

## MESSAGE



'The Kalinga Chronicle' Family Wishes its Readers, Hawkers, Advertisers, Writers and Wellwishers on the eve of New year 2023. Happy new year 2023

Editor\_In\_Chief

## Odisha: CHSE Plus II Exams To Commence From March 1

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha Government today issued a notification for holding annual Plus II Examination-2023 to be conducted by Council of Higher Secondary Education (CHSE) next year. As per the official notification released by the CHSE, the Higher Secondary Examination-2023 for the regular and ex-regular students in Arts,

Science, Commerce and Vocational streams will be conducted from March 1, 2023 till April 5. The examination will begin from 10 am and will continue till 1 pm. The practical examinations in the subjects will be held from February 1 to February 10, 2023. The candidates are advised to enter the exam centre 30 minutes before



commencement of the examination and enter the exam room/hall before 15 minutes of

examination. The examination will be conducted under CCTV surveillance. The centre

superintendents are requested to ensure that CCTV is made functional in all examination halls well in advance of the commencement of examination and to see that CCTVS are functioning throughout all sittings uninterrupted. The examinations in all the streams will be conducted following COVID appropriate behaviour.



Warm Greetings to the People of Barchana and Dharmashala of Jajpur Odisha on the eve of New year 2023.

May this new year bring peace,prosperity and progress for all Happy New year 2023.

**Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantaray**  
Chandikhole jaipur,Odisha

## Union Education Minister's Missive To Odisha CM For Revival Of Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan today proposed to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to hand over the management of Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya in Puri district to Lok Sevak Mandal. Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya, an open-air school constituted by Utkalmani Pandit Gopabandhu Das in 1909, should be made free from the government control and converted into a 'common property resources', said the Union Minister in a letter to Patnaik today. "The management of this 113-year-old institution should be handed over to the Lok Sevak Mandal (Servants of the People Society) for its revival. The revival of Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya would be considered as a true example of the implementation of the National Education Policy-2020," Pradhan



said.Odisha as a separate state will celebrate its centenary just after 13 years. The revival of Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya would be a fitting tribute to Utkalmani Gobandhu Das, one of the greatest sons of Odisha, Pradhan added. "The school was closed for students as Utkalmani and other teachers joined the freedom struggle. Soon after assuming the office of India's Education Minister, I had visited Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya and observed that there is a need to revive the school and fulfill the dreams of Utkalmani," Pradhan said.The open-air school

at Satyabadi had played a key role in the development of Odia language and spreading Indian nationalism among the Odia youths in the pre-independence era. The students of this great institution had carved a niche for themselves in various fields of the society, added the Union Minister. "The students of Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya were imparted training to become self-reliant in life. The National Education Policy-2020 also aims at imparting vocational skills among students and making them self-reliant.

## SLSWCA Approves 16 Industrial Projects, Recommends 10 Large Projects For HLCA Consideration

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) of the Govt of Odisha today approved at least 16 industrial projects and recommended 10 large projects for HLCA consideration, in its 114th meeting held here under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Suresh Mahapatra. After the whopping success of third edition of Make in Odisha (MIO) Conclave 2022 previously held this month, the committee approved 16 industrial projects worth INR 4,183 crores that would generate employment opportunities for over 12,973 people in the state across nine sectors. Cabinet approves 'Odisha Civil Aviation Policy 2022' to facilitate improved infra The projects belonged to diverse sectors like paper, wood and forest-



based, food processing, textile, apparel and technical textile, metal ancillary and downstream, polymers and plastic products, plastic, waste management, circular economy, chemical, tourism and cement. The projects will be set up across Odisha with six of the projects being set up in Khordha, three in Puri, two in Koraput and one each in Cuttack, Bhadrak, Dhamra, Mayurbhanj and Angul. The SLSWCA approved two proposals of Greenply Industries, India's pioneer interior infrastructure company,

under the name of Greenply Speciality Panels Pvt Ltd and Greenply Sandila Pvt Ltd to set up two manufacturing units for the production of new medium-density fibre board having annual capacity of 2,56,000 cubic metre and new plywood and allied product manufacturing unit having annual capacity of 13.5 million square meters in Semiliguda, Koraput with a proposed investment of Rs 505 crore and Rs 101 crore respectively generating employment for over 1,300 people in the state.

The committee gave its nod to a proposal of TRL Krosaki Refractories Ltd, a leading refractories manufacturing company of India, to set up a refractory manufacturing unit for the metal ancillary and downstream industry in Dhamra of Bhadrak district. The unit is being set up at an investment of Rs 650 crore and is expected to generate employment opportunities for over 700 people in the state. In the Hospitality sector, the committee approved a proposal of Prabhukrupa Estates and Properties for setting up a four-star hotel and convention centre named 'Ananya Beach Resort' at an investment of Rs 50.84 crore. This is likely to generate an employment opportunity for over 110 people in the state. The project will come up in the Sipasarubuli locality of Puri district.

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA'S GREETINGS ON THE EVE OF NEW YEAR

**New Delhi:** The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu has sent her greetings to all fellow citizens on the eve of New Year 2023. In a message, the President has said "On the occasion of New Year, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to all fellow citizens and all Indians abroad. May the dawn of New Year, imbued with fresh energy, bring new happiness, goals, inspirations and greater achievements in our lives. On this occasion, let us resolve to rededicate ourselves to the unity, integrity and inclusive development of the nation. I wish for the progress and prosperity of our glorious nation and the people in the year 2023".

## Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated MCCI's 121st AGM

**Kolkata (Partha Roy):**The 121st Annual General Meeting of Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry(MCCI) was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways & Ministry of Ayush, Government of India on 30 th December 2022 in Kolkata.

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal emphasized on the development of Ayush products have attained a market size of Rs 1 lakh 60 thousand crore in a span of eight years and are fighting new challenges, which the mankind is facing at present. Use of Ayush products have increased many folds during the Covid led pandemic period. He said both ecology and economy should go hand in hand and environment should

be protected for the interest of humankind. On ports, shipping and waterways, Shri Sonowal said India's sea borne cargo handling has reached to 1600 million metric tonnes from 800 million metric tonnes in a span of eight years, cargo movement through the inland waterways has grown from 16 million metric tonne in 2014 to 109 million metric tonne in 2022. This has been possible for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's integrated approach with multi modal transport system under the PM Gati Shakti yojana. India's exports have touched \$ 430 billion in the last ten months of FY 2022, Sonowal said. He said that the Prime Minister on Friday has launched 3200 kms long river cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh, which will attract global tourists to celebrate the aura of Ganga and



Brahmaputra. India's transformation is happening through transportation and the 20,000 kms long inland waterways is acting crucial to it, the minister said.

Earlier speaking on Annual session of MCCI virtually, Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India said that India is aiming to double the size of its automobile industry to Rs 15 lakh crore by the end of 2024, making it one of the world's top countries in this sector.

Gadkari also said that his ministry will carry out project works worth Rs 5 lakh crore next year, of which Rs 2 lakh crore will come from the government and the rest will be raised from the capital market. "Currently our automobile industry is Rs 7.5 lakh crore and we want to take it to Rs 15 lakh crore by the end of 2024, making it one of the largest automakers in the world, creating huge job opportunities," Gadkari said. Gadkari said the majority of automobiles in the country will run on

alternative fuels by 2030. Gadkari further added "we are also working on developing alternative, clean and green fuels like bio-ethanol, bio-CNG, bio-LNG and green hydrogen." Gadkari mentioned green hydrogen is the fuel of the future. Gadkari talked about the success of the listing of Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) which drew huge interest from investors. "MCCI Highlights" was released on the occasion. President of MCCI

Rishabh C Kothari, made three important announcements at the AGM: 1) Launching of MCCI Haldia Zonal Council 2) MCCI SHE Awards 2022 3) MCCI Economist Forum. MCCI Economist Forum has been formed under the Chairmanship of Shri Suresh Prabhu, Former - Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Railways, Commerce & Industry, Chemicals & Fertilizers, Environment & Forests and Power with 14 Stalwarts from the field of Economics have already agreed to

join the forum and contribute. A Round Table Session will be held on "Development Strategies in the era of disruptions - Taking the bull by horn" with Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India as the Chief Guest and stalwarts from Industry, Academics and think tanks on 9th January 2023 at ITC Sonar, Kolkata.

MCCI has constituted MCCI Haldia Zonal Council with an objective to provide a platform for regular deliberations on issues faced by industry there and to strategize a roadmap for rapid industrialization and further development of Haldia as a vibrant economic hub. Shri A.C. Mishra, Executive Vice President & Plant Head, MCPI [Mitsubishi] to Chair

the Council. MCCI has instituted annual Awards to recognize the best practices in the areas of Safety, Health and Environment [SHE]. The objective of the SHE Award is to recognize the commitment and excellence of the members and other industrial units in: a) Safety of employees and society; b) Occupational Health of Employees and c) Environmental Protection & Responsibility. Shri Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI emphasized on the importance of Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) and lauded the launch of the new National Logistics Policy by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a significant step to ensure last mile connectivity and addressing transport-related challenges in a time bound manner.

# CM Opens PGIMER



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Friday inaugurated the new Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research here at Capital Hospital. Inaugurating the institute, the Chief Minister said it will play a significant role in providing quality education and expert healthcare to people in the capital and the State. Studies in post graduate courses have started in six disciplines. These are General Surgery, Medicine, Orthopedics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pulmonary Medicine, and Pediatrics.

Total 24 students have got admission from the current academic year. The Chief Minister interacted with a few students of the institute. Students from Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Sikkim expressed happiness over the facilities at the new institute. They also appreciated provisions and mechanisms in the state for providing quality healthcare to people. Patnaik advised the students to work for the welfare of the people following 5T principles and wished them the best for their future careers. Health & Family Welfare Secretary Shalini Pandit

briefed the Chief Minister on the facilities at the institute. Health Minister Naba Kisore Das, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra and Director of the PGIMER were present. In the first phase, approval of National Medical Commission (NMC) has been obtained for opening of six departments, namely O&G (5 seats), general medicine (5 seats), general surgery (5 seats), orthopaedics (2 seats), paediatrics (4 seats), and pulmonary medicine (3 seats), from the academic session 2022-23 with admission of 24 post graduate students.

Upon such approval, the newly created post of director, superintendent and faculties of the PG institute were filled up and 24 numbers of PG students have also taken admission. A new academic block meant for the PG institute is being built at a cost of Rs.284 crore, and the same is expected to be completed in late 2023. The PGIMER at Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar will give a boost to availability of specialist and super specialist services in the state capital besides providing a platform for health research, officials said.

# Odisha Economy Rebounds

**Bhubaneswar:** Vishal Dev, Principal Secretary Finance has observed that the state's economy has seen a rebound in the year 2021-22 despite the second wave of Covid-19 hitting the state. While taking stock of State Economy Mr.Dev found out that the real Gross State Domestic

Product (GSDP) has grown at a rate of 10.1% as per advanced estimate which is much higher than the national growth rate of 8.8%. Capital outlay to GSDP ratio has increased from 3.8% in 2019-20 to 4% in 2022-23, pointed out a senior official, adding that the Capital outlay has been in

tandem with the developmental needs of the State.About 63% of total outlay has been allocated for developmental sectors such as major and medium irrigation, flood control, transport infrastructure, etc. Reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure is required to support the growth

of the economy and well-being of the people, said he.Credit is an important input for development of agriculture along with infrastructure in rural areas. It is heartening to note that the ground level credit flow for priority sector is showing a rising trend over the past 5 years.

## RS 23L DRUG SEIZED, ONE ARRESTED IN BALESWAR

**Baleswar:** A mobile squad of the Excise Department following a tipoff raided a house and seized 232 grams of brown sugar worth over Rs 23 lakh and arrested a drug peddler in Baleswar district on Wednesday. The accused was identified as Arjun Kumar Mohanty of Chantapara village under the Chantapara police limits. He was forwarded to court after being booked under the NDPS Act.

## PEOPLE'S FORUM, ANNAPURNA FINANCE FOUNDATION DAY

**Bhubaneswar:**The 32nd Foundation Day of People's Forum and Annapurna Finance was observed here on December 26 and 27. People's Forum works in social sector primarily in Odisha and three nearby States and Annapurna Finance has been operating as an MFI in 22 States with financial inclusion of nearly 25 lakh women beneficiaries. These organisations are also working in solar energy, disability, children and women sectors. The event was led by Annapurna Finance secretary and People's Forum MD Gobinda Chandra Pattnaik, Director Dibyajyoti Pattnaik, CFO Satyajit Das, COO Sanjay Pattnaik. Previous years' works were reviewed and future direction was discussed.

## Annual Sports Day Inaugurated at Kandalei Primary School



**Bhubaneswar:** A government primary school of tribal village Kandalei in Chandaka Damapada elephant sanctuary has organised its first ever annual sports in its school field with the sponsorship from Chinmayee Foundation Trust. This sports event was flagged off by former OUAT sports officer Gopi Mohan Pattanayak. He also spoke about the benefits of sports to the small students and assured them to conduct annual sports every year. This event was supervised by the eminent social worker Sushanta Kumar Sahoo with the presence of the school headmaster Bichitra Kumar Majhi, motivational speaker and social worker Chandra Sekhar Pal, Trilochan Beura and BalaKrushna Rout.Events including Bag run, potato spoon, 50 m sprint, frog leaping, run for chocolate and mathematics run are the main attractions for the students. Students came forward and actively participated in all the sporting events. January 10 th will be their annual function day and on this day prizes are to be distributed to the winners of each event.

## Visit of His Excellency the Governor of Odisha to Subarnapur District



**SUBARNAPUR :**Hon'ble Odisha Governor Professor Ganeshi Lal visited Subarnapur district and participated as the chief guest in the Anchalik Dhanu Jatra organized at Biramaharajpur in the district. Later, he attended the meeting of district officials held at Circuit House at Subarnapur district headquarters. Welcoming the Governor to the meeting, he informed the Honorable Governor about the implementation of various programs of district development by various departments of the district. In the meeting, the Honorable Governor Odisha advised the district officials to speed up the development process of the district and informed the students studying in all the educational institutions of the district. To make drinking water available and to make toilet facilities available for the students with special good facilities, Hon'ble Governor advised Prof. Ganeshi Lal at Circuit House to meet the Members of Mahanadi Sahitya Sansad , the prestigious literary institution of the district, intellectuals of the town, senior persons. A welcome was given by the district administration along with . On the occasion of the visit, Collector and District Magistrate Subarnapur Mrs.Aboli Sunil Narwane, Supdt. Of Police Mr. Amaresh Panda, Additional District Magistrate Mr. Suryanarayan Das, Sub Collector Biramaharajpur Ashok Kumar Bhoi, all the district level officials, participated prominently. Report By Ugrasen Karmi.

# Diamond Jubilee Global Alumni Meet Started at NIT Rourkela

*Alumni reunited from all over the globe to celebrate the occasion*

**Rourkela.** NIT Rourkela (established in 1961 as Rourkela Engineering College) is hosting a three-day Diamond Jubilee Global Alumni Meet from 28th December to 30th December 2022. The event being organised by the Centre for Alumni, Industry and International Relations, NIT Rourkela. The inaugural function on the first day of the event was presided by Shri C.P. Gurnani (MD & CEO, Tech Mahindra) as the Chief Guest and Shri M. Vaidya (Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited) as the Guest of Honour. Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao,

Director, NIT Rourkela presided over the function. The event was also joined by Shri A. K. Basa (President, NIT Rourkela Alumni Association (NITRAA)), Shri Jit Goel (President, NIT Rourkela Overseas Alumni Association (NITROAA)), Prof. K. K. Khatua (Dean Alumni of NIT Rourkela) and Prof. S K Patel (the convenor for the Global Alumni Meet). The event set out on its unique journey to highlight developments with a video that showcased the evolution of NIT Rourkela over the years. Around 180 alumni from across multiple nations attended

the event and discussed the betterment of the Institute in terms of alumni connect, student welfare and various funds for the NITR. Prof. HB Sahu was the host of the session. Shri C.P. Gurnani (MD & CEO, Tech Mahindra) addressed the gathering and said, "This institute has not only made a student into a better person and has taught to take a responsibility. We should acknowledge that institutions are made by recognising the past and building the future. I wish this institute reaches new heights. On behalf of all the alumni present here I commit



that we will participate in the growth of our alma mater and give our maximum support in the process of rejuvenating and boosting the

institute's growth." Shri S.M. Vaidya (Chairman IOCL) the guest of Honour said, "As a very proud Alumnus, I cherish having

spent my golden years at this great institute. NIT Rourkela holds an extraordinary place in my heart for the quality of education and the values

it has empowered me with and I owe a lot to my Alma mater. The Institute has instilled a strong technical foundation and people skills and these have played a very key role in my journey to the top of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Youngsters who are presently studying here, I urge you to embrace every opportunity to grow and aim at powering the national progress." Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao (Director) talked in detail about the various developmental endeavours and explored the alumni by saying that "Growth of NIT Rourkela is surely

visible but it's time we take it to the next level and show the education sector that NIT Rourkela with its multi-disciplinary curriculum and sustainable projects is ready to be among the best. With the help of the alumni, we will accelerate our growth." Prof. Rao also shared the vision for the institute's growth in line with NEP 2020, improving NIRF ranking, escalating tech-startups and contributing to the goal of G20 India. The inaugural event was then followed by a culture program showcasing the performance by Staff, their spouse and children, and students.

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'Taza Khabar' to 'AP Dhillon': The most anticipated web shows of 2023!

As 2022 makes way for the new dawn, OTT platforms are gearing up to present a slew of exciting web shows. 2023 will be the year of many anticipated OTT releases, including a chunk of the 40-title slate announced by Prime Video back in April 2022.

Let us dig out what's happening on the web series landscape in the coming year.

**'Farzi':** The Vijay Sethupathi and Shahid Kapoor-starrer webseries 'Farzi' is a fast-paced edgy thriller created by director duo Raj and DK. Earlier, Shahid's first look from the series was shared by the makers in which he can be seen sporting a rugged look and sitting in a chair while he is busy painting something.

**The first look was described as:** "An artist who gets pulled into the murky high stakes of a con job and a fiery task force officer on the mission to rid the country of his menaces in a fast-paced, edgy one-of-a-kind thriller." The series marks Shahid's OTT debut and will drop on Prime Video in the first half of 2023.



**'Rocket Boys 2':** The series which told the story of India's space pioneers Dr Vikram Sarabhai and Dr Homi J. Bhabha, is returning with its second season on OTT platform Sony LIV. The first season of the show cultivated an ardent fan following with its compelling storytelling, production value and the breakout music star of this year Achint Thakkar, who recently swayed the audience with his work in yet another OTT release, 'Monica O My Darling'. Jim Sarbh and Ishwak

Singh reprise their respective roles of Homi Jehangir Bhabha and Vikram Sarabhai. The second season will follow the events that led to the first nuclear bomb test which was conducted in India in 1974 in Pokhran. **'Scam 2003:** The Telgi Story': Director Hansal Mehta's 'Scam' series too is making a comeback, this time in the form of yet another scam which shook the nation in 2003. The second season of the show will tell the story of the stamp paper scam done by fruit seller Abdul Karim Telgi, who made



a career out of counterfeiting documents. The series will drop on Sony LIV in 2023. **'Taaza Khabar':** The gritty comedy-drama series, which stars Bhuvan Bam, is set in South Mumbai. The series is seen from the perspective of a sanitation worker, Vasant Gawde, whose mundane and poverty-stricken life turns upside down when a simple dua from a good deed gives him surreal powers. Along with his tight-knit squad of friends, Gawde uses his newfound

superpower to master his own destiny until karma beckons again. The series will drop on Disney+ Hotstar on January 6, 2023. **'Made in Heaven 2':** With 'Made in Heaven', a drama about two wedding planners, creators Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti presented the privileged and middle class New Delhi with a perfect mix of socio-cultural insight and wry humour. The series will drop on Prime Video. **'Star Wars: The Bad Batch 2':** Months have passed since the events

on Kamino, and the Bad Batch continues their journey navigating the Empire after the fall of the Republic.

They will cross paths with friends and foes, both new and familiar, as they take on a variety of thrilling mercenary missions that will take them to unexpected and dangerous new places. The second season of the show will premiere on January 4 on Disney+ Hotstar.

**'Soup':** Manoj Bajpayee and Konkana Sen Sharma, will join the forces for the dark comedy crime show, loosely based on a true incident. The series is directed by Abhishek Chaubey and will see Konkana playing Swathi Shetty, an incompetent cook who dreams of having a restaurant of her own, while Manoj is Prabhakar, the suspicious husband who won't help with her aspirations. The series will debut on Netflix.

**'911: Lone Star 4':** The show will follow the story of Owen Strand - the lone survivor of his Manhattan firehouse on 9/11. In the wake of the attack, Owen had the unenviable task of rebuilding his station.

Radhika Madan-starrer 'Sanaa' is the most anticipated film of 2023!

Ever since the announcement of the film dropped in March, Sanaa is a film that has been on the watch-out list for audiences. The film has the best of all worlds, from a powerful cast, and mind-blowing music to a director who is a National Award Winner. Here we are listing down reasons why this is one of the most anticipated films of the year. The supremely talented Radhika Madan, from making her debut with the unconventional Pataakha directed by Vishal Bhardwaj to Angrezi Medium to now Kuttey which is all set to hit the screens. Actor Radhika has been the talk of the town for all the right reasons. Radhika Madan stars in and as Sanaa in the film, she also quoted that it has been one of the most challenging and memorable experiences for her. Sudhanshu Saria is a National award-winning filmmaker, who made his directorial debut with the romantic drama "Loev" in 2015. It premiered at many prestigious festivals all around the world and also won the Best Film



Award at TLVFest- the LGBT International Film Festival in Tel Aviv, Israel. With his next psychological thriller "Knock Knock Knock" Sudhanshu claimed the National Award for Best Direction. Sanaa is directed and produced by him under his banner 'Fourline Entertainment'. Saria was announced as the director of the female-led espionage drama titled Ulaajh, with Jungle Pictures. He is also co-producing and writing Delhi Crime Season 3 for Netflix. He is currently shooting a young-adult

web show for Amazon Prime for which he is a showrunner. Filmmaking has changed its course over the years. Filmmakers are more confined to telling heart-wrenching stories, stories which are socially and culturally connected with our daily lives. Sanaa is one such story, a social drama, that follows a headstrong and ambitious girl who is raging against an internal battle that is rooted in unhealed trauma. Along with the talented actor, Radhika Madan as a lead; the film also features Pooja Bhatt,

Sohum Shah and Shikha Talsania in pivotal roles. All of these actors are known for giving remarkable performances and have excelled every time they have been on the screen. Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival is one of the biggest film festivals in Northern Europe. Sanaa had its world premiere there this year, it was the only Indian film competing for The Grand Prix For Best Film at the 2022 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival in Tallinn, Estonia. The film received an overwhelming response, making it an unforgettable moment for Saria and Madan who presented the film before the world audience. Music is the backbone of every Indian film, who better than the hitmaker Vishal Mishra for a film this special? The Kabir Singh fame has composed five unique songs for the film penned down by Anvita Dutt Guptan who has delivered chartbusters albums like Dostana and Queen. These are six of the many reasons why we can't wait for the release of 'Sanaa.'

Alia Bhatt drops stunning new pictures, flaunts her solitaire, fans call her 'hot mama'

Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor attended the engagement bash of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant last night at Antilia. The couple was one of the first guests to arrive at the party and it was a treat for the fans to see Alia all decked up, back to attending parties and events post the birth of her daughter Raha. While Ranbir looked dapper in a black ethnic wear, Alia looked beautiful in a light blue chikankari outfit with sequins which appeared as white in the night light. The actress dropped some portraits on the gram and netizens couldn't stop gushing over her. While one user commented, "marriage and pregnancy ever made a girl sexy.... that only girl is you, Alia????", another user called her a 'hot mama'. Some fans also demanded pictures with Ranbir. Most of them called her the 'prettiest mama'. What also caught everyone's attention was that Alia was flaunting a huge solitaire in the last picture. Alia had revealed a few days ago that just a month and a half after Raha's birth, she's gotten back to her fitness regime. She also confessed that she will give her body the time and space that it needs. Meanwhile, what's trending on the gram is Alia's reel to wrap up 2022 where she dropped the pictures which didn't make it to the gram earlier.



Vivek Agnihotri slams Deepika Padukone, Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan song, issues 'warning' to viewers

Vivek Agnihotri, who tasted massive success with his film 'The Kashmir Files', is the latest celebrity to react on the ongoing 'Pathaan' song controversy. The filmmaker took to

Twitter on Wednesday to reshare a video featuring a 'young fan' as she criticised Deepika Padukone and Shah Rukh's Pathaan song. Along with it, he tweeted, "WARNING..

video against Bollywood. Don't watch it if you are a 'secular'." The video shared by Vivek Agnihotri feature Deepika Padukone and Shah Rukh Khan from the song 'Besharam

Rang' from 'Pathaan'. Along with it, it showed a girl, who called herself a 'big fan' of the film's cast, director and producer. After praising the cast and crew, as Deepika's visuals played,

the girl reacts in shock and fear and asked them in Hindi, "Why do you wear such provocative clothes and show such moves... you call this content?" She further blamed such

videos for the crimes against women, and asked why the cast and makers could not make 'saaf-suthra (clean) content' like others do on OTT platforms

# “Probative Value of the Dying Declaration”



■ Mr. RadhaShyam Jena

Dying Declaration means a statement made by a person as to the cause of his death before his last breath. The statement is made without any tutoring. It is a spontaneous expression revealing the truth in regard to the injuries received by the maker on the statement resulting his death. Since the dying declaration is without any pre-meditation to implicate a person to be treated as an accused involved in a heinous offence of murder. A dying declaration can be elaborately stated that it is a statement made by a dying person regarding the cause and the circumstances of his death when the cause of his death is in question. A dying declaration is admitted in evidence if the person making it was not under the presumption of death at the time when he made the statement although he died subsequent to his statement. The reasons behind the admission of the dying declaration as an evidence is a necessity. The victim being generally the only eye witness to the crime, the exclusion of his statement would undoubtedly tend to defeat the ends of justice. It is universally believed that when a person is faced with reality of an imminent death, his mind would never allow his conscience to tell a lie and certainly he would speak the truth. Therefore, when a deceased was not in a position to make a statement his gestures are admissible as evidence but the meaning of the gestures has to be examined. However, it is the discretion of the court to consider it as an evidence. When there is an oral statement, the persons who have heard the statement should be examined and in the case of written statement, the person who had recorded it must prove what he had recorded. But it is an evidence when it is recorded by a Magistrate or a person authorized by law to take evidence. There is also an extra judicial dying declaration when a statement is made by a dying person to any person other than a Magistrate. The Section 32 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 contemplates that statements written or verbal of relevant facts made by a person who

cannot be found or who has become incapable of giving evidence or whose evidence cannot be procured without an amount of delay or expense which, under the circumstances of the case, appears to the court unreasonable are themselves relevant facts in such cases therefore made in course of business, or against the interest of the maker etc.

The Supreme Court of India in the case of Satinder Singh Versus State of Punjab (1971) 1 SCR 599 has held that Section 162 of Criminal Procedure Code in expressed terms excludes from its purview the statement falling within the provisions of Section 32(1) of the Indian Evidence Act. It is further held by Hon'ble Supreme Court in view of the evidence of the judicial Magistrate who recorded the dying declaration, the mere fact that the original dying declaration had been stolen from the file could not destroy its value. Nor could the fact that the investigating officer was allowed to make a copy of the dying declaration be interpreted to mean that the Magistrate was sub-servant to the police. A dying declaration is not a confidential document and can legitimately serve a guide in further investigation. It is further held that if the dying declaration is acceptable as true then even the absence of any other corroborative evidence, it would be open to the court to act upon the dying declaration and to convict the accused / appellant as an offender.

The Supreme Court in the case of Ram Behari Yadav Vs. State of Bihar & Ors. (1998) (4) SCC 517 has held the probative value of dying declaration depends on the facts and circumstances of the case. In this regard the relevant paragraphs (6) and (12) are reproduced as under:

“6. The law relating to dying declaration – the relevancy, admissibility and its probative value - is fairly settled. More often the expressions “relevancy and admissibility” are used as synonyms but their legal implications are distinct and different for more often than not facts which are relevant may not be admissible, for example, communication made by spouses during marriage or between an advocate and his client though relevant are not admissible; so also facts which are admissible may not be relevant, for example, questions permitted to

be put in cross-examination to test the veracity or impeach the credit of witnesses, though not relevant are admissible. The probative value of the evidence is the weight to be given to each case. In this case, the thrust of the submission relates not to relevancy or admissibility but to the value to be given to Exh.2. A dying declaration made by a person who is dead as to the cause of his death or as to any of the circumstances of the transaction which resulted in his death, in cases in which cause of his death comes in question, is relevant under Section 32 of the Evidence Act and is also admissible in evidence. Though dying declaration is indirect evidence being a specie of hearsay, yet it is an exception to the rule against admissibility of hearsay evidence. Indeed, it is substantive evidence and like any other substantive evidence requires no corroboration for forming basis of conviction of an accused. But then the question as to how much weight can be attached to a dying declaration is a question of fact and has to be determined on the facts of each case.”

“12. Though no corroboration of dying declaration as such is necessary to convict the accused – a principle which has been laid down in Khushal Rao case, however, in this case, there is circumstantial evidence which corroborates the dying declaration, viz., the statements of PWs 3 and 4 that they found the victim in her room where the smell of kerosene was present, the statement of PW 5, the doctor who conducted the post-mortem examination after four days of the accident noticed smell of kerosene from the scalp of the deceased, statements of PWs 4 and 6 who rushed to the house of the appellant immediately after hearing of the incident and found that the house was locked from inside and the appellant was delaying opening the lock on one pretext or the other; the plea of the appellant that she died of an accident while igniting the oven and that the appellant and DW2 put water on her was belied from the evidence on record as no sign of water was found in the kitchen and that the ash in the oven was found intact. These facts corroborate and lend assurance to the truth of the declaration of the deceased “mere pati ne mujhe jaladiyaha”.

Therefore in the light of the above judgment, the relevancy and admissibility of a dying

declaration are used as synonyms but their legal implications are distinct and different. However dying declaration would be established after corroboration with the circumstantial evidence and the evidences of other witnesses.

The Supreme Court in the case of Ram Prasad Versus State of Maharashtra etc. 1999 (5) SCC 30 has held that the statement made to a Magistrate under the expectation of death is the dying declaration. But if the maker of the statement survives, the said statement is not admissible under Section 32 of the Indian Evidence Act. The relevant paragraph 14 of the said judgment is reproduced as under:

“14. We are in full agreement with the contention of the learned counsel that Ext.52 cannot be used as evidence under Section 32 of the Evidence Act though it was recorded as a dying declaration. At the time when PW 1 gave the statement he would have been under expectation of death but that is not sufficient to wiggle it into the cassette of Section 32. As long as the maker of the statement is alive it would remain only in the realm of a statement recorded during investigation.”

In the case of Kissan Lal Vs State of Rajasthan (2000) 1 SCC 310, the Supreme Court has categorically dealt with the principles of evaluation of dying declaration comparing English Law and Indian Law. As against English Law, Indian Law the imminence or danger of death does not affect admissibility but only categorical. The relevant sentences of paragraph 18 of the said judgment are reproduced as under:

“18. .... The general principle on which this species of evidence are admitted is that they are declarations made in extremity, when the party is at the point of death, and when every hope of this world is gone, when every motive to falsehood is silenced and the mind is induced by the most powerful considerations to speak only the truth. If evidence in a case reveals that the declarant has reached this state while making a declaration then within the declaration weightage can be given. Of course depending on other relevant facts and circumstances of the case.”

In the case of Laxman Vs State of Maharashtra (2002) 6 SCC 710, the Constitution Bench of

the Supreme Court has dealt with the certification of the mental status of the deceased while making the statement. The relevant sentences of paragraph 3 and 5 are reproduced as under:

“3. .... The court, however, has always to be on guard to see that the statement of the deceased was not as a result of either tutoring or prompting or a product of imagination. The court, however, has always to be on guard to see that the statement of the deceased was not as a result of either tutoring or prompting or a product of imagination. The court also must further decide that the deceased was in a fit state of mind and had the opportunity to observe and identify the assailant. Normally, therefore, the court in order to satisfy whether the deceased was in a fit mental condition to make the dying declaration looks up to the medical opinion. But where the eyewitnesses state that the deceased was in a fit and conscious state to make the declaration, the medical opinion will not prevail, nor can it be said that since there is no certification of the doctor as to the fitness of the mind of the declarant, the dying declaration is not acceptable. A dying declaration can be oral or in writing and any adequate method of communication whether by words or by signs or otherwise will suffice provided the indication is positive and definite. In most cases, however, such statements are made orally before death ensues and is reduced to writing by someone like a Magistrate or a doctor or a police officer. When it is recorded, no oath is necessary nor is the presence of a Magistrate absolutely necessary, although to assure authenticity it is usual to call a Magistrate, if available for recording the statement of a man about to die. There is no requirement of law that a dying declaration must necessarily be made to a Magistrate and when such statement is recorded by a Magistrate there is no specified statutory form for such recording. Consequently, what evidential value or weight has to be attached to such statement necessarily depends on the facts and circumstances of each particular case. What is essentially required is that the person who records a dying declaration must be satisfied that the deceased was in a fit state of mind. Where it is proved by the

testimony of the Magistrate that the declarant was fit to make the statement even without examination by the doctor the declaration can be acted upon provided the court ultimately holds the same to be voluntary and truthful. A certification by the doctor is essentially a rule of caution and therefore the voluntary and truthful nature of the declaration can be established otherwise.”

“5. The Court also in the aforesaid case relied upon the decision of this Court in Harjit Kaur v. State of Punjab wherein the Magistrate in his evidence had stated that he had ascertained from the doctor whether she was in a fit condition to make a statement and obtained an endorsement to that effect and merely because an endorsement was made not on the declaration but on the application would not render the dying declaration suspicious in any manner. For the reasons already indicated earlier, we have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the observations of this Court in Paparambaka Rosamma v. State of A.P. (at SCC p. 701, para 8) to the effect that

“in the absence of a medical certification that the injured was in a fit state of mind at the time of making the declaration, it would be very much risky to accept the subjective satisfaction of a Magistrate who opined that the injured was in a fit state of mind at the time of making a declaration.”

has been too broadly stated and is not the correct enunciation of law. ....”

It is relevant to mention here that the earlier judgments of the Supreme Court on the issue of the mental status of the deceased in the case of PAPA Rambaka Rosamma Versus State of A.P. has been declared as “not correct”. However the judgment in the case of Koli Chunilal Savji Versus State of Gujarat (1999) 9 SCC 562 has been confirmed.

The Supreme Court in the case of Suchand Pal Versus Phani Pal & Anr., (2003) 11 SCC 527 the Supreme Court has held that the statement made by the deceased to be treated as dying declaration if the statement made is voluntary. The relevant paragraph 9 of the said judgment is reproduced as under:

“9. The trial court appears to have discarded the defence version highlighting the unacceptability of the prosecution version and came to a

conclusion that the shot was made from a close range on the courtyard. This plea was taken at the argument stage by the prosecution, trying to read the prosecution evidence in a manner so that the ocular evidence and medical evidence do not appear to be irreconcilable. The High Court was right in disapproving the course adopted by the trial court. It is an established position in law that the prosecution can succeed by substantially proving the version it alleges. It must stand on its own legs and cannot take advantage of the weakness in the defence case. The court cannot on its own make out a new case for the prosecution and convict the accused on that basis. Only when a conclusion is arrived at on the evidence and the substratum of the case is not changed, such a course is permissible. The High Court noticed the medical evidence to be consistent with the defence version that the deceased was hit by the gunshot from a close range and that she was accidentally shot in the scuffle between the informant party and the accused. Coming to the acceptability of the dying declaration, the High Court has rightly discarded it. The declaration made by the deceased was not voluntary and in fact, the answers were not given by her and it was her husband who was answering. Such nature and manner of response from the injured who ultimately succumbed to injuries can by no means be elevated to the level of her “dying declaration”, even when it is found to sound “the voice of Jacob”. Stand of the prosecution that he tried to clarify by stating that it was the accused who had fired the gun does not improve the situation. In the true sense of the term or in legal parlance the statement made by the deceased cannot be called a dying declaration. In view of the admitted hostility and strained relations, the natural effort was to rope in the accused. The High Court, therefore, discarded the evidence as not worthy of acceptance.”

In the case of Bhajju alias Karan Singh Versus State of Madhya Pradesh (2012) 4 SCC 327 the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that the “dying declaration” essentially means the statement made by a person as to the cause of his death or as to the circumstances of the transaction resulting into his death. The admissibility of the dying declaration is based on the principle that the sense of impending death produces in a man's mind, the same feeling as that of a conscientious and virtuous man under oath. The dying declaration is admissible upon the consideration that death and when every hope of this world is gone, when every motive to file a false suit is silenced in the mind and the person deposing is induced by the most powerful considerations to speak the truth.”

mind, the same feeling as that of a conscientious and virtuous man under oath. The dying declaration is admissible upon the consideration that the declaration was made in extremity, when the maker is at the point of death and when every hope of this world is gone, when every motive to file a false suit is silenced in the mind and the person deposing is induced by the most powerful considerations to speak the truth.

In view of the various judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the probative value of the dying declarations is admissible, however, the said dying declaration should be voluntary for which no certificate is necessary in regard to the mental status of the deceased making the statement. The relevant paragraph 22 and 23 are reproduced as under:

“22. The law is very clear that if the dying declaration has been recorded in accordance with law, is reliable and gives a cogent and possible explanation of the occurrence of the events, then the dying declaration can certainly be relied upon by the court and could form the sole piece of evidence resulting in the conviction of the accused. This Court has clearly stated the principle that Section 32 of the Evidence Act, 1872 (for short “the Act”) is an exception to the general rule against the admissibility of hearsay evidence. Clause (1) of Section 32 makes the statement of the deceased admissible, which is generally described as a “dying declaration”.

23. The “dying declaration” essentially means the statement made by a person as to the cause of his death or as to the circumstances of the transaction resulting into his death. The admissibility of the dying declaration is based on the principle that the sense of impending death produces in a man's mind, the same feeling as that of a conscientious and virtuous man under oath. The dying declaration is admissible upon the consideration that death and when every hope of this world is gone, when every motive to file a false suit is silenced in the mind and the person deposing is induced by the most powerful considerations to speak the truth.”

Advocate Supreme Court  
209, New Lawyers' Chamber  
Bhagwan Dass Road,  
New Delhi-110001



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah at the 'Sahakar Labharthi Sammelan', in Bengaluru, Karnataka

# Kolkata hosts 35th Junior National Netball championship

**Kolkata, (ABHIJIT SETH):** The 35th Junior National Netball Championship took place in Kolkata from December 25th to 28th. Players from across India assembled in the city of joy to take part in the 35th Junior National Netball Championship being held for the first time in this part of the country. Around 750 players, both girls and boys from 25 states including Odisha, Haryana, Assam, Tripura and Madhya Pradesh among others and 100 match officials took part in this championship. West Bengal State Netball Association President Biswarup Dey said, "Netball Federation of India had authorised WBSNA to host the Junior under-19 National Championship for boys and girls to be held at SAI complex in Salt Lake between December 25-28 and it was a grand



event!". Bengal scripted history by winning the 35th Junior National Netball Championship for the first time in Boys section, while Kerala placed first in the Girls section in the finals played at the SAI Complex, Salt Lake. Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Odisha put up a praiseworthy fight apart from the winners. West Bengal Netball Association Secretary Binapani Das congratulated the winners and said that the 4-day tournament was successful due to the participation from all the states across the country. The Secretary of Netball Federation of India Vijendra Singh thanked the West Bengal State Netball Association and the participating states for making the tournament successful.

# Myanmar troops burn alive 11 in retaliation attack: reports

**Bangkok:** Myanmar government troops raided a small northwestern village, rounding up civilians, binding their hands and then burning them alive in apparent retaliation for an attack on a military convoy, according to witnesses and other reports. A video of the aftermath of Tuesday's attack showed the charred bodies of 11 victims, some believed to be teenagers, lying in a circle amid what appeared to be the remains of a hut in Done Taw village in Sagaing region.



Outrage spread as the graphic images were shared on social media over what appeared to be the latest of increasingly brutal military attacks in an attempt to put down stiffening anti-government resistance following the army takeover in February. Human Rights Watch called Thursday for the

international community to ensure that commanders who gave the order are added to targeted sanctions lists, and more broadly, efforts are stepped up to cut off any source of funding to the military.

"Our contacts are saying these were just boys and young people who were villagers who were caught in the wrong place at the wrong time," a spokeswoman for the group, Manny Maung, said.

She added that

similar incidents have been occurring regularly, but that this one happened to be caught on camera.

"This incident is quite brazen, and it happened in an area that was meant to be found, and seen, to scare people," she said.

The images could not be independently verified, but an account given to The Associated Press by a person who said he was present when they were taken generally matched

descriptions of the incident carried by independent Myanmar media.

The military ouster of the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi was initially met with nonviolent street protests, but after police and soldiers responded with lethal force, violence escalated as opponents of military rule took up arms in self-defense.

The killings in Done Taw were decried by Myanmar's underground National Unity Government, which has established itself as the country's alternative administration in place of the military-installed government.

The organization's spokesperson, Dr. Sasa, said a military convoy had been hit by a roadside bomb and troops retaliated first by shelling Done Taw, then assaulting the village, rounding up anyone they

could capture.

"Sickening scenes reminiscent of the Islamic State terrorist group bore witness to the military's escalation of their acts of terror," he said in a statement.

"The sheer brutality, savagery, and cruelty of these acts shows a new depth of depravity, and proves that despite the pretense of the relative détente seen over the last few months, the junta never had any intention of deescalating their campaign of violence," said Sasa, who uses one name. The witness who spoke to the AP said about 50 troops marched into Done Taw village at about 11 a.m. Tuesday, seizing anyone who did not manage to flee.

"They arrested 11 innocent villagers," said the witness, who described himself as a farmer and an activist and asked to remain anonymous for his own safety,

# Joe Biden signs order to make US government carbon neutral by 2050

**New York:** US President Joe Biden Wednesday signed an executive order mandating that the US federal government become carbon neutral by 2050.

The order relies on a variety of clean energy initiatives, including transforming the government's fleet of 600,000 vehicles into electric cars by 2035. In a statement, the Biden administration said the "whole-of-government effort to tackle the climate crisis" must happen "in a way that creates well-paying jobs, grows industries and makes the country more economically competitive." "The executive order will reduce emissions across federal operations, invest in American clean energy industries and manufacturing, and create clean, healthy, and resilient communities," the statement



said. Announced by the White House, the executive order mandates federal buildings halve emissions by 2032 and become carbon-free by 2045. The US government owns or leases 300,000 buildings.

The executive order also calls for government buildings to use 100% carbon neutral electricity by 2030.

"As the single largest land owner, energy consumer and employer

in the nation, the federal government can catalyze private-sector investment and expand the economy and American industry by transforming how we build, buy and manage electricity, vehicles, buildings and other operations to be clean and sustainable," the order said. The executive order also helps Biden to honor commitments made to world leaders at the UN COP26 conference in Glasgow last month.

# Merkel departs, opening a new chapter for Germany and Europe

**Berlin:** It was vintage Angela Merkel: The woman who has dominated European politics for the better part of two decades handed over her office to the next German chancellor, thanked her staff, then walked to the door and made an exit — her final one. After 16 years as leader of Germany and unofficial leader of Europe, Merkel on Wednesday left the office she first took over when President George W. Bush was still in the White House in a characteristically

understated way.

"Congratulations dear Mr. Chancellor, dear Olaf Scholz," Merkel told her successor in a small gathering at the chancellery. "I know from my own experience that it is a moving moment to be elected into this office." "It is an exciting, fulfilling duty, a challenging duty, too," Merkel said, "but if you embrace it with joy it is perhaps one of the most beautiful duties there are to be responsible for this country."

Long the world's

most powerful female leader, Merkel was the central political figure in Germany and Europe through four U.S. presidents and five British and eight Italian prime ministers. Her steady accretion of authority drew admirers and detractors alike, but she remained a singular source of stability for the continent through repeated crises.

Criticized for having failed to groom a successor, Merkel, a Christian Democrat, may well have done so in the end. Only — much to the

frustration of her own party — it was a member of her traditional opposition, Scholz, a Social Democrat and her last finance minister, who was sworn in Wednesday after a campaign that promised continuity. Still, Merkel's departure marks the end of a dominant era of German politics that she herself called "eventful and often very challenging" — and the beginning of a new and uncertain chapter for Germany and Europe. "It was a big period during which you were chancellor of this country

and you did big things," Scholz said after she had formally handed over the chancellery and its staff to him. "There were some big crises we had to deal with, some of them we weathered together." "That welded us together and not just these events," Scholz added. "Between us there was always very trusting collaboration. That is good, I believe, because it shows that we are a strong, capable democracy in which there is a lot of consensus between democrats, cooperation." Many who

worked closely with the departing German chancellor point to her sense of dedication and willingness to compromise as the basis for her power.

"She was — and she is — the person who was always going in deeply prepared, with a deep sense of responsibility, always looking for the result," said Dalia Grybauskaitė, who first met Merkel in Brussels in 2005 and went on to collaborate with her during her own decade-long term as president of Lithuania. "And she was

ready to compromise to achieve that result."

The full imprint that Merkel, a pastor's daughter from the former communist East, made on her country and continent will reveal itself only in the years ahead. But for now the fulcrum of her legacy is widely considered to be her decision in 2015 and 2016 to welcome more than 1 million asylum seekers into Germany.

The decision sharply divided her country — particularly along the old East-West fault line — and fueled the

emergence of a far-right nationalist movement that grew stronger than at any time since the Nazis. But it also softened Germany's image abroad and established her country as a liberal beacon as populism threatened the very foundations of the West's democratic order.

"Angela Merkel changed Germany's image in the world — in a way she saved Germany's honor," said Naika Foroutan, an immigration expert and professor at the Humboldt University in Berlin.

## Odisha Crime Branch Quizzes Cops, Doctors In Mysterious Death Of Russian Lawmaker, Friend

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha Crime Branch officials on Friday quizzed police and doctors over the death of Russian lawmaker Pavel Antov and his friend Vladimir Bidenov in a hotel in Rayagada.

The Crime Branch team, led by DSP Saroj Kant Mahanto, interacted with the Rayagada IIC and Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO). They also quizzed the doctors, who conducted post-mortem examinations of the two deceased Russians.

The team including forensic experts visited the hotel and the spot from where Antov's

body was recovered. "We are examining the investigation so far made by the Rayagada police and we will investigate other angles also," Mahanto told media persons.

Meanwhile, Russian Ambassador to India Denis Alipov said nothing wrong has been done in performing the last rites of the deceased duo.

The bodies of Antov and Bidenov were cremated by Rayagada police after receiving approval from their family members through Russian mission in India.

"We appreciate the investigation efforts by



the Indian authorities into the death of two Russian nationals in Odisha. Meanwhile it would be useful for some Hercule Poirot lovers to learn that

cremation in Russia is as customary as burial. Idleness is the root of all evil," Alipov tweeted.

Bidenov was found lying unconscious in

his hotel room on December 22 and taken to Rayagada hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

Following the approval of Russian authority in India, his body was cremated in Rayagada on December 24.

Antov, stated to be a member of the legislative assembly of Russia's Vladimir region, was found dead in an under-construction part of the same hotel on December 24. His body was cremated on December 26 evening.

Police is yet to ascertain whether Antov accidentally fell off the terrace of the hotel room or committed suicide or any unseen force is behind the two deaths.

## Odisha CM Launches Men's Hockey World Cup Song

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today launched the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup-2023 song, composed by Pritam.

The song titled 'Hockey Hai Dil Mera' has been sung by a group of eleven singers including Benny Dayal, Neeti Mohan, Amit Mishra, Benny Dayal, Lisa Mishra, Antara Mitra, Sreerama Chandra, Nakesh Aziz, Shalmali Kholgade and Namita Meleka of Odisha.

"Glad to launch Hockey World Cup 2023 song, which encapsulates the spirit of hockey. The song reflects the vivacious spirit of the game. I am sure it will touch the hearts of sports lovers," said the Chief



Minister in a twitter post. Notably, Odisha is all set to host the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup-2023 at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar and Birsamunda Stadium in Rourkela from January 13 to 29 next year. The opening ceremony of the mega event is

scheduled to be held at Barabati Stadium in Cuttack on January 11. Hindi film actors Ranveer Singh and Disha Patani and BLACKSWAN, the famous K-Pop brand featuring Odisha's Shreya Lenka are scheduled to perform on the occasion.

## OMDC workers go on strike demanding pending wages



**Barbil, 31st Dec.(KCN):** Demanding regular salary workers of Orissa Mineral Development Corporation staged a demonstration in front of the office of OMDC, Thakurani, on Saturday. It is to note that OMDC operates six iron ore and manganese ore mining leases at Barbil in the district of Keonjhar, Odisha. The leases are Dalki Manganese Mines, Kolha Roida Iron & Manganese mines, Thakurani Iron

& Manganese Mines, Belkundi Iron & Manganese Mines, Bagiaburu Iron Mines and Bhadrasahi Iron & Manganese Mines. The lease rights of all the six mines have expired and therefore, the company's mining operations are under suspension due to non availability of statutory clearances. Recently, one of the mines at Bagiaburu is likely to be operational soon as the company has obtained statutory clearances. Workers alleged that since

2010, after the merger of company with Rastriya Ispat Nigam limited, a PSU company, salary of employees and statutory clearance activities are obstructed due to lack of interest. They are getting salary as per old wages act 1997. No initiative has been taken by the management to revise salary. The workers held a demonstration at Thakurani denouncing the management for not paying their salaries

for the last four months. The workers union led by CPI(M) leader Indramani Behera has given a memorandum to release the salary of employees. It is noted that management has given a written assurance to Mr Behera to release their salary for the month of September 2022 soon after the transportation of iron ore starts from the mines and balance of payment due on account of salary will be done as per the availability of the funds.

## Plea For Green Hydrogen

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha Government has requested for financial support for development of Green Hydrogen in the State. The Union Government is putting thrust on development of green hydrogen ecosystem in the country. The Green Hydrogen Policy has been notified.

To support uptake of green hydrogen, the Central Government can consider some financial support such as VGF to improve the viability of green hydrogen, urged the Odisha Government in a recent request.

As the Centre and States are working in a coordinated manner to provide round the clock quality and reliable power and make the sector financially viable, it is requested to kindly consider the matters highlighted above for the benefit of the consumers.

Similarly the State Government has also requested for financial support for floating solar projects.

The country has a large number of water bodies which can be harnessed for renewable energy generation through floating solar projects. Floating solar has advantages over ground mounted solar – it reduces evaporation which can result in more water availability for irrigation and it does not require land.

However, due to certain challenges such as requirement of floaters and anchors, transmission costs, smaller capacity etc., the tariff from floating solar projects is higher as compared to conventional ground mounted solar.

In the recent tender floated by Maharashtra,

the lowest bid was by SJVN @ 397 P/U whereas, at present, the land based solar rates discovered by SECI / NTPC are @ ~250 P/U.

To offset this, the Central Government can consider providing financial support in the form of VGF and budgetary support for transmission etc. which can improve the viability of floating solar projects.

Owing to technological developments, the cost of solar and wind power has reduced drastically in recent times.

Even without waivers and incentives, the tariff of solar and wind has become competitive with other sources. At present, the development of Renewable Energy (RE) projects has been restricted to a select 7-8 States not only on account of better

resource potential but also due to waivers such as Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charge waiver.

Such waivers distort the true cost of transmitting power from these 7-8 States to other States. This leads to inequitable distribution of solar and wind projects across the country.

For an equitable development of solar and wind projects, ISTS charge waiver must be removed so that all States can benefit. This will ensure that jobs are created and economic growth happens in the renewable energy sector across all States.

This is important from the standpoint of "Just Transition" which is an important tenet of India's Long-Term Low Carbon Development Strategy emphasized at COP 27.




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Renowned actress Anu Chowdhury inaugurates Godrej Interio's new store

Bhubaneswar: Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group announced that its business Godrej Interio, a leader in home and office furniture has launched its new outlet at Patia Chowk in Bhubaneswar.

The store offers specially crafted quality products in home furniture, mattresses, and home storage - the largest selling category in India, in different styles and finishing.



personality. Godrej Interio is well-known for offering a complete range of home furniture best suited for Indian homes and meeting international standards.

importance of the new store in Bhubaneswar. Manoj Rathi, Vice President, Godrej Interio, said, "Bhubaneswar is a growing economic hub of the region and remains an important market in Odisha.

Moscow City launches festive event for the Holiday Season targeting Global and Indian audience!

Bhubaneswar : Moscow has transformed into an exuberant and glittering destination marking the beginning of its festival season event, 'Journey to Christmas'.

This large-scale event has transformed the city with Christmas and New Year festivities.

also live musical performances and much more for the entire family to enjoy. All the venues are stacked up with delicious food and spilling over with holiday cheer.

all around and the aroma of tangerines and Christmas baking spreads everywhere. They pour out hot tea, too, to make it warm for the guests and it is fun to walk around the Christmas markets.

guests and 19 rinks opened, while a lot more is waiting for you to explore! For 2023, the major theme of the festival is traveling around Russia and getting to know the holiday traditions that are typical of different regions of this multi-ethnic country.

a lot of pictures! Christmas is a time for giving, and the festival guests can gift someone a New Year's miracle by taking part in the 'Kind Christmas Tree' campaign.

On Christmas, Vedanta Aluminium drives safety awareness through Safety Santa

Bhubaneswar : On Christmas Eve, Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, undertook an innovative safety sensitisation campaign at its plant and township with 'Safety Santa'.

endeavour to make its employees, business partners and their families aware about safe practices as an integral part of life, not just at workplaces.

Santas conducted safety awareness sessions, which included safety stand downs, fire-fighting training, adherence to Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), and the do's and don'ts of electrical & household safety.

Get a head start on the New Year with amazing offers

Bhubaneswar : Ring in the new year on a delicious note and fulfil your grocery needs during the 'Super Value Days' on Amazon Fresh until 8th January.

COVID-19 vaccinated customers can avail 2.5% discount on premiums with Reliance Health Infinity Policy

Mumbai: In move to promote preventive vaccination, Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd., is offering 2.5 per cent discount\* on insurance premiums to customers who have taken the COVID-19 vaccines or Booster shot and other vaccines like Human Papilloma virus vaccine or Pneumococcal vaccine.

customers buying new or renewing their existing Reliance Health Infinity Policy can avail this offer. Reliance General Insurance is one of the first general insurance companies to introduce discount on getting COVID-19 vaccinated.

the northwest, the persisting threats of COVID-19, augmented by the recent surge in the COVID-19 cases, and other viruses, the Company aims to encourage its customers to get vaccinated as a preventive measure.

Insurance hopes to ensure better customer health and wellbeing. Vaccinated customers who are in the process of either buying new or renewing their Health Infinity insurance policy can avail this discount over and above the other discounts applicable at the time of policy purchase/renewal\*\*.

limitless benefits; high sum insured up to ₹5 Crores, superior features like More Global Cover, Maternity Cover, OPD Cover, unlimited restoration of sum insured, and fifteen plus useful add-on benefits and many discounts.

Aditya Aluminium helps Rengali farmers reap great yield with Black rice

Bhubaneswar: At a time when most of the farmers of Odisha are opting for high yield varieties of paddy, the Aditya Birla Group company Aditya Aluminium Lapanga has successfully convinced the farmers in western Odisha to go for the indigenous variety Black rice, popularly known as 'Kalabati' rice, which was lost over the years.

Aditya Aluminium's 'Project Samridhi' has encouraged farmers of Rengali Block to migrate from subsistence farming to profitable commercial agricultural pursuits and is helping farmers experiment with organic farming.

This year in a pilot project, Aditya Aluminium is promoting Black rice cultivation among 55 farmers in 5 acres of land. During interactive meetings at village level more than 60 farmers from 4-gram panchayats have evinced interest to start farming black rice.

than 500 farmers, including 250 farmers from 20 Farmers' Club, are benefited through various CSR interventions under Aditya Aluminium's Project Samridhi.

"Though black rice is native to Odisha, its demand declined gradually with discovery of different varieties of high-yield paddy seeds. We are just trying to bring it back from the brink of extinction."

"Most importantly, the black rice with medicinal values is rich in vitamins B and E, niacin, calcium, magnesium, iron and zinc. It works like an antioxidant in the body. The cooked black rice is useful for cancer and diabetic patients," said Mr Sameer Nayak, the Unit Head of Aditya Aluminium.

To familiarize farmers with the new crop pattern, orientation program and exposure visits were organised by Aditya Aluminium for effective implementation of the activity. Training was imparted on methodology of sowing the seed, process of de-

weeding and harvesting which helped farmers through the process of adopting the new crop, adds Mr Nayak.

Keeping in view the reluctance of some prospective farmers due to marketing issues, Aditya Aluminium has ensured buy back support to farmers in case the produce is not sold out in the local market.

Besides, the Company is also focusing on preservation of seeds, and encouraging farmers to establish seed banks at village level which will help in availability of quality seed in lean period and reduce input cost.

"I had no idea about Black rice. With support from Aditya Aluminium, I cultivated Black rice in half an acre of land this year. The crop is ready for harvest; and I am sure it will give me a good return. I am planning to cultivate more land next year," said Manoj Das of Lapanga, while expressing gratitude to the Aditya Aluminium CSR team for their support and guidance.

OOPRE's mega event 'New Year Grandeur' at Grand Bazaar upto Jan 1

Bhubaneswar: Every New Year holds promise of hope and new beginning.

As Bhubaneswar gets ready to say goodbye to 2022 and welcome new year 2023, "OOPRE OVERGROUND" in association with Group G at "Grand Bazaar", Bhubaneswar is hosting an event named "New Year Grandeur" from the 29th Dec 22 to 1st Jan 2023.

This grand event is covering Fashion Fiesta wherein Prakruti Mishra - National Award Winning Actress was the show stopper & juror and Shrutiksha Nayak, Miss India Odisha (Top 13) was the juror & felicitor.

The event also witnessed felicitation of orphan girls from Asha Kiran children home and deaf & dumb workers of GTET.

The main attraction of the event is Food Carnival having mouth watering dishes across various home grown food brands like Biriyan box, Adda cafe, Biggies burger, Odisha hotel etc. The event is spanned across 4 days with various themes of events like Bollywood night, Rap night and Sufi night wherein performers like Shreya Jain, Rapper Big deal etc will be performing for a live audience.

The New Year 2023 will be welcomed by

Prince Dance group with their famous Dashavtar performance.

Prince Gupta, Owner of OOPRE said, "I am super excited about the forthcoming event. Bhubaneswar will witness this kind of a 4 day long New Year event with such variety of entertainment including food, fashion, music and dance for the very first time! We have kept the event free for public entry, so no one gets left out and everyone gets to enjoy at large with family and friends!"

This event is one of its kind in Odisha with main focus is promotion of home grown food brands, culture and music.

India's eight core industries register 5.4% growth in Nov 2022

New Delhi: India's output of eight core industries registered a 5.4 per cent growth in November 2022 as compared to the Index of November 2021, which was 3.2 per cent. The production of cement, coal, electricity, steel and fertilisers increased in November 2022 over the corresponding month of last year.

growth rate of Index of eight core industries for August 2022 is revised to 4.2 per cent from its provisional level 3.3 per cent. The cumulative growth rate of ICI during April-November 2022 was 8 per cent (provisional) as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

November 2022 over the corresponding period of previous year. Natural gas production declined by 0.7 per cent in November 2022 over November 2021. Its cumulative index increased by 0.7 per cent during April to November 2022 over the corresponding period of previous year. Petroleum refinery production declined by 9.3 per cent in November 2022 over November 2021. Its cumulative index increased by 5.7 per cent during April to November 2022 over the corresponding period of previous year. Fertilisers production increased by 6.4 per cent in November 2022 over November 2021. Its cumulative index increased by 10 per cent during April to November 2022 over the corresponding period of previous year.

# The good Samaritans who came to Rishabh Pant's rescue

**New Delhi:** The only connect with cricket for him is that he comes from a village called Ballah - loosely translated that is a bat in English. Otherwise, Sushil, a bus driver who works for the Haryana Road Transport Corporation, is not kicked up about the game and there is no way he would know who Rishabh Pant is. Things were quite serious on Friday morning, when he saw a wobbly car crash into the road divider and tumble into his side of the road. It was not a pleasant sight but he stopped his bus to attend to the passenger inside. "We were coming in a

different direction. I was returning from Haridwar and he was driving from Delhi. There is a road divider in between. We had stopped our bus at Gurukul Narsan. At that place the speed automatically comes down, we drive around 45 kmph. I have seen a vehicle coming from a distance wobbling from one side to the other," Sushil recalled while speaking to Cricbuzz. Sushil was taken aback by the sudden turn of events on the road in the wee hours of Friday morning and still remembers the accident scene from which Pant miraculously escaped from. "I was expecting it would

crash and in just 10 seconds it rammed into the divider. It breached the divider and had three-four tumbles and then came into our side of the road. I was expecting it to crash but did not know it would come to our side. I stopped my vehicle, and saw the car in flames." The conductor of the bus, Paramjeet, adds, "It happened at around 5.14-15 AM, right in front of our eyes. We pulled him out and we thought he was dead. We actually kept him on the divider. I told the driver to check the vehicle if there is anyone else. By then a few passengers came out of our bus. At that stage, the vehicle



exploded and we all moved away from the burning car. Soon, he became conscious and told us no one else is in the car. I asked him who

he was and he told us he is an India cricketer." Sushil said he has no fascination for cricket but he was happy to help. "Whoever he was, we would have done what we have. He asked for water and we gave him a little. It was my duty, anyone in that place would have done what we have. No credit is due. I just performed my humanitarian responsibility. I did not know he is such a big star of Indian cricket, I thought he is just like any other person. Anyone would have done the same I suppose." His colleague shares that thought. "First of all, the question never arises why we did.

Because we are always on the road. It could happen to us someday. My parents have given me that much culture that we should help the needy. If a passenger says he has no money to buy the ticket, I let him travel. Who knows when such a fate would befall me or my parents," said Paramhjeet, the 30-year-old conductor who comes from Golli, just a few kilometres away from Sushil's village. Was there any call from Rishabh family? "No, he himself wanted to call his mother in that semi-conscious state. A bus passenger dialed his mother's number but it was switched off," said Paramjeet. The driver

dialled No 112 for the police station and the conductor called 108 for the ambulance. In about 20 minutes, the ambulance arrived and they saw Pant off. Since the incident, there have been many calls to the two good Samaritans. The Haryana Government has reportedly announced an award for them but they said no credit is due. "We do not want any awards. We are employees of the Haryana government and we did what we had to, or any human would do. We will be happy if Rishabh Pant gets well soon and his Ballah does the talking again," said Sushil.

## At times you have to take brave decisions: Babar on declaration

**New Delhi:** With the score reading 311 for 8, and Saud Shakeel playing a resolute hand, it seemed as if the left-handed batter was set to take Pakistan to a draw in the opening Test versus New Zealand. However, at that stage, the hosts threw in a surprise as the skipper

Babar Azam waved his hand to declare the innings, setting New Zealand a target of 137 in 15 overs. Subsequently, with the visiting side's score on 61 on for 1, the umpires decided to call off the final day's play due to bad light as the match ended in a stalemate.

Babar said that the intent from Pakistan was to go for a win although it seemed unlikely. Meanwhile, despite losing Michael Bracewell in the first over, the duo of Devon Conway and Tom Latham shared a quick-fire unbeaten stand of 57 to put the home side under pressure. The

Pakistan captain then brought both his seamers into the attack and soon the umpires deemed the light wasn't good enough to continue. "Saud was a bit shocked when we declared. He thought we were going for a draw," Babar said. "We said we'd go after a

result. We took a chance, you never know. It's cricket. Anything can happen. Saud and [Mohammad] Wasim Junior's partnership was vital for us because it brought us into the game. That put the idea in my head that we could declare. You all will have enjoyed it as well, and it surprised everyone. It was in our mind we'd take a chance because anything can happen. "We sent a message in, just before we declared, to tell the batters to assess the conditions and play according to those. At times you have to take brave decisions and take chances. As a team and captain, I try and do that. You plan for a result, even if you can't guarantee it," he added. Babar also noted that Pakistan have enough positives to take from the game.



# 2023



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## CALENDAR

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
																					30						

  

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31			

  

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
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