

## Arson and vandalism by Miscreants inside Maharishi Public School playground in Nayapalli



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** On the afternoon of 23.2.23, a group of people assisted by jugal kishore Behera broke the fence and vandalized and set fire to the house, children's play equipment and school sign board inside the playground of Maharshi Public School in Naapalli. On hearing the news, the secretary of the school, Mrs. Heena Mohapatra, reached

there and asked those people to be out from the campus. Meanwhile Jugal Behera said that he had done it on the instructions of SDO R & B Jaydev Vihar Mr Panigrahi.

It is worth noting that since 2002-03 Maharshi Public School was running at N-3, B-14/15, Nayapalli.

The adjoining playground is in the school

premises and is used by the school students as a playground and storage house. But Maharshi Public School has been shifted to N-4, F-24 before the outbreak of Corona. Even before the establishment of the school, this place has been occupied by us for 30 years and has been engaged in various social activities. They broke the fence and took away the two rooms inside the

playground and the children's play equipment installed in the playground along with the sign board installed there.

School Secretary Mrs. Heena Mahapatra has lodged a complaint at Nayapalli police station, has requested IIC Nayapalli Sri Biswaranjan sahu to take strict action against the concerned persons after investigating the incident.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT



**NewDelhi:** Hon. Dr Bharrat Jagdeo, the Vice President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana called on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (February 24, 2023).

Welcoming Dr

Jagdeo to Rashtrapati Bhavan, the President said that India attaches very high importance to its relations with Guyana. Guyana has been a homeland to Indian brothers and sisters for the last 180 years. Even though India and Guyana are

separated geographically by a large distance, both have many aspects in common, such as a colonial past, predominantly agricultural and rural based economies, and multicultural societies.

The President noted that trade between India and Guyana is on an upward trajectory. In 2021-22, despite the pandemic the bilateral trade witnessed a growth of over 300 percent. She stressed on the need to further diversify the bilateral trade.

The President said that development partnership is a major pillar of India-Guyana relations. She was happy to note that more than 640 Guyanese Government officials have been trained under our ITEC programme so far. She expressed confidence that his visit would further deepen historical bonds of friendship between India and Guyana.

## Birendra Lakra Gets Clean Chit In Death Case Of Friend Anand Toppo

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In a major sigh of relief for international hockey player Birendra Lakra, the Twin City Commissionerate Police today gave him clean chit in the death case of his friend Anand Toppo. Family members of the deceased had accused Birendra of murdering Anand at a house in Infocity area of Bhubaneswar. Available evidences and medical reports have made it clear that the cause of death was suicidal hanging and there is no suspicion of any foul play, police said. The injuries found on the neck of the deceased could be ante-mortem and suicidal in nature. The deceased had consumed liquor and barbiturate before his death.

## People's Budget: CM



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Terming the Annual Budget for 2023-24 as a people's budget, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Friday said this budget is of the people, by the people and for the people. This budget will take Odisha to a new height, he said.

The Chief Minister was quite happy with the budget, which was presented by Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari in the State Legislative

Assembly this afternoon.

As many as 20 new schemes and programmes have been announced in this budget. According to the budget documents, Rs 2000 crore has been allocated as Revolving Fund for Paddy Procurement to ensure that farmers get their dues within prescribed time frame.

Rs 750 crore has been allocated for the newly announced Ama Hospital

Scheme while Rs 811 crore given for Mukhyamantri Medhabi Chatra Protsahan, Rs139 crore for Chief Minister's Awards for Education, Rs150 crore for Mukhyamantri Disaster Resilient Saline Embankment, Rs 120 crore for Mukhyamantri Janajati Jeebika Mission.

Similarly, the government has made a provision of Rs 150 crore for Mukhyamantri Disaster Resilient Saline Embankment, Rs 100 crore for Location Accessible Multimodal Initiatives (LACMI), Rs 150 crore for Ama Bus Stand, Rs 100 crore for Promotion of Entrepreneurship for women SHGs and Rs 126 crore for Coffee Mission.

## Pujari Present Poll Budget

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Eying for 2024 General and Assembly elections, Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari on Friday presented a people-centric Annual Budget with a highest ever outlay of Rs. 2.30 lakh crore for the year 2023-24 in the Odisha Legislative Assembly. This outlay is 15 per cent more than the full-fledged budget of Rs.2 lakh crore for 2022-23. Shri Pujari said the Program Budget has been increased by 35 times from Rs.3,538 crore in 2000-01 to Rs.1,25,000 crore in 2023-24 Budget Estimates. The allocation for the Program Expenditure

is about 54 percent of the total budgetary outlay. Similarly, Capital Outlay has gone up by more than 60 times from Rs.834 crore to Rs.51,683 crore during the same period, he said. The Administrative Expenditure proposed at Rs.94,000 crore in 2023-24, which includes Rs.32,449 crore for salaries, Rs.19,967 crore for pension, Rs.7,241 crore for interest payment and Rs.13,464 crore for maintenance of capital assets.

The outlay for Disaster Response Funds will be Rs.3,700 crore, while Transfers from

State will have an outlay of Rs.7,300 crore.

"We propose to transfer about Rs.3,132 crore on the basis of the recommendations of 15th Finance Commission and around Rs.4,052 crore on the recommendations of the 5th State Finance Commission to the rural and urban local bodies of the State," said Pujari.

The Capital Outlay in 2023-24 is Rs.51,683 crore, which is about 6 per cent of GSDP. Additionally, loans and advances, grants for creation of capital assets and other expenditure for capital formation together



account for Rs.12,421 crore, which is 1.4 per cent of GSDP.

The Finance Minister has said that the budget allocation is proposed to be financed through revenue receipts of Rs.1,84,500 crore and borrowing and other receipts of Rs.45,500 crore. Giving details of

revenue receipts for the year 2023-24, he said State's share in Central taxes is proposed to be Rs.46,251 crore, while Rs.53,000 crore expected from State's own tax, Rs.52,500 crore from own non-tax revenue and Rs.32,749 crore grants from Centre. This budget focuses on

achieving rapid and inclusive growth through development of human resources, investment in physical and social infrastructure, health care for all, provision of social safety nets for the disadvantaged and vulnerable sections and empowerment of youth, women, Scheduled

Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities, persons with disability and the senior citizens, he pointed out.

"When Chief Minister took over the reins of the state in 2000, Odisha was in such a severe financial crisis that it was unable to even pay salaries and pensions regularly. Today, two decades later, we are amongst the very few states that are revenue surplus and capable of large-scale investments in people-centric and growth-oriented programmes," Pujari said.

This transformation has been possible due to a futuristic and people-

oriented model of governance combined with the vision of our beloved Chief Minister towards making Odisha a developed State, he said. "Our efforts in fiscal prudence have been recognized and we were adjudged as the No.1 State in fiscal management, as per the Care Edge States' Ranking report, January, 2023," said the Finance Minister.

Before presenting Annual Budget, Shri Pujari presented the Soft Copy of Budget to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. Principal Secretary Finance Vishal Dev was present during the Presentation of Soft Copy.



Odisha Govt, KISS Come Together to Support UNESCO's 'Fit for Life' Prog

**Bhubaneswar, Feb 24:** The Odisha Government and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), a constituent of KIIT DU, have joined hands to support UNESCO's 'Fit for Life' programme to tackle challenges such as physical inactivity, mental health issues and inequality to foster peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies. To support UNESCO's Fit for Life programme an MoU was signed amongst UNESCO, Govt of Odisha and KISS on 24 February 2023 in the presence of Eunsong Kim, Programme Specialist and Head of Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO New Delhi; R. Vineel Krishna Commissioner-cum-



Secretary, Sports & Youth Services and Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT & KISS. Vineel Krishna noted that "sports for youth, youth for future is the vision of our Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and we are guided by it. Promoting physical and mental fitness is

core to many of our initiatives. We are delighted to be associated with UNESCO and the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences. "Fit for Life is designed to tackle contemporary challenges such as physical inactivity, mental health issues and inequality to foster

peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies. UNESCO as the United Nations' lead agency for Physical Education and Sport aims to strengthen the global framework on the use of sport for development and peace." remarked Eunsong Kim, Programme Specialist and Head of Social and

Human Sciences, UNESCO New Delhi. The partnership will be used as an opportunity to define a new message from sports as leverage for social inclusion, and gender equality, particularly at the grassroots level. KISS is playing a critical role in the socio-economic transformation of the tribal communities. While education is offered free of cost to the children, a special focus is laid on sports. This has led to many students becoming celebrated sportspersons, some of whom have represented India at the national and international levels including the Olympics.

Robbers arrested gold and silver jewelries seized

**Kukudakhandi(KCN):** While the theft cases have been increasing in Brahmapur city for a few days, the Brahmapur police have achieved huge success in arresting three thieves. For the past few days, 4 theft cases were reported in Nimkhandi, Bada Bazar and Golanthara police stations under Brahmampur police district. The police have managed to arrest three thieves on the charge of theft while the investigation continues for the past few days. A special team led by Brahmapur Sadar SDPO Shiv Shankar Mohapatra with the cooperation of Nimkhandi Police Station IIC, Golanthara Police Station Officer, and Badbazar Police Station Officer was formed and conducted an investigation.



According to the police investigation, during the interrogation of Dhillip, they admitted their involvement in the above series of incidents. After further questioning the accused, they confessed that they had stolen from Shakti Nagar under Nimkhandi Police Station, Om Nagar under Bada Bazar Police Station, and Surala area under Golanthara Police

Station. According to the above confession, the police recovered 265.5 grams of gold jewelry and 350.6 grams of silver jewelry from them. The estimated value of the recovered gold is 13,27,500 rupees. The owners will be handed over soon, informed through a press release, Brahmampur SP, Vivek M. .

Free Coaching For UPSC Aspirants

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Here is a piece of good news for UPSC aspirants from Odisha. The State Government is going to launch a scheme to provide free coaching to 200 aspirants who will appear for the Civil Services Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Bishnupada Sethi, Principal Secretary Higher Education has been making all out efforts in this regard. Since he took over the Department of Higher Education steps are being taken on fast track mode to initiate such program, which will help out the bright young boys and girls of Odisha to bag elite jobs in the country by cracking UPSC Exams. Accordingly Department of Higher Education has issued a notice inviting applications from the Government sponsored UPSC Civil Service Coaching Scheme for the session 2023-24. According to Department officials, it will be a residential coaching. The State Government will be providing food and accommodation to the selected aspirants. To shortlist the 200



aspirants, there will be a pre-qualifying entrance examination conducted by the State Selection Board. The examination is expected to be conducted on March 26, 2023, they said. The entrance examination will be conducted in each of the five Regional Directorates of Education zones of the State, i.e., Berhampur, Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Jeypore and Sambalpur. Coaching will be provided for one year for prelims and mains examination (general studies paper only) as per the syllabus of UPSC. However, the aspirants selected in prelims may continue for additional

one year in the free coaching. "Interested candidates, having the eligibility as mentioned in the guidelines, are requested to apply in the SAMS portal of the Higher Education Department to appear in the entrance examination," read the notification. The interested aspirants can submit their online applications for the free UPSC coaching by March 4. Candidates will have to pay Rs 100 online at the time of submission of the application. Candidates can download the admit card on March 16. The State Government has decided to open a centralised professional

coaching centre with a state-of-the-art library and digital learning hub here. The selected students will be kept in a suitable building till the coaching centre is ready. The candidates will be allowed to stay for a maximum period of two years. A panel of young as well as senior IAS officers will mentor the civil services aspirants to pursue their goals. According to the guidelines, selected aspirants will get free coaching, free food with accommodation facilities in Bhubaneswar. They have to stay in the Accommodation provided by the Department. To appear in the entrance examination, a candidate must be a domicile of Odisha. A candidate must have attained the age of 21 years and must not have attained the age of 30 years on the 1st of August, 2023, in case of Unreserved category students. Age relaxation up to a maximum of five years will be given for SC and ST students while OBC candidates can avail three years relaxation.

Odisha EOW Arrests 3 Including Retd Employee Of BMC In Land Fraud Case

**Bhubaneswar:** The economic offences wing of the Odisha Police has arrested three persons including a retired employee of the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in a land fraud case, officials said on Thursday. The arrested persons are identified as Haladhar Dash (a retired employee of BMC), Subadha Kumar Parida and Mamata Parida. They were arrested



on a case registered based on the written complaint of Lipika Das, who is the bonafide owner of the land which was fraudulently sold to someone. According to the

EOW, Mamata impersonating as Lipika before the sub-registrar, Khandagiri, managed to sell away a plot measuring 2,000 sq. ft. in Malipada Mouza, Khordha, to Haladhar

by executing a fraudulent sale deed without the knowledge of the actual owner (Lipika). Mamata had allegedly used a fake Aadhaar card putting the Aadhaar number of actual owner Lipika, and by affixing her own photograph in the sale deed. The role of some other persons including one Muhorir is also being probed, the officials said.



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## India at Oscars: 'RRR', 'All That Breathes' Earn Nominations

'Naatu Naatu', the hit dance track from SS Rajamouli's blockbuster 'RRR', on Tuesday continued its winning march by earning a coveted nomination for the Original Song at the Oscars 2023 where Indian documentaries 'All That Breathes' and 'Elephant Whisperers' walked away with nods in Documentary Feature and Documentary Short categories.

'The Last Show', India's official entry in the International Feature category, however, failed to make the cut in the final five. But there was much to celebrate as it is perhaps the first time that three films from the country are competing in different segments.

'Naatu Naatu' will compete with 'Applause' from 'Tell It Like a Woman', 'Hold My Hand' from 'Top Gun: Maverick', 'Lift Me Up' from 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever' and 'This Is a Life' from 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'.

The song, filmed on



Ram Charan and Jr NTR, translates to bucolic in Telugu and demonstrates the spirit of fun in country music over 4.35 breathless minutes of song and dance.

Composed by MM Keeravani and choreographed by Prem Rakshith, it has legions of followers on social media trying to master its steps. "WE C R E A T E D HISTORY!! Proud and privileged to share that #NaatuNaatu has been nominated for Best Original song at the 95th Academy Awards," the film's official Twitter handle posted.

Keeravani shared his

excitement over the nomination on Twitter. "Congratulations to my team !! Big hugs to all," he tweeted.

Rajamouli's father and the film's screenwriter V Vijayendra Prasad told PTI that it was a 'proud moment for India'. "It is a proud moment for the entire team of 'RRR'. It is a proud moment for India, for Telugu movie industry and for Indian cinema," Prasad told PTI.

This is the third major international recognition for 'Naatu Naatu', sung by Kaala Bhairava and Rahul Sipligunj, after Keeravani won a Golden Globe as well

as a Critics Choice award for the track. The film also won the Critics Choice Award for Best Foreign Language Film.

'Jai Ho' from the 2008 British film 'Slumdog Millionaire', directed by Danny Boyle, was the first Hindi song to win an Academy Award in the Original Score and Original Song categories. It was composed by AR Rahman and penned by Gulzar. Bhanu Athaiya was the first Indian to win an Oscar. She won the Costume Design Oscar for her work in the 1982 film 'Gandhi'. "All That Breathes", which is competing

for an Oscar alongside 'All the Beauty and the Bloodshed', 'Fire of Love', 'A House Made of Splinters' and 'Navalny', has also emerged as one of the best documentaries this year.

Set in Delhi, the documentary follows two siblings, Mohammad Saud and Nadeem Shehzad, who have devoted their lives to rescuing and treating injured birds, especially black kites.

"All That Breathes" is also nominated for a BAFTA Award. It previously won the 'World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary' at this year's Sundance Film Festival, a film gala that promotes independent cinema and filmmakers, and earned the Golden Eye award for the best documentary at the 2022 Cannes Film Festival.

Sharing his joy, Sen said he was a bit lost for words at the moment. "It's feeling extraordinarily difficult to say something that doesn't sound like a cliché."

## Sridevi Death Anniversary: 'Sadma' To 'English Vinglish,' Power-Packed Performances Of The Legendary Actress



## Mr India

Sridevi was not only a powerful actor, but she was also one of the most successful commercial heroines in the Hindi industry. From 'Hawa Hawai' to 'Kaate Nehi Katte', Sridevi showed her range of versatility in this movie.

## ChaalBaaz

Sridevi played twin characters in this movie, the tamed and submissive Anju and the boisterous and go-getting Manju. Sridevi's comic timing was mostly talked about in this movie.

## Khuda Gawah

Amitabh Bachchan, larger-than-life setting and Sridevi! The film was talked about as Amitabh and Sridevi were struggling to deliver hits at the box office back then.

## Lamhe

Teaming up with her 'Chandni' director Yash Chopra one more time, Sridevi played double roles in this movie. For playing the dual roles of mother

and daughter, Sridevi won accolades.

## English Vinglish

After a 15-year-long hiatus, Sridevi made a pleasant comeback at the movies with Gauri Shinde's directorial debut 'English Vinglish'. The film received a standing ovation at the Toronto International film festival. The present generation is perhaps more acquainted with Sridevi's Sashi than her Chandni.

It's difficult to live up to Sridevi's legacy. But she is undoubtedly one of the most charismatic actresses on the silver screen who remained a mystery even in her death.

There was not much left to explore as Kanak Desai: Akanksha Juneja on quitting Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2

Akanksha Juneja, who played the role of Kanak Desai in Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2, has quit the show. The actress felt that the character didn't have much scope for her to perform. Speaking about quitting the show, Akanksha says, "The show will remain very close to my heart as I have given a lot of time to it. My character on the show had come to a point where there was not much left to explore and didn't have much scope for me to perform, that's why I quit the show. I feel there's no point playing a character which doesn't let you explore much. I wanted to try something different and fresh as an actor. However, my character in the show gave me recognition as the new vamp of the industry and I am glad for all the love I received as Kanak Desai."

Recalling her journey on the show, the actress further adds, "Playing Kanak Desai has been a wonderful journey, and it's coming to an end. The character will stay in my heart forever. Leaving the show was a mutual decision between me, the channel and the producer. It isn't like I am leaving the show on a bad note. However, I had to take this decision to focus on my future endeavours. Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2 has become a popular household name today. Here I formed bonds that will last forever. The show has given me a lot of recognition and visibility which I tremendously value. I am thankful to everyone who supported me and loved Kanak. My best wishes are always with the show and the entire team of Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2."

Talking about her future plans, Akanksha says, "I would love to try OTT in the future as it has opened up a whole new world for actors. But I am open to doing television shows as well. I believe it's time to fly off and search for something fresh and challenging for myself. There is so much good work happening around, it's all about searching for a good one for myself. I want to do something different and explore my abilities as an actress."





# SUPERSTITION SPOILS SPIRITUALITY



It is about 15 years since I had experienced the most divulging spiritual tomfoolery in my life at the banks of mother Ganga in H a r i d w a r . Overwhelmed by the literary inscriptions about the legendary greatness of the holy river in the ancient texts, I was totally thrown into the depth of its unfathomable spiritual realms emotionally and the bedtime stories illustrating its divine perceptions from childhood began to tickle my spiritual impulses once again and I stood amazed and totally lost in the clamour of a noisy crowd around me. I was not bedazzled to see many saffron clad saints on the holy riverside. But the one who came closer to me with a mysterious smile had a notorious intent. Probably, convinced by my stupefied appearance, he asked me to give him 50 rupees so that he could bless me with a divine experience.

Deeply animated for an instant divine experience for a pittance was a great spiritual luxury for me. On giving the money, the man with a snake in his hand, magically swayed his hands in the air and returned a bead of rudraksh to me and to my horror I did not know where my currency had disappeared. Definitely that was not a divine experience but a hallucinatory trick; hence my good sense warned me to stay away from spiritual tricksters. This incident is recalled here to invite the gorge into which our superstitious mind pulls us. India has an ancient tradition that was nurtured by spiritually elevated seers and saints. That was the substratum of our spiritual ideology, without which India remains a mere landscape without soul. Spanning from the days of the Vedas and moving through the enthralling narrations of life intertwined in spiritual values in the epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata to the divine perceptions categorically exhibited by saints like Swami Vivekananda and

many others, spirituality in India has been an act of seeking and life-giving values being simplified for the common man. Superstition became a nuisance in India's spiritual periphery, probably since the advent of occidental faiths. Spirituality in India is mistaken as mere superstition by many people. Believers throng into temples and other religious places without understanding their spiritual principles but their visit is to primarily satisfy their personal desires. Most of them further try their luck with Babas and fake gurus who lure them with solutions and affluence. What if you find a pastor bringing a dead child back to life with his miracle touch or with the mere gestures of his fingers bless a blind man to light. Unfortunately, such spiritual buffoonery gets easily noticed and attractive monkey tricks in television channels get millions of viewers. The more dangerous aspect of this faith industry is that most of the Babas and religious preachers involved in these acts of spiritual skylarking

**M.R.LALU**  
hold serious connections with politicians. India always remained a spiritual society which believed in Karma and Dharma and considered them as the most religious dictums for the society. Dharmic karma, according to the ancient Indian tradition, was the best of ideals that would show you the real essence of divinity. The Hindu approach, according to the Manusmriti, categorises various elements of Dharma. It says "Dhriti ksama d a m o s t e y a m sauchamindriyanigraha, D h i r v i d y a s a t y a m a k r o d h o d a s a k a m dharmalakshanam." Patience, forgiveness, c o n s t a n t discrimination, non-stealing, purity, control of senses, righteous action, knowledge, truth and giving up anger- these are the ten indications of dharma. Any activity performed with all these elements of dharma, played with a significant role in its fulfilment is Dharmic. Superstitious beliefs have entered into a plethora of rituals as people began to

selectively manipulate their spiritual ideals for personal wellbeing. The damage is devastating. The very spiritual idea that a religion represents is seen through the prism of suspicion by people with logical minds. Moreover, Babas and miracle healing pastors and many in this clan of spiritual racket would downsize the essential humanitarian values enshrined in different religions. In essence and practice, Hinduism is capable of helping its followers to take pace with the natural rhythm of spirituality ordained in its f r a m e w o r k . Imprisoned in the superstitious and speculative narratives and adulterated spiritual theories and practices, a large number of people get boomeranged into the insensitive adulation of fake gurus and acharyas and cross wielding pastors. Real spiritual luminaries from the days of Adi Shankaracharya to the modern days have been sincere social reformers, who rose beyond ludicrous

mannerisms of those saints. In this context, Swami Vivekananda cannot be left out. His teachings had a huge impact on the social life of India, spiritualising its emotions and elevating its patriotic pride. Unfortunately, today India witnesses Babas, Pastors, fake healers and preachers enlarging their territory by stealthily sneaking into our houses on TV screens and playing with the element of spiritual 'fear' among believers, especially women. Spurious spiritual industry is booming in India while political leaders on the edge of oblivion are seen spear-eagling the power and reach of Babas, who make miraculous success overnight. Totally forgetful of the essence of divinity which is kindness and compassion in itself, millions of people swarm around these fake mediators of God to get healed and blessed and to fulfil their dreams instantaneously. The nexus tailored between Babas and politicians get activated when

elections are around. Interestingly, most of the conversion activities among the illiterate, backward tribal communities are done by stage-managed miracle healings by pastors and preachers. You should not be surprised to see a dead man walk and blind woman read. Sinking into the quagmire of frozen intellect, the common man plays into the hands of these fraudsters and fails to reason out the reality. Holy books and real saints become meaningless here. Swami Vivekananda spoke, echoing his sarcasm the best while criticizing superstition. He said, "I would rather see you people as staunch atheists than as superstitious fools. An atheist is alive; he can be of some use. But when superstition takes hold, the brain is almost dead." We need to pay attention to these legendary words.

(Freelance Journalist/Author of "India @ 75- A Contemporary Approach")  
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Letter To Editor

Dear Editor

Why should a parent take his kid to a private school, while struggling financially? The answer is not simple; but, a highly complex one based on our socio-cultural parameters and sensibilities in which we live, grow up and interact with others. Peer pressure, societal pressure, pressure from family and friend circle and acute unhealthy competitiveness to stand out from others. Also the parents want to see the unattainable success they dreamt about; but failed to achieve in life in their children. Through their kid's success they want to affirm their position in the society to demonstrate I AM THE BEST syndrome. Our colonial mindset and selfish desires are of the biggest influencer of such attitude and preferences for expensive private schools. Poor management, maintenance and shabby performance of several Govt aided schools have also contributed to these challenges. Both cinvenrial and social media have become extremely powerful in recent times, forcing people to follow their specially designed preferred choices and destinations described, rather than being able to take our independent decisions in life.

Saikat Kumar Basu  
378 Prince Anwar Shah Road  
Kolkata 700045 West Bengal India  
Mobile: 8697491914  
WhatsApp: +1 403 894 4254

# Global climate change

Pratap chandra sahu

used extensively for construction, industries, transport and consumption. These are the factors responsible for global warming. Green house gases effects --anything that has an impact on the amount of energy being observed and radiated from the sun is a contributor to the global climate change. One such process is the green house gas effect which leads to the global warming. The human activities have led to the rise in greenhouse gases which have resulted in global warming. According to the scientists the accumulation of heat in the oceans is the strongest evidence of how fast earth is warming. Lower troposphere temperature as measured by satellites showed that 2010s was the warmest decade. The specific humidity has raisen with change in temperature which indicates that climate changing. Sea level has raisen

at an accelerating rate. There have been net loss of ice from glaciers ,worldwide. Northern hemisphere snow cover has also decreased in recent decades. Changes in rainfall and weather patterns also indicate towards the climate change. The climate change phenomena made favourable conditions for desert locusts to breed consists of moist and green vegetation in desert region of africa and arabian peninsula. Other factors like earlier unfolding of new leaves in spring ,changes in bird migration patterns etc also show that climate is changing. Climate change create an imbalance in the natural ecosystem by disruption in timing of seasonal life cycle events range shifts and food web of many spices. There will be an affect on the basis neccesities such as water supply ,air quality and supply of electricity. Climate change

also result in enhanced land degradation and expansion of sub-tropical deserts. Ocean acidification due to climate change also poses a serious threat to underwater life particularly creatures with calcified shells or skeletons like oysters,clams and corals. Climate change is likely to contribute substntially to food insecurity in future by increasing food prices and reducing food production. Due to increase in extreme weather events such as hurricans tornadoes ,drought ,heavy rainfall and heat waves the extent and frequency of vector borne diseases may increase. Climate change has resulted in more heat w a v e s ,droughts,floods,or intense rain. The rising ocean temperature and acidity seriously impacts the existnce of flora and fauna in marine ecosphere. Due to melting of glaciers and subsequnt rise in sea level the

future of port cities looks grim which can impact millions worldwide. Climate change has already had obaservable effects on the environment. Glaciers have shrunk ,ice on rivers and lakes is breaking up earlier ,plant and animal ranges have shifted and trees are flowering sooner. Restoring and protecting nature is one of the greatest strategies for tackling climate change. It is not only sucks carbon dioxide out of the air but forests ,wetlands and other ecosystems act as buffers against extreme weather , p r o t e c t i n g crops,water resouces and vital infrastuctures. Thus there is need to put check on and contain the rising menace of climate change with the joint efforts of the people ,countries and global environment regulators so that the problem of global climate change can be reversed.

Nabarangapur  
9437788860





The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar felicitating the medals and awards to the meritorious students of MSc and PhD at the 61st convocation ceremony of ICAR-IARI, in New Delhi

## Rajdhani College Launches CPR Training Workshop for Students and Professors



**New Delhi (KCN) :** NSS Unit of Rajdhani College, University of Delhi organised a CPR Workshop in collaboration with Phoenix Institute of CPR at the College Amphitheatre. The workshop aimed to educate students the importance of CPR, and how to perform it correctly. The event was attended by Principal Prof Rajesh Giri, Program officer Megha Aggarwal and students including some college staff &

faculty. This was held under the running "Project Naresh" of NSS Rajdhani. The workshop began with a brief introduction to CPR, its importance, and its impact on saving lives. The instructor, Dr. Jitendra Singh Bansal highlighted the fact that CPR is a critical life-saving skill that could help a person in cardiac arrest to survive until medical help arrives. The students were also informed that

performing CPR incorrectly could cause harm to the victim, which is why it is essential to learn it from a certified instructor. An awareness campaign was also launched by NSS volunteers in college premises. The students were then given a demonstration on how to perform CPR. The instructor also explained the correct compression depth and rate, which the students practiced on

mannequins. The students were also taught how to use an AED machine, and the instructor demonstrated its usage. A Question-Answer session also held where students asked their doubts that include the difference between heart arrest & clot, causes of heart arrest, good lifestyle, etc. The CPR Workshop was ended by the vote of thanks of NSS Rajdhani Program Officer Megha Aggarwal.

## "Common Man Bugged Down By Corruption": Supreme Court

**New Delhi:** The common man in India is bogged down by corruption and there is a need to fix accountability at all levels, the Supreme Court observed on Friday as it dealt with a petition seeking debarment of those against whom charges have been framed in criminal cases from contesting elections.

The top court said India will have to go back to its core values and character if it has to truly become what it is striving for.

"The common man in India is bogged down by corruption. Go to any government office, you cannot come out unscathed. Noted jurist Nani Palkhivala in his book 'We the People' has spoken about this. If we have to truly become a nation we are striving for, we need to come back to our core values and character. If we get back to our values, we will have a nation we strive for," Justice K M Joseph said while hearing the plea with Justice B V Nagarathna.

Advocate Ashwini Updhyay, who has filed the PIL, said a person against whom charges have been framed in heinous offence cannot become even a sweeper in a government office or a police constable but the same person can become a minister even if he has been booked for offences like extortion, kidnapping and murder.

Justice Joseph said he would prefer not to say anything on what

is happening in the name of democracy.

"I will not make any comments. There is a constitution bench judgement on this issue and the court has held that it cannot add anything to the law, apart from what is added and it is up to the government to look into it," he said.

Justice Nagarathna said there is need to fix accountability at all levels.

The counsel appearing for the Centre said he requires time to file a reply to the PIL. Upadhyay said since the PIL raises an important issue, a shorter time should be given to the Centre and the Election Commission of India to file their responses.

He said even a person visiting a government office for death or birth

is a need for complete 'note bandi' (demonetization) and not 'note badli' (currency exchange)," he said.

Mr Upadhyay said demonetisation should be like it happened during the Janata Party rule in 1978, when all high denomination bank notes ceased to be legal tender, and not like in 2016 when only ₹ 500 and ₹ 1,000 denomination notes were scrapped and new ₹ 500 and ₹ 2,000 currency notes were introduced.

The bench posted the matter for final hearing on April 10 and asked the Centre and the poll panel to file their replies within three weeks.

On September 28, the top court had agreed to examine the plea and sought responses from the Centre and the Election Commission.

The plea said out of 539 winners of the Lok Sabha election in 2019, as many as 233 (43 per cent) had declared criminal cases against themselves.

Highlighting statistics from the report of NGO Association for Democratic Reforms, the petition said there was an increase of 109 per cent in the number of MPs with declared serious criminal cases since 2009, with one MP declaring 204 criminal cases against himself including those related to culpable homicide, house trespass, robbery, criminal intimidation, etc.



Advocate Amit Sharma, appearing for the Election Commission of India said the poll panel has already expressed concern over criminalisation of politics and, under the existing law, a person is debarred from contesting elections if he has been convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years. The person shall be disqualified for the period of sentence and a further six years after release.

"This plea seeks to debar a person from contesting the election at the stage of framing of charges...Our stand is that it is upto the Parliament to take a call on it," he said.

certificate has to deal with corruption.

"If one needs to indulge in corruption, there are always ways and means for it. We need to be humble and go back to our core values and character," Justice Joseph said. "Basically, the country needs teachers who are nation builders," Justice Nagarathna added.

Mr Upadhyay said he has filed another PIL seeking linking of property to Aadhaar number to deal with corruption.

"According to me, 80 per cent of people in the country do not have ₹ 500 or ₹ 2,000 currency notes and those 20 per cent who have use debit cards or credit cards. There

## Tribal Youths Enjoy Tour to Belur Math, Jorasanko Thakurbari & Vivekananda's Ancestral Home

**Kolkata:** On the fourth day of the 14th Tribal youth Exchange Programme (TYEP) organised by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), West Bengal, the tribal youth participants were taken for a joy-tour to various places of interests in and around the city like Belur Math, Jorasanko Thakurbari and Swami Vivekananda's house at Simla Street, Kolkata

The first stop was Belur Math in Howrah district of West Bengal. There was a tour guide who explained briefly about the history of the place, headquarters of the Ramakrishna Math

and Ramakrishna Mission, founded by Swami Vivekananda, the chief disciple of Shri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, an important landmark the participants got to know about.

The temple dedicated to Ramakrishna Paramahansa is a wonderful instance of Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Buddhist architecture. The compound also has a temple dedicated to

Swami Vivekananda and Sarada Devi Sri Ramakrishna Mandir resembles a temple, a mosque & a church, seen from different angles. With Prasad from the Mission, they went back to



Karmatirtha Complex in Shyambazar. The next trip was to Jorasanko Thakurbari. The participants were really impressed by the way the building and artifacts have been preserved and presented. Loud

voices are frowned upon and a sort of holy hush surrounds this place. They enjoyed Tagore's personal furniture, his chairs, his table, his robes, the bed where he died, Tagore's wife's kitchen and all the portraits of

his forefathers. The participants noticed that even in such a high temperature, there was continuous cooling effect, due to cross circulation of air which amazed them. Their next destination was

Swami Vivekananda's House at Simla Street. They saw the childhood play and study areas of this great saint, his parent's rooms, the place of his first studies, meditations and the famous hookah room in his

father's baithak khana. They saw the room where he was born, the prayer room with Shiva linga where his mother used to pray for a child, the room where she read out the Ramayana to him and the thakur dalan. Gazing at such iconic

places the tribal youths tried to recall the rich history of West Bengal and the stalwarts the State gave birth to for enriching the history of our country and making the world bow to the rich cultural heritage of India.





# Economy On Upsurge Mode

**Bhubaneswar:** Pradeep Jena, Development Commissioner has said that Odisha Economy continued the remarkable upsurge post-pandemic, growing at a rate of 11.5 per cent in 2021-22 and 7.8 per cent in 2022-23.

Shri Jena writing the Preface of Odisha Economic Survey Report has said that these growth rates have not only been significantly higher than that at the national level for the corresponding years, but also surpassed the pre-pandemic trend of performance.

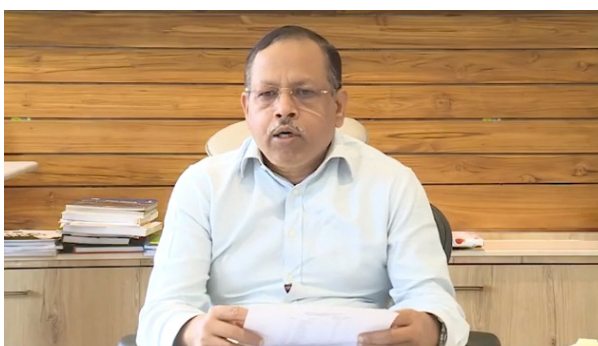
He pointed out that As a consequence, the state's per capita income has risen to INR 1,50,676 in 2022-23(AE) thereby

dramatically shrinking the gap vis-à-vis the national level to half of what it used to be in 2011-12. State's fiscal performance remained satisfactory during 2021-22 and the trend is expected to persist in 2022-23.

Development Commissioner said that the State has consistently reported a revenue surplus and has maintained gross fiscal deficit within FRBM limits. Debt to GSDP ratio in the State has been maintained below the threshold limit of 25 percent consistently over the last 15 years. The capital outlay of State in 2022-23(BE) is almost 8.6 times of its value in 2011-12 and is 5.1

percent of GSDP.

Development expenditure of the State has increased more than four times in 2022-23(BE) over 2011-12 with a view to achieving sustainable and inclusive growth and development. The transformative shift from Agriculture to Industry and service sector have been quite visible with the shares of Industries and Services sector in GSDP expected to increase to 41.3 percent and 36.2 percent respectively. Government's proactive initiatives in the industry sector, like "Make in Odisha Conclave", "Industrial Policy 2022", "Odisha Apparel and Textile Policy", "Odisha Logistic Policy 2022" and



"Export Promotion Policy 2022" is expected to give a fillip to development of a robust industrial ecosystem in Odisha. On the other hand, critical strategic shifts have taken place in agriculture. While crop production and productivity has shown steady improvement, crop diversification has progressed apace with a focus on climate-resilient crops. Comprehensive and innovative

interventions have been taken up in various sub-sectors by several III Odisha Economic Survey 2022-23 Missions (e.g., "Jackfruit Mission", "Spices Mission", "Mushroom Mission", "Floriculture Mission", etc.). Odisha Millet Mission, launched in 2017-18 to develop a sustainable food system of millets ensuring nutritional security for vulnerable rainfed areas of

the State, has been very successful in increasing area under millets apart from promoting healthy food habits in the communities. Performance in the education sector has shown major strides.

The multi-pronged push for quality human resources, infrastructure and institution development and governance through "Mo-School", "Mo-College" & "Adarsha Vidyalaya" as well as the across-the-board adoption of the 5T transformation Approach has been very effective. Similarly in health, performance has been nothing less than transformative. With the universalised Health Assurance under

the Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY), access to quality preventative and curative health services including critical care has been achieved for all on the ground. Special attention has been given to nutrition security and eradication of anaemia under Anaemia Mukta Lakhya Abhiyan (AMLAN) for all affected people including pregnant women, lactating mothers, women of reproductive age group, adolescents and children.

Empowerment of youth and women is bringing about societal metamorphosis. The makeover of youth into a powerhouse of change through sports, creativity and animation has been palpable. The

construction of World's largest Hockey Stadium in Rourkela and hosting of the Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 are only the tell-tales signs of a deeper transformation happening in the state.

With the support of Mission Shakti, women are continuously scaling new heights in terms of economic and social entrepreneurship and leadership. From participating in Self-Help Groups to being captains of growing number of small and medium enterprises women have been championing electrifying change touching all rungs of society and development. The vision for SHGs is to become SMEs in future, said he.

## 4 Fold Rise In Devp Spending

**Bhubaneswar:** Development Expenditure of the State has increased more than four times in 2022-23 (BE), from its level in 2011-12, Principal Secretary, Finance, Vishal Dev said in his observation on Economic Survey Report 2022-23.



Shri Dev said that Development expenditure of the State is hiked with a view to achieving sustainable and inclusive growth and development. Developmental Spending is the largest component of total expenditure by the State and will continue to be so in 2022-23 with a share of 72.86 per cent. It stood at Rs 1,45,727.29 crores in 2022-23 BE, growing 21.06 per cent over 2021-22 RE.

Development Expenditure can be classified under three heads: developmental (which includes social sector and economic

sectors), non-developmental, and grants assigned to local bodies and program-related investments (PRIs).

With a focus on development and growth of the economy, developmental expenditure has the highest share of revenue expenditures. Developmental expenditure stood at Rs 95,693.04 crores in 2022-23 BE, accounting for 65.67 per cent of revenue expenditure. Social sector accounts for the majority share of developmental expenditure and spent

62.26 per cent of it in 2022-23 BE.

Non-developmental expenditure accounted for 34.33 per cent. Sector wise, education (16 per cent), rural development (9.8 per cent), water supply & sanitation (5.2 per cent) and medical & public health (6.5 per cent) receive the highest allocation out of total revenue expenditures. Stating that the Government of Odisha is known for its prudent fiscal management, Shri Dev said, Odisha has been fully compliant with the FRBM act 2005 right since its enactment.

It is among the handful of states that have posted revenue surplus for several years during this period, he said.

The Principal Secretary Finance further said that the State Government continuously strives to enhance fiscal

sustainability and improve budget performance by strengthening medium-term fiscal framework and improving budgetary transparency.

"With the objective of further improving budget credibility, the State has introduced 'Strategic Budget making process' in preparation of the budget for the ensuing years," he pointed out. Similarly, debt-GSDP ratio is being maintained below 25 percent, the statutory benchmark. The State has taken various fiscal risk management measures to address the risks arising out of termination of GST compensation to States, volatile revenues from mining, decline in Odisha's share in tax devolution, state's contingent liabilities in power sector and public private partnerships especially infrastructure and the frequent natural disasters.

## Land For Int'l Airport

**Puri:** For early construction of new Greenfield Airport at Puri, the State Government has initiated the process for acquiring private land of 221.480 acres in Brahmagiri tahsil of Puri district.

ACS Revenue & Disaster Management, Satyabrata Sahu is pursuing the issue on regular basis with the senior officials and field functionaries. Accordingly the Revenue and Disaster Management Department has issued a notification to conduct Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for the mega Greenfield Airport project.

National Institute of Rural Development and Environmental Science (NIRDES) under Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies will conduct the SIA in



two villages of Puri district.

According to official sources, the Government will acquire 153.370 acres of land in Sipasarubali village and 68.110 acres of land in Sandhapur village under the Brahmagiri tahsil of Puri district.

The NIRDES will conduct Gram Sabha in the villages and take approval of the people prior to acquisition of their land. After completing the study, the designated agency will submit its Survey

Report within 30 days. The State Government is moving on fast-track mode for the setting up of the proposed International Airport. Earlier, the State had submitted its proposal to Centre seeking 'Site Clearance' approval for development of the airport.


The State Government has submitted its proposal to the Ministry of Civil Aviation as per Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008, seeking 'Site Clearance' approval

for development of the Greenfield airport.

As per the GFA policy, the responsibility of implementation of airport projects including funding of the projects rests with the concerned airport developer (here the State Government), he said.

Notably, the State Administration has identified about 1500 acres of land alongside the Puri-Brahmagiri road for the proposed airport.

In 2021, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposing to set up an international airport at Puri in the name of Sri Jagannath International Airport. The State has assured all support required for establishing the airport in a record time.



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## Delhivery has Outlier Growth Prospects with Profit Round the Corner: Ventura Securities

New Delhi: Calling Delhivery as the proxy for eCommerce growth in India, leading brokerage firm Ventura Securities has said in its report that the logistics firm has outlier growth prospects with profits being just round the corner.

Citing the highly fragmented nature of the Indian logistics markets, the report adds that Delhivery is uniquely positioned to emerge as the sustainable business leader in an essential vertical having a total addressable market size of \$316 billion. The company's IPO comes at a time when the Indian government is focusing its investments on infrastructure-led growth through a slew of measures including its flagship initiative- the

PM Gatishakti Program. The move will likely benefit the company in long term.

Some of the company strengths highlighted by Ventura Securities include that Delhivery's revenues will grow at a CAGR of 56.7%, touching an amount of Rs 14026 crore by FY 2024. The integrated portfolio of logistics services allows Delhivery to deliver services which other competitors cannot do. The logistics major is being valued at 2.4 times the FY24 EV/Sales. This is attractive when compared to BlueDart and TCI Express that trade at the ratio of 3.1X and 4.1X their FY24 revenues. Delhivery's revenue base is well diversified into major segments like express

parcel, supply chain, Part truck load and cross borderservices forming a large part of the total revenue. A few trends like shift in trends from unorganized to organized players, evolving customer trends and emergence of new markets will be helpful for Delhivery, the report says. To recap, Delhivery, India's largest fully integrated logistics company has filed RHP with SEBI for its INR 5,235 crore IPO. The issue will close for subscription on May 13. The anchor investment was received from top long only funds comprising of foreign and local funds. Out of INR 5,235 crore fund raise, INR 4,000 crore comprises of fresh issuance while the rest is for offer for sale.

## Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV with crystal clear picture and refined sound

**Bhubaneswar :** Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from

apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find

everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with Hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, "OK Google" to issue a voice command.

## Ambulance employees felicitated for their humanitarian works

**Bhubaneswar :** Ziqitza Healthcare Limited (ZHL), the operating agency for 108 ambulance services in Odisha, today felicitated its ambulance employees for showing exceptional humanitarian support in difficult times to patients while on duty. Whereas the company also felicitated 13 meritorious children of their staff members who were top scorers in the Class 10th examinations. The awards were given under the Ziqitza Odisha Scholarship 2022, organized here today.

A total 7 Cluster Leaders, 7 Maintenance Executives (ME), One Quality Auditor, 21 Crew members were awarded for their distinguished efforts. Attending as chief guest, Sri Sabyasachi Biswal, State Head - Odisha, ZHL

Odisha inaugurated the programme by lighting up the lamp. Whereas Sri Deepak Srivastav, HR-Head Odisha and Rajiv Kumar Das, Head of Operation, ZHL were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on this occasion, Sri Sabyasachi Biswal, State Head, said, "Ziqitza Healthcare Limited & its employees are always committed to serve the public with utmost care. Our crew members have shown their highest resolve in serving people at many occasions. Be it bringing patients in stretcher from their home in case of no motorable roads, Donating blood to patients in difficult time, showing highest devotion towards duty during natural calamities or returning of money and other valuable belongings

to patients are among few noble works."

The crew members who got felicitated on the occasion were Sri Prasanta Ku Barik, Shaktisri Dalai, Uttam Kumar Mohanta, Susanta Kumar Majhi, Gagan Bihari Mahanta, Suman Kalayan Mahakud, Prasanta Behera, Sukant Paikray, Sudipta Rana, Dasrathi Maharatha, Biranchi Narayan Ratha, Rabindra Kumar Badatya, Bansri Harijan, Manisanta Hira, Rajkumar Patel, Gopabandhu Swain, Motilal Pradhan and Jitu Seth. This apart three crew members Bhabanishankar Mahakud, Padmalochan Maharana & Parikhit Naik were choosen as best crew members for their outstanding effort in serving people at distress going an extra mile.

## LIC HFL revises its rates for loan products

**Mumbai ::** LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL), one of India's largest Housing Finance companies, has revised the rate of interest for its loan products on the back of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) announcement on 4th May 2022, revising the repo rate. Accordingly, LIC HFL has revised its rates of interest upwards across retail loan product

categories. The new interest rate on home loans starts from 6.9% with effect from 13th May 2022.

Commenting on this interest rate revision, MD & CEO Shri Y. Viswanatha Gowd said, "RBI has after a long time increased the policy rates and the effect is being seen across the lenders. We have kept our home loan rates

competitive despite the increase in the cost of funds to support the aspirations of home buyers. For borrowers with CIBIL score 700 and above the rate hike has been limited to only 20 bps. In my view, this increase may not have significant impact on the EMI outgo. I am confident that demand for Home Loans continues to be high."

## Tata Steel Meramandali Hosts 5th Safety Exposition on Elimination of Human-Machine Interface

**Narendrapur:** Tata Steel Meramandali (TSM) successfully hosted the 5th edition of Exposition on Elimination of Human-Machine Interface from February 16-18, 2023. The three-day event saw participation from all locations, including Meramandali, Sahibabad, Khopoli, and Hosur, with a total of 508 innovative ideas submitted for consideration. The event was organized as part of Tata Steel's Safety Excellence Journey, which has focused on reducing human-machine interference at the workplace.

Out of the 508 submitted kaizens, 200 were shortlisted by a selection committee and displayed for competition during the exposition. The event was inaugurated on February 16, 2023 by dignitaries from Tata Steel, including Sanjiv Paul, VP, Safety, Health & Sustainability (SH&S), Rajiv Mangal, VP, SH&S (Designate), Subodh Pandey, VP

### Apeejay Education and AWS Announce New Accelerator Program

Bhubaneswar – Apeejay Education, an academic institution in India established for more than 50 years, and Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, today announced the launch of the National Education Policy Accelerator Program (NEPAP), an initiative to enable academic institutions in India to align with the technology requirements documented in the Government's National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). This is the first program in India to support the technology transformation of education institutions as per the NEP 2020.

The NEP 2020 aims to strengthen India's education sector that directly contributes to the country's growth and development, demonstrating the need to integrate technology in education to improve learning and teaching at all levels. The accelerator program will address two key tenets of the NEP 2020 – on the extensive use of technology in teaching, learning, education planning, and management; and in the creation of open, interoperable, evolvable, public digital infrastructure in the education sector to support multiple platforms and point solutions.

The accelerator program will guide academic institutions on multiple aspects of the NEP 2020. It will support academic institutions by conducting digital innovation workshops to focus on identifying and prioritizing unique challenges of the academic institutions, and co-building solutions or proof-of-concepts (POCs) using technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AWS will drive these workshops based on the Amazon Working Backwards innovation methodology, which uses design thinking to identify and define a customer-focused problem or opportunity and develop prototypes. Through the accelerator program, AWS and Apeejay Education will support academic institutions with AWS credits, capacity building workshops, and access to dedicated resources, to build and implement the POCs. Apeejay Education will bring expertise on the use cases of digital solutions in the education sector, and support with testing the solutions to extend the reach to other institutions across India. Apeejay Education is a pioneer in the adoption of technology and cloud computing and today, Apeejay Styra University – part of Apeejay Education – runs its entire learning management, fee and billing, governance, administration and admissions systems on AWS. The university's digital readiness enabled it to offer online classes to students within 24 hours of the initial lockdown imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and scale its learning management system as needed. By running its critical systems on AWS, the university accelerated its journey to align with the NEP, and effectively engage its 35,000 students and 2,500 faculty members across 26 campuses in India.



Operations- TSM, Neeraj Kumar Sinha, Chief Safety and Agam Kumar, Chief Safety TSM, in the parking area of Safety Office, SMS-1. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from all the Tata Steel participating locations, workers, and line managers. During the three-day exposition, Head of Departments (HODs) encouraged their colleagues to visit the event to gain insights into various engineering solutions that can be

implemented to make the workplace safer. A total of 6,500 workers, supervisors, safety professionals, and line managers from all departments visited the exposition to learn about the various initiatives that Tata Steel has undertaken to eliminate human-machine interference. The closing ceremony was held in the presence of Dr. Ramesh Kumar Behera, Deputy Director Factories & Boilers, Angul Division, and Er. Puspamitra Jena, Assistant Director

Factories & Boilers, Dhenkanal Zone, along with Ved Prakash Thakur, Chief Shared Services, TSM and Agam Kumar, Chief Safety, TSM. The dignitaries lauded Tata Steel for its efforts in eliminating human-machine interference and reducing hazards for workers. Members from nearby industries, the District Crisis Group Angul and Dhenkanal, all Chiefs, Heads of Tata Steel and more than 400 worker representation with line managers were

present at the event. The winners of kaizens in five different categories were awarded by the guests, and the evaluation committee members were also recognized for their contributions. The event was a resounding success and demonstrated Tata Steel's commitment to workplace safety and eliminating human-machine interference. The company plans to continue its efforts in this area to ensure that workers are safe and that the workplace remains hazard-free.

## HCL's Roshni Nadar Malhotra says demand environment robust

North Asia, Central America, Eastern Europe and Africa are newer geographies for the company, she said, adding "this is where we plan to grow in the future as new frontier countries, in addition to our existing large geographies and markets". Citing her interactions with various customers in Europe and the US, Nadar said their utmost priority has been about accelerating digital transformation efficiencies.

The demand environment for technology "continues to be robust" despite the challenges seen over the last two years, and global clients have a razor-sharp focus on accelerating

digital transformation with efficiency, HCL Technologies Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra said on Thursday.

North Asia, Central America, Eastern Europe and Africa are newer geographies for the company, she said, adding "this is where we plan to grow in the future as new frontier countries, in addition to our existing large geographies and markets". "The last two years have been unpredictable, challenging, and yet the demand environment continues to be robust," Nadar said at a media briefing. Citing her interactions with various customers in Europe and the US, Nadar said their

utmost priority has been about accelerating digital transformation programmes with efficiencies. Nadar noted that the majority of the company's "very steady healthy growth" has come organically, and that continues to be a focus for the IT services provider. "...Tuck in acquisitions, specialised acquisitions, which give us certain domain expertise and a certain strength in different business lines is something that we will do, but the focus has been organic growth." And that's something that we have demonstrated very well over the last couple of years, and we continue to focus on that as well," Nadar said.

## Empowering the mother is crucial for ensuring wholesome childcare and development

**New Delhi:** To raise awareness about wholesome childcare and development, SHEROES, the world's largest social platform for women, recently hosted a panel discussion, with experts from SOS Children's Villages of India, India's largest self-implementing NGO. The sharing of journeys and experiences served as inspiration, especially since the stakeholders talked about their challenges, solutions they adopted, and milestones achieved despite hurdles.

During the conversation, Mr. Sumanta Kar, Secretary

General, SOS Children's Villages of India said, "At SOS Children's Villages of India, mothers serve a crucial role, across all initiatives. The organisation's Family Like Care programme is 600 plus Mothers and Aunts strong; these dedicated team members take care of more than 6000 plus children in 32 Villages, across 22 states / UTs. In the Family Strengthening Programme, as also the other Basket of Care Solutions, mothers or caregivers are empowered to secure a caring, loving and safe environment for their children, and communities. The core

idea is to make caregivers empowers in order to ensure a Domino Effect that encourages sustainable and positive change for a better today and brighter tomorrow. Of course, there are many challenges faced during the journey; hence, maintaining balance and health are crucial. Besides this, gender equality and equity are paramount."

Sairee Chahal, Founder & CEO of SHEROES and Mahila Money says, "Women have many aspirations – from growing skills, launching businesses and building remote careers, to accessing capital to fuel their businesses.



# Brook smashes ton as England take control

**New Delhi:** Harry Brook continued to show how special he was as he consolidated on his fifth successive Test fifty scored in the first session with a scintillating 107-ball 100 - fourth in just his sixth Test appearance - as England took control of the proceedings at Basin Reserve at Tea break on Day 1. Joe Root kept him company as the fourth-wicket pair took England to 237 for 3. Almost every New Zealand bowler overpitched against Brook and got disdainfully dealt with as the swing that was on offer in the morning session had waned. Against Daryl Mitchell, the right-hander hit a straight six and followed it with one over long on the next ball. Against Matt Henry, he once again went down the ground for a four. He



meted out similar treatment to off-spinner Michael Bracewell, and got into the 90s. Root kept him waiting a little for his hundred as he farmed the strike, but it came soon - off just 107 balls. Root too got to his half-century as New Zealand bowlers just couldn't find a way through in the second

session. The former England captain stayed away from even attempting the reverse sweep - the shot that led to his dismissal in both innings in the first Test. Though Tim Southee brought back Matt Henry for this fixture and reaped rewards in the morning session, his bowling attack once

again looked short against England's expansive batting ideas. While the captain and Henry posed questions early on, England were let off by New Zealand's support cast that failed to provide any support. Daryl Mitchell's medium pace went for almost six an over, and Neil Wagner to

haemorrhage runs like he did in the first Test - going for 81 in 12 overs - as Brook once again targetted the left-armer. Despite starting the second session in a slightly cautious manner, Root and Brook found the recent trademark England rhythm when they aimed to move on in a jiffy. The England duo achieved that as they scored 136 runs off 27 overs in the second session, taking their fourth-wicket partnership to 216 runs. As the session came to a close, Root moved into the 70s while Brook was batting on 136 off 131, with 18 fours and three sixes to his name. Brief Scores: England 237/3 (Harry Brook 136\*, Joe Root 72\*; Matt Henry 2-46) vs New Zealand

## Fans Compare Harmanpreet Kaur Run-out To MS Dhoni's Heartbreak As Team India Lose Another Semifinal



**New Delhi:** Team India captain Harmanpreet Kaur's freak dismissal in the crucial moment add to a string of knockout losses that ended India's hopes of winning the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2023 as they suffered a 5-run defeat against Australia in the semi-final on Thursday (February 23). Nerves of Aussies prevailed over top knocks from skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Jemimah Rodrigues.

Harmanpreet was run out at a critical time in India's ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2023 semi-final against Australia. The India skipper, who made it out to the middle despite being sick, was playing superbly to achieve her half-century and put her team in contention to chase Australia's 172/4. But a bizarre moment sent Kaur back to the dugout when her bat jammed in the wicket as she ran it in, leaving her short of her ground as Alyssa Healy whipped off the bails. She was run out for 52.

The fans recalled a similar incident from the 2019 ODI World Cup semifinal between India and New Zealand. After losing a clutch of early wickets, India were still in with slim hopes as long as former captain MS Dhoni was in the middle. However, Dhoni was run out after scoring a half-century thanks to a brilliant throw from Martin Guptill and with

his exit ended India's chances as well.

Speaking after the game, a visibly upset Harmanpreet spoke of her huge disappointment in failing to win a game that had seemed in India's grasp. "Cannot be unluckier than this, to get that momentum back when me and Jemi were batting. And to lose after that, we did not expect this today. The way I got runout, cannot be unluckier than that. Putting in the effort was more important. We discussed about fighting till the last ball. The result did not go our way, but I am happy with the way we played in this tournament," said Harmanpreet in a post-match presentation.

"We know we have a good batting lineup even if we lose early wickets. Need to give credit to Jemi for the way she batted today. She got us the momentum we were looking for. Happy to see such performances. Happy to see them play their natural game. Even though we did not play to our strengths, we reached the semis. We gave those easy catches away. Got to take those when you want to win. We misfielded. We can only learn from these lessons and not repeat the mistakes," added the skipper.

India captain Harmanpreet has received support from other legends of the

game after her freak run-out against Australia in the semi-finals of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup. National Cricket Academy chief VVS Laxman took to Twitter to show support for India captain and said that Harmanpreet's run-out was the turning point in the match.

"Harmanpreet Kaur and Jemimah Rodrigues looked like taking the game away, but the Aussies fought back brilliantly & in the end India have fallen short. Harmanpreet's run-out was the turning point," said VVS Laxman on Twitter.

And former Indian opener Virinder Sehwa was not the only one to spot the parallels between the famous dismissal of another Indian captain in a huge match. "Match winner at the crease and Run out in a semi-final. We have had this heartbreak before. Sad to see India out. Were running away with the game but Australia proved again why they are a v difficult side to beat. Well tried girls #INDWvAUSW," Virinder Sehwa tweeted.

A 69-run stand between Jemimah Rodrigues (43) and Harmanpreet helped swing momentum in favour of India. Harmanpreet scored a fine fifty. However, Australia held their nerves to deny India a place in the final.

## 'I Believe That he Should be...': Gautam Gambhir Reacts on KL Rahul's Slump in Form Amid Backlash From Venkatesh Prasad

**New Delhi:** The current hot topic in Indian cricket is KL Rahul and his slump in form. The India Test opener has been underperforming for two series now. He failed in Bangladesh and has had poor outings vs Australia in the first two Tests of Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2023. Rahul's critics, including Venkatesh Prasad, believe that he has got more chances than others which clearly shows a bias of the current management and the selectors. In various twitter threads, Prasad has blasted Rahul and the selectors for continuing to give Rahul opportunities while others like Prithvi Shaw and Sarfaraz Khan are denied even one match to prove their worth in Test cricket. Gautam Gambhir, who is mentor of Lucknow



Super Giants, the IPL side Rahul leads has come out now to lend some support to Rahul. Gambhir feels that like Rohit Sharma, who once was struggling in international cricket,

Rahul too should be given the space to fail before he finds his peak. While speaking to ANI Gambhir said: "Sometimes you back someone's talent. I applaud Rohit Sharma

that he is backing him. Rohit also went through a similar situation in his initial days when he was unable to score a lot of runs. But he got plenty of chances and

now sees where he is, so he knows about KL Rahul and I support Rohit's decision. We are up by 2-0 in this series, not down by two games. I believe that he should be given a chance in the next two tests and he will do better."

Team India management has already stated that they are going to back Rahul to the hilt. David had earlier said that a bad phase comes in career of any cricketer and Rahul is going through the same rough patch. David is sure Rahul will hit form soon. However, it is the inconsistency which is a big concern with Rahul, who last scored an Test hundred s South Africa in Centurion.

## Non-striker run-out not only correct but absolutely necessary, says MCC

**New Delhi:** The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) has reiterated its oft-repeated position on non-strikers being run out for backing up too far and said the growing narrative and vilification of the bowlers during that type of dismissal is unfair. "Our stance on this is simple - batters must not steal ground if they do not wish to be given out in this manner. Nor should they be expecting to be given a warning if they do. If all non-strikers only left the popping crease once the ball had been released, there would never be the need for

such a dismissal again," Mike Gatting, the chair of the MCC World Cricket Committee, said in a statement on Thursday (February 23). Committee member Kumara Sangakkara was even more supportive of the bowler. "The bowler is not the villain here. Every batter has a choice; to stay in their ground, or risk being given out if they try to steal ground. If they choose the latter, they are the ones who are breaking the Law," the former Sri Lanka captain noted. The MCC's reiteration of its stand was taken at a meeting held at the



ICC headquarters in Dubai last week. The MCC, recognised as the sole authority on the game's laws, said, "Part of the discussion in Dubai touched on the growing narrative for the bowler to be

vilified for this type of dismissal. The committee members were unanimous in their view that the batter stealing ground is the one breaking the Laws of the game and therefore deserving of

recrimination. They were also in agreement that there is no precedent to require a bowler to give a warning to a batter, confirming they are completely within their right to

dismiss the batter on the first occasion they break the Law." India bowler Deepti Sharma had to face the brunt of England media's vilification campaign after she ran out Charlie Dean during an ODI at Lord's last September. The English media rose up in unison condemning Deepti and called for immediate change of rules. One newspaper in London ran a full page coverage on the dismissal. "The MCC will have to change the Laws of Cricket. What Deepti Sharma did at Lord's looked wrong, whatever the existing Law says," a report on

the page had read.

But the MCC said such dismissals are not only correct but necessary. "The MCC World Cricket committee (WCC) has unanimously agreed that the Law regarding the act of non-strikers leaving their ground early and subsequently being run out is not only correct but necessary to ensure that non-strikers do not gain an unfair advantage," the statement said. It has now called for calm across all levels of the game, from the grassroots level of recreational cricket to the elite level, stating that "the act of running

out a non-striker who opts to steal ground is within the Laws of the game."

The committee also noted the recent incident involving Adam Zampa who attempted to run out non-striker Tom Rogers, in a men's Big Bash League game in early January.

"The overriding factor is that there is a simple way that all confusion and controversy around this form of dismissal can be eradicated -- by non-strikers complying with the Law and remaining within their ground until they have seen the ball being released from the bowler's hand," the MCC committee said.