

## Address to the Nation by the Hon'ble president of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu on the eve of the 74th Republic Day

**New Delhi (KCN):** Dear fellow citizens, Namaskar! On the eve of the 74<sup>th</sup> Republic Day, I



extend my heartiest greetings to every Indian, at home and abroad. From the day the Constitution came into effect to the present day, it has been an amazing journey that has inspired many other nations. Every citizen has reason to be proud of the Indian Story. When we celebrate the Republic Day, we celebrate what we have achieved, together, as a nation.



India is, of course, home to one of the oldest living civilisations. India is called the mother of democracy. As a modern Republic, however, we are young. In the early years of Independence, we faced countless challenges and adversities. Very high levels of poverty and illiteracy were just two of the many ill-effects of the long foreign rule. Yet, the spirit of India was undeterred. With hope and confidence, we began an experiment unique in the history of humankind. Such a vast and diverse multitude of people coming together as one nation remains unprecedented. We did so with a belief that we are, after all, one; that we are all Indians. We have succeeded as a democratic republic because so many creeds and so many languages have not divided us, they have only united us. That is the essence of India.

That essence was at the heart of the Constitution, which has withstood the test of time. The Constitution that started governing the life of the Republic was the outcome of the Freedom Struggle. The national movement, led by Mahatma Gandhi, was as much about winning Independence as about rediscovering our own ideals. Those decades of struggle and sacrifice helped us win freedom not only from colonial rule but also from the imposed values and narrow world-views. Revolutionaries and reformers joined hands with visionaries and idealists to help us learn about our age-old values of peace, brotherhood and equality. Those who shaped the modern Indian mind also welcomed progressive ideas from abroad,

## Manoj Sharma, new General Manager of East Coast Railway

**Bhubaneswar (KCN):** Shri Manoj Sharma, an officer of Indian Railway Service of Engineering (IRSE) of 1985 batch has joined in East Coast Railway as General Manager.

Prior to the new posting, Shri Sharma was working as Chief Administrative Officer (Construction) of Central Railway (CR) at Mumbai. He has also worked as Divisional Railway Manager (DRM)/ Ratlam in Western Railway, Chief Engineer in Northern Railway, at Delhi, Chief General Manager, in the National Highway Authority of India (N.H.A.I.) in Delhi and Joint Director/Director in Research Design and Standards Organisation (R.D.S.O) at Lucknow.

Shri Sharma has joined in Indian Railways in 1987. He has done his Degree in Civil Engineering from University of Roorkee and Masters in Technology from I.I.T., Delhi. He has vast experience in Construction of Projects



following the Vedic advice:

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्रतः. "Let noble thoughts come to us from all directions". A long and profound thought process culminated in our Constitution.

Our founding document is inspired by the humanistic philosophy of the oldest living civilisation in the world as well as new ideas that emerged in more recent history. The nation will always remain grateful to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, who headed the Drafting Committee of the Constitution, and thus had a critical part in giving it the final shape. On this day, we should also remember the role of jurist B.N. Rau, who had prepared the initial draft, and other experts and officers who helped in making of the constitution. We are proud of the fact that the members of that assembly represented all regions and communities of India and that they included 15 women too.

Their vision, as enshrined in the Constitution, has been continuously guiding our Republic. During this period, India has been transformed from a largely poor and illiterate nation into a confident nation marching on the world stage. This would not have been possible but for the collective wisdom of the Constitution-makers guiding our path.

While Babasaheb Ambedkar and others gave us a map and a moral framework, the task of walking that path remains our responsibility. We have largely remained true to their expectations, and yet we realise that much remains to be done to realise Gandhiji's ideal of 'Sarvodaya', the upliftment of all. Yet, the progress we have made on all fronts is encouraging.

Dear fellow citizens, In our mission of 'Sarvodaya', the most encouraging has been the progress made on the economic front. Last year, India became the fifth largest economy in the world. It needs to be underlined that this achievement comes against the backdrop of high economic uncertainties around the world. The pandemic has entered the fourth year, affecting economic growth in most parts of the world. In its initial phase, Covid-19 also hurt India's economy badly. Yet, guided by our able leadership and driven by our resilience, we soon came out of the downturn, and resumed the growth saga. Most sectors of the economy have shaken off the pandemic effect. India has been among the fastest-growing major economies. This has been made possible by timely and pro-active interventions from the Government. The 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, in particular, has evoked great response among people at large. There have also been sector-specific incentive schemes. It is a matter of great satisfaction that those on the margins have also been included in the schemes and programmes and they have been helped in tiding over difficulties. By implementing the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana' announced in March 2020, the Government ensured food security for poor families at a time

and commissioning. He has worked in various capacities in various Ministries like RDSO, Lucknow, NHAI, etc.,

Shri Sharma is highly committed and devoted officer having brilliant knowledge and command over railway working, has proactive approach and problem-solving skills, always in fore front to shoulder extra responsibility. Taking every task as a challenge, Shri Sharma always strives to move forward in fulfilling the mission of Indian Railways. Apart from his Masters in MTech from I.I.T., Delhi Shri Sharma brings in vast working knowledge and experience gathered over the years while working in various capacities in different government Organisations and Ministries. Shri Sharma has also done his Public Administration Course from the Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi in 2011.

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## 'Total torture': Ukrainians on life support gasp for oxygen amid blackouts



**KYIV(KCN):** Valentyn Mozgovy cannot breathe on his own, and keeping his ventilator powered during Ukraine's blackouts has become a matter of life or death. Regular power outages caused by Russian missile strikes have terrified tens of thousands of Ukrainians who rely on electricity to keep medical equipment running.

Mozgovy suffers from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a degenerative neurological condition that has left him paralysed and unable to breathe without assistance.

"He is alive, you see. That means I figured it out," his wife, Lyudmyla Mozgova, told AFP in their apartment in the capital Kyiv.

## Gamang quits BJP

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In a major setback for the BJP ahead of 2024 elections, former Chief Minister and nine-time MP Girdhar Gamang resigned from the BJP on Wednesday. Girdhar along with his son Sishir resigned from the primary membership of BJP and both were sent their registration let-



ters to BJP National President JP Nadda. They had joined the BJP in 2015 after resigning from Congress.

"I realised that I am unable to discharge my political, social and moral duty to my people in Odisha during the last several years. Hence, I tender my resignation from the primary membership of the BJP with immediate effect. Please accept the same," the former CM said in his resignation letter to Shri Nadda. Girdhar, a nine-time MP, thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, who was party president in 2015, for clarifying on the floor of the Parliament on his voting against Vajpayee gov-

ernment in 1999. Similarly, Sishir in his letter said he resigned after realizing that he was unable to do much for the welfare of the tribal community and the youth during the last several years. They are likely to join Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's newly floated

Next to her, her husband was wrapped in a patterned duvet in a medically adapted bed, his face barely visible under the ventilator. The Mozgovys have come a long way since the first long blackout after the targeted wave of strikes on energy

**CONTINUED ON: P-7**

## BJD hits back BJP

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Reacting strongly to the gross allegations made by the BJP on selection of beneficiaries of PMAY, the Governing BJD slammed back the BJP alleging the saffron party is again conspiring to stop the rural housing for poor people.

Addressing a press meet this morning, BJD Rajya Sabha MP, Sasmit Patra and Spokesperson Shreemayee Mishra, said that no-



where is it seen that people's representatives would conspire to stop the benefits for the very people who have elected them.

"But, it has been seen in the case of the BJP MPs of Odisha who were elected as people's representatives in 2019 from Odisha and conspired and stopped the rural Awas houses under PMAY for the people of Odisha," said Dr. Patra.

Their conspiracy and stopping of rural houses was their return gift to the very people of Odisha who had elected them. They worked against the interests of the people of Odisha and the State by going to Centre in Delhi as public representatives, conspiring and stopping lakhs of rural houses of people of Odisha under PMAY(G), he said.

The BJD leader said Odisha was awarded by the Central Government for best performance in rural housing but State BJP put so much pressure to stop sanction of houses to the best performing State.

BJP MPs disrespected the faith of the very people who had voted for them in their respective constituencies. Their conspiracy was

successful and the rural Awas houses were stopped by the Centre, he said. "With tremendous pressure from the Odisha Government and the BJD MPs, when we tried hard to get it implemented now; again the BJP is again conspiring to stop it. They are again working against the interests of the very

### Message

The Kalinga Chronicle family wishes its readers, hawkers, advertisers, writers and well-wishers on the Eve of Republic Day & Saraswati Puja.

- Editor-in-Chief

### Declaration

The Office will be off on 26th January, 2023. There will be no publication of The Kalinga Chronicle on 27.01.2023.

- Publisher





### Old magazines

Better than me, a fly is,  
Took flight over the plates of  
delicious meals and icecreams,  
Can't enter inside,  
It's star hotels and restaurants,  
Guards tells me.



Dwit David Philip

Can't enter inside,  
It's mats of multiplex, Guards tells me.

Thanks to municipality,  
Brings their wastages, beside my home  
called slum I live,  
I see the pictures, for them its their old maga-  
zines,  
I am a child, where my fault lies?

Better than me, a dog is,  
Took flight over the cities of towers and  
lights,  
Can't enter inside,  
It's aerodrums and metros, Guards tells me.

Better than me, a rat is  
Travelled over the royal garments of thou-  
sands and lacks rupes,,

12 December 2022

LD House

Amlatola, Chaibasha

Jharkhand

### Quotation of the Day

Don't waste your time  
in anger, regrets,  
worries, and grudges.  
*Life is too short  
to be unhappy.*

ROY T. BENNETT

GH

# Odisha Culture : 10 things that you must know!

The stunning architectures, history, dialects, vibrant art music and dance forms make Odisha ever sprightly state of India. Odisha (formerly known as Orissa), the battleground for the famous Kalinga war fought by Ashoka the Great, lies on the country's east coast. When the sun rises here, it rises over a land of temples thriving on top of a solid foundation laid by heritage. Life is uncomplicated, laid back and it doesn't take much to find some hush and quiet here. As opposed to the hustle and bustle of metropolitan concrete jungles, Odisha comes as a sigh of relief to the one seeking the peace of mind. Be it the temples of the capital city Bhubaneswar, the Buddhist Shanti Stupa of Dhaulagiri Hills or exotic birds that can be spotted at Asia's largest brackish water lagoon Chilika Lake, Odisha is worth paying a visit!

Here are 10 things you should know about Odisha Culture:

#### 1. Architecture

The finesse and grandeur of Odisha's architecture is exhibited in its temples that the Aryans left behind. Some of them are among the finest in the country. Of these, the most important are the Lingaraja Temple, Bhubaneswar (11th century), Jagannath Temple at Puri (12th century) and the great Sun Temple at Konark (13th century). And hence, the golden triangle of Odisha - Bhubaneswar, Konark and Puri contributes the maximum amount of tourism goodwill. They are primary temples built in the style of 'Kalinga' architecture.

#### Lingaraja Temple

The largest of all temples that the Temple



City of Bhubaneswar boasts of, it is one of the major tourist attractions of the state with over 6000 visitors on a daily basis. Here, Lord Shiva is worshipped as Harihara, a combined form of Vishnu and Shiva.



Jagannath Temple

The coastal town of Puri enshrines Lord Jagannath in this colossal temple. It is one of the Char Dham pilgrimages that one is expected to cover at least once in his lifetime. The temple is world-famous for its annual chariot festival or Rath Yatra.



#### Sun Temple

Designed in the silhouette of a gigantic chariot along with seven horses and twenty-four wheels, this entire temple was conceived as a chariot of the Sun God. It reflects the remarkable genius of architects that envisioned and went through with it. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the



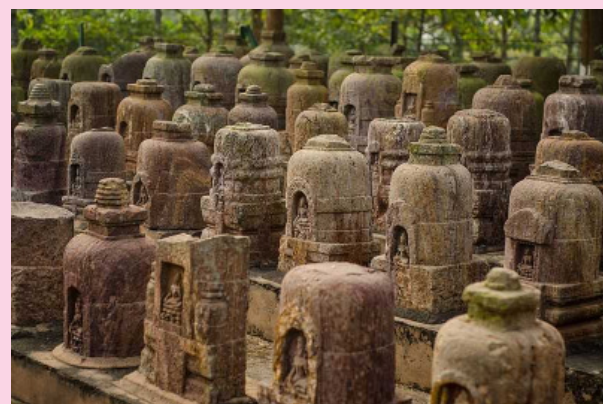
precision and intricacy of its sculptural work is worth seeing.

#### 2. Arts Culture of Odisha

It is impossible to list every form of visual art and craft this uber-talented state boasts of but here are some of the best-known ones:

##### Pattachitra (Cloth Painting)

Literally, 'Patta' translates to cloth and 'Chitra' means picture. The themes and motifs are mythological, typically revolving around the Jagannath and Vaishnava sect. Lord Jagannath and Radha-Krishna paintings are a rage among buyers. Pattachitra showing Ganesha and Shiva. Since it is a traditional art-form, the Chitrakara's (painter) very home is his own studio

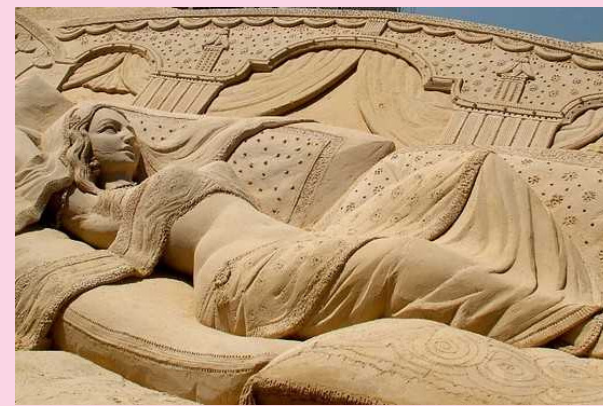


where his family members act as helping

hands. The final painting is rendered in the form of a design on a canvas with decorative borders. Sometimes, palm-leaves are also used to form the canvas.

#### Rock Paintings

Rock art in Odisha dates back to the pre-historic period according to the earliest reports found at Viramkhol in Jharsuguda district. With the reign of Ashoka the great, Buddhist sculptural art gradually changed the degree of Odisha's artistic flair. Even today, the caves of Ratnagiri,



Lalitgiri and Udaygiri have not faltered to showcase the wonderful legacy of sculp-

tural brilliance that some of our finest carvers left behind.

#### Buddhist rock carvings at Ratnagiri

(Source)

#### Sand Art

With clean, fine-grained sand and water as



its raw materials, this is an indigenous

form of art that found its origin recently if a comparison is drawn to the other forms of art. It is practised on the beaches of Puri with subjects ranging from Hindu deities to international occasions. With the help of tourism, this art-form has developed exponentially and found world-wide recognition.

#### Silver Filigree

Locally known as 'Tarakasi', this art form is about 500 years old. It hails from Cuttack, a.k.a the Silver City of Odisha (now you know why). The process consists



of drawing silver through a series of consecutively smaller holes to produce fine strands of wire. Usually, Tarakasi jewellery is used to embellish Durga idols during Durga Puja in Cuttack and by Odissi dancers.

#### Applique Work

This is a famous fabric craft originating from a village called Pipili where locals call it 'Pipili Chandua Kama'. Unknown to many, Pipili holds an entry in the Limca Book of Records for the world's largest thematic applique work.

odisha culture, culture of odisha Traditional Pipli appliqued umbrellas (Source)

Like Pattachitra, applique work also originated as temple art, essentially limited to umbrellas and canopies to be used in the annual Rath Yatra.

Nowadays, its usage is more in the household, decorative and festival products. The craft involves embroidery and stitching with occasional mirror work.

#### Brass and Dhokra Works

A 4000-year old craft form, Dhokra is a casting method that combines metallurgical skills with wax techniques. It is a bell metal tribal craft that uses an alloy of tin and copper or brass and zinc. Various utility items including utensils, pots and pans, lamps and even tribal jewellery are fashioned

out of it.



## CLASSIFIED

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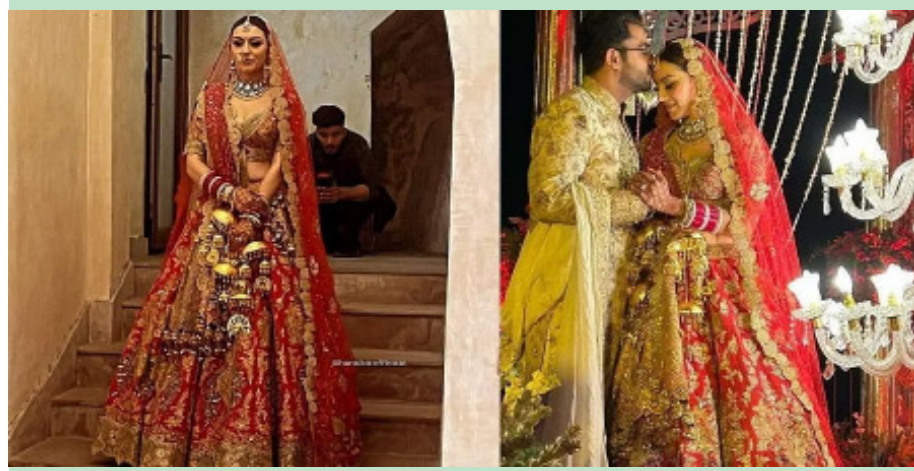
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Please Contact- 8338870595

## Hansika Motwani gets married to beau Sohael Kathuriya in Jaipur; check out photos, videos here



JAIPUR(KCN): Actress Hansika Motwani



and her beau Sohael Kathuriya have tied the knot in Jaipur's Mundota Fort and Palace. Videos showcasing the grand wedding have also gone viral on fan pages. Fireworks lit up the Sunday night sky during the 'varmala' ceremony. Hansika and Sohael

were also seen holding hands after the ceremony in one of the videos. According to reports, the marriage vows were as per Sindhi customs. Although their wedding festivities were a private affair, many photos and videos have gone viral on social media.

Talking about their D-day look, the beautiful bride wore a classic red lehenga while the groom complimented her look by opting for an ivory sherwani.

The bride and groom had already served major fashion goals during their pre-nuptial functions. After having a 'Mata Ki Chowki' in Mumbai, the couple flew to Jaipur for other functions. They hosted a Sufi night, a pre-wedding all-themed party, a Haldi ceremony, and a Mehendi ceremony.

After opting for a simple look for her Mehendi ceremony, Hansika experimented with the heavy for her Sufi night.

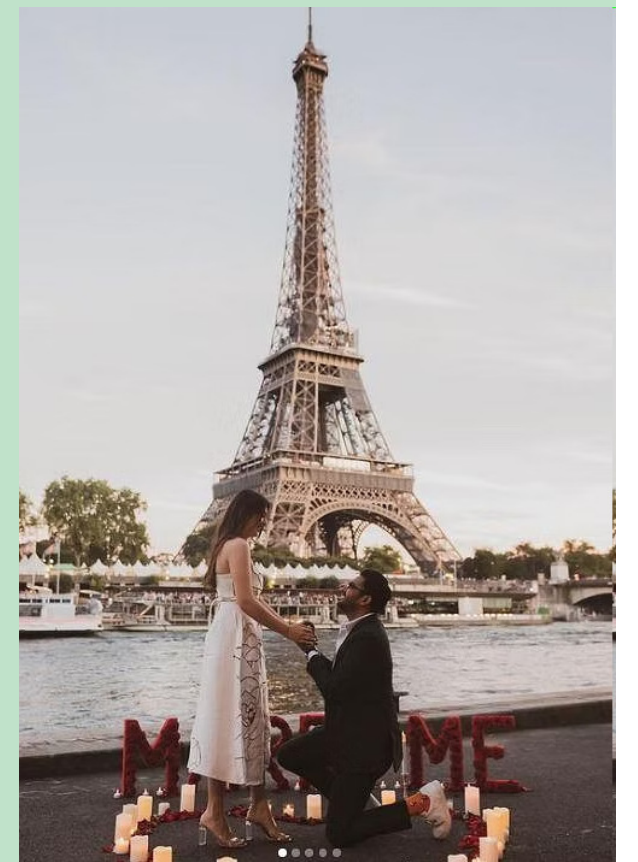
She wore a white sharara with mirrorwork all over it. She accessorized her look with heavy jewellery including a 'passa', traditionally adorned by Muslim brides.

She had a dream proposal in Paris in November, photos of which posted on the couple's social media handles had kept the fans' interest high.

If reports are to be believed, Hansika and Sohael are childhood friends and have been dating for several years.

The couple's dreamy Paris proposal.

The couple's dreamy Paris proposal. Hansika debuted on TV as a popular child art-



ist in a popular show 'Shaka Laka Boom Boom' and went on to be part of the blockbuster 'Koi Mil Gaya' alongside Hrithik Roshan and Preity Zinta. She made her debut as a lead actor in Puri Jagannadh Telugu directorial 'Desamuduru', which also earned her a Filmfare.

She went on to do Telugu movies like 'Desamuduru', 'Kantri' and 'Maska'.

She has appeared in Tamil films such as 'Mappillai' and 'Engayum Kadhal'. She will be next seen in 'Partner', '105 Minutes', 'My Name Is Shruthi' and 'Rowdy Baby'.

## Rowel Star- The new shining Star of the Rajasthan Music Industry

Mumbai (KCN, Sanjay Sharma Raj): The Rajasthan music industry is going leaps and bounds, celebrating the new singing star Afjor Khan aka Rowel Star. This new generation of Rajasthan singers is making headlines for his outstanding singing style and making the world shake legs with his unique Rajasthan songs.

Afjor Khan, popularly known as Rowel Star on Social Media, has created a sensation in the Rajasthan music world with his mesmerizing voice and affective tone. "I am an ardent fan of Guru Randhawa and take his inspiration for my songs. I want to create some unique mix of folk songs with blending hip-hop and wanted to give something new to the music world, says Rowel Star." He recently gave his voice to two new songs, "Tera Shoot" & "Nahiyo Jeena", making the Rajasthan cultures a step ahead in this ever-evolving music world. The shoot of these songs has recently been completed in Dubai and will be out very soon to rock the floors!

About his upcoming projects, Rowel Star will be seen sharing the floors with renowned Rajasthan Singer Sumsa Supari.

They together have shot the song recently



in Dubai in various amazing locations. The song will be out soon and published on the YouTube channel Sumsa Supari Films.

Rowel Star's songs, Maro Sajaniyo,

Bannasa ke Mijaj, and Jai Jasol Maa album are the most popular and trending, creating a sensation on his YouTube channel and blessing him with millions of views and subscribers.

Born and raised in a small village in the Panawara district of Barmer, Rajasthan, Afjor has been fascinated by the music culture since he was five. He was sent to his maternal house at Sindhari for schooling. During his school days, he sang songs and attracted many ears listening to his soulful voice. His teacher once gave him a chance to sing a song on Republic Day, which grabbed praise from the entire school.

It was the year 2007 when Afjor Khan won the hearts of millions for singing the famous Rajasthan song of those days, "Maharana Pratap", which rolled out tears from listeners' eyes. His soulful voice created a huge impact on people's minds. Afjor won the gift price of Rs.1500/- for his singing.

After the impressive response to his performance, there was no looking back for Afjor Khan, and his journey of becoming Rowel Star has kick-started!

## Alia Bhatt to make Hollywood debut with Gal Gadot-starrer film 'Heart of Stone'

Mumbai (KCN): Bollywood star Alia Bhatt will be making foray into Hollywood with Netflix spy thriller film "Heart Of Stone".

In her debut project in the West, Bhatt, who is receiving critical acclaim for her latest Hindi release "Gangubai Kathiawadi", will be starring alongside "Wonder Woman" actor Gal Gadot and Jamie Dornan. Netflix India announced Bhatt's casting on its official Twitter handle.

"Starting our day by announcing (and



SCREAMING!!!) that @aliaabhatt is going to be starring in Heart of Stone, an International spy thriller along with @gal\_gadot and @jamiedornan,? the post read.

Tom Harper will be directing "Heat of Stone" from a script penned by Greg Rucka and Allison Schroeder.

According to the official logline, the film revolves around Rachel Stone (Gadot) an intelligence operative, the only woman who stands between her

powerful, global, peace-keeping organization and the loss of its most valuable? and dangerous? asset.

The film is produced by Skydance's David Ellison, Dana Goldberg, and Don Granger, along with Mockingbird's Bonnie Curtis and Julie Lynn, and Pilot Wave's Gadot and Jaron Varsano.

Harper, Rucka and Patty Whitcher serve as executive producers. Details about Bhatt's character are currently under wraps.



# There is a lot to explore but.....

The common man thinks a lot these days. Perhaps he did not think so much even during the days of slavery. In those days there was only one goal to think about, freedom. He didn't even need to think much, because there was a clear path in front of him and there were great guides, rituals, principles..... and many more, which gave a great sense of his existence. There was a feeling of new self-satisfaction. Many used to sacrifice themselves while laughing. Used to sacrifice everything..... Today it is hard to believe that we are the elders of those sacrifices. Many times, I feel ashamed of myself while thinking that, just to move a piece of paper from here to there, we grab at least ten rupees from the person in front of us. Thousands of lakhs of rupees for thousands of schemes were to be distributed equally among us, they were scattered but they were concentrated with a few.

We have to think these days that even the eyes

## Our constitution - our safety shield

One of the greatest contribution of Dr. Ambedkar was in respect of fundamental rights and descriptive principles of state policy enshrined in the constitution of India.

**Pratap Chandra Sahu**

Dr. Ambedkar was the chairman of the drafting committee for the Indian constitution. He prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Under his leadership the committee members of drafting committee completed the work within 114 days spread over three years. The part 3rd of the constitution of India gives a detailed description on charter of rights called 'fundamental rights'. It is described as the magna carta of India. These fundamental rights guarantee civil freedom to all citizens of India to allow them to live in peace and harmony. These are the basic needs and rights available to every Indian citizen irrespective of their caste, creed and religion, place of birth, race, colour or gender. These fundamental rights include right to equality, right to freedom of religion, cultural and educational rights. Right against exploitation also included in the fundamental rights. The fundamental rights were included in the constitution because they were considered essential for development of every individual and preserve dignity. They are justiciable i.e any violation of these rights can be questioned in the court of law both in high court and supreme court through writ petition. Changes of fundamental rights require a constitutional amendment. The constitution of India originally laid seven rights including right to property, but the 44th amendment of 1978 deleted right to property though it is still a constitutional right. Long after the depletion of the right to property, right to education was added in the list of fundamental rights under section 21a on 2nd April 2010. After independence India is secular, socialist, sovereignty, democratic and republic country. It is separated any religion from political, economic, social and cultural aspects of life and religion being treated as a purely personal matter. Secular was added to the preamble by 42nd constitutional amendment act of 1976. It emphasises the fact that constitutionally, India is secular means no state religion and that the state shall recognise and accept all religious and not favour or patronise any particular religion, while article 14 grants equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all, article 15 enlarges the concept of secularism to the widest possible extent by probability discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. Article 25 provides freedom of conscience that is all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion. As per article 26 every religious group or individual has the right to establish and maintain institution for religious and charitable purposes and to manage its own affairs in matter of religion. Article 51a i.e fundamental duties obliged all citizens to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood and to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture. There are certain fundamental rights which are granted only to citizens of India and not for foreigners. These include protection from discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, equality of opportunity in matters of public employment, freedom of speech, expression, protection of language, script and culture rights. In 2017 nine-judge constitution bench of supreme court headed by the then chief justice of India J.S. Khehar in a landmark unanimous decision has declared right to privacy as an intrinsic part of right to life and personal liberty under article 21. Another landmark of judgement with regard to protection of fundamental right passing of Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill 2017 by Loka Sabha which declares triple talaq illegal and criminalize it with up to three years imprisonment for husband of Muslim community. The majority number of judges suggest it is a very good decision. The success or failure of democracy depends largely on the extent to which civil liberty and basic rights are enjoyed by citizens. So it is said that Indian constitution is our safety shield.

Nabarangapur

falling on us make us think. We have remained mere 'votes' in some greedy eyes, where we are brought into consumption for selfish reasons. We know him personally, that's why we go to him asking for votes with the feelings of the same relationship and also listen to his problems. We have more commitments towards those people and have to clash with them almost every day, so we cannot woo them like big leaders. On the other hand, in some eyes, we are just 'customers' influenced by the advertisements of those big firms, who loot all the emotions to sell their goods. While adopting the ideal of rejecting 'free goods', we are adopting the ideal of 'one free with two'. In order to lighten the burden on ourselves, we even think that 'the condition inside the bottom is the same as above the bottom, where can the fish escape when the whole net is water'. We think of the story of Kharag Singh from where the crisis of faith began. Now the belief has become so old among us that to marginalize him, we have opened old age homes for him like in the West and he is living his exile life in them. We think of the innocent man who succumbs to disbelief in front of our eyes and returns empty-handed, who may be worth believing. Wrapped in the lap of doubt from religion to workplace and from family to market, disbelief has started living in flats built in multi-storied buildings of our emotions. The crisis of faith has also increased in the villages, but compared to the civilized and prosperous cities, even today the villages are a million degrees better. Shakuntala Kol, Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Titra, District Sidhi, says that the trust has decreased among themselves, but we are not able to trust the urban man easily, while we trust the village man immediately. Many such incidents have happened to us that the townspeople have cheated us. All the work of the Panchayat is done on the basis of trust only. It also prompts us to think about how much 'misplacement' there is between us. The man who should be where he is, is not there at all. The man who was supposed to be the ruler, the poor man is digging in the ashes here and there. The one who really had to be a scientist is doing the wages. The

**Dr. Lokendra Singh Kot**

one who really wanted to become an engineer, is sitting somewhere welding on daily wages... The one who was supposed to get a chance to move forward, he is sitting with folded hands as a victim of unemployment... I had to share, they are all sitting unemployed or continuously getting involved in wrong addictions - businesses. The evaluation of talents and getting them a stage has remained confined to the cities only, whereas in the villages also, rural talents are no less in various sports and other non-academic activities.

Commitment to the society is expected from the eminent and representative person of the society as they are the 'role model' for their younger ones. but alas! Here also the situation is the same. Most of them are the owners of scattered individuals.



Now you and we together can think that as 'role model' they will be, so will their brothers..... This regret becomes more prolonged when we come to know that in the last four decades no personality like Gandhi, Nehru, Tilak etc. could become our guide.

Do we even think that 'education' is achieved only by going to school-college? Even today people who are loaded with degrees do such things that a big question mark is put on their education. Get hold of a person with a master's degree today and ask him about a related subject..... You will be disappointed. The education which fills us with superficial knowledge and cannot overcome tensions and distractions, we are proudly sitting on the percent-

age of attainment..... It is said that what is in front is called bad by the people.' The people living in the village are often termed as Gawai, but when the sarpanch of a village asks the collector of Satna district to stop corruption from your place. Corruption will end automatically from our place too, then the collector's speech will stop. In fact, while sitting in the coolness of 'AC', we also think that the poor from 'A' to 'D' have such and such problem and the farmers from 'E' to 'F' have such and such problem. Whereas after so many years and all the schemes, we think about the poor and the farmers, who are probably living in the same pre-independence conditions. The mind becomes even more sour thinking that half of the population gets only one meal in our country.

We used to think that 'stones are thrown in the way ahead, so that it is better if we recover our senses from the stumble.' But we did not recover from any of our stumbles, nor did we try for it because of all the pseudo-preoccupations. In reality, we have been only thinking more, lost more in dreams, that's why perhaps the ground of reality remained shallow. The colonial thinking of slavery has not yet disappeared from us. These days, are we trying to wash our face by showing the woman leading the village as weak or are we on our hands with the thinking of 'everything will rule'.

They keep thinking of holding on. We kept spitting everywhere, vandalizing everything, considering the government property as alien..... The result was that we kept spewing songs and talks of patriotism through cover, but did not adopt it from our heart. ... We may have memorized all the commentaries of the Vedas, but could not digest them within ourselves. The veiled religiosity compels us to unnecessarily argue and dispute over differences.... While thinking and thinking, we could not think that we not only have to think, we also have to do something.

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## Don't see the colors our national flag has, feel the meaning it reveals behind

India is celebrating its 74<sup>th</sup> Republic Day. First Republic Day of India was celebrated in



1950. India is a country having people of different cultures, societies, religions and languages who interplay with each other harmoniously. It signifies the right spirit of Independent and individual India. It is celebrated today to mark the day when democracy and justice were chosen to run the nation. Republic Day is the symbol of true spirit for the independent India where military parades, exhibiting military equipments, salute to the national flag by the Indian president and variety of events are take place at this day. To become a prosperous nation, India went through various trials and hardships before it reached a point where freedom was provided to the citizens. Republic Day represents the true spirit of the independent India. In his autobiography, Jawaharlal Nehru recalled how "Independence Day came, January 26th 1930, and it revealed to us, in a flash, the earnest and enthusiastic mood of the country.

It was also the reason why January 26 was designated Republic Day when the Constitution was finalised in 1950. The Constitution of India was drafted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar which helped to replace the existing Government of India Act, 1935. The Constitution of India which was drafted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was actually passed on 26th November, 1949. It was mainly Nehru's idea to have an impressive parade on Republic Day

**Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit**

every year to strengthen the nation's unity in diversity, and demonstrate its military might, economic and social progress as well as its vast cultural heritage. An official draft by Mahatma Gandhi said: "The British government in India has not only deprived the Indian people of their freedom but has based itself on the exploitation of the masses and has ruined India economically, politically, culturally and spiritually. Therefore, India must sever the British connection and attain 'purna swaraj' or 'complete independence'. " Mahatma Gandhi's mission to wipe every tear from every eye still remains unfulfilled. We have to work harder to provide food security

aspirations. They pursue their life goals, which they perceive will bring them fame, success and happiness, with single-minded devotion. They consider happiness as their existential objective, which of course is understandable.

The anniversary of India becoming a republic has come and gone. Fireworks, salutes to the tiranga, distribution of awards, parades, display of our military might and what not. But the real issue amid the festivities seems to have been lost somewhere. Democracy has helped only our politicians. Many of them got an opportunity to become billionaires after a decade or so in politics. Our criminal justice system is all but ineffective in curbing corruption, which starts with the ballot box and ends in Swiss banks.

The evolution of India from a British colony



to our people and to make the agriculture sector resilient to the vagaries of nature. We have to provide better amenities and opportunities to our people in villages to ensure a decent quality of life. The fundamental rights and duties of the people of the Republic in India have been laid down in our constitution. Every citizen of India is equal in the eye of law, and no one is to suffer because of religion, creed, caste, colour or race. Youth today are brimming with hope and

to a sovereign, democratic and secular nation was certainly historical. Let us make a great promise that we would be live together in peace and happiness as the people of the same nation. It creates feeling of patriotism among the people. It reminds us of the supreme sacrifices made by great freedom fighters. Republic Day also realizes us our responsibilities towards our country.

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



# The majestic cartoon fair of Kolkata: Celebration of art and expression

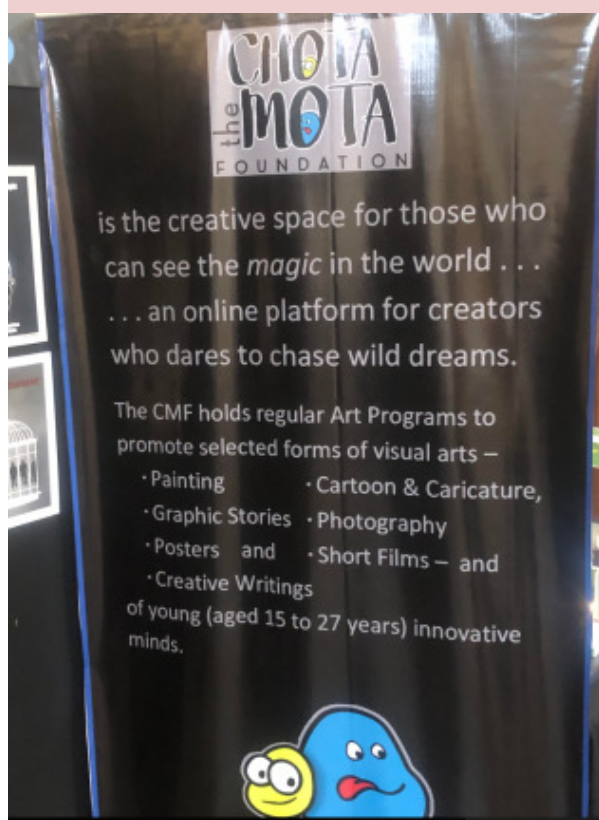
An unique, grandeur cartoon exhibition cum fair was held at one of the majestic halls at "Jorasanko Thakur Bari" campus of Kolkata during December last year to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Bengali cartoons. The program was a lavish and elaborate as well as highly attractive display of a wide range of cartoons from historical, social, political and a nostalgic perspective; and



hence pulled a lot of crowd. In addition to cartoon



displays; regular seminars were conducted during the exhibition by the organizers Cartoon Dal in collaboration with Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata on various related themes. The holding of the exhibition at the Jorasanko Thakurbari, the official residents of the famous Tagore family further added to the charm and elegance of this spectacular exhibition cum fair at the sanctum sanctorum of



the cultural renaissance of Bengal. Cartoons as we know are funny but thought provoking, pictorial, animated representations of dif-



ferent stories, characters, situations, person (politicians, celebrities, religious heads, intellectuals, ordinary citizens or but, in recent studies it is

**Saikat Kumar Basu**



even imaginary characters) and their moods, actions, surroundings; but, in an artistic, socio-cultural, socio-political, socio-religious as well as historical context. Cartoons can also refer to a full-scale preparatory drawing for a fresco, oil painting or a tapestry.



Assamese, Nepali, Tamil, Telegu, Kannar, Malayalam etc); and are a regular feature of several newspapers, magazines,



The word we use today comes from the Italian word 'cartone', which simply means a large sheet of pa-



per or card. There are various types of cartoons and though they give stimulations to brains and decorated and there were good count of visitors throughout the days for all the dates and everyone

makes one happy and specially small children and kids enjoy them a lot; also proven that overuse of cartoons to growing children might hamper

were moving around with interest, curiosity and attention. Sometimes known characters figures, faces and stories added interest and there was hustle and bustle amongst all viewers and spectators across age groups. Additionally there were books been sold on car-



their thinking process, their touch to reality and sometimes results in adverse effects too.

Cartoons are a special tool of self expression of artists to express their thoughts and views in the simplest; yet witty manner that portrays our contemporary society with a varied perspective. Not just Bengali, cartoons are now common in almost all major Indian languages (Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Gujarati, Marathi, Konkani, Sindhi, Odiya,

toons and other interesting areas related to cartoons and even provision that outsiders and viewers could draw their cartoons out of their imaginations and a table at the centre for facilitating this and small cards and white papers were provided with pen and pencil for drawing. There were volunteers taking care of this and the variety of cartoons that came up and was drawn was overwhelming, innovative, a vast variety and beyond limits.

Cartoons are an important tool for viewing our contemporary society from the lens of satire, dark comedy, intellect, critical viewpoint as well as for simple joy and laughter. Many big statements could be made through the efficient use of a simple cartoons that thousand words fail to achieve in properly expressing. The hilarious, enjoyable yet satirical world of cartoons created by cartoonists is not



books, periodicals and social media platforms. The concept of cartoons came to India from the colonial rulers who brought it from Europe to the subcontinent. Through the centuries it has become widely popular across India and around the globe in all major languages such as English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian, Dutch, Irish, Greek, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, Swahili to mention only a handful. Bengali being the 6th/7th largest language spoken in the

world is also a major contributor to the world of cartoons. Bengal and India has produced some of the legendary iconic giants of cartoon drawing who has made us proud and enriched through their outstanding and mesmerizing artworks. Cartoon plays an important aspect in the society and can have impacts in variety of forms. The cartoon exhibition displayed pictures and frames depicting characters, scenarios, stories, media pictures, movie etc. The hall was well



only a learning opportunity for all to learn to appreciate and look into our contemporary society and the challenges and opportunities it provides from a different perspective. Cartoons can be an efficient educational tool at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education if used efficiently. Cartoons have made deep in roads in to widely divergent arenas like politics, literature, education, society, culture, sports, religion, tradition, heritage, news, international affairs, environment, theatres, movies, folklores, folktales, fables, idioms, proverbs, lullabies, songs and lyrics, graffiti, modern art, and street art around the globe in an exponential fashion.

The experience was enriching for all and added a new dimension to the environment and was very unique. Various kinds of art exhibitions are more common in Kolkata; but, this cartoon exhibition cum fair was one of its kind and surely added a lot of interests and values. The program was very well attended with all age groups and gender being well represented. The spontaneous large participation of young kids and school children has been the biggest success of this new and rare initiative.

The Author is a Canada Based indian Agricultural Scientist & Environmentalist



## Tata Steel Mining bags seven prizes with overall first for Sukinda Chromite Mine

Kalinganagar (KCN, Sapan Kar): 24th Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation Week, 2022-23 Kalinganagar, Janu-

(TSM) bagged First prize in Overall Performance category at the 24th Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation (MEMC) Week,

Chromite Mine received First prize in Overall Performance, First prize in Sustainable Development, Second prize in Afforestation

prize in Waste Dump Management under Group-4 and Kamarda Chromite Mine was conferred with the Third prizes in Waste Dump Management and Reclamation and Rehabilitation of waste dump under Group-4.

Expressing happiness over the achievement, Pankaj Satija, Managing Director. Tata Steel Mining, said "It's indeed a matter of pride for all of us as we have bagged Seven prizes. This will certainly inspire the team to go the extra mile and scale new heights."

Adding that Tata Steel Mining has always been committed to embrace excellence & has emerged as a responsible mining company the MD said

"Driven by transformational values, we continue working towards protecting mine environment and conserving minerals. It has always been our priority to work towards intergenerational equity by adhering to sustainable mining practices," he added. Pankaj Kulshrestha, Chief Controller of Mines (I/c), BM who graced the occasion as Chief Guest, gave away the awards to the winners. Sushanta Kumar Mishra, Senior General Manager, Mires, Shambhu Nath Jha, Manager, Mines (Sukinda), Naveen Srivastava, Manager, Mines (Twin Mines); and Ajay Kumar Vishwambharnath, AGM (SHE) along with other officials of Tata Steel Mining received the prizes.



ary 24, 2023 (Sapan Kar) :- With pioneering initiatives, sustained focus and targeted interventions, Tata Steel Mining Limited

2022-23 organised under the aegis of Indian Bureau of Mines, Bhubaneswar region in Bhubaneswar. TSML's Sukinda

and Third prize in Reclamation and Rehabilitation under Group-2. Similarly, Saruabil Chromite Mine was awarded with First

## Special issue of Literary Magazine PRATIBESHI Released

Kolkata(KCN): The special issue (October-December '22) of Odia literary magazine 'Pratibeshi' is released by Mr Himanshu Sekhar Khatua, Director Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata on 24th January 2023 evening in Kolkata. 'Pratibeshi', the

famed Odia magazine published by the charitable organisation, Utkal Shiksha Sansad, Kolkata since last forty years. This issue of 284 pages, priced rupees one hundred only, contains essays, stories, poems, features, interview, biographies, book review, satire, etc. Editor

Pitambar Barik said though 'Pratibeshi' published from Kolkata, it is being circulated among Odia community across the globe. The meeting was attended by Sansad members B. N. Pati, Sanatan Mahakud, Aswini Kumar Palai, D. G. Behera, C. R. Pani and other distinguished persons.

## Cuttack girl to be at PM's exam meet

BHUBANESWAR: New Delhi on Janu-



A Student of DAV-CDA at Cuttack Satabdee Mishra will attend the Pariksha Pe Charcha-2023 programme of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in

ary 27. Studying in Class XI, Satabdee received a special invitation to interact with the prime minister at the Pariksha Pe Charcha event from

the Ministry of Education after she bagged the third position (classical dance category) in the recently concluded national-level Kala Utsav-2022 held by the ministry at Bhubaneswar. She has also been invited to attend the Republic Day parade at the national capital and beating retreat on January 26 and 28 respectively.

## "Shri Jagannath Yatra" Flagged off from Delhi on 25th January, 2023

New Delhi (KCN): IRCTC Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train "Shri Jagannath Yatra" Flagged off from Delhi on 25th January, 2023.

"Shri Jagannath Yatra" flagged off on its auspicious tour by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship along with Shri Ashwini Vaishnav Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri G. Kishan Reddy Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region of India.

IRCTC is operating its Bharat Gaurav AC Tourist Train on the 8 days special tour on January 25, 2023 from Delhi.

The Train departed with ten 3rd AC class coaches with a total of 528 tourists.

Visit of Jagannath temple at Puri will be the major attraction along with Konark, Bhubneshwar, Kashi, Baidyanath and Gaya in the tour itinerary.

The tourist train is fitted with a well-equipped pantry car for rustling up freshly made vegetarian meal for the tourists. Infotainment system, CCTV camera, security guard services shall also be available on board.

The tourist train and its passengers will receive a grand welcome on its arrival at Puri. "Shri Jagannath Yatra" Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train was flagged off today from Delhi Safdarjung Railway Station on its auspicious tour by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship along with Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region of India.

Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble Union Minister during his visit to Odisha had promised for a special train on the theme of "Shri Jagannath Yatra Circuit" for the Jagannath devotees to have a holy experience of the pilgrimage tour. Keeping the promise the special train was flagged off today for the rich cultural heritage and holy experience of the devotees. The Minister has also added that the special tourist train on its maiden journey will receive a grand welcome on its arrival at Puri. Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train started on its very special tour Shri Jagannath Yatra with 528 tourists covering some of the very prominent pilgrimage and heritage destinations of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa States. The train embarks on its journey on the 8 days

tour wherein the one among the Char Dham of India i.e. Jagannath temple of Puri will be visited by the tourists. Besides, the visit of Varanasi, Baidyanath Dham and Gaya will be added attractions in the tour.

The proposed 08 day Bharat Gaurav Tourist train tour has its first stop at Varanasi, where tourists will visit Kashi Vishwanath temple & Corridor along with the Ganga ghat & Arati. After Varanasi, the train will move to Jashidih Railway station in Jharkhand and tourist will proceed to visit Baidyanath dham Jyotirling temple. Further train will depart from Jashidih to Puri where stay for two nights will be arranged for tourists in the hotels.

While at Puri, tourists will visit Jagannath temple, Golden Puri beach, Sun temple at Konark and temples of Bhubneshwar. After Puri, Gaya will be the last destination where the visit of Vishnupad temple will be covered in the tour. Train will return back to Delhi on the 8th day of its journey on 1st Feb 2023.

Coupled with a modern state of the art AC rake, the tourist train will have options to board/de-board the train at Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Tundla, Etawah, Kanpur and Lucknow stations in the tour.

This fully air-conditioned tourist train will comprise of eleven 3rd AC coaches, one pantry car and two SLR's. Freshly cooked vegetarian meals will be served on board to the guests in their respective seats from the well-equipped modern pantry car. The train has also been fitted with infotainment system for the entertainment of the passengers as well as for public announcements. From clean toilets to enhanced security features of CCTV Cameras and Security Guards for each coach have also been provided for the tourists.

Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train launch is in line with the Government of India initiative "Dekho Apna Desh" to promote domestic tourism. At a price range starting from Rs. 17,655/- per person, the IRCTC tourist train will be an all-inclusive tour package covering train journey in 3rd AC, Night stay at hotels, All meals (VEG ONLY), all transfer & sight-seeing in buses, Travel Insurance and services of guide etc. All necessary health precautionary measures will be taken care of and IRCTC will make efforts to provide a safe and memorable experience to the guests. For more details one can visit IRCTC website: <https://www.irctctourism.com>.



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## Small businesses, big dreams: Iraq's women entrepreneurs

BAGHDAD: The sewing machines and fabric that surround Alaa Adel at her "Iraqcuture" studio in Baghdad are testament to her success in deeply patriarchal Iraq. Adel, 33, counts herself among a limited number of female entrepreneurs in a country where most women don't work outside the home.

"We have a social tradition that prevents many women from working," Adel said at her studio in Baghdad's Karrada commercial district.

Even for those who do, "it is not always that easy," she added.

The International Organization for Migration said in an October report that "prevailing customs and traditions... limit women's activities to their domestic and nurturing role".

Adel said such prejudices, as well as practical difficulties, posed a challenge to fulfilling her dream.

A graduate of the University of Baghdad who specialised in fashion and design, Adel wanted to create her own fashion house.

"I went to see the patrons of organisations that support art and culture. But my idea was systematically rejected because I had no experience in the conception of projects," she said.

Thanks to an Iraqi foundation, The Station, and its "Raيدات" (Female Entrepreneurs) programme financed by the French embassy in Baghdad, Adel got training which, she said, gave her the confidence to start her own business.

Obstacles Iraq's private sector is still embryonic, making more tedious and lengthy the steps to set up a company.

The country, which is trying to move past four decades of war and unrest, is also plagued by endemic corruption, widespread unemployment and a poverty rate of around 30 per cent.

Almost 38 per cent of people with jobs work in Iraq's public sector - one of the highest rates in the world, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Adel eventually secured a loan from a private bank, and created her "Alaa Adel" brand last summer.

At the beginning, she had to deal with sexism from some fabric suppliers who were reluctant to do business with a woman, she said. Then there was a lack of public childcare facilities, in a country where tradition says children should be taken care of at home -- by the mother -- until they go to school.

Adel got help from family members who look after her two boys, aged nine and four, while she is at work.

## 'Total torture': Ukrainians on life support gasp for oxygen amid blackouts

Continued from page-1

infrastructure began in October.

Valentyn had to breathe on his own for ten excruciating minutes.

"The way he breathed was scary... we had no clue what to do!" his wife said.

As the outages became the norm, the Mozgovys adapted.

"His body doesn't move, but his mind is very bright, he gives a lot of advice... he is our captain," she said.

She set up a power storage system and extra batteries for her husband's respiratory unit and medical mattress -- which regulates the pressure felt by bedridden patients.

Constant anxiety

However prepared they have tried to be, their situation is precarious.

"I wish there was a bit of stability, so we could understand when there will be electricity... to make a decision on how to cope."

Mozgova realises how lucky they are to be able to afford the equipment needed to keep her husband alive.

"It was very expensive, our children helped us... I don't even know what advice to give to those who don't have money," she said.

In Ukraine, tens of thousands need electricity to stay alive, explained Iryna Koshkina, executive director of the SVOYI charity that provides care to palliative patients.

"If all these people were suddenly unable to use their life-saving devices and went to the hospital at the same time, our medical system would simply break."

Tetyana Venglinska had no choice but to hospitalise her 75-year-old mother, Eva, after three months of exhausting outages. Eva, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer, needs to be linked to a device delivering supplementary oxygen at all times, her daughter Tetyana explained, sitting on the corner of her mother's bed in a Kyiv hospice.

To ensure the oxygen concentrator's battery would last during the interminable outages at home, the family had to reduce the amount of oxygen it provided.

"For my mom, it was total torture," Venglinska said.

"Imagine cutting your oxygen intake three times."

'Drink to victory'

The battery would last up to eight hours, which left the family in a constant state of anxiety.

"(My husband) was afraid to enter her room every time, he didn't know if my mom was alive... or if she had suffocated," Venglinska said.

On the night of December 17, the outage lasted more than 10 hours, longer than usual.

With all power sources exhausted and 40 minutes left on the respirator's battery, Tetyana called a private ambulance to hospitalise her mother.

The decision was a life-saver: Venglinska's home was without power for the next four days.

"She would have died for sure," Venglinska said.

Since then, Eva has spent most of her time at the clinic, tending to her bedridden mother.

Her husband remained in their flat, where he is taking care of her 85-year-old father.

"I want to go home as soon as possible," Venglinska said. "Our family is separated."

Back in the Mozgovy home, Lyudmyla is also hoping for better days.

"We will definitely drink to victory... Valentyn will do it his way, through a straw, and I'll pour myself one."

"And (the drink) won't be weak!" she laughs.

## BJD hits back BJP

Continued from page-1

people who elected them," the BJD leader said.

Dr. Patra further said that Odisha needs more than 15 lakh houses but the Centre has sanctioned only 8 lakh houses and is going to stop the rural housing scheme from this year. So where will these 7 lakh homeless people go? he asked.

The BJP Government at Centre is stopping this scheme from this year so they are doing this cover up. BJP has been crying hoarse about beneficiaries who are present or not present in PMAY list, said Mishra.

Stating that beneficiary selection is done according to the guidelines issued by the BJP-led Centre, she said, "If they are unhappy, let the BJP ask its party in power in Centre to change their PMAY guidelines instead of shedding crocodile tears in Odisha."

The Centre's guidelines provide new allotment through PalliSabha/Gram Sabha. Apart from that there is a provision for objection period where objections can be filed, she said.

The Odisha Government will take every objection very seriously and do enquiry. Instead of shouting hoarse, if there are any ineligible beneficiaries or any beneficiaries have been left out, let the BJP file the objections as per their party-led Centre's PMAY guidelines or provide a beneficiary list which they claim are genuine, Dr. Patra said.

Asking "Why are they not doing it?" the BJD leader said every objection will be enquired into by the BJD Government. It seems the BJP's sole intention is that people of Odisha should be harassed and be pained. Poor deprived tribal people will remain homeless, he alleged.

Dr. Patra and Mishra said that BJP is again conspiring to stop the rural housing and deprive 15 lakh poor people from getting houses and thinking to make political mileage out of it.

"People of Odisha are intelligent. They knew that you conspired and stopped the rural housing and you got your results in ZP elections where you lost in all the districts and BJD won a record 30 out of 30 districts. People will remember and teach a lesson to this negative politics of Odisha BJP," the MP said.

The two leaders said their party strongly objects and condemns this conspiracy of BJP of stopping PMAY houses of people of Odisha and now the new conspiracy to create a false narrative and stop even those houses that have been released.

"Even if you (the BJP) stop rural housing PMAY by conspiring, BJD government will provide houses and take care of our poor people and also expose the role played by BJP in depriving houses to eligible poor," he said.

They said that BJD will continue to fight with Centre till their demands for providing lakhs of pending PMAY(G) houses for tribals and people of Odisha are not met.

## Gamang quits BJP

Continued from page-1

Sishir said the party had promised him to give a party ticket for the Koraput Lok Sabha seat in 2019. However, the party has given him a ticket for Gunupur assembly seat, which he had lost with a dismal show.

"No one has helped me in the 2019 election. After the election also, the entire party in the Koraput area was working under the behest of one leader and no importance was given to me," he added.

Notably, the father-son duo met Telangana CM Shri Rao at Hyderabad on January 13. Senior Gamang is likely to be appointed as the Odisha president of the BRS to lead the party in the 2024 elections. Sishir is likely to contest the next poll on the BRS ticket, sources said.

Apart from the Gamang duo, another tall BJP leader and tribal face in south Odisha, Jayram Pangi is also likely to join the BRS, which is eyeing to grab some seats in the South Odisha, where a good number of Telugu speaking people are residing.

## Address to the Nation by the Hon'ble president of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu on the eve of the 74th Republic Day

Continued from page-1

when the country was facing economic disruption in the wake of the unprecedented outbreak of COVID-19. Because of this help, no one had to go hungry. Keeping the welfare of poor families paramount, the duration of this scheme was extended successively, benefiting about 81 crore fellow citizens. Further extending this assistance, the Government has announced that even during the year 2023, the beneficiaries will get their monthly ration free of cost. With this historic move, the government has undertaken the responsibility of caring for the weaker sections while also enabling them to benefit from economic development.

With the economy on a sound footing, we have been able to begin and carry forward a series of praiseworthy initiatives. The ultimate goal is to create an environment in which all citizens can, individually and collectively, realise their true potential and prosper. As education builds the right foundation for this purpose, the National Education Policy has introduced ambitious changes. It rightly addresses the two-fold aims of education: as an instrument of economic and social empowerment and as a means to explore truth. The policy makes our civilisational lessons relevant for contemporary life, while also preparing the learner for the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges. The National Education Policy appreciates the role of technology in expanding and deepening the learning process.

As we have come to realise since the early days of Covid-19, technology offers life-changing possibilities. The Digital India Mission is striving to make information and communication technology inclusive by bridging the rural-urban divide. More and more people in far-flung places have been reaping the benefits of the internet and are receiving a variety of services provided by the government, as the infrastructure expands. We have reasons to be proud of our achievements in the domain of science and technology. India has been among the handful of pioneers in space technology. As long-pending reforms in this sector are underway, private enterprises are now invited to join the quest. The 'Gaganyaan' program to carry Indian astronauts into the space is under progress. This will be India's maiden human space flight. Yet, even as we reach out to the stars, we keep our feet on the ground.

India's Mars Mission was powered by a team of extraordinary women, and our sisters and daughters are not far behind in other areas too. Women's empowerment and gender equality are no longer mere slogans, as we have made great progress towards these ideals in recent years. With people's participation in 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign, women's representation has been rising in every sphere of activity. During my visits to various states, educational institutions and while meeting delegations of various professionals, I am amazed by the confidence of young women. I have no doubt in my mind that they are the ones who will do most to shape tomorrow's India. What miracles cannot be achieved if this half of the population is encouraged to contribute to nation-building to the best of their ability?

The same vision of empowerment guides the Government's approach to the marginalised communities including the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In fact, the aim is not only to remove hurdles and help them in development, but also to learn from them. Tribal communities, in particular, have rich lessons to offer in many areas, ranging from protecting the environment to making the society more cohesive.

Dear fellow citizens, As a result of a series of initiatives in recent years to transform all aspects of governance and unleash creative energies of people, the world has started to look at India with a new sense of respect. Our interventions in various world forums have started making a positive difference. The respect that India has earned on the world stage has resulted in new opportunities as well as

responsibilities. This year, as you know, India holds the presidency of the Group of 20 nations. With our motto of universal brotherhood, we stand for peace and prosperity of all. Thus, the G20 presidency is an opportunity to promote democracy and multilateralism and the right forum for shaping a better world and a better future. Under India's leadership, I am sure, G20 will be able to further enhance its efforts to build a more equitable and sustainable world order. As G20 represents about two-thirds of the world population and around 85 per cent of global GDP, it is an ideal forum to discuss and find solutions for global challenges. To my mind, global warming and climate change are the most pressing among them. Global temperatures are rising and incidents of extreme weather are increasing. We are faced with the dilemma: To lift more and more people out of poverty, we need economic growth, but that growth also comes from fossil fuel. Unfortunately, the poor bear the brunt of global warming more than others. Developing and popularising alternative sources of energy is one of the solutions. India has taken a commendable lead in this direction by giving a policy push to solar energy and electric vehicles. At the global level, however, emerging economies need a helping hand from advanced nations in the form of technology transfer and financial support.

To maintain the balance between development and environment, we have to look at the ancient traditions with a new perspective. We need to reconsider our basic priorities. The scientific aspects of traditional life-values have to be understood. We must, once again, rekindle that respect for nature and humility before the vast universe. Let me state here that Mahatma Gandhi was a true prophet of our times, as he foresaw the calamities of indiscriminate industrialization and cautioned the world to mend its ways.

We need to modify our lifestyle if we want our children to live happily on this fragile planet. One of the changes suggested pertains to food. I am happy to note that the United Nations accepted a suggestion from India and declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets. Millets were essential ingredients of our diet and they are making a comeback among sections of society. Coarse grains like millets are eco-friendly as they require less water to grow and yet they provide high levels of nutrition. If more and more people turn to millets, it will help conserve ecology and also improve health.

One more year has gone by for the Republic and another year commences. It has been a time of unprecedented change. With the outbreak of the pandemic, the world had changed within a matter of days. During these three years, whenever we have felt that we have finally put the virus behind, it raises its ugly head. However, there is no need to panic because we have learned in this period that our leadership, our scientists and doctors, our administrators and 'Corona Warriors' will make every possible effort to meet any situation. At the same time, each of us has also learned to not let our guard down and remain alert.

Dear fellow citizens, Generations of people working in different fields deserve praise for their invaluable contribution in the development story of our Republic so far. I commend the roles of farmers, workers, scientists and engineers whose combined strength enables our country to live up to the spirit of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan". I appreciate every citizen who contributes to the nation's progress. I also convey my greetings to our diaspora, the great ambassadors of India's culture and civilisation.

On the occasion of Republic Day, I convey my special appreciation to our jawans who guard our borders and are ready to make any sacrifice for the country. I also express my appreciation for all the brave soldiers of paramilitary forces and police-forces who provide internal security to their fellow citizens. I salute all the brave-hearts of our armed forces, paramilitary-forces and police-forces who laid down their lives in the line of duty. I convey my blessings to all the dear children for their bright future. Once again, I extend my best wishes to all of you on this Republic Day.

Thank you,

Jai Hind!  
Jai Bharat!



## BCCI earns Rs 4669.99 crore windfall for five WPL teams, 3 IPL franchisees among owners

MUMBAI: The BCCI on Wednesday earned a Rs 4669.99 crore windfall for the sale of five teams in the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL) with Adani Sportsline shelling out a mas-

women's team for WPL. Many were already calling the league Women's IPL but the BCCI secretary revealed the name on Wednesday. BCCI President Roger Binny with

were sold for USD 723.59 million before the maiden edition in 2008. The WPL player auction will take place next month with the first edition to be played in March. The BCCI on Monday

playing eleven. "India's women cricketers have always made the nation proud in the global sporting arena, be it the World Cup, Asian Cup or the recent Commonwealth Games! This new Women's League will once again shine a global spotlight on the talent, power, and potential of our girls. I'm sure our Women's MI team will take the Mumbai Indians brand of fearless and entertaining cricket to a new level altogether," said Mumbai Indians owner Nita Ambani. Mumbai Indians also have their presence in the ongoing ILT20 in UAE and SA20 in South Africa. The Diageo-owned RCB franchise said it was patiently waiting to become part of women's cricket. ALSO READ | BCCI invites bids to own



sive Rs 1289 crore for the Ahmedabad team, which emerged as the most expensive franchise. IPL team owners Mumbai Indians, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Delhi Capitals made successful bids of Rs 912.99 crore, Rs 901 crore and Rs 810

Vice-President Rajeev Shukla, Joint Secretary Devajit Saikia, Treasurer Ashish Shelar and Secretary Jay Shah along and IPL Governing Council Chairman Arun Dhumal during a meeting announcing the successful bidders for the inaugural

had cleared 17 technical bids for the closed-door bidding that was held in a five-star hotel here on Wednesday. As many as seven IPL franchisees were in the race and the ones to miss out were Punjab Kings, Kolkata Knight Riders, Rajasthan Royals



crore respectively to enter the WPL. Capri Global Holdings got the Lucknow franchise for Rs 757 crore. "Today is a historic day in cricket as the bidding for teams of inaugural #WPL broke the records of the inaugural Men's IPL in 2008! Congratulations to the winners as we garnered Rs.4669.99 Cr in total bid," BCCI secretary Jay Shah tweeted. Earlier this month, the BCCI sold the media rights of the Women's Premier League to Viacom18 for Rs 951 crore, getting a Rs 7.09 crore per match value for five years. Adani Group, which had failed to buy an IPL team when the Lucknow and Ahmedabad franchises were up for sale in 2021, has made its official entry into Indian cricket by securing a

edition of the Women's Indian Premier League, in Mumbai on Jan. 25, 2023. (Photo | PTI) "The BCCI has named the league - Women's Premier League (WPL). Let the journey begin. Today is a historic day in cricket as the bidding for teams of inaugural #WPL broke the records of the inaugural Men's IPL in 2008. This marks the beginning of a revolution in women's cricket and paves the way for a transformative journey ahead not only for our women cricketers but for the entire sports fraternity. The #WPL would bring necessary reforms in women's cricket and would ensure an all-encompassing ecosystem that benefits each and every stakeholder," Shah said in a series of tweets. The eight franchises in the men's IPL

and Sunrisers Hyderabad. Among the outsiders, multinational sweets and snacks company Haldiram too had submitted its bid on Monday. The BCCI had not set any base price for the sale of teams. A total of 22 games will be played in the inaugural season with the top-ranked team in the league stage qualifying directly for the final. The second and third-placed teams will battle out for a place in the title clash. Each team will have a purse of Rs 12 crore at the players' auction next month and will need to buy a minimum of 15 players and a maximum of 18. ALSO READ | WIPL Team Bid: BCCI set for another 4000 crore windfall Up to five overseas players, including one from associate, will be allowed in the

teams in women's IPL "At the core of Diageo, is the value of gender inclusivity that embraces diversity in the broadest possible sense and this enterprise champions us to welcome and celebrate women's cricket for who they are and the value they bring in the journey of this sport, Cricket. "Therefore, it is a fitting asset in the right direction for Diageo India-owned franchise. We held back all our investments in overseas teams to own a team that aligns with this philosophy and core value, and it gives us immense pleasure to have marked this accomplishment positively," said RCB chairman Prathmesh Mishra in a statement.

## World Cup star Mbappé gets 5 goals for PSG in French Cup win

PARIS: Kylian Mbappé scored five goals, including a 12-minute hat-trick in the first half, as Paris Saint-Germain won

the match. "We came here to respect this team by playing at our level. That's what we did and we're very happy,"

Lens' home stadium. Neymar was anonymous until he collected a yellow card for a rash late tackle in the 26th.

56th, before Neymar set up Carlos Soler midway through the second half and Mbappé slotted in from close range in



7-0 at amateur team Pays de Cassel in the French Cup to set up a round-of-16 match at bitter rival Marseille. It was his first hat-trick since France's World Cup final defeat to Argentina on Dec.18. It took Mbappé's tally to 25 goals in 24 games this season and moved him onto 196 overall for PSG -- four short of Edinson Cavani's club record. Mbappé became the first PSG player on Monday to score five goals in a competi-

Mbappé said. "It was a great opportunity for them and also for us, because it's a reminder for us that we come from amateur football and it's important to keep this link. Even if it's only for one game". PSG coach Christophe Galtier kept his word and picked a strong side, with the World Cup top scorer Mbappé and Neymar in the lineup, although he rested World Cup winner Lionel Messi for the game played at northern side

Galtier looked increasingly agitated with his underperforming team when Mbappé put record 14-time cup winner PSG ahead from Nuno Mendes' cross in the 29th minute. Neymar was roundly jeered by the crowd when he scored PSG's second goal with a skillful effort in the 33rd, before Mbappé netted with a lob and a slick chipped finish. Mbappé grabbed his fourth after a goalkeeper blunder in the

78th. He almost got a double hat-trick but a late shot was blocked. Marseille won the last of 10 French Cups in 1989 and has lost three times in the final since, including to PSG in 2016. Another all first-division clash sees Lyon hosting Lille with the ties held Feb. 7-8. PSG hosts Bayern Munich on Feb. 14 in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 game.

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