

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN OUR COUNTRY HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF BECOMING POWERHOUSES OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS: PRESIDENT MURMU

New Delhi, (KNC): On the second day, the Conference deliberated on the Theme - Education for Sustainable Development: Building a better world. Five different groups brainstormed on sub-themes such as Contributions to the realization of NEP-2020; Internationalization efforts and G-20; Research contributions and recognitions; Diversity, equality, inclusivity and wellness; Plans and action items for Amrit Kaal. The outcome of deliberations was presented before the President.

In her concluding remarks, President Murmu said that the theme and sub-themes of this conference were

extremely relevant for our country as well as for the entire world. She noted that the views presented in the Conference are concise and actionable.

The President said that the significance of the policy is proved only in putting it into practice. Outcomes and results prove that the policy has been effectively implemented. For example, through the 'Digital India' initiative, a target has been set to digitally empower the Indian society and bring changes in the country's economy. The results of this initiative have been very impressive. Due to the effective implementation and public participation revolutionary change has been made possible in a



very short time. She expressed confidence that similar transformative and inclusive results would be achieved in the field of higher education as well. The President said that discussion on the subject 'Internationalization Efforts and G 20' is very relevant in establishing

India as a Knowledge Superpower. She stated that India is making efforts to find collective solutions to the current global challenges together with the G 20 countries with the mantra of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.

Speaking about the sub-theme 'Research

Contributions and Recognitions', the President said that innovation and cutting edge R&D are among prime movers of economic and social development of a nation. Leading universities and technology institutions in the world have focussed

on innovation. They provide an ecosystem that supports Research and Development which can be applied in industrial and commercial spheres. She said that Higher Education Institutions in our country have the potential of becoming powerhouses of research

and innovations. She was happy to note that Higher Education Institutions in India are making the transition towards promoting start-ups, applied research and commercially valuable innovation while preserving the tradition of fundamental research. She expressed confidence that the heads of institutions of higher education would lead their institutions towards promoting innovation that can be used for industrial and commercial purposes.

The President appreciated for a special session on Diversity, Equality, Inclusivity and Wellness and said that institutions of higher education are among the most effective platforms for promoting our Constitutional ideals of

justice, equality, fraternity, individual dignity and respect for women.

The President pointed out that developed countries are also known for their higher educational institutions. Students from across the world want to study in higher educational institutions of those countries. She said that such a roadmap has been given in India's National Education Policy - 2020, following which our higher educational institutions can also become Global Education Centres. She expressed confidence that our higher educational institutions would become centres of world-class knowledge creation.



Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik discussing with chief secy, 5T secy senior officers and Collector, Angul on proposals for various developmental works in Angul district through VC

Odisha Govt Approves Over 900 New Posts In Plus 2 Colleges

642 teachers, 260 non-teaching staff to be recruited soon

Bhubaneswar (KCN): A massive employment drive started in Plus 2 colleges in Odisha as the State Government has created over 900 new posts to strengthen higher secondary education.

According to an official release by Information & Public Relations Department dated today, the Government of Odisha approved creation of total 902 new posts including 642 teaching posts in higher secondary schools across the state. The vacancies in the schools, which were upgraded as the Plus 2 college, will be notified



and the recruitment process will begin soon. The School and Mass Education Department had proposed recruitment for 642 post-graduate teachers (PGT) and 260 non-teaching staff to meet the needs of 106 recently upgraded higher secondary schools. The proposal received the Government nod.

As per the release, the Government had asked the department to

proactively identify staff shortage and to explore new avenues for job creation in upgraded higher secondary schools.

Recently, total 106 schools have been upgraded in the state adding Class 11 and 12 to the school education. With addition of these new classes, the government created 642 posts for teaching faculties and 260 non-teaching staff. Of approved non-teaching posts, 24 each for Laboratory assistants and Laboratory attendants, 106 Assistant librarians and 106 junior clerks.

IMD Forecasts Heavy Rains In Some Odisha Districts For Next 24 Hours

Bhubaneswar (KCN): With monsoon trough prevalent, at least six districts in Odisha will witness heavy rainfall at one or two places during the next 24 hours. However, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) regional centre here issued Yellow Warning for next five days, today. In its mid-day bulletin, the IMD regional centre mentioned, "Light to moderate rain or thundershower is very likely to occur at many places over the districts of Interior Odisha, South Coastal Odisha and at a few places over the districts of North Coastal Odisha."

Five Dead, One Missing In Nepal Helicopter Crash

Kathmandu: Nepal Police on Tuesday announced that a helicopter which went missing while flying from Kathmandu from Solukhumbu district earlier in the day, has crashed, killing five people on board, while one person remained unaccounted for. The Manang Air helicopter crashed at the Lamjura area in Likhupike Rural Municipality, the police said. The area lies

between Jiri and Phaplu, near Mount Everest. Niranjan Basnet, a junior police officer who is stationed at the crash site, said the five bodies have been found and a search operation is on to find the sixth missing person. Raju Neupane, the operations and safety manager at Manang Air, said the six people on board comprised Captain Chet Bahadur Gurung and five Mexican nationals.

According to rural municipality deputy chair Nwang Lhakpa Sherpa, locals discovered the crashed chopper. The last location of the chopper, with the registration number 9N-AMV, was tracked at 10.12 a.m. in the Lamjura Pass area, said Neupane. The helicopter was originally heading to Lukla near the Mount Everest base camp but could not land due to bad weather.

Rungta Funds College Transform

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Just like schools, major colleges will be transformed in State in phased manner. The entire higher education infrastructure will be completely revamped under the 5T Transformation program of the State Government.

From smart class rooms to e-library, all the modern amenities will be established in different colleges dedicated towards students of higher educational institutions, officials said today. With global standard laboratories and improved classrooms, now students will have a whole new experience while pursuing higher studies. Under the 5T College Transformation Program, 11 colleges of Ganjam District will be overhauled completely



with Mo College Abhijan. Of which eight are Plus-II colleges/higher secondary schools and three are Degree Colleges. For the transformation of these higher educational institutions, a mammoth contribution of Rs.4.50 crore has been made by Rungta Sons Pvt. Ltd under its CSR fund. The amount is received under the

supervision of Collector & DM of Ganjam. Double matching grant of the amount i.e. Rs.9 Crore was granted by the State Government under 'Mo College' Abhijan, the officials said. From this enormous contributed amount, different higher secondary schools of Ganjam district including Hinjilicut block's Shri Beleswar Higher Secondary

School, Gandala-Belagam; Khambeya Dora Science Higher Secondary school, Pochilima; Government Higher Secondary School, Kanchuru; OAVS Hinjilicut Municipality's Science Higher Secondary School, Pittala Higher Secondary School; Udaya Pratap Science Higher Secondary School; OAV Sheragada will be taken

up. Similarly, Shri Beleswar Degree Mahavidyalaya, Science College (Autonomous) Hinjilicut and Udaya Pratap Science Degree College of Sheragada Block will be developed under the initiative. Through this transformation program, students will be enriched with advanced smart classrooms, new auditoriums, common rooms, new toilets, basketball and volleyball courts to transform them in every perspective. Likewise other higher secondary schools and degree colleges will also be accessing smart classrooms, improved infra, wider exposure through e-libraries, hygiene through better toilet facilities and different sports, to improve students in all aspects of life.

BJD Received Highest Rs 692 Crore Donation Among All Political Parties In Last 5 Years: Report

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Odisha's ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) received Rs 692.609 crore between FY 2016-17 and 2021-22, which is the highest among all political parties, a report of the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR) said. "Between FY 2016-17 and 2021-22, BJD declared the highest total donations worth Rs 692.609 cr followed by TRS (Rs 476.893 cr), DMK (Rs 475.73 cr) and YSR-Congress (Rs 456.206 cr)," the ADR report said.

More than 89.81% of BJD's total donations came from Electoral Bonds worth Rs 622 crore, as per the report. BJD is also among the political parties that declared receiving maximum direct corporate donations during this period. Among regional parties, BJD declared the highest donations from the top 10 corporate donors amounting to Rs 67.286 crore, the report added.

Odisha Co-op Robust

Belgium : The Cooperative system in Odisha has made the food safety scheme a robust one. The successful cooperative system adopted in Odisha has been applauded in the International forum by other Countries. Atanu sabyasachi Nayak Minister Cooperation who is on a 8 day visit to Belgium is attending the joint International Cooperative Alliance Committee on Cooperative Research Global and European Cooperative Research Conference in Leuven, Belgium. Speaking on the occasion Minister Sri Nayak told that Odisha is one of the most progressive states in

adopting innovations in the field of cooperatives with a view to making the Cooperatives most viable medium for all round economic development of the State in general and the economically weaker, marginalised and vulnerable sections of the society in particular. The PACS/LAMPCS of the State have been mandated to market the agricultural produce of the farmers. They procure Paddy from farmer at Government of India declared Minimum Support Price (MSP). Again, through Price Support Scheme of the Government, they do market intervention and ensure that Agri-Produces like Pulses and

Oil Seeds are sold above MSP. Today Odisha is a food surplus state providing food grains to other States of India. World Food Programme (WFP) has appreciated Odisha Government's food security implementation schemes and initiatives. This is one of the unique systems that we have adopted the Cooperatives in food production, procurement and food security process. The Cooperative Movement of Odisha was enriched by some of the best practices of the U.K and other European Countries historically as the Father of the Cooperative Movement of Odisha, legendary



Madhusudan Das, established the First Cooperative in 1898 in Odisha after he visited the Cooperatives formed by the Rochdale Brothers. Cooperative Societies have been playing a crucial role in fostering agricultural and other kinds of growth of the state under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Naveen Patnaik, Chief

Minister. The Government of Odisha have initiated a number of innovative measures to deliver effective and proactive governance for all stakeholders of the State. Sri Nayak also briefly highlighted the innovative measures adopted by the Government of Odisha with a view to ensuring

g o o d governance and prosperity t h r o u g h cooperatives. T h e s e measures also speak about the ecosystem in place which has promoted the innovative capacity of the cooperatives. A few of those reforms are Computerization/ Digitization of the Agricultural Cooperative Credit Structure , Making PACSs One-Stop-Shops , Creation of new PACS/LAMPCS , Procurement of Agri Produce , Cooperative Support System, Cooperative Capacity

Building and the last but not least Bringing Separate Cooperative Policy. It is worth mentioning that the joint International Cooperative Alliance Committee on Cooperative Research [ICA CCR] Global and European Cooperative Research Conference is taking place on July 10-13, 2023, in Leuven, Belgium. Hosted by the Centre of Expertise for Cooperative Entrepreneurship [KCO KU Leuven], the conference will bring together academics, researchers, and c o o p e r a t i v e practitioners from all over the world, as well

as policy-makers at the European Union and international level to discuss the latest research and policy developments in the area of cooperative governance. KCO KU Leuven is a research and teaching centre that brings together various stakeholders from the field of cooperative entrepreneurship with the aim of "advancing k n o w l e d g e , proficiency, and legitimacy". T Prasad Rao Dora President and Udhav Charan Majhi MD Odisha State Cooperative Bank have also joined the conference.

Training cum Capacity Building programme on "Inland Fisheries Management" organized by ICAR-CIFRI



Kolkata, (KCN): ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute conducted a 7-day training-cum-capacity building programme on 'Inland Fisheries Management' during 4-10 July 2023, for the fish farmers of Rohtas district of Bihar. 30 fish farmers including 21 women fish farmers along with one fisheries development officer attended the training program. The training program was sponsored by Directorate of Fisheries, Bihar. In his inaugural address, Dr. B.K. Das, Director

ICAR-CIFRI stressed on the need of fishers learning about inland fisheries management to secure a sustainable livelihood. He urged fishers to use their available resources to maximize outputs and productivity. The week long training programme covered inland fisheries, fish farming including pond management, induced breeding, composite fish farming, ornamental fishery, enclosure culture, fish health management, and a general overview of the

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. Participants were also introduced to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), ornamental hatchery units, and fish feed mill. As part of field visit, ICAR-CIFA Rahara Fish Farms, East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW), Ornamental fish markets, and other locations were organised. The participants received their training certificate by Dr. Kuldeep K Sharma,

Vice Chancellor, Himalayan University, Itanagar and Dr. B. B. Jana, Retd Professor, University of Kalyani after completion of training on 10 July 2023. Dr. Sharma congratulated all the participants and said for the first time I am seeing seventy percent women fish farmers as trainees. Training Programme was coordinated by Aparna Roy, Ganesh Chandra, Ajoy Kumar Saha with assistance from Kaushik Saha, Sadrupa Bhowmik, Sujit Chowdhury and Manabendra Roy.

Infra For Child Traffic Combat

New Delhi: The Union Government has decided to provide financial assistance to the States and Union Territories in Border areas to set up Protection and Rehabilitation Homes for the victims of trafficking particularly for the minor girls and young women. The homes will provide services like shelter, food, clothing, counseling, primary health facilities and other daily requirements. Sanjeev Chadha, Additional Secretary Ministry of women & Child Development sources said the victim girls will be produced before CWC to declare fit facility for providing sponsorship as per the Mission Vatsalya scheme guidelines and

accordingly, the States/ UTs will be requested to do the needful. The Union Government has provided funding to all States/ UTs under Nirbhaya Fund to set up/ strengthening Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in every district of the country. In addition, funding has also been provided for AHTUs in Border Guarding Forces such as BSF and SSB. As on date, 788 AHTUs including 30 in Border guarding forces are functional. India is a source as well as destination country for trafficking of persons. The source countries are Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar from where women and girls are

getting trafficked in the guise of providing better life, jobs and a good living condition in India. A majority of them are minor girls/ women of younger age, who are after their arrival in India are sold and forced into commercial sex work. These girls/ women often reach major cities like Mumbai Delhi, Hyderabad, etc, from where they are taken out of country mainly in Middle East and South East Asia. This is the reason why, the bordering States to these countries need to be more vigilant and have adequate facilities to provide relief and rehabilitation services to the victims of trafficking. Further, as per section 51

of the JJ Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021), (1) the Board or the Committee recognize a facility being run by a G o v e r n m e n t a l organization or a voluntary or non-governmental organization registered under any law for the time being in force to be fit to temporarily take the responsibility of a child for a specific purpose after due inquiry regarding the suitability of the facility and the organization to take care of the child in such manner as may be prescribed and (2) the Board or the Committee may withdraw the recognition under sub-section (1) for reasons to be recorded in writing.

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Bigg Boss OTT 2, Day 24 Written Updates: Cyrus Broacha Makes Shocking Exit

The fresh episode of Bigg Boss OTT 2 had undercurrents of changed relationships inside the house. But the spotlight remained on the unexpected exit of Cyrus Broacha. Bigg Boss informed the star that on 'humanitarian grounds' he has been granted the permission to leave the house as requested by his family citing an ongoing 'medical emergency'. Hearing the news, Bebika sobbed, and Manisha craved for a goodbye hug. We also saw how Abhishek Malhan aka 'Fukra Insaan' feeling homesick, and he ended up crying hard. To his rescue, Cyrus, Avinash and Jad comforted him. Playing cupid, Bebika was seen formulating Jiya's 'love angle' with Abhishek. On the same love line, Falak said that Abhishek has mushy feelings for Manisha Rani. In a private conversation with Manisha, Bebika accused her of having a soft corner for Abhishek. The discussion was left open-ended with a lingering thought - Will Jiya and Abhishek end up together?



Viral Video: Ranbir Kapoor's Moves On 'Ban Than Chali Bolo' At 'Animal' Wrap-Up Party Are Infectious



Actor Ranbir Kapoor recently wrapped up the shooting of his upcoming action thriller film 'Animal.' Several videos from the wrap-up party of the film are now surfacing on social media in which Ranbir could be seen grooving to Sukhwinder Singh's songs 'Chaiyya Chaiyya' and 'Ban Than Chali Bolo' as the crew hooted for him. Helmed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, 'Animal' also stars Rashmika Mandanna, Anil Kapoor

and Bobby Deol in the lead roles. Soon after the clips of the actor dancing with the crew members went viral on social media, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. Talking about the film's postponement, director Vanga earlier said in a video, "The only reason why we are not releasing the film on August 11 is the quality. I am not going to explain to you how the post-production work of the film is being

layered because it might bore you. For example, there are seven songs in the film and when the seven songs are multiplied by 5 languages it becomes 35 songs. 35 songs, different types of lyricists, different sets of singers, it's going to take a little more time than what I have actually planned for. The kind of lyrical value that we have achieved in Hindi, I need to give the same kind of lyrical value in all different languages and

The video begins with several people who can be seen wearing skull masks, white shirts, black waistcoats, and ties. They wielded axes as well. Ranbir, the lead actor in the movie, walks in with an axe in his hand to fight with the group. Ranbir swung his axe as he slaughtered several people, many of whom managed to flee. Ranbir can be seen wearing white dhoti and kurta. He kept her beard and hair long. The teaser only showed a portion of the actor's face but some scars on his face were visible.

'Dhak Dhak': Fatima Sana Shaikh, Ratna Pathak Shah, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi promise a ride of a lifetime

Taapsee Pannu has announced her next production venture, 'Dhak Dhak', starring Fatima Sana Shaikh, Ratna Pathak Shah, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi in the lead. This entertainer promises a ride of a lifetime!



Announcing the film, Sanjana had shared on Instagram, "Months of prep later, so excited to FINALLY get to share this crazy ride with you all! Here's bringing to you our next, full of love, laughter and adventure. Join the ride of a lifetime with Dhak Dhak, as four women ride to the highest motorable pass in the world on an exciting

journey of self discovery!" Fatima and Dia Mirza had also expressed their excitement on kickstarting this promising project. 'Dhak Dhak' first look featured the four

women on bike, all set to start off on a thrilling journey. The film will be directed Tarun Dubeja. Speaking about the project, Taapsee Pannu had said in a statement, "At Outsiders Films we aim to produce films

that are meaningful and entertaining. We have attempted to give audiences a visual experience that they have rarely seen on screen. Dhak Dhak narrates the story of four women who realise that

freedom has to be owned and never given. Viacom18 Studios has been a crucial part of my journey in the film industry from Chashme Baddoor, Shabaash Mithu and now to Dhak Dhak. In Viacom18 Studios and Ajit, we have a partner who has a great foresight towards differentiated cinema. I am sure that this ride will be an enriching one." Taapsee has joined forces with Viacom18 for this project which narrates the story of four women and their life changing journey. 'Dhak Dhak' is currently under production and will hit screen in 2023.

Tanisha Mehta's fangirl moment as she meets actor Aamir Khan on her shooting set



It was a fan girl moment for TV actor actress Tanisha Mehta when she met her favourite actor Aamir Khan on the sets of her TV show Shubb Laabh-Aapkey Ghar Mein. The actress couldn't stop gushing about the 54-year-old actor.

Tanisha is currently playing the positive lead Shreya Toshniwal in the show Shubb Laabh. She made her television debut with the show. Recently, she took to Instagram and shared a picture of her with Aamir Khan. Sharing about the fan-girl moment with the Bollywood star, she also wrote, "We had a visitor on set today.. so sweet so humble, Aamir Sir??" When asked about the same, the actress says, "It was a complete surprise for all of us as we didn't know Aamir Sir would be coming to visit our set. I was surprised for a moment and got goosebumps

after watching him in real as I grew up watching his films. I am a huge fan of his acting skills and we all grew up watching his films." Aamir also interacted with the cast on the sets. Talking more about it, Tanisha further adds, "He is so humble and sweet. I had a great conversation with him and he interacted so nicely with everyone on the set. I am fortunate and happy to meet such a renowned actor."

Kiara Advani recalls telling Sushant Singh Rajput someone will make a biopic on him

Kiara Advani is currently busy promoting her upcoming film 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' on various platforms. During a recent interaction, she was asked to share thoughts about her late co-star of 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story', Sushant Singh Rajput.

Talking about the same, she recalled that post their shoot in Aurangabad they decided to stay awake all night as they had a flight the next morning. Kiara said that during their conversation, Sushant talked about his journey, how he bagged Dhoni and that he was a background dancer behind Preity Zinta. The late actor also opened up about his engineering life.

After listening to his journey, the actress told Sushant that someone will make a biopic of him as his journey was very interesting. Meanwhile, 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' is helmed by Anees Bazmee and features Kartik Aaryan. The film also stars Tabu and Rajpal Yadav in pivotal roles. It has been slated to hit the theatres on May 20.



Karan Johar, Sujoy Ghosh Says THIS About Shah Rukh Khan Starrer 'Jawan' Prevue

The highly anticipated 'prevue' of megastar Shah Rukh Khan's upcoming high-octane action thriller 'Jawan', which was unveiled on Monday, has created an instant frenzy amongst netizens. Presenting an all new bald look of SRK, with hard-core action by Nayanthara, the 'prevue' is beaming with Atlee's magic earning love and appreciation from the audience. Fighting with an army of women, it features Shah Rukh's innate swag and high octane action by the entire star cast. It also gives a glimpse of Vijay Sethupathi, Deepika Padukone and Sanya Malhotra. Hailing it as a 'blockbuster', filmmaker-producer Karan Johar wrote in an Instagram story addressing his "bhai" (SRK): "????!!!!!! This is going to be a juggernaut of a blockbuster! And @atlee47 you have done it again!!!! Wowww, can't wait!!!!" with red heart emojis. Director Sujoy Ghosh shared glimpses of the 'prevue' and said: "Man that last few seconds of the jawan trailer... gotey gripping stuff! I bow to you @iamsrk", and "tooooo good!! jhoomey jo jawan..." Actress Raashii Khanna commented: "Ufff!!!!", with fire and heart emoji. 'Jawan' is a Red Chillies Entertainment presentation, directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan, and will release on September 7 in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

Odisha launches Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha scheme



The Odisha Cabinet has approved 'Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha' under the State plan for augmentation of rural infrastructure leading to accelerated growth as well as promoting, preserving and protecting the Jagannath culture and tradition of the State. With a budget provision of Rs 4000 crore, the scheme covers all Gram Panchayats in each Block of the State with an entitlement of Rs. 50 lakh. The scheme will be implemented by Panchayati Raj and Disaster Management (PR & DW) Department. On the occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said, "I am glad to brief you all about our new

initiative Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha. This scheme has the vision of a New Odisha.... Aspirational Odisha... Modern Odisha, while retaining the essence, the soul and the spirit of Odisha."

"Odisha has always been rooted in its culture, its tradition and its history. Odisha is the Land that gave Jagannath Culture to the world. A culture that is based on universal love, service and equality. It is based on inclusiveness and embraces everyone irrespective of caste and community," he said.

In a historic move to preserve our Jagannath culture – protect our local places of worship, and sites of historical significance, and provide amenities to our pilgrims and visitors – every Gram Panchayat can take up work up to Rs.10 lakh. Every panchayat has places of local importance, rooted in spirituality and history. It is important for our future generations that

they be preserved and protected. And who better to do this important work than our Panchayati Raj Institutions through 'Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha'?, the Chief Minister stated.

The Odisha CM further said, "Together with strengthening our roots, New Odisha will also firm up her wings to scale the horizon. Our villages need internet connectivity, playgrounds, and science parks for the youth. They need training facilities, work hubs and skill centres for rural entrepreneurs, especially women.

We need to Bridge the gap in education infrastructure, provide banking facilities, build digital infrastructure and take up other modernization works. This scheme will support panchayats to take up these works." "All original works from village temple restoration to building futuristic digital infrastructure can be taken up under 'Ama

Pradeep Kumar Panda

Odisha Nabin Odisha'. Both shall go hand in hand. It will herald a new Odisha – modern, dynamic and responsive – for our



youth our women and children, entrepreneurs, farmers and tribals. This scheme will usher in an Odisha with Secure Roots and Powerful wings," the Chief Minister concluded. The State Government has modified the guidelines of the earlier intervention "Ama Gaon Ama Bikash" by giving it a new dimension in the form of "Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha" under State Plan to make it

effective from the Financial Year 2023-24 for taking up measures to augment rural infrastructure leading to accelerated growth as well as to

Promote, Preserve and Protect Jagannath culture and tradition of the State.

The vision of the intervention is to transform Odisha into a modern and aspirational Odisha retaining the essence, soul and spirit of Jagannath culture and spreading over to the world. Odisha is the Land that gave Jagannath Culture to the world. A culture that is based on

universal love, service and equality. The main objective of the scheme is to provide missing links to the existing small and essential projects

and the development of infrastructure. Also a c h i e v i n g empowerment of women, and youth, bridging the critical gap in education, digital and sports facilities :

- Improvement of infrastructure for primary education and also providing missing links to the existing infrastructure, construction, modernization and expansion works

- Creating additional facilities for Mission Shakti Groups at the GP level.

- Bridging critical gaps at the GP level to improve rural areas by way of providing urban facilities.

- Development of sports facilities for the youth.

- Providing Banking Facilities

- Improvement of digital access in terms of mobile connectivity, optical fibre connectivity, WiFi and internet connectivity

There is a budget provision of Rs. 4000.00 Crore under the Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha scheme from the State Budget. The scheme will cover all Gram Panchayats in each Block of the State with an entitlement of Rs. 50 lakhs. The project cost shall be between Rs. 2.50 lakh to Rs.10.00 lakh.

The projects under the scheme shall be suggested / recommended by local

people/community organizations/public representatives and o t h e r stakeholders. The consolidated Gram Panchayat wise project list of the Block shall be submitted to PR & DW Department with the signatures of the Collector and President, Zilla Parishad of the district for due examination and approval of the Government.

The Panchayat Samiti shall execute the work d e p a r t m e n t a l l y following due procedure. The Collector shall be authorized to select any other agency/agencies for the execution of work. Transparency measures such as a web-based MIS for monitoring the Scheme and a dedicated app for sharing photographs before, during and after each project with GIS tagging shall be developed under the scheme.

Economist, Bhubaneswar

Do you know Rahul Bhatia ?



As recently as only couple of weeks ago when India's leading airline IndiGo inked deal to buy staggering 500 Airbus Planes, Rahul Bhatia, the promoter of IndiGo, and his father, Kapil Bhatia were deluged with message of congratulations from their old friends of Connaught Place days. Naturally, they were happy that their old pal and colleague is making big in the world of aviation. Kapil Bhatia used to run his first venture Delhi Express from M block of Connaught Place.

Of course, Rahul Bhatia joined his father only in late 1980s once he finished his Management degree from Canada. Once Rahul Bhatia joined hands with his father, he started learning the various facets of aviation sector closely. Rahul Bhatia was not happy with the growth of his family's venture Delhi Express. He wanted more on the platter and fast. M

Meanwhile, Kapil Bhatia sold off their travel agency Delhi Express to their partner after some tiff as people close to them claim and e s t a b l i s h e d InterGlobe Aviation Limited in late 80. Since then there is no looking back for them.

Well, one can say that IndiGo is part of InterGlobe Aviation Limited. It is the largest airline in India by passengers carried and fleet size, with a 57.5% domestic market share as of April 2023. It is also the largest individual Asian low-cost carrier in terms of jet fleet size and passengers carried, and the largest carrier in Asia. It carried over 300+ million passengers as of November 2022. It operates 1,600 daily flights, as of November 2022, to 101 destinations – 75 domestic and 26 international. It has its primary hub at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi. Of course, the numbers that are attached with IndiGo are all mind-boggling.

Rajji Rai, who knows both Kapil and Rahul Bhatia since their Delhi Express and Connaught Place

days, says that Indigo was founded by Rahul Bhatia as part of InterGlobe Enterprises in 2006. Rakesh Gangwal was his partner. Rahul and Rakesh were friends and both had a hunger to create a big airline in India. And they did with sheer hard work and clear. Of course, they were getting the expert advice of Kapil Bhatia, a real veteran of aviation sector."

Indigo took delivery of its first aircraft in July 2006 and c o m m e n c e d operations a month later. The airline became the largest Indian carrier by passenger market share in 2012. The company went public in November 2015. IndiGo has been ranked as the 4th most punctual airline globally in 2018, 6th most punctual airline globally in 2019 and 3rd most punctual airline globally in 2021 by OAG Punctuality League. Mr Harsh Vardhan, ex-CEO of Vayudoot Airlines and someone who knows Indian aviation sector like back of his right hand, says that the hallmark of Rahul Bhatia is that he is a very quick learner and also

learns from the mistakes of others. " Rahul Bhatia always sticks to basics. He gives lot of attention to customers' issues. That is why he is growing fast." It may be recalled that Harsh Vardhan was the youngest CEO to head the government-run regional carrier

Vivek Shukla



Vayudoot in August 1983, when he was just 27

As we have already mentioned that on last 19 June 2023, IndiGo, placed a firm order for 500 Airbus A320 family aircraft, making this the largest purchase by an Indian carrier and eclipsing Air India's order for 470 planes. IndiGo commenced operations on 4 August 2006 with a service from New Delhi to Imphal via Guwahati. By the end of 2006, the airline had six aircraft, and

nine more were acquired in 2007. In December 2010, IndiGo replaced state-run carrier Air India as the third largest airline in India, behind Kingfisher Airlines and Jet Airways with a passenger market share of 17.3%. In 2011, IndiGo

placed an order for 180 Airbus A320 aircraft in a deal worth US\$15 billion. In January 2011, after completing five years of operations, the airline was permitted to launch international flights. In December 2011, the DGCA expressed reservations that the rapid expansion could impact passenger safety. In February 2012, IndiGo took delivery of its 50th aircraft, less than six years after it began operations. For the

quarter ending March 2012, IndiGo was the most profitable airline in India and became the second largest airline in India in terms of passenger market share. On 17 August 2012, IndiGo became the largest airline in India in terms of market share surpassing Jet Airways, six years

after commencing operations.

It is said that in January 2013, IndiGo was the second-fastest-growing low-cost carrier in Asia behind Indonesian airline Lion Air. In February 2013, following the announcement of the Civil Aviation Ministry that it would allow IndiGo to take delivery of only five aircraft that year, the airline planned to introduce low-cost regional flights by setting up a subsidiary. Later,

IndiGo announced that it planned to seek permission from the ministry to acquire four more aircraft, therefore taking delivery of nine aircraft in 2013. As of March 2014, IndiGo is the second-largest low-cost carrier in Asia in terms of seats flown. In December 2019, the airline became the first Indian airline to operate 1,500 daily flights. On 31 December 2019, it became India's first airline to have a fleet size of more than 250 aircraft.

On February 1, 2023, the airline inducted the Boeing 777 to their fleet after acquiring one aircraft on a wet lease agreement from Turkish Airlines, which will initially last for a year. A second aircraft in full IndiGo livery will be put into service in the coming months. This is the first widebody aircraft to be operated by the airline, while also offering its first business class seats. According to the OAG Frequency and Capacity Statistics, IndiGo is the sixth-largest airline by passenger volume. IndiGo carried more than

2.02 million passengers in 2022. IndiGo was also named the world's fastest-growing airline by OAG, with a 41.3% growth in frequency in the month. It is also ranked among the world's top 10 airlines by seat capacity for the month of March 2022. The OAG Frequency and Capacity Statistics data includes statistics on airport and route capacity and a list of the 20 largest worldwide airlines by flights based on monthly data. IndiGo is the only airline from India to appear on this list.

IndiGo recently announced the re-introduction of scheduled operations of more than 150 foreign flights from various airports in India. IndiGo has also expanded its domestic network with many new routes.

So, what next for IndiGo? It has to fly high. As Allama Iqbal says 'Other worlds exist beyond the stars— More tests of love are still to come.'

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor

Namami Gange's Webinar Series 'Igniting Young Minds: Rejuvenating Rivers' Goes Global

New Delhi: National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has taken the webinar series 'Igniting Young Minds: Rejuvenating Rivers' global. The 13th edition of the webinar series, now titled, 'Igniting Young Minds: A Global Campaign' was virtually organised on 8th July 2023 in collaboration with APAC News Network, with the objective of invoking participation from 'Young Water Sustainers to Build Tomorrow's Global Sustainability Leaders'. The theme of the webinar was Water Conservation. In this special session, the urgent need for rainwater conservation, collaboration with universities, and community engagement to ensure sustainable water management and river rejuvenation were discussed.

Mr. G. Asok Kumar, Director General, NMCG chaired the webinar. The panelists included Mr. B.S Yadav, Chancellor, IES University, Dr. Narayana Shenoy S, Vice Chancellor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Dr. Neena Singh Zutshi, Professor and Dean Academics, World University of Design, and Mr. Arpan Stephen, Kingdom of Bahrain, E-learning Expert, Arabian Gulf University. Delivering the keynote address, DG, NMCG highlighted the critical need for intensified efforts in water conservation and river rejuvenation. He spoke about the imperative role of public participation, calling for a collective movement and citizen responsibility to ensure sustainability and respect for water resources. He

emphasized the effective management of water resources to make use of the spatial and temporal variation in rainfall in the country. "The scope of Namami Gange extends to River Ganga and its tributaries and the impact of the work done in the Ganga Basin is manifesting in the form of significant improvement in water quality and biodiversity exemplified by the increased sightings of aquatic species like Gangetic Dolphins, Otters etc.," He further added, "The recognition of NMCG's efforts by the United Nations further reinforces its unique position and commitment to water conservation. The positive recognition received from international stakeholders underscores Namami Gange's impact. The



participation of more than 20 crore people in the Kumbh Mela 2019, much more than anticipated, signifies an increasing awareness and engagement in river rejuvenation efforts in the country." He said that the significance of the 5 Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recharge and Respect - is pivotal to combat water scarcity, particularly the agriculture sector, where water use efficiency remains a primary

concern. He shed light on the excessive use of groundwater by farmers, which not only requires significant energy for pumping, but also demands more efficient irrigation methods. He said that saving water should be incorporated into all aspects of life, encouraging the reuse of water, such as utilizing rejected water from RO systems for washing vegetables, fruits, and plants. Additionally, treated water from sewage treatment plants

(STPs) can be used for irrigation and other purposes, reducing the extraction of water from other sources. He noted that by adopting a circular economy of water, where water is no longer discarded but instead recovered and reused, the world can achieve sustainable water management. He focused on the need to educate younger generations, raising awareness among students and instill a sense of responsibility to promote sustainable water usage practices. He also highlighted the importance of reusing sewage water, focusing on the technical aspects of safe sewage disposal. "Improper sewage disposal can lead to the contamination of fresh water sources, posing risks to public health. NMCG actively engages in the process of treating sewage water through the

establishment of Nirmal Jal Kendras, ensuring the safe disposal of sewage water and its utilization for non-potable purposes", he said. DG, NMCG underscored the need to preserve rainwater and discussed the "Catch the Rain" campaign, which encourages decentralized storage of rainwater. The campaign urges communities to harvest rainwater within their localities, contributing in elevating water table levels and a reduction in energy-intensive water pumping. "Preserving rainwater is instrumental in conserving water for the summer season". Furthermore, he noted the significance of rainwater conservation for students, as it directly influences future of forthcoming generations. "It is imperative to instill this knowledge in students, fostering a sense of responsibility and

promoting mindful water usage practices", he said. He acknowledged the significant role that universities can play in the conservation and rejuvenation of rivers and urged universities to actively support and collaborate in the revitalization of rivers. Mr. B.S Yadav, Chancellor of IES University, spoke about the role of the Ganga River as the lifeline of the country and encouraged the need for awareness campaigns within university spaces to promote the optimal use and conservation of water resources. He also appreciated the Jal Jeevan Mission, recognizing it as a remarkable initiative in addressing the need for clean water. Additionally, he highlighted Unnat Bharat Abhiyan launched by the Government of India, wherein 10 nearby villages are to be adopted for community development.



The Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan meets with UAE Minister, Ms. Sara Musallam at the inauguration of Future Changemakers Summer Bootcamp, in New Delhi

Amit Shah will inaugurate a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi on 14th July

New Delhi: Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah will inaugurate a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi on July 14, 2023. The conclave is aimed at discussing ways to strengthen Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). The conclave will witness participation of experts from the sector as well as members from the FPOs across the country. The mega conclave is being organized by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) in

collaboration with the Union Ministry of Cooperation. Being collective entities formed by farmers, enabling them to pool resources and enhance their bargaining power, the FPOs are one of the major vehicles for agricultural transformation. In order to realize the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of "Sahkar se Samridhi" and with the efforts of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, recently a decision was taken to form 1100 New FPOs in Cooperative Sector. With an important initiative of Ministry of Cooperation, the

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has recently allocated additional blocks to NCDC to form and promote 1100 FPOs in Cooperative Sector through strengthening of PACS under the scheme to bolster the cooperative sector and provide comprehensive support to small and marginal farmers. Under the FPOs Scheme, financial assistance of Rs.33 lakh is provided to each FPO. Further, financial assistance of Rs. 25 lakh per FPO is given to the Cluster Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) for promoting and handholding the FPOs. FPOs are being touted as

playing a crucial role in making farming sustainable and in promoting livelihoods and improving overall quality of life of those dependent on agriculture. They help small and marginal farmers/producers access better prices, reduce transportation cost, and enhance overall productivity. The Government has been pushing for integration of the PACS in the FPO scheme to enable the farmers to expand their business range of activities such as supply of production inputs; agricultural equipments like cultivator, tiller, harvester, etc. and processing and value

addition, including cleaning, assaying, sorting, grading, packing, storage, transportation, etc. The PACS have a huge member base of around 13 crore farmers who are primarily engaged in short-term credit and distribution of seeds, fertilizers, etc. Presently, more than 86% of farmers in the country are small and marginal. Since, there is a need to facilitate these farmers with access to improved technology, credit, better input and more markets to incentivize them to produce better quality commodities, the Government has already taken steps to encourage the farmers associated with the PACS to form FPOs.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh meets his Malaysian counterpart in Kuala Lumpur; Also calls on Prime Minister of the Southeast Asian nation

New Delhi: To further boost India's 'Act East Policy' and strengthen bilateral ties with Malaysia, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh held extensive discussions with his Malaysian counterpart Mr Dato' Seri Mohamad Hasan in Kuala Lumpur on July 10, 2023. He also called on Prime Minister Mr YB Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, besides meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia Dato' Seri Diraja Dr Zambry Abd Kadir. After touching down in Kuala Lumpur late on July 09, 2023, Shri Rajnath Singh began his official engagements with a ceremonial Guard of Honour at Ministry of Defence, Malaysia. It was followed by bilateral talks between the Raksha Mantri & his Malaysian

counterpart Mr Dato' Seri Mohamad Hasan. Both sides discussed initiatives to further expand bilateral defence ties, with particular focus on identifying ways to strengthen industrial cooperation. They reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Enhanced Strategic Partnership based on mutual trust and understanding, common interests and shared values of democracy and rule of law. The two Ministers agreed to the next Malaysia-India Defence Cooperation Committee (MIDCOM) meeting which is being planned in India later this year. Shri Rajnath Singh highlighted the potential of the Indian defence industry with capacity and capability to cooperate with



Malaysian Armed Forces in its inventory modernisation and maintenance plans. Both Ministers approved amendment in the Memorandum of Understanding on

Defence Cooperation between India and Malaysia signed in 1993, through 'Exchange of Letters' (EoL). This amendment will act as an enabler to expand

bilateral defence cooperation in the areas of mutual interest. Later, the Raksha Mantri called on the Prime Minister of Malaysia Mr YB Dato' Seri Anwar bin

Ibrahim and conveyed warm greetings of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Recalling his successful visit to India in 2019, the Malaysian Prime Minister

reciprocated the greetings by highlighting that he has great love for people of India and that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is his personal friend. The Malaysian Prime Minister expressed appreciation of the strong cultural bonds between both nations. Shri Rajnath Singh also met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia Dato' Seri Diraja Dr Zambry Abd Kadir, during which they exchanged views on matters of bilateral importance and

cooperation in international fora. India's recognition of ASEAN centrality and importance of peace, stability and prosperity in the Indo Pacific region were discussed. The meeting concluded with India's assurance to partner Malaysia in its efforts to accelerate self-reliance of the Malaysian Defence Industry. Later, the Raksha Mantri felicitated Second Lieutenant Sundaram, a 99-year old INA veteran, who fought alongside Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Burma border. This is the first bilateral visit after the establishment of Enhanced Strategic Partnership, which was announced during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Malaysia in 2015.

Rejuvenation of Kidderpore Docks



Kolkata, (KCN): For enhancement of the containerised traffic for catering to the demand of the landlocked states, Nepal, Bhutan and other regions of the hinterland, unlocking of complete potential of Kidderpore Dock of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SMP), Kolkata has initiated the project Rejuvenation of

Kidderpore Docks (Dock 1- West) through PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode on DBFOT (Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer) basis at Kolkata docks system (KDS) at a cost of Rs. 181.81 Cr. (Phase-I: INR 95.66 Cr.; Phase-II: INR 86.15 Cr.) to be implemented in two phases.

M/s Century Ports Limited, the Concessionaire, had signed the Concession Agreement on September 26, 2022. After fulfilling conditions precedent including financial closure, Award of Concession was handed over to M/s Century Ports Limited in

presence of Shri Rathindra Raman, Chairman, SMP Kolkata for a concession period of 30 years including 18 months of construction time for each phase. Capacity of the project in Phase-I is 3.0 MMTPA & Phase-II is 2.48 MMTPA. Cargo like containers, finished fertilisers, food grains, iron and steel products,

Aluminium Ingots, Pig Iron, Sugar, Limestone etc. will be handled.

In the above programme, Shri Ashutosh Jaiswal, Director, M/s Century Ports Limited and Shri Samrat Rahi, Dy. Chairman (KDS), Shri Goutam Mandal, Chief Engineer, Shri Srinivas Rao, Dy. Chief Engineer and other HoDs from Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata were also present.

Appreciating this significant achievement, Shri Rathendra Raman, Chairman, SMP Kolkata stated that despite being the only riverine major port in the country, SMP Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 153 years.

35 Rashtriya Rifles Commemorate 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' At AGS Naugam Handwara Kashmir

Handwara Kashmir (Aasif Malik): Naugam (Handwara), Jul 11: Indian Army on Tuesday held an event at Army Goodwill School Naugam Handwara to commemorate 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' and to remember the true heroes of nation laying down their lives in the line of duty. The event comprised of Quiz and painting competitions, flag hoisting and cultural programme based on 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' theme.

Students from various schools of Naugam, Lawoosa, Reshwari & Pothwari region participated with great enthusiasm to commemorate the event. The event was attended by students, teachers, Ex-servicemen from the AoR of Naugam Brigade, Sarpanchs & Deputy Sarpanch, locals from villages & Army Personnel.



The event concluded with the Prize felicitation ceremony by the Commander 17 Infantry Brigade to the winners & runners up of Quiz & Painting Competition, participants of cultural programme & Ex-service Personals. The event received an overwhelming response and appreciation from the

locals. Notably, Kargil Vijay Diwas is commemorated every 26th of July to observe India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War for ousting Pakistani Forces from their occupied positions on the mountain tops of Northern Kargil District in Ladakh in 1999. It is a symbol of victory, bravery & glory for the Indian Army.

ICAR-CIFRI Signs Memorandum of Understanding with Himalayan University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh



Kolkata, (KCN): ICAR-Central inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore signs Memorandum of understanding with Himalayan University, Jollong, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 10 July, 2023 at Barrackpore, Kolkata, west Bengal.

Dr. Kuldeep k Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Himalayan University, Itanagar (State Private University of Arunachal Pradesh) and Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-Central inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions.

This MoU was aimed at strengthening of Public private partnership towards academic, research and technical collaboration between the two institutions in the field of open water fisheries research, academic and capacity building. Dr. Kuldeep k Sharma,

Vice Chancellor, Himalayan University, Itanagar appreciated ICAR-CIFRI role in enhancing inland fish production in India from last several decades through epoch making technologies. He hoped that this MoU will enable the university and ICAR-CIFRI to collaborate in research, technical and academic collaboration which will ultimately help state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI, emphasized on long-term collaborations between the two institutions will help in the promotion of faculty and student in both the aspects of the quality post-graduate research front and the academy front.

'Neglected' Jagannath Temple in Uttarkashi to be revived as religious tourist destination: Dharmendra Pradhan



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday spoke with the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhama urging him to develop the reportedly neglected Jagannath Temple in Sald village under Uttarkashi. Pradhan discussed the matter with Dhama in a video conferencing meeting which was also joined by actor couple Sabyasachi Mishra and

Archita Sahoo, who highlighted the issues of the temple and the Mahanayak of Puri Srimandir Chhattisa Nijog, Janardan Pattajoshi. Speaking about the meeting, Pradhan said, "I thanked actor Sabyasachi Mishra for highlighting the issue. I have urged the Uttarakhand government to include the temple in any of their projects in order to revive it." "Chief Minister Pushkar

Singh Dhama has assured me to help revive this temple and develop it as a religious tourist spot. I pray Lord Jagannath to bless the CM of Uttarakhand so that he can succeed in completing the project soon," Pradhan added. Sabyasachi and Archita went to the temple in Sald village near the district headquarters of Uttarkashi and took stock of the situation by interacting with the

priests there. They mobilised the devotees from Sald and nearby villages to visit the temple. Later, the actor couple accompanied by the villagers went to the temple, performed puja, and offered prasad to the deities. The temple, located at a height of around 3000 feet above sea level, is one of the oldest temples of Jagannath. Unlike other temples, the Lord is worshipped here in the form of stones.



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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times in a year. By expanding our test center

network, we are taking one more step to bring the CFA Program within the reach of aspiring professionals and students in India." Said Arati Porwal, Director Society Relations at CFA Institute in India.

India has a robust banking, insurance and investment industry. It has a diversified financial sector undergoing rapid expansion, both in terms of strong growth of existing financial services firms and new entities entering the market. With such rapid expansion, there is a growing demand for professionals with relevant competencies and high standards of ethics. The CFA Institute works closely with the industry and regulators to support an inclusive and secure financial services industry in India.

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple touch-points to provide a consistent brand experience that surpasses expectations."

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is

the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury.

A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth.

To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chundur, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers - Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO - which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples - Bhubaneswar - celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' - The Journey of a Young Woman - the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take Pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves - truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

our Prime Minister to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of

Mahindra Unveils its Disruptive Product Innovation, the brand-new 'G75 Smart' Motor Grader at EXCON

Bengaluru: Mahindra's Construction Equipment Division (MCE), a part of the Mahindra Group, announced expansion of its road construction equipment range with the launch of the brand-new Mahindra RoadMaster G75 Smart - "Profit Ka Partner".

Speaking on the occasion, Jalaj Gupta, Business Head, Commercial Vehicles Business Unit, Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, said, "We at Mahindra are committed to provide disruptive products and services for our customers and are launching yet another product innovation in the fast-growing road construction equipment segment, the Mahindra RoadMaster G75 Smart Motor Grader. It has been designed and developed in India based

on deep insights of the needs of smaller road contractors. Our aim is to help small contractors break free from sub-optimal grading practices and to upgrade them to mechanization and enable them to participate in nation building. The brand-new G75 Smart motor grader is a highly reliable machine with low owning and operating costs and will truly be their "Profit Ka Partner". Our existing RoadMaster range of motor graders has already captured over 20% market share, and we are confident that G75 Smart will further strengthen our position while transforming construction of small roads in India, which constitute about 60% of country's roads."

The RoadMaster G75 Smart offers road contractors, liberation

from compromised makeshift solution, such as manual labor and farm tractor-based graders. It is the ideal machine for spreading and grading applications for the rural, semi-rural and district roads, land development, internal housing and commercial roads. It enables small road contractors to participate in projects with grading needs for government flagship programs as Smart City, as well as PMGSY roads. The RoadMaster G75 Smart provides small contractors affordable uncompromised mechanization and an opportunity to deploy a registered motor grader in the smaller projects which was not possible hitherto with the conventional graders. Also, it will help improve the quality and longevity of work and quicker turnaround of projects.

Vi Brings Attractive International Roaming Packs for its Customers this Travel Season!

Mumbai: As international travel opens up and more Indians resume international travel for business and leisure, Vi, India's leading telecom operator, offers attractive international roaming packs for its customers this holiday season. Currently, Vi has roaming arrangements with operators across geographies, making international travel experience seamless and worry-free for its customers.

Vi International Roaming packs enable users to roam worry-free with unlimited Voice

calls and Data on its unparalleled roaming networks across top travel destinations globally. Vi post-paid customers travelling to popular business and holiday destinations such as UAE, UK, USA, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Australia, Thailand, Brazil and more can opt for Vi Unlimited International Roaming packs, starting from Rs. 599 offering 24 hour validity to Rs 5999 pack that comes with 28 days validity.

The 'Always On' feature on all Vi Postpaid Roaming Packs ensures that customers do not get

charged exorbitant rates while on international roaming even after the expiry of the subscribed pack. For example if travelers who have subscribed to the 7 day Vi Postpaid Roaming Pack, have to extend their stay, they can continue to use their phone for voice, SMS and data, and will be charged standard rates till the user's usage value doesn't cross Rs. 599. Upon crossing Rs. 599, the user will be billed @Rs 599 for each additional day that they use the International roaming facility, thus getting safeguarded from bill shocks.

BOB Financial and HPCL launch co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) - a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL Contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as

well as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network.

Cardholders of HPCL BOB RuPay Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points.

The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, Skill Development and Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana.

Commenting the development, Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

Gary Stead to remain New Zealand head coach till mid-2025

New Delhi: Gary Stead will continue as New Zealand head coach until mid-2025, it was confirmed by the country's cricket board on Tuesday (July 11). Stead's current contract was to run until the end of the ODI World Cup in November this year. But the extension will now see the 51-year-old oversee the team across formats and in major assignments including the T20 World Cup of 2024, the Champions Trophy of 2025 as well as the entirety of the 2023-25 World Test Championship Cycle. The decision to re-appoint Stead followed after lengthy discussions

between him and New Zealand Cricket. There were also deliberations around whether NZC wanted to employ a format-specific split-coaching system but they were ultimately rejected. "We started talking to Gary around firstly whether he wanted to continue in the role and keep going," NZC's GM High Performance Bryan Stronach said. "And then went through a feedback process from management and players and support staff - how supportive they are around that and gathering all that feedback came back undeniably that people were really supportive of



Gary continuing and then we followed through on that process.

"There was strong feedback around Gary continuing, but there was

also feedback around making sure we keep having fresh voices and ideas coming into the environment.

"I suppose the split

coaching is one way of doing that, but when we weighed it all up we thought we could continue the good stuff Gary has brought to the

side and the organisation, but also get the fresh ideas and so forth through other means, than just the split coaching."

First appointed to the role in late 2018 following Mike Hesson's resignation, Stead oversaw a very successful period in New Zealand's cricket history. This included a run to the finals of both the ODI World Cup in 2019 as well as the T20 World Cup of 2021. Between the two, the Black Caps also clinched the inaugural World Test Championship (2019-21) mace by beating India in the final at Southampton. Stead said he was excited

about the challenges that lay ahead for his side and that his passion for the role remained as strong as when he first started. "I had talks with Bryan [Stronach] and [departing CEO] David [White] and New Zealand Cricket for a while now, just making sure they were clear on me being the right person and the feedback is nice to get back that there was support for me.

"I'm very humbled and privileged to do the role I do and for me it's a real privilege to want to be involved with a great set of human beings representing New Zealand," he said. Meanwhile, Test captain

Tim Southee led the players' voice and said they were pleased to see Stead continuing in the role. "The sheer amount of time players and support staff spend away from family and loved ones makes for a challenging environment. With so much cricket being played these days, being able to effectively manage people and their workloads is a huge part of the job.

"Gary's had great success leading us into finals in all three formats and, of course, that World Test Championship win. It's been great the way that he's come in and built on what was previously achieved."

MS Dhoni, Sakshi Dhoni Make Grand Appearance At LGM Trailer Launch In Chennai

Chennai: Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the former captain of the Indian cricket team and skipper of the Chennai Super Kings, made headlines as he and his wife, Sakshi Dhoni, attended the trailer and audio launch of their debut production venture, Let's Get Married (LGM), in Chennai. The couple arrived in Chennai on July 9 to a warm reception from fans at the airport. The highly anticipated trailer and audio of LGM are set to be unveiled on July 10. Let's Get Married is an upcoming family entertainer that features Harish Kalyan and Ivana in the lead roles. The film marks the foray of Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sakshi Dhoni into



the world of film production. Directed by Ramesh Thamilmani, who is also the composer of the film, LGM promises to be an exciting project.

On their arrival at the Chennai International airport, Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sakshi Dhoni were greeted by a large crowd of enthusiastic fans. Supporters gathered outside the airport, eagerly

waiting to catch a glimpse of their beloved cricket icon. The couple was showered with flowers and cheers as they made their way through the crowd. Moments from their arrival quickly went viral on social media, generating buzz and excitement around the event.

It is worth mentioning that just a couple of months ago, Dhoni led the

Chennai Super Kings to victory in the IPL 2023, securing their fifth championship title. However, he underwent knee surgery following the tournament and is currently in the process of recovery. Despite his injury, Dhoni's spirit remains high as he actively participates in various engagements, including the promotion of his film. Let's Get Married, also known as LGM, commenced filming earlier this year. The project was conceived by Sakshi Singh Dhoni, as revealed by a statement from Dhoni Entertainment. Alongside the lead actors, the film boasts a talented cast that includes veteran actress Nadiya, Yogi Babu, and Mirchi Vijay in significant roles. With a star-studded lineup and a promising

storyline, LGM is expected to captivate audiences upon its release, which is likely to be later this year or in early 2024. As the anticipation for Let's Get Married builds up, the presence of Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sakshi Dhoni at the trailer and audio launch in Chennai has added an extra layer of excitement. Fans and movie enthusiasts eagerly await the unveiling of the film's trailer, hoping to catch a glimpse of the magic that this power couple has brought to the silver screen. With Dhoni's impeccable track record in cricket and Sakshi's creative vision, Let's Get Married promises to be a memorable cinematic experience for all.

Farooqi sent for scans ahead of third ODI

New Delhi: Fazalhaq Farooqi was sent to the hospital for MRI scans for his calf muscle issues, confirmed an Afghanistan Cricket Board official. Farooqi could not complete his bowling in the opening game against Bangladesh as he was forced to leave in his ninth over.

Farooqi, who was adjudged Player of the Match, was the chief destroyer with 3-24 as Bangladesh could only make 169-9 in their stipulated 43 overs that they won by 17 runs in D/L method.

In the second game he picked 3-22 but ACB officials said that they have sent him for an MRI



on Monday as they want a reconfirmation from the medical team regarding his calf muscle issues. "He faced some problems day before yesterday (in the opening game) and as he was finding some problem we send him to the hospital (today)," he said adding that they are

hoping that he will play tomorrow (July 11) in the third ODI against Bangladesh. Farooqi bowled in full rhythm during the practice session at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium on Monday and later in the evening was seen leaving the team hotel for his scan.

Grigor Dimitrov Dominates Frances Tiafoe, Advances To Wimbledon Men's Singles Fourth Round



New Delhi: Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria made an impressive comeback at Wimbledon 2023, advancing to the fourth round in the men's singles competition after defeating the talented American player Frances Tiafoe, who currently holds a top-10 ranking in the world. Dimitrov, ranked 24th in the world, had previously reached the semifinals of the grass-court major back in 2014. He displayed his exceptional skills once again as he outplayed the 10th-seeded Tiafoe in a commanding fashion, winning the match 6-2, 6-3, 6-2. This victory marked

his return to the fourth round at Wimbledon for the first time since 2017. The match was interrupted by heavy rain on Saturday evening, but Dimitrov remained unfazed. Throughout the encounter, he showcased his dominance by hitting 33 winners compared to Tiafoe's 14. Remarkably, Dimitrov did not face a single break point and successfully converted five out of nine opportunities of his own, securing the win in just 99 minutes.

Recognizing Tiafoe's dangerous playing style and court presence, D i m i t r o v

acknowledged the need to maintain his focus. He praised Tiafoe's powerful serve and return while emphasizing the importance of taking care of his own game. Expressing his joy, Dimitrov shared that his recent weeks in England had been remarkable, and he aimed to savor every single day on the court.

Dimitrov's consistent performance at the Grand Slam events this year has been notable, having reached the third round at the Australian Open and the fourth round at Roland Garros. Although he had not dropped a set prior to this match, he encountered stiffer competition against Tiafoe. Despite his success in the majors, Dimitrov is still striving to end his nearly six-year title drought since his triumph at the 2017 Nitto ATP Finals, a victory that propelled him to finish the year ranked No. 3 in the ATP Rankings.

Nic Pothas calls for patience after rare ODI series loss at home

Dhaka: Bangladesh assistant coach Nick Pothas has called for patience after his side lost the ODI series at home against Afghanistan with a game to spare. Bangladesh are now desperate to avoid an embarrassing 3-0 scoreline after already losing a series at home in ODIs only for the second time since 2015. "We are very quick to forget that we have won a series against England, India and Ireland. We are judging world class cricketers on two games. We should make sure we judge them over a long period of time. Not two games," Pothas told reporters ahead of the third ODI at Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium on Monday. "County and state cricket is probably the closest to international cricket. Still there is a big jump. When you come up to international cricket, the execution jumps. International bowlers are going to find your chink in the armour.

"These things take time.



If I took a fish out of the sea, it will eventually learn to walk. It will adapt. Makhaya Ntini wasn't very good when he started, but you leave it at that level for a period of time, he will adapt because he has a ceiling. These guys have very high ceilings. That's why we show faith in them," he said adding that he is not ready for frequent chopping and changing following Afif Hossain's failure to make his ODI comeback count, making 4 and 0 respectively.

"It is a question for

selectors. Not for me. Afif has played two games. If we are going to chop and change all the time, players will feel under pressure. You have to show faith in players. The No 7 spot is going to be hugely dependant on the balance of the team against different oppositions. It is a game by game thing. The question is for the selectors," he said. Pothas added that his charges will learn a lot playing against the spin trio of Afghanistan as he feels it will enhance their skill-set. Rashid is currently ranked seventh in the ICC ODI bowling rankings

while Mujeeb is joint number eight and Nabi is at 10th.

"I think if we are honest, they have the best spin attack in the world. That's just a fact. These three guys have played a lot of white-ball cricket around the world. It is a captain's dream where each one does his job whenever given the ball. Technically, the challenge that they have presented, is a huge advantage to us. It will make us better. If you can face this level of spin, you can face anybody," said Pothas.

"They keep coming at us. No other team in the world has three spinners of this quality that keep coming at you all the time. It is very beneficial for our team. They are ranked below us, but two of those spinners are among the top three spinners in the world. We are looking at it with a very positive outlook.

"There's always going to be progress but

under pressure you will always revert to type. These things take time. I understand you guys want it to happen quickly. It doesn't happen quickly. People who have played 200 ODIs are learning all the way too. It is not going to happen quickly. The exciting part is the young crop of batsmen who will play at a very high level for Bangladesh for another 10-15 years," he said. Pothas cut his side some slack and was also quick to point out that most of the batters around the world struggle against Afghanistan's spin trio. "I think it is not a question of whether we struggled," he noted. "It is a question of how the world struggles to pick them. Where they are ranked in the world will tell you everybody in the world struggle pick them. I had Mujeeb with me at Middlesex. Even after I was talking to him as a wicketkeeper, I struggled to pick him from behind.