Balloon Angioplasty, Intra Balloon Pump and vasoactive support. His condition turned very

critical on Friday and he finally succumbed on Saturday.

Taraka Ratna made his film debut in 2002 with 'Okato Number Kurraadu' under the direction of K. Raghavendra Rao. He acted in about a dozen movies and web series. He was reportedly keen to contest next year's Assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh on TDP ticket and had joined Lokesh on the first day of padyatra. Taraka Ratna's father Nandamuri Mohan Krishna is a cinematographer in Tollywood and son of N. T. Rama Rao.

Jagan Mohan Reddy, KCR, Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu Condole Taraka Ratna's Demise

Top politicians from both the Telugu states, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, and leading Tollywood personalities have condoled the death of Tollywood actor Nandamuri Taraka Ratna. The actor breathed his last at Narayana Institute of Cardiac Sciences in Bengaluru, where he was admitted on January 27 after he had suffered a massive cardiac arrest. He was 39.

His death plunged the family of legendary actor and former chief minister N.T. Rama Rao into gloom. Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababurao expressed shock over the actor's death and conveyed condolences to his family members. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy has expressed grief over the death of Taraka Ratna, grandson of legendary actor and former chief minister N.T. Rama Rao. He conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family members. Former chief minister and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed shock and grief over the death of Taraka Ratna. Efforts made to revive Taraka Ratna, prayers of family members, fans and treatment by the expert doctors did not yield results, said Naidu.

"Taraka Ratna, who fought with death for 23 days, finally left us and left our family sad," he said, and prayed

for his soul to rest in peace. The actor had collapsed during padyatra of Naidu's son and TDP general secretary Nara Lokesh in Kuppam town of Andhra Pradesh on January 27. Taraka Ratna was cousin of Lokesh and actors Junior NTR and Kalyan Ram. Lokesh said he was shocked over the demise of Taraka Ratna. He termed it a huge loss for the family and TDP. Taraka Ratna's paternal uncle and leading actor Balakrishna expressed his shock over the young actor's death. "I can't believe that I will never be able to hear the call Bala Babai," said Balakrishna. Megastar K. Chiranjeevi said he was deeply saddened to learn of the tragic premature demise of Taraka Ratna. "Such bright, talented, affectionate young man..gone too soon. Heartfelt condolences to all the family members and fans. May his soul rest in peace," tweeted Chiranjeevi. Top actor Mahesh Babu tweeted that he was shocked and deeply saddened by the untimely demise of Taraka Ratna. "Gone way too soon brother! My thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones during this time of grief," he wrote. Actor and Jana Sena Party leader Pawan Kalyan also condoled the death of Taraka Ratna and conveyed his condolences to family members.

Audience Goes Crazy Over Kriti Sanon in 'Shehzada,' Check out Twitter Reactions

Kriti Sanon is one of the top actresses in the industry currently, she has always been loved on screen and her fan base is rapidly increasing everyday. In her recent released film, 'Shehzada', Kriti Sanon steps into the shoes of the character of Samara and lights up the screen every time she appears in the film.

Kriti's hot looks, charming personality and stunning presence have mesmerised the audience. The film sees Kartik and Kriti

reuniting after 'Luka Chuppi' and their chemistry is breathtaking, no doubt they are one of the best on-screen pair of this generation. Taking to social media her fans are going crazy over her character in the film.

On the work front, some of Kriti's upcoming films include Ganapath, The Crew with Kareena and Tabu, Adipurush with Prabhas, and Untitled Next with Shahid.



New Tax Regime- how far beneficial



The Lok Sabha roared to life, when the Hon'ble FM uttered the words – "I propose to increase the rebate limit to Rs 7 lakh."

The joy was short-lived As soon as the rapturous applause started ebbing, FM Sitharaman, dropping a punchline, added: "In the new tax regime."

Prominent changes in the new tax regime:

Income up to Rs 7 lakh in a financial year will be tax-exempt for taxpayers having income only upto Rs. 7 Lakhs for assessment year 2024-25 and onwards. This will

be possible as rebate limit u/s 87A has been increased from Rs 12500 to Rs.25000 applicable to taxpayers having income upto Rs 7 lakh under the new tax regime.

The basic exemption limit has been enhanced from Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 3 lakh for new tax regime. However, the exemption limit under the old tax regime will continue at Rs.2,50,000. Tax slabs have been reduced to 5 under new tax regime. It was 6 earlier.

Income tax Slabs in the new tax regime:

Income up to Rs 3 lakh: NIL
Income Rs 3 lakh to Rs. 6 Lakh: 5%
Income Rs 6 lakh to Rs. 9 Lakh: 10%
Income Rs 9 lakh to Rs. 12 Lakh: 15%
Income Rs 12 lakh to Rs. 15 Lakh: 20%
Income above

Rs.15 Lakh : 30%
Above Rates given in section 115BAC(1A) are the default rates. Various exemptions and deductions including deduction u/s 80C, 80D etc. cannot be claimed under New Tax Regime.

However some Deductions available under New Tax Regime w.e.f. asst year 2024-25 for computing income u/s 115BAC(1A):

a) Standard deduction from Salary u/s 16(ia),
b) Deduction in respect of income in the nature of family pension as provided u/s 57 (iia) and
c) Deduction in respect of the amount paid or deposited in the Agniveer Corpus Fund as proposed to u/s 80CCH (2).

Exemptions / Deductions NOT available under New regime for

● Narayan Jain

computing income:

(i) Exemption u/s 10(5) for Leave Travel Concession; (13A) Exp on Rent or clause (14) Allowance for performance of Duty (other than those as may be prescribed) or clause (17) Allowance for MLA/MP or (32) for income of minor,

(ii) Exemption u/s section 10AA for units in SEZ

(iii) Deduction u/s section 16(ii) and (iii) [Entertainment allowance / Profession Tax)

(iv) Interest on Housing Loan of upto Rs. 2 Lakh u/s 24(b) for SOP

(v) Additional Depreciation in case of new plant & machinery u/s 32(1)(iia) or deduction u/s 32AD or section 33AB or section 33ABA or sub-clause (ii)/(iia) of sub-clause (iii) of

section 35(1) or section 35(2AA) or section 35AD or section 35CCC or (vi) Deductions under Chapter VI-A other than the provisions u/s 80CCD(2) or 80CCH(2) or section 80JJAA; Thus deduction also not available U/s 80C and for medical premium u/s 80D

Income tax Slabs under the normal scheme/ old regime:
Income up to Rs 2.5 lakh: NIL
Income Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs. 5 Lakh: 5%

Income Rs 5 lakh to Rs. 10Lakh: 20%
Income above Rs 10 lakh : 30%

Various exemptions and deductions including deduction u/s 80C, 80D etc. can be claimed under the existing old Regime.
Tax burden Existing (after

deductions) vs. New tax regime:

Income Rs 5 lakh:

Existing New
Rs.12500 subject to Rebate
Rs.10,000

Income Rs 9 lakh:

Existing New
Rs.92500 ; New
Rs.45,000

Income Rs 10 lakh :

Existing New
Rs.1,12,500 ; New
Rs.60,000

Income Rs 12 lakh :

Existing New
Rs.1,72,500; New
Rs.90,000

Income Rs 15 lakh (after deductions):

Existing New
Rs.2,62,500 ; New
Rs.150,000
Income Rs 20 lakh (after deductions):
Existing New
Rs.4,12,500 ; New
Rs.300,000

Some important points :

1. New tax regime will apply by default to all Individuals, HUFs ,

AOP (Other than Co-operative Society), BOI, Artificial Juridical Persons w.e.f. AY 2024-25.

2. However, one may exercise option to follow the normal regime by applying before due date of furnishing ITR u/s 139(1)

3. New Tax Regime will apply to Individuals, HUFs , AOP (Other than Co-operative Society) and BOI (Earlier scheme applied only to Individuals & HUFs from AY 2021-22 to 2023-24)

4. Option in case of taxpayers having income from Business or Profession, once exercised shall continue. However if such taxpayer ceases to have income from Business or Profession then the option will be available. Other taxpayers can opt old or new tax regime every year.

Conclusion :If one

is not taking benefit of exemptions and deductions, new tax regime is comparatively much better.

For Salaried persons also it is beneficial as they can claim Standard Deduction of Rs.50,000 u/s 16(i) as also available in case of old Regime. Tax Burden need to be calculated under both regimes (non business taxpayers may change the option). It can be noted that in future, the Government intends to apply the new Tax Regime to all individuals and other eligible taxpayers and do away with the old tax regime.

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

Letter To Editor

Dance is an unique aspect of human socio-cultural tradition and heritage predating most human civilizations. It has been an unique art form; possibly since the time of our hunter-gatherer prehistoric ancestors. Both facial and body movements are essential in conveying the message in classical dances and particularly the feminine curvatures and the appeal of sensuality is important in various dance forms to capture the human spirit. That's why most dance poses sculptured on walls of temples or monuments or mausoleums have dancing figures representing sexual forms and positions. To capture the spirit of human emotions like various forms of human love, affection, sex, anger, compassion, seduction expressed in artistic forms. The better the stature and contortions of the body, arms, legs, hips and stomach in addition to facial expressions makes the dance form unique, appealing, inspirational and sensual for the audience. Dance is a form of story telling too like our folklores or religious faiths or even daily life activities, moods, feelings, joys and despair expressed with artistic precision to captivate the audience. Tribal dance is also a very physical form of dancing portraying their life, livelihood, faiths and beliefs as well as their unique close relationship to nature and their immediate surrounding environment. Mixing South Asian classical dance moves that portrays many forms of love and relationships, worship, divinity, nature and natural beauty and the complexity of human minds and their varied expressions of different moods with the elegant, nature based, animalistic and simple tribal dance styles reflecting human body, it's moves and sensuality of female body will be an unique experience for the audience to follow. With the change in the taste of our modern audience, it is important that we encourage fusion between classical, modern as well as folk and tribal dances.

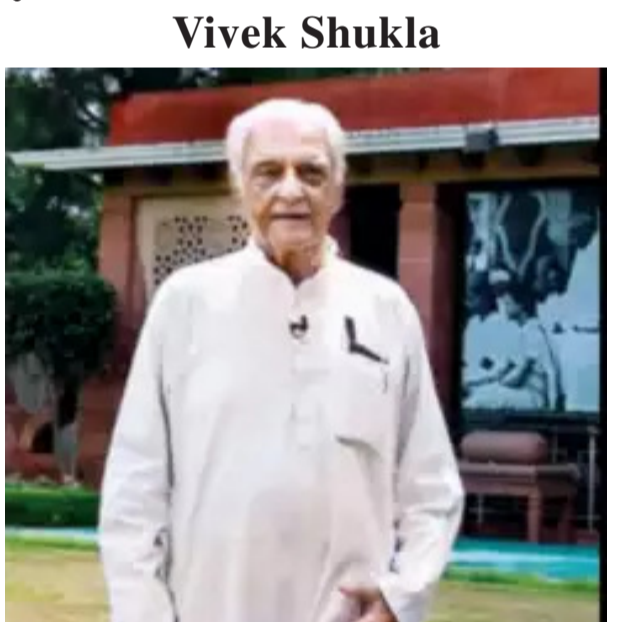
Saikat Kumar Basu
378 Prince Anwar Shah Road
Kolkata 700045 West Bengal India
Mobile: 8697491914

KD Madan, the last eye-witness of Gandhi murder case is dead



With the death of K.D. Madan, the very last link of Gandhi murder case is closed. He had seen Nathuram Godse pumping bullets on frail Mahatma Gandhi from just couple of metres away as he was there to record the daily prayer meeting of Gandhi ji at the Birla House at 5, Albuquerque Road (now 5, Tees January Marg). Madan was 100 and staying at Vasant Vihar. Madan was also there at the Tughlaq Road police station when cops were recording the eye-witness account of Nandlal Mehta, a resident of M-96 Connaught Place, who used to attend the all religion prayer meetings of Gandhi ji. Well, it was freezing cold in capital on 30th January 1948 and Madan, a sound engineer of All India Radio (AIR) had reached at the Birla House by 4 pm with all his recording machines. That was his daily routine. He

was to record the prayer meeting of Gandhi ji. AIR used to air the all religion prayer meetings later at 8.30 in the evening. As he used to sit right behind Gandhi ji, he knew him personally. A refugee from Pakistan, Madan was fond of bhajans that were sung at prayer meetings. Therefore, he did not miss his prayers since it was started from the second week of September, 1947 after Gandhi ji came to Delhi after quelling riots there. He had vivid memories of 29 January 1948 when MS Subbulakshmi was there at the prayer meeting and mesmerised everyone with the favourite bhajans of Gandhi ji. Naturally, Madan had not thought even in his wildest dreams what is store for all on 30th January 1948. Despite his ripe age, Madan had vivid memories of that dark day when Gandhi ji was fell to the senseless bullets. At Birla house (now Gandhi Smriti), Madan once recalled the whole incident of 30th January to me, "When Gandhi ji came out for prayer on the fateful day, it was



at point-blank range in the chest with a .38 Beretta semi-automatic pistol." Madan narrated the whole gory incident while pointing out the exact spot where Gandhi ji was shot dead. He was almost in tears while recalling those tense moments. Madan had absolutely contempt for Godse. He never used to utter his name. Talking about Godse, Madan said, "Well, he was a sturdy looking man. He was wearing Khaki clothes. I also saw when cops and others nabbed him," adding, "During the all religion prayers meetings, Gandhi ji also used to speak on various contemporary issues. Journalists also attend prayers and used to ask questions." "I had developed sheer contempt for

him (Godse) that later when newspapers were carrying reports with his names, I used avoid reading those reports. I still do not know as to how cops came at Birla house so soon after the gory incident as Gandhi ji had instructions that no cop should remain close to his prayer meeting even after attempt on his life on 20th January," Madan recalled.

Later Madan learnt that Jaswant Singh, DSP, Parliament Police station, and Dasondha Singh, SHO of Tughlaq Road police station, were right at the gate of Birla house when Godse shot Gandhi ji. They were on patrolling. As Tughlaq Road Police station was part of the Parliament police station then, both Jaswant Singh and Dasondha Singh were visiting Birla house in order to see for themselves that all is well there. They reached there on their Jeep. Naturally, they too had no idea as to what was happened there. Understandably, it was chaos all around after Gandhi ji was assassinated. Shocked Madan was there with Nandlal Mehta. Both became friends. He

saw the likes of Prime Minister Pt. Nehru, Home Minister Sardar Patel, Lord Mountbatten and others reaching at the Birla house in a very disturb state. People were wailing all around at the shock demise of Gandhi ji. At around 7.30 onwards, police took both Mehta and Madan to the 1941 built Tughlaq Road Police station. There the FIR of Gandhi murder case was written on the basis of eye witness account of Mehta. Madan was also helping Mehta. The FIR was finally written by ASI Dalu Ram at 9.45 p.m. D.V. Sanjeevi, Inspector General, Delhi Police, and his deputies, D.W. Mehta were also there along with other cops.

At last, Madan reached his home past midnight only to be there at the Birla House again in the morning in order to be part of Gandhi's funeral procession. And since then he used to attend the prayer meetings at both Rajghat and Gandhi Smriti on 2 October as well as on 30 January.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor



The Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Shri Giriraj Singh lighting the lamp at the "SARAS AAJEEVIKA MELA, 2023", in Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Minister Indrakaran Reddy presents 'Pattu Vastraalu' to Sri Raja Rajeswara Swamy Helicopter services in Vemulawada launched

Vemulawada (Rajanna-Sircilla dist): Mahashivratri celebrations commenced on grand note at the famous Shaivite temple of Vemulawada Sri Rajarajeswara Swamy in the district on Saturday. Endowments Minister A Indrakaran Reddy on behalf of the State government presented 'Pattu Vastraalu' to the Lord Rajarajeswara Swamy and performed a special Abhiksheshm. Earlier, Deputy Executive Officer Harindranath too presented silk clothes to Swamy on behalf of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD). Meanwhile, devotees in large numbers thronged the temple to offer prayers. In view of the heavy influx of pilgrims, the district administration in association with the temple authorities and police made elaborate



arrangements to ensure smooth darshan for the devotees. Local MLA Dr Chennamani Ramesh Babu and District Collector Anurag Jayanthi oversaw the arrangements for the convenience of devotees coming to the jataara from different parts of the State and other States. It was estimated that nearly two lakh devotees visited the temple on Saturday. Officials made arrangements for free mineral water distribution in the name

of 'Rajanna Jala Prasad'. On other hand, permanent toilets were constructed in place of the makeshift ones for the use of the devotees separately for men and women. Help desks were also set up at the junctions to provide the necessary information and guide the devotees in the fair. In view of the visit of the lactating mothers, baby feeding centers were set up near the temple. A special command control room was also set up to prevent any untoward incidents during the Mahashivratri fair by

setting up hundreds of CCTV cameras for surveillance. Since it is an age-old tradition for devotees to take a holy bath before visiting the Lord, the authorities have arranged a battery of taps at the temple pond area. It is the dream for many to have an aerial view by helicopter at the temple. Although it is an expensive venture, some devotees have got the chance by making payment as the choppers were

arranged for the special visit. MLA Ramesh Babu launched the helicopter services in the temple premises under the auspices of the tourism department for the convenience of devotees. The authorities have also developed an Android App to provide information for the use of people. Thousands of people have downloaded the application from the Google Play Store on their smartphones and learned the information. ZP Chairman Nyalakonda Aruna, Municipal Chairman Ramathirapu Madhavi Raju, CESS Chairman Chikkala Rama Rao, Additional Collector Kimya Naik, RDO Srinivasa Rao and others participated.

Russian President Vladimir Putin Surrounded By Doctors, Takes Breaks During Meetings, Claims Ex Spy

London: Russian President Vladimir Putin is "constantly accompanied" by doctors and often takes breaks during meetings to undergo treatment, a former British spy has said. According to Independent, Christopher Steele said Mr Putin's meetings are divided into sections so that he can take breaks.

He, however, added that "exact details" of Mr Putin's illness are not yet known. The former spy wrote a dossier on Donald Trump and alleged Russian interference in the 2016 US election campaign and previously worked at the Russia desk at MI6. Mr Steele's comments have been attributed to LBC Radio.

"Meetings of the security council that are shown to supposedly last for a whole hour are actually broken up into several sections... he goes out and receives some kind of medical treatment between those sections," he said.

"And so clearly he is seriously ill, I mean how terminal or incurable it is is not clear... we can't be entirely sure. But it's certainly having a very serious impact on the governance of Russia at the moment," Mr Steele further said.

LBC Radio quoted Mr Steele as saying that Mr Putin is trying to avoid showing weakness in the Kremlin, which he described it as "a bit like a shark pool". "The Russian Kremlin is a bit

like a shark pool, they all swim round and if they smell blood in the water or taste blood in the water they start fighting," he said. The latest remarks come amid mounting speculation around Russian President's health, with an unnamed oligarch reportedly recorded saying Putin is "very ill with blood cancer".

In a recording obtained by a US magazine New Lines, the unnamed oligarch was heard discussing Putin's health with a Western venture capitalist. A report in Express said on Wednesday that Mr Putin recently underwent a surgery to remove fluid from his abdomen.

Flooding In Bangkok District Blamed On Monitor Lizard: Report

London: stray monitor lizard has been blamed for causing widespread flooding in a district in Bangkok, Thailand. The district Bang Khen was also recently hit with heavy downpours. The monitor lizard disrupted a large water pump leaving it unable to pump flood water away during the heavy rains. A repair team was sent and found the monitor lizard stuck in one of the water pumps which halted its operations.

Bangkok has a vast and extensive drainage system which involves a water pump network. These water pumps usually have wire meshes to prevent these



reptiles from entering, but smaller members of the species are able to get through. Speaking to the Bangkok Post Rujira Mahaprom, a specialist at Save Wildlife

Thailand, said "monitor lizards can often be found around water. One may have entered the pump looking for a place or hide. The animals find easy passage in Bangkok's extensive

water-drainage network." He went on to add that "It's no easy task preventing monitor lizards from getting into the pumps" Water levels had

risen quite dramatically in the district as traffic built up due to flooding.

According to Thai PBS World the Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha himself inspected the drainage system in the district of Bang Khen and instructed government officials to make sure that the pumps were in working condition and operational around the clock.

Monitor lizards are extremely common in Thailand with a video going viral a couple of months ago of an unnamed woman standing on her chair and screaming after spotting the reptile on the ground.

After Team Uddhav's 2,000-Crore Deal Charge, Shinde Camp Hits Back

New Delhi: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday said he is confident that "deals and transactions worth ? 2000 crore" have been done so far, in six months, to get the Shiv Sena party name and symbol. 40 MLAs who defected from the party last year, amid huge chaos that resulted in a regime change, were given ? 50 crore each, he said.

"This is an initial figure and is 100% true. Soon there will be many revelations. This has never happened before in the country's history," he tweeted in Hindi. In a huge setback for his party, the Election

Commission on Friday allotted the party name "Shiv Sena" and the symbol 'bow and arrow' to the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, who rebelled against Uddhav Thackeray, toppled his government by taking away most of his MLAs, and joined forces with the BJP last year. Uddhav Thackeray's father Bal Thackeray founded the outfit in 1966. Mr Raut has been claiming the Uddhav Thackeray faction is the 'real' Shiv Sena, and his party has also approached the Supreme Court. In another tweet, he said the Election

Commission's order 'does not inspire confidence'.

"Is Sanjay Raut a cashier?" MLA Sada Sarvankar from the Shinde camp said.

I've informed the nation, that the way the Shiv Sena name and party symbol were snatched from us, is not justice, or truth. It's a business. It was bought...This decision has been bought," Mr Raut said.

The Rajya Sabha member told reporters that a builder close to the ruling dispensation shared this information with him, and that his claim was backed by proof, which he would disclose soon.

Maharashtra Satsang mahostav at CIDCO Exhibition Ground



followers as the incarnation of the age has millions and millions of followers who have been engaged in experiencing a blissful life adhering to the discipline and love taught by the Guru with the constant and loving guidance of Sri Sri Acharya dev. The organisation "Satsang", created by



Mumbai : The holy 135 th Birth Anniversary of Yuga Purushottam Sri Sri Thakur Anukulchandra and the Maharashtra Satsang Mahotsav will be solemnised at CIDCO Exhibition Centre, Vashi, Navi Mumbai on Sunday, 26 th February 2023. Devotees from across the state of Maharashtra and outside will gather to celebrate the utsav. The utsav has a day long schedule starting from early morning

till evening which includes congregational Prayer, meditation, reading from the holy scriptures, Bhajan, Kirtan, Cultural program, Medical camp, Seminar to discuss the ideology of Sri Sri Thakur, etc. It may be mentioned that Sri Sri Thakur Anukulchandra regarded by His

Sri Sri Thakur has its headquarters at Deoghar, Jharkhand and Satsang Vihars and Centres spread world over. This utsav on 26 th February is a step in the direction of guiding the people to experience the life of bliss, of life and growth with constant attachment to Sri Sri Thakur and Sri Sri Acharya dev.

India's first agri chatbot Ama KrushAI launched in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR: Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal on Saturday launched India's first AI chatbot for the agriculture sector - Ama KrushAI at the valedictory session of 'Krushi Odisha 2023'. Ama KrushAI chatbot will help farmers with the best agronomic practices, government schemes and loan products from more than 40 commercial and cooperative banks. It will run under a pilot project involving more than 10,000 farmers and will be implemented in full-fledged in the next two months. Addressing the gathering, the Governor urged farmers to take advantage of different schemes announced by the state government to promote agriculture and help the state prosper. "Civilisation started off with agriculture and the superstructure of civilisation is based on agriculture. Only a farmer can do the magic in agriculture," Prof Lal said and stressed on the need for coordinated efforts from all the



Minister for Farmers' Agriculture and Empowerment

Ranendra Pratap Swain said agriculture is the only sector which was not at a halt during the pandemic times. Odisha is now self-sufficient in many crops. The state is the fourth largest rice producer of the country and nearly self-sufficient in milk, egg and fisheries, he said. "Our sincere effort will become helpful to bring down the cost of farming. To achieve this goal, we need farm mechanisation," added Swain while urging farmers to use advanced equipment and technology in farming. More than 20,000 farmers and agri-entrepreneurs from across the state attended the three-day event organised by the Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment department in collaboration with FICCI to promote farm mechanisation and enhancement in farmers' income. Women and Child Development Minister Basanti Hembram and principal secretary Arabinda Kumar Padhee were present.

NMDC ties up with IMMT for research on diamond wastes



BHUBANESWAR: The National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) on Saturday inked a pact with the Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT), Bhubaneswar, for collaborative research on feasibility studies for the preparation of fused magnesia from kimberlite tailings. Kimberlite tailings are waste materials left after the recovery of diamonds from the source rock. The material has a particle size ranging from 20 mm to 75 micrometres

and can be categorised as a soft aggregate. It mainly contains silica, alumina, iron oxide, and magnesia. NMDC operates the only mechanised diamond mine in Southeast Asia at Panna in Madhya Pradesh. The mine produces around 10 carats of diamond per 100 tonne of kimberlite, which is dumped as waste after the recovery of diamonds. Kimberlite tailings are used for the development of value-added products and are also known to be a good source of caustic magnesia. Director (production) of NMDC Dilip Kumar Mohanty said the national miner has collaborated with IMMT to study the processing and preparation of fused MgO and TiO2 besides addressing the research gap for the best utilisation of kimberlite that has accumulated over the years at Panna diamond mines. Chairman and managing director Sumit Deb said, "We are confident that our endeavours will lead to the conversion of waste into wealth and

import substitution, proving to be a significant step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat." The agreement was signed between the general manager (research and development) of NMDC SK Chaurasiya and the chief scientist and head of strategic planning and business development of IMMT Dr Ashok Kumar Sahu. Chief scientist and head of the hydro and electrometallurgy department of IMMT Kali Sanjay was also present.

Will reveal more facts on Das murder in Assly: LoP


BHUBANESWAR: At a time when the state government is caught in a cleft stick over the murder of minister Naba Kishore Das and the Crime Branch probe going nowhere, Leader of Opposition (LoP) Jayanarayan Mishra on Saturday said he will uncover the mystery surrounding the killing in the Assembly session starting February 21. Mishra, who in the thick of controversy over his alleged attack on a lady police officer during a protest in Sambalpur, said the same set of people who plotted the murder of the former BJD MLA from Jharsuguda are



also hatching conspiracy against him. "They (the conspirators) have become intolerant to me as I have been exposing them and their motive to eliminate Das who was been emerging as a power centre within the BJD and becoming a threat to the political interest. As all their tactics to manipulate the post-murder situation and manage the Opposition did not

work, now they are using forces at their command to defame me," Mishra told this paper. "I have given insights into the murder case to the media outside the Assembly and have some new facts which I will reveal in the Assembly," Mishra said. As a member of the Odisha Legislative Assembly and leader of the Opposition, Mishra enjoys certain immunity from police action for something

said in the Assembly. The BJP MLA from Sambalpur said that earlier the BJD government was managing the Opposition when in trouble. This is no more the case after he became the leader of the Opposition. "Now the government is using the state police to silence me and the Sambalpur incident is part of the design," he said. "The ruling party has been organising protests through some unknown women outfits outside my official residence to cow me down. Let them do whatever they like to do. I am least concerned and will do my job," he added.



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AirAsia India offers 50% off International Connecting Baggage fees

National: AirAsia India announced a special offer of 50% off its International Connecting Baggage (ICB) fees, for bookings made till 30th June 2022. International Connecting Baggage fares are significantly lower than the standard excess baggage charges, enabling guests connecting from or to AirAsia India domestic flights to international flights on other airlines, as international flights typically have higher baggage allowances than domestic flights. Guests can pre-book ICB and choose from three excess baggage slab options of 8 kgs, 15 kgs or 30kgs,

in line with the predominant international baggage allowances of major international carriers. These can be pre-booked in addition to the 15 kg free check-in baggage allowance on standard fares. Flyers connecting to or from international flights from AirAsia domestic flights can now pre-book their excess baggage at the significantly discounted price of Rs100 per kg, compared to the standard excess baggage charges of Rs450 per kg for pre-booking excess baggage and Rs500 per kg excess baggage charges at the airport.

As AirAsia India also has special discounts and a 25 kg standard baggage allowances for students, now students traveling internationally can also carry additional baggage beyond 25 kgs at these discounted rates. ICB fees can be pre-booked up to 2 hours prior to the AirAsia domestic flight departure while booking, or while managing their booking or checking-in on airasia.co.in. Guests would be asked to show their international flight boarding pass at the time of check-in at the airport for an international flight within 24 hours of the AirAsia India flight.

ODISHA PHILATELISTS WIN LAURELS AT AMRITPEX NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Bhubaneswar : The five-day National Philatelic Exhibition, 'Amritpex 2023', which was held at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from the 13th to the 16th Feb drew a large number of participants from all over the country. School-children flocked to see the exhibits.

The exhibition was spread across a floor area of 1,00,000 square feet and had 1,400 frames which had over one lakh stamps collected by 300 participants. The exhibition showcased 20,000 exhibits in 13 categories and featured workshops, panel discussions, and cultural programs. The exhibits displayed 5000 years of India's history, culture, art, and heritage through stamps and pictorial collections. The National Philatelic Exhibition included



themes such as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and New India, Nari Shakti, Yuva Shakti, Nature and Wildlife, and India's Culture and History, which marked the celebrations of the diversity of the country and its growing "Aatma Nirbharta" in all sectors and rising stature of India in the world. More than 40 philatelists from Odisha participated in the National Exhibition. The philatelists from Odisha won 04 Vermeil + one Special Prize, 09 Large

Silver, 10 Silver + One Special Prize, 5 Silver Bronze, 06 Bronze, One Certificate of Participation, Four in One Frame Exhibit and 05 in AKAM Class. Odisha has the largest haul of medals from among all the States. Both Ajit Kumar Dash and Shanti Swarup Rath were awarded Vermeil for their exhibits on Dogs and Tigers respectively. Meera Biswal was given a Vermeil and Special Prize for her collection of Pre-Independence India Postage Stamps. Nikhil

Patnaik's Indian Classics too was awarded a Vermeil. Biswanath Mishra's exhibit on Horses was awarded a Large Silver. Five members of the Eastern India Philatelic Association were awarded in the Azaki Ka Amrit Mahastov Category. They are Ajit Kumar Raut, Manorama Dash, Rahul Ganguli, Arun Kumar Behera, and C. Madhavan. A book on the Special Covers Of Odisha, written by Dr. Bhibhudata Mishra, and published by the Eastern

India Philatelic Association was released on the 14th Feb at the Venue.

According to Anil Dhir, who is a Fellow of the Philatelic Congress of India and has written multiple books on Philately, Odisha is now the Philatelic Capital of the nation. There are eight Philatelic Clubs with around 300 members in the State. Philatelists from Odisha have been making their name by getting awards in both National and International exhibitions. Both Bijoyshree Routray and Major Mohanty were doyens of Philately and have done a lot to promote the good hobby. This year the Philatelic Congress Of India has awarded Fellowship to B.K.Sinha and a Certificate of Appreciation to Anup Kumar Raut.

Dreamfolks Services Limited gets SEBI nod for IPO

Dreamfolks Services Limited, India's largest airport service aggregator platform has received the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approval for its proposed initial public offering (IPO).

The company plans to offer of up to 21,814,200 equity shares of face value Rs. 2 each through an offer for sale by the promoters and promoter group, through its initial public offering. The IPO will constitute 41.75% of the post offer paid-up equity share capital of the company.

Dreamfolks provides services to all the card networks operating in India including Visa, Mastercard, Diners/Discover and RuPay, and many of India's prominent card issuers including ICICI, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra,

HDFC and SBI Cards. DreamFolks acts as a vital link for banks and card networks for their credit & debit card sales and customer engagement programs. The company's technology platform enables users to access airport and railway lounges via bank-issued credit and debit cards. The asset-light business model targets and integrates card networks, card issuers and corporate clients, with various airport lounge operators, and other airport related service providers. Today, Dreamfolks Services Limited holds a dominant position in India with a share of over 95% of all India issued credit card and debit card access to airport lounges in Fiscal 2020. DreamFolks has

coverage across 50 lounges constituting 100% of India's Airport lounges across domestic and international airport terminals. As at December 31, 2021 through partnerships with various service providers, the Company has a global footprint extending to 121 countries including India.

The company facilitates consumers' access to airport related services like Lounges, Food and Beverage, Spa, Meet and Assist, Airport Transfer, Transit Hotels/Nap Room access, and Baggage Transfer.

Equirus Capital Private Limited and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the IPO.

NXTDIGITAL ENDS FY22 ON A PROFITABLE NOTE; POSTS GROWTH IN REVENUE AND EBIDTA

NXTDIGITAL Ltd., the media vertical of the global Hinduja Group announced its results for FY22 at its Board meeting today. The company is India's premier integrated digital platforms company, with a presence in digital television over cable, satellite (through India's only Headend-In-The-Sky or HITS service), broadband, content syndication and teleshopping.

On a consolidated basis, the company recorded a revenue of Rs

1,152.19 crores for the year ending March 31, 2022, as against a revenue of Rs 1,008.45 crores for the previous year, registering a growth of 14.3%. For the same period, on a consolidated basis, the company clocked Earnings before Interest, Depreciation, and Taxes (EBIDTA) of Rs 256.22 crores as against Rs 232.08 crores for the previous year registering a growth of 10.4%. The Revenue and EBIDTA for the year include Rs 69.30 crores and Rs 43.88 crores

respectively arising out of the "Real Estate" segment of the Company.

The consolidated Profit After Tax (PAT) for the year ending March 31, 2022, is Rs 1.91 crores as against a loss of Rs (13.90) crores in the previous year.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2022, the Company posted a consolidated revenue of Rs 344.55 crores as against 277.97 crores in the corresponding quarter of the previous year and Rs 264.21 crores in the immediately

preceding quarter. The Company clocked an EBIDTA of Rs 100.41 crores for the quarter as against Rs 67.54 crores in the corresponding quarter of the previous year and Rs 52.92 crores in the immediately preceding quarter. The Revenue and EBIDTA for the quarter include Rs 69.30 crores and Rs 43.88 crores respectively arising out of the "Real Estate" segment of the Company.

The Media & Entertainment segment recorded an EBIDTA of

Rs 56.53 crores for the quarter against Rs 52.92 crores in the immediately preceding quarter.

The Consolidated PAT for the quarter ending March 31, 2022 stood at Rs 84.46 crores as against Rs 13.92 crores in the corresponding quarter of the previous year and loss of Rs (26.57) crores in the immediately preceding quarter. The PAT for the quarter is inclusive of the profit from the "Real Estate" segment of the Company.

Colgate Strong Teeth reminds us that good nutrition starts with Strong Teeth

Bhubaneswar: Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited, the market leader in oral care, announced the new identity of India's biggest toothpaste brand—Colgate Strong Teeth with its latest campaign 'Daant Strong Toh Main Strong'. The brand puts the spotlight on the link between Strong Teeth and Nutrition and the significant role of the strength of teeth to chew all kinds of food to aid in better digestion, and hence the body absorbs better nutrition.

This is also the first time the brand showcases the nation's heartthrobs—Shahid Kapoor and Rana

Daggubati playing the role of new-age dads, deeply invested in their child's health. Where they effectively communicate the secret to their daughters' strength is strong teeth using Colgate Strong Teeth Toothpaste that helps replenish natural calcium in the teeth. The new Colgate Strong Teeth sports a contemporary packaging with a young girl as a symbol of strength and strong teeth.

Speaking on the new campaign, Mr. Arvind Chintamani, VP, Marketing, Colgate-Palmolive India said, "As Indians, we understand the importance of chewing

and have grown up with our parents asking us to chew our food 36 times before swallowing. However, what we often forget is that teeth are our first digestive organ and teeth need to be strong to get the best nutrition from food."

The brand has been committed to creating innovative products to evolving customer needs for over 8 decades with best-in-class products. The all-new CDC Strong Teeth is a simple switch to ensure you keep your smile healthy and strong. The toothpaste will be available in online and offline stores in a 100 g pack for Rs. 63, 200g for Rs 110, 500g pack for Rs 253.

Bank of Baroda wins the Express BFSI Technology Awards 2022

Mumbai: Bank of Baroda (Bank), one of India's leading public sector banks, was awarded the Express BFSI Technology Awards 2022 in two categories. bob World, the Bank's mobile banking platform, won in the Enterprise Mobility category and analytics-driven lending through the Bank's Digital Lending Platform was adjudged the best in the Analytics/Big Data category. Further, Bank of Baroda was also conferred with the prestigious Banking Frontiers' Finnoviti 2022 Award for bob World. Shri Akhil Handa, Chief Digital Officer, Bank of Baroda said, "The BFSI landscape has been going through a digital revolution for the last many years and at Bank of Baroda we are acutely mindful of the power of Digital in reshaping the industry. Transformative initiatives like bob World and the Bank's Digital Lending Platform (DLP) are key components of the Bank's digital ecosystem that helps the Bank in empowering our customers and employees." The bob World mobile banking ecosystem, launched in 2021, has over 20 million active users and offers 95% of the retail services of the bank. bob World is an all-in-one app that caters to the financial, non-financial, and lifestyle needs of the Bank's customers.

In the digital lending space, Bank of Baroda has built a Digital Lending Platform that makes extensive use of analytics and big data to understand customer behaviour, account information and past credit performance to offer pre-approved loans to customers in a seamless manner.

Ashok Leyland turns to Profit Truck Market Share crosses 30% after 2 1/2 Years

Chennai: Ashok Leyland Limited, flagship of the Hinduja Group, reported a revenue of Rs. 8744 Cr in Q4 FY '22 as against Rs. 7,000 Cr for the same period last year; Revenue grew by 25% year on year. PBT for the quarter was at Rs. 999 Cr as against Rs. 314 Cr for the same period last year. PAT was at Rs. 901 Cr as against a Rs. 241 Cr in Q4 last year. Q4 EBIDTA was at 8.9% as against 7.6% last year. AL's truck market share for Q4 FY'22 has improved to 30.6% vis-a-vis 28.9% in Q4 FY'21, this is the highest market share seen in the last 11 quarters. Revenue for full year was at Rs. 21688 Cr as against Rs. 15,301 Cr over the same period last year. PBT was Rs. 528 Cr as against a

Loss before tax of Rs. 412 Cr last year. PAT was at Rs. 542 Cr as against a Loss after tax of Rs. 314 Cr last year. Full year EBIDTA was at 4.6% as against 3.5% last year. Cash generated during the year was Rs. 1888 Cr; Debt net of cash is at Rs. 720 Cr (Gearing 0.1 time).

This performance was backed by the successful AVTR range - India's first modular truck platform and the launch of the CNG range in ICV's. The AVTR platform gives customers a choice to customize their truck as per their unique requirements. The platform has been delivering best-in-class total cost of ownership across segments which has been widely

appreciated by customers.

Despite the pandemic situation, Q4 MHCV & LCV exports at 4173 nos. have grown by 32% over Q4 last year (3,164 nos.). On a full year basis our export volumes at 11014 nos. is higher than last year (8,001 nos.) by 38%.

Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman, Ashok Leyland Limited said, "We have seen recovery in Q4 FY'22 and the overall performance has been very good. The CV industry is on a recovery owing to the improvement in the macroeconomic environment and healthy demand from the end-user industries."

TVS Motor Company launches the new TVS iQube Electric Scooter with a host of exciting features

Bengaluru: TVS Motor today announced the launch of the new TVS iQube Electric scooter in three avatars that come loaded with best-in-class on-road range of 140 km on a single charge. They will offer a host of intelligent connected features such as 7" TFT touchscreen and clean UI, infinity theme personalisation, voice assist and TVS iQube Alexa skillset, intuitive music player control,

OTA updates, fast charging with a plug-and-play carry along charger, vehicle health and safety notifications, multiple Bluetooth and Cloud Connectivity options, 32 litre storage space, and much more.

Backed by the steadfast and trusted TVS Motor's engineering capabilities, TVS iQube results from robust testing, ably complemented by well-established network

support, a relationship manager, and a holistic digital ecosystem.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. Sudarshan Venu, Managing Director, TVS Motor Company, said, "The launch of the new TVS iQube is a testament to our commitment of offering world-class EV technology with never-before intelligent and personalised connected experience. TVS Motor

has been investing in electric technologies for more than ten years now, and TVS iQube has provided thousands of our customers with an unparalleled electric riding experience. TVS Motor will continue to scale new benchmarks in connected mobility and EV with our innovations and advanced technology offerings."

Mr. Manu Saxena, Senior Vice President - Future Mobility, TVS

Motor Company, said, "The exciting all new TVS iQube series provides more choice to a large group of customers. The new TVS iQube series packs higher range plus multiple charging options and comes with class-leading display and UI options. Additionally, it is loaded with the new age connected features, applications and connected on-device experience."

Union Bank of India launched Union Access, a digital accessibility initiative

Mumbai: Union Bank of India announced the launch of Union Access, a digital accessibility initiative especially for the disabled and senior citizens on the 11th Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) that was celebrated today.

With this initiative, Union Bank continues to reinforce its commitment to provide accessible

customer experience for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The Global Accessibility Awareness Day was thus celebrated with the launch of host of new initiatives: 1. Unveiling of a booklet on "Inclusive Social Media" to integrate accessibility in bank's social media communications 2. E-Learning course on "General Awareness

on Disability, Inclusion and Accessibility" for all the staff members

3. Bank conducted mass awareness through social media quiz that was based on accessibility awareness.

With its efforts, Union Bank of India aims to meet the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) notified "Indian Standards on ICT Accessibility".

2nd Test, Day 3: India Win By Six Wickets, Take 2-0 Lead After Jadeja, Ashwin Demolish Australia

New Delhi: Riding on left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja's best bowling figures in an innings in Test cricket (7/42) along with Ravichandran Ashwin's spin masterclass, India defeated Australia by six wickets in the second Test within three days to take 2-0 lead in the four-match series at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, here on Sunday.

In a session, where action happened at a frenetic pace, left-arm spinner Jadeja took seven wickets (7/42) while off-spinner Ashwin picked three wickets (3/59) to send Australia crashing to 113 all out in their

second innings, 30 minutes before lunch happened.

Ashwin set up the collapse to pick 3/59, before Jadeja ran through the Australian batting line-up and finished with figures of 7/42 as Australia crashed to 113 all out in their second innings, giving India a target of 115, which they completed in 28.4 overs.

The win also means India retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy too, with two matches still left.

Post lunch, India began with an attacking intent. Cheteshwar Pujara danced down the pitch



to whip Matthew Kuhnemann through mid-wicket for four. Rohit Sharma came out in the next over to loft over wide mid-wicket for six off

Nathan Lyon, followed by paddling off him for four more.

Rohit then danced down the pitch against Kuhnemann, slamming a six over

the bowler's head. But he was run-out in a horrible mix-up and sacrificed himself to keep Pujara at the crease. Pujara and Virat Kohli were

positive in their footwork, defence and got the boundaries too.

While Pujara danced down the pitch to loft Lyon over mid-on, Kohli got close to the ball and used his supple wrists to chip a drive past the off-spinner. He followed it up with a gentle tickle through the fine leg and placing a flick between two fielders in the square leg region.

Kohli fell for 20 when he was beaten through the air and on the outside edge by Todd Murphy and was stumped from behind by Alex Carey. Pujara and Shreyas Iyer continued to get

boundaries on a fast clip — while the former was pristine in punching off Murphy, the latter was splendid in cutting off Lyon and dancing down the pitch against Murphy to get four and six respectively.

In a bid to attack against Lyon, Iyer danced down the pitch again for an expansive slog, but holed out to deep mid-wicket. KS Bharat was gorgeous in driving twice through the extra cover against Lyon and Kuhnemann.

He would go on to drive through cover again off Kuhnemann for boundary and

brought the crowd on its feet with a slog-sweep over deep mid-wicket for six off part-timer Travis Head. Pujara, playing in his 100th Test, finished off the chase by dancing down the pitch and flicking over mid-wicket to give India another victory in the series.

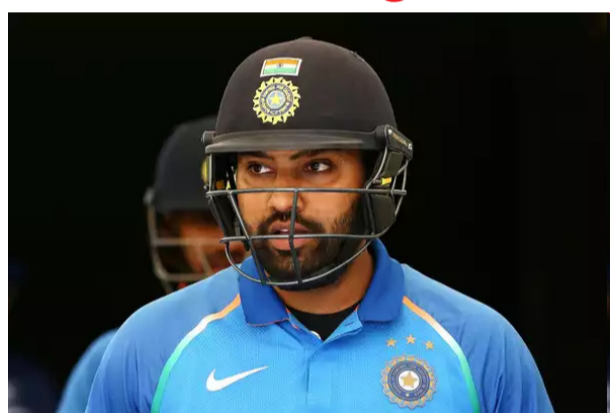
Brief scores: Australia 263 and 113 in 31.3 overs (Travis Head 43, Marnus Labuschagne 35; Ravindra Jadeja 7/42, Ravichandran Ashwin 3/59) lost to India 262 in 83.3 overs and 118/4 in 28.4 overs (Rohit Sharma 31, Cheteshwar Pujara 31 not out; Nathan Lyon 2/49, Todd Murphy 1/22) by six wickets.

India pick Unadkat for Australia ODIs; Rohit to miss first game

New Delhi: Leading up to a World Cup at home, India have named left-arm pacer Jaydev Unadkat in the ODI squad against Australia. Also back in the 18-man squad are left-arm spinning allrounders Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel, and middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer.

India will miss the services of Rohit Sharma for the first ODI - who will be unavailable due to family commitments, BCCI said in a release. Hardik Pandya will lead the side in Rohit's place. The likes of Shahbaz Ahmed and Rajat Patidar - who were part of the squad for the New Zealand series last month - have been left out. KL Rahul returns too, at the expense of KS Bharat, but he isn't the designated vice-captain of the side this time around.

ODI Squad: Rohit Sharma (Captain), Shubman Gill, Virat



Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, KL Rahul, Ishan Kishan (wk), Hardik Pandya (Vice-captain), Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Mohd. Shami, Mohd. Siraj, Umran Malik, Shardul Thakur, Axar Patel, Jaydev Unadkat. India will head to the third and fourth Test against Australia - in Indore and Ahmedabad respectively - with the same squad that earned the wins at Nagpur and Delhi to help the team retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Jaydev Unadkat, who was released to play in

the Ranji Trophy final where he led Saurashtra to their second title, will be back with the squad for the third Test, starting on March 1. The fourth fixture of the series will be played from March 9.

Test Squad: Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, KS Bharat (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, Mohd. Shami, Mohd. Siraj, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Umesh Yadav, Jaydev Unadkat.

Taskin Ahmed turned down PSL offer to prepare for England series

Dhaka: Bangladesh pace bowler Taskin Ahmed turned down an offer from Multan Sultans in the ongoing Pakistan Super League in order to train for the upcoming home series against England.

Cricbuzz understands that Multan Sultans offered Taskin to play for them for three games but the right-arm pacer turned the offer down as he was more inclined to get fully fit before taking on the Englishmen.

Taskin sustained an injury on his left leg during the Sylhet phase of the just-concluded Bangladesh Premier League, country's lone franchise-based T20 tournament, and was later diagnosed with a grade-1 tear. As a result, he missed a couple of matches for Dhaka Dominators. Later, the BCB medical team made a rehabilitation plan for him to make sure he gets fully fit before the series against England, scheduled from March 1 and



comprising three ODIs and as many T20s.

"They (Multan Sultans) wanted me for three matches. Initially they wanted me from February 17 for three matches and afterwards I spoke with the physio and he said I can go but it would be better if I do bit more training (to

recover fully from the injury)," Taskin told Cricbuzz on Saturday. "Now I am fine and I could have gone and played as well but after I spoke with the physio I did not inform the board (about the offer) because I wanted to train well before the important series (against England)," he said.

"It's a matter of couple of matches but by playing there (for Multan Sultans) if I missed the upcoming series (against England) it would have looked bad. And because I am recovering from an injury it is important that I get fully fit and so I don't have any regrets about missing it

(PSL)."

Taskin also said that he doesn't regret missing the Indian Premier League last season, which instead saw him play for Bangladesh against South Africa. Then, BCB did not grant him no-objection letter for IPL but paid heed to the suggestion of former skipper Mashrafe bin Mortaza who insisted that Taskin should be compensated for missing the IPL.

"The board had given me remuneration (for refusing the IPL offer last year) and I don't have any regrets. Playing in the national team is my main goal," said Taskin.

"In the national team if I can do well consistently today or tomorrow there will be opportunity (to play foreign T20 leagues) because at the end of the day we all work hard for playing in the national team and if that goes well eventually I will play in the franchise-based T20 competition abroad," he added.

Anderson picks four as England go 1-0 up

New Delhi: James Anderson bagged four wickets in the first session on Sunday - which lasted less than two hours - to help skittle out New Zealand's lower order and help the hosts secure a 267-run win in the first Test at Bay Oval, ending England's Test victory drought in the country since 2008. It was also the 10th win in 11 Tests for England under the Ben Stokes-Brendon McCullum charge.

Resuming the fourth day on 63 for 5, New Zealand were already facing an uphill battle

to win the contest, needing 331 more runs with only the lower order to play. Michael Bracewell's dismissal in only the third over of the day didn't make the task any easier for them. The southpaw chipped an innocuous delivery from Jack Leach to the fielder at mid wicket.

In the next over, James Anderson struck twice in two balls. Scott Kuggeleijn was trapped leg-before on 2 by a nip-backer and Tim Southee poked at a delivery outside off and nicked it to the slip fielder, reducing New



Zealand to 71 for 8. Daryl Mitchell didn't allow Anderson to get

a hat-trick and even briefly kept the English bowlers at bay, in the

company of Neil Wagner. But the veteran pacer

eventually had the latter sucked into a drive, only to induce an

edge to the 'keeper and bringing the hosts down to the last man. With the result rather obvious at that point, Mitchell threw his bat around rather freely, and successfully picked up some quick runs. Tickner also picked up a couple of unintentional boundaries while attempting to block away. The duo made the tourists wait for more than 10 overs from thereon to complete the formalities, en route which Mitchell ticked over to an unbeaten 57 - his sixth Test

fifty. Anderson ended New Zealand's innings on 126, a few minutes before the scheduled Tea break by cleaning up Tickner on 8, hitting the top of the offstump while the No. 11 played down the wrong line. Brief Scores: New Zealand 306 & 126 (Daryl Mitchell 57*; James Anderson 4-18, Stuart Broad 4-49) lost to England 325/9 decl. & 374 (Joe Root 57, Harry Brook 54, Ben Foakes 51, Ollie Pope 49; Blair Tickner 3-55) lead by 267 runs