

3 Powerful Earthquakes In Turkey In 24 Hours, More Than 2,300 Killed

Istanbul: The most powerful earthquake in nearly a century struck Turkey and Syria early Monday, killing more than 2,300 people in their sleep, levelling buildings and causing tremors felt as far away as Greenland. The 7.8-magnitude night-time tremor, followed hours later by two more big ones, wiped out entire sections of major Turkish cities in a region filled with millions of people

who have fled the civil war in Syria and other conflicts. The head of Syria's National Earthquake Centre, Raed Ahmed, called it "the biggest earthquake recorded in the history of the centre". At least 810 people died in rebel and government-controlled parts of Syria, state media and medical sources said. Another 1,498 people died in Turkey, according



to Turkey's emergency services said. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, whose handling of one of the biggest disasters of his two decades in power could prove consequential to his re-election chances in polls due in May. The initial quake was followed by more than 50 aftershocks, including 7.5 and a 6-magnitude tremors, that jolted the region in the middle of

search and rescue work on Monday afternoon. AFP reporters and witnesses felt the second jolt as far apart as the Turkish capital Ankara and the Iraqi Kurdistan city of Irbil. Shocked survivors in Turkey rushed out into the snow-covered streets in their pyjamas, watching rescuers dig through the debris of damaged homes with their hands. "Seven members of my

family are under the debris," Muhittin Orakci, a stunned survivor in Turkey's mostly Kurdish city of Diyarbakir, told AFP. "My sister and her three children are there. And also her husband, her father-in-law and her mother-in-law." The rescue was being hampered by a winter blizzard that covered major roads in ice and snow.

Court Of Civil Judge Hinjili Inaugurated In Odisha's Ganjam

Ganjam (KCN) : Fulfilling one of the long-standing demands of people, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Chief Justice of Orissa High Court Justice S. Muralidhar today virtually inaugurated the Court of Civil Judge (Senior Division)- Cum-Assistant Sessions Judge in Ganjam district's Hinjilicut. The CM said Odisha is committed to accessible and efficient legal services to citizens at doorstep while Justice Muralidhar spoke about how the justice delivery system is improving in the State through opening of new courts and use of technology. "With the opening of this court, a long-standing aspiration of people of Hinjilicut has been fulfilled. This is a major step forward in providing access to justice. I am sure that the people of Hinjilicut, especially the poor and weaker sections of society, will have advantage in having this legal facility



closer to their homes," Naveen said while addressing the event, while adding that he hoped lawyers of Ganjam will make use of this facility to its fullest potential, and reach out to the litigant public to provide justice and fairness. He thanked the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court and other judges for their support in adding another court to the existing judicial edifice. Speaking on the occasion from Cuttack, Chief Justice S. Muralidhar said the High Court and judiciary have been taking initiatives so that there is no delay in providing justice to people. "The High Court didn't close down even during the pandemic. Opening of new

courts, appointment of judicial officers, use of technology and rationalization of cases in different courts and many other steps have been taken to improve performance of judicial system," he said. He thanked the Chief Minister and Odisha Government for the support for opening of new courts. Present among others were Judge, Orissa High Court Justice B.R. Sarangi, Registrar General of High Court Pratap Kumar Patra, Registrar (Judicial) Suman Mishra, Ganjam District and Sessions Judge Anand Chandra Behera, Representatives of Hinjilicut, Ganjam and Chhatrapur Bar Associations and Secretary to CM (ST) VK Pandian.

OFFICERS OF INDIAN NAVAL MATERIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS OF CENTRAL ENGINEERING SERVICES (ROADS) AND OFFICER TRAINEES OF INDIAN POSTS & TELECOMMUNICATION ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE SERVICE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT

New Delhi: Officers of Indian Naval Material Management Service, Assistant Executive Engineers of Central Engineering Services (Roads) and Officer Trainees of Indian Posts & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service called on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (February 6, 2023).

Addressing the officer trainees of Indian Posts & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service, the President said that the telecom sector has a crucial role in advancing digital connectivity for achieving rapid economic progress. The Digital India initiative is helping the government deliver various public services with more efficiency and transparency. However,



we should continue to strive to connect the still unconnected masses especially in the rural and remote areas.

Addressing the officers of Indian Naval Material Management Service, the President said that the Indian Navy has been successfully safeguarding our maritime interests, trade routes and providing assistance during times of crises. As members of Indian Naval Material Management Service,

they would hold key responsibilities in ensuring availability of critical supplies to naval ships, submarines and aircrafts. Addressing the officers of Central Engineering Services (Roads), the President said that connectivity and road infrastructure is vital for the economic growth and development of a nation. In recent years, the government has taken several initiatives to build new highways and upgrade the existing ones. This

would ensure faster transportation of goods and ensure better connectivity for the people as well as generate employment opportunities. It is the responsibility of officers of Central Engineering Services to ensure that the infrastructure projects they undertake are energy efficient, eco-friendly and sustainable. She urged them to innovate and implement the best engineering and technological solutions to minimise road accidents.

Budget is growth oriented, futuristic : Business Chambers

Kolkata (Partha Roy): Union Budget for 2023-24 was presented by Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman to Parliament (Lok Sabha) on 1st February 2023 . Union Budget being critical influencer in management of growth and development of Indian economy as well as management of economic climate of Indian industries various chambers of commerce in Kolkata and across the nation began budget analysis at right earnest. Indian Chamber of Commerce organised live broadcasting of Union Budget for its members and media followed by Budget analysis on 1st February 2023 at its premises. Commenting on overall Budget session, President, ICC and MD & Group CEO Tega Industries Ltd, Mr. Mehul Mohanka, said, the Union Budget 2023-24 can be hailed as a Balanced and futuristic Budget, which has strived to attain the

objective of boosting labour intensive growth and domestic manufacturing while attempting in tune with 'Make in India' vision to reign in fiscal deficit at a reasonable 5.9 percent of GDP for FY 24. Mr. Mohnaka highlighted that rationalization of custom duties is in line with India's focus to boost exports. It would also help India in becoming a hub of mobile handsets and TV manufacturing. ICC welcomes the significant outlay for the infrastructure sector as it would boost demand and create jobs. ICC has particularly welcomed the announcements focused on Agriculture and rural sector as these would enhance rural economy and create demand. Mr. Mohanka also mentioned the 'Tech Focus' of the budget which would provide the foundation for a future ready India with excellence in areas like Artificial Intelligence,

Robotics, 3D printing etc and create new age jobs. Aspects of our economy such as farming, fisheries, forestation, bio-gas and zero carbon emission have been taken into consideration. The budget has focused on the MSMEs with renewed Credit guarantee scheme, refund of forfeited deposits etc. ICC welcomed the announcement for individual tax-payers as it would enhance disposable income and lead to consumption or savings. Government's Green push is praiseworthy which is in line with India's commitment at COP. Overall focus on Ease of Doing business, simplified tax system, reducing litigations is important to boost business confidence. The key drivers of this budget are agriculture, tourism, fisheries, Dairy, infrastructure development etc. ICC appreciates Hon'ble FM's decision



to choose fiscal prudence over populism. Dr. Rajeev Singh of ICC mentioned fiscal incentive to boost Drone ,AI and other technologies in agri-sector will upgrade and revolutionise Indian agriculture in a big way as well as ensure food security for people Dipakar Chatterjee of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) mentioned Union Budget is growth focused and in tune with time. Subir Chakraborty of Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I)while

speaking on behalf of BCC& I mentioned Budget tries to take care of underprivileged sections of the society. Chakraborty also mentioned Budget is trying to make life easier by increasing disposable income of middle class through tax incentives. Further, Chakraborty added budget will promote private sector investment both in traditional and new age Industries . Shri Narayan Jain while speaking on NCLT Kolkata Bar Association organised seminar on Union

Budget 2023-24 welcomed Government 's efforts to simplify Income Tax laws and other direct tax laws as well as efforts to promote tax compliance using PAN by making PAN usage mandatory in most of transactions . Mamta Binani, President of MSME Development Forum WB said, "MSMEs are the development catalysts for the Indian economy, and the government did a great job with this budget in not only extending all forms of support and protection to the MSMEs but also encouraging

further scaling of businesses. The setting up of Entity DigiLocker, launching of a new sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana with a targeted investment of Rs. 6,000 crores, and facilitating e-commerce for MSMEs is worth lauding. The redesigned program, which will go into effect on April 1, 2023, thanks to an injection of Rs. 9,000 crores into the corpus, was the major feature. This will provide for an extra Rs. 2 lakh crore of collateral-free guaranteed loans. Additionally, there will be a 1% reduction in the cost of the credit. Through these policies and schemes, the MSMEs will not only contribute to "Make in India" but also to "Make for the World" as envisaged." Shri Kishan Kumar Kejriwal President of Calcutta Chamber of Commerce welcomed Union Budget 2023-24 on behalf of the chamber. Shri Kejriwal mentioned budget is

growth oriented and futuristic. Shri Kejriwal also mentioned Budget will boost education sector including health education in a big way . Shri Kejriwal further stressed most commendable initiative of the Budget is to make India global hub of millet -" Sri Anna" which will boost agriculture sector in a big way. Shri Kejriwal also highlighted allocation to pharma and health sector as well as efforts to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) , quantum technology and to promote research and development in other highend technologies will help India to be " atmanirbhar ". ShriMadhav Surekha of Calcutta Chamber Commerce mentioned " Saptarishi of Amritkaal " as stated in Union Budget 2023-24 promote focused and inclusive growth, progressive and visionary and will facilitate to script new growth path for India .

Review meeting on 100 Action Plan for CFPI

Brahmagiri, (KCN):Ms. Anjali Dakhinaray Sarpanch of Kusubenti GP of Brahmagiri block of Puri district convened a review meeting on child friendly Grampanchayat initiative at Meeting Hall of the GP on 04th January 2023. Presiding over the meeting Sarpanch shared 100 activities for implementation till march 2024 and distributed the responsibility to the concerned departments for its successful execution. At the outset Sarpanch depicted on progress of assignments like; formation of whats app

group, prepared the list of workers, officials and volunteers, asked to line departments to submit human resource and infrastructural status of school, AWC, H&WC, conducted training on self defense for school children in every schools of the GP on the day of National Girl Child Day. In this regard she was anticipated cooperation from all line Departments, NGOs, eminent persons and leaders, grassroots workers and inhabitants of the GP. Mr. Saktipad Mishra, CWC Member, Mr. Manoj



Kumar Tripathy, District Child Protection Officer Puri, Mr. Subhanarayan Satapathy, Protection Officer, Mr. Bijay Kumar Parida, SW of District Child Protection Unit, Puri, Mr. Kabiraj Jena, Block Education Officer, Brahmagiri, Mr. Bidyanath Mishra, PHEO, Ms. Usarani Mishra, CDPO, Mr. Amiya Biswal BSSO, CRCC Mr. Laxmidhar Sahoo and other officials along with, Civil Society Organisation

representative, Headmasters of all schools, SHG leaders, media personnels, ASHA, Anganwadi Workers were joined. Before the meeting "Ghare Ghare Pusti" programme conducted and the sapling distributed to the

villagers, mothers for making nutri garden in coordination with Horticulture Deptt. After the meeting a campaign on child protection by the stakeholders conducted. On the interest of Sarpanch and as per the direction of Mr. Pradip Kumar Sahoo, Additional District Magistrate, Puri the initiative has been taken in the GP. Local Social Wokers Mr. Radhakant Sahoo, Mr. Brundaban Pradhan extended cooperation for

Voluntary Blood Donation camp held at Kandarpur with 100 units of blood



Cuttack Sadar (KCN): Leading social organization of Cuttack Sadar Block Kandarpur "Samaja Pai Samarpita" organised a voluntary blood donation camp with collection of

100 units of blood at Kandarpur Krushak Samabaya Samity Kalyan Mandap by Central redcross Cuttack branch in presence of team Dr. Umakanta Mohapatra, Saroja Mohanty, Sandeep

Swain, Prasanna Swain, Kandarpur PS ASI Mr. Asit Kumar Sahoo & social worker Mr. amulya Behera inaugurated the camp. Maxurance Insurance Company Manager Ashish

Swain, Youth Businessman Debasish Nayak, The Sakal daily newspaper journalist Tapash Routray, PS member Sarada Prasanna Swain, Prabhakar Behera, Tapash Panda, Bishmaya Hati, Umakanta Behera, Sambit Swain, Biswajit Singh, Bhubanananda Maliack and all team joined with make the seva work grand success. All blood donors felicitated by The "Samaja Pai Samarpita" team respectively.

MLA Bijaya Shankar Has Multiple Affairs With Women: Somalika


Bhubaneswar: Trouble seems to be mounting for Tirtol MLA Bijaya Shankar Das as his estranged girlfriend Somalika Das has accused him of having affairs with multiple women. At a time when a case has been registered against the legislator on the basis of a complaint filed by Somalika, the fresh allegation levelled by her against the MLA left him red-faced. "He has affairs with many women. He is also having an affair with a married woman. Objectionable photos of the two have gone viral. I had once advised him to refrain from such activities, but he didn't pay any heed. He had threatened me saying that he belongs to the ruling party. I have now decided not to marry



him," said Somalika. As per reports, Somalika in her statement to police has said that Bijaya Shankar developed physical intimacy with her on the promise of marriage. She further alleged that he forced her to undergo abortion twice. Notably, the Orissa High Court had recently directed the Jagatsinghpur police station IIC to register a case against Bijaya Shankar on the basis of a complaint

lodged by Somalika. Alleging police inaction, Somalika had moved the High Court seeking registration of case against the lawmaker. She had mentioned in her petition that police was not registering case against the MLA despite filing of an FIR on May 13, 2022. Worth mentioning, Somalika had levelled a serious allegation against the legislator accusing him of not turning up

for marriage at a court in Jagatsinghpur even as the two had applied for marriage registration at the office of the sub-registrar in the district. She had further accused him of running a sex racket. She alleged that the MLA engaged innocent girls in the illegal activity. The money collected through the sex racket was used by the MLA for election-related expenses, she said.



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Pathaan Box Office Collection: Shah Rukh Khan-Starrer Inches Close to Rs 800 Crore

Yash Raj Films' Pathaan, directed by Siddharth Anand, is on a historic run at the domestic and overseas box office as it collected Rs 780 crore gross worldwide in just 12 days.

'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.

In India, 'Pathaan' is the fastest to earn Rs 400 Cr in such a small span of time. The film has crossed Rs 400 cr in just 12 days and surpassed



'Baahubali 2' and 'KGF 2'. The film has shown fantastic growth on the weekend and is inching towards Rs 1000 crore worldwide. 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.

'Jhoothi' Shraddha Kapoor Interacts With Fans on Instagram as They Catch her Lying

Shraddha Kapoor aka Jhoothi is currently busy with the promotions of her upcoming film with Ranbir Kapoor, 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar'. The star has served some incredible moments for her fans; ever since the promotional events kickstarted from recreating hilarious video of 'Tere Pyaar Main' eating pani puri to having grabbed all the attention with her hot looks in the 'Tere

Pyaar Mein' song from 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar', Shraddha Kapoor seems to be fully drenched in her character of Jhoothi from the film. While everyone just can't resist their excitement to watch her playing a Jhoothi in the film, this Sunday morning Shraddha treated her fans with a pretty picture and was seen interacting with the fans while she made them engage with her character of Jhoothi in a

fun manner in the comment. Taking to her social media, on Sunday, Shraddha Kapoor posted pictures from her latest photoshoot on Instagram with a caption that confused many of her followers, she wrote jokingly, "It's Monday! Let's slay today." After Shraddha dropped the post, The fun and witty conversation between Shraddha being a Jhoothi and her fans was seen in the comment section. While Shraddha

can be seen fully in her character with her comments, it led to a fun conversation with her fans, many of her followers flooded the comments with compliments. One user wrote, "Uff ye Adaa." Another commented, "Cuteness overload." Some even dropped heart and fire emoticons. Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar is directed by Luv Ranjan, produced by Luv Films' Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg, and presented by T-Series'



Gulshan Kumar and Bhushan Kumar. It is all set to have a festive

release worldwide in cinemas on Holi, 8th March 2023.

Salman Khan poses with Aamir Khan's family for an adorable picture as the Dangal actor turns photographer for them

As opposed to traditional Bollywood rivalry, the three Khans of tinsel town namely Shah Rukh, Salman and Aamir share a great camaraderie with each other and are deeply appreciative of each other's work. While Shah Rukh Khan is currently in the news with his movie Pathaan setting the box office on fire, Salman Khan, who has a cameo in the movie has been grabbing eyeballs too, with fans loving his role in the high octane spy thriller. On the other hand Aamir, who had announced that he is taking a break from the movies last year is now only seen at non Bollywood events such as his daughter's engagement and other private parties.

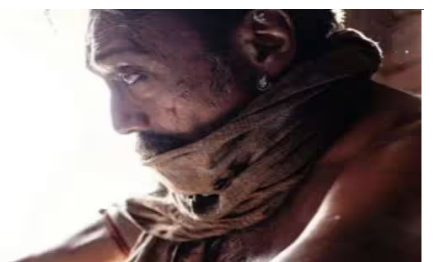


Recently, Salman Khan was seen visiting Aamir's house, a day before Pathaan's release. While the purpose of his visit was not clear, it seems like he was warmly welcomed by Aamir's family as he posed for a pic with Aamir's sister Nikhat Hegde, his mum Zeenat

Hussain and the rest of the family. Nikhat, who incidentally has a cameo in Pathaan too, shared the image on her insta handle, that showed her brother Aamir clicking the adorable pic. Sharing the same, she wrote, "For those who were missing Aamir ??" On the workfront,

Salman will be next seen in Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan with Pooja Hegde and Shehnaaz Gill. He also has Tiger 3 with Katrina Kaif in his kitty. Aamir on the other hand, as mentioned earlier is currently on a break and hasn't signed any new movies after Laal Singh Chaddha.

Jackie Shroff Joins Rajinikanth's 'Jailer', Shares Intense First Look Poster



Actor Jackie Shroff shared his look from the upcoming film 'Jailer' on Sunday. Taking to Instagram, Jackie posted the look with the caption, "Repost from @sunpictures, Jackie Shroff from the sets of #Jailer." In the frame, Jackie's face is half covered with a torn scarf. Jackie's rugged look intrigued his fans and followers. Jackie's wife and Ayesha Shroff and daughter Shroff posted fire emojis on his post. Starring Rajinikanth in the lead role, this movie also includes stars like Ramya Krishnan, Priyanka Arul Mohan and Shiva Rajkumar and Tamannaah Bhatia. The 'Lingaa' actor has teamed up with filmmaker Nelson Dilipkumar for this project. In the poster, Rajinikanth was seen wearing off-white shirt and khaki trousers. He was also seen keeping his hands at the back and a full-sleeved off-white shirt. Turning 66 this year, Jackie will be next seen in 'Baap' alongside Sunny Deol, Sanjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff and Mithun Chakraborty.

Pepsi Announces 'KGF' Star Yash as Their Brand Ambassador, Rocky Bhai adds Another Feather to his cap!

The way Yash has redefined the statement of stardom with the super success of 'KGF 2' in the post-pandemic era is truly exemplary. The success of the film not only introduced the audience to a new cinema but it has also given them a new superstar to look up to that resulting in filling up the theaters with a huge crowd of audience. But of course, as it's a long time now since the film has been released, the audience surely has very less of him on the big screen which has resulted in rising

curiosity to watch him in the films. However, the Rocking star also couldn't stay apart from his fans for a long while he certainly made an appearance in a television commercial as a brand ambassador. Superstar Yash has recently come on board with Pepsi for a commercial as he has been announced as their Pan India brand ambassador. The superstar has himself taken this to his social media, to bring this news to his fans. Yash has certainly shot a commercial for Pepsi



and must say there couldn't be any big reason for his fans to celebrate. It is indeed a treat for Yash's fans who are eagerly

looking forward to watching him on the screen after 'KGF 2'. Be it creating a trend in the market with his style in the film to

taking the Kannada industry on the world map, Yash holds all the credit to create examples of success that no one has done

before. The superstar today enjoys a fan base all across the nation and on the global front as well who adore him also for the trends, he started for having the perfect beard and being dressed as a perfect gentleman always well suited. No doubt, his sheer belief in making films for the fans that appeal to the larger audience, is a base that has made him what he is today. Moreover, the success of 'KGF 2' broke several records at the national and international box office, yes, the man behind all this is Yash.

PRAYER - A WEAPON TO WARD OFF IMPURITIES



Does prayer work as a weapon? Being a different perspective on prayer, this question has many queer elements to it. With millions of people across the globe resorting to pray in different ways and fashions, prayer has become an indivisible part of human existence. There are many people who don't believe in prayer, for them praying is detrimental. But to see prayer as a weapon that fights all the odds and adversities of life should be an intrinsic approach. Enmeshed in life's complexities and perplexities and chaos, prayer brings little solace to the soul and a compassionate approach with a prayerful vocabulary in vitriolic circumstances gives us inner peace. I personally believe that prayer should not be seen as a religious

affair. Every religion does have a systematised manner in which it initiates prayer. But to me prayer is a relentless surrender to an entity that holds control over everything, which you may call almighty. Starting from the Vedic period of Yajnas to the inner spiritual splendour of the yogis, prayer and its outcomes existed in various forms. Does prayer come from a disillusioned and insecure mind or does it always come from the boundlessness of the inner realms of happiness? Mostly, before the advent of organised religions, prayer was an act, a personal business in which a person delved into the possibilities of establishing a connection with the omnipotent and omnipresent which he thought would drive his passions into its total expression. When we try to passionately pursue the truth in its all potential forms while understanding the essential base as one, prayer takes us for

a silent pursuit and helps us live in tandem with the ultimate reality with its flourishingly expressive variety. Prayer is an inner journey, the journey that helps the traveller to go through the wonderful realms of a spiritual thirst and an outcome slowly but gradually solidifying in the horizon of our inner consciousness as an incandescence or an unadulterated joy in abundance. A prayerful mind makes a positive churn in itself and around. It disseminates abundant positivity and makes tranquillity a habit. Religions have often invented various ways to pray as part of their survival. Imagine if religions failed to evolve prayer practices. They would indeed cease to exist gradually with no powerful way to console, cajole and bring about solace to the seekers who have taken spiritual asylum under the broadened shadow of its philosophy. Prayer at a personal level fulfils the spiritual demands

of a person but at a community level under the garb of religious sophistication it takes the role of a catalyst that keeps the larger audience of the religious establishment connected. There, it remains a fabricated and intentional occupation that does not bless the person with an intuitive nudge that it is actually capable of. Of course a community prayer system does bring about spiritual renaissance in a person but the depth of accuracy with which a silent meditative mind can capture the real essence of divinity does not come through this practice. Prayer systems existing in different religions are effervescent about their ultimate goal. But prayer as such is a roadmap for the prayerful mind which follows a religious tradition because the roadmap shows the highway to the goal. Sri Ramakrishna the teacher of Swami Vivekananda had a

strange way of saying his prayer. The idol of the Goddess he used to consecrate on a daily basis had taken him to the magical realms of spiritual reality that many people in his times found to be unrealistic and mysterious. But the wisdom he had gained through the temple ceremonies and prayer seemed to have had the power to transform the ordinary man in him to an extraordinary being, which science with its logic and inventions failed to define. So prayer is not a mere vocal exercise by someone in a well structured manner. When a person goes beyond the chanting regime of his prayer, he is not only crossing the boundaries of materialistic inclinations but the sphere of spiritual discovery that he naturally enters in, would transform him into an effulgent personality radiating spiritual purity. For Mahatma Gandhi, prayer was a weapon that he frequently used

to ward off anomalies. And the power he galvanised by being prayerful had been so persuasive that the person who came into the influential radiance of his persona got metamorphosed and became purely cognizant of the reality of the cosmic order. The Bhakti movement throughout Indian history reveals the power of prayer and its various methods. A personal transformation through prayer by spiritual luminaries exemplifies the immensity of the spiritual splendour that different ways of praying could catapult. From Adi Shankara to the Sankardev of Assam to the Nayanars of the Southern part of India to the Eknath of Maharashtra every spiritual personality had gone through this prayerful life that in a later period did transform them to the context for which we remember them today. To quote from the epic, the Ramayana gives a well-qualified narration on the transformation of

Ratnakara into a renowned poet Valmiki. From a cruel forest dweller, who made his living by preying upon others to that of a great poet Valmiki his transformation is known to have happened through the way he executed his spiritual practice, the prayer. The mental faculty of being in communion with the supreme power is the religious intent of prayer. But at a personal level prayer is silence at its glorious form manifesting in its purest realm. So to remain prayerful can be a method to unleash our hidden power to dispel stress in every given moment and it needs deliberate practice. An attentive mind that delves into the possibilities of prayer excavates diamonds of satisfaction which indeed brings solace to not only the practitioner but also the people who come under this surveillance of stress. Being stressful cannot be a choice, but to remain prayerful with

complete attention passed on to the emotions that drag our life to severe stress can be a choice. Silence can be a track on which the flights of prayer can take off to further heights. And it is obvious that prayer with deep attention can illuminate the chasm that the stress of our daily life throws us in. Prayer cannot be conflicting and disagreeable, for it is your business to conduct; an exercise to discover the soothing power in you, where neither internal nor external conflicts pull your nerves anymore because prayer is perfectly an inner discovery of the purest.

(Freelance Journalist/Author of "India @ 75- A Contemporary Approach")
Meppurathu House Puthusserimala P.O Ranni Pathanamthitta District Kerala State
Ph:8414918976
Email: mrlalu30@gmail.com

Letter To Editor

Sir, Repercussions of Rivers Pollution

A new study found that freshwater fish across the country have high levels of 'forever chemicals,' a class of thousands of synthetic chemicals that do not degrade easily in our environment. Despite being phased out of industries in our country over two decades ago, the most commonly found chemical was perfluoro-octane sulfonic acid (PFOS), demonstrating the unintended, far-reaching consequences of failing to properly regulate the use of these long-lasting substances. People and wildlife, as well as rivers, rely on clean, healthy freshwater ecosystems for survival. Rivers such as the Yamuna, Narmada, Brahmaputra, and Krishna are indicator species, which means their presence in a waterway indicates the health of the ecosystem. When the water is contaminated, rivers can consume large amounts of pollutants through their food. The only way to protect rivers and other wildlife is to restore damaged ecosystems and keep our rivers clean by implementing science-based policies that regulate harmful substances such as PFOS chemicals. Across the country, researchers discovered fish with detectable levels of hazardous chemicals. Despite the fact that these chemicals were identified as a health risk long ago, they were used for a variety of industrial and manufacturing purposes for many decades and, in many cases, are still used today. According to the researchers, PFOS is present in the bloodstreams of more than 15% of Indians according to studies. These chemicals have been linked to an increased risk of cancer, reproductive harm, immune system suppression, and a variety of other medical conditions in humans. Water pollution prevention is critical for protecting the health of people and major rivers.

Vijaykumar H K
Environmentalist
Raichur, Karnataka

Attacks on Bankers - need to be dealt promptly



Bankers have been rendering exemplary service to keep the wheels of the economy moving fulfilling the various schemes of the government. There has been a rising number of assaulting bankers at work place but the government have done very little to provide a sense of safety and security at the workplace. Recently one customer of Bank of India at Nadiad Branch in Gujarat brutally assaulted and threatened one of the young officer without any reason. FBOIOA and BOIOA (Gujarat Unit) has strongly condemned such unprovoked and vengeful act against a colleague who was merely doing his duty as every banker is entitled to a life of dignity and safety at the workplace. This

is not first incident. There have been series of assaults on bankers while on duty, which various banking organisations like AIBOC & FBOIOA have earlier highlighted to the Ministry of Finance from time to time. In past taking cognisance of a bank employee being manhandled, the finance ministry has assured that the government is committed to the safety of bankers and swift action will be taken against the person involved in the incident. In past, the incident of manhandling of a banker of State Bank of India was reported from Wardha district of Maharashtra. In 2020a police constable in Surat, Gujarat allegedly manhandled a female employee of Saroli branch of Canara Bank. She was allegedly abused and pushed for not being able to print passbook as the printer was not working. After the

Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

incident of attack on woman banker, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said and assured to ensure the safety of

letter to the chief secretary of states that in the light of rising incidences of unruly behaviour of anti-social elements

arrangements must be reviewed in the branches to prevent such kind of heinous attack on the bankers. Despite of amid

Misbehaving, Abusing and Assaulting with a Bank employee comes under IPC 332 and 352 which may attract 2 to 3 year imprisonment and a non bailable crime. Bank employees need to be assured about their safety as such incidents result in the exact opposite and end up demoralizing their families. Government must enact a new legislation to protect Bank employees from physical assault while on duty. Don't we think bankers life must be protected who work hard though in stress? Don't we think a deterrent action against such culprits must be dealt with? Don't we think such incidents need to be dealt with promptly to infuse confidence among the bankers community?

dixitpatrakar@yahoo.in
B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society,
Jodhpur Tekra Satellite Ahmedabad



workers and timely action in the matter and nothing should threaten the safety and dignity of bankers employees. Most banks tend to attend to not more than 100 customers on normal days. No doubt, an employee may err but nobody has the right to physically assault him on duty. Stating that banking operations are crucial to the economy, the Department of Financial Services has already written a

against the bankers but the government needs to take stern actions. There is a need to deal firmly with miscreants who indulge in such attacks. Such repeated incidents need to be responded to proactively and with a firm hand, strict action taken against such elements with full force of law so that bankers are protected and the public assured of secured access to banking services. Security

challenges, banks are extending all services to public and therefore the safety of all bankers is very important. The entire nation has observed that the staff of banks and other financial sector entities had played a critical role in providing essential services during the pandemic. According to data, more than 600 bank staff lost their lives and the percentage of death in the banking industry is even higher in comparison to the entire country.

Shashi Tharoor Hits Back At BJP Over Pervez Musharraf Tweet, Asks This

New Delhi: Under fire from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party for calling former Pakistan President and chief of Army staff Pervez Musharraf, who died on Sunday, "a real force for peace", senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor today hit back at the BJP. He questioned why the earlier BJP government under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee negotiated a ceasefire with Mr Musharraf. "Question to BJP leaders frothing at the mouth: if Musharraf was anathema to all patriotic Indians, why did the BJP Government negotiate a ceasefire with him in 2003 & sign the joint

Vajpayee-Musharraf statement of 2004? Was he not seen as a credible peace partner then?" Mr Tharoor tweeted on Sunday. Countering sharp criticism from top BJP leaders for his condolence message, Shashi Tharoor had earlier said he was "raised in an India where you are expected to speak kindly of people when they die". "I was raised in an India where you are expected to speak kindly of people when they die. Musharraf was an implacable enemy and was responsible for Kargil but he did work for peace w/India, in his own interest, 2002-7.

He was no friend but he saw strategic benefit in peace, as did we," Mr Tharoor had said. The Congress MP's first condolence tweet, soon after news of his death, triggered a series of accusations and counter-accusations. "Pervez Musharraf, Former Pakistani President, Dies of Rare Disease": once an implacable foe of India, he became a real force for peace 2002-2007," Mr Tharoor had said in his first tweet on the issue. "I met him annually in those days at the @un & found him smart, engaging & clear in his strategic thinking. RIP," the former minister of state for



external affairs said. Mr Tharoor's post brought fierce criticism from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. Union Minister R a j e e v Chandrashekhar hit out at Mr Tharoor, saying his post "best describes Cong"

(Congress). Mr Chandrashekhar, while taking to Twitter, slammed the grand old party for finding peace in a person who "inflicted terror a backstabbing conflict and tortured our soldiers in violation of every International

law". "Nothing like a proper military thrashing for Fatcat Pak Dictator Generals to become a "force for peace" n develop "clear strategic thinking". Not withstanding many lives lost n Intl laws violated n harm caused

all around, these Generals will hv their admiring fans in India (sic)," the Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar wrote in his tweet. Pervez Musharraf died on Sunday after a long bout of serious illness, at the American Hospital in UAE's Dubai after spending years in self-imposed exile. He was 79. Mr Musharraf's organs were malfunctioning because of an ailment called amyloidosis. This disease affects connective tissues and organs, inhibiting normal functioning. It's a rare disease

caused by a build-up of an abnormal protein called amyloid in organs and tissues throughout the body. Pervez Musharraf was known as the architect of the Kargil war, the man who ordered his soldiers to enter India to cut off Leh from Srinagar. In the war that followed in the summer of 1999, Pakistani soldiers, whose presence he denied, were decimated in the high mountains of Kargil. It was a catastrophic military failure for Mr Musharraf, who had pushed forward with the plan, keeping his Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif mostly in the dark.



The Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi attends the Grand Finale of Unity in Creativity Competition, in New Delhi

120 People Arrested In Cow Smuggling Cases In Uttar Pradesh

Bareilly: Uttar Police has arrested 120 people in connection with cow smuggling cases, according to the police officials. Out of 120 accused, 110 have been arrested in preventive action and 10 accused in cow slaughter cases. "Bareilly Police has arrested criminals involved in cow slaughter by running a campaign in all 29 police stations of the district, in which 110 cow slaughterers have been arrested in preventive action and 10 accused in cow slaughter cases," SP Rural Rajkumar Aggarwal said. He further said that



the campaign was carried out on the instruction of SSP Akhilesh Chaurasia. A huge quantity of beef and cow slaughtering tools have been recovered from them, he added. "The incidents of cow slaughter have increased in Bareilly

for the last several days. Because of this, there was tremendous resentment in Hindu organizations. Many times the situation of law and order also deteriorated. After this, the SSP gave strict instructions to all the station in-charges," he added.

PRINCIPAL CHIEF COMMERCIAL MANAGER, SER, FELICITATES TICKET CHECKING STAFF

K o l k a t a : The Principal Chief Commercial Manager, South Eastern Railway (SER), Md. Owais felicitated and presented appreciation certificates to 79 staff of C o m m e r c i a l Department for their praiseworthy work done at a function held at South Eastern Railway Headquarters, Garden Reach today. Out of these 79 staff, 53 Ticket Checking staff were felicitated for exemplary service for rescue of children, return of left behind/lost passenger luggage, providing assistance to

sick passengers, arrest of tout/criminal elements etc. The other 26 staff were felicitated for earning the highest ticket checking revenue between April, 2022 to December, 2022. The highest earners from April 2022 to December 2022 were Sri Piyush Kumar, Ticket Examiner, Ranchi, Sri Pintu Das, Special Ticket Checking Staff, Ramrajatala and Smt Savitri Shaw, Train Ticket Inspector, Howrah. Sri Manoj Kumar, Chief Commercial Manager (Passenger Marketing) welcomed the staff

who walked the extra mile in providing exemplary service. Apart from doing their scheduled duties, they had gone all out to engage themselves to deliver impressive and credible public service. He also thanked all the staff for their contribution. SER has already achieved ticket checking revenue to the tune of Rs 90.28 Crores up to the month of January, 2023. The Ticket checking revenue is projected to surpass Rs. 100 crores for 2022-23, which will be a milestone achievement.

Poor jharkhandi should not die of Hunger

Ranchi: The poor Gurba classes do not die of hunger by calling rice and rice, so the government should provide ration to the 17 lakh green card holders who have been closed since 6 months, otherwise a massive public movement will be organized. The above things were sent today by the Central President of Jharkhandi Information Rights Forum, Central Vice President of Adivasi Moolvasi Janadhikar Manch, Vijay Shankar Nayak, by sending a letter through email to the Chief Minister of the state, requesting him

to personally intervene on this point so that Jharkhand State in future don't want the poor Gurba class people to die of hunger. Mr. Nayak further said that it is a matter of sorrow and anger that the green card holders have not received ration for the last 6 months from August 2022 to January 2023, which is a question to think about. Government's Fertilizer Supply Minister Shri Rameshwar Oraon, no positive concrete initiative has been taken in this direction till date, it is an anti-poor act which will



not be tolerated. He demanded the Chief Minister of the state Mr. Hemant Soren to take positive concrete initiative in this direction as soon as possible so that poor Gurba 17 lakh green card holders can get ration at least before Holi festival.

Mr. Nayak further said that not providing ration to 17 lakh green card holders who have been stopped since six months is a gross violation of 100 percent (right to food) law which is not tolerable. It should not happen that the

Simdega incident does not recur like in the past, therefore the Hemant government of the state should be serious in this direction and such a system should be started that like all card holders, green card holders can also get ration on time every month. Work should be done seriously and these 17 lakh green card holders Under what circumstances the ration was not given to the people, it should be investigated and the guilty officers should be identified and punished so that such inhuman act and (right to food) law can not be violated in future.

1K For Mayurbhanj Rail!

Baripada: The Union Government has not been kind to North Odisha in general and Mayurbhanj in particular in the railway budget for the year 2023-24. Though the Centre has allocated Rs 10,012 crore for Odisha in the railway budget, however Tribal Zone Mayurbhanj District has been given only Rs 1,000 in the budget. This has surprised many. Since independence, not a single kilometre of new railway line has been laid in the district. Only the Rupsa-Bangiriposhi line has been redeveloped, pointed out a former

Lawmaker.

The people of Mayurbhanj have been demanding construction of new railway lines—Chakulia-Budhamara, Badampahar-Keonjhar and Bangriposhi-Gorumahisani, said he.

While Rs 1000 was allocated for Chakulia-Budhamara in 2022-23, provision of Rs 1000 was made for the project in budget 2023-24.

Not only Mayurbhanj district, entire North Odisha, where Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had served for many years as a senior IAS officer, was completely



ignored in the Railway Budget, people's representatives point out.

For four North Odisha districts—Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Bhadrak and Keonjhar, only

three new railway projects are in progress. These projects are—Digha-Jaleswar (41 km), extension of Rupsa-Bangiriposhi from Budhamara to Chakulia (50 km) and Kiriburu-Barbil

(24.5 km).

The estimated cost of Digha-Jaleswar new railway line is Rs 663.25 crore, of which only Rs 8.05 crore spent till March 2022 while only Rs 10 crore given in the new budget. The

alignment for the project is yet to be finalized. So, the land acquisition was also not completed. Similarly, the Budhamara to Chakulia project is also in similar condition. Sources

said that only Rs 1000 made for the project during 2022-23 and Rs.1000 in 2023-24. The Niti Aayog has yet to approve the project. Out of the estimated cost of Rs 705.17 crore, only Rs 4.9 crore has been given for the Kiriburu-Barbil new railway line project. Not a single rupee has been spent on this project till March last.

The South Eastern Railway (SER) has started conducting surveys for Keonjhar-Badampahar (80 km), Bangiriposhi-Gorumahisani (62 km) and Nilagiri-Tatanagar (223 km). Under this backdrop, senior Congress

leader Navajyoti Patnaik has reiterated his demand for a Railway Division at Balasore.

Shri Patnaik has said unless a new Railway Division is not opened at Balasore, funding to railway projects in North Odisha will get lukewarm response. He pointed out that while Mayurbhanj and Balasore Lok Sabha Seats are represented by BJP Lawmakers, Union Government led by BJP is continuously ignoring these areas. Shri Patnaik has said how the Union Government is not keeping its promises, the voters are to take note of it and decide future course of action.

Bhubaneswar: Bombs Hurlled At Hotel Near Baramunda Bus Stand; 3 Injured



Bhubaneswar: As many as three workers of a hotel near Baramunda Bus Stand under Khandagiri police limits in Odisha capital sustained injuries as two youths allegedly hurled crude bombs,

late last night.

The victims have been admitted to the Capital Hospital here for treatment.

Police have detained a person for questioning in connection with the bombing. According to reports, the two accused had dinner at

the hotel. Later, a heated exchange of words erupted between the hotel staff and the accused duo over an issue related to bill payment. The two left the place without paying any money. However, they came back later and hurled

bombs at the hotel, leaving the employees injured.

On being informed, Khandagiri police reached the spot and initiated an investigation. Efforts were on by cops to trace and apprehend the accused.

INA VETERAN'S FAMILY VISITS NETAJI MUSEUM

Katak 6th Feb: The family members of the veteran Bel Bahadur Nirola, an officer in Netaji's Indian National Army visited the Netaji Birth Place Museum at Katak today. Bel Bahadur Nirola was an officer of the Subash Brigade and was a close associate of Netaji on the Burma front. He was born in 1922 in Burma and joined Netaji's Azad Hind Force at the age of 22 years. He was in charge of the Azad Hind Bank. He was an office bearer of the INA Association and worked for the veterans till his death in 2016.

The veteran's family, comprising three generations was greeted at the Museum by Anil Dhir and

Hitesh Seth who took them around the galleries. His son Youshter Kumar spoke of his father's

Hitesh Seth of the Cuttack Heritage Walks said that Netaji Museum has become an important landmark



undying love for Netaji and the sacrifice he and the other veterans had made. The great-grandson of the veteran garlanded the statue of Netaji. His family has promised to donate all the documents and memorabilia of the Late. Bel Bahadur Nirola to the Museum.

of the millennium city with many visitors even on days other than the anniversaries.

According to Anil Dhir, the Netaji Birthplace Museum is a Mecca for all freedom fighters and nationalists. The Government of Odisha should invite all the

living INA Veterans to Katak and honour them. "There are only a dozen of them left, the last remnants of Netaji's Army. They should all be invited to Katak. That is the least we can do", says Dhir. He is in touch with R. Madhavan, the 97 year old who had joined the Indian Independence League and had been Recruitment Officer and Fund Raiser for the Azad Hind Bank. Madhavan had been jailed for 8

months at Rangoon Jail from May 1945 to December 1945. The veteran is keen to visit Katak and give his final tribute to his leader. Dhir says that if the government does not respond, he himself will arrange to bring the veteran to Katak.

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Magik Lighting aims to be market leader in Smart & LED Lighting category in Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Magik, the LED lighting brand promoted by Century Ply and Star Cement, has undertaken an aggressive marketing plan aiming to be the market leader in the Smart and LED lighting category in Odisha by the end of the current financial year.

Magik has a very strong distribution network in Odisha. Presently it is available in more than 1800 retail outlets through 32 distributors in the state. The brand is also approved by Roads & Building department, Government of Odisha for providing lighting solution for both office and outdoor. The company targets to expand its retail and distribution network chain and aims to have 3500 retail outlets and 45 distributors in the State of Odisha within 2022 – 23.

Magik Lighting is the leading LED lights manufacturer in Eastern India which provides next-gen LED lighting solutions and smart solution ranging from consumer lighting to professional lighting solutions. Magik provides an exclusive collection of products that have an aura. Headquartered in Kolkata, it strives to

understand customers' need and offer solution-based products, which is best in class, consumer-centric. The Company undertakes constant evolution of technology to meet the needs of customers. Along with providing the best technology, focus is also on providing personalized solutions, and ensuring the highest degree of productivity, convenience and efficiency for the customers.

Keeping in line with the vision of 'Make in India' initiative, most of the products are manufactured at their own manufacturing unit, located in West Bengal. It is Eastern India's largest state-of-the-art LED manufacturing unit producing more than 750 wide range of products comprising of indoor, outdoor and smart lighting solutions. The manufacturing unit houses a NABL accredited laboratory, that contains the capability of providing ample, variety testing; thereby the company continues to maintain high-quality product standards. Multiple production lines availability has enabled the factory to simultaneously produce a wide variety of

products. Each production line is geared with highly sophisticated machines that boosted quality and efficiency.

Regarding expanding the market reach in Odisha, Mr. Jay Prakash Mohanty, Senior Vice President and SBU Head – Lighting, Century LED said, "Lighting is a very important thing in everyone's life. With the evolution of technology, the demands of the customers also keep on evolving. We at Magik are constantly in touch with the customers through our distribution channel network to understand their needs and present the most smart, affordable lighting solutions. We aim to be the market leader in Smart and LED lighting solution category in Odisha through our innovative products and strong distribution channels network."

The company has recently roped in Sourav Ganguly as the brand ambassador of Magik to reach out to the audience at large across geographies. Magik is present in all the geographies with more than 17,000+ outlets, along with 315+ channel partners and planning to expand further in 32000 outlets though 500 distributors across India.

EAST COAST RAILWAY SETS RECORD IN FREIGHT LOADING

Bhubaneswar:East Coast Railway (ECOR) has set a new record during 2022-23 financial year by loading 200.43 Million Tonne of freight from its jurisdiction in just 310 Days of the current Financial Year, i.e.; before 55 Days to end of the current fiscal. In 2021-22 financial year, this Railway had achieved this figure in 320 Days, followed by 360 Days in 2020-21 and 366 Days in 2019-20 financial year.

From the earning side, ECOR has earned rupees 20635 Crores from freight during the above period in 2022-23 financial year as against Rupees 19204 crores in



last financial year with an increase of 7.5%.

East Coast Railway achieved this milestone despite many challenges and Adverse Effect on loading and train operations. Surpassing the 200 MT loading has been achieved due to focus on innovative

steps and key interventions by Railway Ministry which helped to get it on to the fast-track.

During the period, ECOR carried 126.18MT of Coal, 20.22 MT of Iron Ore, 18.16MT of Other Materials, 15.74MT of

Finished Steel, 6.27MT of Raw Materials to Steel Plants, 5.11MT of Fertilizer, 3.17MT in Container, 2.37MT of mineral Oil, 2.13MT of Food Grains and 1.09MT of Cement. Khurda Road Division has carried 129.93MT

of freight during the period. Similarly, Waltair Division has carried 57.03MT and Sambalpur Division has carried 13.47MT of freight during the period.

General Manager, East Coast Railway, Shri Manoj Sharma gave full credit for this achievement to its hardworking and dedicated staff in all its three Divisions. Special mention to be made regarding the efforts and cooperation from all stakeholders including Collieries, Ports, Steel Plants, Cement, Alumina Plants, Petroleum Companies, and Food Corporation of India.

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FC Goa fans excited to see the return of Carlos Pena

Goa : FC Goa's appointment of former club icon Carlos Pena as the head coach heading into the new season seems to have been a shot in the arm for the morale of their fans following a disappointing ISL campaign which saw the Gaurs miss out on the playoffs only for the second time in eight years. Pena takes over the reins at FC Goa just two years after bringing down the curtain on his playing career after spending his last two seasons as a Gaur - both of which brought him silverware at the Club.

In Pena, the FC Goa fans found a leader on and off the pitch - his

presence in the backline bringing a sense of calm to the proceedings. And fans are looking forward to ushering back the good times with his return to their Club.

"It's always an exciting story to hear a former player taking charge of the club and taking it to glory, and here with Peña at the club it's not different. I have heard about his fiery motivational talks in the dressing room and with the players, how he breathes life into dead wood," remarked Ashlesh Ajgaonkar.

"As a player he always gave everything and I am sure as coach, the kind of personality he has, he will

put his all in."

Season ticket holder Sameer Shirodkar also is also looking forward to seeing Carlos Peña back in FC Goa colours and believes his leadership will be very crucial to the Club's upcoming season.

"I'm really looking forward to having Peña back at FC Goa, because we all know his presence in the dressing room is going to be very impactful," opined Shirodkar. Gautham, an FC Goa fan from Trivandrum also feels that the positive winds will be back in FC Goa's sails in the coming season with the return of the Spaniard to Goan shores. "I remember the days Carlos Peña hung up his boots.

Axis Bank Q4FY22 and annual results: Reports FY22 PAT of Rs. 13,025 crores, up 98% YOY

Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank announced its Q4FY22 and annual results today, reporting quarterly net profit of Rs. 4,118 crores, up 54% YoY and 14% QoQ, as compared to profit of Rs. 2,677 crores in Q4FY21. The Bank's Net Interest Income (NII) grew 17% YoY to Rs. 8,819 crores in Q4FY22 and Rs. 7,555 crores in Q4FY21. Its Net Interest Margin (NIM) for Q4FY22 stood at 3.49%. CASA deposits grew by 16% YoY and 7% QoQ, whereas CASA ratio stood at 45%. The bank's operating revenue reflects an 18% YoY growth from Rs. 11,096 crores in Q4FY21 to Rs. 13,042 in Q4FY22. As on 31st March 2022, the Bank's reported Gross NPA and Net NPA levels were 2.82% and 0.73% respectively as against 3.17% and 0.91% as on 31st December 2021. The Bank's Fee income grew by 11% YoY and 12% QoQ to Rs. 3,758 crores. Retail fees grew 14% YoY and 14% QoQ; and constituted 66% of the Bank's total fee income. The bank's overall capital adequacy ratio (CAR) stood at 18.54% with CET 1 ratio of 15.24%. The Bank's domestic subsidiaries delivered strong performance with combined FY22 PAT of Rs. 1,195 crores, up 44% YoY, and contributing 80bps to consolidated ROE (annualised) of 16.67%. Amitabh Chaudhry, MD&CEO, Axis Bank said, "We have made steady progress across all dimensions of our business. Considerable work has gone into strengthening our core, building granularity while at the same time ensuring that we are well positioned to grow and leverage the opportunities opening up, hopefully with the pandemic behind us. The Citi deal is one of its kind, and should pivot us into a premium franchise in line with our strategic objectives. With smart products, services, partnerships and talent on our side, we look forward to further building on our performance in the new financial year."

GO FIRST PARTNERS WITH INOX FOR SPECIAL SCREENING OF BOLLYWOOD MOVIE 'RUNWAY 34' FOR EMPLOYEES

Mumbai:Over 4500 employees of GO FIRST (formerly known as GoAir) were in for a gala time today at the special screening of Bollywood movie "Runway 34" at INOX cinemas across 18 cities of India. The movie featuring Amitabh Bachchan, Ajay Devgn and RakulPreet Singh in lead roles was screened as a part of the company's employee engagement program. Ajay Devgn, along with co-actor RakulPreet Singh made a special appearance at INOX Megaplex at Inorbit Mall for the Mumbai screening and delighted employees with their charisma and wit.

The screening was an extension of GO FIRST's commitment

towards the wellbeing of its employees who form the cornerstone of its service excellence. "Runway 34" is a story about Captain Vikrant Khanna, a flying prodigy, played by Ajay Devgn, who was determined to save the lives of 150 people when things went awry 35,000 feet above the sea level. Followed by an official investigation to determine, what and how things unravelled, this edge of the seat thriller tells the story of what happened on that fateful morning inside the cockpit and outside of it, what triggered the incident and what followed thereafter.

Speaking on the development, Kaushik Khona, Chief Executive

Officer, GO FIRST said, "The movie is based on a landmark event in Indian aviation, and we are delighted to have it screened for our employees, over the first weekend, and what better place than INOX cinemas across the country to carry out this innovative employee engagement activity. Our employees are the driving fuel of our business, and their wellbeing is our primary focus. Past two years have been very stressful and with this initiative we want our employees to unwind and relax. We thank Mr. Devgn and Ms. RakulPreet Singh for taking out time to come and meet us; and we wish the movie to be a grand success."

Bharat BillPayto offer recurring payments to farmers across India in collaboration with FAARMS

Mumbai :Bharat Bill Payment System, the one-stop platform for facilitating all recurring payments across categories has collaborated with FAARMS to enable the recurring payments facility for all the farmers across India. Through the FAARMS app, farmers can easily access a complete spectrum of products and services that include seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, animal feed, and more products

delivered right at their doorstep. This collaboration will help to create a marketplace for the farmers across India wherein they can purchase products as well as manage various recurring payments like electricity, loan repayments, water bills, etc. on the same app.

In its continuous endeavour to support the Government of India and RBI's vision for a cash-lite economy, Bharat BillPay has continuously strived to collaborate with

new partners and facilitate digital inclusion by making recurring payments easy for the end-users. With this collaboration, Bharat BillPay will help in hand-holding, enabling, and driving each Indian household towards a seamless digital journey.

Currently, Bharat BillPay offers recurring payment services to customers across categories such as electricity, telecom, DTH, gas, education fees.

Union Bank of India goes live on Account Aggregator Ecosystem

Mumbai : Union Bank of India becomes the first public sector Bank to go live on the Account Aggregator Ecosystem for participating in Govt. of India's Digital Initiatives.

The Account Aggregator Ecosystem

helps the Lenders to leverage on Digital data acquired with the consent from the Customers for providing them a seamless journey and eliminating the need of physical documentation.

Financial Information User (FIU) can request for data from the Financial Information User (FIP) based on a simple consent given by the Customer on their Account Aggregator handle.

Union Bank of India

endeavors to work both as FIP and as FIU enabling its Customers to share Data digitally on real time basis. Union Bank has implemented the technology stack as per the Reserve Bank Information

Technology (ReBIT) guidelines.

The Account Aggregator (AA) Ecosystem which went live in September 2021 has seen active participation from Banks/NBFCs in the country.

Shubman Gill Joins Tinder on Viral fan's Request

New Delhi: Team India opener Shubman Gill appears to be the next big thing in Indian cricket. After a sensational ODI against New Zealand in which he scored 360 runs in just 3 matches including his maiden double century, Gill became only the fifth Indian batter to score century in all three formats of the game when he score the ton in the third T20I against the Kiwis in Ahmedabad last weel.

Gill scored an unbeaten 126 off 63 balls at the Narendra Modi Stadium to set up India's series-clinching win. At the stadium last week, a fan was seen holding a placard, which read, "Tinder, Shubman se



match karado."

Not only that, Tinder, as part of its innovative branding strategy, placed the female fan's viral photo, on hoardings all across Nagpur, which will host the first Test between India and Australia from February

9.

Team India pacer Umesh Yadav, who is part of the Indian team squad for the first two Tests of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy and also hails from Nagpur, took to Twitter and shared the photos of the

advertisement banners, pulling Shubman Gill's leg. Now, Gill has responded to his fan's viral request as he shared a teasing video of his Tinder profile on Instagram. "Dekh toh liya, ab tum dekho theek se," he

captioned the video. The Punjab and Gujarat Titans opener is set to take his place in the Team India middle-order for the first Test of the BGT in Nagpur alongside Suryakumar Yadav. Gill has been rumoured to be in high-profile relationships in past with the legendary Sachin Tendulkar's daughter Sara Tendulkar as well as Bollywood star Sara Ali Khan.

India will take part in the four-match Test series against Australia for the Border Gavaskar Trophy and need to win the series 3-1 to assure themselves of a berth in the ICC World Test Championships final later this year.

Mumbai rope in Charlotte Edwards, Jhulan Goswami in coaching staff

Mumbai: The Mumbai-based franchise of the Women's Premier League on Sunday announced Charlotte Edwards as their head coach and Jhulan Goswami in the dual role of the team mentor and bowling coach. Former India allrounder Devieka Palshikar has been roped in as the batting coach while former India Women's team manager Trupti Bhattacharya has come on board in the same capacity.

"I am sure that under Charlotte's brilliant leadership and with the able support of our bowling coach and mentor Jhulan and our batting coach Devieka, our women's team will build on and carry forward MI's iconic legacy. I look forward to working closely with our coaches and the entire team on this very exciting journey ahead," team owner Nita M. Ambani was quoted as saying in a media release. Edwards, 43, led England to both white-ball World Cups in 2009 and three Ashes victories in a career-spanning 20 overs and finished as the then-leading ODI run-getter (5992). Since her international retirement, the former England captain has been extensively coaching teams across England and Australia including WBBL (Sydney Sixers),



The Hundred (Southern Brave) and the now-defunct KSL (Southern Vipers). She has been honoured by Order of the British Empire as a MBE in 2009 and a CBE in 2014, and was inducted into the ICC Hall of fame in 2022.

Goswami, a Padma Shri and Arjuna Awardee, retired last year at the leading wicket-taker in women's ODIs (255) and women's ODI World Cups. The former Indian pacer rose to number one in the ICC Women's ODI bowling rankings in January 2016 and since her T20 retirement has been involved in grooming the next generation of cricketers as a mentor of Bengal Women's team.

Palshikar, too, has been actively involved in the coaching scene since her India retirement. She served as the assistant coach of the Indian side between 2014 and 2016,

and then held a similar role in the Bangladesh Women's setup during which the Asian side beat undefeated Asia Cup champions India in the 2018 edition. Palshikar was also at the helm when Velocity made it to the final of the 2022 Women's T20 Challenge last year.

Indiawin Sports Pvt Ltd, that also run the Mumbai Indians franchise in the men's IPL, placed the second highest bid of INR 912.99 crore - after Adani Sportsline Pvt. Ltd (INR 1289 crore for Ahmedabad) to bag the Mumbai side at the recent team auction ahead of the inaugural WPL season, slated for March 2023. The season is tentatively scheduled to begin with Mumbai vs Ahmedabad clash on March 4.

The player auction is all but confirmed for next Monday (February 13) in Mumbai.

Asia Cup 2023: Pakistan Cricket Board Breaks Silence on Hosting Rights Controversy

New Delhi: Asia Cup 2023 Venue Controversy: A final decision about Pakistan's hosting rights for the Asia Cup later this year is now expected to come out in March. A meeting of Asian Cricket Council (ACC) in Bahrain failed to reach an agreement. The cricket bodies will meet once again in a month's time to decide whether Pakistan will have the hosting rights for the Asia Cup 2023 or not.

Where did it all begin? In October 2022, ACC President and BCCI Secretary, Jay Shah said India will not travel to Pakistan and that the tournament will place at a neutral venue. This statement led did not go well with the PCB Chief at the time, Ramiz Raja, who threatened that Pakistan cricket team



will pull out of the ODI World Cup 2023 taking place in India if the Men in Blue don't visit Pakistan for Asia Cup. Informing that the decision for the venue will be decided in March 2023, the statement read, "The PCB wishes to clarify no such matters were raised in the meeting, nor did any member indicate any intention to seek government clearance for playing

in Pakistan".

The matter PCB are stating is that it was being believed that countries were taking clearance from their government to play the tournament in Pakistan. The PCB added: "Sri Lanka has recently visited Pakistan in 2017 and 2019, while Bangladesh has toured Pakistan in 2020. In the 2023-2027 Future Tours Programme (FTP), which has been

Shikhar Dhawan Claims Aesha Mukerji Threatened to Defame him, Delhi Court Takes Action

New Delhi: Team India cricketer Shikhar Dhawan filed a plea in Delhi Court against Aesha Mukerji, his wife, who threatened him to ruin his image and career, as per the cricketer. Shockingly, Dhawan also revealed she even circulated defamatory messages to CEO of IPL franchise Delhi Capitals, Dheeraj Malhotra, with an aim to make his image bad in front of the team

CEO. Delhi's Patiala House Court has restrained the estranged wife of Shikhar Dhawan from levelling defamatory allegations against the India cricketer. Dhawan has a son from this wedding who is presently in Mukerji's custody in Australia. Judge Harish Kumar, however, said that if Mukerji has "real"

grievances against Dhawan, she cannot be restrained from lodging



them with the concerned authority. However, the judge said: "She can certainly be

restrained from sharing her grievance against him (Dhawan) with her friends, relatives, peers of parties as well as from making it public even before approaching the appropriate authority." "In these circumstances, she is hereby restrained till further order from circulating any of her grievances against Dhawan or her version of the dispute involved herein or the alleged

defamatory and false material against him in social media, print media or to any other forum or to friends, relatives or colleagues of the parties," Kumar said. Shikhar and Aesha tied the knot back in 2012, October 12. Mukerji, who was born in a middle-class family from West Bengal is 12 years older than the Indian cricketer.

USA Cricket hit by another lawsuit amid deep financial turmoil

New Delhi: In its latest legal spat, USA Cricket has been served fresh lawsuits by former captain Sushil Nadkarni and Ajay Jhamb. The plaintiffs filed the litigation against the members of the Nomination and Governance Committee (NGC) of the Board - Vince Adams, Nisarg Patel, Sara Farooq and Jim Isch - after the committee decided to disqualify Nadkarni and Jhamb from standing for the player director and league director posts respectively.

According to the lawsuit, the plaintiffs seek before the court to have USA Cricket dissolve an 'unconstitutionally'

formed NGC and establish a new NGC in compliance with the constitution. The plaintiffs have additionally sought the elections slated to be held on February 6 be rendered invalid as a reason of an 'improperly' formed NGC that lacked the authority to properly present candidates before the Board.

As reported by Cricbuzz earlier, the NGC 'flimsily' disqualified Nadkarni from contesting the player director election citing failure to submit a resume/CV which Nadkarni argues he complied by providing a link to his LinkedIn profile. However, Jhamb's disqualification for the league director post is

even more glaring. In what might be a clear violation of the USAC constitution which requires the NGC to field at least 3 candidates for the post of League Director, the NGC rejected other applications including Jhamb's to only field two candidates for the election. The lawsuit further alleges Anj Balusu's candidature (one of the two finalised candidates) to be unconstitutional after he was stripped off his individual membership with USA Cricket due to a missing birthdate.

"I have served as a volunteer in the cricket community in the St. Louis region for the past many years. My only goal is to serve the broader US community



by contributing to the growth of the game in our country. We have exhausted all options to resolve this matter informally, but with no response from NGC and the USAC so we're left with no other recourse but to turn to the courts for relief. It

is our sincere hope that USA Cricket will now listen to our concerns and takes action in accordance with the Constitution and in the best interest of the cricket community" said Jhamb, the founder of non profit American Cricket

Academy and Club. The lawsuit comes in the aftermath of a stinging letter that was drafted by presidents of leagues affiliated to USA Cricket alleging myriad of constitution violations by the NGC chaired by Adams. The letter questioned the

legitimacy of Adams' and Patel's involvement in the NGC exhibiting violation of USAC Constitution section 9.5 (A), which bars an officer, director, employee, or a consultant of USA Cricket. The letter argued that Adams served as a member of the Cricket Committee with executionary powers and should be perceived as an officer/consultant. Most recently, Adams is on the panel responsible for appointing the men's head coach. The letter also deemed Patel as a paid employee/consultant of USA Cricket with respect to him being a current international player

on contract with the board.

In immediate relief for the plaintiffs, the court imposed a restraining order on the impending elections and the case is set for hearing in the third week of February. USA Cricket subsequently announced the postponement of elections owing to an incomplete independent audit of the electorate in a media release but failed to acknowledge the receipt of the lawsuit. The media release further paid no heed to the restraining order from the court and advised the candidates to continue to campaign for the elections.