

Odisha Assembly Speaker Holds All-Party Meet Ahead Of Budget Session

Bhubaneswar(KCN): For smooth conduct of the businesses during upcoming budget session of Odisha Assembly, Speaker B.K. Arukha held an all-party meeting here on Monday. Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Arukha said all the members can attend the Assembly proceedings occupying their respective seats. The MLAs, who are unwell, can attend the Assembly through video-conferencing (VC) mode, he said. The Press gallery will also be opened for media persons. This time, it was decided to allow the general public to witness the



Assembly proceedings as it was done during pre-Covid time, Arukha said. The Speaker hoped that members from all parties would allow the House to function smoothly and raise public interest issues properly during the budget session. However, the principal opposition party BJP objected to the decision of the Speaker to allow members to attend the House through VC mode. "During the Covid-19 pandemic, the

members were attending the Assembly through VC. But, now Covid is over and such practice is neither allowed in Parliament nor in any other state Assembly. So, we requested the Speaker to ask all members to physically attend the House. But they rejected our proposal," said Leader of Opposition, Jayanarayan Mishra. If all members will attend the House physically, the quorum can be maintained, he said. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari said the discussion was held on a 14-point agenda and all the points were decided on consensus.

Naba Das murder case: Odisha DGP Sunil Bansal still mum on motive

Bhubaneswar,(KCN)- Even though 23 days have passed since the murder of Minister Naba Das, the Crime Branch is yet to establish the motive and is clueless about the reasons behind the sensational daylight murder.

While the entire State is eagerly waiting to know the motive behind the murder of the minister, neither the probing agency nor the Odisha DGP Sunil Bansal has uttered a single word in this regard.

DGP Bansal, who had earlier kept mum on the assassination of the minister, preferred to remain silent to the questions asked by media persons during a



security inspection at the Odisha Legislative Assembly on Monday ahead of the commencement of the Budget Session.

The top cop briefed the media persons about the elaborate security arrangements being made but avoided the questions on the Naba Das' murder.

The DGP maintained silence on the questions asked by media persons on the motive behind the murder of Naba Das

and other related questions in the case.

Earlier, a senior Crime Branch official had told that the prime accused and dismissed Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Gopal Das revealed all details, including the reason behind killing the minister.

The accused Gopal Das, who underwent a Narco test in Gujarat, narrated everything about how and why he decided to kill

Naba Das by firing at him in full public view on January 29.

During the Narco test, the accused also confessed to his mental state during committing the crime.

Notably, Naba Das died hours after he was allegedly shot by Gopal Das near Gandhi Chhak at Brajarajnagar in Jharsuguda district on January 29.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Narasingha Mishra made some explosive statements on the murder of Naba Das. He said Das' murder was not accidental. "It did not occur all of a sudden, but as a result of a big conspiracy. He died on the spot," claimed Mishra.

Bijay Patnaik meets Congress leaders in Odisha Capital, stokes Bhubaneswar MP candidature speculations

Bhubaneswar: The former top bureaucrat and Congress leader Bijay Kumar Patnaik met senior party leaders in Bhubaneswar on Monday fuelling speculations of contesting elections from the parliamentary constituency.

As per reports, Patnaik met Jatni MLA Suresh Routray and former Odisha Chief Minister Janaki Ballav Patnaik's son Pruthvi Ballav Patnaik in Bhubaneswar. Asked about the meetings, Patnaik said, "Suresh



Routray is my senior. He was my senior in college. He was a Minister during my tenure as a bureaucrat. I am too close to him. So I wanted to meet him. It is common courtesy to meet the seniors when you go to

someplace new." "This was not a formal meeting but a friendly one," Patnaik added. Though Patnaik avoided hints at contesting elections from Bhubaneswar, Suresh Routray said that it will be good if

he (Patnaik) actually does so. "I was more than happy when Bijay Patnaik joined Congress. Congress needs such leaders who have sacrificed a lot and are dedicated and honest. Patnaik is

a retired Chief Secretary and has a clean image. His father was also an IAS. He belongs to a reputed family. We need such people in our party," Routray said. Patnaik had joined the Congress at an event at party headquarters in New Delhi on February 10. Once considered one of the most powerful bureaucrats in Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's government, Patnaik joined the Congress camp in presence of the party's Odisha in-charge A Chellakumar, and state unit president Sarat Pattanayak.

IMD Predicts Rise In Day Temperature Across Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The maximum temperature over the districts of Odisha is likely to increase in the next five days, said the IMD in its weather report today.

"The maximum temperature (day temperature) over the districts of Odisha is likely to increase gradually in the next five days," said IMD Bhubaneswar centre chief HR Biswas. However, there will not be any large change in minimum temperature (night temperature) across Odisha in the next five days, Biswas said.

"Most of the places across Odisha are



likely to witness dry weather for the next five days," he said. The highest maximum temperature of 35.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Boudh while the lowest minimum temperature of 13.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Nabarangpur yesterday. The capital city of

Bhubaneswar recorded the maximum temperature of 33.2 degree Celsius yesterday while the minimum temperature was 20.4 degree Celsius, said the IMD. The maximum temperature in Bhubaneswar may reach 37 degree Celsius within a few days, it added.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES THE 37TH STATEHOOD DAY CELEBRATIONS OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH AND ATTENDS CIVIC RECEPTION HOSTED IN HER HONOUR BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

New Delhi: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the 37th Statehood Day celebrations of Arunachal Pradesh and attended the civic reception hosted in her honour by the State Government at Itanagar today (February 20, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that being the largest state in the North-Eastern Region in terms of area as well as being a border state, Arunachal Pradesh is a very important state from strategic and geographical point of

view. Good infrastructure is essential for national security and economic development of the state. She was happy to note that the Central Government has approved schemes worth more than rupees 44,000 crore for the development of National Highway Infrastructure in Arunachal Pradesh. She said that Arunachal Pradesh has become a power surplus state with the commissioning of 600 MW Kameng Hydro Power Station. She expressed confidence that the recently



inaugurated all weather Donyi Polo Airport would improve the connectivity of the State and also give a boost to trade and tourism. The President said that the development of any society cannot be

inclusive without the development of women. She was happy to note that about 47 percent representatives of Panchayats in Arunachal Pradesh are women. She said that women of Arunachal

Pradesh are getting success in every field. She expressed confidence that women from across the country would take inspiration from women such as Anshu Jamsenpa who is the first woman to summit

Mount Everest twice in five days and Tage Rita Takhe who is promoting women's participation in enterprise and taking local agro based products of Arunachal Pradesh to the international market. The President said that in India, the first rays of the Sun fall on Arunachal Pradesh. The different tribes of Arunachal Pradesh, their cultural heritage, their unity in diversity, inspire all of us. It can be said that the society of Arunachal Pradesh is the microcosm of India. The President said that

enriched with mountains, dense forests, lakes, waterfalls and flora and fauna, this state is a rich biodiversity zone. She was happy to note that the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has adopted the "Pakke Declaration" to meet the challenges of climate change and conserve biodiversity. She was also happy to note that drone technology is being used by the state government for agriculture, horticulture, health services and environment

protection. She said these are important steps for environment conservation. The President said that the entire North Eastern Region, including Arunachal Pradesh, is playing an important role in India's development. She was happy to note that several meetings of the G-20 are also being held in the North Eastern states. She was confident that these meetings would give a boost to the culture and tourism of the North Eastern states and generate investment opportunities in the Region.

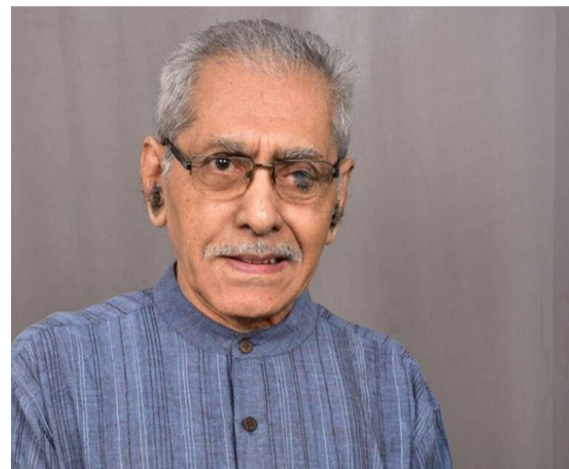
Novelist Geetanjali Shree, Dr. Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi to be conferred with Prestigious Kalinga Literary Awards for the year 2023

KLF- Publishing House of the Year Award to Penguin Random House and Rajkamal Prakashan

Bhubaneswar: The prestigious Kalinga Literary Awards for the year 2023 will be conferred on eminent Hindi Novelist Geetanjali Shree and Educationist, screenplay writer, playwright, art critic, and theatre director Dr. Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi. Penguin Random House and Rajkamal Prakashan will be getting the Publishing House of the Year Award. This was informed by the Kalinga Literary Festival, Founder and Director, Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Parida. The awards instituted by Kalinga Literary Festival in the year 2013 in three categories. From this year Kalinga Literary Festival will provide

Rs 1 lakh award prize for the Kalinga International Literary Award winner and Rs 50,000/ for the Kalinga Literary Award winner. The award will also carry a trophy and citation. The award will be conferred to the winners at the inaugural Ceremony of the 9th Kalinga Literary Festival on 24th February at Swosti Premium in Bhubaneswar. Profile: Dr. Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi is an Academician, Playwright, Theatre Director, Lyricist, Theatre Scholar, screenplay writer & Art critic. Educationist, screenplay writer, playwright, art critic and theatre director

rolled into one, Dr Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi is a living legend in the world of Odia drama with 83



plays beside a number of books in English on art and culture of Odisha in his ensemble. Dr Panigrahi, a Professor of English literature by profession and a playwright by passion, takes his audience on

a rollercoaster ride to an exotic arena where he listens to new music of consciousness.



Profile: Geetanjali Shree is an Indian Hindi-language novelist and short-story writer based in New Delhi, India. She is the author of several short stories and five novels. Her 2000 novel Mai was

shortlisted for the Crossword Book Award in 2001, while her English translation by Nita

fiction, she has written critical works on Premchand. Geetanjali Shree won the International Booker Prize in 2022. She is the author of three novels and several story collections, and her work has been translated into English, French, German, Serbian, and Korean. The annual iconic Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF) is all set to run from 24th – 26th February in the temple city of Bhubaneswar at Swosti Premium Hotel. Marking its ninth year, the festival will showcase a powerhouse of writers, speakers, thinkers, and humanitarians from

all walks of life. The literary extravaganza will see a spectacular range of language diversity in the program, represented by 10 countries and over 25 languages. For its 2023 edition, the festival will host over 500 speakers from across a vast array of nationalities, as well as recipients of major awards such as the Nobel, the Booker, the International Booker, the Sahitya Akademi, and many more. It will feature a range of themes including the ongoing climate justice debate under the urgency of borrowed time theme; the great women writers and artists focusing on the female voice and

identity, crime fiction, memoir, translation, poetry, economics, tech morality, and Artificial Intelligence, the global crisis, cutting-edge science, India and the World, art and photography, health and medicine, amongst others. Kalinga Literary Festival is well known for its socially relevant themes and in a way compels all 'creative' people to think and articulate 'the contemporary'. Like its past editions the KLF, this year also has a hard-hitting theme for writers, poets, and artists to ponder on. This year's Central theme of the Kalinga Literary Festival is Central Theme: "India and the World".

Prabaha Odia Weekly Celebrated its 16th Anniversary



Bhubaneswar (KCN): The 16th years old Odia leading weekly newspaper " Prabaha " celebrated its 16th anniversary today at Jayadev Bhawan. Sri. Prasant Muduli, chief whip of BJD attended as chief guest. Dr.Girish Ranjan Sahu, Director, Adhikar law academy, Bhubaneswar and Dr.Gouranga Charan Swain, rtd. Professor, Utkal University were participated as honorable speaker & honorable guest of honors. Editor of Prabaha, Abhimanyu Mohapatra presided the function & Sr.Advocate & Poet Chandra Bijoyi Mishra coordinated the entire program & Managing Editor Sidhath Swoorup Dash gave vote of thanks. Program was grand successful and it became talk of Bhubaneswar.

IAS Ananya Das to get married for second time, exchanges rings with Bolangir Collector

Sambalpur: IAS officer and Sambalpur Collector Ananya Das got engaged to Bolangir Collector Chanchal Rana at her residence in Sambalpur on Sunday. According to sources, the two senior IAS officers exchanged rings in the presence of their family, friends and colleagues. Das and Rana will tie the nuptial knot within three months, sources informed.



It is worthwhile to mention here that, Das, who hails from Assam, had earlier tied the knot with Koraput Collector Abdaal Akhtar. Similarly, Rana had married to Rayagada Collector Swadha Dev Singh. However, after separation from their respective partners, both Das and Rana decided to marry again.

Das, a 2015 batch Gujarat cadre IAS officer, had previously held the position of the commissioner of the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC). On the other hand, Rana, an alumnus of NIT Silchar, is a 2014 batch IAS officer and

Odisha Man Crushed To Death With Stone

Rourkela, (KCN): A villager of Marichidihi under Mahulapada police limits in Sundargarh district of Odisha was allegedly crushed to death with stone over past enmity yesterday. The victim has been identified as Tola Nayak of Marichidihi near Bonai, police said. According to police, Tola Nayak and Babulu Giri of Marichidihi went to a small forest near the village yesterday evening. Babulu attacked Tola and crushed his head with a stone inside the forest over past enmity. He hanged the body from a tree to give the incident a suicide angle and returned home, police said. Later, the accused informed the villagers that Tola was found hanging inside the forest, police added. Suspecting some foul play, the villagers informed the incident to police. "We have detained the accused and launched a probe into the incident," police said.

bagged seventh rank at the India level. Earlier, UPSC civil service examination 2015 topper Tina Dabi grabbed headlines for her divorce from IAS Athar Khan and second marriage with Pradeep Gawande, a 2013-batch IAS officer.

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Akshay Kumar, Yo Yo Honey Singh's Party Anthem Kudi Chamkeeli from Selfiee Out

Actor Akshay Kumar unveiled the third track Kudi Chamkeeli of his upcoming family entertainer film Selfiee. Taking to Instagram, Akshay shared a full song video titled Kudi Chamkeeli and captioned it, "Heere ki chamak bhi iss #KudiChamkeeli ke saamne fail hai. Full Song Out Now! #Selfiee in cinemas on 24th Feb."



his next 'party anthem'. The song video features Akshay and

Diana Penty dancing together, grooving to the beats. They are

joined by Honey Singh. Soon after Akshay shared the full

song, fans swamped the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. Another fan wrote, "Khiladi is back kudi chamkeeli with yo yo honey Singh." Previously Akshay and Honey work together in a hit party anthem tracks like Party All Night, Boss-Title Track, Alcoholic, and Lonely. Recently, the makers of Selfiee released two songs of the film Main Khiladi and Kudiye Ni

Teri which received good responses from the fans. The film is an official Hindi remake of the Malayalam film Driving License, which starred Prithviraj and Suraj Venjaramoodu in the lead roles. Helmed by Raj Mehta, the film stars Akshay Kumar, Emraan Hashmi, Nushratt Bharuccha, and Diana Penty in the lead roles. It is all set to hit the theatres on February 24, 2023.

Tamil Actor, Comedian Mayilsamy Dies at 57 After Suffering Heart Attack

Famous Tamil comedian and actor Mayilsamy passed away on Sunday morning at the age of 57. The actor passed away after suffering a heart attack. Mayilsamy was known for his comic roles and has worked in more than 200 films in Tamil. Some of his acclaimed roles include 'Dhool', 'Vaseegara', 'Ghilli', 'Giri', 'Uthamaputhiran', 'Veeram', 'Kanchana', and 'Kangalal Kaidhu Sei', for which he won the Tamil Nadu State Film Award for Best Comedian.

Soon after the news of his death broke out, a video surfaced on social media in which Mayilsamy could be seen dubbing for his upcoming film 'Glassmastes', which he recently completed. A user paid tribute to Mayilsamy and shared the video which he captioned, "Rest in peace." A netizen paid tribute to the late actor by tweeting, "We lost a good human being may your soul rest in peace #Mayilsamy sir."

Another user wrote, "Shocking And Heartbreaking Rest In Peace #Mayilsamy Sir."



Pathaan BO Collection: Shah Rukh Khan, John Abraham-Starrer Inches Close to Rs 1000 Cr Globally, Enters Rs 500 Cr Club in India

Yash Raj Films' Pathaan, directed by Siddharth Anand, is on a historic run at the domestic and overseas box office. Released on January 25, the film has already collected Rs 981 crores globally and is now inching close to Rs 1000 crore, the film has also minted Rs 500 crore at the nationwide box office and broken many records.

'Pathaan' is the highest-grossing film of YRF's Spy Universe. With this insane result, all films of YRF's Spy Universe- 'Ek Tha Tiger', 'Tiger Zinda Hai', 'War' and 'Pathaan' are blockbusters. Trade analyst Taran Adarsh took to Twitter the latest numbers of the film and wrote, "#Pathaan continues to score over weekends... Gathers speed on [fourth] Sat



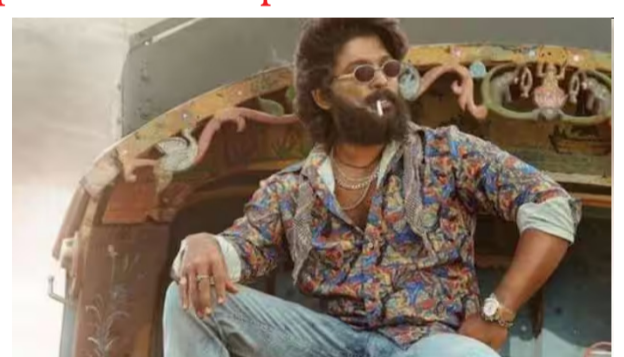
[#MahaShivratri holiday]: national chains + mass pockets witness an upward trend... #Pathaan #Tamil + #Telugu [Week 4] Fri 5 lacs, Sat 7 lacs. Total: ? 17.82 cr. NOTE: #Pathaan #Hindi + #Tamil + #Telugu *combined* biz: ? 511.42 cr. #India biz. Nett BOC" Earlier, with the overwhelming

response of Pathaan, Shah Rukh Khan earlier took to Instagram and shared his sunkissed picture. In the caption he wrote, 'The Sun is alone... it Burns... and comes out of the darkness to Shine again. Thank u all for letting the Sun shine on Pathaan.' Pathaan has become a must-watch theatrical entertainer which is

being celebrated across the nation. Pathaan is part of Aditya Chopra's ambitious spy universe and has the biggest superstars of the country Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone and John Abraham in it. The stars have been showered with all the love from fans worldwide and this is here to stay for sure.

Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa: The Rule' Tops the List of Most Awaited Films in 2023

The highly anticipated film 'Pushpa 2: The Rule (Hindi) is gearing up for a magnum release in 2023 and the buzz around it is off the charts. As much as the audience rejoiced watching the charm, allure, and massy attitude of Allu Arjun in Pushpa: The Rise, the excitement for the sequel is twice as high. Recently, a leading and trusted media portal dropped the list of 'Most Awaited Hindi Films As on February', and Allu Arjun's Pushpa 2: The Rule topped the chart



leaving behind several promising projects. Leaving behind Tiger 3, Jawan, Salaar (Hindi), Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan, which are some of the most vowing ventures for this year, this Allu Arjun starrer has studied a loyal

audience in the past one year. Taking to social media, the media portal s h a r e d "#OrmaxCinematix Most-awaited Hindi films, as on Feb 15, 2023 (only films releasing Apr 2023 onwards whose trailer

has not released yet have been considered)." Over the period, the Pushpa franchise and its cast have grown a massive fan following. From Allu Arjun's Pushpa mask to his way of style, dance and everything about the film has become a huge highlight. With Pushpa 2 soon releasing this year, the audience cannot wait to see where the film story leads to. Starring Allu Arjun and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead, the film is directed by Sukumar.

Mandana reacts to being called a gold digger, 'I have dated powerful men but not because they have money, I spoil myself with my own money'

In the latest episode of Lock Upp, Azma Fallah tells Mandana Karimi that some people were badmouthing her saying she has only dated directors. Mandana says it's not true and Saisha Shinde adds, "Even if she does, what's the problem."

Azma talks about the secret that Mandana revealed previously and says she's also being called a gold digger. Mandana says, "I may

look fancy but I am spoiling myself with my money, what I have earned. As far as my dating is concerned, yes, I have dated powerful men. But it is not for their money. It is on record, I have broken up with a powerful man because it wasn't worth my time or life. In fact, many times my things have gone. They have ruined my name, and my life. Just like my ex."

Mandana says that Ali Merchant has been



putting words in her mouth. She says, "I know what I have done. I know who I have loved and with whom I have been in a relationship and how it was."

Later, Ali goes to speak in front of the camera and calls Mandana the most fake person in the house. He says, "I am not directly calling her a gold digger. But she has similar traits of a gold digger. She looks for prey, earns their sympathy, gets

close, makes them hear her sob story and then befriends them like she tried to do with Zeeshan and I." Mandana tells in front of the camera, "People like Ali, who don't know you, they go around and talk, gossip. Ali is a person who came to the show, tried to move ahead in the game with the help of his ex. And when Sara left, he is using others. Such people will reach nowhere."

The effect of teaching-training in 'Mother Tongue' is deep and permanent.

Dr. Lokendra Singh Kot



These days various debates are taking place regarding the language and the exercise of teaching technical subjects like engineering, medical subjects by translating them into Hindi is in full swing. In such a situation, it is imperative to question whether students will get better education after translation. Because there will be a great need for English for research, staying current and global integration. This work may be better for the Hindi side, but is this stubbornness of ours making Hindi backward? In fact education is such a process where multidimensional, moving with time is as important as the knowledge of that subject. When it comes to language, nothing is

as effective as the mother tongue. If the teaching of the subject is done in the mother tongue of the students so that they do not have any difficulty in understanding the concepts of that subject, they will be able to adopt it with better receptivity. After this, the academic language of the student should not be changed, it should be kept in English only, then the students will have the blueprint of any concept in their own language, then they can express their thoughts in the book or academic language. This will also get rid of distortions like rote learning and passing. In the Medical College, we did this experiment in a pilot way, in which a concept was taught to all the classes completely in English and 'Mother Tongue' i.e. Hindi. In this, instead of a d o p t i n g complexities with



t e c h n i c a l terminologies, the result is much more pleasant. A test was also taken of the students regarding the same, then all of them wrote their answers in English only, but the answers of the students with mother tongue were found to be more original and explain the meaning. In fact, the language we grow up with, the language spoken at home, is the closest to us and the best expression we can give in it. As soon as any other language comes, our expression becomes weak and the

tendency like rote starts getting more p a t r o n a g e . Sometimes the reason for students' boredom in classes and bunking classes is also teaching in another language. Researchers from Britain's University of Reading have also proved that students who study in mother tongue have a higher IQ level. Data on Language in School The National Achievement Survey is a nationwide survey conducted among 122543 students in 6,602 schools across 31 states and union territories in the

country. The survey tried to measure children's ability to u n d e r s t a n d mathematics, reading comprehension and understanding of environmental science through a questionnaire. The survey findings show how important it is to have the same language spoken at home as the language of instruction at school. Having a common language has a significant impact on student performance. The survey also highlighted the difference between students who speak the same language at

home as the language taught in school (66 percent) and those who speak a different language at home and school (34 percent). What can be inferred from the findings is a direct correlation between the language of instruction and the home language. As a result, 34 percent of children were at a disadvantage. Like India, Ethiopia is a country of many languages. A study conducted by Jared Seid at the International Growth Center (IGC) found that children who were taught in their home language

performed better in mathematics than their peers who were not taught in their mother tongue. This leads to differences in learning between peers. It is further observed that people who start learning in their mother tongue show better performance in later learning, especially in learning English. Researchers from the Philippines also found that teachers were more comfortable teaching if their home language was the same as their language of instruction, rather than if they were asked to teach in a specified language. Also, even if the teacher says that he is comfortable with a language, the quality of teaching gets affected. We should make arrangements for education by making use of the capabilities of our mother tongue. Even today, students studying in Hindi

medium from government schools are coming forward in competitive examinations, but their second language English is also better because of more attention given to it. They are more practical in every background of life. We should open the way for the all-round development of the students without any aim of competing with any language. Fanaticism towards language is not capable of taking us anywhere. Only we have to give education in the mother tongue of the student, the rest of the arrangements have to be kept the same, by this we will not only be able to respect two languages, but will also be able to take a step towards a better future.

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Without language, it is impossible to communicate with and comprehend others

Vinod Chandrashekhhar Dixit



Languages are the most powerful instruments of preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage. In order to promote linguistic and cultural diversity a n d multilingualism. 21st February is observed as the International Mother Language Day. Mother language has a very powerful impact in the formation of the i n d i v i d u a l . Although decades

have passed since India gained independence from British Raj, the debate whether learning English is more important than one's own mother tongue continues. The main purpose of celebrating this day is to promote the awareness of language and cultural diversity all across the world. It is International Mother Language Day is celebrated in memory of the four students who were killed while fighting for their mother language and is celebrated to tell them that we will never forget t h e i r

sacrifices. Nelson Mandela has said that "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart." Every language spoken in the world represents a special culture, melody, color, and asset and to everyone the mother language is certainly one of the most precious treasures in our lives. It is important to learn one's mother tongue because language is the vehicle of culture and tradition. Since language and nationalism are closely related, we

should also be careful that emphasis on mother tongue not lead to a narrow-minded l i n g u i s t i c nationalism either. One's mother language is ingrained in his/her cultural identity and history. Languages are the first and most valuable treasure to a Nation, lots of resources are destined to protect material heritage but very little to protect languages. Language is the essence and identity of culture, and is a major tool for communication. It is a major tool for exchanging ideas, emotions and feelings. To know

your language is the key way to keep and preserve your culture. Mother-language plays a tremendously useful role in the education of a child. It has a great importance in the field of education. Preserving a language requires the strength and efforts of a community. Researchers have discovered that children who are taught in their mother language u n d e r s t a n d concepts better. Children need to hear quantity and quality language input in order to have strong language skills, and

parents are the primary individuals who can provide the language input needed in the mother language. As a language dies, a society's history and cultures dies with it. Every human being deserves the right to use their mother language, and to take pride in it as we do. Acceptance and opportunities given by the universities have encouraged many students to venture out and experience their mother tongue to its full capacity. Original ideas are the product of one's own mother tongue. On account of the facility of thought

and expression, new and original ideas take birth and get shape only in one's own mother language. Using one's mother tongue at home will make it easier for children to be comfortable with their own cultural identity. It is very important for our Indian c o m m u n i t y children residing abroad to learn and respect their own mother tongue and this is possible only if parents inculcate this habit from the very infancy. There are instances where the people migrating to America from different linguistic regions of India and

may choose to study Hindi even if it is not their "mother tongue". It is important that within India, diversity in language and culture should be valued by the establishment. Due to the inherent diversity within India, in most parts, people and society do accept diversity implicitly. It's a duty and responsibility to preserve our Mother language and pass it down from generation to generation.

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

NGO urges action against use of Single Use Plastic



Kolkata : Concern for Calcutta has urged the State Government to implement the ban against use of Plastic bags with thickness less than 120 microns. Narayan Jain, Chairman Advisory Board of the NGO said that the rule of not allowing plastic carry bags less than 120 micron is in force from January 1, 2023 all over India. KS Adhikari President of the NGO demanded that the Government teams should be

deployed to check the usage of such banned bags and take action by issuing challans for imposing fine. According to the central government notification of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, "the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of following single-use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, 19 c o m m o d i t i e s

including earbuds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene, etc. are prohibited with effect from July 1, 2022, explained Jain. Concern for Calcutta has been carrying on campaign against Single use plastic for last 5 years for awareness among public. On Sunday a campaign was carried out at Karunamoyee Bazar and its members

distributed Cotton bags to shoppers in presence of Ratna Sur, Chairperson of KMC Borough 13 and Councillor. She admired the efforts of Concern for Calcutta and urged people not to use plastic carry bags for shopping. Ramakant Burman and Vineeta Burman of Greentech Environ Management (P) Ltd. Have been supporting the initiative. As desired by local people the NGO will continue sustained campaign against use of Single Use Plastic carry bags. Bibhas Maity co-ordinated the programme very well. Members who lent their active support included SK Mujibar Rahman, Indrani Nehram, J.K. Sharma, Arundhati Mukherjee and Subrata Sinha.



The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari attends the world's largest and unique Divyang Park - Anubhuti Inclusive Park at Nagpur, in Maharashtra

Mehbooba Mufti Seeks S Jaishankar's Intervention Over Issuance Of Passport

Jammu: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday sought External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's intervention for her passport, saying she has been waiting for it for the past three years to take her 80-year-old mother on a pilgrimage to Mecca. In a letter to the minister, she said her passport's renewal has been pending as the Jammu and Kashmir CID gave an adverse report that issuing the travel document to her would undermine national security. Ms Mufti also highlighted the delay in issuing of passport to her daughter Iltija who wants to pursue higher studies outside the country. "I am writing to you about a matter that has dragged on needlessly for the last three years, the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said and added that "my mother (Gulshan Nazir) and I applied for passport renewal in March 2020".

"Jammu and Kashmir CID gave an adverse report that issuing passports to my 80-year-old mother and I would undermine national security. In J&K, it has become the norm to arbitrarily reject passport applications of thousands, including journalists, students, and others, by misusing national interest as a pretext," Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leader said in her letter. She said they went to the Jammu and Kashmir High Court and after the case "dragged" on for three years, the court gave clear directions that the Regional Passport Office in Srinagar should not operate as the CID's "mouthpiece" by denying passports on vague grounds. "In my case, I was asked to approach the Passport Authority of India which I have done multiple times since 2021. Unfortunately, I have



not received a positive response yet. The inordinate and deliberate delay in issuing my passport is a grave violation of my fundamental right," Mehbooba, who is currently in Jammu, said. She said that "if suspending my basic rights in a democracy like ours is done with such brazen impunity and contempt, one cannot even imagine what an ordinary Kashmiri goes through". "My daughter Iltija applied for her passport renewal in June 2022. Her application too is in limbo and it seems that the Passport Office in Srinagar is yet again failing to discharge its

duty," the PDP leader said. For the past three years, "I have been waiting eagerly to take my mother on a pilgrimage to Mecca", she said and added that "as a daughter, I feel pained and anguished to be unable to fulfil such a simple wish because of petty politics". "I write to you hoping that you will look into the matter urgently," she said in her letter to the external affairs minister. Last week, Iltija filed a petition in the high court for the issuance of a passport, pleading that she needs the travel document immediately to pursue her higher education outside the country.

Assam Woman Kills Husband, Mother-In-Law, Hides Body Parts In Fridge: Cops

The 35-year-old, in the plea, had said her passport expired on January 2 and she had applied for a fresh passport in advance on June 8 last year. In March 2021, Mehbooba and her mother were refused passports after the Jammu and Kashmir Police cited an "adverse report". Mehbooba's passport expired on May 31, 2019, and she had applied for a fresh passport on December 11 in the next year, while her mother, wife of former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, had applied for a passport in 2020 to undertake the pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia. Mehbooba's passport application is still pending but authorities released the passport of her mother early this month after the high court passed fresh directions to the passport officer.

Guwahati: A woman allegedly killed her husband and mother-in-law, chopped up their bodies and kept them inside a fridge in Assam's Noonmati, a neighbourhood in Guwahati. The woman, Vandana Kalita, was in an extramarital affair. The police said that three days after killing her husband Amarjyoti Dey and mother-in-law Shankari Dey, Vandana Kalita and her lover took the body parts to neighbouring Meghalaya's Cherrapunji, some 150 km from Guwahati. There, the two dumped the body parts. The police have found them. "Vandana Kalita led a police team from Assam to the spot in Cherrapunji in Meghalaya, where she and her lover dumped



the mother and her son's body parts," a police officer said. "Vandana killed them before chopping the bodies into pieces. She then stored the body parts inside a fridge," the officer said. The Assam case has chilling parallels to the murder of Shraddha

Walkar by her boyfriend Aaftab Poonawala in Delhi last year. Her body was also chopped up and stored inside a fridge. More recently, another woman, Nikki Yadav, was killed by her partner Sahil Gehlot and her body was stored inside a fridge at his restaurant in Delhi.



The Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Labour & Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav being felicitated on his visit to Jatayu Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre, in Pinjore, Haryana

"Standards Of Congress Leaders Falling Since...": Amit Shah

Mon Town (Nagaland): BJP leader and Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday strongly condemned a Congress spokesperson's choice of words for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and said the standard of opposition party's members is falling by the day since Rahul Gandhi became its leader.

"The kind of language the Congress spokesperson has used (for PM) and the sort of reaction it has drawn from people from across the country...



you will see Rahul Gandhi that the Congress will not be visible even through telescope after the Lok Sabha polls in 2024. People will respond through the ballot box," Mr Shah told a public meeting here. Mr Shah neither

made reference to he objectionable word nor named the Congress leader, but BJP leaders said it was in relation to Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera's recent remark Mr Shah said the Prime Minister is respected world over

as he has brought happiness to the lives of the country's 80 crore poor and ensured its security and development.

"For such a beloved Prime Minister of ours, the kind of language which has been used is something I strongly condemn.

"It is a matter of concern for me and everyone concerned about the standards of public life that the standard of Congress functionaries is falling by the day since Rahul Gandhi became the party leader," he said.

Coast Faces Saline Ingress

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Government has taken up several remedial measures, in order to arrest saline ingress in the coastal zone which is benefitting the areas. According to officials, a pilot project for arresting saline ingress and artificial recharge of ground water in parts of Basudebpur and Chandbali Blocks of Bhadrak District was carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) with a view to control salinity ingress in the creeks and artificial recharge of ground water. They said various systematic measures are taken up to arrest saline ingress in Odisha. The State Government has taken up construction of a saline embankment of the Bay of Bengal and adjacent to the river mouths. Similarly, construction as well as renovation of creek irrigation projects with construction of control structures to check the salinity ingress in command State Government has taken up construction of sea wall at vulnerable reaches of the coastline to check the



inundation of the adjoining areas from the storm surge. Construction of different types of structures like control sluice, in-stream structures and the works undertaken had resulted in arresting salinity ingress mainly by impounding and recharging fresh water. The stored and

recharged fresh water has also generated assured irrigation in adjoining areas, officials say. The union Government is playing the role of a catalytic agent and providing technical support as well as in some cases partial financial assistance in terms with the existing

schemes being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The Union Government has also conducted studies regarding salinity ingress in coastal areas by National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) Secondly CGWB is

generating ground water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies and ground water quality monitoring throughout the country. These studies indicate the occurrence of high salinity beyond the BIS permissible limits in isolated pockets and in parts of coastal areas in

the country. High salinity has been reported in parts of 47 coastal districts in 10 States and Union Territories of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry. The report has been circulated to various stakeholders in all coastal states and these states have adopted various types of remedial measures like construction of check dams, recharge wells, recharge tanks, spreading channel, embankment, salt water exclusion dam, surface dykes etc. to check salinity, the officials said.

of coastal land salinity and its impact in States and UTs of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry. The report has been circulated to various stakeholders in all coastal states and these states have adopted various types of remedial measures like construction of check dams, recharge wells, recharge tanks, spreading channel, embankment, salt water exclusion dam, surface dykes etc. to check salinity, the officials said.

Suspension bridge project over Brahmani river, a victim of Centre-state tussle



ROURKELA: A suspension bridge project over Brahmani river to connect the Vedvyas tourism site with Harapoka Ghat at Panposh in Rourkela city sanctioned eight years back, has fallen prey to the tussle between Centre and state government. The funds allocated by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the project was reportedly diverted after the 2019 elections due to delay in its execution. Sources said the then Union Tribal Affairs Minister and incumbent Sundargarh MP Jual Oram in 2014-15 had sanctioned around Rs 10 crore for the suspension bridge. Another tranche of Rs 5.80 crore was sanctioned from the special central assistance under the tribal sub-plan for few development projects

at Rourkela city. The executing agency, Integrated Tribal Development Agency, Panposh during its project-level committee meeting in 2016 had approved the bridge proposal estimated at around Rs 13 crore. The district administration had sought approval of the ST/SC Development department to allow diversion of Rs 3 crore from the tranche of Rs 5.80 crore, but the latter refused reportedly citing the ministry's financial assistance should be spent on backward areas to benefit tribals. On June 28, 2016, the then Rourkela MLA Dilip Ray in a letter had sought CM Naveen Patnaik's intervention to remove the hurdles in the project. Ray had said the bridge would

connect ward nos 1 and 2 of Rourkela Municipal Corporation on the eastern side of the river with Vedvyas under Jhartarang gram panchayat of Lathikata block on the western side and would also ensure cost-effective transportation of agriculture and horticulture produce from the tribal blocks of Lathikata and Kuanrunda. The former MLA had said the city's population would also get easy access to Vedvyas temple complex, Vedvyas market and the crematorium through the bridge. Again in 2018 the PLC had approved the proposal, but the project could not be implemented in absence of approval from the state government and the ministry's funds were diverted to other areas after 2019, said Odisha

unit BJP spokesperson Dhiren Senapati. Vedvyas temple site and the crematorium is thronged by tourists and visitors throughout the year and lakhs of people visit during the shrine for Shraavan Mela and Maha Shivaratri festival. A bamboo temporary bridge set up between the Vedvyas temple and Harapoka Ghat has been removed by the city administration as a result of which visitors are forced to travel an extra 4-5 km instead of 500 metre to Vedvyas from Panposh. Sundargarh collector Parag Harshad Gavali said he has heard about the proposal, but is yet to check details with the ITDA. He said the administration would consider the suspension bridge proposal based on the necessity, usefulness and financial feasibility.

Iron gate collapses, four kids injured in Odisha

BERHAMPUR: Four kids including a girl were injured after an iron grill gate and a portion of the boundary wall of a colony collapsed on them in Bhanjanagar block of Ganjam district on Sunday. The mishap occurred at Chidananda Leprosy Colony near Daha.

Sources said the children, all aged between 5 and 12 years, were reportedly swinging on the iron gate of the colony when it suddenly collapsed. A portion of the boundary wall also caved in along with the gate, trapping the kids under it. Hearing their

screams, locals reached the spot and rushed them to Bhanjanagar sub-divisional hospital. Later, two of the injured kids were shifted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital after their condition deteriorated. Locals alleged that though the boundary wall of the colony was

in a dilapidated condition since long, no steps were taken to repair it. Bhanjanagar IIC Dhires Kumar Das said on being informed about the incident, police reached the colony. The statements of locals and the injured kids have been recorded and further investigation is underway.



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Dalmia Bharat Foundation Signs MoA with BSL to Enable Social Transformation in Bokaro

Bokaro, Jharkhand : Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Bharat Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoA) with Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) to drive its community-centric initiatives in Jharkhand by upskilling 600 youth, annually. The aim of the MoA is to establish a skill training centre to impart short term, placement-based courses to local youth in the surrounding villages through DBF's DIKSHA (Dalmia Institute of Knowledge and Skill Harnessing) centre. The MoA was signed by

Shri Chaudhary Ratnes Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. General Manager (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant and Shri Vishal Bhardwaj, Group Head - CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and Chief Executive Officer, Dalmia Bharat Foundation.

"Since our inception in 2009, we've witnessed our role gradually transform from being a resource provider to a key enabler for positive change in society. While we've created a legacy of development and change for the better, we continue to strive to ensure that we meet newer economic and environmental needs and close wider societal gaps as much as possible,"

said Mr. Vishal Bhardwaj, Group Head - CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and CEO, DBF. "Through our leadership and dedication towards achieving social transformation, we will continue to work towards our vision of creating opportunities for people across the nation so that they can reach their full potential and give back to the community. We look forward to our partnership with BSL and also call upon our industry peers to join us as we make significant and sustainable differences and ensure social, economic, and environmental progress.

The skill development center at Bokaro Steel City, in association with

DBF, will help strengthen the social ecosystem in Jharkhand. While BSL will provide the necessary infrastructure support, DBF has been entrusted with managing day to day activities of the center including faculty and placement support.

"BSL and DBF share a common vision and value system for bringing about a transformative change in society by leveraging its demographic dividend through empowering the local youth through training that makes them market-ready," said Mr. Chaudhary Ratnes Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. GM (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant. "It is our firm belief that this combined expertise and experience

will ensure that the youth being educated at the DIKSHA facility will receive quality and need-based training for the purpose of gainful employment across industries."

To ensure viable and sustainable income generation, training will be imparted in trades for self-employment and trades such as Assistant Electrician, Solar PV Installer, General Duty Assistant (GDA) and Customer Relationship Management, to begin with. Subsequently, more courses will be added as per demand and future prospects. The center shall largely focus on the development of the youth residing in BSL's peripheral villages.

Navi Finserv Limited is planning to raise ₹600 crore through public issuance of Non-Convertible Debentures

Bengaluru: Navi Finserv Limited (NFS), a wholly owned subsidiary of Navi Technologies Limited (Navi), today announced the public issue of Secured, Rated, Listed & Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) amounting to ₹600 crore with a base issue of ₹300 crore and an option to retain over-subscription of another ₹300 crore. The issue will open on Monday 23rd May, 2022 and is scheduled to close on Friday, 10th June 10, 2022 with an option of early closure or extension.

The proposed NCDs have a rating of A (Stable) by India Ratings & Research Pvt Ltd. This rating is considered to have adequate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry low credit risk.

Investors get an opportunity to participate in secured NCDs under various series for tenure of 18 months and 27 months

with an effective yield of upto 9.80%* and a minimum application size of ₹10,000.

Speaking about the NCD issue, Ankit Agarwal, Managing Director of NFS said, "The upcoming NCD issue aims to raise funds for onward lending and financing purposes. This will further diversify our borrowing profile and add more retail investors to our portfolio to complement our wide base of Institutional wide partners. This is a secured instrument with A (stable) rating, a low application size and an effective yield of upto 9.80%*. Sachin Bansal, Chairman & CEO of NFS added: "At Navi, our mission is to provide financial products that are simple, affordable and accessible. I believe that our customer centric and technology first approach along with our robust underwriting and collections capabilities adds value to Navi Finserv's maiden public debt issue."

NFS offers personal

loans and home loans under the "Navi" brand and we have approved personal loans to customers across over 84% of all Indian pin codes. The Company's net worth stood at Rs 11,895.72 million as on December 31, 2021 and maintained a comfortable standalone debt to equity ratio of 2.1x as on December 31, 2021.

NFS has maintained a strong asset quality reflected by its Net NPA of 0.08% (as on December 31, 2021), which is supported by a collections efficiency of 96.63% (for personal loans disbursed subsequent to April 1, 2021 till December 31, 2021). Its outstanding borrowings on a standalone basis of ₹27,749.76 million as of March 31, 2022 was diversified across an array of instruments such as NCDs, sub-debt, term loans, market linked debentures, commercial papers and, securitisation instruments such as PTCs.

Flipkart's Shopsy Summer Store steers tremendous growth for sellers in Odisha

Bhubaneswar: As the summer starts rolling in, Shopsy - Flipkart's social commerce platform, recently launched the Summer Store, a unique curation to address customers' nuanced seasonal needs by offering a wide range of products across categories under one umbrella. As a testimony to this endeavor, sellers in Cuttack recorded nearly a 9X growth in sales and sellers in Puri recorded nearly a 16X growth in sales bolstered by the summer store initiative. Sellers in Sundergarh have garnered tremendous 34X growth in their sales over the past month. The summer store recorded increased traction from women buyers which indicates a positive women reseller growth

in Cuttack. Amongst several categories, Hygiene and Wellness, Fashion, Kitchenware and Home Decor emerged as top priorities for customers with demand for products such as deodorants, sunglasses, body washes, essential oils, sarees, table covers, bedsheets and kitchen tools topping the charts.

Shopsy Summer Store is a one-stop-shop for products ranging from electronics, personal care, baby care, food and beverages, apparel, swimwear and kitchenware including air conditioners, deodorants, baby sunscreen, aerated drinks, cotton clothes for men and women, swimsuits and juicer mixer grinders. Of this, deodorants have taken up

the major share of the demand pie clocking over 50% growth, followed by sunglasses which grew by close to 22%. Kitchen tools also contributed to a 6X growth over the past month in Cuttack. This was followed by categories such as kurta sets, cotton sarees, deodorants and body washes that witnessed a 3X jump over the past month in Puri.

Shopsy aims to continue its endeavor to offer a wide range of quality and engaging products for customers at affordable prices, while being a value-based and reliable platform. By providing a simplified social media interface, Shopsy is able to overcome user apprehension of trust and authenticity while shopping online.

Walkathon organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital on the occasion of World hypertension day

Bhubaneswar: In observance of World Hypertension Day 2022 - commemorated every May 17th, to create awareness amongst people, a walkathon was organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital, Cuttack which covered some important roads of Cuttack city on the day. The walkathon was flagged off by Dr. Sreejoy Patnaik, Chairman & Managing Director and Prof. Dr. Rekha Das, Executive Director of the hospital after a briefing on the purpose of the observation day presented by Dr. Priyadarshi Tripathy, Cardiologist of the hospital. More than 150 employees joined the walkathon with plaque cards and banners carrying awareness message on hypertension prevention and treatment to communicate to the public the importance of hypertension and its serious medical complications, and to provide information on prevention, detection and treatment.

World Hypertension Day was first inaugurated in May 2005 ever since it has become an annual event. The main purpose behind the celebration of the World Hypertension Day is to promote public awareness of hypertension and to encourage citizens of all countries to prevent and control this silent killer, the modern epidemic. Later at Shanti Memorial Hospital, a free hypertension check-up camp was held in which around 100 persons checked their blood pressure and received free consultation.

JioPhone Next 'Exchange to Upgrade' Offer

Bhubaneswar: Reliance Retail has launched a limited period Exchange to Upgrade offer for JioPhone Next. As per the offer, customers can exchange a functional 4G featurephone or smartphone for a brand new JioPhone Next for just Rs. 4,499.

The JioPhone Next 'Exchange to Upgrade' offer allows many more Indians to embrace a truly smart Digital Life. With this offer existing 4G feature phone and smartphone users will no longer be held back by their device constraints and be able to enjoy the true 4G Jio Digital Life to the fullest. Current users of 4G feature phones will now be able

to migrate much more easily to the large screen digital experience on the world's most affordable 4G smartphone. Similarly, the current 4G low-end smartphone users too can affordably upgrade to a seamless and enhanced digital life offer by JioPhone Next which runs on Pragati OS - the optimised version of Android that supports a rich suite of applications and usage without compromising on the user experience.

The offer is available through Reliance Retail's extensive network of JioMart Digital, Reliance Digital and other outlets in the remotest corners of the country, making it

geographically and economically accessible to many more Indians.

It is worth mentioning here that JioPhone Next, designed jointly by Jio and Google, is the world's most affordable 4G smartphone that comes with a 5.45" HD screen with Corning Gorilla Glass 3 anti-fingerprint coating, 2GB RAM, 32 GB in-built storage (expandable up to 512GB), 13MP back camera, 8MP front selfie camera, 3500 mAh battery, and a range of other advanced features which include voice fast capabilities, read aloud, translate now, easy and smart camera, automatic feature update, easy media share, OTG support etc.

Ecom Express announces 55,000 registrations for its Delivery Partner Program

Bhubaneswar / Gurugram: Ecom Express Limited, a new-age technology-driven end-to-end logistics solutions provider to the e-commerce industry, announced that it has crossed 55,000 gig workers registration on their dedicated app called 'EcomSanjeev' to onboard delivery partners since its launch in September 2021.

The company's delivery partner program aims to create part-time work opportunities for individuals with the option of flexible timings to maximize their earnings by delivering e-commerce shipments to customers. Delivery Partners working through Ecom Express' gig model can earn

anywhere between Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 60,000 per month.

Close to 60 per cent of registrations have been from Tier 4 cities and towns, indicating massive affinity for gig opportunities in those areas. The top 10 cities/towns with the highest registrations include from Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Lucknow, Gurugram and Patna.

In Odisha, over 4000 gig-workers have registered for part time engagement as delivery partners with Ecom Express. Most of the registrations have been from Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Rourkela, Berhampur and Sambalpur among other

cities.

Saurabh Deep Singla, Chief People Officer, Ecom Express said, "Since the launch of our ESP program last year, we have created opportunities for students, homemakers and individuals looking to supplement and maximize their income by delivering e-commerce shipments during their spare time. This flagship program, besides empowering gig workforce, also helped the company to scale their delivery capabilities in assuring speed, reliability, and effective logistics solutions to deliver online-ordered products at end-customers' doorstep safely."

The company has also

announced provision of accidental insurance of Rs. 2 lakhs to safeguard delivery partners from any mishaps, besides offering a host of other benefits, including attendance bonus depending on their work continuity. Referral programs are run from time to time to expand the delivery partner base while rewarding the existing partners. To create stronger affiliation with delivery partners, Ecom Express has further collaborated with leading brands to provide numerous enticing benefits.

Any individual, male or female, fresher or experienced, can earn extra income by applying for this part-time job online using the

app, Ecom Sanjeev, available on Google Playstore. They will have the flexibility to choose their preferred time slots and workdays.

To join as a Delivery Partner with Ecom Express, candidates must possess a valid Aadhaar card, preferably own a vehicle, and have a smartphone. Ecom Express also allows gig workers who don't have any owned vehicle to register themselves and work. All personal documents for enrollment can be uploaded through the Ecom Sanjeev app and the verification (PAN card, Bank account) is done online along with physical document verification at the nearest Ecom Express center.

Ambuja Cements and ACC's Change The Story campaign wins Bronze at the ABBY Awards

Mumbai: The first sustainability campaign 'Change The Story' of Ambuja Cements and ACC, has won a Bronze Award at the recent ABBY Awards 2022, under the Green Award category. This category is awarded to outstanding communication that features planet conservation etc. The

"Change The Story" campaign aimed to create awareness about sustainability and showcase technology-backed solutions that offer effective and measurable outcomes in this regard.

The #ChangeTheStory campaign highlights a non-invasive bubble barrier technology, which will remove around 2,400 tonnes of

plastic waste from Agra's Mantola canal, thereby preventing its entry into the Yamuna river. The crux of the campaign lay in reaching out to a wide audience across India and globally—and communicating the campaign's features. The campaign winning this honour at the ABBY Awards—often touted as the Oscars of Indian advertising—was

designed in collaboration with Alok Nanda and Company and serves as another reminder of the crucial role sustainability plays at Ambuja Cements and ACC.

#ChangeTheStory campaign was rolled out across multiple platforms, including print and digital, reaching out to an approximate 32 million people. One of its lead video films conveyed the

message, through the lens of a scientist, that it's time to change the story by taking out the plastic and freeing our rivers of their polluted past. The campaign further leveraged the power of music and created a rap song across owned platforms featuring the campaign mnemonic "Bubble Sharma". This was followed by a bouquet of informative posts and

videos on social media. ACC and Ambuja Cements collaborated with micro and nano influencers to drive engagement around the bubble barrier technology.

The two companies were the first to launch an augmented reality-based game in India, which created an immersive experience for users by illustrating the state of marine plastic pollution

and the basic functioning of the Bubble Barrier technology. This game convinces the user to play their role in driving change by encouraging players to "bubble pop" their way to cleaner oceans and safer habitats for marine organisms.

Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and Managing Director & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said that the

award served yet another reminder of the company's efforts towards sustainability. "We are elated and honoured that a campaign that's important to us has received the recognition that it deserved. Sustainability and business go hand in hand at Ambuja Cements and ACC Ltd. This will encourage us to further step up our efforts in this direction."

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Kyle Jamieson to undergo back surgery



New Delhi: New Zealand fast bowler Kyle Jamieson is set to undergo a surgery for his injured back that will sideline him for up to four months. Jamieson, who was named in the New Zealand squad for the ongoing home series against England, was ruled out with a suspected stress fracture to the back. "Kyle has seen a back surgeon and is getting surgery later in the week," New Zealand head coach Gary Stead confirmed. "It's been a challenging and difficult time for Kyle and a big loss for us. He has been fantastic when he has

been around all of our sides when he has been part of them. The setback for the tall pacer is a re-occurrence of an old back injury that he suffered last year on the tour of England. He made a comeback from it in the domestic circuit and even played a warm-up fixture against England in Hamilton in the lead-up to the current Test series, but was laid low after scans revealed the injury. Surgery and the subsequent rehabilitation is set to keep Jamieson out of New Zealand's home series against Sri Lanka in March-April,

the away tour to Pakistan in April-May as well as the Indian Premier League 2023 season, where he was snapped up by Chennai Super Kings for INR 1 Crore. Jamieson could target New Zealand's tour of England in August for a potential return. "We just wish him well, and we will know more in about three to four months about what that end prognosis looks like for him. Surgery provides a quicker return to play and that's the encouraging thing for him. We want to give him the best chance of recovery because we know what a star he has been for us," Stead said. New Zealand, who went into the first Test against England with depleted bowling resources and suffered a heavy defeat, will welcome back Matt Henry to the mix ahead of the second fixture, starting on February 24 at the Basin Reserve in Wellington.

Bumrah yet to get NCA clearance; workload in IPL to be monitored

New Delhi: Jasprit Bumrah continues to be the talking point of Indian cricket, present or absent from the national team, and the latest is about monitoring his workload in the Indian Premier League (IPL). Whether a powerful franchise like Mumbai Indians, for which the India spearhead plays in the IPL with a per season fee of INR 12 crore, accepts any conditions remains to be seen, but the impression is that there is need to follow the progress of Bumrah in the IPL, given the World Test Championship (WTC) is set to take place immediately after the league and the World Cup later in the year.

On Sunday (February 19), the national selectors, without a formally anointed chairman, did not name Bumrah in any of the Indian squads for the upcoming games against Australia. He wasn't part of the Indian set-up for the remaining two Tests against Australia, and was

also not picked for the three ODIs that follow.

C r i c b u z z understands that Bumrah, who has been out of international action for almost five months - he last played for the country in a T20I, against Australia, on September 25 last year - has not been cleared to play by the National Cricket Academy (NCA). Over the last 10 days, Bumrah is believed to have played a couple of practice games at the Bengaluru facility of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) but the word is that the NCA managers have not issued an all-clear for him to be considered for the national call-up.

It is now apparent that Bumrah will play the high-octane IPL directly but the Indian team does not see it as an impediment to his progress. The team management actually wanted him to scale up the intensity of his workload step by step



and it remains in their fitness of plans that Bumrah will play the T20 games before being part of any full-blown competitive action.

The team management, is likely to monitor his workload in the IPL. The plan has still not been spelt out but the team's brain trust, in the BCCI, will try to oversee his progress, if not exactly remote control his work. There are instances in the IPL where the foreign boards would issue conditional NOCs, requesting the franchises not to make

bowler bowl more than 24 deliveries in the nets, not to make him play a certain number of games on the trot and seek his fitness parameters regularly. A similar method may be employed by the BCCI for all bowlers, if not exactly to Bumrah alone, but certainly extra attention will be paid to him.

Meanwhile, the selection committee meeting in Kolkata was conducted without a chairman, a post that fell vacant after Chetan Sharma resigned

following a sting operation. Apart from four selectors - Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola, SS Das and S Sharath - Rohit Sharma and convenor Jay Shah attended the meeting online from New Delhi where the second Test concluded on Sunday. The BCCI is yet to decide whether to recruit a new chairman or announce an interim chairman or make one from the existing four.

As for Chetan Sharma, the thinking in the BCCI is that he was hard-done by an unethical method of sting operation but for the sake of optics, particularly after he was heard saying some oddly weird comments like 'injections' and 'players faking fitness', it had no other choice but to ask him to resign. Chetan resigned on February 17, the second day of the Ranji Trophy final in Kolkata, but not before thanking all his colleagues, former and current.

Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe Star in PSG's 4-3 win over Lille

New Delhi: Paris Saint-Germain was only minutes away from a fourth consecutive loss on Sunday (February 19) when Kylian Mbappe and Lionel Messi came to the rescue to avert a major crisis at the Qatar-backed club. The French league leaders gave away a two-goal lead and were trailing by one goal with four minutes left before Kylian Mbappe and Lionel Messi turned things around in the making into a 4-3 win against Lille.



As PSG looked headed for yet another setback, Mbappe snatched a late equalizer at the Parc des Princes. Messi then slotted home the winner deep in added time from a free kick, with a lethal left-footed shot into the bottom right corner. "I will simply say that it's a

great relief," PSG coach Christophe Galtier said. The hard-fought win followed a 1-0 defeat at home midweek against Bayern in the Champions League that came after a 3-1 defeat to Monaco in the league and another loss against bitter rival

Marseille in the French Cup. PSG kept a five-point lead over second-place Marseille, which kept the pressure on the leaders with a 3-2 win at Toulouse ahead of their clash next week at the Stade Velodrome in the biggest match in French

football.

After playing just half an hour against Bayern after returning from a thigh injury, Mbappe was back in Galtier's starting lineup. His impact throughout made up for PSG's defensive inadequacies and lapses of concentration. PSG led 2-0 after 17 minutes with goals by Mbappe and Neymar but the French champions then conceded three times — with Bafode Diakite, Jonathan David and Jonathan Bamba all scoring — and lost Neymar through injury. There were obvious signs of nerves amid the PSG ranks from the start. The hosts were immediately under pressure as Tim Weah's shot took a deflection and Gianluigi Donnarumma was forced into a reflex save

to stop the ball with his feet. PSG defender Presnel Kimpembe then put Donnarumma in a difficult situation when he headed the ball back toward the keeper, only to set up David for a one-to-one. The Lille forward appeared surprised by the unintended assist and his right-footed shot was not good enough to beat the Italy keeper.

Looking fragile, PSG relied on Mbappe to lead the way. Set up by Neymar, the France forward burst down the left and cut inside to come face to face with Tiago Djalo and Diakite. Mbappe nutmegged Djalo and forced his way between the pair, then beat goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier with a low shot in the 11th minute.

Cummins flies home for personal reasons, will return for Indore Test

New Delhi: Australia captain Pat Cummins has flown home to attend to a 'serious family illness' but will return later this week in time to partake in the preparations for the third Test of the ongoing Border-Gavaskar series in Indore.

Although unlikely, in the event that Cummins has to miss a Test, his deputy Steve Smith will take over captaincy duties, as he had done in the last two Tests in Adelaide. India retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy for a record fourth-straight time with victory in the Delhi Test but Cummins, who has had a very limited role with the ball in two spin-dominated games, said his side still had everything to play for with a drawn series a big



motivation. The 29-year-old will also be available to skipper the side in three-match ODI series to follow, a crucial series in the build up to this year's World Cup. Meanwhile, Cummins hinted about the possibility of changes to Australia's squad and their XI for the Test in Indore. Cameron Green, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood are expected to be fit. But there remains a doubt about

the participation of David Warner, who suffered a concussion as well as a hairline fracture in his left elbow. Impressive off-spinner Todd Murphy too battled side soreness during the second innings in Delhi but is likely to have enough of a gap between Tests to shrug it off. Mitchell Swepson, the legspinner, is also expected to rejoin the squad after travelling home for the birth of his child.

Having Anderson and Broad makes captaincy a lot easier - Stokes

New Delhi: It's now 10 wins out of eleven matches for the Ben Stokes-Brendon McCullum combo, with England putting on a dominating show at the Bay Oval Mount Maunganui to win the first Test by 267 runs inside four days. This was also England's first Test win in New Zealand since their innings victory in Napier in March 2008 and Stokes credited the batters and bowlers in his team in equal measure for his successful run as the Test captain of the England team. "I am pretty blessed to be in charge of this bowling group at the

moment. But I've also got a seriously skilled and very brave batting lineup to watch. They've got to take a lot of credit for the sort of record I have as a captain. It's probably going to end up in a selection nightmare at some point. It's great to have so many world-class players to choose from. I don't like to look too far ahead, but we'll have a good crop of players to choose from in the Ashes," Stokes said on Sunday (February 19) following England's commanding win. The senior bowling pair of James Anderson and Stuart Broad picked up 12

wickets between them in the match, including four-wicket hauls apiece in the second essay. Stokes said the two veteran cricketers are a benchmark for longevity combined with success.

"With Jimmy and Broady, it is always going to be tough for the opposition. Having Anderson and Broad makes captaincy a lot easier because you just throw them the ball and they'll probably get a wicket for you. Not only were they brilliant this whole game with the ball but we've got a 40-year-old and a 36-year-old



setting the standard of what we're about in the field in terms of energy.

"They're setting a great example for anyone who wants to look at having a long career in

professional sport. Seeing them with three lions on their chests is great, I don't really want to think too far ahead as to when they might call time on their careers,"

said Stokes, who was lavish in his praise of the entire bowling department.

"I am pretty blessed to be in charge of this bowling group at the moment. The idea is to take 10 wickets and

that is what we are trying to do - taking the scoreboard away in any situation. As long as we are taking 10 wickets, it doesn't really matter how many runs we go for. We have an ethos with the bat but also with the ball."

The victory was also set up by a powerful batting performance by Harry Brook, who struck 89 and 54 in the two innings at strike rates of 109.87 and 131.70 respectively. The 23-year old now has 623 runs in five matches, which includes three centuries and as many half-centuries. "Brooky is carrying on

from his amazing series in Pakistan. He is a fantastic talent. I think he will go on to be a global superstar," said Stokes, who also credited the senior players for allowing the youngsters to play with freedom.

"The more senior guys with the bat have to take a lot of credit for allowing the young guys to go out and express themselves. They are trying to put on a show, which is what everyone wants to do and is being allowed to do. It has taken the weight off everyone's shoulders and the expectation only comes from the dressing room."