

## National Seminar on "Role of Journalists and Citizen in Nation Building" concludes successfully, acknowledging media's vital role in shaping society

# Prominent Leaders and Media Icons Converge to Celebrate the Vital Role of Journalists and Citizens in Nation Building at ABWJAI National Seminar  
# Distinguished Guests Advocate for Ethical Journalism and Citizen Engagement to Foster National Progress and Inclusive Development



**New Delhi, (KCN):** The Apex Body of Working Journalist Association of India (ABWJAI) hosted a thought-provoking and engaging National Seminar on "Role of Journalists and Citizen in Nation Building" at the Press Club of India, Raisina Road, New Delhi. The event, which took place on Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, witnessed an esteemed gathering of journalists, academicians,

advocates, and distinguished guests who emphasized the crucial role played by journalists and citizens in the nation-building process. The inauguration of the seminar was graced by Sri Vibhuti Narayan Ray, (IPS), Former DGP, Vice Chancellor & Renowned Author, who shared his insights on the significance of responsible journalism and the collective responsibility of citizens in building a strong and vibrant nation.

Shri Sunil Kumar Mishra, Sr. Journalist and Chairperson of Apex Body of Working Journalists Association of India (ABWJAI), expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the participants and attendees. He said, "This seminar has been a remarkable gathering that underscores the indispensable role of journalists and citizens in shaping our nation's progress. As journalists, we have a duty to uphold the principles of ethical journalism, unbiased reporting, and a



commitment to truth. By fostering citizen engagement and promoting constructive dialogue, we can collectively work towards a more inclusive and prosperous India." As the Chief Guest, Dr. Pabitra Mohan

Samantaray, Editor in Chief of the English Daily 'THE KALINGA CHRONICLE' and Odia Daily 'PARYABEKHYAK', delivered an inspiring speech highlighting the crucial role journalists play in shaping public opinion and fostering an

informed society. In his address as the Chief Speaker, Prof. Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Former Director, I & PR, North Eastern Region, emphasized the need for media to be a proactive force in driving positive change and promoting

constructive dialogue in society. The seminar also saw the participation of esteemed Special Guests: Shri Nayan Chand Hembram, President, Bharatiya Adimajati Seveka Sangha, who shared his perspective on the role of journalists in empowering marginalized communities and addressing their concerns. Advocate Shri N P Nagar, President of the

Anti-Corruption Front, who stressed the importance of ethical journalism in combating corruption and upholding the principles of justice. The event provided an interactive platform for journalists, academicians, and representatives from various fields to exchange ideas and discuss the challenges and opportunities faced by the media in the current socio-political landscape.



## President Droupadi Murmu Arrives In Odisha On A 3-Day Visit

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday evening

arrived in Odisha on a three-day visit to the state. Governor of Odisha Prof. Ganeshi Lal and

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik received President Droupadi Murmu on her arrival in Bhubaneswar.

Chief Secretary PK Jena, Police DG SK Bansal, and other senior officials were also present. The

President received a rousing welcome on her arrival at Biju Patnaik International Airport in

Bhubaneswar. President Droupadi Murmu is on a three-day visit to Odisha starting July 25. During her

tour, Murmu is scheduled to attend several programmes in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.

## Window Clears 08 Projects

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) led by Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena today approved 8 industrial projects with a cumulative investment of Rs 1250 crores. These projects are expected to create employment opportunities for 3640 persons. The progressive vision of the Government of Odisha continues to bear fruit as it forges ahead in converting investment intentions into concrete realities. The successful approval of these diverse projects underscores the State's determination to retain and improve its stature as the second most sought-after investment destination



among states in attracting ongoing investments in FY 2023-24. In the Apparel & Textiles sector, B K International has been sanctioned to establish a manufacturing unit for socks, projected to bring in an investment of Rs 52 crores and generate employment for 800 individuals. Mamta Fabrics readymade garments manufacturing unit will

be set up with an investment of Rs 50 crores and is anticipated to offer employment opportunities to 2,000 individuals in Khurda district. In the steel (downstream) sector, a reputed manufacturer will set up a cutting-edge manufacturing unit for producing 1,80,000 of steel doors and windows along with other products, earmarking an investment of Rs 147.64 crore and creating job

prospects for 150 people. Nezone Tubes Utkal plans to expand its existing facility by establishing a manufacturing unit for 1,60,000 MT pipes and tubes, entailing an investment of Rs 105 crores and providing employment for 50 individuals at Kalinga Nagar. The mining and metallurgy sector in Odisha receives a further boost with the approval of Vedanta's 4.5 MTPA Iron ore Beneficiation Plant. This project, estimated at an investment of Rs 80 crores, is expected to provide employment to 152 people and enhance the State's capabilities

in steel beneficiation, located at Koida in Sundergarh district. The Agro Processing industry further flourishes in Odisha with three key projects receiving the green light for production of grain-based ethanol, with a combined investment of approximately Rs. 810 Crore, generating employment for around 500 people, in Western Odisha along the Biju Economic Corridor. The Government of Odisha's commendable efforts in attracting investments and fostering a conducive business environment continues to make it an attractive destination for industries seeking to establish a foothold in Eastern India.

## Odisha Civil Services 2021 results stayed

**Cuttack(KCN):** The Orissa High Court has directed Odisha Public Service Commission not to release Odisha Civil Services 2021 results without its permission. Hearing a petition filed by a divyang candidate, the High Court put the interim stay on the announcement of the Civil Services 2021 results. Meanwhile, the next hearing on the matter will be on the first week of September 2023.



Notably, Satish Kumar Panigrahi was not allowed to participate in the recruitment test, particularly the Personality test, as he is a divyang candidate. He then approached the High Court filing a writ petition, asking for a direction to the OPSC to allow him to participate in the test. The provision in Persons with Disability Act, 2016 provides that a candidate who has 40 percent of permanent disability, quota shall be provided to them for recruitment. The Petitioner had initially applied under the PWD category along with a disability certificate issued by the concerned Medical authority indicating therein that the Petitioner has 40% temporary disability. Yet, he was not allowed to appear in the personality test. Hearing the petition, the High Court directed the OPSC to allow the petitioner to participate in the personality test, which is presently going on.

## Center Rejects Kendu Plea

New Delhi: The Government of India on Tuesday said that the GST Council has decided not to withdraw the GST on kendu leaves in its meeting held in February 2023. While replying to an unstarred question of BJD MP, Sasmit Patra, MoS Ministry of Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary said that GST rates are prescribed on the recommendation of the GST Council, which is a constitutional body composed of representatives from States/UTs and Centre. The issue for withdrawal of GST on kendu leaves was discussed in the 14th meeting of the Council held on May 18 & 19, 2017, 15th meeting held on June 3, 2017 and the 37th meeting held on September 20, 2019 and the GST Council recommended to maintain the rate at 18 per cent. Chaudhary said the issue of withdrawal/ reduction of GST on kendu leaves was again discussed in the 49th Meeting of the GST Council held on February 18, 2023. The Council agreed with the recommendation of the Fitment Committee for retaining the GST rate on kendu leaves, he added. Notably, the State Government has been demanding withdrawal of 18 percent GST imposed on kendu leaves as over 8 lakh tribal people are depending on the trade. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had written letters to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman twice on this issue. The last letter was written last month. In December last, a delegation of BJD MPs met Sitharaman in New Delhi and raised this demand.



# The 69th Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Berhampur State Agriculture Secretary on visit to Koraput District Kotia



**Berhampur, (KCN):** The Rotary Club of Berhampur is delighted to announce the successful completion of its 69th Installation Ceremony, held with grandeur and dedication on July 23rd, 2023 at Subham Conversations. The event marked the beginning of a new chapter in the club's commitment to serving the local community and making a positive impact on society. The ceremony was graced by PRIP Shekhar Mehta as chief guest, District

Governor Jayashree Mohanty as Guest of honour, Past district Governors of R I Dist 3262, Rotarians, and enthusiastic members, who joined hands to celebrate the Rotary Club's legacy of service and embrace its future endeavors. During the installation, Rtn. Pradyumna Kumar Bisoyi was sworn in as the new President and Rtn. Madhusmita Sahu as Honorary Secretary of the Rotary Club of Berhampur for the year 2023-2024, assuming the responsibilities with utmost dedication

and passion. In his inaugural address, Rtn. Pradyumna shared his vision for the upcoming year, focusing on projects that address critical issues like education, healthcare, and environmental sustainability. Outgoing President, Rtn. Satyakam Patra, was commended for his exemplary leadership and tireless efforts in spearheading several successful community projects during his tenure. His contributions were acknowledged and

appreciated by the attendees, inspiring others to continue the Rotary Club's tradition of service above self. The ceremony also witnessed the induction of new members into the Rotary family, who expressed their commitment to upholding the club's values and actively participating in various outreach initiatives. Notable highlights of the event included heartwarming testimonials from beneficiaries of the Rotary Club's initiatives,

underscoring the transformative impact of their projects on local communities. From providing educational scholarships to underprivileged students to organizing health camps for the marginalized, the Rotary Club of Berhampur has continually demonstrated its dedication to the welfare of the society. As the 69th Installation Ceremony concluded, the Rotary Club of Berhampur embarks on a new journey, eager to embrace challenges and opportunities to make a significant difference in the lives of those in need.



**Koraput (KCN):** State Agriculture Secretary on visit to Koraput District Kotia. State Agriculture Secretary Dr. Arvind Padhi and Horticulture Department Director Rohit Kumar Lenka visited Kotia Panchayat under Pattangi block of Koraput district and returned after discussing with the

local farmers about various developmental works done by the Odisha government. He had a visit to see how the self-employment scheme for local farmers can be implemented through the Agriculture Production Center to be implemented by the Odisha government in the coming days. During the said visit,

he saw Kotia's model school, Jagannath temple, cold storage, farming activities of local farmers, especially rainy day potato farming, paddy farming, khamba potato farming, bean farming. Then he discussed with the local public representatives and farmers at the Kotia Panchayat office.

## ICMAI elects New President and Vice President for 2023-24

**Kolkata (Partha Roy):** The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) elects CMA Ashwin G. Dalwadi as President and CMA Bibhuti Bhushan Nayak as Vice-President for the year 2023-24. The Institute conducted the election of President and Vice-President of the Institute on July 22, 2023 at New Delhi. CMA Ashwin G. Dalwadi is a Fellow Member of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India. He is a leading practicing Cost Accountant since 1989 and has a brilliant academic background and rich experience in the field of Cost Accountancy and General Management. Presently, he is a senior partner of M/s. Dalwadi & Associates, Cost Accountants, Ahmedabad. He has



been the Member of the Council of the Institute for the term 2007-2011 and elected consecutively for two terms 2019-2023 and 2023-27. He has been Chairman and Member of various Committees and Boards of the Institute. CMA Bibhuti Bhushan Nayak is a Fellow Member of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India

and associated with the profession for more than 25 years. He retired as DGM (Finance) from Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL)/GRIDCO. Presently, he is a practicing Cost Accountant. He is elected member of Council of the Institute for the term 2023-27. The Institute of Cost Accountants of India is

a statutory body set up under an Act of Parliament under the administrative control of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India. The Institute is headquartered in Kolkata having four Regional Councils at Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai, 114 Chapters in India and 11 Overseas Centres. The Institute is the largest Cost & Management Accounting body in the world, having approximately 5,00,000 students and 90,000 qualified CMAs either in practice or in employment all over the globe. The Institute is a founder member of International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA) and South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA).

## Department of Telecommunications starts Celebrating Bharat Internet Utsav

**Kolkata, (KCN):** The Department of Telecommunications is focussed to provide secure, reliable, affordable and high-quality converged telecommunication services anytime, anywhere for an accelerated, inclusive, socio-economic development. With collective efforts of the centre and state governments, remotest

parts of the country have been connected through internet and internet has emerged as an indispensable tool for knowledge-sharing and economic development. In this respect, DoT is celebrating "Bharat Internet Utsav", wherein citizens may share their stories/videos upto 2 minutes on How internet has transformed the lives

of the people on all social media handles with #BharatInternetUtsav and post it on MYGOV and win cash prizes upto Rs.15,000. The contest is being conducted on MYGOV from July 7, 2023 to August 21, 2023 at <https://innovateindia.mygov.in/bharat-internet-utsav/>. The Department of

Telecommunications (DoT) is hence seeking human stories in this regard for proper documentation and is encouraging the citizens of all age-groups to share their 2-minute stories or video providing live demonstration of how the internet has transformed Indian lives in the above mentioned internet address.

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## Kartik Aaryan-Kiara Advani's 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' Mints 125 Cr, Becomes One Of The Year's Most Profitable Films

Pure love has taken over all hearts across the boundaries as Kartik Aaryan and Kiara Advani starrer 'Satyaprem Ki Katha's box office collection reaches 125 Cr. Gross Worldwide. Sajid Nadiadwala and Namah Pictures's 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' has truly ruled over the hearts of the masses with its pure musical romantic love story and chartbuster songs. The film has grabbed a powerful hold at the box office not just in India but all across the globe. Running successfully in the theaters, Satyaprem Ki Katha has been receiving great word of mouth and has now collected 125 Cr. Gross worldwide cementing it



as one of the most profitable films of 2023. Kartik Aaryan and Kiara Advani starrer Satyaprem Ki Katha has truly arrived as a pure love story after a long time to the audience which went on to spread its charm on audience hearts as well as box

office. Having conquered the box office milestones one after the other now the film has achieved yet another one as its worldwide collection reaches 125 Cr. Gross. Made on a budget of 65 Cr. including the promotional and

advertising costs, Satyaprem Ki Katha has made big profits for the producers as the film's digital satellite rights alone were sold for 72 Cr. While that alone covers the budget costs, the superhit album of the film has been a great source of revenue with

songs like Aaj Ke Baad, Naseeb Se, Sun Sajni and Gujju Patakha to Le Aunga, all being chartbusters and favourites on music apps. While the collection from additional revenue streams itself has been profit making, the box office collection of the film in India, has reached 83 Cr. Nett and with overseas added, the gross worldwide collection has come to an overwhelming 125 Cr becoming one of 2023's highest profit making films. Moreover, 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' has proved itself as a complete entertainer that garnered love from the family as well as the young audience. Having

brought a pure love story well studded with mesmerizing visuals, the blockbuster pairing of Kartik and Kiara, an album of the year with amazing songs, and a larger-than-life canvas, the film is a perfect cinematic wonder that is still running successfully in the theaters. 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' also marks a massive collaboration between NGE and Namah Pictures. Interestingly, Sajid Nadiadwala and Shareen Mantri Kedia with Kishor Arora & director Sameer Vidwan won a National Award for their respective feature films. 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' was released in theaters on 29th June 2023.

## Bigg Boss OTT 2 Day 37 Written Updates: Bebika And Abhishek Get Into Massive Fight After She Pushes Manisha Amid Task

New day begins at the Bigg Boss OTT 2 starts with a motivational song. Aashika later begins with her 'chugli' session with Manisha Rani and Abhishek, collecting points against captain Pooja Bhatt. Elvish and Abhishek's banter starts even before breakfast. Bebika can be seen complaining about Abhishek and Manisha, and Pooja and Avinash ask her to calm down and not take out older issues for no reason. Later, Bebika jumps in the pool with her mike, and all others laugh, on the other hand, Elvish teases Aashika for her dressing sense. Jiya clears the air with Manisha on her 'made-up' feelings for Abhishek. Later, Elvish demands Jiya wear a Palazzo set for him tomorrow. The 'ande ka funda' starts again between Jad and Abhishek. The YouTuber takes a dig at Jad's issue with Egg distribution among housemates. Elvish and Aashika get into a verbal spat, and Manisha and Abhishek try to calm things down. On the other hand, Avinash questions Jiya about Jad and her relationship.



Jad, Jiya and Avinash are the new 'Too Yum' area gang members. Elvish and Manisha discuss Bebika and her 'villain' moves in the house. A new task begins- angel and devil! Abhishek, Manisha, Jad and Avinash are the team Angels and Elvish leads Bebika, Aashika and Jiya, team Devil. Team Angel has to be the goody-goodies and Team Devil has to make them break the rules, Pooja Bhatt becomes the 'sanchalak'. Team Devil targets Manisha, and Bebika tries to break her. Bebika goes under the belt with Manisha and pushes her. Abhishek hugs Manisha and backs her up in front of Bebika. Aashika targets Jad over food and picks up the 'egg issue'

with him. Amid all the chaos, Abhishek and Manisha do a cute angel dance together. Aashika and Elvish even comment on Avinash and Falaq's relationship. Bebika turns DJ, sings a song for Abhishek and Manisha, housemates go ROFL. Pooja Bhatt announces team Devil as winners as Manisha cried amid the task. Bebika again pushes Manisha, and both get into an ugly fight. Abhishek and Bebika's fight begins as he backs up for Manisha Rani. Abhishek goes against Pooja's decision and says that Bebika got physical and that is why the rule broke. And the classic 'maa baap pe mat jaa' starts again between Bebika and Manisha Rani. Pooja Bhatt says

that Abhishek fighting for Manisha makes him weak, Abhishek disagrees and says she makes him stronger. The argument continues over the task and Bebika's push incident. Housemates are looking forward to this weekend ka vaar and hoping for Salman to talk about it. Jiya and Abhishek get into a flirtatious and fun banter. Jiya to turn barber for Abhishek, talk about their hashtag and share a laugh. Bigg Boss sends Pizza for the winning team, Elvish shares his portion with Manisha and Abhishek. Elvish even regrets being on Bebika's team, and says she will regret it all later. Abhishek says that Pooja used to say hurtful things when the season started.

## As 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' Completes 10 Years, Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra to hold special screening

Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's directorial 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' recently completed 10 years. Marking the special occasion, Mehra has decided to organise a special screening of the film, which is based on the late Indian athlete and Olympian Milkha Singh. Farhan Akhtar essayed the titular role. A spokesperson from ROMP Pictures, PS Bharathi said, "10 years of Bhaag Milkha Bhaag. It's really a very special movie for me and the entire nation indeed. The "The Flying Sikh" of the nation, the late Milkha Singh is a pride of our country and with this special screening scheduled for 26th July we are giving a tribute to this legend who is an inspiration to millions of people."



As the film completed 10 years, Ajit Andhare, COO of Viacom18 Studios said, "The 10 years of Bhaag Milkha Bhaag also coincides with Studios' 10-year journey of Redefining Indian Cinema. What better way to celebrate this decade than to commemorate this defining film Bhaag Milkha Bhaag. Through a special screening, we pay tribute to the late Milkha Singh, India's beloved 'Flying Sikh.' This iconic film resonates with his indomitable spirit, leaving an indelible mark in the hearts of millions. Our dedication to crafting compelling and enriching narratives was exemplified through this film. 10 years on this story continues to inspire people and celebrate the life of a stalwart." Milkha Singh was one of India's most renowned athletes and a former national champion in the 400 meters race. The film depicts his inspiring journey, starting from his traumatic childhood during the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, where he lost most of his family members, to becoming a successful athlete and a national hero.

## Lock Upp's Shivam Sharma on his crush Sara Khan

Delhi lad Shivam Sharma was one of the Top 6 finalists in the Lock Upp. The actor spoke to ETimes TV after getting evicted. He spoke about having a crush on Sara Khan, his fights with Payal Rohatgi and how he has found a friend in Karanvir Bohra. Shivam also shared his thoughts on being called 'My Sunday' by host Kangana Ranaut. Describing his journey on the show, he said, "I can't describe my journey on Lock Upp in words. I did a lot of household work inside the show and

now I am so used to it that I feel once I return home, I am going to help my mom in the kitchen. I've worked really hard to survive in the show."

Shivam has been on cloud nine ever since host Kangana Ranaut called him her favourite contestant and gave him the tag of 'Sunday'. Expressing his happiness about the same, he said, "Kangana Ranaut ma'am called her 'Sunday' and it is no less than a trophy for me. My journey if you notice I was the only one who would not make mistakes during



the entire week because I was scared of getting scolded by Kangana ma'am. I would see other contestants indulging in fights but my focus was to bring a smile to her face."

He further spoke about his constant fights with Payal Rohatgi and his current equation, "We were in a reality show called Payal any me. In my previous reality shows also I got into fights with a few contestants but now they all are my friends. And like the saying goes, best enemies become the best friends, we might become good friends."



# MANAGING THE COALITION MENACE

M.R.LALU



The National Election 2024 is going to witness exceptionally unpredictable consolidation of parties. And the momentum began with the latest grouping of parties making neurotic alliances. Their alacrity proves their urgency and their expertise to jump ships holds them among the rarest breed of opportunists. Most of them once remained serious opponents and never missed a chance to backstab the other and now they have come together on a single stage with a barefaced grin. And there is that usual shaking of hands and bending of heads and also warm hugs which they think would bury their past karma forever. Deceitful smile on their faces tells how deeply shameless they are. And this time, the United Progressive

Alliance (UPA) moved on to reframe and redesign its consolidation with a new acronym INDIA. Some members in the grouping must have gone crazy on the visible glow of the acronym that resembles the name of the country, which they decided to declare after hefty political somersaults. They seem to have anticipated the benefits of such an acronym being put in use. Their pompous announcement of the new acronym came under severe criticism from the Assam Chief Minister, Hemant Vishwa Sharma. The most outspoken leader of the BJP sarcastically threw cold water on the new grouping calling the name INDIA a consequence of the colonial aggression. He went further saying the fight is between INDIA and BHARAT. An interesting factor that sticks out with all its radical mordacity is that the opposition has to set the field right for a real battle with a reinvigorated National Democratic Alliance (NDA) led by Prime Minister Narendra

Modi. Imagine, how formidably powerful their opponent is, the Prime Minister, who could successfully force the world to change their old narratives about India and for all reasons, he holds the reign tighter than usual with all his initiatives scripting a veritable history for India. A genuine voter with a fair knowledge about the schemes and projects run by the Modi government knows the fact that the man at the helm of India's administration enjoys the faith of a large section of the country's electorate. So stitching alliances on a tattered cloth is the INDIA conglomeration of the opposition is all about. Now the prominent question which is emanating from the mohallas of political pundits is, whether this stitching on the tattered cloth or the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) of 26 opposition parties would be marked as an intelligent design or a mockery of the fabric that Indian politics is

woven into. What you carry away from the INDIA gathering in Bengaluru is the musings of a few disconsolate leaders appealing to amicably pull their personal aspirations and make adjustments with downhearted minds to heal the wounds that they were left with, when the political storm of 2014 overturned their ships altogether. Eccentrically enough, whispers of such a grouping had forced the ruling side to once again broom and gather its old allies who remained insignificant and sidelined. The NDA meeting with 38 parties in Delhi was, strictly speaking, a barricading process well before the elections. Though its allies are dwarfs as they have a scanty representation in the parliament, the BJP moved very fast this time with its political shrewdness. Probably its calculations gave it an unpleasantly cold and rheumatic feel. And for the INDIA, Sonia Gandhi's reappearance from her political vanaprastha for the meeting in

Bengaluru defines her role as a catalyst. She would be instrumental in holding the hands of the regional warlords with national ambitions. At the same time, she would sensibly make them feel that her party is away from declaring a potential candidate for the powerful post. Do not forget, the Congress has gained nothing solid to pile in its political exchequer from the Bharat Jodo Yatra. Shouldn't you be surprised when you see the rivals of Bengal the TMC and the Left hold hands? Pitching an atrocious fight in the streets of West Bengal during the recent local body elections, rivalry between parties spilt much blood across the state. Their political barbarity killed more than forty people. They seem to have learnt their lessons, at least for the National Election and became more pragmatic and self-preserving. For the state elections, they would once again take their arms and armors and slit the other's throat. Elections in India are battles between narratives and

perceptions. Narratives keep changing between regional and national issues and the pattern of voting also does change. The winning party in the state election would sometimes cut a sorry figure in the National Election. The BJP while balancing its optics has the advantage of a prominent face. Whereas the INDIA consolidation of the opposition still wouldn't open their cards. Nevertheless, its behavior at this juncture is appreciable and it seems it gained some discipline and purpose. The Congress has no reason to be arrogant as it knows where the shoe pinches. The BJP with its latest coalition adjustments and reckoning is trying to ensure a more powerful comeback. It has not so much to sacrifice while its final chiseling of seats will take place. But the opposition's INDIA has a bitter nut to chew before the elections and there lies the real conflict. Being the ruling party of Delhi and Punjab, would the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in principle and

practice get ready to sacrifice its slice of bread to the coalition partners, especially the Congress? This is quite unlikely to happen and the situation would simmer further as parties register their reluctance to sacrifice their seats for their allies. See the situation in West Bengal where the TMC, Congress and the Left had always been at loggerheads. It is unpredictable at present to read from their new bonhomie that if they would patch up their differences and sacrifice their interests. How long such a feeble stitching stays remains to be seen. Though KC Rao of the BRS was emerging as a self-styled coordinator of the coalition in the beginning, he seemed to have lost his sheen throughout the latest development. While the opposition consolidates its collective power to oust one single individual from the power corridors altogether, what they significantly failed to do is to present a credible perspective to the electorate. Antagonistic parties coming together for a

scanty purpose is suggestive of their predicament. More than anything, for them, this gathering of contrasting ideas is the result of a realization. With their existence being in danger, INDIA is the last blade of grass that they would desperately hold on to survive. The BJP at present is in an advantageous position with its mascot Modi leading from the front and with its endless list of initiatives to enunciate from. Irrespective of these, its permanent plank, the Hindutva would take a pronounced shape as the elections near. When its oldest promise the Ram Temple at Ayodhya becomes a reality, the saffron party is expected to once again gain its happy numbers with its revamped alliance piling up a few more seats. Whatever, the wind before the final storm began.

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# Tradition- conscience in faith

Dr. Laxman Sahoo



From childhood, we are taught certain patterns in our lives, which gradually take the form of our culture. We never once argued about that. Rather, they accept it very easily. Even with advanced science degrees, many people stop when a cat crosses their path. Some even wait until someone else crosses the road. Such a preconceived notion is so ingrained in their minds that a common cat crossing the road is taken as a sign of inauspiciousness. They are unable to argue about what scientific change has taken place. The cat naturally crossed the road and went wherever it wanted to go. His escape had no impact on the road. But since it is already ingrained in our minds as a bad word,

we consider it as a bad thing. There are many things that we do only because of our childhood impressions, and even accept them without arguing. Often when we try to reason, we get confused. As intelligence develops, we learn to reason by reading and writing, then try to disprove something taught in childhood. That's when the confusion arises. Even after the development of reasoning and reading skills, this confusion does not completely disappear. If we move from science to philosophy, some of the things taught in childhood come to the fore again. Then the confusion begins. In this way, there is confusion at every step regarding rejection and acceptance. Determining what is right and what is wrong is a very confusing task. You have to go through this dilemma at every step. However, what is accepted as right often

goes wrong. What society, family and close relatives say is right, but at some point it starts to look wrong. In fact, we live a large part of our lives based on what others have given us. Everyone wants to live in their own way. But he lives on the basis given to him by others. Wandering about how he wants to live, he combines a portion of other people's gifts with some argument or other. Such a life becomes very confusing. Still people like it. So I should do the same, what's the harm in doing so? This is the practice of the entire human society. Those who completely reject the contributions of others and try to live in their own way. But there is a danger in it, we have to look at what is that aspect? Because sometimes the direction of life is reversed due to opposite direction. There is danger in life, there is the possibility of excellence, then there is also the possibility of chaos,

here one has to decide what is right and what is wrong. But conscience is a big thing. If the conscience is awakened, the direction of life also becomes correct. It is difficult to awaken the conscience. Reason is a different thing from intelligence. Knowledge comes from reading books and learning things (experiences) from society and family. How to live life is learned from intelligence. But how to live in the right sense depends on discernment. Conscience only teaches us to judge right from right and wrong from wrong. Right decision is possible only with conscience, otherwise intelligence also takes wrong decisions. Consciousness does not make any wrong decision. It may happen that some decisions of conscience seem wrong at first, because some decisions are determined by society and tradition. But later it means that Viveka's

(conscience) decision is indeed correct. Decisions of conscience are far-reaching. Decisions of the intellect can be immediate and momentary. There are many social barriers in the way of conscientiousness. Society always tries to make a person behave in its own way. When society is bound by religious beliefs, it suppresses the ability to reason. You have to follow the rules made there. No reasonable permission. Where there is no scope for reasoning, conscience cannot be judged. Instead, knowledge can be developed. The knowledge of making money, the knowledge of making life full of comfort, the knowledge of defeating others and getting ahead, the knowledge of proving yourself superior. Society also appreciates life skills gathered along with intelligence. It is attracted to it. It is highly respected in today's materialistic life. That is why

society indirectly inspires to live life in intellectual power. But conscience does not consider such a fair of life. Conscience can never find it appropriate to get happiness by hurting others. Conscience can never properly accept a fruitless life. Whenever Viveka (conscience) is born, you will start seeing the suffering of others first. Think that other people's problems are bigger than your own. You will begin to consider the needs of others more important than your own. Such a conscience automatically opposes the superstitions associated with many of the established prejudices of society. Many of life's dilemmas work automatically when consciousness is born. So spiritual faith depends on conscience.

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## Letter to Editor

Sir

It is indeed very sweet to know that India's indigenous sweet snack the Mysore pak has been placed 14th by the world famous food guide Taste atlas in its latest ranking of top fifty best street food sweets in the world. Along with Mysore pak, a sweet which has its origin from Karanataka, kulfi and kulfi falooda are the other two that finds place in the list.

Mysore Pak has been ranked 14th with a rating of 4.4 making all Indians proud of a sweet which has its own place in all the festivities, celebrations and events in India and wherever there are Indians.

History has it that Mysore pak was first made at the Mysore Palace by the royal Chef Madappa who experimented on a sweet dish combining gram flour, ghee and sugar. It was in the form of a thick syrup and by the time the King had his lunch the mixture solidified and this when King Krishna Raja Wodeyar tasted, just melt in his mouth making him love it's extraordinary taste. When asked for it's name the cook said it is the 'Mysore paka'. Mysore pak soon was proclaimed the royal sweet. Even today, Mysore pak remains the number one sweet among others. The sweet now comes with various flavours and colours but it's mouth watering taste remains the same just as our rich heritage and culture that remain the same and shall remain so forever.

M Pradyu  
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# PRSI, Kolkata Chapter presents Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award of Excellence

**Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETH):** The Public Relations Society of India (PRSI), Kolkata Chapter, recently held a prestigious event to celebrate the 251st birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, a pioneering figure in the Renaissance of Bengal and a prominent social reformer. The event, which took place at Kolkata Town Hall, was graced by the presence of distinguished guests and saw the felicitation of exceptional individuals who have made significant contributions to society. The highlight of the evening was the conferral of the 'Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award of Excellence' upon six outstanding personalities. The 'Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award of Excellence' is a recognition of exceptional achievements and selfless dedication towards the betterment of society. This year, it honoured six remarkable individuals from diverse fields – Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya, Santoor Legend: A virtuoso in his craft, Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya has mesmerized audiences worldwide with his mastery of the santoor. His soulful performances have not only enriched the world of music but also inspired aspiring musicians to preserve and promote traditional art forms; Alokanda



Roy - Eminent Social Reformer: Alokanda Roy's tireless efforts in using dance as a means of rehabilitation for prison inmates have brought about positive transformations in their lives. Her innovative approach to social reform through the medium of dance has garnered widespread recognition and appreciation; Lopamudra Mitra, Art, Music, and Cultural Change Maker: Lopamudra Mitra's artistic pursuits have transcended boundaries, breaking stereotypes, and paving the way for meaningful discussions on societal issues. Her powerful expression through music and culture has been instrumental in fostering positive change; Dr. Devajit Bandyopadhyay, Music Theatre, Film Activist, & Archivist: Dr. Bandyopadhyay's dedication to preserving the rich cultural heritage of music, theatre, and films has earned him the respect of many.

His relentless efforts in archiving and promoting these art forms have been invaluable in keeping our traditions alive; Chaiti Ghoshal, Versatile Actor, Film, Theatre, & Television Personality: Chaiti Ghoshal's versatility as an artist has won her accolades across different platforms. From films to theater and television, her performances have touched hearts and left a lasting impact on the audience; and Dr. Pares Chandra Das, Renowned Grammarian and Author – Dr. Das' expertise in grammar and his literary contributions have enriched the Bengali language and literature. His profound knowledge and dedication to the subject have inspired countless language enthusiasts. In addition to the 'Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award of Excellence', the event also saw the presentation of the 'Bharat Pathik Samman' to Basudev Basu, Secretary of Radhanagar Palli

Samiti, in recognition of his commendable work in social service. Dignitaries present at the event included Mr. Ravindra Chamarla, Chairman & Managing Director of Infinity Group, Mr. Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner, Kolkata, Mr. Debasish Kumar, MMIC Parks & Gardens, Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Mr. Alok Tibrewal, Secretary of OmDayal Educational & Research Society. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard University, whose words resonated with the audience, inspiring them to continue their pursuit of excellence and societal betterment. The evening also showcased various cultural performances, including Brahma Sangeet, dance, and recitation, which added to the celebration of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's visionary legacy. Additionally, the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Memorial Museum and Radhanagar Pally

Samiti displayed rare photographs, articles, and books, providing attendees with unique insights into the life and times of this visionary leader. The event served as a platform to acknowledge and celebrate the exceptional contributions of these individuals, whose efforts continue to inspire generations to work towards a more enlightened and compassionate society. As we honour the legacy of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, these awardees stand as torchbearers of progress and change, demonstrating that a single person's commitment can indeed transform the world around them.

## Heritage Calculator at Liluah Railway Workshop



**Kolkata, (KCN):** Dates back to about 150 years ago, Railways used a comptometer which is nothing but a mechanical calculating machine used in the Railways. One such comptometer is still on display at the Heritage Gallery of Liluah Railway Workshop. This comptometer was the

first commercially successful key driven mechanical calculator patented in the United States by Dorr. E. Felt in 1887. A key-driven calculator is extremely fast because each key adds or subtracts its value to the accumulator as soon as it is pressed and a skilled operator can

enter all of the digits of a number simultaneously using as many fingers as required, making it sometimes faster to use than the electronic calculator. Indian Railways have utilised such a distinct watershed of cutting edge technology even in 1887.

## Senior Army Officers Visited Flood Affected Area Of Lolab Valley Of North Kashmir Kupwara

**Kupwara, Jk (Aasif Malik):** In the wake of devastating flash floods triggered by torrential rains in various villages of Lolab, Kupwara, the Indian Army at Gujjarpati Garrison, Lolab, has sprung into action to provide critical assistance to the affected population. The Indian army has contacted the locals to ensure their safety. The important contact numbers of the Company Commanders and other appointments have been shared with the SDM office, the DSP office, other local



administrations and villagers. So far no substantial loss of property or life have been reported apart from the slide of a small portion of road along Shatnar which has been adequately covered by the Indian Army and local administration.

On 24 July 2023, The Commander, Charkut Garrison and Commanding Officer, Gujjarpati Garrison carried out a detailed reconnaissance of the affected areas in entire Lolab Valley. During the reconnaissance, the Commander & CO met all the sarpanchs and

PRIs & sought well being of the populace. The Army officials also assured the PRUs of all possible help & assistance in case of any eventuality. The Army has also ensured the safe movement of locals in the areas of Urni Nar, Shrant Nar, and Manchar Nar, which have been impacted by the sudden rise of water level. As the situation remains precarious, the Indian Army continues to work in close collaboration with the civil administration and local authorities to ensure a coordinated and efficient response to the ongoing crisis.

# IIT Kharagpur takes Measures on Strategic Implementation on NEP 2020

**Kolkata, (KCN):** IIT Kharagpur has reviewed and updated its curricula for UG Programmes for both the UG and the PG Programmes. During these revisions NEP 2020 has been kept in view and its visions incorporated into the programmes as appropriate in the context of the highly reputed technical and science education programmes of IIT Kharagpur. On the lines of Strategic Implementation Initiatives of IIT Kharagpur on NEP 2020, Prof. V K Tewari, Director, IIT Kharagpur remarked, "NEP 2020's inclusion in the academic curriculum will generate more employment based on the entrepreneurship model of being an employer than an employee. With the multiple entry/exit policy, any student can

take a break from their respective courses to gain industry experience and come back to continue his academic curriculum. Another facet that enhances the flexibility of NEP 2020 is the Short Term Certification Courses for developing Short-term and Long-term Training Programs to provide skilling, reskilling and upskilling opportunities. Learning Science in your own language removes the barrier of language bias and creates inclusivity between culture and technology." Some of the major strategic initiatives already undertaken by IIT Kharagpur, in the light of NEP 2020 has been a multidisciplinary research intensive university offering Science, Technology, Management and Law

programmes. It is now initiating a new dimension of its multidisciplinary by starting the MBBS programme in medicine at the B C Roy Institute of Medical Science and Technology. Education System in IIT Kharagpur always emphasised learning of humanities and other disciplines through electives. In the recent UG and PG curricula the choice of electives have been broadened enabling students to choose subjects from all over the institute. Further a new class of programmes called Interdisciplinary Dual Degree Programmes have been introduced in which a student can do a B. Tech and an M. Tech programme. The UG programmes of IIT Kharagpur had eight weeks of summer internship. This internship can now be

extended to eight months of research or industry internship for a student. Internship has also been proposed into the PG programme now. The Bachelor's programme in Technology was already of four years. Now all Bachelor's programmes in Science have also been converted to four year's BS programmes. IIT Kharagpur has set up an International Student Office and is making all efforts to increase the admission of international students in its programmes. Each department will make strategic departmental Development Plans. On the basis of which department/centre/school will develop initiatives, assess their own progress and reach the goals set therein, which could then become the basis

for further funding from the Institute. To study Indian Languages, Art and Culture and quality research in the fields and its integration with engineering, science, humanity and social sciences research, the institute has also set up a Centre of Indian Knowledge System from which such an initiative could be started for the interested students with support from the Ministry of Education. The new five-year BS-MS programmes offer options for an exit at the end of four years. It has also been recognised that students who have to leave for various personal reasons prematurely, from a UG programme after completing a substantial amount of credits shall benefit from an exit option that recognises the competencies gained

by the student. Some other possible exit options are in discussion. Entry to UG and PG programmes at the IITs are through rigorous national level tests. It is generally felt that these need to be preserved to retain the standards of the IIT degrees. However, even with these there could be options for entry. An Academic Bank of Credit is going to be established, stated the IIT Kharagpur authority which would digitally store the academic credits earned from various recognized Higher education Institutions (HEIs) so that the degrees from an HEI can be awarded taking into account credits earned which would be undertaken under the national initiatives by the Ministry. IIT Kharagpur has contributed extensively to NPTEL,

the authority said, which is now accepted for earning credits by several institutions of India which are also available globally. In the pandemic, IIT Kharagpur has conducted on-line classes for its own programme extensively. IIT Kharagpur already has several initiatives for helping out economically deprived students at the national level under a Ministry of Education initiative. Creation of an autonomous body National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) to provide a platform for the free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment, planning, administration and appropriate integration of technology into all levels of education is another step forward towards NPTEL programmes and the

Swayam platform established under NMEICT. All programmes, courses, curricula, and pedagogy across subjects, including those in-class, online, and in ODL modes as well as student support aims to achieve global standards of quality including its standardization and certification. Mechanism of the course/studies review in the department/centre/school on a regular basis by involving external and internal stakeholders/experts such as Industry, Alumni, Faculty, students, Academia, etc. are being strengthened through programmes like SPARK and GIAN. The new curricula emphasise on involvement of the Industry through projects and course participation, remarked the Director, IIT Kharagpur.



# Lays Foundation for Grand Jagannath Temple Complex, Cultural Centre at Silicon Valley



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):**An Odisha delegation in the USA today laid the foundation for a grand Jagannath temple in the silicon valley.

A delegation from Odisha led by Electronics and IT Minister Shri Tushar Kanti Behera is in the USA to join the Odia diaspora in their

endeavour to strengthen the socio-economic and cultural ties between the USA and Odisha. Development Commissioner Smt Anu

Garg, Secretary to CM (5T) Shri VK Pandian, E & IT Dept Principal Secretary Shri Manoj Mishra attended the program.

The Odisha delegation visiting Silicon Valley, USA was invited to the Sri Jagannath Temple in Silicon Valley and they offered prayers.

Later the delegation went to a new site where the foundation was laid for a new, grand Sri Jagannath Temple Complex and Cultural Centre on a sprawling 9-acre land.

The complex and the cultural centre will help the Odia diaspora connect stronger with Odisha.

To mark the occasion, the Minister and senior officers planted trees in the new site.

The delegation offered all help to make the temple project a success.

**Cuttack(KCN):** Excise Commissioner Narasingha Bhol dismissed today Excise Constable Deepak Panigrahi from his jobs for illegal ganja business. Order of the Excise Commissioner is effective immediately.

According to the information of excise department, Deepak Panigrahi, who works as a constable in Rayagada district excise department, was arrested by Rayagada town police station on March 14, 2023, on the charge of being involved in illegal ganja business. More than 42 kg of ganja was seized from his rented house. He was immediately arrested and a case was registered against him under the NDPS Act, 1985 and he was sent to judicial custody on the same day.



Charges were framed against the constable who was arrested on 18 July, 2023. In charge frame shows that he was accused of violating the Odisha Public Service Act, 1959 and dealing in illegal ganja. Meanwhile, in the report given by the Rayagada excise superintendent, that, Constable Deepak was in judicial custody and a criminal investigation was underway against him. Constable Deepak with official dress has not only disgraced the excise

department but has sent a bad message to the entire society when he was arrested for dealing in illegal narcotics like ganja. Similarly, since March 14, 2023, as he is in judicial custody it was said that no further investigation is required against him.

The State Excise Commissioner has the power to appoint, transfer and manage all kinds of cadres of Excise Constable, and he also has the power to dismiss constable from their jobs as per the resolution of the excise department on June 8, 2023. By virtue of that power, the Excise Commissioner Shri Bhol today dismissed the said Excise Constable from the Service. Accordingly, the constable Shri Panigrahi has been relieved from the job immediately.

## ITPO; Largest MICE Destination

New Delhi: With a campus area of approximately 123 acres, the Pragati Maidan Complex proudly holds the title of India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) Destination.

In terms of the covered space available for events, the redeveloped and modern IECC Complex finds its place among the Top 10 Exhibition and Convention Complexes in the world, rivaling the colossal names such as the Hannover Exhibition Centre in Germany, the National Exhibition and Convention Center (NECC) in Shanghai. The magnitude of the IECC's stature and infrastructure is a testament to India's capability to host world-class events on a grand scale. At Level 3 of the Convention Centre, a



grand seating capacity of 7,000 individuals awaits, making it even larger than the seating capacity of approx. 5500 of the iconic Sydney Opera House in Australia. This impressive feature establishes the IECC as a venue fit for hosting mega conferences, international summits, and cultural extravaganzas on a global scale. The Exhibition Halls offer seven innovative spaces for showcasing

products, innovations, and ideas. These state-of-the-art halls provide an ideal platform for exhibitors and companies to engage with their target audience, fostering business growth and networking opportunities.

Among its many exceptional features, the IECC boasts a magnificent Amphitheater with a seating capacity of 3,000 individuals. Equivalent to three

PVR theatres combined, this grand amphitheater sets the stage for captivating performances, cultural shows, and entertainment events, captivating the audience with its mesmerizing ambience.

The convenience of visitors is a priority at the IECC, reflected in the provision of over 5,500 vehicle parking spaces. The ease of access through signal-free roads ensures that visitors can reach the venue without any hassle.

## Alert On BSKY Fraudsters

**Bhubaneswar:** Expressing concern over exploitation of BSKY beneficiaries by dalals and middlemen, Health and Family Welfare Secretary Shalini Pandit has asked all Collectors and Superintendents of Police to crack down the fraudulent activities.

Shrimati Pandit has written a letter to all District Collectors, Municipal Commissioners, SPs, DCP (Bhubaneswar and Cuttack) and Chief District Medical and Public Health Officers on this issue on Tuesday.

In her letter, Shrimati Pandit said, Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) is a path breaking scheme to provide universal health coverage, with special emphasis on the health protection of economically vulnerable families &




women. Under component 2 of the scheme, all 96.5 lakh families of Odisha having ration card (NFSA/SFSS card) are provided with BSKY annual health coverage of Rs. 5 lakhs per family and additional Rs. 5 lakhs for the women members of the family, at empanelled private hospitals. In view of recent incidents reported regarding exploitation

of beneficiaries by nefarious elements, all concerned may be sensitized about the scheme, she said. Shrimati Pandit said the BSKY Smart Health Card once issued to a beneficiary does not require renewal, as it is auto renewed annually through BSKY IT platform. Similarly, the beneficiary does not have to pay anyone or go to any office for

renewal of the card as the same is auto renewed by the IT platform at the back-end, the Secretary said. Further, All NFSA/SFSS beneficiaries having valid ration card can avail benefit under BSKY at empanelled private hospital, without a BSKY card, she clarified.

Recharge of the balance in the card is also done automatically on the 1st of September every year through BSKY IT platform, she added.

The Health Secretary asked the Collectors and SPs to sanitize all field workers and beneficiaries on the above points so that nefarious elements do not exploit beneficiaries in the name of renewal of BSKY card or recharge of balance in the BSKY card.



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## United Nations & WHO observed "World Drowning Prevention Day" on 25th July

Kolkata(Partha Roy):United Nations & WHO observed "World Drowning Prevention Day " on 25th July to spread awareness about drowning as well as it's devastating impact on families and society at large.

Theme of World Drowning Prevention Day for 2023 is "Anyone can drown, no one should"

Drowning, a silent and preventable killer, continues to claim the lives of an estimated 236,000 people annually across the globe. Drowning is among the top ten causes of death for children and youth aged 1-24 years.

In South-East Asia region, drowning has had devastating consequences. In 2019 alone, it caused 70,034 deaths, making South East Asia region the second-highest contributor to drowning deaths after WPRO in the worldwide.

Drowning is the 3rd leading cause of unintentional injury death, accounting for 7% of all injury-related deaths.

Global estimates may significantly underestimate the actual public health problem related to drowning. Children, males, and individuals with increased access to water are most at risk of drowning.

World Drowning Prevention Day, declared in April 2021 by General

Assembly resolution A/RES/75/273, is held annually on 25 July. This global event highlights the tragic and profound impact of drowning on families and communities and to offer life-saving solutions to prevent it.

Global burden of death from drowning is felt in all economies and regions. Low- and Middle-income countries account for over 90% of unintentional drowning deaths; over half of the world's drowning occurs in the WHO Western Pacific Region and WHO South-East Asia Region;

drowning death rates are highest in the WHO Western Pacific Region, and are 27-32 times higher than those seen in the United Kingdom or Germany, respectively. Taking note of the high global burden, on 29 May 2023, the World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted its first ever resolution on drowning prevention 'Accelerating Action on Global Drowning Prevention' proposed by the Governments of Bangladesh and Ireland, and co-sponsored by at least 72 Member States. This resolution will provide impetus to

strengthening drowning prevention.

It is crucial to note that drowning is not limited to coastal areas but can occur anywhere there is water, such as rivers,



lakes, swimming pools, ditches, floods, and even transportation waterways. Drowning can happen in the mountain rivers and ponds of Himalayas to the deep oceans of Maldives. In fact, more than 90% of drowning deaths happen in rivers, lakes, wells, domestic water storage vessels, swimming pools .

Furthermore, the effects of climate change, rising sea levels, environmental degradation, and unprotected waterways pose additional challenges to drowning prevention efforts. The increase in unprotected irrigation channels open sewage systems also

amplifies the risk of drowning. These factors exacerbate the burden of drowning-related deaths and demand urgent action.

Bangladesh has implemented numerous low-cost interventions that not only impacted on reducing drowning deaths but also generated evidence for drowning prevention in low-income settings. Maldives have started developing a National Drowning Prevention Strategy and India has started developing of a National Injury Prevention Strategy which makes specific reference to drowning prevention. Other

countries have also made substantial drowning prevention initiatives. These initiatives include promoting the use of barriers to control access to water, installing door gates, covering wells, and implementing mandatory fencing around water bodies. Furthermore, countries have been actively training school-aged children in basic water safety and rescue skills, as well as bystanders in safe rescue and resuscitation techniques. While these efforts are commendable, it is essential to acknowledge that drowning remains an unrecognized threat to health and well-being, and

much more needs to be done. The regions have also regularly conducted data collection . WHO launched the 'Regional Status Reports on Drowning Prevention in the South-East Asia and Western Pacific Regions' on 22 July 2021. WHO will continue to prioritize drowning prevention and keep it at the forefront of the political and national agenda. Nations need to work collectively to raise awareness, mobilize resources, and implement evidence-based interventions to prevent drowning and protect our communities.

Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia Region lauded Bangladesh's drowning prevention approach WHO has invited its technical partners to: Do One Thing, Improve One Thing or Add One Thing to improve safety of people in and around water. This provides opportunities for all partners to expand on existing drowning prevention efforts, building on progress made to date. Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh stressed and called for to unite efforts, raise awareness, and take concrete actions to prevent drowning. Together, we can save lives, protect our communities, and work towards a world where no one loses their life to this preventable tragedy.

## Three Poets Honoured By Motivational Strips



Magie Faure Vidot Seychelles, Dr Sahadev Behera India, Myr Reyes E Tejada Philippines

honored three poets yesterday with Motivational Strips Magical Pen honours. The three poets who managed to come under this award program is Author Magie Faure Vidot from Republic of Seychelles for her poem "The Gorilla", Dr Sahadev Behera from India for his poem "My old age" from India and Author Myr Reyes E Tejada from Philippines for her poem "What matters most". The honours were declared after the stringent evaluation process from Motivational Strips

Global Administration, and after perusal of thousands of poems that appeared in their social media page.

Motivational Strips global administration had initiated the Magical Pen literary honour program this week, to highlight periodically some poems, which could impact people's life positively. The founder of Motivational Strips Shiju H Pallithazheth, on being contacted by our correspondent stated," Society is the crux of earthly formation. Poems like the ones written by

these three poets, empower the world and help people realize their grass roots. This broadens their vision, and also helps in influencing positive outcome when it comes to human relations . The founder of MS also extended his congratulations to the trio honorees and added that, for Motivational Strips, the world is a united family, and that the forum would keep taking initiative to broadcast exceptional literary skills to the world mass.

## ViStrengthens 'Vi Hero Unlimited' Proposition with 'Data Delight'

To ensure a worry free data experience for its prepaid users Vi, leading telecom service provider, has launched 'ViHero Unlimited Campaign' with yet another unique proposition, 'Data Delight'. With this, Vi users can unlock up to 2GB of extra data every month, over & above their daily quota, at no extra cost. Truly providing an unlimited data experience, Vi Hero Unlimited portfolio also includes other unique benefits such as Unlimited High Speed Data from 12am – 6am' and Weekend Data Rollover. In addition, to further strengthen its

hero unlimited portfolio, Vi has introduced more recharge packs under the portfolio.

Vi Hero Unlimited packs are structured to provide a one-stop solution to the common concern of data quota exhaustion faced by prepaid users. It's differentiated offerings aim to provide more value to Vi's Unlimited plan users. In today's digital world where availability of mobile internet has become a crucial factor, Vi Hero Unlimited brings a dose of oxygen when needed the most.

To promote the proposition, Vi has launched a high decibel

ATL campaign themed – 'Sirnnaamkanahinkaaamka unlimited'. Featuring popular actor Vinay Pathak, the Vi campaign is planned for 8 weeks and to promote this unique 'Hero Unlimited' proposition, multiple media platforms like TV, Digital and OOH along with large on ground activation programs will be actioned.

Vi Hero Unlimited packs start with recharges of Rs. 299 and above daily data quota packs. Vi has also added new recharge packs with higher daily data quota at Rs. 359, Rs. 409 and Rs. 475 under Hero Unlimited portfolio.

## Microtek Organised Rockstar & Star Retail Partners' Meet in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Microtek, the leader in the power product market of India has recently organized a Star Retail Partners' Meet at Taj Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, where the company introduced its newly launched range of inverters and home UPS series to the key retailers of the region. The new range of inverters and UPSs launched demonstrates the latest technological advancements that help to save electricity besides offering the best output in power backup. More than 400 retailers from the region attended the gala event.

Talking about the new range of inverters, Subodh Gupta, CMD, Microtek International, shared "The 6 new series of inverters launched, besides providing electricity saving benefits are also aesthetically appealing.

We recently launched our wide range of UPS' in the Indian market like the SmartHybrid UPS series. It is powered by Smart Hybrid Electronics Integrated Circuit Technology for True Sinewave out that gives noiseless performance, and more load handling capacity. The other efficient UPS launched series are Superpower, Heavy Duty with the capacity of running heavy loads & energy-efficient model – Energy Saver. It has an inbuilt energy-efficient transformer for better performance in energy saving. Luxe and iMerlyn are the premium series launched with Luxe having the LCD display that shows running load status, battery charging time and backup time. I am sure this event and our new product range will further strengthen the brand presence in the

Odisha market."

The key people of the industry were present at the event. The company also felicitated its channel partners at the event. The event was attended by the officials of Microtek International and trade partners from Odisha.

Odisha is one of the important markets for Microtek and the company is looking forward to expanding its presence in the state with the new series. Microtek is planning more such activities for the Odisha Market to create awareness about its new products and further strengthening its business relations with the retail market in the state. The price of the new product range starts from MRP Rs. 6240 and the products are already available through the company's vast distribution network across India.

## Ashok Leyland reaches yet another milestone, showcases 'CNG engine H series' at EXCON

Chennai,: Ashok Leyland, the flagship Company of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer today showcased 'CNG engine H series' at the ongoing EXCON 2022, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Based on strong leverage of Auto BSVI engine development, the CNG engine H series (4 and 6 Cyl) is designed for off highway / CEV clients, and this product will be

the first of its kind in the CEV / mining and off highway segment.

The H series CNG engine has a number of features, including ECU-controlled gas leak detection; improved cold start capability; enhanced lower end torque and flat torque from 1200rpm to 2000rpm; gear-based torque control for better fuel economy; durable engine valves and valve seats for CNG operation; proven, durable engine for CEV application;

turbocharged engine provides higher torque, fuel efficiency, better drivability, and transient response; maintenance-free engine. The CNG engine H series also fulfils CEV V standards without SCR or DPF, and features proven multipoint sequential gas injection for dependable performance; a 500 hours oil drain interval; and the maximum power in the sector.

Sharing his views, Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman,

Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland's expertise in engineering has paved the way for the company to establish itself as a key player in the CNG engine sector, and we aspire to continue to do so by expanding our portfolio of CNG Engines and technology solutions. Ashok Leyland aims to make India's CNG engine sector self-reliant, and to be one of the leaders in the "Make in India" narrative."

Present at the event Dr

N Saravanan, CTO, Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland has a track record of catering to customer needs with world class products that generate higher profitability. With the increasing need for better fuel efficiency and use of alternate fuels, we have a solid pipeline of such technologies. We aspire to lead the market in this segment, as the need for engines with alternative fuels grows".

## Symphony, in partnership with AEEE, invests in the 'SAHARA Programme'

Bhubaneswar : around four trillion-person cooling degree days, India is characterised by tropical and sub-tropical climatic conditions coupled with a lack of access to cooling, rising temperatures and ever-evolving socio-economic trends such as rapid population growth and urbanisation, which will not only amplify the climate change-induced heat stress but would also fuel the demand for space cooling. SAHARA programme would act as a catalyst for disseminating knowledge about the thermal comfort situation in India's academic institutions. It could bring about systemic changes on multiple fronts in the long term.

Symphony Ltd., in partnership with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), initiated the first-of-its-kind pilot programme "SAHARA", an initiative for Supporting Affordable Heat Action for Resilient Academic Institutions in India by deploying Evaporative Air Coolers. It is envisioned to enable a pathway to achieve Thermal Comfort for a Billion Lives (TCBL). This initiative aims to mainstream energy efficient, affordable and sustainable cooling solutions in India's academic Institutions to bring a paradigm shift at the ecosystem level and enable TCBL. With

Area Director, Indian Hotels Company Limited.

The SUP Challenge will assess the volume of single-use plastics waste reduced through piloting and scaling ventures' innovations along with environmental impact avoided, such as waste diverted from landfills, incineration or avoided entirely. Additionally, the challenge will guide startups to fine-tune their business cases for F&B industry and insights derived from their pilots will contribute to a study around understanding the environmental impacts of alternatives to single-use plastic packaging.

## AIC-GIM Foundation, Climate Collective and the Taj Hospitality Brand collaborate on a Global Single Use Plastics Challenge

Panaji: The consumption of Single Use Plastics (SUP's) in the food and beverage industry grew dramatically during the Covid-19 outbreak and is now expanding at a 2.5-fold rate. With the aim of reducing single use plastic from the F&B industry in Goa, Atal Incubation Center Foundation at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM) in partnership with Climate Collective Foundation and IHCL's Taj hospitality brand is bringing the Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Challenge.

The SUP challenge is inviting innovations to reduce single use plastic

from the F&B sector. The selected solutions will get the opportunity to test their ideas in Goa with the Taj hotel network of Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL). "As a company, we want to put a strong emphasis on sustainability as a way of life for everyone, which thus culminates in the adoption of a variety of sustainable business methods. We are happy to collaborate with AIC-GIM Foundation and Climate Collective Foundation for the Global SUP challenge which will reduce the usage of Single Use Plastics across our properties in Goa" said Mr. Vincent Ramos,



# Cummins admits need for tactical reconsideration after Manchester escape

**London:** Pat Cummins has conceded that a tactical reconsideration was on the cards after Australia got out of jail in the rain-marred Old Trafford Test to retain the Ashes urn. The visitors can no longer lose the series after England's dominant position was scuppered by the inclement weather in Manchester, but the hosts will still carry the momentum they earned in Leeds back to London for the fifth Test at The Oval, where the hosts will look to rubber-stamp their recent dominance by drawing the series.

The Australians, who are still hoping to win their first Test series in England since 2001,

have had to put a lid on their celebrations at retaining the Ashes given how far behind England they were in the fourth Test. "I don't think there will be huge celebrations," Cummins told reporters on Sunday (July 23). "Maybe a bit of a pat on the back for retaining the (Ashes). There's been a lot of work gone into putting us into a position where a draw does make us retain the Ashes. But there's a Test match starting in three days so that's going to be our full focus."

The worst of Australia's performance came in the middle session on Day 2 when England scored at over seven runs to the over.

Zak Crawley blasted a 189 at over a run a ball while Jonny Bairstow added 99 off just 81 deliveries. Three other England batters passed 50 as between them, the experienced trio of Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh conceded 392 runs.

"That two-hour block in the middle session wasn't our best," said Cummins. "We tried to throw a few different plans at them and maybe on another day they work; a couple of the edges carry through or some of the catches go to hand, but I thought they batted well."

Cummins himself was very far from the kind of performance that



had him occupying the second spot in the ICC rankings for Test bowlers. His 23 overs cost 129 runs -- the most he's conceded in a Test innings -- at nearly six

runs to the over. To add to his bowling woes, Cummins dropped a straightforward catch and another half-chance.

Perhaps it was the pressure of captaining in

an away Ashes series against a marauding opponent but Cummins himself couldn't put a finger on his off-key performance.

"As a bowler it's

frustrating that I didn't bowl very well at all, not up to the standards I try and keep myself to," said Cummins. "I don't think [captaincy was a factor]... Just execution. I let through more boundaries than I normally do. Probably just one or two bad balls an over.

"I don't know [why] really. Rhythm felt pretty good, I felt like I was pretty clear in my own mind with plans, so I don't know."

Australia's batting didn't fare much better either with only Marnus Labuschagne managing a 50 and a 100 in the two innings even as the rest of the top-order continued to be troubled

by Mark Wood's pace. Cummins admitted that improvements were needed across the board and with their tactics heading into the fifth Test, which starts in three days' time.

"You definitely look at what you can try and do differently next time. That will be part of this week for sure," he said. "I think there are some obvious things we could do a little bit differently. Maybe some plans, the way we executed our bowling. As a group, proud that we've retained the Ashes but it's off the back of not our greatest week. We know we've got a fair bit of work to do for next week, a few improvements to make."

## 'A tough pill to swallow' - Stokes on Manchester washout

**London:** England's Test captain Ben Stokes admitted that the rain-enforced defeat at Old Trafford in the fourth Ashes Test is a 'tough pill to swallow' for his side given how they dominated the game and looked set to level the series 2-2 ahead of the final game at the Oval.

Rain played a massive role on the final two days preventing play and helping Australia avoid defeat. As a result, the visitors have managed to retain the urn. "I can't actually look back and think we could have been better there because we were pretty much perfect throughout the whole game," Stokes said. "Bowling Australia out and then scoring the runs that we did at the pace that we did, I can't really say we got anything wrong about this game to be honest. The weather didn't help us, we can't change that. It's a tough pill to swallow, knowing that's the reason we sit here with a draw."

Given how their approach to Test cricket has

attracted more eyes globally, Stokes lamented the missed opportunity at Old Trafford which would



have set up a spicy series decider: "I think it would have elevated everything that the series has already done for Test cricket, especially in England," Stokes said. "There's no doubt if we managed to get a result in this game, next week would have been a very, very special week in the history of English cricket, not just Ashes cricket. But I think what we've managed to do, up until today anyway, has already done wonders for cricket

in England." Even though the Ashes now continues to be in Australia's possession following the draw at

of this certain type of cricket, to sit here and say that we've achieved that over the last 18 months, I find it very easy to be able to get out of bed and go out to play cricket."

When asked if England would lack motivation now to try and win the final Test, Stokes brushed aside those suggestions and reiterated that a 2-2 scoreline sounds better than 3-1. "We will have to get over this disappointment and focus on that game as it is massive for us, 2-2 sounds better than 3-1," he said.

"The mentality we have within the dressing room is go out and win. Everything we do is to be positive. You go back to the Pakistan series, the New Zealand series, we could have taken it easy in the last game but we didn't, even though we had already won those series. We know we can't get (the urn) back. All we can do is draw the series and that is what we will be trying to do."

Old Trafford, Stokes was pleased with the legacy this team has built over the recent months. "I think what we've managed to become is a team that people will remember," he noted. "I said that well before the series started, that I wanted our team to try and play a brand of cricket that people will always talk about. I think regardless of how the series ends up, people will always talk about us. "For me, being the leader

**New Delhi:** Harmanpreet Kaur's recent shenanigans in Bangladesh could have serious consequences for India. The captain of the women's cricket team is at risk of missing the first two games of the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, as the International Cricket Council (ICC) is expected to come down heavily on her conduct.

Her unprovoked behaviour during and after the third and final ODI against Bangladesh at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka on July 22 could lead to four demerit points, as first reported by Cricbuzz on July 23. This may result in a suspension for two international games. India's next assignment is the Hangzhou Asian Games. While the Games run from September 23 to October 8, the women's cricket event begins on September 19. The Indian team, based on its ICC ranking, has qualified directly for the quarterfinals.

If Harmanpreet accumulates four



demerit points, she could potentially miss the quarterfinal and semifinal, both knockout matches, and only be eligible to play in the final, the gold medal clash, if the team progresses that far. According to the relevant ICC code of conduct rule, "When a player reaches four or more demerit points within a 24-month period, they are converted into suspension points, resulting in a ban. Two suspension points equate to a ban from one Test or two ODIs or two T20Is, whichever comes first

for the player. Demerit Points remain on a player's disciplinary record for 24 months from their imposition, after which they will be expunged."

The general consensus is that Harmanpreet's behavior during the game was unwarranted. She first hit the stumps with her bat after being declared out and then, during the presentation, launched a diatribe against the match officials and Bangladesh cricket officials.

The ICC is expected to announce the sanctions on Monday, but there

might be a delay due to procedural issues. As per standard practice, the match officials have submitted a report to the ICC and the home board, in this case, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). It is understood that Harmanpreet has acknowledged her culpability in principle, but whether she actually signed off on it is not known.

Once the sanctions are announced, Harmanpreet has the right to appeal, in which case the ICC match referee will conduct a hearing.

## Daniel Sams stars in TSK's incredible heist

**New Delhi:** When Shadab Khan squared up Mitchell Santner with a stunning googly, Texas Super Kings' chase looked on the verge of derailment. They were 92 for 5 in 13.1 overs, needing 80 to get from the last 41 balls. As it stood, San Francisco Unicorns were looking set to secure two incredibly valuable points to move up to fourth and add pressure on MI New York who still had a game to play in order to qualify. Daniel Sams however, did MI New York a big favour by stunning the Unicorns with a table-turning, whirlwind knock of 42 from just 18 deliveries. The slow turning of the

tide was starting to take effect in the same over that Shadab sent Santner packing, as Milind Kumar finally cut loose. He was struggling in a steep chase upto that point (batting on 24 off 28) but put the leggie away for a four and a six to ease the equation a little. The next three overs defined the chase as the Super Kings violently snatched control away from Unicorns. After Shadab's 12-run 14th over, Milind and Sams took 17, 16 and 21 off the next three from by Marcus Stoinis, Haris Rauf and Shadab respectively. Sams didn't take time to swing into action as he started off by carting



Stonis over long on and driving one down the ground. He picked Rauf's slower one on the first ball next over, and deposited it for a six down the ground and played a deft late cut past backward point in the same over. He saved the most brutal carnage for the leg spinner, hitting him for three successive sixes - over midwicket, square leg and midwicket again as Shadab's varying lengths didn't alter Sams's shot selection. And with that, the equation came down to 14 off 18 balls. Rauf and Stoinis dismissed Milind - who got a half-century - and Sams in the next two overs but when

Coetzee took the ball to bowl the last over, Super Kings needed just one run to secure the win.

That the chase needed Sams's late intervention was down to Super Kings' poor start. Faf du Plessis's horror run in the tournament continued as he got his second duck, trapped leg before by Carmi le Roux in the first over. Haris Rauf added to the early wobble by taking out Cody Chetty in the second over. Devon Conway and Milind pulled the team out of trouble, but that stand was also breached by the ninth over when Conway failed to read Shadab's googly and was out

stumped for 30. When David Miller fell in the 11th over, the wheels appeared to be coming off for Super Kings' chase, only for it to be miraculously revived in a manic four-over period that crushed Unicorns' hopes of advancing to the last-four.

Despite Matthew Wade's top-order efforts, those hopes were on shaky grounds in the first half of the game itself when the team was down to 116 for 5 in the 16th over and staring at a sub-150 total. After Finn Allen's early exit, all of Stoinis, Shadab and Corey Anderson got starts but their efforts were nipped in the bud by the Super Kings bowlers.

Yet, they managed a sprint to the end as Chaitanya Bishnoi and captain Aaron Finch threw their bats around at the death to push the team to 171/8 - 51 of which came off the last 24 balls. Incidentally, it was the same number of balls - albeit before the death overs - that turned the game against them during the chase. Brief Scores: San Francisco Unicorns 171/8 in 20 overs (Matthew Wade 49, Chaitanya Bishnoi 35; Gerald Coetzee 4-31, Mitchell Santner 2-30) lost to Texas Super Kings 172/7 in 19.1 overs (Milind Kumar 52, Daniel Sams 42, Devon Conway 30; Haris Rauf 2-32) by 3 wickets