



The Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla in a group photograph with Panchayat Raj representatives of Karnal (Haryana), in New Delhi

Four labourers killed by goods train in Odisha's Jajpur

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Just five days after the horrific train tragedy that stunned the entire world, another train accident happened in the State. This incident was reported near Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, in which six workers were killed and another three seriously injured.

According to officials, reserve rakes of a goods train are stationed without engine near the station. The contractual labourers engaged by a contractor for railway work took shelter under the stabled rake (without engine) to get protection from the wind and rain of Norwester

The monsoon reserve



rake without engine reserved at the sick line near Jajpur-Keonjhar Road rolled on due to heavy thunderstorms, said Biswajit Sahu, chief public relation officer (CPRO), East Coast

Railway (ECoR). "It is a very unfortunate incident. The workers engaged by the contractor to carry out railway works were taking shelter under the stationed wagons. When

the wagons started moving due to heavy wind flow, the workers were trying to come out from the tracks. At that time this incident occurred," Sahu said. The railway officials

present at the spot have taken them to hospital. So far, four of them have died while the critically injured workers rushed to the Jajpur hospital, he informed.

Divisional railway officials led by DRM Khurda Road rushed to the accident spot, he added. Notably, at least 288 people died and over 1100 were left injured after Chennai-bound Coromandel Express, Howrah bound SMVP-Howrah Superfast Express and a good train were involved in a major accident near the Bahanaga Bazar railway station in Odisha's Balasore district on June 2 evening.

Cabinet Hikes MSP

New Delhi: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24.

Union Government has increased the MSP of Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24, to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce and to encourage crop diversification

The increase in MSP for Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24 is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average



Cost of Production, aiming at reasonably fair remuneration for the farmers. The expected margin to farmers over their cost of production are estimated to be highest in case of bajra (82%) followed by tur (58%), soybean (52%) and urad (51%). For rest of the crops, margin to farmers over their cost of production is estimated to

be at least 50%.

In the recent years, Government has been promoting the cultivation of crops, other than cereals such as pulses, oilseeds, and Nutri-cereals/ Shree Anna, by offering a higher MSP for these crops. Additionally, government has also launched various schemes and initiatives, such as the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), to encourage farmers to diversify their crops. As per Third Advance Estimates for 2022-23, total Food grain production in the country is estimated at record 330.5 million tons which is higher by 14.9 million tons as compared to the previous year 2021-22. This is the highest increase in the last 5 year.

Odisha CM Announces Ex-Gratia For Jajpur Train Mishap Victims

Need to adopt environment friendly approach and attributes: Sri Tusar Kanti Behera

Paradip, (KCN): Nature Care Initiative (NCI), the pioneer in environment protection observed World Environment day 2023 on 5th June 2023 at Biju Convention Centre, Paradip.

This year Nature Care Green Sustainability Award 2023 presented to Sri K J Patel, Director and Unit Head IFFCO Paradip for his leading role in environment protection. Nature Care Prakurti Premi Award 2023 presented to Tapas R a n j a n P a t i , Environmentalist & Nature Care Prakurti Bandhu Award 2023 presented to Amresh Naresh Samant, Environmentalist for their valuable contribution towards Nature and Environment. Sri Tusar Kanti Behera, Minister of state attended as Chief Guest and gave his deliberation and harped upon to take oath to work towards greener tomorrow, he gave the clarion call to adopt RRR policy (Recycle Reduce, Resuse) at individual capacity to curb pollution. He also



highlighted that only meeting and awareness is not enough to tackle the pollution menace, we need to adopt environment friendly approach and attributes at our individual capacity. He urged people to use public transport to commute than individual vehicle. He suggest, that our approach should be more of adopting newer innovative indigenous technology, but hand in hand, we should not be hesitant to adopt good technology from foreign, countries also, if its good for environment.

Sri P L Harnadh, Chairman Paradip Port Authority attended as Guest of Honour, informed that it

is our moral responsibility to provide a greener and cleaner tomorrow, to our next generation. He also highlighted that we need to understand our culture, tradition and vedic-gyan, through those knowledge only we will be in a position to protect and conserve environment. He also highlighted Panchabhoot Puja is environment protection. He informed the gathering the initiative of Paradip Port will completely green the year 2028, the objective of complete mechanised cargo handling by year 2028 in under fast progress. The Paradip Port is under process of installing

10Mw Solar Power, Paradip Port is amongst the first three ports to have Hydrogen Hub greener fuel concept. He reiterated that during his tenure 1million tree will be planted and he informed in last 1 years 2lacs tree will be planted and this year 1 lakh tree will be planted through Odisha Forest Development Corporation (OFDC) in Paradip. Sri K J Patel, Director and Unit Head IFFCO Paradip, attended as Guest of Honour highlighted the effort of IFFCO to make mother earth more cleaner and greener. He informed the gathering how NANO technology being used for benefit of

farmer and environment protection. The meeting was presided over by Sri Srikant Sekhar Sahoo, Chief Executive, Nature Care Initiative. Dr Sandeep Pattnaik, Professor, School of Earth Ocean and Climate Change, IIT Bhubaneswar, Dr Sutapa Pati, Academic Dean, School of Sustainability, Xavier University, Pandit Matru Prasad Mishra Environmentalist, Sri Durga Prasad Mishra, CEO Breathe Green India Private Limited participated as Guest of Honour & speakers and gave their valuable opinion and suggestion.

Odisha: Plus II Arts Results To Be Published On Today

Bhubaneswar: The Council of Higher Secondary Education (CHSE) in Odisha will publish the results of this year's Plus II Arts and vocational studies examinations tomorrow (June 8). "The results will be published at 4 pm on Thursday," said an official.

The CHSE had published the results of Plus II Science and Commerce examinations for the year 2023 on May 31. Around 3.5 lakh students had appeared the Plus II examinations under various streams this year, sources said. The CHSE had started evaluation of the Plus II answer sheets on April 10.

Odisha: 3 Senior IPS Officers Get New Responsibilities

Bhubaneswar: Additional Director General of Police (CID-CB) Arun Bothra, a 1996-batch IPS officer, will hold the additional charge of Managing Director of Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT), said a notification issued by the Home department today.



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has condoled the death of six contractual labourers at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road station in Odisha today.

The Chief Minister also announced ex-gratia compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased labourers. The compensation will be paid from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF).

"The Chief Minister asked the authorities concerned to provide proper treatment to the injured labourers," said an official.

Notably, six contractual labourers died after they were run over by a goods train at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road station in the afternoon. A private contractor had engaged the workers to carry out some railway work.

The incident occurred when the labourers were taking shelter under the stationary goods train during Nor'wester rain in the locality in the afternoon. Two labourers also sustained critical injuries in the mishap, sources said.

The deceased have been identified as Manas Samal, Goutam Samal, Susanta Jena, Balia Pal, Dolagibinda Pradhan, Visen Jena Osala and Prashant Jena Baitarani, sources added.



Trip to world's flora and fauna

DWIT DAVID PHILIP

All that we see passes by,
 All that I learn remains within me and momentary,
 All that I express, delights to 'we',
 Treasure in writings and sketches we exhibit are history.

Your eyes are His blessings,
 We want to read through these,
 All can't go like you did,
 Treasure it, so that we will adore your visits.

Curocia or Costa Rica,
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 Needs dollar, tanka or taka,



Let people see in your eyes and say Eureka

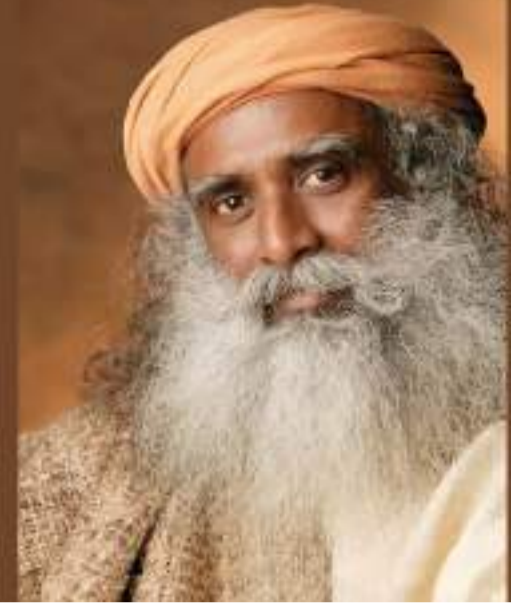
Congratulations for reaching out for us to the World's vistas,
 Your eyes are our eyes, just adopt means of expressions of desires and wants,
 Few visit, many read, your pictures with heritages, leaves many questions,
 Visits and posts are successful, for us, if it answers.

Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi, Odisha, India

Quotation of the day

"When you consciously choose to be ordinary, you become extraordinary."

~ Sadhguru



Lachit Borphukan: The Valiant Warrior of Assam

Born on 24 November 1622 in Charaideo, Assam, Lachit was the youngest son of Sukuti (popularly called Momai-tamuli), Assam's General in the Ahom-Mughal wars during the reign of Mughal Emperors Jahangir and Shah Jahan. Ruled by the Swargadeo (King), the Ahom Kingdom (1228 CE-1826 CE) was administered by five highly designated officials called the Patra Mantris or Council of Ministers. The Borphukan was one of them. Sukuti (Momai-tamuli) faced a lot of hardships and initially served under his nephew for a total of four rupees. The nephew used to address him as Momai (maternal uncle). Swargadeo Pratap Singha (1603 CE-1641 CE), on coming to know about Sukuti's sincerity and dedication towards his duties, appointed him as Bar-tamuli or Superintendent of the royal gardens. Momai-tamuli steadily rose in position until he was appointed Barbarua, which essentially combined the functions of the Chief Executive Officer and those of the Lord Chief Justice of the land. During the early battles with the Mughals, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Ahom forces. His vigilance and bravery used to be a great asset to Swargadeo Pratap Singha. A Mughal messenger once commented to his master, "O Saheb, what do you say of Assam? The King is a veritable Mahadeva and Momai-tamuli is Mahadeva's Chief henchman or Nandi. As long as these two wield the affairs of Assam, it is impossible to turn your face to that country." This remarkable sense of dedication to work, loyalty, and respect for his master made Momai-tamuli rise to power and prominence. Lachit inherited this

supreme sense of responsibility and dedication from his father. From a very young age, Lachit saw and listened to everything that occurred in his father's official residence. Being a Barbarua, Momai-tamuli had the usual retinue of subordinate officials helping him with the running of the state affairs, taking decisions regarding revenue and judicial complaints, receiving foreign messengers, and dealing with the problems of state diplomacy. It was normal for the families of Ahom nobles to appoint efficient teachers for the education of their sons. Pandits and intellectuals who imparted knowledge on statesmanship based on the Ahom classics as well as the Hindu Dandanities and Arthasasthras and taught the history of the country and the administrative system, were regularly consulted. Military training was integral to the education of noble families. Every officer, even a judge as well as a priest had to take up arms in times of emergency. Lachit began his career as the scarf-bearer of the Premier, a position equivalent to that of a private secretary. It was considered the first step in the career of an ambitious diplomat and politician. Being a scarf-bearer, he had to carry a bundle of betel nuts and important documents for his master. He also had access to the royal audience and cabinet meetings. Lachit held various offices throughout his career. Initially, he served as the Ghora Barua or Superintendent of the Royal Horses. Later he was appointed as the Dolakasharia Barua or Superintendent of the Guards. Swargadeo Chakradhwaj Singha (1663 CE-1670 CE), soon after becoming the King, appointed Lachit as the Commander-in-Chief and the

Borphukan. The position of Borphukan had both executive and judicial powers, and had jurisdiction over the Ahom Kingdom, west of the Kaliabor river. The Borphukan was also responsible for maintaining diplomatic relations with Bengal and Bhutan. Lachit Borphukan and the Battle of Saraighat S w a r g a d e o Chakradhwaj Singha appointed Lachit as the

from Delhi was promptly communicated to Lachit Borphukan through his spies. Lachit, aware of the numerical and technological strength of the Mughal army, immediately initiated a survey of Guwahati to make it into a war zone. Guwahati, located on the banks of the river Brahmaputra and surrounded by hills from all sides, was strategically crucial for

with reinforcements from Bengal, the strength of his army increased to 30,000 infantry, 18000 Turkish cavalry and 15000 archers. Lachit Borphukan received reports of the Mughal army advancing towards Guwahati, and he personally verified the reports by surveying their position. It is said that tears rolled down his cheeks when he said to himself, "It is a

order to lure the invaders into the war zone of Guwahati, (the land surrounded by hills on all sides with forts and garrisons at regular intervals), despatched three officers towards the Manaha river to entice the enemy into the neighbourhood of Guwahati. As the fortifications of Guwahati were further strengthened, Lachit Borphukan did not spare anyone who did

they were about to land at Andharubali, the Ahom land and naval forces were ordered to attack the Mughals. Lachit Borphukan was on his sickbed when the Mughals entered Guwahati. He was monitoring the movements of the enemy from the top of his gatehouse on Itakhuli hill. He observed that the Ahom army had started retreating after losing confidence in the face of the massive Mughal force. He immediately boarded his boat which was accompanied by six other war vessels, and headed towards the site of the naval battle. Borphukan exclaimed, "His majesty has given me the supreme command of the army here and placed at my disposal vast stores of provisions so that I may fight with the enemy. Should I now desert the fight and revert to the embraces of my wives and children? How dare these serfs of boatmen venture to row up the boats without my orders!" Seeing their angry chief, the Ahom army decided to fight back and faced the enemy with renewed courage and confidence. With courage and astute warfare tactics they finally defeated the Mughals near Saraighat, an area on the south bank of the river near the Panduport. The Mughal army was forced to retreat from Guwahati. They were pursued to the river Manas, which was on the western boundary of the Ahom Kingdom. Raja Ram Singh, at the end of the battle, hailed the courage and skill of the Ahom army saying, "Every Assamese soldier is an expert in rowing boats, in shooting arrows, in digging trenches, and in wielding guns and cannon. I have not seen such specimens of versatility in any other part of India." He is further said to have exclaimed with astonishment after experiencing the valour and vigilance of Lachit,

"Glory to the King! Glory to the counsellors! Glory to the commanders! Glory to the country! One single individual leads all the forces! Even I, Ram Singh, being personally on the spot, have not been able to find any loophole and opportunity." The joy of victory of the Ahom army in the battle of Saraighat diminished with the news of Lachit Borphukan's death soon after the battle. Though he had a high fever while leading his army in the battle, it was his unsurpassed dedication and patriotism that empowered him to fight the enemies to protect his motherland for future generations. Borphukan died in 1672 at Hoolungapara. A stone pillar found at Guwahati has the following inscription in Sanskrit, "The Borphukan of Namjani [Lower Assam], son of the Barbarua, lived with glory in the Saka year 1589 [1667 A.D.] after having attained victory over the Yavanas [Muslims] who were equipped with various war-weapons, elephants, horses and captains. The person of the Borphukan is adorned with every ornament, and his heart is enlightened with a knowledge of the various branches of learning. He is beautified by attractive qualities which are also free from the evils of the Kali-yuga. The Borphukan shines effulgent in his prowess; and is the commander of elephants, horses and soldiers. He is the ocean or receptacle of the highest form of fortitude, self-respect, valour, and depth of judgement and gravity.



Commander-in-Chief of the Ahom forces at a crucial period amidst the ongoing Ahom-Mughal conflict. Chakradhwaj Singha refused to pay the full instalment to the Mughals agreed upon in the Treaty of Ghilajharighat, signed in 1663 CE by his predecessor Swargadeo Jayadhwaj Singha. He rather instructed Lachit Borphukan to prepare his army to fight the Mughals. Lachit completed his preparations by the summer of 1667 CE, and his army recaptured Guwahati, which was previously occupied by the Mughal forces. In December 1667, the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, sent a huge force to Guwahati under the command of Raja Ram Singh of Amber, to re-establish Mughal authority. The news of the departure of Raja Ram Singh and his army

the Ahoms. Lachit realised that the fortifications of Guwahati must be secured to safely accommodate their men and resources. Prime Minister Atan Buagohain was appointed by the King to erect and maintain the necessary fortifications on both banks of the River Brahmaputra. Lachit Borphukan had to ensure that all his forces were equipped with sufficient resources to sustain the attack. He even inspected the passes and defiles in the neighbourhood of Guwahati. The sense of vigilance and courage shown by Lachit Borphukan in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief was incredible. The core of Ram Singh's army consisted of 21 Rajput Chiefs, 4000 troopers, 1500 gentlemen troopers, and 500 artillerymen, and

tragedy that my country is facing this dire catastrophe during my Phukanship. How will my King be saved? How will my people be saved? And how will my posterity be saved?" However, he did not let this break his spirit. He was determined to defend his motherland to the end. Lachit was aware that the Mughals were inexperienced in naval battles and wanted to take advantage of it. He surveyed and identified a triangular region called Andharubali in Guwahati, (it connects Nilachal hill and Itakhuli hill on the southern bank, and Aswakranta hill on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra) to be the most convenient site to fight a naval battle. In February 1669 CE, Raja Ram Singh's army reached the frontier garrison of Rangamati. Lachit Borphukan, in

not execute his orders. It is said that Lachit assigned his own maternal uncle with the responsibility of constructing a rampart near Amingaon on the north bank of the Brahmaputra. However, his uncle was unable to complete the work within the specified time. An incensed Lachit executed his uncle for such a careless attitude. His words, "My uncle is not greater than my country" showed his priorities. In 1670 CE, Swargadeo Udayaditya Singha succeeded to the throne following the death of Chakradhwaj Singha. In 1671 CE, the Mughal army led by Raja Ram Singh made its way to Guwahati with a naval flotilla sailing upstream of the Brahmaputra. The Mughal army unable to use the roadways due to fortifications, took the riverway to enter Guwahati. As soon as

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'Adipurush' Final Trailer Out: Netizens Hail Prabhas, Kriti Sanon Starrer, Call It 'Mindblowing'

The enchanting world of Adipurush continues to captivate audiences as the highly anticipated final trailer takes center stage, leaving viewers spellbound! Director Om Raut and producer Bhushan Kumar's visionary creation has garnered immense praise for its captivating storytelling and breathtaking visuals. And now, the recently unveiled final trailer at a grand event in Tirupathi, moved netizens deeply!



The trailer provides a deeper glimpse into the magnum opus, it rightly showcases the unwavering valor of Raghav and Vanar Sena, undying loyalty of Sesh and Shri Bajrang Bali and the devotion that united all the characters. Offering fans a new perspective on the story, this has only increased their excitement to witness Om Raut and producer Bhushan Kumar's visionary creation on the big screen on June 16. Adipurush is already being shipped as the blockbuster of 2023! As fans shower praise on the film, the team reciprocates their love and support by sharing more captivating glimpses from the film. It is heartening to witness the strong bond that has already developed between the fans and Adipurush. With less than two weeks remaining until its release, the excitement surrounding Adipurush continues to soar. Audiences eagerly await the opportunity to witness the grandeur and magnificence of this extraordinary tale that promises to be a cinematic spectacle like no other. Adipurush, directed by Om Raut and produced by T-Series, Bhushan Kumar & Krishan Kumar, Om Raut, Prasad Sutar, and Rajesh Nair of Retrofiles, Pramod and Vamsi of UV Creations is scheduled to release worldwide on June 16, 2023.

Raveena Tandon and Milind Soman come together for thriller One Friday Night

Raveena Tandon and Milind Soman will be seen together in Manish Gupta's film One Friday Night that will be releasing soon on Jio Cinema. Speaking about casting Raveena Tandon, Gupta said, "I was looking for an actress who was almost 50 and yet be glamorous, desirable and beautiful. At the same time, she had to be a good actress: Raveena Tandon was the perfect choice."



Milind Soman has been cast opposite Raveena Tandon in the film. Gupta revealed, "To play Raveena's husband's role, I wanted a man touching 50 who would be sexy and desirable at that age. The person had to be full of life and someone who could portray a person with an active sex drive. Milind

Soman was the ideal casting. I told him not to act but instead be himself while delivering the dialogues." The film has been shot on a remote bungalow on a hill top near Lonavala. Gupta informs, "I shot the film in 25 days inside a solitary villa situated on top of an isolated hill surrounded by an

ocean-like lake." One Friday Night also has Vidhi Chitalia who has worked with Gupta in 'Section 420 IPC'. Gupta said, "Vidhi is a brilliant actress and she slips easily into any character. I can say proudly that Vidhi is my discovery." Raveena Tandon reveals why she rejected AR Rahman's 'Chaiyya Chaiyya' song in Shah Rukh Khan starrer 'Dil Se' When asked why he chose for a digital release for One Friday Night, Gupta said, "I always envision a theatrical release for my films because I am a firm believer of the theatrical medium. However, 'One Friday Night' will be releasing on OTT. That's a business decision by the producers Jio Studios. I respect their decision."

Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 2023: Makers Invite Singing Talents From Across The Country To Participate In The Reality Show

Over the last three decades, Zee TV has introduced viewers to some exciting non-fiction formats like Antakshari, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa, Dance India Dance and India's Best Dramebaaz. These properties have not only emerged as immensely popular, talent-based reality television franchises, but they continue to rule the audience's hearts and enjoy a robust following even in the current context.

After the raging success of Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Li'l Champs last year, Zee TV's longest-running, iconic and by far the most prestigious singing reality show, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa is back to give the nation's aspiring singers an opportunity to present their melodious voices and build an extraordinary career in the world of music. So, if you are 15 year and above and think you have what it takes to become the next big singing sensation by participating in Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 2023, then all you need to do is send your audition clips on this WhatsApp number - 8850690758 / 8850626157 or give a missed call on 9930000323. The show, in its previous seasons, has been instrumental in discovering some of the finest gems of India's music fraternity including Shreya Ghoshal, Kunal Ganjawala, Kamal Khan, Amanat Ali, Raja Hassan, Sanjeevani and Bela Shende amongst many others. And this year again, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 2023 is all set to give a platform to some of India's finest singing talent identified by the most discerning ears of the music industry. This season, the channel will try to scour every corner of the country, in search of the most exceptional voices. So, make sure you register and ensure that your voice is heard. Viewers can look forward to witnessing the emergence of some truly exceptional individuals whose impeccable vocal skills will enthral the audience. But participation will only be possible for the contestants in the age group of 15 years and above.

Juhi Chawla finally breaks silence over Salman Khan's marriage proposal

Salman Khan at the age of 56 still happens to be one of the most eligible bachelors in the industry, with his marriage talk still making news all around. In an old video interview, which recently went viral, Salman stated that he had found Juhi Chawla really sweet and he had even asked her father for her hand in marriage. Salman also revealed that Juhi's father shut him down, possibly because he didn't fit the bill, and adding 'Pata Nahi Kya Chahiye Unko'.

Juhi Chawla during a recent conversation with a news outlet commented about the video. Laughing it off she stated that when she had started out in the industry Salman was not the 'The Salman' that he is today and a film was offered to her with him as a lead. She couldn't do the film because of some issue and till this day Salman doesn't leave a chance to remind her that she didn't do a film with him.

Though she did recall that they worked together on many occasions for stage shows and Salman did a cameo in Juhi's Deewana Mastana. Juhi also commented that back then, she hardly knew anyone in the business, not even Aamir Khan with whom she later gave one of the biggest hits in Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak.

Juhi is now married to Jay Mehta and has two kids Jahnvi and Arjun. Jahnvi is currently working with Kolkata Knight Riders.



TJMM New Song 'Maine Pi Rakhi Hai': Shraddha Kapoor Sizzles In This Mesmerizing Dance Number

Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar' fever is constantly on the rise and has garnered 36.59 Cr. Net in 3 days. Having rejuvenated the essence of rom-com after a long time on the screen, the film has made its distinct presence in the hearts of the audience. The film is grabbing its stronghold with a huge crowd of family audiences flocking to the theaters. While the audience is still grooving over the songs of the film, the makers have dropped the entry song of Shraddha Kapoor aka Tinni, 'Maine Pi Rakhi Hai' with a special caption that read, "Chadhega sirr par nasha iss naye gaane ka. #MainePiRakhiHai song out now!



Crooned by Shreya Ghoshal and Divya Kumar, Maine Pi Rakhi Hai is composed and penned by the famous composer-

lyricist duo Pritam and Amitabh Bhattacharya respectively and choreographed by amazing dance guru's Bosco - Caesar giving

us one more hook step to groove on! The song begins with showcasing Shraddha in a sensuous dress, who arrived on the stage and sets it on fire with her sexy and fiery moves. Mesmerised by Shraddha, Ranbir joins her on the stage to showcase his extraordinary dancing talent with whistle-worthy steps. Towards the end, both the love birds come on the dance floor to groove together. Moreover, with songs like, "Tere Pyaar Mein", "Pyaar Hota Kayi Baar Hai", "Show Me The Thumka", and "O

Bedardeya", the film has given the audience a treat of different emotions. While all these songs rule over, the 'O Bedardeya' song is currently topping the charts and ruling the binge-listening list of the audience with its melody. 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar' is directed by Luv Ranjan, produced by Luv Films' Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg, and presented by T-Series' Gulshan Kumar and Bhushan Kumar. Marking its festive release, the film is running successfully in theatres!

'World of Ray' held at Police Bodyguard Line Auditorium, Kolkata with pomp and grandeur

Saikat Kumar Basu



Heartiest congratulations to all the officials and other staff members of both Kolkata and West Bengal Police for holding such a nice cultural program, entitled 'World of Ray' to celebrate 102nd birthday

evening of May 30, 2023. The program was graced by noted filmmaker and son of Satyajit Ray, Mr. Sandeep Ray, veteran actors like Mr. Manoj Mitra, Siddhartha Chatterjee and other dignitaries along with different police officials joined the august platform.

Mr. Sandeep Ray gave his formal nod and support in facilitating the building of a Satyajit Ray archive and/or museum in



role and responsibilities of respective members should be defined to avoid any conflicts within the team. Based on time, availability, skills and experience people should be assigned with specific tasks.

Lastly but not the least, It's a great success and achievement for WB and KOL Police Team and the community.. Tremendous work by Mr. Sadhu and his colleagues, senior

Police Force including high officials (Mr Raut, Mr Sujit Kumar Basu & others), bodyguard line staff members and volunteers, anchors, attendants, security officials, stage managers, lady staff members deserve special mention including back state workers for their sincerity and dedications for making this event successful. I greatly appreciate this confidence building



anniversary of internationally acclaimed film maker Satyajit Ray. Indeed it was a fabulous cultural program held at the auditorium of the Police Bodyguard Line at Alipore, Kolkata on the

Kolkata with close cooperation of Kolkata and West Bengal police. This is certainly going to add a new feather on the cap of the City of Joy. The World of Ray Archive/Museum is going to be an important initiative of the police force

following their monumental achievements with respect to the Police Museum at Maniktola and the Alipore Jail Museum at Alipore. Both these two unique heritage museums clearly demonstrate how Kolkata and West

Bengal Police have executed their monumental task and created a positive impression for the police force among the public.

Mr. Barun Somadhar, editor of the police welfare magazine UNMESH, deserve special credit for sharing the idea of publishing a new special magazine dedicated to Satyajit Ray under the support of the West Bengal Police Welfare Society. He encourages and requested other members to support this initiative. I think this is an excellent idea and Mr. Sandeep Ray and other members of the dim fraternity also appreciated this. Saikat Kumar Basu (Howrah

Suparna), highlighted the inspirational and monumental role of Satyajit Ray in uplifting Bengali children literature from a global perspective.

Lastly, heartiest congratulations to Mr. Debjit Sadhu for his monumental role in holding this initiative successfully and wish him success with his film, Apu o Ami. There was request for a special screening of this film for promotion of this movie under the patronage of the Kolkata and West Bengal police.

One thing I would like to add here, lot of people worked on this mesmerised cultural event in the memory of Satyajit Ray, people



those who worked at background should be recognised, as silently they have contributed a lot to make this event worthwhile and memorable.. There were people starting from Tea Boy to Cameraman and many others who had been working on this event tirelessly. Secondly,

officers. Once again, heartiest congratulations to the team for their grand startup, it will add a new dimension and also a feather on the cap. Such activities and collaboration between Police and Civilian is the key element and that need to be strengthened further. All members of the

measures adopted by our beloved Police forces. I sincerely believe that this would strengthen the Police-Public relationship in the not so distant future.

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THE CIRCUS IS IN TOWN

Anil dhir



For nearly a century and a half, the Circus has been an essential part of Indian cultural legacy. The circus was a rare annual spectacle that people in towns and villages looked forward to. Besides the animals; jugglers, acrobats, fire-eaters, sword-swallowers, dare devil motorcyclist and jokers drew crowds in large numbers under the big top.

The bright red tents could house 3,000 people and over 100 animals at a time. So highly regarded was the circus that politicians like Jawaharlal Nehru, V.K. Krishna Menon and Indira Gandhi brought visiting dignitaries and ambassadors to shows. The government gave railway concessions,



reduced ground rentals and also waived away the entertainment tax fee. Many Indian circuses even went on successful foreign tours, and circuses also featured in many films, both English and vernacular. TV serials on Circuses were also made.

Children could see lions and tigers from a distance of five feet. Exotic birds and animals like hippopotamuses, zebras, cockatoos etc. featured in the performances, besides the elephants and horses.



India has given birth to some of the most well-known and outstanding circus artists in the world, and over time, a number of circuses have distinguished themselves as the best in the nation. A circus

training academy was set up in Kerala, which has now been closed. From over 300 circuses two decades ago, India now has only a dozen. The ban on wild animals and performance of children sent many

circuses to bankruptcy. Initially, only wild animals were banned with the exception of elephants, horses, dogs and some foreign birds, but today no animals are allowed to be used. It was the children who



had kept the circus alive. They loved to see the animals and since they couldn't visit alone, they were accompanied by their parents. Nowadays, there are very few children who visit circuses.

Bhubaneswar has seen performances of some of the greatest Indian Circuses which include, Great Bombay Circus, Gemini Circus, Rambo Circus, Great Rayman Circus, Raj Kamal Circus, Jumbo Circus and Empire Circus in the last fifty years.

The Ajanta Circus has come to town. Show starts from tomorrow evening (8th June) and they will be here for about a month. Even though the glitter has faded, the spirit of the Circus is still alive.

For many elderly, a visit to the circus will be a nostalgic trip down memory lane, and will awaken childhood memories. Children should be taken to the shows, they will be filled with awe and delight. The circus has come to town after nearly a decade, maybe this is

the last chance to see the big top.

Odisha too had its tryst with the Circus. The Aul Royalty owned a successful Circus company with many animals and performers. Unfortunately, while on a foreign tour, the ship carrying the troupes and animals sank in the Bay of Bengal. I have seen many photographs of the Circus at the Killa Aul Palace.

The Author is an Archeological Activist & Columnist



The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar with Officer Trainees of the Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES) at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas, in New Delhi

"Want Truth To Come Out": Mamata Banerjee Alleges Cover Up In Odisha Crash

Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today claimed that there is an attempt to suppress the reasons for the railway accident in Odisha and the CBI is being used to cover up the lapses as victims' families are asking questions. "I thought I won't say this, but the situation has forced me to say it. Such a huge accident has occurred. There is an effort to cover up the lapses. The families who've lost everything want answers. They want the true information to come out," she alleged. "Why did the accident happen? Why did so many people die? This is this century's biggest incident. What will the CBI do? If it's a criminal case, the CBI can do something. Haven't you seen Pulwama and what the then Governor has said?" she added. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is investigating the June 2 triple train crash. "The actual accident is not being investigated and everything is being cleared," Ms Banerjee claimed. "There is no evidence. I want the truth to come out. The railway accident is not being investigated but the CBI has been sent here (Bengal) by Delhi and they have entered some 14 to 16 municipalities



in Kolkata. They have entered the urban development department. Ask them, if now they will enter washrooms also? By doing this they cannot cover up such a big accident," the Chief Minister added. The CBI is conducting searches in the state in connection with the alleged irregularities in municipal corporations' jobs in West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee was speaking at a programme to distribute compensation cheques and employment letters for victims of the Coromandel Express accident in Bahanaga Bazaar in Odisha's Balasore district. 288 people have died in the accident and the majority of the victims are believed to be from West Bengal, who had boarded the train at Shalimar station in Howrah on Friday.

The Trinamool Congress chief said an estimated 103 people from West Bengal have died in the accident and around 40-50 people from Bengal are missing. She said that 172 people from the state have suffered major injuries and will receive help of ₹1 lakh while 635 people have sustained minor injuries and will receive help of ₹50k. "We want to ensure families have stability with immediate release of relief funds," the Chief Minister added. Meanwhile, the Opposition BJP has raised objections to the distribution of relief cheques saying the funds have been diverted for the purpose. West Bengal Government sources point out that the majority of those who've died were travelling for work and were migrant labourers.

Leader of Opposition Suwendu Adhikari said, "The West Bengal Government is paying compensation to the Coromandel Express Accident Victims from the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board's (BOCWBB) funds. In simple words, @MamataOfficial is snatching the funds meant for the welfare of the Building & Other Construction Workers, to act as a philanthropist on stage for photo-op." "If the Chief Minister wanted the compensation to be disbursed at the earliest, she could have sent over her trusted Ministers as emissaries to the houses of the victims, who could have handed over the amount to them directly. This approach would have been a lot more humane," he added. The Coromandel Express crashed into a

stationary goods train, derailing most of its coaches in the accident. A few of those toppled over the last few coaches of the Bengaluru-Howrah Express which was passing by at the same time.

"Show Me A Party Which Hasn't Associated With BJP": Ex PM Deve Gowda

Bengaluru: Former Prime Minister and Janata Dal (Secular) chief Deve Gowda apparently remains non-committal on joining the Opposition parties banding together for the 2024 polls against the BJP. "Show me one party which has not associated with the BJP, either directly or indirectly. Show me one party in the whole country, then I will answer," Deve Gowda said on Tuesday responding to a question on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's efforts to bring together non-BJP parties. Addressing a press briefing at JP Bhavan in Bengaluru on Tuesday Deve Gowda said, "Show me if there is any party in the country which is not joining hands with BJP. After that, I will talk about the unity of the opposition parties. All the parties have directly or indirectly joined hands with the BJP. Some leaders of the Congress party are also among them."

US Says "Monitoring" Situation After Air India Flight Diverted To Russia

New Delhi: The United States on Tuesday said it is closely monitoring the situation after a San Francisco-bound Air India flight made an

emergency landing in Russia. Flight AI173 from Delhi was diverted to Magadan on Tuesday owing to an engine glitch, the Tata Group-owned private carrier said in a statement last evening. The flight, carrying 216 passengers and 16 crew, landed safely. "We are aware of a US-bound flight that had to make an emergency landing in Russia and are continuing to monitor that situation closely. I'm

not able to confirm how many US citizens were aboard the flight at this time," State Department Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel told a question. Departure of a replacement Air India flight bound for Magadan in order to fly out the stranded



reporters at his daily news conference. "It was a flight that was bound for the United States. So, it is, of course, likely that there are American citizens on board. There's public reporting from Air India that they are sending - what my understanding is - a replacement aircraft to the destination to have the passengers carry on for their route, but I would defer to the air carrier to speak to anything further on this," Mr Patel said in response

passengers has been delayed with Air India officials working through regulatory issues in order to operate the flight. The exact time of departure of the replacement aircraft is yet to be confirmed. NDTV has learned that several stranded Air India passengers in Magadan are being accommodated in dormitories with hotel infrastructure in the area unable to cope with the number of passengers on the flight.

We Have Not Withdrawn Support To Wrestlers: Rakesh Tikait

New Delhi: Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait on Tuesday insisted that they have not withdrawn their support to the wrestlers and they have postponed the June 9 demonstration against WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh only on the request of grapplers. It was reported that since farmer leaders are unhappy with the wrestlers for keeping them in dark about their meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, they have decided to withdraw their support to the wrestlers. Olympic medallists Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik had met Shah on Saturday night to apprise him of their demands. The farmer leader, however, clarified that they are still supporting the wrestlers. "Our June 9 demonstration in Delhi remains postponed at the moment. We will wait for the outcome of meeting between government

officials and protesting wrestlers. We (farmers' union) are in support of the wrestlers and will continue with our support to them," Mr Tikait told PTI. Asked if he is aware of the next meeting between wrestlers and the government representatives, he replied, "I do not know when the next meeting is scheduled or if it will even happen." While the government, reportedly, had shown willingness to accept most of their demands during the Saturday meeting, it did not agree for immediate arrest of the WFI Chief Singh, who the wrestlers have accused of sexual exploitation. The wrestlers, though, remained adamant on their demand regarding the arrest of Brij Bhushan Singh, and the meeting remained inconclusive. Asked if he was kept in dark about the meeting between wrestlers and the home minister, Mr Tikait said, "We were aware of

the recent meeting and have been in coordination with the wrestlers. We have been asked to hold on any major protest/demonstration." Mr Tikait had announced the Delhi 'dharna', demanding arrest of BJP MP and WFI chief Singh during the Mahapanchayat held in Kurukshetra on Friday. They had threatened to step up the agitation and bring the protesting wrestlers back to Delhi's Jantar Mantar, if the government doesn't act. The Delhi Police on Tuesday recorded statements of the associates of Singh and those working at his residence in Uttar Pradesh's Gonda as part of the investigation into the allegations against him. The officials also said that the girl, whose statement was the basis of a case being registered against Singh under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, has recorded a fresh statement under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) section 164.

India Flags Off Its 1st International Cruise Vessel From Chennai To Sri Lanka

Chennai: Around 750 passengers sailed on a cruise from Chennai to Sri Lanka on a five day voyage after Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel on Monday. The MV Empress cruise has a capacity to accommodate 3,000 passengers, was flagged off from Chennai port that will

connect three ports--- Trincomalee, Hambantota and Jaffna---in Sri Lanka. "We are aiming to turn Chennai into a hub for cruise tourism" the Minister told NDTV. Besides several attractions, the ship offers casino games, playing which passengers can win or lose money. Although the game is illegal in India but the operators say that it would be

played only in international waters. Justifying this, Sarbananda Sonowal said "casino is required for a modern outlook and for cruiseliners to prosper". Last year, the Puducherry government denied entry to this ship objecting to casinos among others when the same vessel offered Chennai - Puducherry



immigration and baggage claim infrastructure. "We will develop the facilities at Chennai Port. People should have good landing

facility. They need to feel at home," the Minister told NDTV. The shipping Minister also ensured the development of Tuticorin port as a cruise hub with the potential to offer interesting cruise circuits. The Minister was non committal on Tamil Nadu Government's demand for revival of the Sethusamudram canal project that

would connect the east and west coast of India without circumnavigating Sri Lanka. He said "The matter is sub-judice". On the existence of Ram Sethu on the stretch, on the basis of the ambitious project was stopped, recently the Union Minister of Science and Technology told the parliament that "Pieces and islands and some kind

limestone shoals" have been found using space technology but "can't be accurately said to be remnants of parts of a bridge". He also rejected criticism in the state that the Tamil Nadu outreach is BJP's way of reaching out to voters ahead of 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The Minister said "The BJP takes development equally to all states".

Passengers panic as smoke from AC coach halts express train in Odisha's Brahmapur

BHUBANESWAR: The Secunderabad-Agartala Express was Tuesday halted at Odisha's Brahmapur railway station around

immediately, the panicked passengers refused to travel in the coach fearing another electrical breakdown. They demanded a

the train, an official said. "It was reported that a minor electrical issue occurred in the coach no. B-5 of



noon as passengers alerted railway officials about smoke emitting from an air-conditioning unit inside a coach, officials said.

Though the smoke was controlled

replacement for the coach.

Some passengers first noticed smoke in the B-5 coach and raised an alarm. Following this most of the passengers reportedly got down and refused to re-board

Secunderabad-Agartala Express near Brahmapur station. The staff on duty attended to the issue immediately and rectified it," an ECoR official said.

GPL On Green Drive



Gopalpur: The leading port in eastern coast, Gopalpur Ports Limited (GPL) has launched a massive tree plantation drive at the port premises in Arjyapalli focusing on the United Nations (UN) theme "Solutions to Plastic Pollution".

On the august occasion of "World Environment Day-2023" and in a bid to build up a green, pollution-free as well as sustainable future (a part and parcel of its constant effort) has launched the ambitious program of greening the

areas. To mark the remarkable occasion, a special programme was organised at the port premises chaired by Janardhana Rao, CEO, Gopalpur Port along with HODs of various departments and employees present.

While a successful tree plantation drive was organized by the Environment Department, it was religiously decided to take care of each sapling planted so that it survives and has a healthy growth.

Besides, various green initiatives were taken on this occasion. It has been decided to review the plantations from time to time within the Port area as well as the upcoming plantation drive. Also, other major measures related to environmental conservation and protection to be taken by all the departments.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Rao, CEO, Gopalpur Port stated, "GPL is committed to the conservation and protection of our pristine

environment. A green review has been taken about the Port operation along with Environment protection with regard to the Eco-System Conservation."

Gracing the occasion, Sanjay Thorat, DGM, Environment presented the Green Port efforts in a detailed manner.

Shri Thorat is spearheading the Greening Program of the Gopalpur Port.

Among others Head Marine Department, Senior Vice President,

HR&IR and CFO, addressed on the significance of our precious Environment, said an official. In addition, various activities were carried out for the environmental conservation. Notably, GPL is committed to march ahead with its journey to improve biodiversity, mitigate climate change and enhance environmental care by innovative sustainable development aligned with global nature conservation, said an officer.

Candle march to pay Tribute at Kandarpur

Cuttack Sadar, (KCN) : The Coromandel Express horrific train accident at Bahanaga railway station Balasore paid tribute to the educational Institute Pragati Study Circle & SK Academy Kandarpur Cuttack Sadar. In this soka sabha educasanalist Er.Suraj Kumar Behera, Smruti Ranjan Das, Jagat Behera, Pragya Mishra, Pravat Moahanty, Paya, Riya, Rushali, Lipsha, Srabani, Roja, Tina, Jagannath, Dibya, Papu, Pintu, Satya, Om & all teaching staff, students are present.



Railway Minister's resignation demanded for serious train accident due to railway department's safety lapses



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): It is no exaggeration to say that the train accident that happened on the 2nd evening at Bahanga railway station in Balasore district is the worst train accident in the country since 1995. In this accident, 288 people died and more than 1000 people were injured in the Karomandal and Yashovandpur Howrah Express Train, but the number of death is much higher, according to local residents and onlookers. After the accident, the local residents of Bahanga area, volunteers, political organizations, social organizations, lending, participating in relief work, donating blood and taking the patient to the medical center are highly appreciated. The establishment of the

Balasore Medical Center has made it possible for thousands of injured people to receive emergency medical care at once through the cooperation of the community, doctors, health workers and medical students. After the accident, the rescue teams of the state and central governments have also done their work well, said former MP, National Vice President & State President Dr. R.C. Khuntia of for visiting the Bahanaga accident place and the meeting the injured in Balasore Medical college.

But the statement of the Railway Minister and the investigation by the Railway Safety Department or the CBI are unlikely to yield anything special. Because the central government has failed to make the arrangements to

protect railway safety. According to the report of the Railway Safety Committee, no action has been taken by the Railway Department even though the committee has recommended the replacement of Old Railtracks, Old Bridges, filling up of all vacant posts and use of railway sensors/Railway Kabach said that 40 percent of the money has been reduced from the railway safety budget. The CAG in his comment if the Sensor (Railway Kabatch) was used if all Railway Safety commission recommendation was implemented safety related posts are full filled and all recommendation were implemented Railway accidents could have been reduced and that Bahanaga accident

could not have occurred. The railway department of the central government is fully responsible for such accidents due to not making safety arrangements, not installing sensors and not replacing old railway tracks. Therefore, the demand the Railway Minister and Railway Board must resign. Karomandal and Yasovantpur Howrah Express trains were the most damaged and the passengers of ordinary coaches who are mostly migrant workers were killed. Complete information should be collected in respect of those passengers and compensation should be paid to the families. It is worth noting that many people who died during the 1999 Great Cyclone have not been able to get government assistance until now due to the error in the identification process. Dr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, the National Vice President, State President INTUC, Odisha Branch and former MP has demanded to increase the amount of assistance to the families of the deceased to Rs. 25 lakh.



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AU Small Finance Bank Launches Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card

Jaipur/ Bhubaneswar, May 8th, 2023: AU Small Finance Bank has partnered with RuPay to introduce the Business Cashback RuPay credit card, an innovative solution tailored to meet the financial requirements of self-employed customers. This latest offering is aimed at providing a diverse range of benefits to small businesses. The Credit Card was launched in the esteemed presence of Mr. Dilip Asbe, CEO of National Payments Corporation of India and Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank. AU Small Finance Bank's Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card simplifies financial

operations for businesses with benefits like upto 2% cashback, 48 days interest-free credit, and instant loans. It also offers fire insurance, burglary, and housebreaking coverage, making it a one-stop solution for businesses. "At AU Small Finance Bank, we understand that the small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of Indian economy and we have been serving this segment since the last 28 years. We are committed to providing innovative financial solutions that cater to the unique needs of this segment and Business Cashback RuPay credit card is a testament to our commitment to the



MSMEs. As the self-employed customer segment is at the heart of our bank, we are focused on adding value to these customers and promoting credit inclusion. Going forward, we shall work towards bringing

customized benefits to MSMEs through our other Credit Card variants too," said Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO of AU SFB. The credit card also provides lifestyle and travel benefits. Their Silver Spoon Dining

Program also offers cardholders up to 30% off at over 300 restaurants, 8 complimentary railway lounge access per annum, and 1%* fuel surcharge waiver.

"I am delighted to attend the launch event and witness the introduction of AU Small Finance Bank's Business Cashback RuPay Credit Card. National Payments Corporation of India is committed to promoting innovation in the banking sector, and this credit card is a clear example of that. AU Small Finance Bank has consistently demonstrated their dedication to excellence and innovation in the banking industry. This credit card is a fantastic solution that empowers

self-employed individuals and promotes financial inclusion. I'm confident that this credit card will be a great success and benefit numerous businesses. Congratulations to AU SFB, keep up the great work," said Mr. Dilip Asbe, CEO, National Payments Corporation of India. AU Small Finance Bank is one of the leading providers of innovative and reliable financial solutions for self-employed individuals and businesses. With an unwavering commitment to excellence and credit inclusion, the bank continuously improves and deepens its services, offering a comprehensive range of benefits.

Tata Power leads EV charging space with a pan-India network; showcases wide-range of hi-tech EZ Charge solutions at Auto Expo 2023

Bhubaneswar: Tata Power, one of India's largest and fastest growing EV Charging solutions provider showcased its wide-range of hi-tech EV charging solutions at the ongoing Auto Expo 2023 in Greater Noida. A first-hand experience of the technology that is driving Tata Power's widespread EV charging network - EZ (read easy) Charge was provided to the visitors, including the award-winning and one of the most downloaded mobile apps for EV charging - Tata Power EZ Charge, which ensures a seamless user experience through features that will help commuters find the nearest charging station, know the real-time availability of charging points, and receive updates on charging status, amongst many others.

Information about Tata Power's one of its kind Network Operations Center (NOC) located in Mumbai was also on display. This center aids in the effective operational management of charging stations across India. NOC is integrated with the online platform that supports Tata Power's EZ Charge services, has a real-time communication link with all on-board chargers, and aids in the early detection of tech-related issues. The NOC additionally supports quick problem solving, back-end system support, and proactive planning for charging infrastructure upkeep. Tata Power has also kicked off an ambitious nationwide plan of setting up approx. 25000 electric vehicle (EV) charging points across the country to support faster adoption of e-mobility over the next 5 years.

Muskaan Litfest for Child Authors showcases young literary talent

Bhubaneswar : Some of the leading social, cultural, corporate and literary organizations of the country came together for the first time to host a unique literature festival - 'Muskaan Litfest for Child Authors' - under the Muskaan initiative of Kolkata-based non-for-profit trusts, Prabha Khaitan Foundation and Education for All Trust. The three-day event was held at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) premises in Delhi. Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Dr M u n j a p a r a M a h e n d r a b h a i

Kalubhai, interacted with 30 school-going young authors from all over the country. "Muskaan is a brilliant initiative of PKF to give a platform for the young talented writers to showcase their works and inspire future talents," the minister said. He also gave certificates to the young authors.

Ruskin Bond, the most popular, loved and revered author among the children, in a message lauded Prabha Khaitan Foundation for its commendable efforts to promote the habit of reading among children through the Muskaan initiative. The three-

day Litfest (Jan 10-12) was organized in collaboration with IGNCA and in association with India International Centre and Sahitya Akademi as the knowledge partner. Shree Cement supported the event as a part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative. The festival was inaugurated in the presence of Priyank Kanoongo, Chairman, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR). Also present on the occasion were Sachchidanand Joshi, member secretary, the executive and academic head of IGNCA; K N Shrivastava, Director of

IIC, and K Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. "Literature is the mirror of society. It is important to provide child authors the right environment and upbringing to promote literature," Kanoongo said. He asserted that instead of social media, the children should take more interest in writing and literature.

The evening was marked by a scintillating cultural programme 'Udaan' conceptualised by Shrinjini Kulkarni, Ehsaas Woman of Prabha Khaitan Foundation. Huma Khalil Mirza, Ehsaas Woman of Delhi and Unnati Singh, Ehsaas

Woman of Indore, also chipped in and livened up the show. Teams of women achievers who work to create cultural capital and assets are a part of a Ehsaas Woman network in major cities of India under the aegis of Prabha Khaitan Foundation.

Dancer and choreographer Avirup Sengupta, who works with specially-abled children through Prayas Foundation, presented an enthralling performance. The Foundation had flown in children from Kolkata for the special performance. The latest issue of PKF newsletter Prabha, based on the theme of children's literature, was formally released.

Almonds Food for Fitness

Bhubaneswar : Engaging in exercise promotes a healthful lifestyle, but even when performed correctly, exercise causes fatigue and muscle damage. Recovery from exercise is important because it leads to muscle gain and improved fitness over time. A new study involving people who exercise occasionally (less than three times per week) demonstrated that snacking on almonds reduced feelings of fatigue and tension, increased leg and lower back strength during recovery, and decreased muscle damage during the first day of recovery. David C. Nieman, DrPH, FACSM, Professor and Principal Investigator, Human Performance Laboratory, Appalachian State University, led this novel research, supported with funding from the Almond Board of California. Dr. Nieman's team wanted to see if an almond snack compared to a high-carbohydrate cereal bar snack would improve inflammation and recovery in adults engaging in 90-minute exercise sessions. "What we found tells us definitively that almonds should be added to sports nutrition strategies to help people recover better from exercise," explained Dr. Nieman. "Almonds are food for fitness. Carbs get most of the attention when it comes to fueling for exercise, but almonds offer a nutrition package, including good unsaturated fats, the antioxidant vitamin E, and proanthocyanidins (class of polyphenols, which are protective compounds in plants) that help explain the beneficial outcomes in our study." One serving of almonds (28g) has 13 g of good unsaturated fat and only 1 g of saturated fat.

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ity in Vadodara, Gujarat and the deliveries will commence in a phased manner across the country. Speaking on the launch occasion and the company's prospects, Mr YatinGupte, Chairman & Managing Director, Wardwizard Innovations & Mobility Ltd, said, "As one of the first promoters of electric mobility in the country, we are committed to building a sustainable environment and greener planet for the generations of today and tomorrow. Our new product MIHOS is designed and developed keeping in mind the aspirations of the customers and market demand. The scooter will not only excite the customers with its retro look and advanced features but will also provide extra safety with its high standards of durability



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Dominica, Trinidad shortlisted to host India Tests

New Delhi: Dominica and Trinidad are set to host the two Tests between India and the West Indies next month. According to a tentative schedule shared among the boards of Cricket West Indies (CWI), Barbados, Trinidad, and Guyana will host the six white-ball games, including three ODIs and three Twenty20 Internationals. As previously reported on this website, the final two T20Is will take place in Florida, USA. The series is scheduled to start on July 12 and conclude on August 13. The Indian team is

expected to depart for the Caribbean on July 5-6. The formal dates for the matches will be released once the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) finalizes the schedule. A formal agreement for the two additional T20Is has not yet been signed between the boards. It is expected to be formalized in the next few days, during the World Test Championship final in London, where members of the BCCI and CWI will meet. Cricbuzz first reported on the possibility of India playing two extra T20Is



in addition to the eight pre-decided games in the FTP -- two Tests, three ODIs, and three Twenty20 Internationals -- on March 25. Meanwhile, Viacom18 has secured the digital rights for the series and

will stream the games for free on Jio Cinema, which was previously the digital platform for the IPL 2023. Dream Sports, the promoters of FanCode and the rights holders for Cricket West Indies bilateral matches, has sub-

licensed the digital content to Viacom18. Additionally, Dream Sports is planning a deal with national broadcaster Prasar Bharati for the linear rights. DD Sports will broadcast the games on television, continuing an arrangement made last year between the two parties. "We are working on various arrangements for the series. While the matches will be available on FanCode, we may also share the content with a couple of other platforms, both linear and digital," an industry source in the know said.

Asia Cup: Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bangladesh reject PCB's hybrid model?

New Delhi: Have Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bangladesh formally rejected the hybrid model proposed by Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for the Asia Cup? That seems to be the latest on the imbroglio that has led to prolonged uncertainty over staging of the six-national continental championship. Sri Lanka is set to be the host.

According to the news coming in from Pakistan, Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) have written to the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) formally rejecting the host PCB's formula of conducting four games in Pakistan and rest of the matches in the UAE, thereby upholding the



position of the BCCI which has been opposed to the model. The development was revealed by Rashid Latif. "India and 3 countries, except Pakistan, rejected Hybrid model for Asia cup. All agreed on one venue due to logistics and financial issues. Might be a Zoom meeting soon or a general meeting in Dubai

in a few days to finalise the matter (sic)," the former Pakistan captain said in a Twitter post. When contacted by Cricbuzz, Latif confirmed the news and also guaranteed the authenticity of this update. "I have information from independent sources that four countries have rejected the model and it

is now a formality that the Asia Cup will be moved out of Pakistan," Latif, a highly respected former captain, told this website on Tuesday morning. Asked if Pakistan would participate in the tournament, he said it should. "I feel Pakistan should and will." However, there is still no official clarity on the topic till the time of publishing this article. PCB chief Najam Sethi did not respond to a query from this website while reports from the country suggested that the PCB may opt out of the

championship in protest. This website had previously written, quoting an SLC official, that the island nation is prepared to host the championship if allotted by the ACC. Meanwhile, SLC, BCB and ACB officials did not immediately respond to messages from this website. Jay Shah, the secretary of the BCCI and also the president of the ACC, is currently in London and was not available for a comment. The six-team Asia Cup, tentatively scheduled to start in the second week of September, is seen as a significant precursor to the World Cup in October-November. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Nepal are to take part in the 17-game championship.

French Open 2023: Stefanos Tsitsipas Beats Sebastian Ofner, Sets Up Quarterfinal Clash With Carlos Alcaraz



New Delhi: Stefanos Tsitsipas extended his perfect run in the ongoing 2023 French Open as he breezed past Austrian Sebastian Ofner in the fourth round of Roland Garros on Court Suzanne Lenglen. With the victory, Tsitsipas set a blockbuster quarterfinals showdown at French Open 2023 against Carlos Alcaraz. After Alcaraz displayed masterclass performance form earlier in the day against Lorenzo Musetti, Tsitsipas replied with a statement performance of his own, losing serve just once en route to a 7-5, 6-3, 6-0 victory. Ofner fought back early and was poised to force his favourite opponent into a first-set tie-break. But when the Austrian hit a forehand wide on

set point, Tsitsipas took advantage to take the lead. The Greek star hit 27 winners to just 12 unforced errors in the one-hour, 48-minute clash. He has not lost a set since the first round against Jiri Vesely. In three of his previous four appearances at the clay-court major, the fifth seed has advanced to the quarterfinals. This season, the 24-year-old has played his greatest tennis at the majors, reaching the final of the Australian Open. "Today's performance was good, actually. I'm not really sure how the first game was, because I didn't feel that great coming from my end. But I picked up fast. I kept the focus locked in. I felt like I read his

game at some point. I felt like I was getting into the match stronger and stronger. More games and more opportunities I got to kind of hit balls and stay in rallies and read rallies. I got a sense of how I can win more points against him. It helped a lot," ATP.com quoted Tsitsipas as saying. "I need to play good tennis. Carlos is someone that keeps the intensity high at all times. He's someone that is not going to give you gaps where his attention is not there. He's very energetic, and you can see that on the court. He adds a lot of that into the rallies, into his rituals when he is out there playing the game," Tsitsipas said.

"We don't want to put too much pressure on ourselves" - Rohit Sharma

London: For all of India's recent Test-playing experience in England, there has never been a Test match played at the Oval in June. There is very little information to bank on as the toss-up for the bowling combination continues ahead of the World Test Championship final against Australia. Add to it, an-early start - 10.30. However, Rohit Sharma is unfazed by all that is not within the team's control, and is hopeful of bagging his maiden ICC title as skipper.

"I've gotten the job to make sure that we take Indian cricket forward every time whoever it is, whether it's me or someone else, even the guys before, their role was to take Indian cricket forward and win as many games, as many championships as possible," he said on Thursday. "For me also, it will be the same. I want to win games, I want to win championships. That

is what you play for. And yeah, it will be nice to win some titles, win some extraordinary series. "But having said that, I genuinely feel that we don't want to put too much pressure on ourselves by overthinking about these kinds of stuff. As a captain, like I said, every captain wants to win championships. So I'll be no different. I also want to win the championship. And that's what the sport is all about, winning championships. So for me, it'll be nice if I can win one or two championships, as in when I decide to move on from this job. So it'll be nice. So we'll wait and see what happens. "Tomorrow, we'll start another challenge - the next five days will be quite challenging for us and gives us the opportunity to win the championship, but we do understand that winning the championship is not easy. You got to do a



lot of things right to win the championship. Right now the focus is just on that, how we can come out on top and do well in this game. So the talks, the preparation has just been around that. I haven't really thought about what is going to happen in the future. "Honestly, it's always nice because I'm somebody who's

always believed that what you have in front of you, focus on that rather than thinking way too ahead, what can happen in the future, what kind of things you want to do. But there are certain things that I've set in my mind that I want to do. So hopefully I can achieve that. It has been nearly a decade since India last

won an ICC title - the 2013 Champions Trophy - despite having performed well and reached several semifinals and final, including the final of the 2021 WTC. However, Rohit refused to delve into what the issues were for India's inability to come good in the knockout games of

ICC Championships. He also brushed aside Ricky Ponting's comments that the conditions will favour Australia. "That's his point of view. He's allowed to give his opinion. Only time will tell which team has used the conditions really well. honestly - for us, it doesn't really matter because we know what is at stake and we need to focus on that. And that is what the team is going to do. Whoever uses the conditions really well, probably will win the game. As simple as that. And also handling the pressure during the course of this five days because there will be times where the teams will be under pressure in this five days so you just got to adapt and handle that pressure really well to come out on top." While many of India's batters are coming into the tournament at the

back of a prolific run in the recently-concluded Indian Premier League, the challenge up against them will be to adjust to the challenges of Test cricket with the Dukes ball in England. The focus is on opener Shubman Gill, who topped the run charts in the IPL. Rohit is confident that the young opener is well equipped to adjust to the demands of that. "The way he is batting at the moment, I don't think he needs any advice. It's just about his preparation, how he has prepared in the last 5 or 6 days since he has come back from the IPL. He has played in these conditions before. He played that World Test Championship final and then he played that one-off test match which happened last year as well. You know Gill is somebody who likes to bat. "He's a batter who

likes to bat, likes to spend a lot of time in the middle, as you saw. I know even though it was a T20 format, he got big, big hundreds. He likes to be out there in the middle and face that challenge. That is what he likes, and that is what I will also hope and Team India will also hope that he spends a lot of time in the middle and plays well like he has been doing in the last 6 or 8 months - so to be honest not really too much to tell him. It's just about for him, giving him that confidence, because he's a very confident player. So it's just about, giving him more and more confidence. One of the bigger challenges that the team management will be up against is whether to go in with two spinners or one. Rohit stated that the team will wait till tomorrow to take a call on the bowling combination.