

Wealth Tax Return be revived for proper explanation of Jewellery in Income Tax Search- urges Jain

Kolkata (KCN): An Interesting Seminar was organised on Legal Rights of Women on Saturday by Direct Taxes Professionals' Association and Terapanth Professional Forum at Mahasabha Bhawan, Kolkata.

Eminent Tax Advocate and author Narayan Jain urged for revival of Wealth Tax Returns so that one can easily prove his or her Jewellery with the help of wealth tax valuation report and wealth tax return. It may be noted that last wealth tax return could be filed for assessment year 2015-16 and then discontinued by the

witnesses but usually servants at home are named as witnesses. As per CBDT Instruction, even in case of no wealth tax file, department is not supposed to seize ornaments upto 500 grams per married lady; 250 grams in case of unmarried lady and 100 grams in case of each male. He also gave tips of precautions while making a statement during Search.

Advocate Asha Gourisaria Gutgutia threw light on various legal rights of women in property and provisions relating to Dowry and steps to be taken by ladies in case of harassment or

KALIA funds flow tomorrow

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will distribute financial assistance of Rs 2,000 to about 40 lakh farmers under the Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya tomorrow.

The financial assistance of Rs 800 crore will be transferred to the bank accounts of more than 40 lakh small and marginal farmers in a special programme at 5 PM tomorrow, sources said on Monday.

After the launch of the PM Kisan scheme, eligible farmers are entitled to get Rs 4,000 financial assistance

per year in two installments under the State scheme Kalia. While Rs 2,000 is provided for Rabi crop, Rs 2,000 is given for Kharif season crop. Ahead of the 2018 general election, the State Government had launched the Kalia scheme as 60 per cent



of the state's labour force is dependent on agriculture for their

exploitation after marriage. Asha Gutgutia elaborated on provisions of Domestic Violence Act and how lady in distress can avail of remedies available to women under the



Domestic Violence Act like she can claim tension free residence in the form of a separate residence or an order from the Court for ouster of disturbing members of the residence. Economical emotional along with sexual and physical violence is also recognised domestic violence she added.

On this occasion Advocate Kamal Jain, President DTPA shared his views on Constitutional Rights granted to Women. JL Maloo, National Trustee, TPF shared information on developments in TPF. Preeti Jain, Ashok Parakh, Sushil Jain Choraria, Prateek Dugar, Manjulata Shukla, RD Kakra, Sonali De, Khushboo Nahata, Jyoti Jain actively helped in making the programme successful. CA Barkha Agarwal, General Secretary, DTPA thanked all.

livelihood. The scheme is aimed at accelerating the prosperity and progress of agriculture and alleviating the poverty of indebted farmers, non-indebted farmers, sharecroppers, and landless agricultural households. Later, in February

ensure the children of Kalia beneficiaries receive professional/technical education in government educational institutions in the State, as the future of the farmers depends on the development of their children.

For smooth implementation of the scheme and to increase the income of farmers, the State Cabinet has recently extended the scheme for a period of another three years (2021-22 to 2023-24 financial years). The Government has approved an estimated budget of Rs.5,933.31 crores for the scheme for the extended period.

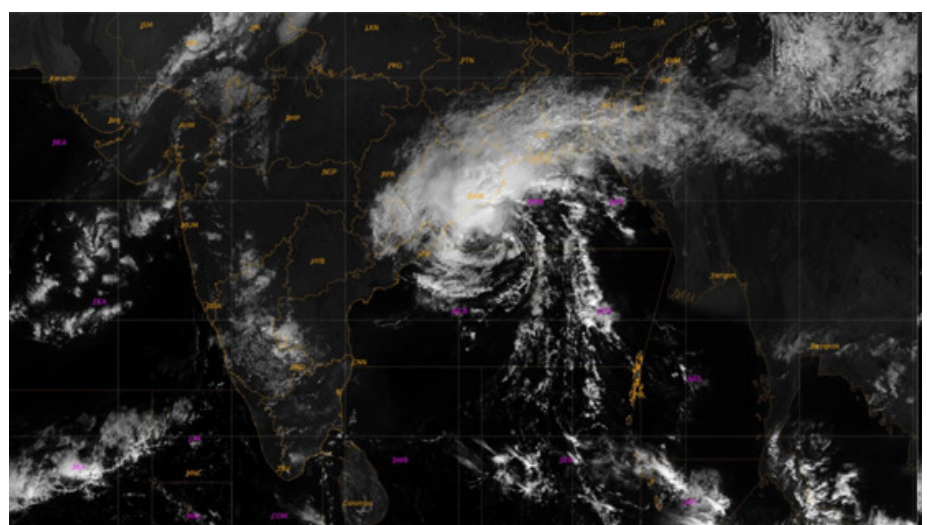
Possible Cyclone Unclear; IMD

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the social media and local news channels agog over possible summer cyclones following IMD forecasting formation of a cyclonic circulation in the south of Andaman Sea on 4 May, a senior weather scientist Monday said it is too early to forecast the calamity.

A cyclonic circulation is likely to form over South Andaman Sea and the neighborhood around 4 May. Under its influence, a Low-Pressure Area is likely to form over the same region around 6 May. It is likely to become more marked during the subsequent 24 hours, the Bhubaneswar Meteorological Department

said in a twitter post on Monday.

According to the MeT office, the probability of cyclogenesis (formation of depression) during the next 120 hours is



moderate and it is difficult to predict whether the system will intensify further or not. "Probable path of the possible cyclone and its landfall

are unclear even though different models hint at the cyclone." IMD senior scientist RK Jenamani said. He, however, said there is a consensus

over the formation of low pressure and subsequent intensification by various models, these show variation in its path, intensity and where it will

make landfall. "IMD doesn't make any predictions or forecasts until it has concrete data. We still have time and do not want to create unnecessary panic among

people now," Jenamani said. Stating that IMD's predictions are most accurate and "world-class," Jenamani said CONTINUED ON: P-7

Organization of United Working Journalist Regd. Trade Union, CTC/1155
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Akshaya Tritiya -2022

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Akshaya Tritiya 2022 will be celebrated May 3. Akshaya Tritiya is a sacred Hindu festival that is celebrated on the Tritiya

Tithi of Shukla Paksha, of the Vaishakh Month. Akshaya Tritiya 2022 will be celebrated with great pomp in various parts of the country. It is known by different names, including Akha Teej, in different regions. The word 'Akshay' means eternal, i.e. something that never comes to an end. Therefore, Akshaya Tritiya 2022 is promising eternal prosperity, blessings, happiness, success, and joy for everyone!



It is believed that a person who performs auspicious deeds like charity work, donations, Yajna, etc. on Akshaya Tritiya attains fruitful outcomes in life. Besides this, the natives must also consider buying gold ornaments on the day of Akshaya Tritiya 2022, as it is believed that it brings prosperity and happiness in a person's life, and Goddess Laxmi also bestows her blessings upon such natives. Also, Lord Vishnu is worshipped on this auspicious day. CONTINUED ON: P-7

US hopes to return diplomats to Kyiv by end of month

LVIV(KCN): The US hopes its diplomats will be able to return to Ukraine's capital Kyiv, where Washington closed its embassy days before the Russian invasion, "by the end of the month",



embassy charge d'affaires Kristina Kvien said Monday. "We very much hope that conditions will permit us to go back to Kyiv by the end of the month," Kvien said at a press conference in the western city of Lviv. The US closed its embassy in Kyiv on February 14, ten days before Russian President Vladimir Putin launched his invasion of Ukraine, and moved its diplomats westwards. Kvien said she and her staff were "working day

and night in Poland" to "help Ukraine win this war." She was in Ukraine on a "day trip" and said US diplomats will "continue to do day trips for the next week or two" to Ukraine. "We're thrilled to be back. And we will continue our efforts to do everything possible here on the ground to help Ukraine win this war". The US diplomat said her "number one priority is the safety and security of my staff." "We listen to the security professionals. If they tell us to go back, we'll go back" to Kyiv. Western countries are gradually moving to reinstate a diplomatic presence in Kyiv, where Ukrainian forces have rebuffed a Russian offensive. Speaking next to the mayor of Lviv Andriy Sadoviy, Kvien said that, nine weeks into the war, it was clear Russian President Vladimir Putin had "made a miscalculation" in Ukraine. The announcement came after the Joe Biden had proposed a huge \$33 billion aid package to Ukraine and after US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi met with President Volodymyr Zelensky on Saturday.

Media students grooved to the tunes of World Dance Day 2022

Kolkata(KCN): The Department of Media Science of The Heri-

with some power packed performances from the extremely

INTERNATIONAL
DANCE
DAY | APRIL 29TH

International Dance Day is a global dance event, created by the Dance Committee of the International Theater Institute, a major partner for UNESCO's performing arts. This event takes place every year on April 29.



tage Academy Kolkata celebrated the World Dance Day on 29th April 2022.

On this occasion Dean of the Department, Prof. Dr. Madhupa Bakshi addressed and enlightened the media students on how to use Mudras(Gestures) as a tool of communication.

The day was observed

talented dance students, followed by an impromptu dance by the members of faculty. Before wrapping up the event, the entire audience grooved to the party tracks to celebrate the day in their own style. It was a short yet rocking event, absolutely a high-octane dose of entertainment.

Teasana : Best Inspiration for New Entrepreneurs

BBiswajit Tripathy, founder, and CEO of Odisha based 'Teasana' is a first-generation entrepreneur and is

a man who has always challenged himself. He is an enthusiastic & industrious personality with a risk-taking appetite and problem-solving ability. As per him, "Success is not the key to happiness, Happiness is the key to success. If we love what we are doing we will be successful."

"Teasana", his own proud passion has been recognized amongst the top-ten best start-ups in the tea and coffee industry by "Industry Outlook" for the year 2021-22. Just a 2-year-old baby, Teasana competed with Decade-old stalwarts from the tea industry. With a farm-to-table approach, Teasana is a young and promising brand that sources its raw material directly from the tea estates and small-scale farmers. The brand has been creating unique hand-blended flavors that match the lifestyles and health demands of today's customers. Teasana's blending method is devoid of any chemicals or artificial procedures. Everything is hand blended with a strong emphasis on hygiene. By 2023, Teasana expects to have at least one tea for every kind of health disorder that exists. They are the first tea makers in the country to make customized and on-demand tea. Its quality can be measured in terms of the repeat customers which is 95% of its total customer base. Their exertion is to create new markets and new demands for superior quality wellness tea. They want to make more and more blends for various customer segments and have at least one tea for every season and every reason.



NASA scientist urges tech students to search the unknown among the known

Kolkata (KCN): "Tagore is in our blood. We should search for the unknown among what we know," said Dr. G o u t a m Chattopadhyay, Se-

that has landed on Mars in the previous year along with the first launch of a Helicopter at Mars which was also done recently creating a breakthrough in sci-

IEEE student chapter. I assure that every student will have his own paper presented in research journals after becoming a member of IEEE," said Dr. Shibhan Koul encouraging the future techies to be a part of the IEEE network.

"We are planning to open a MTT-AP student's chapter at HITK apart from motivating our students to actively become a member of IEEE. The benefits of opening a MTT- AP student's chapter in terms of



nior Scientist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA during his address on 29th April 2022 at Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata organized by the Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering & IEEE Microwave Theory & Techniques Society in association with AP-MTT Kolkata Chapter.

Speaking on the topic 'Mars Landing: Rover & Helicopter' Dr. Chattopadhyay said, "We did not find any form of life outside the planet earth, not even a cell. But there could be life and it is yet to be discovered. There are trillions of planets in the universe and we are studying 5000 exoplanets which requires a huge amount of investment. To make life survive on any planet, it should have a rocky surface and there should be a probability of the existence of water." Citing various examples he gave a detailed presentation to the students about the Perseverance Rover

ence & technology. The session was also



addressed by Dr. Shibhan Koul, Emeritus Professor, Centre for Applied Research in Electronics, IIT Delhi and Dr. Chinmoy Saha, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology. Both of them spoke about the latest technologies on Microwave Integrated Circuit & Satellite Tracking Applications respectively. "IEEE has started to offer internship opportunities across India for the students. Moreover we are also doing some projects as a part of our social initiatives where students can actively participate," said Dr. Saha during the session. "We are helping students with some live projects and that too can happen under the

getting grants to organize conferences where the students can actively participate and learn, are huge," said Prof. Prabir Banerjee, Head of the Department, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata. It's a matter of pride that Prof. Prabir Banerjee had been featured among the Top 100 scientists across the world for the year 2022 by AD Scientific Index. "Students learn a lot from interacting with the experts and they should capitalize on such opportunities developing their skills and knowledge," said Mr. P.K.Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata.

Engineer's role on conservation of water even from the usage of water filters stressed at Chemspark 2022

Kolkata (KCN): On 29th April 2022, Department of Chemical Engineering, Heritage Institute of Technology organized its annual student programme on innovation & expert interaction 'Chemspark 2022' in association with Indian Institute of Chemical Engineering (IChE), Student's Chapter. The inaugural session of the programme was addressed by Prof. Sekhar Bhattacharjee, Former Dean, Faculty of Engi-

water even from the use of water filters should be the subject matter of study for today's engineering education. Equipment daily used by us works on the principles of Chemical Engineering and how we can merge the theoretical aspect with the practical knowledge is all that matters," said Mr. S.K.Roy, Former GM, Balmer Lawrie during his address at the inaugural session. The session was also addressed



neering & Technology, University of Calcutta as the Chief Guest followed by Mr. S.K.Roy, Council member, IChE and former GM, Balmer Lawrie as the Guest of Honour.

During the inaugural session, Prof. Bhattacharjee spoke about the interdisciplinary aspect of engineering where progress in chemical engineering is aligned with other streams of engineering. "A similar progress that of chemical engineering is witnessed in mechanical engineering as well," said Prof. Bhattacharjee during his inaugural address.

"Chemical engineering is nothing but the alphabets of applied science. Today chemical engineers should be able to find solutions to the crisis we face daily like shortage of water. What water conservation measures can be taken to minimize the wastage of

by Prof. Basab Chaudhuri, Principal, Heritage Institute of technology and it was followed by a workshop on 'Process simulation' addressed by Prof. Sekhar Bhattacharjee.

"Every year we organize such events to give the students practical knowledge from the experts," said Prof. Sulagna Chatterjee, Head of the Department, Department of Chemical Engineering, Heritage Institute of technology. The inaugural session was also contributed by Prof. Pinaki Bhattacharya, Dean, Research & Development, Heritage Institute of Technology and Prof. Sujit Kr. Barua, Registrar, Heritage Institute of Technology. "The event is an eye opener to the practical field for the students," said Mr. P.K.Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata

Demand Letter to Collector Cuttack for Kandarpur Samabaya Samiti cash Issue

Cuttack Sadar(KCN) : Cuttack Sadar Kandarpur Samabaya Samiti 153 farmers deposited money around eighty lakhs rupees taken by cashier Dipti Kumar Pattanik who is not joining office long back. Several times the depositors bring notice to higher authority and Mini Bank team but neither any action not reaction. So all the farmers will not attain election of samiti and all are fight against this injustice matter. For justice BJP State working committee member Prativa

Satapathy, Cuttack Jilla Samabaya Coordinator Bandhu Charan Sahoo, CCV Cuttack Jilla coordinator Bijaya Routary, Banki CCV coordinator Ajay Muduli, Cuttack Sadar Samabaya Coordinator Khirod Dalai, Sub-coordinator Bipin Panda and team given there demand letter to Honorable Collector, DCP & State Cooperative Election commissioner with full fill there demand on top prior basic otherwise from 7th. May's team will sit on a hunger strike.

Crafts Council of Odisha organizes first craft exhibition called Master Crafters

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Crafts Council of Odisha affiliated to Crafts Council of India launched its first craft exhibition called MASTER CRAFTERS at the banquet hall of Bhubaneswar Club today. This two-day exhibition will showcase a range of craft products such as pattachitra, stoneware, applique, handwoven ikat, dhokra, silver filigree and straw products - all made by a few of the state's best craftsmen who have been awarded with state and national awards.

Mrs. Shubha Sharma, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary, Department of Textile, Handlooms and Handicrafts inaugurated the exhibition in the presence of Shri Santosh Mohapatra, Retd. IAS, Chairman, Crafts Council of Odisha. Present among others were Shri Rajib Sahu, Secretary, Smt Paramita Panda, Joint Secretary, Smt Adyasha Dash, Treasurer of Crafts Council of Odisha and other craft loving

members like Smt Rebati Panii, Smt. Rashmi Mohapatra, Shri Tapan Mohanty, Devesh Sinha, Sanjana Pattnaik, Ramesh Swain and other dignitaries like.



Inaugurating the exhibition, the chief guest Smt Subha Sharma welcomed the formation of Craft Council of Odisha and expressed the hope that the Council can be an ideal partner in the development of crafts in the state. She also appreciated the

idea of small indoor exhibition of state and nationally warded craft persons like Master Crafters. Outlining the various efforts of state government to promote crafts she thanked the craft persons for participating in the event.

Speaking on this occasion Shri Mohapatra said that all craft rich states in India have craft councils affiliated to Craft Council of India which in turn is affiliated to the World Craft Council. Odisha in spite of being one of the leading craft rich states did not have this Council and we are happy that thanks to the interest shown by some craft loving persons this Council has finally been born. This exhibition is its first baby step and the Council hopes to undertake many more activities for the development of crafts and benefit of the craft persons. The exhibition shall be opened till 8 pm today and between 11 am to 8 pm on 1st May 2022 for the public.

The emphasis in this event is excellence and it includes showcasing the work of some of the best craftsmen who have been awarded for their work such as Pattachitra works by Bijay Parida, Purna Chandra Moharana and Dwijabara Das, Stone carving by Kalpataru Moharana and Keshab Moharana, Palm leaf engraving by Rabindra Behera, Applique works by Kabi Mohanty, Silver filigree by Pankaj Kumar Sahoo, Sea shell works by Jagannath Mohapatra and Ikat weaving by Harishankar Meher and Arjun Pal. The Council knows that there are many more excellent craftsmen to be given this opportunity and many more activities in areas of design, raw material and marketing to be undertaken in this sector. The Craft Council of Odisha hopes to do it in days to come with support of industry, government, institutions and craft loving patrons.

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'We can be heroes' movie review: Super-kids save the day

Just last week, Robert Rodriguez was being lauded for being part of what is

Jonas), the director of the Heroics programme. But then, when did any

gets, the colours... But it isn't all for children. The film takes pot-



considered one of the best things to happen to the Star Wars Universe: The Mandalorian. This week, after dabbling with big budgets, he comes up with We can be Heroes, a spiritual sequel to his own film, The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl.

It's a Spy Kids-meets-Avengers film. Aliens attack Earth. The superheroes (led by Pedro Pascal), known as the Heroics in this film, come a cropper. Nepotism comes into the picture, with the children of the Heroics getting pushed to the forefront. There is an Avengers-inspired spaceship that spits out smaller spaceships with which the superheroes get kidnapped. They are kept safe in a bunker by Ms Granada (a superbly hammy Priyanka Chopra-

film kid ever listen to the adults and stay put? Each of the superkids use their superpower under the able guidance of Missy Moreno (YaYa Gosselin), who interestingly is the muggle among wizards and yet, the leader. We can be Heroes is a film made for kids, and the message is that anyone can be a hero, superpowers notwithstanding. Just like his Spy Kids films, Rodriguez paints this film with dreamy colours like pink and perky purples, and shoots it as if the scenes were pages straight out of a kids' comic. In one scene, a super-kid even comments that the villain's lair feels made for kids. This is a film that is designed for kids, and this audience segment is best suited to enjoy the gags, the highs, the charades, the gad-

shots at the big-ticket superhero films, for being needlessly destructive. Missy and her friends express their unhappiness about their superhero-parents fighting villains in crowded areas. In some ways, Rodriguez tries to level up the film for the not-so-young audience members, but the saccharine ending, and the overall simplicity makes it quite clear who he's targeting with this film. Growing up, we didn't ask logical questions of Spy Kids or The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl, and simply took in the sights and sounds created by this whimsical filmmaker. For this generation of kids, Rodriguez has created We can be Heroes. The kids are safe, so long as this filmmaker is around. The adults may want to wait for a version of Sin City though.

Kangana Ranaut extends Christmas wishes to 'those who respect all Indian festivals'

NEW DELHI(KCN): Actor Kangana Ranaut on Friday ex-

only those who do not do selective activism only around Hindu

Rangoli made delicious gajar ka halwa for us, some pictures



tended Christmas greetings to "those who respect and accept all Indian festivals." The 'Queen' actor took to Instagram to share three pictures, including one with her nephew Prithvi while posing along the Christmas tree. "Merry Christmas to only those who respect and accept all Indian festivals. Merry Christmas to

festivals," the caption of her post read. Meanwhile, on Twitter, the actress also shared a slew of pictures from the Christmas celebrations last night and informed that her sister Rangoli Chandel made 'Gajar ka Halwa' for all and her sister-in-law Ritu visited her house for the first time. "Yesterday my Bhabi came to my house for the first time and

from last night dinner," she tweeted. Christmas is celebrated every year on December 25 and marks the birth of Jesus Christ. It is commemorated by the Christian community and others across the globe by singing carols and exchanging gifts as the festival aims to spread the message of peace and prosperity.

Richa Chadha drops first look poster of her political drama 'Madam Chief Minister' NEW DELHI: Actor Richa Chadha on Monday dropped the first look poster of her upcoming political drama 'Madam Chief Minister.' The Subhash Kapoor

Priyanka Chopra Jonas to star opposite Richard Madden for 'Citadel' Amazon series

Washington DC: In a recent series of tweets, Priyanka

content. More soon. @AmazonStudios @AGBOfilms"

wood Reporter. Josh Appelbaum, Andre Nemece, Jeff



Chopra Jonas made the announcement that she would be starring alongside Richard Madden in 'Citadel,' a Russo brothers drama series that'll be launched on Amazon. Tweeting a screenshot of an article from the Variety website, Chopra wrote: "Cannot wait to work with the talented @_richardmadden and incredible @Russo_Brothers on CITADEL... A multi-layered global franchise with interconnected local language productions from India, Italy and Mexico. It will truly be global

Furthermore, she also posted two online article links about this latest development, one from Deadline, and another from The Hollywood Reporter. According to Variety, the producers have till now remained secretive about 'Citadel's' plot. The show would also be released in various local languages. As announced at the recent Television Critics Association's winter press tour, a separate version for Mexico is also in the works along with local productions in Italy and India, reported The Holly-

Pinkner, and Scott Rosenberg would be the executive producers and writers of this series. Apart from the aforementioned, Patrick Moran, Mike Larocca, and Joe and Anthony Russo would also be among the executive producers. The Italian series will be co-produced with Amazon Studios and Cattleya, part of ITV Studios, and the Indian series will be developed by Raj Nidimoru and Krishna D.K. and produced with Amazon Studios.

Writers Kanika Dhillon, Himanshu Sharma ties the knot

MUMBAI: Writers Kanika Dhillon and Himanshu Sharma have tied

low-key wedding on Instagram. "Here is to #2021 #newbeginnings

forward to the release of "Atrangi Re", directed by his longtime col-



the knot, weeks after the couple announced their engagement. While Dhillon is known for writing films like "Manmarziyaan", "Kedarnath" and "Judgemental Hai Kya", Sharma has penned movies like "Raanjhanaa", "Tanu Weds Manu" series and "Zero". Dhillon shared a sneak peek into the

#himanshusharma," she wrote in the caption. While Dhillon was dressed in a magenta tulle dress, Sharma wore a white kurta-pyjamas with mustard coloured Nehru jacket. The duo, who began dating in 2019, made their relationship public last June. On the work front, Sharma is looking

laborator Aanand L Rai. Dhillon is reuniting with actor Taapsee Pannu and Rai after "Manmarziyaan" for "Haseen Dillruba", which also stars Vikrant Massey. She is also penning filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani's upcoming directorial venture, which reportedly stars Shah Rukh Khan.

Stay of Income Tax demand u/s 220(6) Part 2

(Contd from 25th April 2022)

1. Steps to be taken for stay of disputed tax demand:



The assessee should write to the A.O. in case he has filed an appeal, requesting him not to treat him in default. The petition for stay u/s 220(6) should be well formulated keeping in mind the following points:

- The petition should state the prima facie merits of the appeal. The test of merit of appeal lies much upon the grounds of appeal, which should be strong enough.
- The hardship involved in the recovery of the disputed demand should be clearly and precisely stated. The petition should state why and how the balance of convenience is in favour of the stay, e.g., bad effect on the liquidity position of the business, jeopardy of the employment of workmen through possible closure of business and possibility of dead-lock in wage payment etc. as the case may be.

Copy of grounds of appeal as well as statement of facts should accompany the petition to show the prima facie merit of the appeal. Further this petition should be submitted before A.O. within 30 days of receipt of demand notice.

Section 220(6) empowers A.O. not to treat the assessee in default and allow stay for payment subject to the conditions, which he may impose. For example, he may ask for part payment of disputed demand or may allow payment by instalments. In *Pawan Kumar v. ITO* [1998] 146 CTR (P&H) 152 it was held that ITO is required to afford an opportunity of hearing to the assessee and pass a speaking order while deciding the application filed by the assessee u/s 220(6) - **World Vision India v. Commissioner of Income-tax, (Exemptions), Chennai** [2018] 89 taxmann.com 193 (Madras).

In *M.L.M. Mahalingam Chettiar v. Third ITO* [1967] 66 ITR 287 (Mad.) it was held that discretion vested in the ITO u/s 220(6) is not merely a naked and arbitrary power but a power coupled with a responsibility and the concerned officer should take all the circumstances into account and all the considerations that could be urged or are

urged by the assessee as to why he should not be treated 'as not being in default', and then make such order as is appropriate to the facts of the case. In other words, a request for exercise of the power u/s 220(6) cannot be summarily rejected on the basis that power is there with the officer but that he is not bound to exercise it.

2. CIT(A) is also vested with the powers of granting stay order: In *Prem Prakash Tripathi v. CIT* [1994] 208 ITR 461 (All.) it was held that CIT(A) is also vested with the powers of granting stay order, which is not only necessary but expedient for effective adjudication of appeal. If the amount mentioned in notice of demand is neither paid within the time or within the time extended u/s 220(3) nor any action is taken for stay of demand u/s 220(6), the assessee may be deemed to be in default.

3. Guidelines issued by CBDT for granting of stay of demand:
a) CBDT vide its Office Memorandum No. F.NO.404/72/93-ITCC, dated 31-7-2017 has modified its earlier Instruction and directed that under normal circumstances, stay should be granted till the disposal of first appeal on payment of 20% [Earlier it was 15% vide Order dated 29-02-2016] of total demand.

b) Where, A.O. is of view that nature of addition resulting in disputed demand is such that payment of a lump sum amount lower than 20% vide Office Memorandum 31-7-2017 is warranted (e.g. in a case where addition on the same issue has been deleted by appellate authorities in earlier years or the decision of the Supreme Court or jurisdictional High Court is in favour of the assessee, etc.), the A.O. shall refer the matter to the administrative Pr. CIT/CIT, who after considering all relevant facts shall decide the quantum/proportion of demand to be paid by the assessee as lump sum payment for granting a stay of the balance demand.

c) Likewise, where, A.O. is of view that nature of addition resulting in disputed demand is such that payment of a lump sum amount higher than 20% vide CBDT Memorandum dated 31-7-2017 is warranted (e.g. in a case where addition on the same issue has been confirmed by appellate authorities in earlier years or the decision of the Supreme Court or jurisdictional High Court is in favour of

Narayan Jain

Revenue or addition is based on credible evidence collected in a

search or survey operation, etc.), the A.O. shall refer the matter to the administrative Pr. CIT/CIT, who after considering all relevant facts shall decide the quantum/proportion of demand to be paid by the assessee as lump sum payment for granting a stay of the balance demand.

d) In a case where stay of demand is granted by A.O. on payment of 20% vide CBDT Memorandum dated 31-7-2017 of the disputed demand and the assessee is still aggrieved, he may approach the jurisdictional administrative Pr. CIT/CIT for a review of the decision of A.O.

e) The A.O. shall dispose of stay petition within 2 weeks of filing of the petition. If a reference has been made to Pr. CIT/CIT under para 4(B) or a review petition has been filed by the assessee under para 4 (C) of the CBDT Order, the same shall also be disposed of by the Pr. CIT/CIT within 2 weeks of the assessing officer making such reference or the assessee filing such review, as the case may be.

f) In granting stay, the A.O. may impose such conditions as he may think fit. He may, inter alia,-

- require an undertaking from the assessee that he will co-operate in the early disposal of appeal failing which the stay order will be cancelled;
- reserve the right to review the order passed after expiry of reasonable period (say 6 months) or if the assessee has not co-operated in the early disposal of appeal, or where a subsequent pronouncement by a higher appellate authority or court alters the situation;
- reserve the right to adjust refunds arising, if any, against the demand, to the extent of the amount required for granting stay and subject to the provisions of section 245.

4. Whether stay of demand can be granted for amount lower than 20% of demand or without paying any demand: it has been held in *JagdishGandabhai Shah v. Pr. CIT* [2017] 81 taxmann.com 45 (Guj.) that payment of 15% or 20% (amount prescribed by CBDT), tax is not a pre-requisite for making stay petition or granting stay.

In *Flipkart India Private Limited v. ACIT* [TS-97-HC-2017(Kar.)] it was held that, where payment of 15% or 20% will cause genuine hardship and the assessment made by A.O. is an high pitched one, the Pr. CIT

may grant stay without paying any demand or paying a lower sum than 15% or 20%. Although process for granting stay was streamlined, and standardized by Circular dated 29-2-2016 but it could not mean that Instruction No. 2-B(iii) contained in Circular No. 1914 dealing with situation of unreasonably high pitched or dealing with situation of genuine hardship caused to assessee was erased by Circular dated 29-2-2016, therefore, both these factors should be considered by both, A.O. as well as Principal Commissioner before requiring the assessee to deposit 15 or 20 per cent of the disputed demand amount. Also refer: **Suresh Anuradha v. CIT** [2020] 115 taxmann.com 73 (Mad).

5. Where addition made by the AO is under appeal and there are conflicting views of the ITAT on the issue : Circular No. 530 dated 6-3-1989 stating that a stay of demand be granted if there are conflicting views of High Court, or there are conflicting views of different Benches of ITAT. Thus, unconditional stay should be granted to assessee till disposal of appellate proceeding- **General Insurance Corporation of India v. ACIT** [2019] 111 taxmann.com 412 (Bom).

6. Whether AO can direct assessee to pay 20 per cent of amount demanded for granting stay during pendency of appeal by mechanically referring to CBDT instruction dated 31-7-2017: AO has to examine the applicability of Circular No.1914 in as much as whether the assessment is "unreasonably high-pitched" or whether "any genuine hardship would be caused to the assessee" in case the assessee was required to deposit 20% of the disputed demand amount. A.O. cannot demand 20% of the demand amount while disposing of the stay application, without any application of mind -**Charishma Hotels (P.) Ltd. v. ITO** [2018] 92 taxmann.com 428 (Karnataka), **Flipkart India (P.) Ltd. v. Asstt. CIT** [2017] 79 taxmann.com 159 (Kar.); **Turner General Entertainment Networks India Pvt Ltd. v. ITO** (2019) 104 taxmann.com 333 (Del); **ArchitKhemka v. PCIT** [2019] 101 taxmann.com 488 (Mad).

(to be contd.)

(Narayan Jain is former Secretary General of AIFTP and author of the books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice" with CA DilipLoyalka).

On April 30, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stated in its report that India is expected to overcome Covid-19 pandemic losses by fiscal 2034-35, RBI believes that monetary policy has to assign priority to price stability as the nominal anchor for the future growth trajectory.

If RBI is correct in its prediction, how the government is publicizing frequently, that India has recovered fully. There was a campaign in that India witnessed a V-shaped recovery buttressed by RBI itself. Indirectly RBI admits that all its packages declared have failed to make ant dent except benefiting stock market investors, the rich, and corporates. RBI has been scapegoated to hide the failures of the government.



The much-talked-about price stability is a hoax as since Shaktikant Das has taken over the charge of the RBI governor, he has acted what the finance ministry dictated starting by giving huge dividends to the government and reducing interest rates while ignoring the danger of high inflation that has affected vulnerable sections of society most. Under his policy, it is corporate behemoths and the government ae most benefited because of lower interest liability that has come at the cost of savers who are getting negative real interest rates on their deposits. This is nothing but financial repression.

Indirectly RBI is spreading the message that people should keep quiet and bear with problems of price rise, inflation, unemployment, poverty, hunger, and starvation for 12 years so that the present ruling class can ride roughshod on the masses, rule unfettered, and can give more concession to rich, corporates so that they can accumulate wealth.

What is more disconcerting is that the government has slashed social expenditures such as on health, and education, which has a far-reaching impact on poor people? Its ill effects have been further exacerbated due to the failure of the government to control the prices of essential commodities. The purchasing power of people is being hard-hit and many people are drowned in the quagmire of poverty and starvation. Question creeps in mind: if people have to wait for 12 years to overcome Covid-19 pandemic losses, how rich are getting richer and inequality is exacerbated. A new report by Oxfam-Inequality Kills- shows how billionaires across the world and India continued to prosper during Covid even as people scrambled for basics.

According to a report, India added 40 billionaires to 142 in 2021, when the second wave of Covid overwhelmed its health infrastructure and pushed crematoriums and burial grounds to breaking point. They have almost \$720 billion in combined fortune, more than the poorest 40 percent of the population, the group said in a report on rising inequality. In fact, the richest 98 Indians own the same wealth as the bottom 552 million. The rich continued to become richer with the wealth of India's richest families reaching a record high in 2021; even as 84 percent of households saw their incomes declining, and 4.6 crore people [46 million] have slid into poverty in Indiaduring the pandemic. There are some studies that are saying that 150 to 160 million people have been dragged below the poverty line in India. During same time, Gautam Adani had India's largest wealth surge last year and the fifth-

biggest in the world, according to the B l o o m b e r g Billionaires Index. He added \$42.7 billion to his fortune, which now stands at almost \$90 billion. Mukesh Ambani's net worth climbed by \$13.3 billion in 2021, and he's now valued at \$97 billion.

In 2020, that the middle class in India is estimated to have shrunk by 3.2 crores, the number of people who are poor in India (with incomes of \$2 or less a day) is estimated to have increased by 7.5 crores because of the COVID-19 recession, 23 crore people in India found earning less than Rs 375 per day, 97 percent of Indian households witnessed the decline of their income and nearly 12 crore lost jobs, though some got back. But in 2021, things have gone from bad to worse. Hunger, poverty, and inequality are still rising. As per the data collected by UNDP, 130 crore people are poor multidimensional poor in the world, while 22.7 crore Indians are multidimensionally poor. The highest number of poor, hungry, and homeless people in the world live in India. it is estimated that more than 81.1 crore people in the world faced hunger while more than 19.44 crore people are plagued by hunger in India.

According to the Global Hunger Index 2021, conflict, climate change, and the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic have exacerbated the food security situation across the globe including India. But India's ranking is on the decline since Narendra Modi rode to power. India had ranked at 55 in 2014 before declining to 101 in 2021. India had ranked 94 among 107 countries on the 2020 Index.

it is not only in the hunger index but in all other indexes like the human development index (131 out of 189 countries), global happiness index 144 out of 154 countries), global peace index (135 out of 163 countries), corruption perception Index (86 out of 180 countries) India ranks abysmally.

What is more painful is that according to the World Inequality Report 2022' released by the World Inequality Lab on December 7, 2021 "India stands out as a poor and very unequal country, with an affluent elite, in the world." The income inequality can be understood from the fact that, in 2021, while the top 10 percent and top 1 percent of the population hold 57.1 percent and 21.7 percent of total national income, respectively, the bottom half just 13.1 percent. Inequality is also enlarged when it comes to wealth. In 2021, the top 10 percent owns 64.6 percent of the total wealth, while the top 1 percent owns 33 percent. But the bottom 50 percent of the nation can be seen to own almost nothing (i.e., 5.9 percent of the total pie). Going back in time, the report shows that the income inequality in India under the British colonial rule (1858-1947) was very high, with a top 10 percent income share of around 50 percent. But, now, Inequality is higher than it was in the pre-independence period. Impoverishment, inequality, enslavement, and discrimination are inextricably linked and plaguing our nation today. The rich are not made to pay legitimate taxes to generate more resources. Being unable to generate more resources by taxing rich, corporates legitimately and failing to curb tax evasions, the government is resorting to unfettered disinvestment and privatization of public sectors. There is a growing trust deficit between the ruling class and citizens. India's secular credential and socialistic nature seem to shatter today with society being contaminated and divided more than before under the present Modi regime.

Evading Responsibility

Dr Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

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Religious issues being created to hide Centre's failures: Maharashtra Congress chief Nana Patole

NAGPUR: Maharashtra Congress at the Centre under rule at the Centre had led to infla-



chief Nana Patole on Monday said religious controversies and disputes were being created nationwide to hide the failures of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking to TV news channel 'ETV Bharat' here, he said the last eight years of BJP-led

above the law and said the state government would ensure the situation remains peaceful and fully in control.

Thackeray, during his speech at a rally in Aurangabad on Sunday, had reiterated his demand for removal of loudspeakers at mosques by May 3, and had gone on to warn he would not be responsible for the consequences that may follow if the ultimatum was ignored.

PM Modi holds bilateral talks with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz

BERLIN: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday met German Chancellor Olaf Scholz here and the two leaders discussed key areas of bilateral cooperation under the overall strategic partnership, as well as regional and global developments. Modi arrived in Berlin on Monday morning on the first leg of his three-nation Europe trip that will also take him to Denmark and France. Prime Minister Modi was received by Chan-



cellor Scholz in a ceremonial welcome at the Federal Chancellery in Berlin upon his arrival for talks. He was accorded the Guard of Honour at the forecourt of the Federal Chancellery in Berlin. The two leaders thereafter met in one-on-one format followed by delegation-level talks. The meeting was held prior to the sixth round of Biennial Inter Governmental Consultations (IGC) between India and Germany. In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs said that the discussions between the two leaders "covered key areas of bilateral cooperation under the overall strategic partnership, as well as regional and global developments." India was among the more than 50 countries that abstained from a United Nations vote to suspend Russia from the UN Human Rights Council in April. Since January this year, India has abstained on eight occasions on procedural votes and draft resolutions in the UN Security Council, the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council that deplored Russian aggression against Ukraine. Prime Minister Modi's visit comes amid the Ukraine crisis, which has united much of Europe against Russia. This was Prime Minister Modi's first meeting with Scholz as German Chancellor, who assumed office in December, 2021. Later, they held delegation-level talks which was also attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval. Both leaders are reviewing the full range of bilateral ties between India and Germany, including giving an impetus to trade as well as cultural linkages. This is their first engagement since Chancel-

lor Scholz assumed office in December 2021. The momentum of high level exchanges with our Strategic Partner continues," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in a tweet.

Later, Modi and Scholz co-chaired the 6th India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (IGC).

"The Inter-Governmental Consultation between India and Germany illustrate the special nature of this friendship.

Prime Minister @narendramodi, Chancellor Scholz and top Ministers from India and Germany meet in Berlin. Bagchi said it is a unique biennial dialogue mechanism allowing the two governments to coordinate on a wide spectrum of bilateral matters.

"For growth and resilience. For mobility and prosperity. For a greener and sustainable future.

For an open and peaceful Indo-Pacific. The 6th edition of the India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations gets underway," he said in another tweet.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Jaishankar and NSA Doval were also present in the meeting.

The 6th IGC will further strengthen the India-Germany strategic partnership, the MEA had said.

This is Modi's fifth visit to Germany after becoming Prime Minister.

He had earlier visited the European country in April 2018, July 2017, May 2017 and April 2015.

In his departure statement, Modi had said that his visit to Berlin will be an opportunity to hold detailed bilateral discussions with Chancellor Scholz, whom he met at G20 last year in his previous capacity as Vice-Chancellor and Finance Minister.

"I look forward to exchanging views with Chancellor Scholz on strategic, regional and global developments that concern us both," Modi had said ahead of his visit.

In 2021, India and Germany commemorated 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations and have been strategic partners since 2000, Modi said. Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe with a bilateral trade of over USD 21 billion.

Modi is also scheduled to interact with the Indian diaspora in Germany.

Germany is home to a thriving Indian diaspora of over 200 thousand.

The visit will chart the future course for deepening Indo-German ties, the MEA said.

State Asks RTOs For Enforcement

Bhubaneswar: Principal Secretary Commerce & Transport, Bishupada Sethi has asked all Deputy Commissioners of Transport and Regional Transport Officers (RTOs) to conduct stringent enforcement for reduction of road accidents and fatalities in the State.

While Mr.Sethi appreciated efforts of the State Transport Authority as there has been a decline in accidents and fatalities in the first two months of the year, he has asked to scale up enforcement activities.

Normally January and February have always been months of higher accidents, however to aggressive enforcement activities there has been decline in accidents and fatalities.

Mr.Sethi reviewed details of accidents and fatalities recently with the senior officials of the Department of Commerce &

Transport. The Chairman of the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety during discussion with the Chief Secretary and senior



officers of related Departments on 19 April 19, 2022 held the meeting and reviewed the incidents. The Chairman has observed that violation of MV Act is a serious issue which must be addressed with top most priority else they lead to serious accidents.

"There has to be pressure on the public at large that, if somebody violates provisions of MV Act, he will be dealt with strictly and with heavy hands by enforcement agencies,"

he pointed out. Enforcement officials, therefore, play a crucial role in improving road safety in the State. It is observed by the Chair-



man of the Supreme Court Committee that a single traffic rule violation may lead to a serious accident. Therefore, Mr.Sethi made clear, the traffic rule violators must be dealt with strictly without any sympathy.

The RTOs have been asked to achieve the target set for detection of traffic rule violations by the Transport Commissioner, without fail. The enforcement activities RTO-wise are being monitored on a daily basis by this

Department.

It is observed that, detection of severe offences like: over speeding, drunken driving, using mobile phone while driving, carrying overload, wrong side driving etc. by enforcement officers are very less compared to the target assigned, said the Principal Secretary.

It has been decided to review performance of enforcement officers in comparison to the target assigned every month and the performance of the officers will be reflected in their Annual Performance Appraisal Report (PAR), warned Sethi. The Deputy Commissioners of Transport are instructed to review the enforcement activities of the RTOs during their monthly visit and submit reports to the Transport Commissioner and the Department for further action.

Qantas to launch world's longest non-stop passenger flight

SYDNEY: Qantas announced on Monday it will launch the world's longest non-stop commercial flight, with passengers set to spend 19 hours in the air traveling from Sydney to London by the end of 2025.

"It's the final frontier and the final fix for the tyranny of distance."

Qantas operated research flights for the long-haul route in 2019, including a trial London-Sydney trek of 17,800 kilometres (11,030 miles), which

cabin is being specially designed for maximum comfort for long-haul flying," Joyce said.

Qantas said the new A350 aircraft would be configured for 238 passengers with first-class suites offering a separate bed, recliner

percent if running on fossil fuels, and more if using sustainable aviation fuel, he said.

"We have come through the other side of the pandemic a structurally different company," the airline boss said.

"Our domestic mar-



After five years of planning, the airline said it was ordering 12 Airbus A350-1000 aircraft to operate the "Project Sunrise" flights to cities including London and New York.

Non-stop flights will start from Sydney by the end of 2025, it said, with long-haul trips later planned to include Melbourne.

"New types of aircraft make new things possible," said Qantas chairman Alan Joyce, according to a statement.

"The A350 and Project Sunrise will make any city just one flight away from Australia," he said.

took 19 hours and 19 minutes.

A trial New York-Sydney flight in the same year covered 16,200 kilometres (10,200 miles) and took a little over 19 hours.

Singapore Airlines currently operates the world's longest non-stop commercial flight from Singapore to New York, covering 16,700 kilometres (10,400 miles) in a little under 19 hours. Qantas already operates a 14,498-kilometre Perth-London trip that takes 17 hours.

- 'Maximum comfort' - "As you'd expect, the

chair and wardrobe. It promised spacier economy sections and a "wellbeing zone" designed for "movement, stretching and hydration".

At the same time, Qantas confirmed it was also ordering 40 A321 XLR and A220 aircraft from Airbus. In addition, it bought options for another 94 of these planes until the end of 2034. "The A320s and A220s will become the backbone of our domestic fleet for the next 20 years, helping to keep this country moving," Joyce said. The newer aircraft would reduce emissions by at least 15

ket share is higher and the demand for direct international flights is even stronger than it was before Covid."

Qantas said the total cost of the deal was a matter of commercial confidence, though it indicated it had obtained a significant discount on the standard price of the aircraft.

The A350-1000 planes will be powered by Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 turbofan engines, designed to be 25 percent more fuel efficient than the previous generation of aircraft, Qantas said.

Tips on Legal Rights and how to face Income Tax Search



Kolkata (KCN): An Interesting Seminar was organised on Legal Rights of Women on Saturday, 30th Apr 2022 by Terapanth Professional Forum and Direct Taxes Professionals' Association at Mahasabha Bhawan, Kolkata. Eminent Tax Advocate and author Narayan Jain elaborated on various precaution women should take while handling an Income

Tax Search or Raid and how they should explain Jewellery. The law provides to have 2 respected persons to be present as Witnesses. As per CBDT Instruction, even in case of no wealth tax file, department is not supposed to seize ornaments upto 500 grams per married lady; 250 grams in case of unmarried lady and 100 grams in case of each male. He

also gave tips of precautions while making a statement during Search. * *Adv Asha Gourisaria Gutgutia of Calcutta High Court threw light on various legal rights of women in property. She also explained provisions relating to Dowry and steps to be taken by ladies in case of harassment or exploitation after marriage. On this occasion Shri Kamal Jain, President

DTPA shared his views on Constitutional Rights granted to Women. JL Maloo, National Trustee, TPF; Ashok Parakh, Sushil Jain Choraria, Prateek Dugar, Manjulata Shukla, Sonali De, Khusboo Nahata, Jyoti Jain were also present and actively helped in making the programme successful. CA Barkha Agarwal, General Secretary, DTPA thanked all.

‘International Labour Day’ observed at Barbil by different organisations



Barbil(KCN): The international Labour day was celebrated in Barbil by different worker union. Similarly under the leadership of Indramani Behera, the CITU party leader

Association, observed the May Day in Barbil. Hundreds of workers working in different sector irrespective of mines and industries took part on the occasion. They did a march across the town with slogan ,placards

and posters. The main motive behind the day is to improve people's opportunities for good and productive employment in conditions of liberty, equality, security, and dignity. Its main goals are to promote

workplace rights, increase decent employment prospects, improve social protection, and strengthen discussion in dealing with workplace-related concerns says Indramani Behera.

Inter-School seminar on ‘Russia - Ukraine clash ‘at DAV, Kalinga Nagar to commemorate silver jubilee year

Bhubaneswar, 30.04- DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar organized an Inter-school seminar on ‘Impact of Ukraine War on India’s For-



eign Relations’ to mark the occasion of its silver jubilee year. Around 42 students from 14 schools of Sahodaya Schools Complex, Bhubaneswar Chapter participated wholeheartedly in this grand event to showcase their talent and aptitude. Principal of the school Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo rendered the welcome address to the august gathering and thanked the heads of the participating schools, the escort teachers and the participants for their spirit of participation. In the intellectual discourse that followed after the welcome address, the teams presented vibrant deliberations on the

impact of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war on India’s foreign relations. LR DAV Public School, Cuttack and DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar jointly bagged the 1st position and St. Xavier’s High School, Kedar Gouri lifted the 2nd position while DAV Public School, Unit-VIII and KIIT International



School, BBSR became the joint winner of the 3rd prize. Prof. Brahmananda Satapathy, Ex Professor of Political Science, Utkal University and Dr Rajib Panda, Associate Professor of English, KIIT University were the judges on this occasion. The competition was smoothly organized by the whole-hearted cooperation of all the staff members and the members of seminar committee.

50 Days Countdown to International Day of Yoga 2022

New Delhi(KCN): Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Ministry of Ayush, Government of

Minister of Assam inaugurate the Yoga Utsav. The inaugural session was also graced by Shri.

Keshab Mahanta Hon’ble Minister of H& FW and Ayush, Govt. of Assam along with many State Ministers, MPs

also participated in the event. Dr. Ishwar Basavaraddi, Director Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga along with MDNIY team led the Common Yoga Protocol session wherein thousands of Yoga enthusiasts practiced the CYP protocol. Sivasagar has been selected for the Yoga Utsav because the Government of India had unveiled a plan to develop five Archaeological sites viz. Rakhigari (Haryana), Hastinapur (Uttar Pradesh), Sivasagar (Assam), Dholavira (Gujarat) and Adichanallur (Tamil Nadu) into ‘‘iconic’’ sites across India. The basic objective of this event is to give a wider promotion and publicity to various dimensions of Yoga and its utility and also to promote Health, Happiness, Harmony and Peace.



India has successfully organized Yoga Utsav to mark 50 Days countdown to International Day of Yoga 2022 today at the holy place of Sivasagar, Assam. Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon’ble Chief

Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon’ble Union Minister of Ayush and Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways; Dr Mahendra Munjpara, Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Ayush and Women & Child Development; Shri

and MLA and eminent dignitaries from all the states of North-East. Shri Pramod Kumar Pathak, Special Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, GOI, Official of Ministry of Ayush and Government of Assam and many other eminent dignitaries and experts

2021-2022

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Muslims mark Eid al-Fitr holiday with joy, worry

CAIRO: For the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr, the smell of freshly baked orange biscuits and powdered sugar-dusted cookies typically fills the air in Mona Abubakr's home. But due to higher prices, the Egyptian housewife this year made smaller quantities of the sweet treats, some of which she gives as gifts to relatives and neighbors.

The mother of three has also tweaked another tradition this Eid, which began Monday in Egypt and many Muslim-majority countries and marks the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. She bought fewer outfits for her sons to wear during the three-day feast.

"I told them we have to compromise on some things in order to be able to afford other things," she said.

This year, Muslims around the world are observing Eid al-Fitr — typically marked with communal prayers, celebratory gatherings around festive meals and new clothes — in the shadow of a surge in global food prices exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. Against that backdrop, many are still determined to enjoy the Eid amid easing of coronavirus restrictions in their countries while, for others, the festivities are dampened by conflict and economic hardship. At the largest mosque in Southeast Asia, tens of thousands of Muslims attended prayers Monday morning. The Istiqlal Grand Mosque in Indonesia's capital Jakarta was shuttered when Islam's holiest period coincided with the start of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 and was closed to communal prayers last year.

"Words can't describe how happy I am today after two years we were separated by pandemic. Today we can do Eid prayer together again," said Epi Tanjung after he and his wife worshipped at another Jakarta mosque. "Hopefully all of this will make us more faithful."

The war in Ukraine and sanctions on Russia have disrupted supplies of grain and fertilizer, driving up food prices at a time when inflation was already raging. A number of Muslim-majority countries are heavily reliant on Russia and Ukraine for much of their wheat imports, for instance.

Even before the Russian invasion, an unexpectedly strong global recovery from the 2020 coronavirus recession had created supply chain

Gadkari pitches for priority sector lending to entities engaged in alternative fuels

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Monday made a case for extending priority

bottlenecks, causing shipping delays and pushing prices of food and other commodities higher. In some countries, the fallout from the war in Ukraine is only adding to the woes of those already suffering from turmoil, displacement or poverty.

In Syria's rebel-held northwestern province of Idlib, Ramadan this year was more difficult than Ramadans past. Abed Yassin said he, his wife



and three children now receive half the amounts of products — including chickpeas, lentils, rice and cooking oil — which last year they used to get from an aid group. It has made life more difficult.

Syria's economy has been hammered by war, Western sanctions, corruption and an economic meltdown in neighboring Lebanon where Syrians have billions of dollars stuck in Lebanese banks.

In the Gaza Strip, though streets and markets are bustling, many say they cannot afford much. "The situation is difficult," said Um Musab, a mother of five, as she toured a traditional market in Gaza City. "Employees barely make a living but the rest of the people are crushed." Mahmoud al-Madhoun, who bought some date paste, flour and oil to make Eid cookies, said financial conditions were going from bad to worse. "However, we are determined to rejoice," he added.

The Palestinian enclave, which relies heavily on imports, was already vulnerable before the Ukraine war as it had been under a tight Israeli-Egyptian blockade meant to isolate Hamas, its militant rulers.

Afghans are celebrating the first Eid since the Taliban takeover amid grim security and economic conditions. Many were cautious but

gest him to direct telecom companies to run IT towers on ethanol-based generators rather



ity sector lending facilities for entities engaged in production and business of alternative fuels like bio-ethanol, CNG and LNG, a move that will help cut imports of fossil fuels.

Addressing an event, the Road Transport and Highways Minister further said the trial of bringing calorific value of ethanol at par with petrol by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) was successful.

"Those involved in production or business of alternative fuels should be included in priority sector lending.

I shall speak about the issue with the finance minister and RBI Governor," he said.

Priority sector lending facility will help the entities engaged in alternative fuel production or business to obtain loan from banks on easier terms.

He asserted that this move will help in reducing imports of fossil fuels in India.

Gadkari said on Wednesday that he will meet the Information Technology minister and sug-

gest him to direct telecom companies to run IT towers on ethanol-based generators rather

than diesel-based ones. The minister noted that there appears to be shortage of power in the country as the requirement has increased on account of economic growth.

Peak power shortage rose swiftly last week from single digit of 5.24 GW on April 25 to touch double-digit of 10.77 GW on April 28 showing affects of various factors like low coal stocks at generation plants, heatwave and other issues on deepening electricity crisis.

The power consumption and demand were affected in April 2020 also due to the imposition of lockdown for curbing the spread of the deadly coronavirus. The power consumption in April 2019 (pre-pandemic period) was 110.11 billion units. Also, speaking at the event, Union Heavy Industries Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey said: "Under the government's FAME-II scheme, tendering of 5,400 electric buses have been completed and we will get them on road in the next six months."

poured into Kabul's largest mosques for prayers on Sunday, when the holiday started there, amid tight security.

Frequent explosions marred the period leading to Eid. These included fatal bombings, most claimed by the Islamic State affiliate known as IS in Khorasan Province, targeting ethnic Hazaras who are mostly Shiites, leaving many of them debating whether it was safe to attend Eid prayers at mosques.

"We want to show our resistance, that they cannot push us away," said community leader Dr. Bakr Saeed before Eid. "We will go forward." Violence wasn't the only cause for worry. Since the Taliban takeover in August, Afghanistan's economy has been in a freefall with food prices and inflation soaring.

At a charity food distribution center in Kabul on Saturday, Din Mohammad, a father of 10, said he expected this Eid to be his worst.

"With poverty, no one can celebrate Eid like in the past," he said. "I wish we had jobs and work so we could buy something for ourselves, not have to wait for people to give us food."

Muslims follow a lunar calendar, and methodologies, including moon sighting, can lead to different countries — or Muslim communities — declaring the start of Eid on different days.

In Iraq, fewer shoppers than usual appeared to have visited the capital's clothing markets this year. Security issues also plague celebrations, with security forces going on high alert from Sunday to Thursday to avert possible attacks after a suicide bombing in Baghdad last year ahead of another major Islamic holiday killed dozens.

In India, the country's Muslim minority is reeling from vilification by hardline Hindu nationalists who have long espoused anti-Muslim stances, with some inciting against Muslims. Tensions boiled over into violence at Ramadan, including stone-throwing between Hindu and Muslim groups.

Muslim preachers cautioned the faithful to remain vigilant during Eid.

Indian Muslims "are proactively preparing themselves to deal with the worst," said Ovais Sultan Khan, a rights activist. "Nothing is as it

Possible Cyclone Unclear ;IMD

Continued from page-1

they mostly depend extensively on the experience of its team besides the multi-model ensemble.

Jenamani said the IMD has so far only made forecasts regarding formation of the low pressure.

He, however, said the probability of summer cyclones is more in the month of April and May and during the post monsoon period like September-October and sometimes in November.

The different models have forecast the landfall of the possible cyclone in Odisha-Andhra border, Odisha-West Bengal border and also in the central region of the Odisha coast between Paradip and Dhamra.

Some agencies have said that the cyclone is impending because of the favourable condition of the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. The sea temperature there remains at about 29 to 30 degree C which is favourable for the low pressure intensifying into a cyclonic storm.

Former Director of the Bhubaneswar Regional Meteorological Centre Sarat Sahu, who presently head the Centre for Environment and Climate (CEC), SOA-Bhubaneswar, said that things will be clear by 6 May.

IMD sources said that between 2011 and 2021, the Bay of Bengal has witnessed six storms, including the extremely severe cyclonic storm 'Fani' which made landfall in Odisha near Puri on May 3, 2019, with wind speed of 175-185 kmph gusting up to 205 kmp.

Then came cyclone Amphan on May 21, 2020 and hit West Bengal, around 20km east of Sagar Island in the Sunderbans. Then wind speed was about 185 kmph on May 21, 2020. Next year in 2021, cyclone Yaas hit the northern coastline of Odisha with winds and rains as it made landfall at Bahanaga block with a sustained wind speed of 130 to 140 kmph gusting up to 155 kmph on May 26.

The other three tropical storms – Viyaru (2013), Roanu (2016), Mora (2017) – struck Bangladesh in Chittagong.

to be for Muslims in India, including the Eid."

Still, many Muslims elsewhere rejoiced in reviving rituals disrupted by pandemic restrictions.

Millions of Indonesians have crammed into trains, ferries and buses ahead of Eid as they poured out of major cities to celebrate with their families in villages in the world's most populous Muslim-majority country. The return of the tradition of homecoming caused great excitement after two years of subdued festivities due to pandemic restrictions.

Akshaya Tritiya -2022

Continued from page-1

Akshaya Tritiya Muhurat

1. Akshay Tritiya is celebrated on the day when Tritiya Tithi of the bright half of Vaishakh is prevailing during the Purvahan Kaal.
2. If Tritiya is covering the Purvahan of 2 consecutive days, second day will be considered as the event. However, some people believe that it can only be celebrated on the second in one condition i.e. Tritiya Tithi must prevail for more than 3 Muhurats of that day.
3. If Akshay Trutiya occurs on Monday or Wednesday along with Rohini Nakshatra, its auspiciousness increases immensely.

Akshaya Tritiya Vrat & Pujan Vidhi Akshaya Tritiya Puja is not that a difficult thing to do. Follow the methods given below and perform Akshaya Tritiya Puja at home:

1. The one who observes fast on this day must get ready wearing yellow clothes early in the morning.
2. Now, at home, bathe the Vishnu's idol in Gangajal and offer Tulsi, yellow flower garland or just yellow flowers.
3. After that, light incense and Ghee wick lamp, and settle on a yellow seat.
4. Further, recite texts related to Vishnu like Vishnu Sahasranama, Vishnu Chalisa.
5. At the end, sing the Aarti of Vishnu Ji.
6. Along with this, if the worshipper can make donations or offer food to the needy people, it will give great results.

Note: If it is difficult to keep the full day fast, one may take yellow Halwa, banana, or yellow sweet rice.

As per the ancient legends, Nar-Narayan, Parashuram, and Hayagreeva had incarnated on this day. That is why some people offer Sattu of wheat or barley, soft Kakadi (a type of cucumber), and soaked Chana Daal (gram pulses) to these Gods.

Akshaya Tritiya Legend

As per the Puranas, Yudhishtir had expressed to Lord Krishna that he wants to know the significance of the Akshay Tritiya. Hence, Krishna told him that it is a very auspicious day. On this day, those who bathe before the midday and perform Japa, Tapa, Homa, Yajna, study of scriptures, Pitru-Tarpan, donations, etc. receive tremendous auspicious results.

In ancient times, there was a poor and virtuous man, who had faith in the Gods. Being poverty-stricken, he used to stay very disturbed. Somebody suggested him about Akshaya Tritiya Vrat. Hence, he performed this fast very ritualistically like waking up early in the morning, bathing in Ganga river, worshipping the Gods, and giving donations. This man became the King of Kushavati in next birth. Thanks to the effects of those Atchaya Tritiya rituals, he became quite mighty and rich.

Akshaya Tritiya Significance

1. Akhatrij is one among those days that are considered as Sadhe Teen Shubh Muhurat (3 and a half auspicious days) of the year. On this day, one may perform many auspicious things.
2. Bathing in Ganga also has special significance on this day. One who performs Ganga Snana on this day gets rid of all the negativities.
3. Also, one may perform Pitru Shradh on this day. Barley, wheat, grams, Sattu, curd-rice, things made of milk, etc. must be donated in the name of ancestors and after that, a Pandit (Hindu priest) must be offered food.
4. It is believed to be quite auspicious if you perform Shradh of your ancestors at a religious place on this day.
5. Some people also believe that it is auspicious to buy gold on this day.
6. On this day only, Parashuram and Hayagreeva had incarnated.
7. Treta Yuga had also begun on the very same day.
8. The doors of Shri Badrinath Temple opens on this day.

Due to all these reasons, this festival is considered quite auspicious and fruitful. We hope that this little piece of informations will help you make the best out of this festival.

Happy Akshaya Tritiya!

Captaincy pressure burdened Jadeja's performance: Chennai Super Kings skipper MS Dhoni

PUNE: The pressure and demands that come with captaincy affected Ravindra Jadeja's preparation and performance, says Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who had encouraged the all-rounder to take responsibility as a skipper rather than "spoon-feeding" him after the initial two-match transition period.

Jadeja had been appointed CSK skipper after Dhoni decided to step aside just before the tournament began last month. But the all-rounder buckled under pressure and eventually gave up the job, forcing the franchise to fall back on their most trusted lieutenant.

Under Jadeja, CSK lost six out of their eight matches. India's most dependable all-format all-rounder's batting, bowling and fielding also took a hit. Back at the helm of affairs, Dhoni, who has led CSK to four titles, produced instant result as CSK registered a 13-run win over Sunrisers Hyderabad to keep themselves afloat in the tournament on Sunday.

ALSO READ| MS Dhoni is the ultimate finisher: Former Indian pacer Irfan Pathan

"I think Jadeja knew last season he'd be captaining this year. For the first two games, I oversaw his work and let him be later. After that, I insisted he'd take his own decisions and responsibility for them. Once you become captain, it means a lot of demands come in. But it affected his mind as the tasks grew. I think captaincy burdened his prep and performances," Dhoni said at the post-match presentation ceremony. Dhoni said Jadeja taking over the mantle of the side was a gradual transition, which he wanted. "He knew and got enough time to prepare, what is important is you want him to lead the side and I wanted that transition to happen. At the end of the season, you don't want him to feel as the captaincy was done by someone else and I'm just going for toss."

"So it was a gradual transition. Spoon-feeding doesn't really help captain, on the field you have to take those crucial decisions and you have to take responsibility for those decisions. Once you become the captain, we have to take care of lot many things and that also includes your own game," he said.

FIFA+ goes live with its first Indian sports documentary

MUMBAI: FIFA announced the launch of the sports documentary 'Maitanam' for the newly launched digital streaming platform - FIFA+ in India on Sunday. 'Maitanam' joins an elite list of global sports storytelling content as part of the select FIFA+ Originals made available globally.

The 40-minute love letter to the game, 'Maitanam' com-

'ground' or, by extension, stadium, is a loving ode to Kerala's passion and attempts to capture the Malayali passion for the sport, and also its ubiquity in the state of Kerala.

From the state capital Thiruvananthapuram in the extreme south to the commercial capital Kochi, to the cultural capital Thrissur, the documentary covers diverse terrains, meeting priests that play

in the state of Kerala.

Andrew Whitelaw - Commissioning Editor & APAC Content Lead, FIFA+ "We are happy to partner with RISE Worldwide as we foray into the Indian market with Maitanam, a documentary on football set in the football-loving state of Kerala. FIFA+ Originals are aimed at millions of sports fans across the globe. These films throw up unique perspectives on how

Broadcast and Production, RISE Worldwide said, "We thank FIFA for extending this opportunity to showcase the passion for football in parts of India. We are humbled and privileged to bring to the world the extraordinary sway of football across the local grounds and lanes in Kerala in our documentary. We take great pleasure in partnering with FIFA+ and look forward to showcasing



prises six inspirational and vivid stories from the Indian state of Kerala where football is a way of life. The docu-film is now streaming worldwide on the FIFA+.

'Maitanam', the Malayalam word that literally means

barefoot, a women's team that has been making waves in overseas competitions, little girls training under nonagenarians; and a fascinating football commentator whose passion for the game is manifested in every belly-laugh and anecdote to the game of football

football is played across geographies and cultures and the place the game commands in the hearts of fans." With this documentary, RISE Worldwide shines a light on the 'beautiful game' as played in India.

James Rego, Head of

our production expertise as we connect with billions of football fans across the world. Maitanam, shot with state-of-the-art equipment by our world-class creative team marks India's first step in multilingual indigenous football storytelling."



Courtesy: Paryabekhyak & The Kalinga Chronicle Group

Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic slam Wimbledon ban on players from Russia and Belarus

MADRID: Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic criticized Wimbledon's decision to exclude players from Russia and Belarus from taking part in this year's tournament following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The two tennis greats said Sunday that Wimbledon had acted unfairly. "I think it's very unfair of (on) my Russian tennis mates, my colleagues... it's not their fault what's happening in this moment with the

war. I'm sorry for them. Wimbledon just took their decision... the government didn't force them to do it. Let's see what happens in the next weeks, if the players will take some kind of decision in that regard," Nadal, a 21-time Grand Slam winner, said in Spain where both he and Djokovic are preparing to play in the Madrid Open. The ATP and WTA tennis tours have both publicly criticized the All England Club's decision which was announced April 20. Wimbledon starts on June 27. The prominent players affected by the ban include reigning US Open champion Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, and French Open runner-up Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova,

who are all from Russia.

Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, which has aided Russian forces, would also be unable to play. Djokovic compared the situation of the excluded players to what he went through in January when he was unable to play the Australian Open. He was deported from Australia for not being vaccinated against COVID-19. "It's not the same thing, but going through something similar earlier this year for myself, it's frustrating knowing that you're not able to play. I still stand by my position that I don't support the (Wimbledon) decision. I think it's just not fair, it's not right, but it is what it is," Djokovic said.



Message

Warm Greetings to the People of Barachana - Dharmasala dist.- Jajpur, Odisha on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya.

Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray
Barachana - Dharmasala, Jajpur
Odisha

Heavyweights Bengal eye 33rd Santosh Trophy title but in-form Kerala stand in between

MALAPPURAM: Heavyweights West Bengal would look to annexe their 33rd title when they take on hosts Kerala in the final of the 75th National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy here on Monday. It will be the eastern State's 46th final overall, and they will enter this contest as favourites, owing to their outstanding record in the tournament since its start in 1941. However, Bengal are expected to face a tough test from an in-form Kerala outfit. Kerala defeated West Bengal in the first round, and Bino George's men will once again fancy their chances against the most successful team in the history of the tournament.



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