

Bahuda Jatra: Chariots Reach Lions' Gate Of Srimandir In Odisha's Puri City

Puri(KCN): The chariots of Lord Jagannath and his siblings were pulled to the Lions' Gate of Srimandir from Srigundicha temple in Odisha's Puri city on the occasion of Bahuda Jatra today. Taladhwa chariot of Lord Balabhadra was the first to reach the Lions' Gate of the 12th century shrine followed by Darpadalan chariot of Devi Subhadra. Nandighosa chariot of Lord Jagannath was the last to reach the Srimandir gate.

The three chariots were pulled towards Srimandir from Srigundicha temple one after another soon after the completion of Chhera Panhara ritual by



Gajapati King Dibyasingha Dev. Taladhwa chariot was pulled towards Srimandir at around 1 pm followed by Darpadalan

chariot and Nandighosa chariot, said a senior official of Shree Jagannath Temple Administration. The deities were offered

Podapitha on their respective chariots on the Grand Rod near Mausai Maa temple during their return journey, he added.

Earlier in the day, the deities were escorted to their chariots from Srigundicha temple through the ceremonial Pahandi procession.

The Pahandi procession commenced at around 8.20 am as Lord Sudarsan was taken to the Darpadalan chariot of Devi Subhadra.

Lord Balabhadra's Pahandi began at around 8.50 am followed by that of Devi Subhadra at around 9 am. The Pahandi procession of Lord Jagannath commenced at around 9.30 am, said the official.

Thousands of devotees from across the Odisha and other places in the country thronged Puri city to watch the Bahuda Jatra (Return Car Festival). The state government and the Puri district administration made elaborate security arrangement for smooth conduct of the festival.

3 electrocuted in separate incidents during

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Three persons were electrocuted and two others sustained critical injuries in two separate incidents during Bahuda Jatra in Odisha today.

In the first incident, two persons were electrocuted when the flag of the chariot came in contact with a live wire at Kendua in Keonjhar district during the festival in the afternoon. Another person also sustained mishap in the incident.

The deceased have been identified as Jugal Kishore Barik (40) of Bhubanpashi and Baruna Giri (42) of Kendua. Sankarshan Pradhan of Nahabeda sustained injuries in the incident, said a local.

In another incident, a 26-year-old man was electrocuted during Bahuda Jatra at Kolab Nagar in Koraput district today.

The deceased has been identified as Babula Nayak of the locality.

The incident took place when the flag of the chariot came in contact with a live wire. Another person, identified as Krishna Rao, sustained injuries in the incident.

The locals, meanwhile, blamed the callousness of the Electricity department for the mishap. "The power connection to the locality was not snapped during the Bahuda Jatra. As a result, the mishap took place and a person lost his life," said a local.

2725 Cr For Odisha

New Delhi: The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, has given a boost to reforms by the States in power sector by providing financial incentives in the form of additional borrowing permissions. Odisha will benefit Rs.2725 Crore of fiscal incentive

This move aims to encourage and support the States in undertaking reforms to enhance the efficiency and performance of the power sector.

The initiative was announced by the Union

Finance Minister in Union Budget 2021-22. Under this initiative, an additional borrowing space of up to 0.5 percent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is available to the States annually for a four-year period from 2021-22 to 2024-25. This additional financial window is dependent on implementation of specific reforms in the power sector by the States.

The initiative has spurred State Governments to initiate the reform process, and several

States have come forward and submitted details of the reforms undertaken and achievements of various parameters to the Ministry of Power. Based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Power, the Ministry of Finance has granted permission for reforms undertaken in 2021-22 and 2022-23 to 12 State Governments. Over the last two financial years, they have been allowed to raise financial resources of Rs. 66,413 crore through additional borrowing permissions.

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Commercial Coal Bid Open

New Delhi: The auction process of 103 coal/lignite mines for sale of coal was launched by the Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal on March 29, 2023. The last date for submission of Technical Bids for all the coal mines was June 27, 2023.

As part of the auction process, Technical Bids comprising of online and offline bid documents were opened here today (June 28, 2023). The online bids were decrypted and opened electronically in the presence of the bidders. Subsequently, sealed envelopes containing offline bid documents were also opened in the presence of bidders. Entire process was displayed on screen for the bidders.

A total of 35 bids (both online and offline) were received under two tranches (7th tranche and 2nd attempt of 6th tranche) of commercial coal mine auctions. Under Seventh tranche of auctions, a total of 34 bids both online and offline were received against 17 coal mines and two bids were received only online but not offline. Two or more bids have been received for seven coal mines i.e. 24 bids (Both online and offline) against 7 coal mines and 10 coal mines have received single bids (Both online and offline). Of these 17 coal mines, nine are partially explored whereas the remaining mines are fully explored. The cumulative peak rated capacity (PRC) of the fully explored coal mines is 47.80 million tonne per annum (MTPA). 16 coal mines are non-coking coal mines whereas one mine is coking coal mine.

Odisha CM Lays Foundation Stone Of Ekamra Project At Lingaraj Temple In Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid foundation stone of the Rs 280 crore Ekamra Project at the Lingaraj Temple here, today.

For this occasion, a three-day Bhumi Pujan ceremony has been going on at the shrine with today being the final day. The ceremony was organized by the Lingaraj Temple Trust Board to highlight the cultural heritage of the Ekamra Kshetra. The ceremony has been marked by yagna and various cultural programmes. Lingaraj Temple, Ananta Basudeva Temple, Mukteswar Temple, Bindu Sagar, and other nearby temples have



been illuminated. The CM felicitated the shopkeepers and individuals who had given up their land for the beautification & transformation project. Notably, the State Government had in 2019 launched the 'Ekamra

Prakalp', also known as Ekamra Kshetra Amenities and Monuments Revival Action Plan. The project's objective is to revive the grandeur of the ancient heritage precinct surrounding the Lingaraj Temple, covering

an expansive area of 80 acres. This includes a variety of monuments, sacred tanks, and water bodies. In the initial stage of implementation, the focus will be on restoring the architectural and archaeological treasures of Ekamra Kshetra.

Keonjhar Accident: Odisha CM Announces Rs 3 Lakh Ex-Gratia, Free Treatment

Keonjhar (KCN): Expressing grief over the road accident in Odisha's Keonjhar district that claimed at least 5 lives, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today announced ex-gratia of Rs 3 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased.

The ex-gratia amount will be provided from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

The CM also announced free treatment for those who sustained injuries in the mishap.

What should have been a joyful and memorable occasion quickly turned into a scene of sorrow and despair as a devastating accident unfolded during a wedding procession in Keonjhar district. Shockingly, the mishap resulted in the loss of at least five lives, with nine others sustaining injuries.

The heart-wrenching incident took place in the early hours of Wednesday at Sathighar



Sahi, situated near National Highway-20. The injured victims were promptly transported to the Keonjhar district headquarters hospital for urgent medical attention. According to sources, the wedding ceremony was set to unite the daughter of Kartik Patra, a resident of Sathighar Sahi, with Hemanta Patra, the son of Hadibandhu Patra from Manpur village, located in the Harichandanpur block. In a celebratory display, the groom and the wedding party were joyously parading with DJ music when tragedy struck. A truck collided with the procession, mere meters away from

the bride's house. Tragically, five individuals lost their lives on the spot, while nine others suffered severe injuries. Prompt response from the fire services personnel allowed for the injured to be swiftly transported to the district headquarters hospital for urgent medical treatment. The mishap sparked tension and grief among the witnesses and attendees present at the scene. Among the deceased were the groom's nephew and another individual from their side, while two other victims hailed from Sathighar Sahi.

MP Lauds Procurement System



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Team MP Civil Supplies has lauded Paddy Procurement System of Odisha for its transparency and innovativeness. A delegation of Madhya Pradesh Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department led by H S Parmar, Joint Director, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department along with K K Srivastava, General Manager, Madhya Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation and

Parag Pathak, IT Consultant visited Odisha to study the innovative methods adopted by the State Government to automate the paddy procurement process & Targeted Public Distribution System (TDPS) transformation. The Team MP visited Rice Receiving Centre-cum-Departmental Storage Centre (DSC), Mancheswar to study its functioning and lauded the transparent Supply Chain Operations followed by the

State. They also visited Santholia Rice Mill, Baliaanta Block, Khordha to see the paddy milling process and were astonished to learn that Odisha is procuring paddy directly from farmers by opening Paddy Purchase Centres in all 30 districts which facilitates farmers to sell their produce almost at their doorstep. Team MP proceeded to Maitree Fair Price Shop under BMC Bhubaneswar to understand the functioning of the food

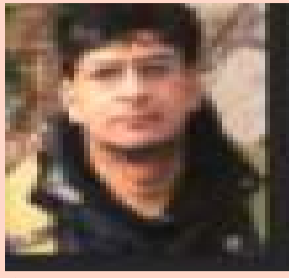
grain ATM installed in the FPS centre and how it has reduced manual dispensing and automated the distribution of food grains under PDS. The delegates interacted with Food Supplies and Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation (OSCS) officials to understand the modalities and workflow of P-PAS, supply chain management system, ration card management system, fair price shop automation & grievance redressal system. Team MP Leader Shri Parmar lauded the steps taken by Odisha Government in the implementation of NFSA leading to becoming the No. 1 performing state in the country and paddy procurement automation system.

Behold her

Saikat Kumar Basu

Behold her beauty in my eyes
In the solitary highland isolated from civilization
My love is unconditional for you
Across the depth of the mountains
Amidst the beauty of the surrounding nature
The vastness of the silent valley standing in front of us
Could possibly capture my inner feelings
Your wet lips and tearful eyes
Are my inspiration to live
Beauty is not what just my eyes can gaze
It is your selfless soul that drags me to you
Like a butterfly attracted to the light of the candle on a dark night
The peace and solitude I find in you
Are the treasures that has made me your slave
You are so close; but yet so far from me
I try to touch you, but never been able to hold you in my arms
You slip from my arms every time I try to reach you in my dreams.
Like a mystic mountain standing close shadowed by mist and fog
The only way to get you is to leave everything
And search for self actualization
I can only reach your soul deep in my meditation
Your selfless soul I see aching for the pain of others
But you are bleeding too
Let me dress your wound gently great soul
Don't run away from me
I need you every moment of this life
As my long cherished soulmate, companion and wife.
Behold her single in your arms
Oh solitary highland land
Love you unconditionally
Through the depths of the mountain and the valley standing in front of us
Your wet lips and tearful eyes
Are my inspiration to live.

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Under your throne

Dwit David Philip

You and me, alone in this world,
It's the only relation eternal and hot forever,

I am so naked and personal to you,
Where I need your touch, best known to you,

Pictures, thoughts, songs, jumps in your love,
It's beautiful, the detached vigil from the world, confirms.

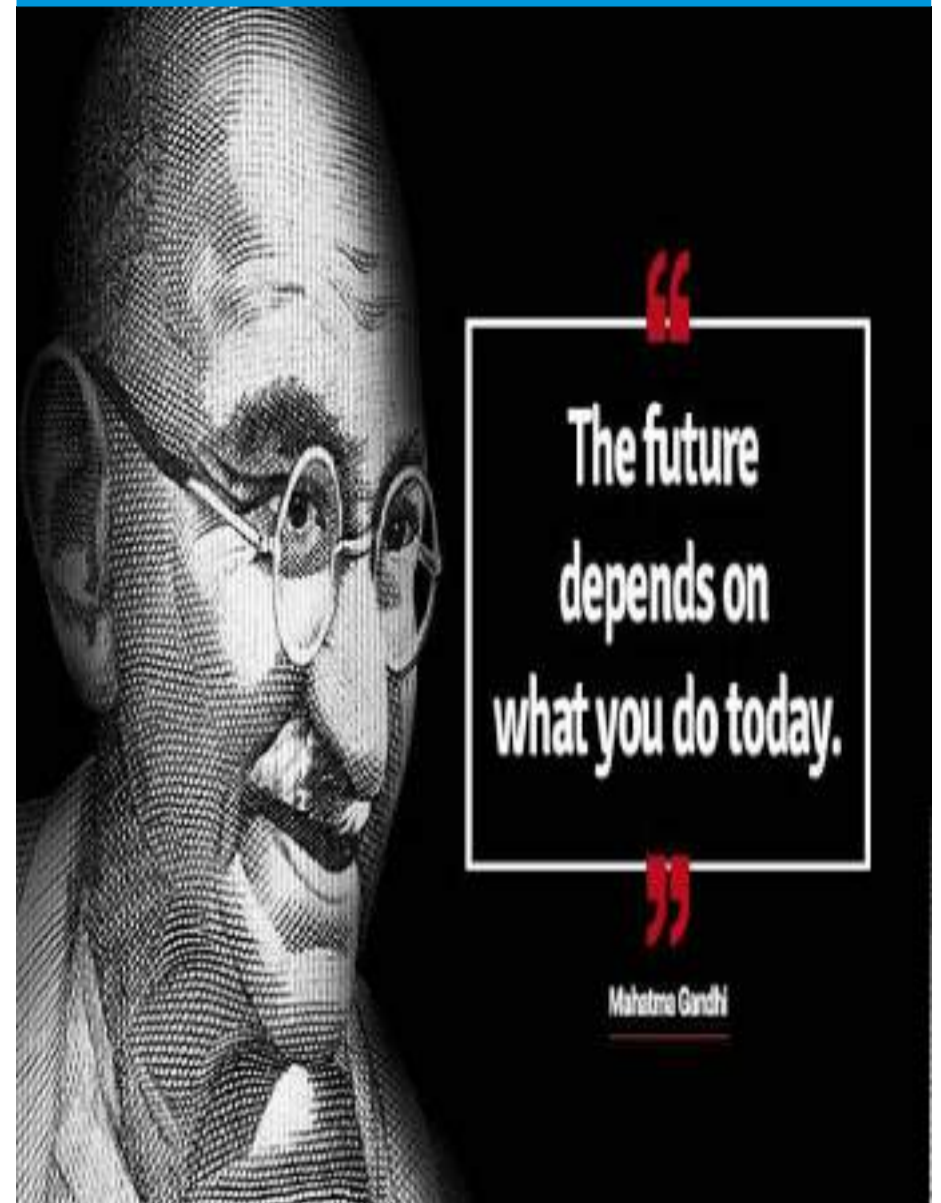
Like a tender child, I always crawl,
And you know me, how and where to fold
and where to fondle over and over,

I adore you God, enriching my body and thoughts,
That's the reason I come humbling naked,
empty and alone to your throne of thoughts.

Why then this crowd,
If I am so loved?

Chaibasha Jharkhand India
9437104303

Quotation of the Day



The future depends on what you do today.

Mahatma Gandhi

Cave Temples of Mumbai - A Slice of the City's Past

The city of Mumbai is home to ancient cave temples dedicated to Buddhist and Hindu faiths. These caves stand silently amidst the hustle and bustle of some of the busiest suburbs of the metropolis which lie on the island of Salsette (Shatshashthi) and on the neighbouring island of Elephanta, which is 11 km offshore. Though the total number of caves are nearly 130, the most important ones are the Hindu caves of Jogeshwari, Mandapeshwar and Elephanta, and the three Buddhist caves of Mahakali, Kanheri and Magathane. Together they tell the story of the rise and progress of Buddhist and Hindu religions and show clearly how the Hinayana sect was superseded by the Mahayana and how Hinduism adapted caves to their modes of worship. The fact that many of these caves were excavated on Salsette was not a mere coincidence. The island is situated near the flourishing ports of Sopara, Kalyan and Chemula. This area had a wealthy local population which must have funded the excavation and upkeep of these temples and monasteries. Also, the island has hills, with spurs running west towards the sea. These hills are made up of horizontal trap-rocks which are uniform in their composition and have alternating strata of hard and soft rocks that are well suited for excavating and sculpting. The building of these

caves was started as early as the 1st Century B.C. and continued till the 8th Century A.D. The area was ruled by different Hindu rulers and the caves were active places of worship till the overthrow of the Devgiri Yadavs by Ala-ud-din



Khilji (1295-1316) at the close of the 13th century. The area remained under occupation of the Muslim kings of Ahmedabad and passed under Portuguese occupation in 1534. It was then that these caves were visited and chronicled by European travellers such as D'Orta, Linschoten, Fryer, Gemelli Careri, Anquetil, Du Perron, and others. This was aided by the reason of their easy access from Bombay. (The name of Bombay was changed to Mumbai in 1995. The name Bombay has been used in the article to refer to the colonial city, wherever necessary.) Bombay was taken over by the British East India Company in 1668 and English explorers started visiting the caves. The English Governor of Bombay, Charles Boone (1715-1722) hired an Indian artist to make drawings of the Buddhist

temples in Salsette, which he sent to England. Boone as well as two other explorers, Captain Pyke and Richard Bouchier, the Governor of Bombay (1750 - 1760), contributed rich accounts of these caves.

Henry Salt's description of the caves on the island of Salsette were published in 1819 which contained drawings made by him and Major Atkins of the Bombay establishment. In 1843 James Fergusson, an elected member of the Royal Asiatic Society presented a paper to the Society on the Rock-Cut Temples of India. This led the Society to send a Memorial to the Court of Directors of the East India Company to make efforts for the documentation and preservation of the caves. The Directors accordingly instructed the Company to undertake the measurement and drawing of the antiquities. In 1847 Dr. Bird published his research on the caves. The interest aroused by these led to the formation of a Cave Commission in Bombay

in 1848. The Commission consisted of Dr. J. Wilson, Dr. Stevenson, C. J. Erskine, Capt. Lynch, Dr. J. Harkness, Vinayak Gangadhar Shastri, and Dr. H. J. Carter. It worked till 1861 and received accounts of the

antiquities and got the mud cleared from the Elephanta Caves. Dr. W. West and his brother Mr. Arthur A. West made a large collection of notes and drawings from the Rock-Temples of the Bombay Presidency. In July 1851, Lieutenant Brett was employed to take facsimiles of the inscriptions from the caves, under the direction of a despatch from the Directors. In 1871 the Secretary of State for India in Council proposed a survey of the architectural antiquities of Western India. Accordingly, archaeologist James Burgess (Head of the Archaeological Survey of Western India, 1873, of South India, 1881, and Director General, Archaeological Survey of India (1886-89)), carried out extensive surveys in western India between 1871 and 1885. He presented his findings and drawings in three



reports. In 1871 the Secretary of State for India sanctioned a proposal for the writing of a general history of Cave Architecture in India by James Fergusson and James Burgess. With the publication of their

evident from the remains of a stupa, monastery and water cisterns but a complete lack of statues of Buddha. The next phase (5th to 8th centuries A.D.) saw the making of caves dedicated to the Hindu

god Shiva, who is represented here as the three-headed God, Trimurti Sadashiva, Ardhanarishwar, Nataraj, Yogishwara and in various other panels depicting mythological stories associated with the Lord. Cave I contains a Linga shrine, complete with a circumambulation path. The Portuguese explorer, D'Orta's account is one of the earliest and the most comprehensive descriptions of the caves. When the Portuguese had arrived they had seen a stone statue of an elephant near the landing-place, which was 13 ft. 2 inches long and 7 ft. and 4 inches high, and hence named the island as Elephanta. The British tried to move the statue to England in 1864, but due to the breakdown of the crane the statue fell and was

shattered. It was brought to the Victoria Garden (presently the Veer Jijamata Bhosale Udyan), in Mumbai, where it was put together by the curator of the Victoria and Albert Museum (now Bhau Daji Lad Museum), Sir George Birdwood, and that is where it is presently displayed.

A stone inscription found near the caves was sent to Portugal by the Portuguese Viceroy Dom Joao de Castro as he could not get it translated. Even the King could not get it deciphered and it was later said to be lost. This could have perhaps given information about the date and name of the builders of these caves. Kanheri Caves

The most extensive cave construction on the mainland can be seen in the Kanheri caves, which presently lie inside the Sanjay Gandhi National Park in the suburb of Borivali. These were built by Buddhist monks starting from the 1st century B.C. till the 10th century A.D. This long period was witness to the Hinayana and the Mahayana phases of Buddhism. Thus the earlier caves are very simple and unadorned, while the later ones have statues and intricate reliefs of Buddha and the Bodhisattvas. The caves house Chaityas (prayer halls), a large number of Viharas (living areas) and other utilitarian structures which point to the fact that this was a large monastery and a centre of learning. The great Chaitya hall housed in cave No. 3 has the unique distinction of

having a stone railing enclosing the outer courtyard. Inside, the hall is 86.5 ft. long, 39 ft. 10 inches broad, with a total of 34 pillars which divide the hall into the nave and the two side aisles. It houses a plain stupa which has a diameter of 16 ft.

Kanheri caves have yielded more than 100 inscriptions. The majority of these are in the Brahmi script, in the Prakrit language. While their content is dedicatory in nature, yet information about the Indian culture and religious practices can be gleaned from them.

Jogeshwari Caves
These are a set of large Hindu caves built in the latter half of the 8th Century B.C., which stands in grandeur and ornamentation in the third place only after Ellora and Elephanta caves.

According to Dr. Burgess, its architecture is such that there are no traces of it being a Buddhist monastery. Rather it appears to be the predecessor of the structural temples that came up in the 11th - 12th Century A.D. in places such as Ambarnath near Kalyan (1060), and in Pattan Somnath in south Kathiawar (1198). The main hall, which is square-shaped as opposed to the star shaped ones at Elephanta and Ellora, houses the linga shrine in the middle. The shrine is separated from the aisles by equally spaced pillars. The cave has sculptures of Lord Shiva seated like an ascetic, and in dancing poses.

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Jr NTR Demands Probe Into Fan's Mysterious Death, Issues Statement

Popular Tollywood actor Jr NTR on Tuesday termed the death of his fan Shyam as very painful. He conveyed his condolences to the family of Shyam. In a statement, the actor said not knowing how and under what circumstances he died is heartbreaking. Jr NTR requested the government authorities to immediately conduct a probe into Shyam's death. The actor's die-hard fan allegedly died of suicide on June 25 in Andhra Pradesh's East Godavari district. Jr NTR's statement came hours after Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president and former chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu demanded a thorough probe into the death of Shyam under suspicious

circumstances. Naidu took to Twitter to demand an impartial probe as hashtag WeWantJusticeForShyamNTR was trending on the microblogging site. The 23-year-old unemployed youth was found hanging. However, several people have raised suspicion over the cause of death. Photographs of Shyam's body went viral on social media. Netizens doubted the police version that it was a suicide and alleged that somebody murdered him and made it look like suicide. However, a selfie video recorded by Shyam before committing suicide surfaced on Tuesday. In the video, he could be seen apologising to his parents. The youth said he had no interest in

taking up a job and hence he was ending his life. The young man had pushed the security persons to hug the actor at a film event in Hyderabad in March this year. After attending the event, Jr NTR was walking off the stage, surrounded by several security persons. Suddenly, a person (Shyam) pushed the security persons and hugged Jr NTR from behind. The fan looked very emotional. While the actor's security tried to pull the fan away, Jr NTR stopped them. The actor hugged the fan. The video had gone viral on social media. It was widely shared during the last few hours along with the hashtag WeWantJusticeForShyamNTR.

'Gully Boy' to 'Darlings'- Vijay Varma has come a long way

Gully Boy, India's official entry to the Oscars celebrates 4 years today, and while the film was highly celebrated for its impactful performances, it was dark horse Vijay Varma who stood for the sheer potential he showed and for holding his own despite the strong and established cast.



The actor was praised for his performance as Moeen Arif, and his portrayal instantly caught the attention of audiences and critics alike. From thereon, Vijay continued to impress with web series like A Suitable Boy, She and Mirzapur 2 and Ok Computer, all of which he won rave reviews for. But it was finally with Darlings, that Vijay

Varma cemented his position as the 'King of Grey' as his character 'Hamza' was yet another example of Vijay's incredible prowess as a performer who constantly raises the bar with every project he takes on. Critics spoke about how Vijay 'nailed

the character', 'was like a chameleon', 'terrific and absolutely scintillating' making audiences feel the dread that Badru (Alia Bhatt) felt everytime his character Hamza came home. From being a supporting cast

alongside Alia Bhatt in Gully Boy to being a parallel lead opposite her in her production Darlings, the actor has come a long way in the last 4 years and his journey has been nothing short of inspiring. It's no surprise then that after his phenomenal performance in the film, he is now part of some of the most exciting theatrical and OTT content including Sujoy Ghosh's untitled next alongside Kareena Kapoor Khan, Reema Kagi's Fallen and Sumit Saxena's untitled project that took almost 100 days of immersive, relentless work. Each of these are versatile and challenging but nothing that the actor can't pull off!

Samantha Ruth Prabhu Climbs 600 Steps Barefoot, Prays to Palani Murugan



Samantha Ruth Prabhu climbed 600 steps of the Palani Murugan temple in Tamil Nadu on February 13 draped in an all-white churidar-kurta and offered prayers at the temple.

She also lit a camphor diya and tweeted on the same. She was

accompanied by her 'Jaanu' movie director C. Premkumar and other friends. The actor, who suffers from Myositis, an autoimmune disease condition that causes acute muscular pain, has started shooting for the web series 'Citadel' in which she shares screen space with Bollywood

actor Varun Dhawan. 'Citadel' is the Indian version of the international sci-fi action web series of the same name created by the Russo Brothers. In the international series, Priyanka Chopra plays the lead. The Indian web series is directed by the

director duo Raj and DK, who had helmed the popular web series, 'The Family Man', in which Samantha played the role of Raji, a Sri Lankan Tamil militant. She had recently tweeted: "I am thrilled to be part of this brilliant universe conceptualised by the Russo Brothers AGBO. I am also looking forward to working with Varun for the first time. He is someone who is full of life and cheer when you are around him." Samantha is awaiting the release of her Telugu mythological movie 'Shakunthalam' in which she shares the screen with Prakash Raj and Dev Mohan. The movie is to be released on April 14.

'Blind' Teaser Out: Sonam Kapoor-Starrer Is All Set To Give You Chills



Makers of the upcoming thriller film 'Blind' on Tuesday unveiled the official teaser. Taking to Instagram, OTT platform Jio Cinema shared the teaser which they captioned, "Evil comes in many forms, but so does the truth...Will Gia be able to conquer the darkness? Watch #BlindOnJioCinema, streaming free 7 July onwards."

In the teaser, Sonam could be seen chasing a serial killer despite her visual impairment. Directed by Shome Makhija, 'Blind' also stars Purab Kohli, Vinay Pathak, Lilette Dubey, and Shubham Saraf. The film is a Bollywood remake of the 2011 released Korean crime thriller of the same name, directed by Ahn Sang-hoon. 'Blind' is all set to stream on the OTT platform Jio Cinema from July 7, two days ahead of her birthday.

Soon after she dropped the teaser, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. "Sonam after long time.....!!! Excited," a fan commented. Another fan wrote, "Finally @sonam Kapoor back onscreen." The film is presented by Jio Studios, in association with RV Motion Pictures & Lead Films, a Kanai, Avma and Kross Pictures Production. Sonam last appeared in the film 'The Zoya Factor' opposite Dulquer Salmaan. Helmed by Abhishek Sharma, the film failed to impress the audience at the box office. She has been a part of several big films like 'Raanjhanaa', 'Neerja', 'Players', 'Delhi-6', 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag', 'Sanju', and 'Padman' among others. Meanwhile, Sonam is currently in London enjoying summer with her husband Anand Ahuja and son Yayu. Sonam and Anand tied the knot on May 8, 2018, in a traditional Anand Karaj ceremony. In March 2022, the couple announced they were expecting their first child together. And on August 20, they were blessed with a son. "On 20.08.2022, we welcomed our beautiful baby boy with bowed heads and open hearts. Thank you to all of the doctors, nurses, friends and family who have supported us on this journey. It's only the beginning, but we know our lives are forever changed," the couple posted.

IIFA 2023: Alia Bhatt Wins Top Acting Award, Skips Ceremony Due To 'Family Emergency'

And, true to her exploits and status in the film industry, Alia Bhatt won the Best Actor Award for 'Performance In A Leading Role- Female' at IIFA 2023. However, the 30-year-old star was not in attendance to accept her award for her performance in 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' in person. If reports are to be believed, Alia skipped the event due to a family emergency.

Alia's maternal grandfather, Narendra Razdan, is reportedly not well. Producer Jayantilal Gada received the award on behalf of Alia. Earlier this month, Alia was announced as the first Indian global ambassador of the luxury fashion brand, Gucci. Taking to Instagram, the fashion brand shared the news and captioned it, "Alia Bhatt is the House's



newest Global Brand Ambassador. To mark the occasion, the actress, producer, and entrepreneur were

also made her Met Gala debut in the month of May. The 'Raazi' star hit the iconic red carpet in a dreamy white gown designed by fashion designer Prabal Gurung. This year's theme was 'Karl Lagerfeld: A Line of Beauty', based on the new Costume Institute exhibition exploring the work of the iconic designer. Lagerfeld, who died in 2019 at the age of 85, spent decades creating clothes for Balmain, Patou, Chloe, Fendi and Chanel in addition to his own namesake label, Page Six reported. She teamed the gown with embellished gloves, matching diamond earrings and rings. For the glam, she opted for a centre-parted half-tied ponytail, high heels, subtle smoky eye shadow, Kohl-lined eyes, nude lip shade, and a dewy base.

Monsoon Nail Trends



It is that time of the year again when there is a nonstop downpour, breezy winds and splashy water everywhere. It is a common perception that monsoon has a gloomy face.

Nails take the most hit during the rainy season. The season of monsoon calls for special care of nails to avoid damage due to red, swollen and itchy skin around them. The skin becomes sweaty or infected due to overexposure to water as a result of it both fingernails and toenails get affected by the rains. Painting your nails is like therapy. Trying out new nail colours and designs are something that just makes you feel groomed and uplifted. When your

nails are groomed in invigorating hues, you automatically get a dose of colour therapy that is just great for your mood.

The season of monsoon calls for special care of nails to avoid infection and chipping. The monsoon can lead to rough, brittle and discoloured nails.

Well-kept nails are a part of our presentation and look. Be it any occasion, we all know how essential it is to maintain them.

Try to keep your nails dry with extra care, especially your toes. You may opt for open shoes/sandals/chappal as if you are wearing closed footwear all the days long then fungus/bacteria may thrive in your feet due to moist and damp environment which can result in dead skin cells and bacteria, ultimately affecting your toes.

Avoid wearing leather, plastic or canvas shoes. Do not wear the same shoes every day. It is better to have an alternate pair of shoes. Wash your footwear regularly. Desist from

sitting in wet footwear and socks all through the day. Try to wear waterproof footwear to allow air circulation. Your nail health is important during the rainy season. Refrain from growing your toenails long. Wash and clean dirt from under the nails as also the edges. Cut your toenails short to avoid any chances of accumulating dirt and other infections. Try to spray deodorants / talcum /anti-fungal powder in between toe nails regularly at least once in a day to prevent infection

During the hot and humid season, we go for light, serene, pastel colours for our clothes. The same goes for the nails too. We can select colours that are icy, "cool" and trendy. The way to protect the nails and keep them looking good is to give them regular care. There is no point wearing a glamorous outfit if the feet and toe nails show neglect and lack of care.. Chipped nails and

chipped nail polish can really spoil the entire effect. You need to be very careful while picking a nail polish. While wearing nail polish does not harm your healthy nails. Typical nail polish is filled with toxic chemicals such as Paraben, diethyl phthalates, dibutyl phthalate which cause nail brittleness, dryness, and thinning and are bad for the skin surrounding it. Always prefer water-based polishes, which don't last as long but are the safest option out there.

Try your level best to choose natural and chemical-free nail paints that are eco-friendly and cruelty-free. Avoid eating with hands that have paint on its nails as bits of the nail paint can chip and fall into the food, which will eventually go inside your body and cause harm. Pick a nail colour remover that contains

Shahnaz Husain

This takes only a few minutes. Massage cream on the nails and the skin around the nails.

Choose from a range of hand creams, cuticle oil/creams /oils to moisturize them regularly to make them strong, shiny and healthy. I will recommend putting coconut oil around the cuticles daily to moisturize your nails for strong, long, healthy nails. Regular handwashing or use of hand sanitizer can dry out the skin and nail bed quickly, so try to moisturize after every wash, if possible. Coconut oil is excellent for rubbing into your nails and cuticles. It is advised to wash the hands with lukewarm water to help keep the hands and nails soft and smooth.

Keep a travel-size hand cream enriched with fruit extracts or cuticle oil bottle at every sink in your home. Apply warm almond oil, soften cuticles and push them back gently with a cotton bud. Use a cotton

bud to clean beneath the nails too. Avoid cutting cuticles and using metal instruments. Apply almond oil or olive oil on the nails and hands. Apply nail varnish, using smooth strokes, from the base of the nails to the tip. First, apply one coat of colour on all the nails. Wait for it to dry and then apply the second coat of colour.

Soak your feet in luke warm water for 10 minutes. The water should contain a few drops of a liquid hand wash and some fresh lemon juice. Next, cleanse your nails and scrub your feet with a foot scraper. Complete this routine by applying a nail cream. Avoid pushing the cuticles, as toe nail fungal infections are very common in monsoon.

As far as nail colours are concerned, pink is ideal for hot and humid weather. Shimmer is very much in, so go for silver shimmer for the day and gold for the night. Lately, dark

colours have been in, like bright blue or green, but I feel that subtle colours are more suitable for monsoon hot weather. You can also go for icy colours like pink or mauve. Or, go for shades of brown, like coffee, bronze, copper, or sea shell and then add on glitter.

For a gala evening, go for gold or silver varnish, or try one of those colours with glittering stars. These come in many different colours, with gold or silver stars. As part of nail design, nail varnish can be applied in unusual colours like green, blue or purple. Or, use different colours for each nail. Nail art has become a specialized field now a days. In the past, simple ways of nail art were followed, but now it is a highly creative field.

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The Epoch-Making National Seminar, Cultural Presentation & Intriguing Award Ceremony

Dr. Rudrarup Gupta



The noble term "Culture" is having its own radiance in all over the globe. Most importantly some of our magnanimous leaders try to adorn the exclusive value of this undeniable notion through our various disciplinary activities not only to enrich an organization but they do take the inhabitable initiatives to refine the present societal standing in a very conforming manner. On the other hand, any successful brilliance of culture does bring out an astounding performers and achievers in the heart of this inestimable arena of learning as a hole. This is how an alluring synthesis of multifarious culture can be initiated and it is such an overwhelming platform where each performer is able to flourish his/her exemplary qualitative measure in connection with a histrionic advancement of victory indeed.

It is quite significant to state that "Dakshin kalikata Krira-O-Sanskriti Parishad(SEVA)", A Social Organization dedicated in "Human Services" has been entrenched in the year 1974 in flying colors by Shri Ajoy Kumar Das, NIS Coach & Member of Standing Committee(EX) State Council of Sports, Govt. of West Bengal, Fonder and General Secretary, DKKOSP-SEVA. The prime focus of this generous organization is to exclusively dedicate to

societal developments along with the high-end desire to provide quality education and most imperative vocational skills to youth for their much strengthening advancements of lives indeed. This is how this organization has



snatched the attention of our global mass not through their philanthropic measures but their indomitable spirits for the people who do will to participate from all the individual class indeed. Therefore, they organized their 3rd consecutive edition of "National Seminar & Cultural Presentation" along with the most engaging ceremony of "Swami Vivekananda Excellence Award Ceremony 2023" in one of the renowned venues of Kolkata for all the deserved achievers who have been working really hard to find the best solution in connection with our global sustainability.

1. Cultural Ambiance: This organization is having an impactful ambiance for all the insightful individuals who have attended this most prestigious programme from the perspective of

its expensive consequential value indeed. Because each one of them has got the impressive hospitality and the glorious acceptance right from the very beginning. It has really inspired all of us not only to perform well but to connect with this

noble organization from the core of our collective splendence of human values. 2. Event Management: This organization(Dakshin kalikata Krira-O-Sanskriti Parishad) has a wonderful spark to regulate this artistic event in the heart of Kolkata. Because they do have minutely implemented a great concept of "Participative Leadership Approach" from the very first minute of the programme. As a matter of the fact is each one of us has got the equal opportunity to participate and perform based upon their meticulous sequence indeed. Therefore, performers from their own respective disciplines have got the entire spirit to disclose their needful qualitative measures in a very befitting manner and they have been truly satisfied to this

significant organization in ensuring their future participations in enriching the worthwhile organizational glory. 3. Cultural Eminence: It has been truly noticeable because this organization has the priceless propensity to enhance the eminence of occupational goodwill both in national and international stature. Most importantly this nobility would have discovered the prime needs and requirements of common people who are in absolute need to grow along the unstoppable glow of

modernization. A number of highly distinguished personalities such as: Dr. Dhrubojyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University & Chairman, DKKOSP-SEVA, Dr. Arun Kumar Pal Former Senior Scientist & Advisor, DKKOSP-SEVA, Dr. Krishna Das, Former Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBSS&LUP, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India Working President, DKKOSP-SEVA, Shri Ajoy Kumar Das, NIS Coach & Member of Standing Committee(EX) State Council of Sports, Govt. of West Bengal, Fonder and General Secretary, DKKOSP-SEVA, Former Eminent Scientist Dr. Rumki Gupta, Psychology

Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata Advisor, DKKOSP-SEVA, Smt. Kolpolata Chowdhury, Educationist & Artist, Convener, DKKOSP-SEVA, and on the other hand, Sevabrata Das, Member, LPAC, Seed Division DST, Govt. of India, Organizing Secretary, DKKOSP-SEVA, and on the other hand, and many more have been present there and they have expressed their encyclopedic thoughts and good wishes about this enlightening event from their exemplary expertise of vast experience from their respective disciplines indeed.

A number of most talented & promising awardees from different provinces have received the most prestigious "Swami Vivekananda Excellence Award 2023" based upon their various fields and activities respectively. Successful awardees are Dr. Rudrarup Gupta, Dr. Sitaula(Nepal), Dr. Suddipto Chatterjee, Dr. Robert, Prashant Shakkhar, Sushil Kumar, Dr. Sonam Mansukhani, Dr. K. Akoisana Singh, Sruti Swyansiddha, Rina Burman, Amitava Chowdhury, Dr. S. Verma, Anuradha Choudhury, Dr. Tanmay Ghosh, Dr. Santanu Ghosh, Md. N. Islam and so on.

This synthesis of culture is undoubtedly wished to have the wide ranging occupational procurements not only for their celebrated global sustainability but for the virtuous human peace which is to be specifically imperishable in nature in our existing global constraints.

Kolkata, India

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor

India is a multi religious, multiethnic nation divided into many socio-cultural and socio-economic groups and communities. This vast geographical region is divided into numerous caste, creed, culture and religion along the length and breadth of the country. The largest populous country of the planet representing the largest global democracy has its own unique social problems such as religious and caste based unfortunate divisions in the society resulting in occasional riots and violence, gender inequality, family violence issues and child abuses, child labour, illiteracy and superstition, abject poverty, nepotism, corruption, unstable political system, poor governance, social injustice, social discrimination, terrorism and increasing gap between the rich and the poor. Different parts of India has faced significant social challenges from time to time due to unexpected terror attacks on ordinary citizens, sectarian and political violence, poor economy as well unprecedented administrative failures as well mismanagement. However, in spite of all the odds, India has stood united as a strong democratic and modern nation and demonstrated its resilience to grow, prosper and establish herself as a global power.

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Sir

June 28th is celebrated as world tapioca day world wide.

The day is celebrated to spread the importance of consuming this wonder tuber that is a staple food in many countries. It is known as a tropical plant which has its origin in tropical America. Along with Brazil, Indonesia, Vietnam, Nigeria, Thailand and Mexico India has also become a major producer and exporter in tapioca, also called cassava. In India Kerala and Tamilnadu lead in tapioca cultivation. Kerala is very popular for its tasty tapioca dishes and is a staple food even now for a big population in South and central Kerala. The Portuguese introduced tapioca cultivation in Kerala and historical records say that during the difficult days of World War II, it was tapioca that played a key role in saving people of Travancore from famine and hunger. Maharaja Sri Visakhram Thirunal introduced new varieties in Kerala during the 19th century and promoted consumption of these tasty tubers.

In addition to providing daily nutrition for millions of people around the globe, tapioca has become a popular substitute for wheat flour in gluten-free baking.

Tapioca is rich calcium and iron. As it contains no saturated fat it lowers the risk of heart disease. Tapioca is also very low in sodium.

Tapioca is also very easy to digest, so it's a good choice for people with Irritable Bowel Syndrome and other digestive issues. Today when a vast majority is conscious of consuming healthy food for a healthy living this nutritious roots are definitely an item to go for without hesitation.

M Pradyu
Kannur
Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.

ZSI to Observe the 108th ZSI Day on July 1

Government of Bhutan Approaches ZSI for Extensive Collaborative Studies to Conserve Red Panda

Kolkata, (KCN): Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has done extensive works on conservation of Red Panda which is appreciated widely in the scientific arena of both country and abroad. The Government of Bhutan has approached ZSI for collaborative study on conservation of this endemic species, as well as the genetic profiling of this species in the Kanchenjunga landscape. The representatives of the Government of Bhutan will be arriving in the city on July 1, 2023 and be a part of the 108th ZSI Day on the very day, stated the Director, ZSI, Dr Dhriti Banerjee today, while addressing the Press at Press Club, Kolkata today.

Dr Banerjee said, ZSI is going to sign a MoU on

that day (July 1, 2023) with the representatives of the Government of Bhutan on that day for collaborative research work on Red Panda. The Government of Bhutan has already allocated 25% of the fund to start the work on the conservation of Red Panda in Bhutan landscape. In future, ZSI has a plan to work on the same along the Kanchenjunga landscape with that fund, she added. Dr Banerjee is hopeful enough that in the near future, ZSI will also work on other species also. In North Bengal, there is a very small pocket where Red Pandas are found and for this only, the conservation of this species is of utmost necessity, Dr Banerjee stated. According to her,

there is more population of Red Panda in Bhutan than India, but the fact is that both the countries are actively doing jobs to conserve this rare species of Panda. The Government of Bhutan has approached India for providing technical expertise as they lack that, as well as doing collaborative works. It is hence, a trans-boundary programme also. After the Government procedures regarding trans-boundary programme, ZSI is in a position to start the job and the Government of Bhutan has already stated the fund allocation for this, besides providing some part of it, which is a very positive gesture and probably the first time, when the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest & Climate



Change is prized with such big deal, stated Dr Banerjee. The ZSI Director also said, the celebration of 108th ZSI Day will also pay focus on 'Mission Life' (Mission Life-style for Environment), where ZSI is going to showcase its efforts in reaching out

to 2 crore people across the country with message for environment protection through street plays, public events and seminars, besides a gala cultural programme to highlight environmental issues and efforts to reach out to the citizens. Dr Banerjee also detailed

on the other programmes to observe the 108th ZSI Day on July 1, 2023, like, the Union Minister for Environment & Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupendra Yadav will be inaugurating the celebration, besides releasing the Animal Discoveries, 2022,

comprising more than 600 new species and new records added to the list of animals of the country. The Union Minister is also supposed to release publications on 75 Wetland Fauna of India as well as 75 Endemic Birds of India to commemorate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM). She said, the Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey and Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEFCC, Shri Chandrakant Prakash Goyal will also be present on the occasion. The ZSI Director also threw light on the first two-day Animal Taxonomy Summit to be held at a five-star city hotel on July 2 & 3,

2023 where 400 delegates across India and abroad including the Natural History Museum, London will be participating. The summit will be hearing talks on different aspects of animal taxonomy, bio-diversity conservation and biogeography from 12 eminent invited speakers. The recommendations of the summit will be conveyed to the Union Government in due course.

Besides, Dr Banerjee also spoke about the MoUs to be signed with the Government of Bhutan, IIT, Jodhpur and Burdwan University to develop and foster an interest among the youths in research on bio-diversity and taxonomy.

Rajdhani College & Miranda House in collaboration with NMM, IGNC Organizes Workshop on Epigraphy and Manuscriptology

Save the past to save our future: Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi



New Delhi (KCN) :Department of Sanskrit, Miranda House, Rajdhani College, University of Delhi and National Mission for Manuscripts, Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, to preserve and promote the fundamentals of the Indian Knowledge Tradition. Under the joint aegis of the government, a seven-day national workshop is being organized in the mini auditorium of Miranda House. The inaugural session of the workshop, which will continue till 1st of July 2023, saw the presence of Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNC as the chief guest.

A grand exhibition of manuscripts was organized by the National Manuscript

Mission at the venue which attracted the crowd. In the program, the patrons of the workshop- Prof. Vijayalakshmi Nanda, Principal, Miranda House College, Prof. Rajesh Giri, Principal, Rajdhani College and Dr. Anirvan Dash, Director, National Mission for Manuscripts, welcomed everyone including the chief and distinguished guests and vouched for a joint effort in preserving, nurturing and promoting the Indian knowledge tradition. Miranda House College will also sign an MoU in the coming days for establishing a center for Manuscripts and will be an ally in carrying out the objectives of the Government of India. Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi in his keynote statement reflected on

the relevance and importance of the workshop in preserving and nurturing the scriptures and history and said that we must save the past to save our future. He highlighted that this workshop is just a beginning in fulfilling the objectives of the National Mission for Manuscripts. Along with this, he threw light on the difference and importance of script and language. Dr. Anirvan Dash informed that about 260 participants from all over the country are participating in this workshop. The aim of this workshop is to enable the second generation, so that transcription and publication of manuscripts can be done. Special guest, Prof. Om Nath Bimli, Head of Department of

Sanskrit, University of Delhi, mentioned various types of manuscripts and inscriptions explaining the importance of the workshop. Dr. Saurabh ji, Deputy Proctor of Delhi University, who came as a distinguished guest, emphasized on different types of scripts and their usefulness. Dr. Awaradhkshore Chowdhary, who came from the National Manuscript Mission, presented the worrisome condition of manuscripts through a self written song. In this session, renowned Sanskrit scholar Prof. Bhartendu Pandey, an eminent Sanskrit Scholar, Dr. Madhubala Singh, HOD, Sanskrit Department, Miranda House along with Political Science expert Prof. Sushil Kumar, Prof. Suman Kumar, Teachers, researchers and students from various academic backgrounds were present. The chief guest and the distinguished guests praised the Patrons of the program- Prof. Bijaylaxmi Nanda, Dr. Anirvan Dash and Prof. Rajesh Giri for this initiative. The workshop then begun with the national anthem.

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Raipur's Jagannath Temple Hosts Bahuda Yatra



Raipur (KCN) :Bahuda Yatra was celebrated at the biggest Jagannath Temple in Chhattisgarh at Gayatri Nagar in Raipur with much fanfare and spiritual fervour. To mark the occasion special religious rituals were performed before the four deities stationed at Adap Mandap inside the Aunt's house at the basement of the main Temple till afternoon. At around 4:00 pm, the Gods and Goddess were taken in the procession to the colourfully decorated three chariots standing in front of the temple. Former Organising Secretary of BJP in Chhattisgarh, Ram

Pratap Singh did the traditional sweeping of the chariot called the Chherra Pahanra. The Founder of the Temple Purandar Mishra helped him to conduct the job. Around 5 pm in the evening the long awaited return journey of the Lord of the Universe commenced. The juggernaut started rolling amidst the Slogans of 'Hari Bol', 'Jai Jagannath', playing of Musical instruments like Ghanta, Kartala, Mardala, Jhanja, Mrudunga and singing of Soul soothing Kirtans and Bhajans by devotees. Travelling through the premises of the Temple the chariots were pulled

back to the front of Grand Road at around 6 pm. An enraged Goddess Laxmi blocked the entrance of Lord Jagannath to enter into the Temple because she was not invited to accompany the Siblings during the Rath Yatra. Lord Jagannath immediately took stock of the situation and offered Delicious Rasagolla to the Goddess to Cajole her. Then she was pacified and granted permission to the deities to get in. This Episode was enacted during the occasion in the Temple premises. The Idols were then taken inside the Temple by the

servitors and devotees performing Dhadi Pahandi and placed on the Sanctum Santorum at around 7.30 p.m. The entire arrangements of the Bahuda Yatra were well managed and neatly executed by the overall supervision of the custodian members of the Temple Management Committee Shri Jagannath Temple Seva Samiti like President Purandar Mishra, Manmath Kumar Raut, Subrat Sahoo, Subhaash Agrawal, Gopal Agrawal, Dwarikadheesh Mishra, Ramesh Kumar Agrawal and Prakash Das.

Ved Mitra Shukla gets Neeraj Smriti Samman for his Hindi sonnets collection

New Delhi (KCN) :UP Bhasha Sansthan has announced awards named 'Shri Gopaldas Neeraj Smriti Samman' after a jury scrutinized applications submitted by several poets. Dr Ved Mitra Shukla has been selected for the first Gopaldas Neeraj Smriti Samman. Along with Dr Shukla, four names, Pankaj Prasoon, Dr Prabhanshu Kumar,

Krishna Kumar 'Kanak' and Nisha Singh 'Nawal' are also in the list of the Sansthan. On the occasion of awards announcement, additional chief secretary department of Bhasha, Jitendra kumar said that these five awards were instituted by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in 2018 in the memory of eminent Hindi poet Gopal Das Neeraj to

promote young poets of the state. Neeraj had also served the Sansthan twice as working president. Dr. Ved Mitra will be honoured with Shri Gopaldas Neeraj Smriti Samman for his Hindi sonnet collection named 'Ek Samandar Gehra Bhitari'. This award carries a citation and Rs. one lakh. After the announcement, poet Dr. Shukla said that the sonnet is a sub-



genre of poetry enriched by cultural exchange. It can be considered as a wonderful example of tolerance and open-mindedness in the world literature. In the book 'Ek Samandar Gehra Bhitari', there is a collection of 126 Hindi sonnets composed in the tradition of the great Hindi poet Trilochan. In this, not only the language and style but

the thematic varieties can also be read. Themes like nature, village, metropolis, country, society, literature, culture, love, politics, religion etc. are in the centre of the various sonnets. No doubt, human values, sensitivity, positivity and India centric approach prevails in the book. It is noteworthy that this book has been published with the

courtesy of Help Foundation of Bahraich, UP. Dr. Shukla is currently Associate Professor in the Department of English, Rajdhani College, University of Delhi. He, the author of more than a dozen books in Hindi and English, was also made a member of the Indian delegation at the 12th World Hindi Conference held in Fiji in February 2023.

Ekamra Puja Scripts Success

Bhubaneswar: The second day of the Ekamra Prakalpa Bhumipujan Ceremony was a resounding success, as the city of Bhubaneswar came alive with vibrant celebrations and events honouring its historical and cultural heritage. This grand initiative aims to restore and rejuvenate the ancient city, showcasing its glorious past to the world. Team Bhubaneswar led by BDA VC Balwant Singh, Commissioner BMC Vijaya Amruta Kulange and others made all arrangements for a hassle free celebrations. The day began with a spiritually uplifting Yagyan where devotees and participants gathered

to offer prayers and seek blessings. This early morning ritual set a sacred tone for the day, creating an atmosphere of devotion and reverence. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will lay foundation stone tomorrow. One of the highlights of the day was the mesmerizing sky projection, exhibition and projection mapping at the BMC Marketplace. From 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM, this stunning display showcased the historical significance of Bhubaneswar, bringing its heritage and culture to life through a visually captivating extravaganza. Visitors were treated to a feast for the eyes as they witnessed the architectural brilliance



and artistic traditions of the city. Throughout the day, captivating dance performances took the center stage, enchanting the audience with

graceful movements and expressions. These performances served as a testament to the rich artistic heritage of Bhubaneswar, leaving the audience in awe of

the sight. As the sun began to set, the lighting of the revered Lingaraj Temple, Bindu Sagar and several smaller temples created a mesmerizing sight.

The illuminated temples showcased the architectural brilliance and spiritual aura of these ancient structures, captivating visitors and devotees alike.

The projection mapping of the Ekamra Khsetra, showcasing the planned project, attracted many visitors during the day. This model provided a glimpse into the future of Bhubaneswar's heritage restoration, generating excitement and anticipation for the forthcoming developments. In the evening, a soul-stirring Bhajan ceremony near the Lingaraj Temple took place, featuring renowned artists such as Abhijeet Mishra, Upasana Sahu, Pandit Niladri Kumar and Mahalakshmi Iyer. Their melodious voices and devotional renditions resonated with the spiritual essence of the event, creating an atmosphere of tranquility and

devotion. Renowned playback singer A. Hariharn will enthral the visitors and devotees in the evening tomorrow. The Ekamra Prakalpa is a visionary project that aims to revitalize Bhubaneswar's cultural heritage and historical significance. Through events like the Bhumipujan ceremony, this initiative seeks to raise awareness, preserve heritage sites and promote the city's artistic traditions. The events of the second day left a lasting impression on the attendees, showcasing the vibrant culture that defines Bhubaneswar. With the Ekamra Prakalpa, the city embarks on a journey of revival and restoration, ready to reclaim its position as a jewel in India's cultural landscape.

All Set For Weightlift

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In yet another significant development for sports in the State, the All Odisha Inter Club Weightlifting Championship, 2023 is set to take place between the 28-30 June in the Biju Patnaik Weightlifting Hall here at the Kalinga Sports Complex. The championship promises to be a celebration of strength, athleticism, and competition as over 200 talented weightlifters from 10 districts and 20

weightlifting clubs across Odisha showcase their skills and compete for top honours. Additionally, 45 coaches and managers, along with 22 technical officials, will be present to ensure the smooth conduct of the championship. The Biju Patnaik Weightlifting Hall will provide the perfect stage for the weightlifters to exhibit their skill. Many of the athletes competing in the tournament, though representing their

respective clubs, frequently train at the Odisha Weightlifting High Performance Centre (HPC). Nearly 65 athletes currently train at the HPC, and the State has recently constructed 47 additional training centers as well. Furthermore, the State is also focusing on grassroots development and coaching through conducting training programs for coaches across the state. Speaking ahead of the Championship, Joint

Secretary, Sports & Youth Services Department, Sailendra Kumar Jena said, "This has been a great month for sports in Odisha, with the presence of International, National and State level competitions. We would like to wish all the athletes the best of luck and welcome them to the Kalinga Sports Complex." The championships which begin on the 28th of June promise to be a remarkable event, further cementing Odisha as a sports hub.

CM Asks GST Waiver



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Once again, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday urged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to withdraw 18 percent GST imposed on Kendu leaves. Writing a letter to Sitharaman, Patnaik said Kendu leaf, a minor forest produce (MFP) is the financial backbone of about 8 lakhs Kendu leaf pluckers, binders & seasonal workers of Odisha and mostly belong to the tribal community

and poorest of the poor of the society. The tribal people collect the leaves as part of their right defined under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. They have the right to procure and sell these products, he said. "Imposition of GST (18 percent) on Kendu (tendu) leaves is adversely affecting the kendu leaves trade. This in turn affects the livelihoods

of Kendu leaves, pluckers, binders & seasonal workers and implementation of social security and welfare schemes for them," the Chief Minister said in his letter. In the interest of livelihoods of the Kendu leaves dependent community, Patnaik urged the GST Council Chairperson to withdraw the GST imposed on Kendu leaves for the greater interest of Odisha. Earlier, in

November 2022, the Chief Minister had written a letter to the Union Finance Minister on the same demand. The State Finance Minister has been raising this demand before the GST Council several times. In December last, a delegation of BJD MPs met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi and demanded withdrawal of 18 percent GST imposed on Kendu leaf. Imposition of GST (18%) on Kendu (Tendu) leaves is adversely affecting the Kendu leaves trade. This in turn affects the livelihoods of Kendu leaves Pluckers, binders and seasonal workers and Implementation of social security and welfare measures for them, sources said.



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CarDekho's launches 2nd Mega Refurbishment Centre for Used Cars

New Delhi : CarDekho, India's leading auto-tech company, has opened its mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai for Used Cars. This is the company's second mega refurbishment centre in the country after NCR. The Mumbai centre will take full control of the refurb process and set quality benchmark through advanced state-of-the-art infrastructure while optimising cost through scale of operations. The company plans to open 20 such refurbishment centres across India in near future.

With 1000 cars monthly refurbishment capacity, the centre will employ 100+ employees once fully operational. As a result of having best-in-class inhouse refurbishment centers, Cardekho ensures that all vehicles sold on its platform are of the

highest quality.

CarDekho offers a 7 days 'No Questions Asked' money-back guarantee on all cars where customers can test-own the car and return it if not satisfied. Also included are 6 months of warranty, and complementary Pan-India roadside assistance (RSA) for all car buyers. A free insurance package and RC transfer are also included with the car.

Sharad Saxena, CEO - Used Car Business, CarDekho Group, said, "The opening of our mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai marks another milestone for the company in its quest to provide the best pre-owned vehicles to its customers. The cars refurbished at this centre will carry CarDekho's trust that offers reliability, affordability and unmatched satisfaction. This centre

integrates the Group's best know-how and reinforces our vision to disrupt the personal mobility space in India. We want our customers to live our promise of 'Bharosa Kar Ke Dekho'."

The refurbishment centre is equipped with State-of-the-art Brake, Suspension & Side Slip Tester, Hitech Pneumatic Tools & Equipment, 3D Wheel Alignment, Wheel Balancing, mechanical Tyre changing, Air Conditioning Service, Injector & Spark Plug Cleaning and a fully mechanised Bodyshop with Electric Dent Pullers, Double action sanders with vacuum extractors, Infrared heating Machine & full functional heated Downdraft Paint Booth along with inhouse paint mixing facility for high-quality painting.

RECOGNITION OF BOBBY CHAKRABORTY'S ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN BY WEST BENGAL POLICE & C. I. D. WEST BENGAL ON A SPECIAL DAY

Kolkata(KCN):As per U. N. Charter June 26th is observed as The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking worldwide. Every year West Bengal Police along with The C. I. D. West Bengal organise various activities and awareness programs on this day. This year too, they organized a rally in association with Bidhannagar Commissioner of Police & Shri Manoj Malaviya, IPS, D. G. & I. G. P. West Bengal, at the helm, from City Centre -1, Salt Lake. More than 3000 people from all walks of life, including students from 5 schools and 4 Universities took part in the rally. The rally had celebrities too like Koel Mallick, Anindya Chatterjee, Diti Priya Roy, Debalina Kumar, Bobby Chakraborty and many more, who were in the forefront of the rally.

We spotted Bobby with the banner of his award winning, global, free of cost awareness program for the youth, against addiction and harmful social trends labelled as 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND', walking with the students of Adamas University, with



which he is attached as a Member of The International Academic Advisory Board. The rally took a full circle to end at the City Centre Parking lot, which was used as a make-shift auditorium. The guests were felicitated on stage by Dr. Debasish Roy IPS, DG & IGP Railways, W. B.

Among everyone's welcome speech, the audience was touched by Anindya's inspiring life story from being a drug addict to a sober person and of course by Bobby's selfless work for the young generation against addiction of all sorts. Bobby in his brief

speech, reiterated the reason for his years of social service for the youth, being the destruction of his own family due to addiction. He ended with a heart touching popular Bengali song, dedicated to 'Life', which is the most precious thing for a human being, very rightly pointed out by him.

We caught up with Bobby as he was leaving. Here's what he had to say, "I must thank one person in particular and that is Shri. Indra Chakraborty, IPS, SS(HQ) & SS(Special), C. I. D. West Bengal, a perfect gentleman, a humble, warm big brother to me, who has been a big support towards my anti

addiction campaign. He felt that just because I am not only another face from the glamour world, but someone who is actually fighting against addiction in children on a daily basis, I must and I should make myself available in this event, without a failure. I am honoured to do so. I would definitely appeal to the West Bengal Police and C. I. D. Department to help me reach out to every child and young mind out there with my awareness program, by the help of their powerful platform.

Here's wishing Bobby more strength and power to spread his positive and healthy ideas among the youth all around the world.

We salute West Bengal Police, C. I. D. West Bengal and Bidhannagar Commissioner of Police, for organising such a meaningful and fruitful event so perfectly.

Flipkart clocks over 200 Million Fashion products in the Spring-Summer

Bhubaneswar: As the Spring Summer season 2022 draws to a close, Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has recorded a sale of over 200 million fashion products across close to 19,200 pin codes. The Spring Summer Season also played a key role for customers and sellers and saw close to 175,000 fashion sellers participating. These sellers came from not just metros but from tier 2 and tier 3 towns as well. Customers shopped for fashion and lifestyle products including sarees, men's t-shirts, watches, sunglasses, women's kurtis and footwear, from national, international and homegrown fashion brands.

The season saw customers shopping for fashion products from across the country including metros and a majority of these customers also from tier 3, 4 and 5 cities shop for fashion products from cities like Ranchi, Ernakulam, Kanpur,

Medinipur, Cuttack to name a few; and a substantial number of the overall customer base were first-time fashion shoppers.

Sandeep Karwa, Vice President, Flipkart Fashion, said, "We are extremely delighted with this overwhelming response from the customers, who consistently choose Flipkart for all their fashion and lifestyle needs. This year's spring-summer season saw a resurgence in consumption on the back of renewed economic recovery post-pandemic and we are pleased that lakhs of sellers saw a phenomenal response during this season. It is also a testament to our efforts to bring unparalleled value in fashion shopping to our customers. With a range of technology-led innovations that are making shopping experiences personalised and seamless for our customers, we are bringing India and Bharat closer ushering in considerable growth

opportunities for lakhs of sellers and brand partners."

Ayush Baid, a Flipkart Fashion seller who sells Women's ethnic wear from Surat, Gujarat, said, "We have grown on Flipkart by 500% during the spring-summer season and this was possible due to the technology and power of ecommerce. Growth on Flipkart has led to the overall growth of the company."

Harish Dadwani, a Flipkart Fashion seller partner from Agra, Uttar Pradesh, said, "It has been 4 years since I joined ecommerce and through the Flipkart platform have seen a growth of over 10X since then.

I had launched several new products in the spring-summer collection which has seen a 50X growth spike. I am very positive to set new milestones and garner new opportunities in the coming years and feel that I can achieve much more through ecommerce, technology and Flipkart."

IIT Delhi Student Wins Coveted TCS CodeVita Season 10

MUMBAI: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), announced the winners of Season 10 of its flagship global coding contest, TCS CodeVita, at a virtual grand finale. CodeVita, holder of the Guinness World Records™ title as the world's largest computer programming competition, has been inspiring students across the world to build and test their coding expertise for the past 10 years. The contest promotes programming as a sport and encourages participants to pit their skills against each other and solve intriguing real-life challenges.

The winner claimed the grand prize of \$10,000, while the first and the second runners-up were awarded \$7,000 and \$3,000 respectively. In a first, the third runner up, Michal Stanik from Czech Republic, was also recognized by TCS with a prize of \$1,000. Moreover, all four winners earned an internship opportunity with TCS' Research & Innovation organization. Registration for Season 11 of TCS CodeVita will commence soon.

"Season 10 of CodeVita has been remarkable in harnessing the passion for coding among the youth. We were thrilled to see how the four finalists

solved all the 10 problems, which has never happened before. I am happy to see CodeVita is encouraging youngsters to write good code and apply it to solve challenging problems," said K Ananth Krishnan, Chief Technology Officer, TCS. Winner Kalash Gupta said, "Thank you so much. It's unbelievable! When I started with the contest, I never thought I would even be in the top 3 but this is a very humbling experience. I'm very excited about the prize money. Initially I was not confident, as I took longer than I expected to solve the first problem.

FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

Bhubaneswar: FURO Sports Shoes, (from the house of Red Chief Shoes), is thrilled to announce its much-coveted collaboration with the Bollywood Superstar, Shahid Kapoor. Shahid's youthful and sporty personality of an affable boy gets with the aspiring core values and ethos of FURO Sports Shoes. Shahid appeals to a wider audience across all age groups. While his exceptional fitness lifestyle, dancing prowess, and romantic-action-oriented movies attract the youth, his responsible family guy persona connects with relatively mature age groups as well. Mr. Manoj Gyanchandani (Managing Director) expressing his views on the collaboration, shares, "We are extremely honored to welcome Shahid Kapoor as the newest FURO family member. We couldn't have asked for a better partner in 2022 who comes with such high credible energy which is much needed in such dynamic times to inspire the youth towards athleisure lifestyle. We look forward to a successful partnership with him and hope to have a mutually beneficial long-term relationship."

Mr. Rahul Sharma, (Marketing Head) further shared "To continue leveraging our association both in mass media & digital platforms - Shahid would be part of our forthcoming Brand campaigns, which are back to back lined up starting few weeks from now."

BOB Financial crosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (Bank) that issues and manages Bank of Baroda Credit Cards, has crossed the 1 Million Credit Cards mark.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Bank of Baroda Credit Cards have grown 9X over the last four years - from 0.12 million cards in March 2018 to over 1.1 million cards in March 2022. Further, the monthly spends on credit cards have grown 10X over the same period - from Rs.80 crore in March 2018 to Rs.830 crore in March 2022.

In CY2022, cobranding with IRCTC, HPCL, Defence Services, and partnerships with fintechs have been some of the key initiatives in the ongoing transformation journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shailendra Singh, MD & CEO, BFSL said, "In 2017, we started on a journey of transforming BOB Financial into a leading credit card issuer in India. Crossing the 1 million credit cards mark is an important milestone. However, while we celebrate this achievement, our ultimate aspiration is to become one of the largest Credit Card issuers in the country, serving customers of every demographic and socio-economic classification."

BFSL has been focusing on investing in people, processes and technology to enhance customer experience.

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Late Own Goal Dampens India's Celebration At SAFF Championship, Ending In A 1-1 Draw Against Kuwait

New Delhi: Sunil Chhetri scored a stunning goal but a late own goal by India helped Kuwait fight back to draw 1-1 in the final Group A clash of the Bangabandhu SAFF Championship 2023 at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Tuesday. In what was a high-tempo and high-tempered contest from start to finish, Sunil Chhetri's 92nd international goal, a clinical volley put India ahead at the stroke of half-time. They came close but could not add more goals to their tally. However, an unfortunate own goal from Anwar Ali in second-half injury time put a heartbreaking and unfortunate end to India's hopes of topping the group.

India started off aggressively, suffocating Kuwait with their

pressing in the final and middle thirds. Naorem Mahesh Singh, who scored his first international goal in the previous match, was causing all sorts of trouble from the left wing. In the fifth minute, he picked out Akash Mishra on the overlap and the left-back sent an inviting delivery into the middle which flashed just beyond Sunil Chhetri's reach.

India threatened with set-pieces in the entire match, and the first chance came from Mahesh's corner which Kuwait failed to clear and landed for Anwar Ali, whose attempt was feeble and easily blocked on the line. India's confrontational approach led to a slight setback in the 14th minute when Sandesh Jhingan's flying challenge on Eid Al-



Rashidi got him booked and suspended for Saturday's semi-final. Kuwait gradually grew into the game and got their first real chance in the 20th minute as Shabaib Al-Khaldi drove a loose ball over the crossbar. Five minutes later, Amrinder Singh made a terrific save to keep out Mohammad Abdullah's shot from

close range after a clever pass from Al-Khaldi. India looked increasingly dangerous from dead-ball situations, and while Kuwait breathed a sigh of relief when Anwar headed wide from a Thapa corner, Chhetri ensured that wouldn't be the case the next time of asking. Moments before half-time, facing another Thapa corner, the captain,

almost hiding in plain sight against Kuwait's zonal marking, cleanly nestled the ball into the back of the net with a side-footed volley from 12 yards out. One chance is all it took for Sunil Chhetri to put India ahead.

Expectedly, Kuwait came out with plenty of urgency after the break, and although Rui

Bento's side was allowed to see more of the ball, India remained their dominant selves in the defensive third. In the 57th minute, Al-Khaldi's free-kick was brilliantly tipped over by Amrinder. The attack is the best form of defence, and as clichéd as it sounds, that's how Igor Stimac's men operated for large parts of the second half. Mahesh, who had switched positions with Lallianzuala Chhangte after the restart, whipped a high cross from the right which fell for Ashique Kuruniyan, who blasted a volley just over the bar from a tight angle. Jeakson Singh Thounaojam then had India's next couple of chances. First, he saw his attempt blocked by Sultan Al-Enezi before heading Chhangte's cross wide from the resulting

corner. Jhingan yet again highlighted India's defensive prowess with a crunching tackle on Al-Khaldi who was sent clean through on goal. The Kanteerava showered its appreciation with loud chants for the 29-year-old. Right as the game entered the final ten minutes, Stimac was shown a red card after an argument with referee Alomgir, the Croatian's second sending-off of the tournament.

Substitute Rohit Kumar had a glorious opportunity to cement the win for the Blue Tigers but could only sky Udanta's low cross from just outside the six-yard box. Amrinder added another strong save to his solid performance in goal as he pushed away a fierce left-footed strike from Al-Khaldi in the

84th minute. Tempers continued to flare after Stimac's sending off after Sahal Abdul Samad was fouled in the Kuwait half and the West Asians prevented a quick restart, resulting in a scuffle, after which Hamad Al-Qallaf and Rahim Ali were shown red. However, it was to be a cruel end to India's seven-match clean-sheet run. Abdullah Al-Bloushi's harmless-looking cross from the right deflected into the Indian net as Anwar Ali tried to hook it clear.

While scenes on the pitch were unfortunate, the Kanteerava crowd made sure to keep the Blue Tigers' heads high, chanting the loudest they had the entire night to demonstrate how proud they were of their team which fought until the end but were unlucky not to get it.

Did CSK's MS Dhoni Stop Suresh Raina From Captaining A Different IPL Team?

New Delhi: Former India and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) player Suresh Raina has many MS Dhoni stories. He shared plenty of them in a recent conversation with Jio Cinema. Raina played all his IPL cricket for CSK and Gujarat Lions, a now-defunct team. He scored 5528 runs in 205 matches at an average of 32.52 and strike rate of 136.76. He was called the Mr IPL during his playing days. His partnership with Dhoni had a deep impact on CSK's performance in IPL. If Dhoni was 'Thala' for CSK fans, Raina was the 'Chinna Thala'. In one of the stories Raina mentioned that it was Dhoni who stopped him from playing for other teams in IPL.



Raina shared that he was getting offers for captaincy from other IPL franchises but he stuck with Dhoni because 'Captain Cool' wanted him by his side. Raina said that he never had any captaincy aspirations and that he told the same to 'Mahi bhai'. "I captained UP, Chennai, and several other teams also approached me, but

Dhoni bhai would say don't go elsewhere, I am the captain and you are the vice-captain. I said I don't have aspirations to be captain, I just want to play and make my country win. If I get the opportunity, I will work hard at it, but I never harboured any such aspirations to be the captain. I always felt I was a team player and

was happy to help out teammates or sort their problems," said Raina. Raina made another startling statement when he said that Dhoni is the toughest bowler he has faced in the nets. Dhoni is a wicketkeeper and batter but he occasionally bowled for India in dead rubber matches or when things looked very bleak as far as a win was concerned. He never bowled for CSK but Dhoni used to do some practice in the nets and sometimes, even picked wickets. Raina also used to be his victims in the

nets. Dhoni will never miss a chance to remind him about the dismissal in nets, says Raina. Speaking about the toughest bowlers he has faced, Raina said, "I think Muralitharan and Malinga, but in the nets, it was MS Dhoni. If he got you out in the nets then you'd not be able to sit with him for one and a half month because he'd keep gesturing and remind how he got you out. He'd bowl off-spin, medium pace, leg spin, everything. In the nets, he would even justify his front foot no-balls (laughs). Wherever he'd get a red cherry in a Test match he'd go for it. In England, he'd swing it full throttle."

New Delhi: Even as PCB await government clearance, insiders at ICC and BCCI are confident that Pakistan will travel for the World Cup. Even as PCB await government clearance, insiders at ICC and BCCI are confident that Pakistan will travel for the World Cup. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has stated that it will need to obtain clearance from the government before confirming its participation in the World Cup. This response came after the schedule for the World Cup was announced in Mumbai on Tuesday. It appears that the PCB's requests and concerns were not taken into account in the World Cup programme.

"The PCB requires clearance from the Government of Pakistan for any tour to India, including the match venues," said a spokesman for the Pakistan board in a statement following the release of the full schedule of the World Cup a few hours ago. "We are in communication with our government to seek guidance, and once we receive a response from them, we will update the Event Authority (ICC). This stance aligns with what we communicated to the ICC a couple of weeks ago when they shared the draft schedule with us and sought our feedback," added the spokesman. However, no indication was given as to

their views on the final programme. Nevertheless, insiders at the ICC and BCCI have confided that they are confident that the Pakistan team will travel to India. One of PCB's objections was regarding the India-Pakistan game being held in Ahmedabad. They had expressed a desire to play in Chennai or Bengaluru instead. Additionally, they wanted the hosts, BCCI and ICC, to switch their games against Afghanistan and Australia, which are currently scheduled in Chennai and Bengaluru. The ICC, however, said it has had no indication from the PCB and reaffirmed that the Pakistan board is a signatory to members' participation agreement.

ODI Cricket World Cup 2023: Eden Gardens Prays For India Vs Pakistan Semifinal, PCB Given Warning By ICC

New Delhi: The iconic Eden Gardens stadium will feature Team India in a semifinal at the ICC ODI Cricket World Cup 2023 but only if their opponents are Pakistan. After the much-delayed announcement of World Cup 2023 schedule, the ICC also declared that India's semifinal will be held at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai but if they face Pakistan, the last four game will take place at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata. The India vs Pakistan group stage fixture though will take place at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on October 15. The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) president and brother of former BCCI

president Sourav Ganguly, Snehasish Ganguly, said on Tuesday that the preparations have started for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 and added that an India vs Pakistan match at Eden Gardens would be a dream match. "Preparations have started. We started preparations after IPL for the World Cup. We are renovating the stadium, corporate boxes. Ground conditions are excellent. Preparations will start from July 1 for the ground. We had a meeting with our curator. Eden Gardens is ready to host the World Cup. There are some patches here and there, within the next two months, we will resolve all those issues," said

Snehashish Ganguly to ANI news agency. On the World Cup schedule, Ganguly expressed his satisfaction, saying that they got 'what we expected, what we wished for'. "We tried that we get a semifinal match this time and at the last moment, we got a semifinal match at Eden," he said. Kolkata will host Qualifier 1 vs Bangladesh on October 28, Pakistan vs Bangladesh on October 31, India vs South Africa on November 5, England vs Pakistan on November 12 and the second semifinal on November 16. "Everyone's first choice will be an India vs Pakistan semifinal at Eden Gardens, it would be a dream match," he added.



On the pitch, Ganguly said that the staff will go for a sporting wicket, which offers high-scoring contests and helps both bowlers and batters. "In IPL, everyone enjoyed the match since they were high scoring and the wicket condition was good. We will try maintaining it," he added. Ganguly said that a decision on tickets price

will be taken in the next couple of days. "We expect the crowd to come, we have a capacity of 65,000. Keeping this in mind, we will have a reasonable price," he added. The International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Tuesday that Pakistan had signed a participation agreement to

compete in the upcoming ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 in October-November. Notably, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Tuesday that it is currently liaising with the Pakistan government for guidance and clearance to tour India for ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 and will communicate the

outcome to ICC. "Pakistan have signed a participation agreement to compete and we expect them to be there and have had no indications to the contrary," said a statement from ICC on the matter. "All Members have to abide by the rules and the laws of their country and we respect that. But we're confident Pakistan will be in India for the Men's Cricket World Cup," added the statement. PCB's statement came after the schedule for ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 was announced. "The PCB requires the Government of Pakistan's clearance for any tour to India, including the match venues. We are liaising with our

government for guidance, and as soon as we hear something from them, we will update the Event Authority (ICC). This position is consistent with what we had told the ICC a couple of weeks ago when they shared with us the draft schedule and sought our feedback," said the statement from PCB. PCB's participation in ICC CWC 2023, to be held entirely in India for the first time ever, has been a widely-debated subject ever since Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary and Asian Cricket Council (ACC) president Jay Shah announced last year that Asia Cup 2023 will be held at a neutral venue instead of being hosted by Pakistan.