

President Murmu Pays Obeisance At Golden Temple

New Delhi: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu visited Amritsar, Punjab today (March 9, 2023). The President commenced her engagements by paying her obeisance at Sri Harmandir Sahib. She had darshan at the Sanctum Santorum, made parikarma and also participated in the langar with other devotees. She wrote in the Visitor's book of Sri Harmandir Sahib "this holy place with beautiful architecture and divine serenity around it evokes feelings of calmness and harmony. I prayed



for peace, progress and prosperity of the country. It was great to see the volunteers working tirelessly in the spirit of service and

devotion specially during Langar. May the teachings of Sikh Gurus continue to inspire us to practise brotherhood and

unity." Subsequently, the President visited Jallianwala Bagh and paid her tribute to the freedom fighters who

sacrificed their lives for the motherland. She wrote in the Visitor's book at Jallianwala Bagh that a grateful nation will always remember those braves who sacrificed everything for the motherland. This memorial will remind the coming generations of the importance of freedom and the sacrifices made for it and will continue to inspire them to contribute to nation building. Before returning to Delhi, the President also offered her prayer at the Durgiana Temple and Bhagwan Valmiki Ram Tirath Sthal.

8 Dead, 17 Others Injured During Holi Celebration In Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): At least eight persons died while 17 others sustained injuries in separate incidents of drowning, road accident and group clash across Odisha during the celebration of Holi today. Sujit Das (43) and his cousin Chinmaya Das (24) of Moosadiha village under Keshapur panchayat in Kendrapara district drowned in Brahmani river while taking bath after Holi celebrations in the afternoon, sources said. Similarly, a youth at Kandhapalipada village under Bolangir Town police limit in Bolangir district met with watery grave while bathing in a pond after the celebration. A minor girl of Andara village in Balasore district

also drowned in a river while taking bath in the afternoon, sources said. A youth went missing in Mahanadi river near Choudwar in Cuttack district after he ventured into deep water while bathing with friends soon after Holi celebration. Similarly, a villager of Buhala under Nischintakoili block under Cuttack district and a minor boy of Taratar village in Keonjhar went missing while taking bath after celebrating Holi with friends, sources said. On the other hand, two persons were killed in separate incidents of road mishap at CRP Square area of Bhubaneswar and Jaripatna near the capital city during the Holi celebrations. Moreover, a youth died and two others sustained grievous injuries when their bike collided with a tree in Binjharpur area of Jajpur district today.



Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik Flagging off Mobile Blood Collection and insulated vaccine Vans at in front of Naveen Niwas on 9-3-2023.

Market Complex Blaze: Team From National Fire Service College Reaches Puri



Puri,(KCN): The Fire Brigade personnel are facing a tough task to douse the fire that broke out at a market complex in the Holy City here yesterday evening. The Fire Brigade personnel are yet to contain the flames even after launching an operation in this regard around 20 hours ago,

sources said. National Fire Service College reached the spot to assist the Odisha Fire Brigade, sources added. "A team from the National Fire Service College has been stationing at Odisha Fire and Disaster Response Academy in Bhubaneswar for last few days for undergoing

training. The team was sent to Puri to assist Odisha Fire Brigade personnel to contain the flames," said an official. Notably, the fire broke out at a garment shop on the first floor of Samrat Market Complex at Laxmi Bazar near Marichikot Square here at around 8.30 pm yesterday.

Soon the inferno spread to other shops and a bank located at the market complex, locals said. The exact reason behind the mishap is yet to be ascertained, sources said. As many as 160 Fire Brigade personnel, 12 fire engines and two teams of Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) were pressed into service to douse the flames. Earlier in the day, Minister of State for Home Tusharkanti Behera and Director General of Fire Service Santosh Kumar Upadhyay reached the spot and took stock of the situation.

2 Lakh RoRs Corrected

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, incredible transformative initiatives have been undertaken in Revenue & Disaster Management Department. After the introduction of the 5T Charter & Mo Sarkar Programme, the Department has taken multiple initiatives to reduce physical interface & minimize the requirement of any visit to Revenue field offices. During 2022, approximately, two lakh RoRs have been corrected & sent to citizens either through speed post or Rajaswa Rath. This was informed during a post-budget press conference addressed by Revenue Minister Pramila Mallick, Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue and Disaster



Management Department, Satyabrata Sahu and Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) Nikunja Dhal. Department provides an array of services, which are completely online except in cases of statutory requirement, said Shrimati Mallick. Similarly, she said, in Certificate Services, the timeline under the ORTPS Act has been reduced. For example, in the case of Resident & Income Certificate timeline has been reduced from 15 days to 10 days. The Minister said quick

delivery of various Miscellaneous & Caste Certificates have been possible due to process re-engineering on application side, doing away with RI enquiry in certain cases and an efficient online application. Approximately, 50 lakhs Resident & Income certificates have been delivered on the basis of self-declaration after introduction of 5T charter in last three years, added Shrimati Mallick. In six components of Digital India Land Records Modernization

Program, 20 districts of Odisha among 75 districts of India have attained more than 99 percent of its objectives, for which 20 districts will be conferred platinum award by Union Government. Similarly, virtual courts have been started in 80 Tahasils since November 2022 & more than 3,000 cases have been disposed of after hearing through virtual platforms. All the districts have been instructed to start virtual courts in all Tahasils by April 2023. Infrastructure of Revenue field offices has

been of immense priority to this Department and there has been a budget outlay of Rs.250 crore to strengthen infrastructure of revenue offices. To strengthen IT infrastructure of revenue offices, Rs.59.73 crore has been provisioned and furniture & fixtures in record rooms Rs. 5 crore has been provisioned. Regarding Hi-Tech survey in the State, ACS Shri Sahu said that the Department is expediting Hi-Tech Survey for speedy & accurate land record services. Hi-Tech Survey has been completed in Deogarh district and it is being expedited in Sonepur & Sundargarh district. Also, the Department is planning for recruitment for manpower through appropriate agencies. Adequate allocation for this purpose has been provisioned, informed the ACS.

Tripathy Joins US IVLP

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Noted Journalist Bhabani Sankar Tripathy, Deputy General Manager (News) and Bureau Chief of The Sambad will represent India at the United States International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), starting from March 13, 2023. The US Department of State has nominated him for the project entitled "Climate Change and Biodiversity Conservation", for which he will be in the United States of America for three weeks i.e from 10 March to 1 April. "As we know, the climate change policy of the United States has major impacts on global climate change and global climate change mitigation. This is because the United States is the second largest emitter of greenhouse gasses in the world after China, and is among the countries with the highest greenhouse gas emissions



He has a strong command over politics, Social issues, especially the environment. In the year 2019-20, he wrote stories to save the Pangolins and finally it created awareness among the common masses. Apart from that, he writes stories on rising temperatures and weather-related issues. IVLP, the US Department of State's most prestigious professional exchange program was launched in 1940. It aims to cultivate lasting relationships by connecting current and emerging foreign leaders with their American counterparts through short-term visits to the United States. Participants in the program are selected annually by the staff at US Embassies around the world and more than 250,000 international visitors have engaged with Americans through the IVLP, including over 300 current and former heads of government.

Economics Book Launched at Rajendra University Traditional festival Laudi is Celebrated at Siso

Balangir: "Mathematical Methods for Economic Analysis (Part I)" book written by Dr. Susanta Kumar Sethy, Assistant Professor of Economics, was launched at Rajendra University, Balangir, Odisha. Mr. Judhistir Nayak (OAS), (Registrar, Rajendra University) was Chief Guest and Mr. Braja Kishor Mishra (Professor of Economics), Dr. Pratap Kumar Dash (Associate Professor of English), Dr. Raj Kishor Patra (Associate professor of Philosophy), Mr. Satyaban Badhei (HOD, Department of Economics, Rajendra



University) were Chief Speaker in the event. The book is designed to meet the requirements of a wide range of students, keeping in view the varied applications of mathematical techniques in different areas of Economics, Commerce, Finance, and

Management, at the Undergraduate and Post Graduate levels. The subject matter has been presented in a very simple and lucid manner. A large number of questions from various University examination papers have been included to provide a range of questions on

different topics of the subjects. Exercises given at the end of each topic will provide a source of practice to the students and make them more confident, assuring better performance in the Examination. Teachers in the subject may also

find it absorbing and different from other books, in respect of approach, style, and lucidity in explanation supported by appropriate diagrams. One of its strongest features is that it emphasizes the unifying structure of economic theory in such a way as to provide the reader with the technical tools and methodological approaches necessary for undertaking original research. This book consists of 8 chapters such as SET Theory, The Number system, Relations and Functions, Limit and Continuity of a Function, Derivative of a Function, Partial and Total Derivatives, Algebra of Matrix, and Determinants.



Cuttack Sadar, (KCN): Dhanamandal, 22 Mouza Kulasahi, Ray Raghunathpur, Pura, Harianta & Andhuti respectively after lord Sri Sri Radhamohan sit in Dola bimaan. Siso Yadav sangha secretary Ranjan Behera, Yadav representative Baikuntha Behera, Saroj Behera, Brundaban Behera, Madhusudan Behera, Prabhakar

Behera, Susanta Behera, Pramananda Behera, Pramoda Behera & team present with make the religious program grand success. The program was organised by Honorable president Radhakrushna Behera and paid thanks to the entire team for their active cooperation.

Sub-divisional level workshop on "Safety in Handling Toxic Gases & Best Practices"



Jajpur/Kalinganagar (Sapan Kar) :- The Directorate of Factories & Boilers, Jajpur Road Division, Govt of Odisha organized a Sub-divisional level workshop at MIPL Hotel, Kalinga Nagar to create awareness among employees of different factories in Jajpur, Balasore, Bhadrak, Keonjhar & Mayurbhanj Districts about achieving

an accident-free work environment and zero harm. The programme was attended by more than 100 participants, including senior executives, managers, safety officers, and supervisors. The theme of the workshop was "Safety in Handling Toxic Gases & Best Practices". The Directorate aims to enforce legislation for

securing safety, occupational health, a good work environment, healthy work conditions, and the adoption of welfare measures in factories. Various important topics were discussed in detail during the workshop, including the handling of toxic gases like ammonia and other petroleum products. The Chief Guest, ADM, Kalinganagar, Shri

Santosh Kumar Mishra emphasized the reduction of accidents in factories and the government's concern in this matter. Deputy Director of Factories & Boilers, Jajpur Road Division, Er Umesh Chandra Sutar addressed the gathering and expressed his concern about the handling of toxic gases. ADFB, Balasore, Er Kedarnath Hansdah, also graced the occasion. Unit Head, Jindal Stainless, Jajpur, Mr Deepak Agrawal; Buisness Head (Phase-I), Jindal Stainless, Mr A K Singh; Director, VISA Steel, Mr Manoj Kumar, and Head, EHS, Mr Manoj Kumar Bal attended the workshop and talked about the importance of adopting Behaviour Based Safety (BBS) practices.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED AT OHPC

Bhubaneswar: International Women's Day was celebrated at Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Ltd. on 6th March 2023. Dr. Aruna Mohanty, President, Odisha Sangeet Natak Academy graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Sri Amresh Kumar, Managing Director, Dr. P. K. Mohanty, Director (HR) & Sri Ashish Kumar Mohanty, Director (Operation) were present during the inaugural session of the programme and addressed the gathering. Dr. Aruna Mohanty, while



speaking on the occasion, emphasized to celebrate womanhood everyday. She urged women to stand up by their own in every odd situation. The Chief Guest also recited a beautiful poem composed by her linking all mythological women characters like kunti, Draupadi, Radha. The vote of thanks of the inaugural programme

was presented by Ms. Smruti Sudha Panda, Manager (PR). On the occasion of Women's Day celebrations, a one day workshop was organized by Tanvi Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd. on the same day at the Training Centre. Mr. Ram K Sharma and Ms. Arunima Patra carried out interactive sessions on a variety of topics such as "DigitALL: Innovation and

technology for gender equality", "Parenting & Counseling guidance for women" & "Celebrating Woman-hood". All the female employees of the Corporate Office were present during the programme & enthusiastically participated in the same. Gifts were distributed to all the participants at the end of the event.

New CWC Joined in Puri

Puri: In presence of Ex Chairperson of Child Welfare Committee Mr. Mahabir Rudranarayan Sahoo and other members, the newly selected Chairperson Dr Ajit Kumar Mohapatra and his team joined in Puri to render child protection mandates as quasi judicial body under Mission Vatsalya Scheme. Mr. Manoj Kumar Tripathy, District Child Protection Officer,



Protection Officer Mr. Subhanarayan Satapathy, Accountant Mr. Harekrushna Sahoo, Counselor Ms. Rojalini

Patra of District Child Protection Unit, Puri were present and extended necessary support for smooth handing over and

taken over process. Further, an interaction between both the chairperson and the members were held. Newly Joined Chairperson clarified that the Committee will work for 24hrs to ensure the best interest of children and to protect their rights in the district. Hence the Committee notifies the contact no- 9437060805 of the Chairperson for contact in emergency.

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Ranbir Kapoor-Shraddha Kapoor's Film 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkar' Leaked On Torrent Sites On The Day Of Release

Ranbir Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor's much-awaited film 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makkar' released today and is winning the hearts of fans. Netizens are excited to see Shraddha back on the screens and Ranbir's romcom avatar is everyone's favourite but, the film has become the latest victim of piracy. As per News18, the film has been leaked in full HD versions on various torrent sites like Filmyzilla, Movierulez, Telegram, Tamilrockers and others. The Luv Ranjan directorial is now available on torrent sites and people are searching

the film using the keywords TJMMFree Download, TJMM MP4 HD Download, TJMM Tamil Rockers, TJMM Telegram Links, TJMM Movie Free HD Download and TJMM Free Download Link, Tu Jhoothi Main Makkar Tamil Rockers and others. The film is available for download in 1080p, 720p, 480p, 360p, 240p, HD. The film also stars veteran actor Dimple Kapadia, Boney Kapoor and Anubhav Singh Bassi in pivotal roles. Trade analyst Taran Adarsh gave the film a big thumbs-up. He took his review to Twitter and



wrote, "#OneWordReview... #TuJhoothiMainMakkar: WINNER. Rating: 4 Star Refreshing take on romance and relationships... #PKP, #PKP2, #SKTKS, now #TJMM, #LuvRanjan ticks all the right boxes yet again... #ShraddhaKapoor terrific, #RanbirKapoor outstanding... Chartbuster music. #TJMMReview". Tu Jhoothi Main Makkar is directed by Luv Ranjan, produced by Luv Films' Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg, and presented by T-Series' Gulshan Kumar and Bhushan Kumar.

Kangana Ranaut Looks Stunning In All-White-Avatar, Plays Holi Like A Kid On Film Set



Actress Kangana Ranaut was seen celebrating the festival of colours, Holi on the sets of her upcoming film 'Chandramukhi 2'. Kangana took to Instagram, where she shared a reel. In the video,

the actress is seen dressed in a white kurta and pyjama paired with sunglasses as she starts putting colours on her crew and cast members of the film. In one frame, designer Neeta Lulla can be seen

putting colours on Kangana. The actress chose the song 'Rang Barse' sung by Amitabh Bachchan for her reel. She captioned the video, which currently has 290,000 views on the photo-sharing website:

"Holi this morning on Chandramukhi set." 'Chandramukhi 2' is directed by P. Vasu. The film's prequel, which released in 2005, starred superstar Rajanikanth and Jyothika Saravanan. 'Chandramukhi' was a remake of the Malayalam film 'Manichitrathazhu' and was adapted in Hindi as the Akshay Kumar-starrer 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa'. In 'Chandramukhi 2', Kangana will be seen playing the role of a renowned dancer in the king's court who's known for her breathtaking beauty. Meanwhile, Kangana also has 'Tejas' in which she essays the role of an Indian Air Force pilot, 'Emergency' and 'Noti Binodini' in the pipeline.

Parineeti Chopra Wraps Shooting Of Imtiaz Ali's Chamkila Co-Starring Diljit Dosanj

Actor Parineeti Chopra, on Tuesday, penned down a special note for director Imtiaz Ali and team 'Chamkila' as she wraps up the shoot. Taking to Instagram, Parineeti shared a string of pictures which she captioned, "The best human, the best director Imtiaz sir - Thankyou for making me your Amarjot.. Thankyou for letting me surrender. @imtiazaliofficial. Diljit - I love you my sabse accha dost! Ab kiske saath gaungi main? @diljitdosanj Thankyou mera Chamkila crew. You were the best. This film was my meditation. #Chamkila #FilmWrap #Punjab." In the first two pictures, the 'Jabariya Jodi' actor could be seen posing with director Imtiaz Ali. In other pictures, the actor shared her fond memories of Punjab during the shooting of the film. Soon after the 'Saina' actor dropped the pictures, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. by TaboolaSponsored Links You May Like



On Women's Day, Popular TV Actresses Talk About Embracing Equity

To celebrate womanhood and to spread awareness about gender equality, International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8th every year, and this year the theme is #EmbraceEquity. On International Women's Day & TV artists, Neha Joshi (Yashoda) from Doodri Maa, Kamna Pathak (Rajesh Singh), Himani Shivpuri (Katori Amma), Sapna Sikarwar (Bimlesh) from Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, Shubhangi Atre (Angoori Bhabi), and Vidisha Srivastava (Anita Bhabi) from Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai talk about embracing equity for creating an inclusive world. Neha Joshi, essaying Yashoda in &TV's Doodri Maa, says, "Jab hai naari main shakti Saari, to Phir Kyun naari ko kahe bechari? - I read this quote somewhere that has made an everlasting impact as I relate to every word. Women symbolize power and strength but often encounter bias within their families, workspaces, and other spheres. In a diverse world, inclusivity is a necessity. We are empowered to be whatever and who we choose to be. We must embrace and celebrate this. Let's give equity a

huge embrace on this International Women's Day. I wish for a world where differences are acknowledged, appreciated, and celebrated. So, let us pledge to forge women's equality with #Embraceequity." Himani Shivpuri, essaying Katori Amma in &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, says, "Gender inequality is still an issue. The theme #EmbraceEquity is an excellent way to raise awareness of gender equality. We cannot have a free and equal society until women enjoy equal rights as men. It is a human right, and we are all entitled to it. Over the years, there have been drastic changes with better representation of women in politics, more economic opportunities, and better healthcare. But still, in many regions, women continue to face unfair treatment, which needs to address. Women cannot succeed when half of us are held back, so gender equality must be embraced by all the women in society, which is possible only if we create a gender-equal environment. Cheers to all women around the world! Happy Women's Day."



Shubhangi Atre, essaying Angoori Bhabi in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, says, "Women are synonymous with power, strength, and beauty but society treats us as inferior to men. Although my family has always treated me with equal love and respect, I know how women are treated in other sections of our society. It breaks my heart to see a woman's inequality right from childhood, which gradually spreads across her professional and personal spheres. I am glad that this issue is being internationally acknowledged and is now a part of global discourse under this year's International Women's Day theme. On International Women's Day, I want to say that having a voice, speaking up, and

embracing our diversity and inclusion, and through this process of equity, we can achieve equality." Vidisha Srivastava, essaying Anita Bhabi in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, says, "As a woman, it feels amazing to celebrate Women's Day when everyone wishes us. The feeling of being loved and respected makes us feel special. I also believe that despite celebrating women on a specific day, we should celebrate, respect, and love womanhood throughout the year. It is because we all have different battles to fight personally and professionally. Since childhood, my mother has always treated me and my brother and brother equally. My family has followed it for generations, and I feel very proud about it. As

they say, "charity begins at home." We should all completely remove this evil of business from our lives and expect society to change gradually. Let's take one step at a time towards a bias-free society and treat the women in our lives with the utmost respect and empower the 'Naari Shakti'." Sapna Sikarwar, essaying Bimlesh in &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, says, "Today we are everywhere where we want to be, doing everything we want to do. We were given this life because we are smart, strong, and capable of living it. We know how to achieve our dreams, but in India and many developing countries, many women are not where they need to be. The most significant thing for us is education, and the second thing is the support of our families. There's something so special about a woman who dominates a man's world. It takes grace, strength, intelligence, fearlessness, and nerve to never take no for an answer. In celebration of women's day, let us educate and empower those in need. Wishing a very happy Women's Day to all."

THE PLIGHT OF WOMEN



Dr Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

Each year IWD is given a "theme", and "campaign them" which often relates to contemporary events, trends and struggles. The theme for International Women's Day, 8 March 2023 (IWD 2023) is, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality". This theme is aligned with the priority theme for the upcoming 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67), "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". The campaign is: #EmbraceEquity. A focus on gender equity needs to be part of every society's DNA.

But when we are told to embrace equity, there is a need to examine the deplorable state of women in the World as well as in India and whether equality is achieved or not. Equity is a distance dream. The

world has made unprecedented advances, but no country has achieved gender equality. Globally, legal restrictions have kept 2.7 billion women from accessing the same choice of jobs as men and less than 25 percent of parliamentarians were women, as of 2019.

The world is moving towards legal gender equality – but it's moving very, very slowly. According to World Bank's "Women, Business and the Law 2019" report, only six countries currently give women and men equal rights. But the rate of progress means that, by CNN calculations, women won't achieve full equality in the areas studied by the World Bank until 2073.

Belgium, Denmark, France, Latvia, Luxembourg and Sweden scored full marks of 100.

Of those nations, France saw the biggest improvement over the past decade for implementing a domestic violence law, providing criminal penalties for workplace sexual harassment and introducing paid parental leave.

Violence against women remains devastatingly pervasive

and starts alarmingly young, showing new data from WHO and partners.

Across their lifetime, 1 in 3 women, around 73.6 crore, are subjected to physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner or sexual violence from a non-partner – a number that has remained largely unchanged over the past decade. However, 6 percent of women globally report being sexually assaulted by someone other than their husband or partner.

Intimate partner violence is by far the most prevalent form of violence against women globally (affecting around 64.1 crore). 1 in 4 women experiences violence during pregnancy. 5,000 "honour killings" are reported every year around the world.

This violence starts early: 1 in 4 young women (aged 15-24 years) who have been in a relationship will have already experienced violence by an intimate partner by the time they reach their mid-twenties. 47,000 women and girls were killed by their male partners or family members in 2020 – and those are only the deaths we know about. Around 47 countries still have no repercussions for

husbands who rape their wife while

45 countries do not have specific laws against domestic violence.

Gender violence is rampant in India. According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in India, cases of crime against women rose to 4,28,278 in 2021 showing an increase of 56,775 cases or 15.3 percent from 3,71,503 cases in 2020. In India, a total of 31,677 rape cases were registered in 2021, or around 87 rape cases every day on average – as compared to 28,046 cases in 2020, a 19.34 percent increase in rape cases last year when compared 2020.

The data also reveals that across India, in 96.5 percent of rape cases, the offender was known to the woman. Of the total 31,677 rape cases, 28,147 or nearly 89 percent of the rapes were committed either by friends (including online friends), live-in partners (on the pretext of marriage), separated husbands or family friends, employers, or other known persons.

The NCRB report also noted, "Majority of cases under crime against women under IPC were registered under 'Cruelty

by Husband or His Relatives' (31.8 percent) followed by 'Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty' (20.8 percent), 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' (17.6 percent) and 'Rape' (7.4 percent). The NCRB report also corroborates the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 report. According to (NFHS), nearly one-third of women in India have experienced physical or sexual violence.

Given the high levels of stigma and under-reporting of sexual abuse, the true figure is likely to be significantly higher.

Gender gap is pervasive in India too. According to the Global Gender Gap Index 2022 of the World Economic Forum, India ranks 135 out of 146 countries. It means in terms of closing the gender gap, India is behind 134 countries. At present speed, it will take around 197 years to close the gender gap in India. What is a matter of concern is that only 11 countries are ranked below India on this index of 146 nations.

India also ranks poorly among its neighbours and is behind Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126). Only Iran (143), Pakistan (145) and Afghanistan (146) perform worse than India in south Asia.

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) is an index for measurement of gender disparity that was introduced in the 2010 Human Development Report 20th anniversary edition by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). According to the UNDP, this index is a composite measure to quantify the loss of achievement within a country due to gender inequality. GII is a composite metric of gender inequality using three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

A low GII value indicates low inequality between women and men, and vice-versa. The new index was introduced as an experimental measure to remedy the shortcomings of the previous indicators, the Gender Development Index (GDI) and the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM), both of which were introduced in the

1995. India ranks 122 out of 162 countries in 2021 index. It means India is behind 121 countries.

Labour income is the amount that employed people earn by working. According to the estimates of the World Inequality Report 2022, in India, men earn 82 percent of the labor income whereas women earn 18 percent of it. Indian women earned, on an average, 48 percent less compared to their male counterparts in 1993-94. Since then, the gap declined to 28 percent in 2018-19 as in the labour force survey data of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Still, gap is too high compared to other countries.

The pandemic reversed decades of progress as preliminary estimates from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2020-21 show an increase in the gap by 7 percent between 2018-19 and 2020-21. The data further suggests that faster decline in female wages during the pandemic contributed to a faster growth in male wages, which requires urgent policy attention. Similarly, women are last to be hired and first to be fired. Women labour force participation is shrinking. Periodic

Labour Force Survey's 2020-21 annual report which reveals that the labour force participation rate among Indian women is just 23.15 percent, in contrast to 57.75 percent in men.

Women and girls are most likely to experience the negative impacts of gender discrimination, gender inequality. It can mean rising female foeticide, restricted access to education, inferior standing in society, less freedom to make decisions around their personal and family life, a decline in labour participation and lower wages for the jobs and work they do.

With the prevalence of gender discrimination, patriarchal mindset, social norms, and practices, girls become vulnerable to the possibility of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, child domestic work, poor education and health, sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence. Many of these manifestations will not change unless girls are valued more.

The author is an Odisha based eminent economist/columnist/ social thinker.

RAHUL GANDHI'S POLITICAL NOCTAMBULATION



M.R. LALU

Between Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi, who represents democracy in its complete essence and practice? Modi's personal journey in politics unequivocally presents plenty of testimonies on his growth from the grassroots. Starting his political career as a commoner, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) the organization he represented before he was deputed into the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) must have taken him through enormous organizational experiments indubitably chiseling his personality. As a BJP worker he progressed tremendously throughout his decades of hard work. And today his premiership is known all over the world as one of the golden examples of a practicing democracy that got a 'chaiwala' to the realm of the Prime Minister. Politics for Rahul Gandhi was an inheritance. Born and brought up in the power corridors of India's politics; he had enough of fame, respect, attention and affluence. Never did India's democratic impulse throbbed against him as

he stealthily grabbed power during the UPA regime. Except for his political lineage, the Gandhi scion was a complete undeserving entrant into the political spectrum of India when it comes to commitment which is an essential prerequisite for an honest politician.

This makes the difference more and more vivid between the leader in Modi and the dynast in Rahul Gandhi. Both represent the same basic democratic framework but in real sense Narendra Modi imbibes the vital essence of democracy for his tuning towards leadership was more genuine and the process was hard. Rahul Gandhi's access to various power centers and his rise as the heir apparent of the Congress must have invariably blocked the progress of many leaders in his party. Probably this must be the reason why he failed to understand how democracy works in India. Undoubtedly, when he says his Bharat Jodo Yatra was a mirror on which he could reflect the democratic India's pain and penury; he appears to be dramatically escaping from his ignorance about India's socio-cultural and democratic essence. Now, as a responsible leader of the principal opposition, everybody in the country would want him to speak facts instead of spoiling the atmosphere with his

irresponsible rants. But that is not the case. His rage on Modi and India should have embarrassed his partymen and some leaders in the opposition. His talk on the 'craft of listening' at Cambridge did not bring anything new about the leader in him. His lengthy walk across the diverse landscape of India was expected to ignite in him



a distinct version of Indianness. But the foreign land he chose to express his views on India was well aware of the fact that the new India under Narendra Modi government handles all global issues concerning humanity better and its voice is heard across the globe with unprecedented adulation. The most embarrassing of all the statements that the Congress leader spelt

out to his audience at Cambridge was his narratives on Jammu and Kashmir. A jubilant Rahul Gandhi told the audience that he was really in trouble thinking about the possible terror attack that could have happened on him while he walked on nature's frozen terrains of the beautiful land of Jammu and Kashmir. He said the terrorists did not kill him

the government's imaginations to bring about peace in the valley could fructify solidly even though the complexity of the situation would take some time to heal with complete resoluteness. Now, the issue he raked up in the foreign land does not hold much political significance. His

for Rahul Gandhi, though he is away from holding any party portfolio, his sense of hopelessness from the days of the Modi rise in Indian politics was visible. Modi's anti-corruption campaign could see many opposition leaders suffocate in uncomfortable situations. Investigation agencies left no stones unturned when it comes to unearthing the sinful past of the parties. This has become a usual affair. Rahul Gandhi's customary despair has gone deeper into his personality engraving much of his political impulse totally turning against Narendra Modi and India. As the results of the state elections in the three key northeastern states were out, the Congress party's prominent leader was out in a foreign land to give sermons against India and its government. He couldn't stay back to chalk out strategies to come out of the pathetic performance of his party. On the other hand, Modi has always ensured his presence to his partymen well before the campaign for the elections began and to the celebration of its victories and to the sworn in ceremonies, the supreme leader of the BJP stayed with his party workers accelerating the momentum of their enthusiasm. He ensures his presence on all

occasions, irrespective of the outcome of the elections.

Rahul Gandhi's vituperation of the present government would pull you through the political hypocrisy of his party. There are various reasons to substantiate the Congress party's duplicity when it comes to its ostentatious lamentations on the fall of democracy in India under the Modi government. The country is well aware of the four generations of the Nehru-Gandhi family that ruled India in various periods. And to pave the way for a dynasty representative as the party president, the same party had thrown Sitaram Kesari, a dalit out of office. Sitaram Kesari was thrashed out of his seat in a bloodless coup by the henchmen of the Gandhi dynasty who cleared barriers for Sonia Gandhi's coronation on March 14, 1998. There can be no period in Indian politics that has brutally buried the idea of freedom of expression. The emergency and its ruthless notoriety had been a catastrophe on the democratic essence of India. Political opposition was silenced and forced to go into exile and institutions were pressed hard to asphyxiate and people suffered terrible anarchy under a dispensation that remained power-hungry

and almost autocratic. Rahul Gandhi's insensitivity was not less than a terrible embarrassment to leaders in the political arena. In 2013, Rahul Gandhi, the then Congress Vice President tore into an ordinance that was brought in by the UPA government led by his party. Political immaturity is not a demerit. But to exhibit it with complete insensitivity is harmful. Imagine, if the opposition fury on the Modi government could successfully carve out a unity of the adversaries, India's pace of development would be thrown into perils and the country would turn out to be a space of political skullduggery and instability. Modi may be a persona non grata for many political parties, but the support he enjoys among the country's electorate is still well grounded. Obviously, that cannot be a reason for defaming the world's largest democracy in a foreign land.

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Sahitya Academi celebrates International Women's Day

Kolkata, (Partha Roy): Sahitya Akademi organized a Nari Chetana Programme with distinguished women personalities from non-literary field namely Aditi Gupta (Singer), Aitrayee Sarkar (Publisher), Anuradha Chowdhury (Theatre Artist) and Dola Banerjee (Archer) who expressed their views on their experiences and challenges in their respective fields on the occasion of International Women's Day on 08 March 2023 in Kolkata. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Eastern



Region, welcomed and introduced the guests and highlighted on the status of women in the society and stressed the need to give them equal opportunities and proper respect. Ms. Aditi Gupta, renowned singer of Rabindra Sangeet spoke on her experiences and said

that it is not possible that men and women would be able to do all work equally due to their different biological structure, but it is completely unfair to discriminate on the basis of gender. She also shared her experiences relating to her teaching and boutique business.

Ms Aitrayee Sarkar, owner of Rit Prakashan, said that she was fortunate that she did not face any discrimination because of being a woman in the family, society or workplace. She further said that it is not impossible to achieve success if you try hard to achieve your

goal. Ms. Anuradha Chowdhury, Theatre actress, presented many examples relating to gender discrimination, she said that women will have to make efforts to become self-reliant in every field. She further advised to maintain physical fitness and emphasized on financial independence of women. Ms. Dola Banerjee, renowned Indian Sports person and archer, recipient of Arjuna Award apart from winning gold in commonwealth games, spoke on her experiences, achievements and various challenges in her field.

GRSE Inks MoU with KEL for Development of Light Weight Bailey Bridges

Kolkata: Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, pioneers in the development of Bailey Type Portable Bridges for disaster management and connecting difficult terrains, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kerala Electrical & Allied Engineering (KEL), a state-owned enterprise of Kerala, for the joint research and development of a lightweight Bailey Bridge with a Carbon Fiber Composite Deck.

The MoU was signed by Cmde PR Hari, IN (Retd.), CMD, GRSE, and Col Shaji M Varghese (Retd.), Managing Director, KEL, in the august presence of Shri P Rajeev, the Minister of Law, Industries & Coir, Kerala, on March 3, 2023. Under the MoU, KEL will also design and develop dry type transformers and alternators as per Navy specifications. Earlier, in August 2022, GRSE became

the only organization in India qualified for the prestigious GREEN CHANNEL CERTIFICATION for the supply of Bailey type Bridges of various spans and configurations to the Indian Army. This initiative of the Government of India aims to facilitate "EASE OF DOING BUSINESS" and promote the national mission of "MAKE IN INDIA" with a special focus on "DEFENCE MANUFACTURING".

TS govt committed to welfare and development of women: Minister Satyavathi Rathod

Hanumakonda,: Stating that the Telangana government is implementing several schemes for the benefit of women in the State, Minister for Tribal, Women and Child Welfare Satyavathi Rathod said that the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) had come down drastically since the BRS came to power. "State government under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao is committed to the welfare and development of women in the State," she said. Addressing the women's day celebrations organised by the State government at the Kakatiya University auditorium on



Wednesday, Minister Satyavathi said that they had been conducting the women's day in a grand manner since 2015 and honouring the achievers. She listed out various welfare schemes being

implemented by the State government including Arogya Lakshmi, KCR Nutrition Kits, KCR Kits, Balamrutham, and other programmes. "Owing to our efforts, the Maternal Mortality

Ratio (MMR) has come down drastically," she said, adding that the government had spent Rs 12 lakh crore for Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak in the State. "This year, we are

felicitating 27 eminent women at this programme," she said. The selected women achievers have been handed over a cheque worth Rs one lakh and appreciation certificate. Meanwhile, she said that two hostel buildings would be constructed with Rs 20 crore for the use of the women on the Kakatiya University (KU) campus by next year. Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao, MLA Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar, KUDA Chairman Sangamreddy Sunder Raj Yadav, Special Secretary Bharati Hollikeri, District Collector Sikta Patnaik and others attended the programme.

"Your thinking towards women should be changed, then it will be right to celebrate International Women's Day." - Chitah Yajnes Shetty



Mumbai: March 8 is an important day for all the women around the world, which is celebrated as 'International Women's Day'. Everyone celebrates this occasion in their own way. President of 'Chitah Jeet Kune Do Global Sports Federation' (CJKD) and famous martial arts expert of Bollywood, Chitah Yajnes Shetty, on the occasion of 'International Women's Day' conducted a self defense program through martial arts for 600

passionate girls students of 'Bunts Sangha's SM Shetty International School', Powai, Mumbai. In which Principal Madam, SM Shetty School teachers and staff supported it. On the same occasion the students who appeared for the CJKD grading exams were honoured with Belts & Certificates. Chitah Yajnes Shetty congratulated everyone on 'International Women's Day' and said, "Just celebrating Women's Day is not going to make a difference in the lives of some women. For that

they have to be able to become self-reliant and everyone should take concrete steps to strengthen them physically & mentally. Everyone should change their thinking towards women, then we will truly have the right to celebrate International Women's Day." By the way, Chitah Yajnes Shetty has trained over 150 film stars and around 10 lakh women in the Nirbhay women empowerment and training program. He has his own identity in the country and abroad.

Manish Sisodia Arrested By Enforcement Directorate Day Before Bail Hearing

New Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party leader Manish Sisodia has been arrested by another central agency a day before his bail hearing in the Delhi liquor policy case comes up in a special court, sources said. The Enforcement Directorate, or ED, arrested the Delhi Deputy Chief Minister after questioning him for two days over alleged money laundering while framing the new liquor policy, which was scrapped after Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena ordered the Central Bureau of Investigation, or CBI, to take a look. The ED arrest makes matters complicated for Mr Sisodia, who has been seeking bail from the CBI court. He will be produced in a court by the ED tomorrow, the same day his bail hearing is likely to come up. Mr Sisodia is being kept in Delhi's Tihar jail under judicial custody after the CBI's custody ended,



following his arrest on February 26. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted the ED action is aimed at keeping his party colleague Mr Sisodia "inside at all cost". "Manish was first arrested by the CBI. The CBI did not find any evidence, no money was found in the raid. There is a bail hearing tomorrow. Manish would have been released tomorrow. So today ED arrested him. They have only one aim - to keep Manish inside at all cost by creating

new fake cases every day. The people are watching. The people will answer," Mr Kejriwal tweeted in Hindi this evening. Mr Sisodia and others face allegations of allowing liquor cartelisation and favouring certain dealers in framing the Delhi liquor policy. The AAP has denied taking bribe from anyone, whether traders or politicians. The BJP has said the AAP would not have withdrawn the liquor policy if it was confident of not having done anything wrong.

DSP Observes International Women's Day

Kolkata: Like previous years, International Women's Day was observed this year at Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP). In fact, it was an eight-day event starting from March and ending on March 8, 2023 on the theme, "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality". This year's observation was aimed at striving to bring digital education to our employees. The week-long observation started with various events from energetic dancing competition &

soulful singing on March 1, 2023 to sketching competition; recitation competition on March 2, 2023; fun-games event for all our ladies with a session on mindfulness on March 3, 2023; pep talk session by a senior medical practitioner for contractual ladies employees on the same day; tree plantation event by all ladies employees at Vasundhara, the eco-park of DSP on March 4, 2023; LEO workshop involving ladies' employees & senior executives for motivating them to grow

in the organisation and finally concluding with the closing ceremony at CHRD on March 8, 2023. The concluding ceremony organized at CHRD on March 8 saw participation of female employees of DSP making grand cultural presentations. Dignitaries present on the occasion were Shri B P Singh, Director In-charge (Burnpur & DSP); Dr. Navita Singh, President, Mahila Samaj (Burnpur & DSP) including other senior



officials and employees of the organisations. Two eminent speakers, Dr Mou Sen, Jt. Director (MSME&T) of WB Govt. and Smt. Papiya Mukhopadhyay from Durgapur Handicapped Happy Home, a special home for specially-abled children, were also invited as guest speakers in the programme. The ceremony started with the lighting of the inaugural lamp by Director In-charge and other senior officials followed by cultural

presentations by female employees of DSP. Thereafter, certificates and mementos were presented to winners of the earlier held competitions. At the end, Director In-charge presented his views on the importance of the observation and stressed on issues relating to women empowerment at workplaces. The guest speakers also addressed the gathering with their motivating life stories during the programme. The programme ended with the vote of thanks.

Speed Up Spending; CS

Bhubaneswar: State Government has urged the Development Oriented Departments to further increase pace of expenditure as it's time for "Delivery". Chief Secretary Pradeep Jena after reviewing the Program Expenditure has found out that the total expenditure as percentage of Budget Provision, which includes Budget Estimate and Supplementary Provisions, is 67 Percent till February, 2023. So far over all Program Expenditure

is concerned sources said that at least 2.7 Percent more Budget Utilization compared to previous year. CS has also stressed on spending of OMBADC funds released to various Departments. OMBADC Funds are utilized in Mineral Bearing Areas and with such funding development process is accelerated, said a senior official. Focus on expenditure by Skill Development & Technical Education, Women & Child Development, Health and Agriculture is needed, so far OMBADC



funding to these sectors are concerned, officials say. CS pointed out that Development Departments are to take steps to further increase the pace of expenditure for revival of the economy and employment generation, pointed out a senior officer. Special emphasis should be given to increase CAPEX and Infrastructure and Social Sectors spending needs to be increased. High impact new Capital projects may also be worked out for funding in medium term.

Utilization in Budget utilization has Agriculture & Allied Sector is 71 Percent compared to 61 Percent previous year. Infrastructure spending is 69 Percent against 48 Percent previous year. Percentage utilization of budget in social sector is 64 Percent compared to 67 Percent previous year. Program expenditure as percentage of Budget Provision (BE + Supplementary) is 58.8 Percent till February, 2023 compared to 57.5 Percent during previous year. Budget utilization has increased by about 1.3 Percent. Increase in expenditure by 25 Percent against 22 Percent increase in budget provision. There is a contraction of 13.57 Percent in Non-Tax Revenue till February 2023 mainly due to mining revenue. Overall there is contraction of 0.69 Percent in own revenue in till February 2023. In spite of negative growth in Own Non-Tax Revenue and Grants from the Central Government by about 9.5 Percent, total revenue has increased by 0.61 Percent.

Group Clash In Odisha's Balasore Ahead Of Ram Navami; Police IIC Among 3 Cops Injured

Balasore: Tension spread across Balasore town following a group clash yesterday night ahead of Ram Navami festival. At least three police personnel were injured in the violence. According to reports, clash between two groups erupted at around 10.30 pm on Tuesday at Golapokhari Chhak situated at 200 metre away from Balasore town police station over tying of flags and Jai Shree Ram slogan ahead of Ram Navami. Sources said that people belonging to a particular community opposed such activities by another group of people at the locality that took uglier turn. On receiving information, Balasore Town Police Station IIC Parsuram Sahoo reached the site and tried to control the situation. While he was taking one person to the police station, was attacked with stones following which he along with two other police personnel was injured in the incident. The group that attacked the police personnel managed to rescue that person from police. When the police force tried to pacify the accused group people, the instigators started pelting stones at the former. After the situation turned violent, the police opened blank fire to disperse the agitators and detained 3-4 persons. IGP (eastern range) Himanshu Kumar Lal, Balasore SP Sagarika Nath and MLA Swarup Kumar Das reached the site to bring the situation under control.

IREDA Promotes Gender Diversity



New Delhi: Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) celebrated International Women's Day today, with a commitment to gender diversity at workplace. The event was organized to recognize the contributions of women in the Renewable Energy sector and to inspire them to break barriers and achieve their potential. The event was graced by Hon'ble Smt. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, Chairperson of Press Council of India, and former Judge of Supreme Court of India, as the Chief Guest. Shri Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director, IREDA, also addressed and expressed his gratitude towards the female employees for

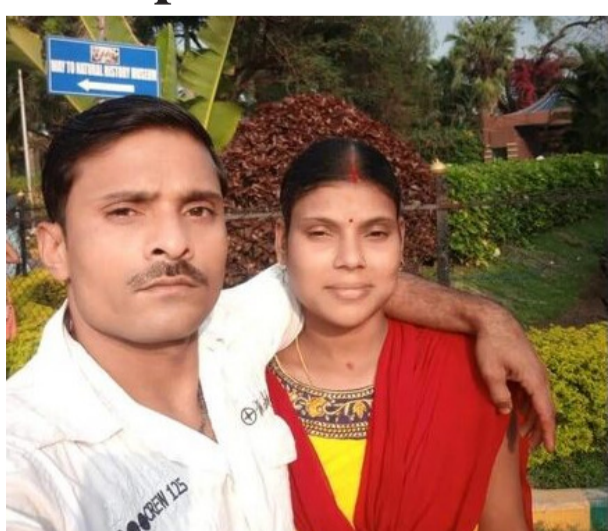
their contribution towards the organization's holistic growth. Extending a warm welcome to Justice Desai, Shri Das noted that this was the first occasion in the history of IREDA for all employees to celebrate International Women's Day. He emphasised the 35-year journey of IREDA, highlighting how in the last three years, the organisation has seen tremendous growth in most of the parameters along with best quality Corporate Governance Standards. CMD, IREDA also emphasised the company's commitment to promoting a more inclusive workplace and encouraged female employees to take up leadership positions in

the organization. He underlined that around 70% of the IREDA's Divisions/ Departments are led by female officers. Speaking at the event, Hon'ble Smt. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai appreciated IREDA for promoting gender diversity and inclusivity in the workplace. She insisted that women who are at home taking care of their families are also successful and achievers. One successful woman can inspire ten other women to succeed. Men should encourage their wives, daughters, and other female family members to follow their aspirations, Justice Desai advised. Dr. Gita Prakash, who has worked with the Indian Army and the United Nations and

began modeling at the age of 57, also interacted with IREDA employees. She pushed people to live disciplined and balanced lives. It is never too late for a new dream, she asserted. "She does not pay attention to people who say she is too old to be a model", Dr. Prakash added when discussing how to deal with negativity. She also appreciated IREDA's various initiatives towards mental and physical health of its human resources. International Women's Day is celebrated globally on 8th of March every year; however, due to Holi, IREDA observed Women's Day today. IREDA also organized a number of recreational activities for its female employees in addition to lectures by eminent personalities.

Odisha Man Hangs Self In Hyderabad After Sharing Bitter Experience On Live-Stream


Balasore: A married man from Odisha ended his life in Hyderabad after sharing his life's bitter experience live on a social media. The deceased person has been identified as Rajkishore Mohanty, a resident of Badamandaruni village under Kamarda police limits in Balasore district. After making the 8.5 minute video viral on social media, the 35-year-old man hung self with a rope inside a rented house in Hyderabad. In the video, the deceased man has hold his wife and mother-in-law responsible for his



death. According to reports, Rajkishore had been staying in Hyderabad with his wife and two sons in a past few years. He took extreme step when his wife was not with him at the house. Some of his

relatives residing near his residence found him hanging inside the room this morning. In the video, the man is seen expressing his thoughts over his failure to maintain good bonding with his parents

as well as younger sibling. He said that he is in deep pain because of erratic behaviour of his wife and mother-in-law. He said that the duo had been constantly blaming him for issues with his wife and two sons at his father's house. He revealed that he had hid many facts from his parents about his life. Despite doing best efforts, he had been ignored by his wife, who also kept their children away from him, when he was ill. He said that he had saved some amount that needs to be utilised by his brother. He addressed his younger brother Bapuni urging him to look after his sons after his death.



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Magik Lighting aims to be market leader in Smart & LED Lighting category in Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Magik, the LED lighting brand promoted by Century Ply and Star Cement, has undertaken an aggressive marketing plan aiming to be the market leader in the Smart and LED lighting category in Odisha by the end of the current financial year.

Magik has a very strong distribution network in Odisha. Presently it is available in more than 1800 retail outlets through 32 distributors in the state. The brand is also approved by Roads & Building department, Government of Odisha for providing lighting solution for both office and outdoor. The company targets to expand its retail and distribution network chain and aims to have 3500 retail outlets and 45 distributors in the State of Odisha within 2022-23.

Magik Lighting is the leading LED lights manufacturer in Eastern India which provides next-gen LED lighting solutions and smart solution ranging from consumer lighting to professional lighting solutions. Magik provides an exclusive collection of products that have an aura. Headquartered in Kolkata, it strives to

understand customers' need and offer solution-based products, which is best in class, consumer-centric. The Company undertakes constant evolution of technology to meet the needs of customers. Along with providing the best technology, focus is also on providing personalized solutions, and ensuring the highest degree of productivity, convenience and efficiency for the customers.

Keeping in line with the vision of 'Make in India' initiative, most of the products are manufactured at their own manufacturing unit, located in West Bengal. It is Eastern India's largest state-of-the-art LED manufacturing unit producing more than 750 wide range of products comprising of indoor, outdoor and smart lighting solutions. The manufacturing unit houses a NABL accredited laboratory, that contains the capability of providing ample, variety testing; thereby the company continues to maintain high-quality product standards. Multiple production lines availability has enabled the factory to simultaneously produce a wide variety of

products. Each production line is geared with highly sophisticated machines that boosted quality and efficiency.

Regarding expanding the market reach in Odisha, Mr. Jay Prakash Mohanty, Senior Vice President and SBU Head - Lighting, Century LED said, "Lighting is a very important thing in everyone's life. With the evolution of technology, the demands of the customers also keep on evolving. We at Magik are constantly in touch with the customers through our distribution channel network to understand their needs and present the most smart, affordable lighting solutions. We aim to be the market leader in Smart and LED lighting solution category in Odisha through our innovative products and strong distribution channels network."

The company has recently roped in Sourav Ganguly as the brand ambassador of Magik to reach out to the audience at large across geographies. Magik is present in all the geographies with more than 17,000+ outlets, along with 315+ channel partners and planning to expand further in 32000 outlets though 500 distributors across India.

Meta Plans Fresh Round Of Layoff In Coming Weeks: Report

New Delhi: Tech billionaire Meta is planning to fire more employees globally in coming week whose numbers could go in thousands, according to the reports. It will be the second in the less than 4 months when tech giant is restructuring its business and cutting its global workforce in order to make profitable. According to the people related to the development, this phase of layoffs could be finalized soon. Last year, Meta had



laid off over 11,000 employees across the world, which accounted for 13% staff globally. The decision followed the

slump in revenue growth and faltering of its shares. While sharing the announcement of layoff, Meta CEO Mark

Zuckerberg wrote, "Okay I'm sharing some of the most difficult changes we've made in Meta's history. I've decided to reduce

the size of our team by about 13% and let more than 11,000 of our talented employees go. We are also taking a number of additional steps to become a leaner and more efficient company by cutting discretionary spending and extending our hiring freeze through Q1." Meta paid 16 weeks of base pay plus two additional weeks for every years of service with no cap. Moreover, the company announced to cover the cost of healthcare for people and their families for six months.

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FC Goa fans excited to see the return of Carlos Pena

Goa : FC Goa's appointment of former club icon Carlos Pena as the head coach heading into the new season seems to have been a shot in the arm for the morale of their fans following a disappointing ISL campaign which saw the Gaurs miss out on the playoffs only for the second time in eight years. Pena takes over the reins at FC Goa just two years after bringing down the curtain on his playing career after spending his last two seasons as a Gaur - both of which brought him silverware at the Club.

In Pena, the FC Goa fans found a leader on and off the pitch - his

presence in the backline bringing a sense of calm to the proceedings. And fans are looking forward to ushering back the good times with his return to their Club.

"It's always an exciting story to hear a former player taking charge of the club and taking it to glory, and here with Pena at the club it's not different. I have heard about his fiery motivational talks in the dressing room and with the players, how he breathes life into dead wood," remarked Ashlesh Ajaonkar.

"As a player he always gave everything and I am sure as coach, the kind of personality he has, he will

put his all in."

Season ticket holder Sameer Shirodkar also is also looking forward to seeing Carlos Peña back in FC Goa colours and believes his leadership will be very crucial to the Club's upcoming season.

"I'm really looking forward to having Peña back at FC Goa, because we all know his presence in the dressing room is going to be very impactful," opined Shirodkar. Gautham, an FC Goa fan from Trivandrum also feels that the positive winds will be back in FC Goa's sails in the coming season with the return of the Spaniard to Goan shores. "I remember the days Carlos Peña hung up his boots.

Axis Bank Q4FY22 and annual results: Reports FY22 PAT of Rs. 13,025 crores, up 98% YOY

Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank announced its Q4FY22 and annual results today, reporting quarterly net profit of Rs. 4,118 crores, up 54% YoY and 14% QoQ, as compared to profit of Rs. 2,677 crores in Q4FY21. The Bank's Net Interest Income (NII) grew 17% YoY to Rs. 8,819 crores in Q4FY22 and Rs. 7,555 crores in Q4FY21. Its Net Interest Margin (NIM) for Q4FY22 stood at 3.49%. CASA deposits grew by 16% YoY and 7% QoQ, whereas CASA ratio stood at 45%. The bank's operating revenue reflects an 18% YoY growth from Rs. 11,096 crores in Q4FY21 to Rs. 13,042 in Q4FY22. As on 31st March 2022, the Bank's reported Gross NPA and Net NPA levels were 2.82% and 0.73% respectively as against 3.17% and 0.91% as on 31st December 2021. The Bank's Fee income grew by 11% YoY and 12% QoQ to Rs. 3,758 crores. Retail fees grew 14% YoY and 14% QoQ; and constituted 66% of the Bank's total fee income. The bank's overall capital adequacy ratio (CAR) stood at 18.54% with CET 1 ratio of 15.24%. The Bank's domestic subsidiaries delivered strong performance with combined FY22 PAT of Rs. 1,195 crores, up 44% YoY, and contributing 80bps to consolidated ROE (annualised) of 16.67%. Amitabh Chaudhry, MD&CEO, Axis Bank said, "We have made steady progress across all dimensions of our business. Considerable work has gone into strengthening our core, building granularity while at the same time ensuring that we are well positioned to grow and leverage the opportunities opening up, hopefully with the pandemic behind us. The Citi deal is one of its kind, and should pivot us into a premium franchise in line with our strategic objectives. With smart products, services, partnerships and talent on our side, we look forward to further building on our performance in the new financial year."

GO FIRST PARTNERS WITH INOX FOR SPECIAL SCREENING OF BOLLYWOOD MOVIE 'RUNWAY 34' FOR EMPLOYEES

Mumbai: Over 4500 employees of GO FIRST (formerly known as GoAir) were in for a gala time today at the special screening of Bollywood movie "Runway 34" at INOX cinemas across 18 cities of India. The movie featuring Amitabh Bachchan, Ajay Devgn and RakulPreet Singh in lead roles was screened as a part of the company's employee engagement program. Ajay Devgn, along with co-actor RakulPreet Singh made a special appearance at INOX Megaplex at Inorbit Mall for the Mumbai screening and delighted employees with their charisma and wit.

The screening was an extension of GO FIRST's commitment

towards the wellbeing of its employees who form the cornerstone of its service excellence. "Runway 34" is a story about Captain Vikrant Khanna, a flying prodigy, played by Ajay Devgn, who was determined to save the lives of 150 people when things went awry 35,000 feet above the sea level. Followed by an official investigation to determine, what and how things unravelled, this edge of the seat thriller tells the story of what happened on that fateful morning inside the cockpit and outside of it, what triggered the incident and what followed thereafter.

Speaking on the development, Kaushik Khona, Chief Executive

Officer, GO FIRST said, "The movie is based on a landmark event in Indian aviation, and we are delighted to have it screened for our employees, over the first weekend, and what better place than INOX cinemas across the country to carry out this innovative employee engagement activity. Our employees are the driving fuel of our business, and their wellbeing is our primary focus. Past two years have been very stressful and with this initiative we want our employees to unwind and relax. We thank Mr. Devgn and Ms. RakulPreet Singh for taking out time to come and meet us; and we wish the movie to be a grand success."

TATA PLAY announces their Binge starter pack starting Rs.49

Bhubaneswar: Tata Play, (formerly known as Tata Sky) has released an amazing new offer with the Binge Starter Pack, which allows users to view a variety of OTT content. The new Binge Starter Pack includes access to four streaming services and can be utilized with the Tata

Play Binge app on any device. Here is everything you need to know about the plan.

The Tata Play Binge Starter pack costs Rs 49 and is valid for 30 days after you recharge. A seven-day free trial is also included. The pack will include up to three mobile devices and four

streaming services - Eros Now, Hungama, ShemarooMe, and Zee5. The plan allows streaming on mobile devices and is only available to Tata Play subscribers. Activate your Tata Play Binge starter pack at just Rs.49 now and start bingeing now!

Union Bank of India goes live on Account Aggregator Ecosystem

Mumbai : Union Bank of India becomes the first public sector Bank to go live on the Account Aggregator Ecosystem for participating in Govt. of India's Digital Initiatives.

The Account Aggregator Ecosystem

helps the Lenders to leverage on Digital data acquired with the consent from the Customers for providing them a seamless journey and eliminating the need of physical documentation.

Financial Information User (FIU) can request for data from the Financial Information User (FIP) based on a simple consent given by the Customer on their Account Aggregator handle.

Union Bank of India

endeavors to work both as FIP and as FIU enabling its Customers to share Data digitally on real time basis. Union Bank has implemented the technology stack as per the Reserve Bank Information

Technology (ReBIT) guidelines.

The Account Aggregator (AA) Ecosystem which went live in September 2021 has seen active participation from Banks/NBFCs in the country.

Border-Gavaskar Trophy: Australia 255/4 at stumps on Day 1

New Delhi: Usman Khawaja combined patience with grit to raise his 14th Test hundred that guided Australia to a comfortable 255 for four as a keen contest between bat and ball marked the opening day of the fourth and final match, here on Thursday.

After dominating the batters in the first three matches of the series, the Indian spinners struggled to trouble the Australians with the Motera track, as anticipated, turning out to be a better wicket.

As a southpaw, neither does Khawaja have the panache of someone like a David Warner nor the brute power of a Matthew Hayden, who was capable of executing slog sweeps fetching deliveries from wide outside the off-stump. His



game maybe pretty low on aesthetics but is highly impactful as he came across as a batter, who wouldn't try anything which is outside his comfort zone. Anything pitched on his legs was punished through the leg-side while the occasional cover drive would come out of the closet, like one off

Jadeja in the final session. Otherwise, it was just playing the ball late and rocking on the back-foot, while whipping Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja through the square-leg or mid-wicket region. It was only fitting that an on-drive off Mohammed Shami (2/65), brought up

what would be one of his most cherished Test hundreds that he celebrated with his now-customary leap in the air. For someone, who faced racism during his early years, with typical Asian stereotype jibes like "Curry Muncher", life did make Khawaja mentally tough and he has

shone through time and again during his second coming — be it Sydney, Karachi, Rawalpindi, Delhi or now in Ahmedabad. It did help that there was no devil on the Motera track and with no significant help on offer, India's spin trio of Ashwin (1/57), Jadeja (1/49) and Axar Patel weren't as effective

compared to first three games.

Save Shami's lethal reverse swing to get Peter Handscombe castled, none of the other dismissals came off wicket-taking deliveries and could be attributed to lapse of concentration on part of batters. It was a track where if one even got deceived in the air, the slowness off the surface ensured that playing on backfoot became second line of defence. Run scoring wasn't easy but surviving and slowly building an innings wasn't difficult either as Khawaja showed. Twice Australia lost back-to-back wickets but prior to that and after that, Khawaja remained a constant factor. He had partnerships of 61 for the opening stand with Travis Head (32), 79 for the third wicket Steve Smith (38) and another 103

for the fifth wicket with Green, who counter-punched towards the end of the day. The run-rate of 2.83 would show that scoring wasn't very easy, save the first hour when Head hit Umesh Yadav for a flurry of boundaries. There is nothing in the track and Australia, if they apply themselves well, could post their best total of the series.

Head, in fact, must be feeling horrible as he undid all his good work in the first hour by playing an indiscreet shot. He tried to chip Ashwin over mid-on without reaching to the pitch of the delivery. Ashwin had just altered the length slightly and deceived Head, who offered the easiest of catches to one of the world's best fielders, Jadeja. Head got a reprieve while batting on

seven when wicketkeeper KS Bharath dropped a regulation catch off Umesh Yadav's bowling. Yadav, who usually invites criticism for his inconsistency, was once again erratic as he gave a lot of boundary balls. Out of the seven boundaries that Head got, half a dozen came from Yadav's overs.

The end from which Shami bowled, a lot of deliveries kept low and one such ball brought about the downfall of Marnus Labuschagne. It was an off-cutter and Labuschagne wanted to play the square cut but dragged it back onto the stumps. But then Khawaja took over and made sure Australia had their best opening day of the series.

ICC Men's Test Bowling Rankings: R Ashwin, James Anderson Tie For Numero Uno Position

New Delhi: The race to be named the top Test bowler in the world remains fiercely contested, with the latest update to the ICC Men's Test Bowling Rankings revealing a tie at the top between England's James Anderson, India's Ravichandran Ashwin, and Australia's Pat Cummins. Anderson has caught up with Ashwin, both now on 859 rating points, while Cummins' rating has dropped to 849 points, but he remains within striking distance of the top two. South Africa's Kagiso Rabada has moved up three spots to fourth place after claiming eight wickets in the Proteas' victory over the West Indies in the first Test at Centurion. Australia's Nathan Lyon is another standout



POS	PLAYER	TEAM
1	Ravichandran Ashwin	IND
2	James Anderson	ENG
3	Pat Cummins	AUS
4	Kagiso Rabada	SA
5	Shaheen Afridi	PAK
6	Jasprit Bumrah	IND
7	Olly Robinson	ENG
8	Ravindra Jadeja	IND
9	Nathan Lyon	AUS
10	Kyle Jamieson	NZ



mover within the top 10, climbing five places to ninth overall, following his 11-wicket haul in the third Test against India. Among Test batters, Australia's Usman Khawaja has moved up two places to ninth, with South Africa's Aiden Markram (up 21 spots to 33rd) and West Indies'

Jermaine Blackwood (up 12 spots to 35th) also making significant progress after impressive performances in the first Test. In the latest ODI Player Rankings, England's Jason Roy has improved his position by five places to 12th on the list for batters, while skipper Jos Buttler (up

four spots to 16th) and Dawid Malan (up 22 spots to 35th) also catch the eye. Bangladesh's veteran all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has been in exceptional form, earning the Player of the Match award in the third and final game of the series against England. Shakib's

performance has seen him improve in all ODI ranking categories, rising five places to 27th among batters and two spots to fifth for bowlers. He already holds the No.1 ranking for ODI all-rounders. These updates to the ICC rankings reflect the ongoing high-stakes battles across international cricket, with players and teams striving for success at the highest levels of the game. As the race for the top Test bowler continues, fans will be eagerly watching to see who will emerge victorious, while in the ODI rankings, players will be hoping to build on their recent performances to climb the ranks and establish themselves among the world's best.

Gujarat Giants rope in Wolvaardt as Mooney's replacement

New Delhi: Gujarat Giants have roped in Laura Wolvaardt as replacement for their injured captain Beth Mooney. The South African opener was in Pakistan to take part in the two-team exhibition matches of Women's League and scored a match-winning 36-ball 53 in the opener on Wednesday for Super Women. Cricbuzz understands Wolvaardt, who has already been released by Super Women, is still over in Rawalpindi but is expected to link up with the Giants squad ahead for their next game against Delhi Capitals on Saturday (March 11). Mooney, who was roped in by Giants for INR 2 crore at the player auction and later named captain, seemed to have suffered an injury to her ankle in the tournament opener



against Mumbai Indians in the opening over of their 208-run chase. The Australia wicketkeeper-batter was helped off the field immediately and has missed the subsequent two games - against UP Warriorz that they lost in a last-over thriller and today's clash against RCB. She is now understood to have a hamstring complaint as well that ended her season prematurely. Giants' designated vice-captain Sneha Rana has been leading in the Australian wicketkeeper's absence, while Sushma Verma has since been

drafted into the XI to take over the gloves. Meanwhile, Wolvaardt, who registered at a base price of INR 30 Lakh, went unsold at the WPL player auction last month. The in-form South African opener scored three successive fifties in the recently-concluded home T20 World Cup, including a match-winning 53 to knock England out in the semifinal and 61 in the final, that the hosts lost to Australia. Wolvaardt's team, Super Women, have signed her South Africa captain Sune Luus as replacement.

Jasprit Bumrah's Injury as India Pacer Undergoes Back Surgery, Rehabilitation To Start In August

New Delhi: Jasprit Bumrah, India's lead fast bowler, has undergone back surgery in New Zealand as he races against time to recover in time for the ICC Cricket World Cup, scheduled to be held in India from October to November this year. According to ESPN Cricinfo, Bumrah had the surgery on Monday, and he is expected to stay in New Zealand until the end of March. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has designed a roadmap for his

recovery, and his rehabilitation will begin in August, with a gradual increase in his workload to ensure his fitness for the tournament. Bumrah has not played any competitive cricket since September of last year, when he withdrew from the white-ball series against South Africa due to a stress reaction in his lower back. He attempted to return to action in January during the white-ball home series against Sri Lanka, but his back issues resurfaced. As a



result, he has been ruled out of the 2023 edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) and the final of the ICC Championship starting from June 7, for which India will qualify if they win the final Test against Australia, which begins on March 9. The BCCI medical staff at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru had been treating Bumrah's case urgently and had suggested the pacer undergo surgery. The decision to undergo

surgery was made by the BCCI in collaboration with Bumrah and NCA. Bumrah's injury initially did not appear serious, and he was named in India's T20 World Cup squad in September. However, he did not play in the first T20I against South Africa, and scans revealed a stress-related injury in his back. He was ruled out of the T20 World Cup and underwent rehab from November, with a return to bowling in mid-December. However, his progress

was halted when a fresh niggle was detected during fitness drills in January, which ruled him out of subsequent series. Indian team management and skipper Rohit Sharma have emphasized the importance of Bumrah returning to the side only after gaining full fitness, warning against rushing the pacer back into the team. Despite the setback, India will look to move forward with their plans to win the final Test against Australia and qualify for the ICC World Test Championship final.