

Samal New BJP President

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Eying the very crucial 2024 General and Assembly polls, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed former Minister and an able Organiser Manmohan Samal as Odisha BJP President.

BJP National President JP Nadda has appointed Shri Samal as the State BJP Chief.

The BJP has first appointed senior leader and ace organiser Sunil Bansal as in-charge of the State unit. Then, senior MLA Jayanarayan Mishra has been appointed as

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, who is a strong critic of Naveen Patnaik Government.

Now, the appointment of Shri Samal indicates that the BJP is preparing to give a strong fight to the BJD Government in the next election under this team.

Shri Samal thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, J P Nadda, Amit Shah and other central leadership for reposing faith in him and giving him this crucial responsibility.

"Fed up with the BJD Government, the people of Odisha are

waiting for an alternative Government. We will all work hard with a collective effort, collective leadership and collective decision to fulfil the desire of the people," Shri Samal said.

The next election will be fought by the people and bring the BJP Government to power, he said.

"During my tenure as State BJP President, BJP came to power with a coalition with BJD. But this time, BJP alone will form the Government in the State," he claimed.

As the three-year tenure of present



Odisha BJP President Samir Mohanty has been completed, the party has appointed a new President, said party MLA Nauri Naik.

"Keeping the 2024

General Assembly election in view, Shri Samal has been appointed in the post. It will definitely help to strengthen the party," Shri Naik told reporters.

"He has already served as State President and Minister. He has vast experience and organisational skill, which he proved in the Dhamnagar by-poll. I believe that we will give a strong and united fight in the next election under his leadership," said another BJP leader and MLA Deogarh Subash Panigrahi.

Shri Samal, a senior leader from coastal district Bhadrak, has played a vital role in the party's victory in the by-poll to D h a m n a g a r Assembly seat held

in November last year.

The BJP leader is seen as a consensus-builder within the party. A leader who can carry all senior and younger leaders together. He proved it in the Dhamnagar bye-election.

Apart from utilising his organisational skills, the party will also hope to win Bhadrak LS seat in the next election. BJP won Balasore and Mayurbhanj MP seats in 2019.

Now with a President from Coastal Bhadrak district, the party

must be hoping to bolster BJP further in the entire northern region and adjacent districts of Bhadrak. Manmohan was elected to Odisha Legislative Assembly in 2004.

He was the Minister for Revenue & Disaster Management and Food, Supplies, and Consumer Welfare during the BJP-BJD coalition government (2004-2008). He was also appointed as Member and Chairman of various committees of Odisha Legislative Assembly.

Rahul Gandhi Gets 2 Years Jail In 'Modi Surname' Case, 30 Days To Appeal

New Delhi/Surat: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was found guilty and sentenced to two years in prison on Thursday in a 2019 criminal defamation case over his remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's surname by a court in Gujarat's Surat. However, he was granted bail and his sentence was suspended for 30 days to let him appeal the decision.



after the verdict, Mr Gandhi quoted Mahatma Gandhi, tweeting in Hindi, "My religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God, non-violence the means to get it."

His sister and Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra tweeted, "Scared rulers are pulling out all stops to suppress the voice of @RahulGandhi ji. My brother has never been afraid, nor will he ever be. He will continue to speak the truth. Will continue to raise the voice of the people of the country. The power of truth and the love of

crores of countrymen are with him."

Mr Gandhi arrived in Surat earlier in the day for the verdict and was received by top leaders of the Congress's Gujarat unit. He returned to Delhi in the evening.

Supporters and members of the party turned out at various spots in Surat as a show of strength and support for Mr Gandhi, with posters extolling him as 'Sher-e-Hindustan' (Lion of India) and placards declaring that the "Congress will not bow before the dictatorship of the BJP" on display.

Live Pangolin Seized, Two Persons Arrested In Odisha's Boudh

Boudh: A team of Special Task Force along with forest personnel arrested two persons for allegedly trading wildlife products and seized two live pangolin from their possession in Boudh district of Odisha on Wednesday evening. The accused, identified as Ucehab Kanhar and Prasant Kumar Behera of Baghiapada in the district, were nabbed near Boudh bypass road after the STF team along with forest officials raided the area after getting reliable tip-off about the wildlife trade. During search, two live pangolin weighing 13kg and 10kg respectively along with other incriminating materials were recovered from their possession and the duo arrested after they could not produce any authority in support of possession of the endangered species. They were booked under Sections 379/411/120(B) of the IPC and Section 51 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and will be produced in court. The live pangolin, official sources said, have been handed over to DFO Boudh for safe custody. Investigation is underway, they said.

Mamata Thanks Naveen

Bhubaneswar(KCN): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has all praise for her Odisha counterpart Naveen Patnaik for the gesture and hospitality provided by the Odisha Government during her three-day stay in Odisha. Mamata, who was in Odisha on a three-day trip, met Shri Patnaik here at Naveen Niwas before leaving for Kolkata.



"It is a good gesture from Naveenji, who gave me all the protocol, affection. The officers are very good and everything was so good. From arrival to staying and meeting, everything was so good in the blessings of Jay Jagannath," Mamata said while briefing Media persons here after the meeting. She has invited Naveen to West Bengal also. "We both are neighbouring states. Whenever there is a cyclone in Odisha, it also impacts West Bengal. Whenever there is a power cut due to cyclone in Odisha, the same is there in our state

also, that is the situation," she said. Remembering her meeting with legendary leader and CM's father Biju Patnaik, Mamata said, "I have visited Naveen Niwas thrice. The last one was during the Eastern Zonal Council meeting held under the chairmanship of Union Minister Home Affairs, Amit Shah. We have maintained a very very good relationship and it is a golden legacy." Shri Patnaik said, "Today's meeting was a courtesy call and there was a nice informal

discussion. There was no in-depth discussion on serious political matters. The federal structure in India should remain permanent and strong." "We have discussed about the democratic rights and the nation's safety. Let's hope that our people should be safe and sound. As Naveenji said, our federal structure should be very strong and strengthened. I appreciate and strongly support this," Mamata said. Asked about any discussion on formation of a possible third front for the next election, she

replied, "Why are you in a hurry for the election. Still one year left for the election." The West Bengal CM thanked Odisha CM for handing over 2 acres of land in Puri for construction of Biswa Bengal Bhawan for accommodation of tourists from West Bengal. Mamata also requested Shri Patnaik for development of an industrial corridor between the two states for smooth transportation of iron ore from Odisha for West Bengal industries.

KIMS Super Speciality offering Advanced Treatment on TB including Spine TB

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Spinal Tuberculosis (TB) constitutes a significant portion of overall TB cases in India. While the goal is eradication of the disease by 2025, KIMS Bhubaneswar has stepped up efforts to realize this objective with advanced care. "We at KIMS Super Speciality Hospital are dealing with all types of spine surgery cases like spinal degenerative, deformities, tumours and spinal infections. Any patient coming with spinal disorders is welcome as we are a leading hospital in the entire state," said Senior Consultant and

Orthopaedic and Spine Surgeon Dr Jitendra Kumar Rout on the occasion of World TB Day. Dr Rout, who is also the secretary of Spine Society of Odisha, has performed numerous spine surgeries at KIMS Super Specialty Hospital, and is trained in advanced spine surgery from many reputed centres of India and abroad. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 2.20 lakh people in India alone died of the disease in 2020. An air borne disease, the Mycobacterium tuberculosis, (a bacteria)



affects almost all organs in the human body and targets immune-

compromised and malnourished individuals. The NTEP

(National Tuberculosis Eradication Programme) has already set a target to

eliminate the disease by 2025. Dr Rout, a fellow in spine surgery from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital New Delhi, reminded of the vision of the Founder of KIIT-KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta, saying KIMS Super Speciality unit has made it possible to treat many rare and unique procedures in spine in Odisha. He said awareness on Spine TB is a must for all in the society. Spinal tuberculosis, also known as Pott's Disease, is one of the common types of TB affecting the bones. It is diagnosed with skin or blood tests, tissue culture and

imaging. Spinal TB comes with symptoms like fever, stiffness, back pain and muscle spasms. Spinal TB can cause neurological deficits, nerve root pain, and paralysis (neither leg can move). The treatment includes anti TB therapy (ATT) medication and, sometimes surgery to treat spine damage. However, advancement in this field has helped patients immensely. With the improvement of diagnostic technology and the application of surgical technique by trained spine surgeons spinal TB treatment has improved significantly. KIMS Super Speciality

Hospital has got all the state-of-art instruments to deal with all complex spinal TB cases. "Recently, the development of multidrug-resistant TB, frequency of infection in immune-deficient individuals, more accurate imaging modalities, and advances in spinal reconstruction techniques have all changed the management of Pott's Disease," Dr Rout said. He is trained from Malaya University, Malaysia and is an Executive Committee member of Association of Spine Surgeons of India.

Odissi Guru Monalisa Ghosh's Kalajyoti celebrates it's Kalajyoti Mahotsav with a cultural extravaganza from 24th to 26th of March

New Delhi: Odissi Guru and founder of Kalajyoti Ms Monalisa Ghosh said : "Kalajyoti, a leading Gurukul of Odissi Dance in Rajpur, South 24 parganas celebrates the grand finale of Kalajyoti Mahotsav. In collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Govt of India. On the 24th, 25th and 26th of March 2023.

With sincere effort of the team members helping me with their tireless efforts, Kalajyoti made an unique contribution to the cultural world .By building an auditorium of their own in this area. So that the taste of high quality Indian traditional performances are easily

accessible to eager audience of this area and Kolkata."

Kalajyoti was established as a Mission on 7th January 2000 in the South 24 Parganas, at Rajpur.

Envisioned by the Internationally famed Odissi exponent, Choreographer and Guru Smt Monalisa Ghosh. Supplemented by the joint efforts of a small group of like minded individuals . Stalwarts from the field of Bussiness world, Classical Vocal, Architect and famed professionals .

In spite of their busy schedule, stalwarts, who dedicate their leisure in preserving this vision .

A small plot of land

was acquired in the outskirts of Kolkata.

With a dream to fill the minds of the youngsters with wholesome cultural and literary engagements and to unite harmoniously in a world of so many differences.

Kalajyoti is a Gurukul for Indian Classical and Traditional Performing Arts .

Far From The Madding Crowd, at Rajpur , Charaktala, surrounded by greenery – A semi urban area – Kalajyoti forms the perfect ambience for a meditative Indian Classical Dance and performing Arts training centre where art and culture is rejuvenated, preserved and spread



among eager and talented students ,and also for those who are deprived of acquiring authentic training due to financial challenge, and lack of opportunity, at this small corner!

Kalajyoti harmonizes the value based education of the ancient Gurukul system with the modern technique to suit the contemporary world, hence it is unique in it's category!

Odissi Guru Ms Monalisa Ghosh is a Performer, Guru and Choreographer, and Director, Kalajyoti

Her Contributions have been varied and all encompassing . As a performer , choreographer, Guru , Social Activist and Preacher of Indian Spirituality and traditional values since 1983.

Ms Monalisa Ghosh is an eminent Indian classical dancer and a leading exponent of Odissi Dance groomed under Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra and Smt. Sanjukta Panigrahi. Involved since a child.

She has Performed in USA, UK,

Scandanavia, Europe, Middle East, Bangladesh, Tajikistan - where her dance has been widely acclaimed for classicism, lyricism and spiritual expression. Monalisa has performed all over India sharing stage with leading maestros, in prestigious dance festivals and conferences since 1983.

Ms Monalisa Ghosh also contributes to society as a Social Activist

Ms Monalisa's lecture – demonstrations abroad – widely educated the western audience on the Meditaitonal, philosophical, spiritual, aesthetical and therapeutic value of our

Indian classical dance and specially - in daily life.

Her research and findings on classical dance as a therapy has been published in Stuttgarter Zeitung, the German daily .She had conceptualized and conducted along with Mr. Aloj Hoffinger, Director, Jugend Still Theater, Vienna, in collaboration with the catholic church , a four days seminar emphasizing the need of performing art in enlightening the life of the handicapped, finding various methods of amalgamating these art forms in simple manner into daily life.

Dharmendra Pradhan Seeks Centre's Intervention In Elephant-Human Conflict In Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has written to Union Forest Minister Bhupender Yadav seeking the intervention of the Central Government in the elephant-human conflict in Odisha.

Pradhan urged Yadav to take immediate action in addressing the issue.

"I am writing to you with deep concern about the escalating number of elephant deaths, and straining elephant-human conflict in the state of Odisha. Over the past decade, Odisha has

witnessed the loss of 784 elephants, with 245 of these deaths occurring in the last three years alone. The month of March this year has been particularly devastating, with seven elephant deaths being reported-the highest in the past three years. Sadly, most of the deaths are due to poaching, electrocution or train/ road accidents," Pradhan mentioned in the letter

"Recently, it was also noted in the State Legislative Assembly that a total 2776 wild animals have been killed

in the past 5 years (2017-18 to 2021-22) in Odisha, including 416 elephants. It is also worth mentioning that 669 people and 741 domestic animals died, and 9151 houses were damaged due to elephant attacks," he said in the letter.

"Elephant conservation is of paramount importance to Odisha, as these majestic animals are an integral part of our ecological balance, cultural heritage, and the state's identity. The well-being of these creatures is essential for maintaining the health of

our forests and the livelihood of local communities that rely on them," he said.

"Considering the critical situation in Odisha, we believe that the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change's intervention is vital. I request you to take immediate action in addressing this pressing issue to ensure the harmonious coexistence of humans and elephants in Odisha. I look forward to your prompt intervention in this matter," he urged.

Hockey India Gets Best Organiser Award For FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023

New Delhi: Hockey India today was awarded with the Best Organiser Award by the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) for their exemplary execution of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela as the host nation. The award was received by Hockey India Secretary General Bhola Nath Singh during the AHF Congress held in Mungyeong, Korea.

The prestigious quadrennial event featuring 16 teams from across the globe was held in two world-class venues in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. While the Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar had previously hosted the FIH Hockey Men's

World Cup 2018, the newly-constructed Birsamunda Hockey Stadium in Rourkela caught the imagination of the

hockey fraternity for being the largest seated hockey stadium in the world. The Birsamunda Hockey Stadium also features an Olympic-style Hockey Village which housed the participating teams, giving them a similar experience as the Games Village at multi-discipline sporting

events such as Olympic Games or the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.

Apart from impeccable organization of the on field action with global standards being met in ensuring best facilities were provided for athletes, the host nation along with the unparalleled support of Odisha State Government hosted numerous fan-engaging events that included a star-studded opening

ceremony with performances by Bollywood super stars Ranveer Singh, Disha Patani and international acclaimed K-Pop band Blackswan making the hockey festivities all the more memorable for global hockey fans visiting Odisha.

The tournament mascot Olly was highlighted with Olly's Land, a fan zone created within the two-stadium premises became a mega attraction for thousands of spectators who flocked the stadium to watch top-class hockey and also created awareness about the Olive Ridley Turtles. "We are very humbled and grateful for this incredible recognition by the Asian Hockey Federation.



Social organization helps & hand to needy peoples

Cuttack Sadar(KCN) : Cuttack Sadar Kishorenagar based social organization Bipadara Bandhu Seva Sangathan(BBSS) has donated food, clothes and financial support to needy cancer patients. In this great seva work was done in presence and active cooperation of respected president Bhairab Sethi, srectetary Sudhakar



Das, Ajay Pattank, Kangali Charan Behera, Khitendra Mitra, Kailash Das, Umesh Padhi, Jyoti Prakash Mohanty, Prafulla Patra, Jbbar Alli, Alok Mandal, Sudhi Ranjan Sethi, Jayanti Patra, Bulu Mohanty, Swami Adaitya Nanda Ji and all team. This type of great social work society paid high praise to the entire team.

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Pathaan Deleted Scenes Starring Shah Rukh Khan In OTT Version Leaves Fans Spellbound, Netizens Ask Why Did Makers Remove It?

The massive Bollywood hit Pathaan, featuring Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone and John Abraham streamed on Prime Videos recently to an overwhelming response. After flooring the audiences worldwide with its theatrical release, Pathaan once again managed to tick the right boxes as some of the deleted scenes from the original were intact in the OTT version of the film. SRK fans reacted strongly to the deleted scenes from Pathaan asking why were they removed in the first place. Some of these scenes include Shah Rukh's character being tortured by the Russians and his entry scene to the JOCR office. Another one is where Deepika's character is being interrogated. Fan were disappointed that these scenes didn't make it to the theatrical version. Check out some of the deleted reactions of fans after watching Pathaan on OTT: The action thriller film has been directed by Siddharth Anand and written by Shridhar Raghavan and Abbas



Tyrewala, from a story by Anand. The fourth instalment in the YRF Spy Universe, it stars Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone, John Abraham, Dimple Kapadia, and Ashutosh Rana. On the work front, SRK will next be seen in Atlee's 'Jawan' where besides Nayanthara Bollywood superstar Sanjay Dutt has also come aboard. Shah Rukh also has Rajkumar Hirani's Dunki with Taapsee Pannu in the pipeline. Besides these, SRK will make a cameo in Salman Khan's Tiger 3.

Lord Ram In Adipurush Most Challenging Voice Role For Me: Sharad Kelkar

Voice acting is a responsible job and for actor Sharad Kelkar his performance behind the screen as Lord Ram in the Hindi language dub of 'Adipurush', the multilingual period saga, is the "most challenging" role till date. In the project, Kelkar lends his voice to Telugu star Prabhas, for whom he previously dubbed the superhit 'Baahubali' franchise. One false note of the voice actor can destroy all the work the actor on screen has put in, added Kelkar, who will next voice for actor Nani's Telugu movie "Dasara". "Voice acting is a responsible job because you are lending your voice to someone else who has performed with all his heart out. Your one mistake can ruin his performance. So, I am responsible (for lending my voice) whether it is for Lord Ram or for Nani's character. Lord Ram is the most



challenging one. It is a matter of pride for me also to give voice for 'Adipurush'," Kelkar told PTL in an interview. 'Adipurush' is directed by Om Raut of 'Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior' fame and produced by Bhushan Kumar-led T-Series. It is set to release in June. Best known for his performance in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 'Ram Leela', web series 'The Family Man', and 'Tanhaji', Kelkar said there have been times when he felt pigeonholed due to his baritone. "As an actor, it is a

disadvantage for me because it is difficult for people to imagine me in different roles. They tend to offer me similar kinds of roles because I have a certain personality and voice, which they think can go well with a particular range of characters, like a cop or a villain. "I try to do different kinds of stuff. I am trying to prove again and again that I have a good voice but my strength is my acting. It (voice) is an added advantage and I don't take credit for that voice as such," he said. His latest release is heist

Shilpa Shetty Returns To Kannada Cinema, Joins Cast Of KD The Devil As Satyavati



Actress Shilpa Shetty Kundra is all set to make a comeback in Kannada films after almost 18 years with the upcoming film 'KD- The Devil'. Shilpa took to Instagram to announce the news on Ugadi. Shilpa, who was born in Karnataka, wrote: "On this auspicious day of new beginnings, I'm thrilled to share with you a new character entering the war in KD's battlefield as Satyavati." The actress made her acting debut with Shah Rukh Khan-starrer 'Baazigar' in 1993. 'KD', directed by Prem of 'Kariya' fame, is yet another gangster film in Kannada. The period action film is said to be based on the events that took place in Bengaluru in the 1970s. It also stars Dhruva Sarja, V Ravichandran and Sanjay Dutt in pivotal roles. Meanwhile, on the Bollywood front, Shilpa has 'Indian Police Force', an upcoming Hindi language cop action drama streaming series. The series is created and directed by Rohit Shetty. It also stars Sidharth Malhotra and Vivek Oberoi in the lead. The series is set in Shetty's fictional Cop Universe.

How Nushratt Bharuccha got her emotions right while filming toughest scenes in Chhorii

Nushratt Bharuccha delivered one of the toughest roles of her career in Chhorii this year. The horror film had the actress playing the role of a pregnant woman who's trying to save her yet-to-be-born child from the evil. The director of the film Vishal Furia says that there were a few heavy scenes that took a lot away from Nushratt. He says, "This particular film has emotions and drama and there comes a time where actors get stuck. How much can one do? There were definitely instances where sometimes Nushratt could not get what I wanted. She just could not understand." Sharing an example of one such scene, Vishal elaborates, "There was a moment as the end of the shoot. We were shooting a lot of breakdown moments, in the last schedule of the film. These were in plenty and Nushratt was just exhausted shooting these scenes. She could not get the right degree of emotions. It is then I used a trick. I went and whispered something into her ears and then she just took over. The reaction that came out was outstanding in the form of that scene and her performance." In an earlier chat with BT, Vishal had opened up about the hardwork that Nushratt had put in for this film. He had said, "Nushratt did her thorough research as she was playing a pregnant woman. So, motherhood was an emotion that she studied as it is an emotion she hasn't experienced. Before the shoot began, she would practice with a fake baby bump to get used to the extra weight. It helped her understand the body language of a pregnant woman."



Sara Ali Khan says she wants Vicky Kaushal, Ranveer Singh and Varun Dhawan at her swayamvar, Karan Johar says, 'their wives are watching'

Sara Ali Khan recently graced Karan Johar's celebrity chat show along with her 'Atrangi Re' co-star Dhanush. The young actress was seen answering some fun questions on the show. In one of the segments, Sara was asked to name four actors who she would want at her swayamvar. Without any hesitation, the actress took names of Ranveer Singh, Vijay Deverakonda, Vicky Kaushal and Varun Dhawan. Ranveer is married to Deepika Padukone, Varun tied the knot with Natasha Dalal earlier this year and Vicky recently got hitched to Katrina Kaif. Reacting to her answers, Karan warned her by saying their wives are watching. To which Sara quickly added, 'And hopefully their husbands are too.' While Sara has worked with Ranveer in Rohit Shetty's 'Simmba' and with Varun in David Dhawan's 'Coolie No 1', she is collaborating with Vicky in her next with Laxman Utekar.

An outstanding inspiration speech by artist and poet Soma Bhowmik



Prof. Manoshi Roy Chowdhury (a Co-chairperson & mental health initiative of Techno India Group, Founder) organized a Happiness Fair on 21st of March, 2023 at the Techno India University Main campus (EM-4, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata, WB, India). Ms. Soma Bhowmik, acclaimed artist and poet was invited as a guest of honour to inaugurate the Happiness Fair, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and served as a speaker of the panel discussion on the topic *On Resilience: Overcoming challenges in Life*. She also served as a judge of the sit-and-draw competition held on the fair. Legendary magician, Dr. P. C. Sorcar and other famous dignitaries graced the occasion with their erudite lectures. But the most outstanding speech was delivered by Ms. Sona Bhowmik at this occasion. She said, "Resilience was defined by most as the ability to recover from setbacks, adapt well to change, and keep going in the face of adversity. Resilience can help protect you from various mental health conditions, such as depression and anxiety.....7 skills

required: competence, confidence, connection, character, contribution, coping and control."

In her monumental speech, Ms Soma Bhowmik explained her to do list as:

1. Trying to take a positive perspective on situations.



2. Viewing challenges as learning opportunities.

3. Regulating emotions and expressing feelings in appropriate ways.

4. Focusing on the things you can control instead of dwelling on what you cannot change.

5. Recognizing that cognitive distortions are false.

She emphasized, "When you want to find a way to take a break from distressing thoughts, drawing offers a way to focus your attention on something calming.....Sketching, doodling, or coloring provides a way to ground yourself and

get some peace from racing thoughts. When you become immersed in your creation, your brain gets recharged from the focus.It can actually help to reduce stress and improve your ability to deal with things that are going on around you Many

Saikat Kumar Basu

added, "..... this helps us to communicate in a different, personal language. This is a great benefit for all people and mainly for those who have conditions with a lack of communication or problems expressing

brains."

There is increasing evidence in rehabilitation medicine and the field of neuroscience that art enhances brain function by impacting brain wave patterns, emotions, and the nervous system. Art can also raise serotonin levels. These benefits don't just come from making art, they also occur by experiencing art. Mrs Soma Bhowmik explained the numerous impacts of different colours. She suggested, ".....Red is used to stimulate the body and mind and to increase circulation. Yellow is thought to stimulate the nerves and purify the body. Orange is used to heal the lungs and to increase energy levels. Green is for better focus and concentration. Low wavelength colors promote restfulness and calm, and they improve efficiency and focus. So that's why green is an excellent color for improving concentration. Apart from being one of the easiest colors on the eyes, it reminds us of nature."

Warm colors like red, yellow and orange evoke higher arousal emotions, such as love, passion, happiness, and anger. Cool colors, like blue, green and purple are linked to calmness, sadness and indifference. Colors

can trigger these arousal states and emotions. Studies have shown that blue and green can create a calming atmosphere; orange and yellow can stimulate appetite; red and pink can inspire passion and energy; while purple can boost creativity and productivity. RED helps learners remember facts and figures. Blue – A highly peaceful color, blue can be especially helpful for stress management because it can encourage a powerful sense of calm. Purple – In many cultures, shades of violet represent strength, wisdom and peace. Purple can invoke a tranquil feeling that helps reduce stress. Blue is perhaps the best color for your bedroom. Not only is it more muted, but blue tones also tend to have more calming effects on the brain. "Gray" was the most frequent color indicated for sadness, followed by "indigo" and then "black" The intensities for all three colors were moderate. Orange. This promotes better focus, concentration, and creativity. It



encourages you to keep the room organised as well, so you're motivated to study or work anytime. Be careful when choosing the brightness, though. Doodles fill these gaps, possibly by activating the brain's "time travel machine," allowing it to find lost puzzle pieces of memories, bringing them to the present, and making the picture of our lives more whole again. She further added, "Psychologist Jackie Andrade ran a study in which she found that people who doodled while listening to boring information remembered about 29% more than those

who didn't doodle. That's a big difference from just a pen and paper! Doodling is more than just a way to stop yourself from daydreaming and keeping your brain from falling asleep. The act of drawing is creative in itself and can help you come up with ideas to solve whatever problems you might be stuck on. It's a vast and never ending topic research is still going on." The packed auditorium burst into applause through her session indicating the appreciation of our erudite lecture at the event.

Kolkata, West Bengal India



Letter To Editor

Sir, Save Horseshoe crabs

Horseshoe crabs appear to be disappearing from their familiar spawning grounds along the coastline of Odisha, Tamil Nadu Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. Horseshoe crabs are an extremely ancient group and are often referred to as living fossils. Scientists have also urged the governments to come up with a robust protection mechanism before the living fossil becomes extinct due to destructive fishing practices. Despite their name, these animals are not crabs at all but are related to scorpions, spiders, and extinct trilobites. According to the IUCN, all four surviving species of horseshoe crabs are at risk because of overfishing for use as food and bait, habitat loss and the production of biomedical products derived from their blood. Horseshoe crab blood is crucial in the preparation of rapid diagnostic reagents. All injectable medicines are tested on them. A molecule has been developed from a reagent of horseshoe crabs to help treat pre-eclampsia. Poachers kill them for their meat which is popularly believed to have aphrodisiac qualities. Therefore it's high time to rescue these species imperatively from culprits.

Vijay Kumar H K Environmentalist Raichur, Karnataka

World Forest Day-A Raging BATTLE



Utpal Chatterjee

World Forest Days come and go but few, if any at all, are really bothered about the fast depleting green cover and the loss of its inhabitants. Sans doubt, this has caused a huge negative impact on climate change. Forests cover about 30% of the planet but deforestation is clearing these essential habitats on a massive scale. According to several estimates, the world's rain forests could completely vanish in a 100 years. The biggest driver of

deforestation is, of course, agriculture. Farmers cut forests to provide more room for planting crops or grazing livestock. Often, small farmers will clear a few acres by cutting down trees and burning them in a process known as slash and burn agriculture. Logging operations, much of them illegal, which provide the world's wood and paper products, also cut countless trees each year. Forests are also cut as a result of growing urban sprawl. Not that all deforestation is intentional. Some is caused by a combination of human and natural factors like wildfires and subsequent overgrazing, which may prevent the growth of young trees.



There is, of course, dramatic impact of loss of habitat for millions of species. 80% of Earth's land animals cannot survive the deforestation that destroys their homes. Deforestation also drives climate change. Trees help perpetuate the water cycle by returning water vapour to the atmosphere. Without trees to fill these roles,

many former forest lands can quickly become barren deserts. Removing trees deprives the forest of its canopy, which blocks the sun's rays during the day, and holds in heat at night. This disruption leads to more extreme temperature swings that can be harmful to plants and animals. The green cover also plays a critical role in absorbing the

greenhouse gases that fuel global warming. Fewer forests means larger amounts of greenhouse gases entering the atmosphere and increased speed and severity of global warming. The number of new tree plantations is growing each year but their total still equals a tiny fraction of the Earth's forested land. Many of the world's most threatened and endangered animals live in forests and 1.6 billion people rely on benefits forests offer, including food, fresh water, clothing, traditional medicine and shelter. We are losing 18.7 million acres of forests annually, equivalent to 27 soccer fields every minute. The green cover act as a carbon sink, soaking

up carbon dioxide that would otherwise be free in the atmosphere and contribute to ongoing changes in climate patterns. It is estimated that 15% of all greenhouse gas emissions are the result of deforestation. This is of particular concern in tropical rainforests because these forests are home to much of the world's biodiversity. Deforestation in this region is particularly rampant near more populated areas, roads and rivers, but even remote areas have been encroached upon when valuable mahogany, gold and oil are discovered.

The Author Acclaimed Journalist, Professor, Global Peace Ambassador under UN, Much Sought Eminent Speaker, Former Sheriff of Kolkata.

C. Shekhar Nambiar-Australian cricket team donates T-shirts to IVI's campaign for urban poor on World Optometry Day



New Delhi: India Vision Institute today received a gift of two T-shirts from the Australian cricket team, who have just finished their tour of India. The T-shirts have been signed by all the players.

IVI's CEO Vinod Daniel said, "March 23 is celebrated as World Optometry Day every year and it is most appropriate to have received the donation on this day. The T-shirts will be auctioned and the proceeds will go to fund a vision screening campaign and provide a pair of corrective glasses to the underprivileged in the Greater Chennai area."

The gift is in recognition of the work by our committed and dedicated optometrists. IVI's vision screenings have benefited 9,00,000 underprivileged people in 22 states of India," he added, informed Shri C. Shekhar Nambiar, General Manager, Education & Communication, India Vision Institute

Arvind Kejriwal Supports Rahul Gandhi After Defamation Case Conviction

New Delhi: Showing a shift in its stance, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal today openly supported Congress leader Rahul Gandhi after he was sentenced to two years in jail in a defamation case and alleged a conspiracy was being hatched to "eliminate" non-BJP leaders and parties by prosecuting them.

The Congress and the AAP have in the past avoided taking each other's side on various issues. The grand old party did not support AAP when Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia was arrested by the CBI in connection with alleged irregularities in the formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy for 2021-



22. However, AAP's support for Rahul Gandhi has come at a time when Mr Kejriwal is learnt to be attempting to forge an alliance of "like-minded" parties ahead of the Lok Sabha polls next year. Earlier this month, he had invited chief ministers of eight non-BJP, non-Congress ruled states for dinner and

discussion over political issues. On Thursday, the Aam Aadmi Party indicated a softening in its stance for Congress after a court in Gujarat's Surat held Rahul Gandhi guilty of defamation for his 2019 "Modi surname" remark. "A conspiracy is being hatched to eliminate non-BJP leaders and parties by prosecuting them. We have

differences with the Congress, but it is not right to implicate Rahul Gandhi in a defamation case like this. "It is the job of the public and the opposition to ask questions. We respect the court but disagree with the decision," Mr Kejriwal said in a tweet in Hindi. AAP Raja Sabha MP Raghav Chadha said

opposition forms the core of democracy and dissent should not be stifled. "Respectfully disagree with the court verdict against Rahul Gandhi. Opposition forms the core of democracy. Dissent should not be stifled. India has a strong tradition of critique. Attempt to reduce this to the viewpoint of one ideology, one party, one leader is unconstitutional and undemocratic," he tweeted. The Surat court has granted Mr Gandhi bail and suspended the sentence for 30 days to allow him to appeal in a higher court. The Congress said Mr Gandhi will file an appeal against the verdict.

'UAPA' is the most inhumane law Seaplane Service To Statue Of Unity Discontinued In 2021, Gujarat Assembly Told

Warangal (KCN) :India's democracy leader, Prof. N.Anjaiah at the launch of OPDR magazine 'Justicia', the first issue of Central Committee periodical 'Justicia' of the Organization for the Protection of Democratic Rights and 'UAPA'- Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) Special The issue was launched on the occasion of Shaheed Bhagat Singh's 93rd death anniversary on 23rd March 2023 by retired professor of Acharya Nagarjuna University N.Anjaiah at V i j a y a w a d a Gandhinagar Press Club. Prof. Anjaya in his message to the gathering presided over by OPDR National President Chigurupati Bhaskara Rao said: In fact 'UAPA' is a draconian law which is totally against the basic tenets of modern criminal jurisprudence. Under this law, the government has

arrogated to itself the power to arbitrarily and arbitrarily restrict the exercise of civilized rights of citizens, such as freedom of speech, expression and association, in the guise of national security. It is a stark fact that under this Act the government can arbitrarily label any person as a 'terrorist' and arrest him/her without providing substantial evidence. According to 'Upa' - the accused has to prove himself innocent. This is completely against the principles of natural justice and the absolute violation and the justice that the accused is innocent until proven guilty While every democratic country in the world is staunchly committed to the Sutra, Indian governments are 'uapa' and such If we observe that the laws are made and implemented in a very loose manner, it is a proof that our country is only a thorn in

the side of democracy. He said that it can be said that it is done. Congratulating OPDR for undertaking to publish a magazine specially for the promotion of true democratic values, expressing the hope that the publication of the magazine will continue uninterrupted, let's hope that all the democrats will cooperate with the magazine" concluded the chief guest Acharya Anjaiah in his message. Prof. Naren Singh, Managing Editor of the journal and National Co-Secretary of the Institute for the Protection of Democratic Rights, said: "UAPA Act was enacted by the Congress central government in 1967 to suppress popular movements on the lines of repressive colonial laws like 1908 and 1911 to criminalize nationalist movement. The BJP Narendra Modi government that came to power in 2014 made the

most brutal amendments to the UAPA Act and made 5924 cases between 2015-2020 and put 8371 people behind bars. Even after 5 years, most of them have not been tried and none of them have been released on bail. One hundred and three of those who completed the investigation were not punished. Most of those arrested have lost their land, habitations and so on for generations Intellectuals like Father Stan Swamy (who died in jail as an undertrial), Varavara Rao, Prof. Anand Teltumble, Gautam Nawalakar, who mobilized for the protection of water resources and gave moral support to them. Professor Naren Singh concluded his lecture by appealing to the entire intelligentsia of the country to build a great movement for the repeal of all curry laws

like UAPA, NIA, Armed Forces Special Powers Act, which make a mockery of democracy. OPDR-National General Secretary Dipankar Bujan, Andhra Pradesh President Chavali Sudhakar, Telangana State President T. Lakshmi Devi, Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Director T.Eshwar, Pollari, General Secretary, IFTU (AP), Akurathi Murali Krishna, Chairman, Dravida Sammelanam Trust; Arasavalli Krishna, Principal Secretary, Virasam; Konda Reddy, General Secretary, Progressive Labor Federation; Duddu Prabhakar, Caste Eradication Struggle; G a n g a b h a v a n i Presidents, POW (AP); Sayudha-AIRWO CC member, Koya Venkateshwarlu, Siddhartha democrat Marxist, and others participated.

Gandhinagar: The seaplane service between Sabarmati riverfront in Ahmedabad and the Statue of Unity launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020 was discontinued over high operating costs and maintenance, the Gujarat government told the Assembly today. Responding to a question raised by Congress MLA Gulabsinh Chauhan about the current status of the service between Ahmedabad and Kevadia, state Civil Aviation Minister Balwantsinh Rajput said the service has been stopped from April 2021. In his written reply, Mr Rajput said the service was discontinued by the operator due to high operation costs and difficulties in maintaining the foreign-registered aircraft. On October 31, 2020, PM Modi had launched the

Seaplane Service To Statue Of Unity Discontinued In 2021, Gujarat Assembly Told



seaplane service between the Statue of Unity near Kevadia in the Narmada district and the Sabarmati riverfront in Ahmedabad. He inaugurated the service by boarding the twin-engine plane from pond-3 close to Sardar Sarovar Dam on the occasion of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 145th anniversary. Responding to a related question by Aam Aadmi Party MLA Chaitar Vasava, Rajput said the state government had allotted 22 crore for this project during the last two financial years. Rajput said

the state did not earn anything from this service. The minister told the House that the state government plans to start the seaplane service to connect various other tourist spots such as Shetrunji dam in Bhavnagar district, Saputara lake in south Gujarat, Ukai dam in Surat and Dharoi dam in north Gujarat. While the process to select land near Dharoi dam has been initiated, no such process has been undertaken to start the service at the other places, added Mr Rajput.

Indian Boxer Neeraj Goyat set to make a comeback with high stake match in Mexico

Kolkata, (ADVAITA SETH): Indian ace boxer Neeraj Goyat will make his return to professional boxing on March 25th in Guadalajara, Mexico against Jose Zepeda, with a fighting purse of over INR 1 crore. Neeraj Goyat, a 3-time WBC Asia title winner, had started his professional career as a boxer in 2013 and has won 17 out of his 22 bouts, with 7 knockouts and 2 draws. He is the first Indian boxer to have made it to the WBC world rankings and was awarded 'Honorary Boxer of the Year' by WBC Asia in

2017. Jose Zepeda, Goyat's opponent, is a highly respected professional boxer, with 35 wins from 40 fights, including 27 knockouts. Mexican boxers are known to be some of the toughest competitors in professional boxing. Goyat's career has had its challenges, including a major fight against former world champion Amir Khan being cancelled in 2019 due to an accident. However, he last fought and won via a knockout against Rachata Khaophimai in Bangkok and is now ready to make history as the first Indian

professional boxer to win against Zepeda on March 25th. Neeraj Goyat returns to professional boxing against Jose Zepeda on the 25th of March in Guadalajara, Mexico. A fighting purse of over INR 1 crore is up for grabs at this event. The event is promoted by one of the biggest professional boxing promoters, Golden Boy Promotions. The 3 times WBC Asia title winner, Neeraj G o y a t t u r n e d professional in 2013 and since then has fought 22 bouts with a record of 17-3 with 7 knockouts (17-3-2 draws). He is the first



Indian boxer to have made it to the WBC world rankings and has won the 'Honorary Boxer of the Year' by WBC Asia in 2017. His opponent, Jose Zepeda is one of the

stalwarts in the world of professional boxing with a total of 35 wins from his 40 fights, 27 of them being knockouts. Mexican boxers are regarded as one of the best

competitors and extremely tough to beat in the world of professional boxing. The last couple of years have not been easy for Neeraj as one of the biggest fights of his career had to be called off in 2019 against Amir Khan, a former world champion due to an accident. He last fought in Bangkok against Rachata Khaophimai and won it via a knockout and is ready to face off against Jose Zepeda on the 25th of March and be the first professional boxer from India to win the bout. "I'm the only

boxer from India who has fought 5-6 Mexican boxers as they are considered the most brutal in the world. It is also a learning opportunity and Jose's record speaks for himself, he has been the WBC World Champion in the past. The fight is being organized by Golden Boy which is the world's second largest professional boxing promoter and I am looking forward to taking Jose down." Neeraj signed off. "From the start my attempt has always been to raise the level of Indian professional boxing and to stamp its

authority on the world stage and that Indian boxers are recognized as formidable boxers. Even when I first beat WBA World Champion Xu Can in China, the aim was to raise the level for Indian boxers and let them know that these wins are possible. I hope to inspire and pave the way for the future of professional boxers in India to fight at this level and get opportunities since no one else in the history of our country has fought with the names I have." Said Neeraj Goyat regarding the announcement of the event.

Odisha Leads Climate Budgeting

Udaipur: While Odisha, a premier State, which has adopted the Climate Budget tagging, a tool devised for monitoring and tracking of climate-related expenditures in the Budget System, it has advised for a uniform framework for Climate Budget Tagging across the Country. Vishal Dev, Principal Secretary Department of Finance of Odisha has made a well documented presentation on Climate Budgeting in G20 India Sustainable Finance working Group Meet on Integrating Climate Considerations in Budgeting at Udaipur in Rajasthan on 20 March. Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA) has organized the Meet. Shri Dev said that there



is a need for institutionalization of the climate coding exercise and incentivizing States to take up climate budgeting through the Finance Commission route. Principal Secretary Finance, Shri Dev said that this is designed to address the challenges of identifying, classifying, weighting and marking climate-relevant expenditures in a government budget system, enabling the estimation, monitoring and tracking of those expenditures. Odisha has been a victim of various natural calamities caused by climate change. Almost every year, Odisha endures at least a tropical cyclone. Besides, flood and draught are other

frequent natural calamities. Since 2014, Odisha has faced eight tropical cyclones and the estimated economic loss from 1999 to 2022 is about 46% of GSDP. So, the State Government has accorded highest priority to climate change and adopted the climate budgeting, a senior Finance Department official said.

In 2008, the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) was launched by the Government of India to mitigate and adapt to the adverse impact of climate change. Odisha is the first State to develop State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) in 2010, consistent with the strategy outlined in the NAPCC. The first phase of SAPCC was

implemented from 2010 to 2015 while the second phase of SAPCC was for the period 2018-23, he said. The State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) outlines 102 priority strategies across 11 Departments viz. Agriculture, Revenue and Disaster Management, Energy, Fisheries and Animal Resources, Forest, Environment & Climate

Change, Health, Industries, Steel & Mines, Commerce & Transport, Housing & Urban Development and Water Resources. To that end, Odisha initiated the Climate Budget Coding Analysis called Climate Change Innovation Program (CCIP) in 2018 with support from the Department for International Development (DFID). Then, the Department of Finance has adopted the Climate Change Financing Framework (CCFF) called State Action Plan on Financial Integration (SAPFI) methodology for the climate coding analysis. Though detailed climate budget coding analysis was done in

2018, the Government started publishing the Climate Budget document from 2019. Every year, the Government is now publishing the Climate Budget document along with the annual budget. Sub-component of each scheme/program have been identified and analyzed for the climate coding analysis, stated the official. The State has also conducted a Climate Change Impact Appraisal, a detailed climate coding exercise to identify the degree of climate linkage of various sectors. Using Climate Change Relevance Share (CCRS) and Climate Change Sensitivity Share (CCSS), different sectors have been

Gandhamardan Is New BHS

Bhubaneswar: Keeping in view of its importance for its rich biodiversity, the State Government has declared the Gandhamardan hill as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS). The State Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department has issued a notification to this effect. Gandhamardan hill, spanning 18,963.898 hectare over Bolangir and Bargarh districts, became the third biodiversity heritage site of the state. Earlier, Mandasuru Gorge in Kandhamal district and Mahendragiri Hill Range in Gajapati district have been declared as BHS. As per the notification, out of 18,963.898 hectare of Gandhamardan Hill (Gandhamardan Reserve Forest), 12,431.8 ha are coming under Bargarh district and 6,532.098 ha under Balangir. The hill is considered as the treasure trove of medicinal plants and an ayurvedic paradise of Odisha. This ecologically fragile



ecosystem is rich in floral and faunal diversity having diverse socio-economic, ecological and biological significance for the people of Odisha. The floral diversity of the hill comprises 1055 plant species that include 849 angiosperms, 56 Pteridophytes, 40 Bryophytes, 45 Lichens and 02 Gymnosperms and 63 species of Macrofungi. The faunal diversity comprises 500 species of animals that include 43 Mammals, 161 Birds, 44 Reptiles, 16 Amphibians, 118 Butterflies, 27 Dragonflies and 7 Damselflies and 83 species of Spiders.

Two historical monuments such as Nrusinghanath Temple located on the Northern slope and Harishankar Temple located on the Southern slope of the foot hills of Gandhamardan have immense cultural significance. These two hill shrines are the two major pilgrimage sites of Odisha. In his chronicles Hiuen Tsang had described this hill shrine as a Buddhist heritage site named Parimalagiri. "At present the rich biological resources of this cultural landscape are under pressure due to various anthropogenic and climatic factors, and the traditional ecological

knowledge associated with the bio-resources of the hill is declining. The long-term protection, conservation and management of biological resources of the Gandhamardan Hill is of utmost significance for the State," read the notification. After the Odisha Biodiversity Board (OBB) received proposals from the Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) of Nandupalla, Telenpalli, Bartunda, Mithapalli as well as proposals from DFO Balangir and Bargarh and other stakeholders to declare the hill range as a biodiversity heritage site, a detailed inventory of the flora and fauna in the hill ecosystem was prepared. In December last year, the Board had sent a proposal to the State Government to declare the threatened and ecologically sensitive landscape as a 'Biodiversity Heritage Site' for its ecological and biological significance. Now, the Government notified it as BHS.


BJD Raises Maha Issue

Bhubaneswar: The Governing Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Lawmakers have raised the Mahanadi water dispute issue in Assembly on Wednesday and strongly criticized the UPA and NDA Governments at Centre. Senior BJD Legislator Debi Prasad Mishra raised the issue during Zero Hour, which was supported by another senior BJD MLA Pranab Prakash Das and all other members present in the House. The Treasury Bench members created a ruckus in the Assembly over the Mahanadi water dispute issue. All the BJD Members stood up from their seats and strongly criticised the Central Governments for their negligence towards the State. "The Mahanadi, which passes through 15 out of


Odisha's 30 districts, has dried up due to check dams constructed by Chhattisgarh government at the upstream of the inter-state river. They are releasing excess water during monsoon flooding the lower catchment areas in Odisha and stop water flow during the summer causing hardship for lakhs of people in the state," said Mishra. He described the Congress led UPA and the BJD NDA as two sides of the same coin, saying, "Both the UPA and NDA government have worked against Odisha's interest for which Chhattisgarh has been obstructing free flow of water to downstream." He along with Shri Das demanded a ruling from the Speaker for a

special discussion on the Mahanadi water dispute. Leader of Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra said that his party was prepared for a discussion on the Mahanadi water crisis. He criticised the BJD Government for not utilising River Mahanadi water as a huge volume is flowing to the sea. "The Odisha government has not been able to construct any check dam to regulate water downstream," he said. Later, the Speaker directed the Water Resources Minister to make a statement in the House on this issue. Notably, the State Government has locked horns with Chhattisgarh in 2016 after water flow in the Mahanadi reduced substantially

following construction of dams and barrages by the Chhattisgarh Government. On November 19, 2016, the Odisha government had filed a complaint with the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (now known as the Ministry of Jal Shakti) under Section 3 of the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act 1956. A meeting between the two States at CM level was held but no conclusion arrived. The Union Government has subsequently notified the formation of the Mahanadi river dispute tribunal on March 12, 2018. Since then, the Tribunal's tenure has been extended including the latest till December 24, 2024.



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Vitesco Technologies aims to achieve 100% carbon neutral production by 2030

Pune : Vitesco Technologies a leading international manufacturer of modern drive technologies and electrification solutions recently celebrated the second anniversary of its Pune facility. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun, Senior Vice President of Operations at Vitesco Technologies, visited the facility to commemorate the occasion. The facility is spread across 20 acres and contains more than 17580 m² of manufacturing space, including over 900 employees.

The Pune plant, like all Vitesco Technologies facilities, serves its grid demand entirely through renewable energy sources. Furthermore, the site generates sustainable electricity. All new photovoltaic systems have been built

in the Talegaon facility, generating 03 GWh of electricity from solar energy. The installed capacity is currently 2.6 MW, with the company aiming to increase it to 3.6MW by the end of the year. The facility is also strongly driving automation, digitization, and Industry 4.0, with over 25 cobots and robots installed on the production lines and shopfloor. During his tour of the facility, Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun, Head of Operations at Vitesco Technologies said, "We have a clear vision of the key characteristics of the plant of the future, which are sustainable, smart, and predictive. And our plant in Pune already embodies these qualities with highly automated production lines, state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 solutions and a strong

focus on sustainability. But what is most important for me is the highly motivated team, because I genuinely believe that people, not only technology, will shape the plant of the future. I am very impressed with India's business competency and the employees' enthusiasm to support us on this journey.

Dr. Braun further highlighted that "The carbon footprint must be dramatically decreased to combat climate change, which is one of the major issues of our time. We must take on responsibility for our environment. As a result, the plant of the future must be climate-neutral in operation. That is why I am proud that the plant in Pune has truly established itself as a driver of sustainability.

Spice Money nearly doubles its nanopreneur (Adhikari) network hitting 1 million milestone in FY22

New Delhi: Spice Money, India's leading rural fintech that is revolutionising the way Bharat banks, achieved the significant milestone of 1 million Adhikaris (nanopreneurs) in FY22, growing by nearly double over the last financial year. Spice Money's strategy, to provide the first-of-its-kind zero investment model, continues to yield results and growth in Adhikaris. This network is spread across rural India covering more than 95% rural pincodes, 700+ districts serving a base of over 100 million consumers, through the Spice Money app and web portal.

In FY23 Spice Money aims to expand into other digital and financial services. The company will consolidate its ATM, banking and payments

business, while scaling its enterprise Cash Management Services (CMS) business. The company, additionally, will be introducing a financial products & services marketplace which will offer solutions such as insurance, credit etc. Considering the crucial role agriculture plays in the rural economy, Spice Money will also venture into digital solutions for the industry. With the country emerging from the pandemic, Spice Money will expand its travel tech platform, Travel Union, to offer a first-of-its-kind solution for all travel agents in semi-urban and rural India. Through its phygital super app, the company will disseminate multiple digital services including education, ecommerce

and healthcare to the masses. On this occasion, Dilip Modi, Founder, Spice Money said "FY22 has witnessed commendable growth, with Spice Money showcasing consistent double-digit growth over the past eight quarters.

We continue to remain bullish about rapid adoption of digital services in rural India, as we aim to foray into new business segments in FY23. Spice Money's phygital super app will further help rural communities get essential services like basic banking, payment services, financial services, travel services and entrepreneur solutions along with healthcare and e-commerce at their doorstep, assisted by Spice Money's 1 million+ Adhikaris.

Sterlite Power wins orders worth INR 1600 crores

New Delhi: Sterlite Power, a leading power transmission developer and solutions provider, has secured multiple orders worth ~INR 1600 crores across its Solutions business in the domestic and international markets.

The company has secured orders from customers like Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), and West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL) in the MSI (Master System Integrator) segment. The orders are for the installation and supply of high-performance conductors and reconductoring solutions for transmission projects. In the Products segment, Sterlite Power has acquired strategic maiden orders of EHV cables for state transmission utilities in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka and orders for overhead lines from large and reputed international

customers in North America and CIS regions.

Commenting on the order wins, Mr. Manish Agarwal, CEO - India Transmission Business, Sterlite Power, said, "We are happy to win these new orders across our Solutions business which significantly adds to our robust orderbook. Our integrated model provides us with a strategic advantage in delivering complex projects successfully while also diversifying our revenue base."

As part of its Solutions business unit, the company manufactures and sells a diversified portfolio of products, covering high performance conductors, OPGW and EHV power cables, to international customers, including central and state electricity transmission companies, transmission developers and transmission engineering, and construction ("EPC")

contractors. Further, its MSI sub-unit is a provider of specialty contracting services, delivering bespoke solutions for the upgrade, uprate and fiberization of brownfield transmission infrastructure projects. In addition, the company also offers underground EHV turnkey services including cable laying and substation development.

Under its infrastructure business segment, where the company bids to develop transmission projects, it has recently won inter-state transmission system projects in J&K as well as north-east India which will play a pivotal role in connecting clean and green power to the national grid. The Kishtwar transmission project is based in Jammu & Kashmir and comprises a 400/132kV GIS substation at Kishtwar and 400 kV Kishenpur - Dulhasti LILO (Line in Line out) transmission line.

Aakash+BYJU'S launches Aakash AudiPREP

New Delhi: Upholding its reputation of leveraging cutting-edge technologies and innovation to deliver the best, Aakash + BYJU'S, India's leader in test preparatory services, has introduced the Aakash AudiPREP -- India's first comprehensive audiobook for NEET aspirants.

Aakash AudiPREP is an innovative web and app-based audiobook containing podcasts of scientifically designed study materials designed by experts. The audiobook lends detailed insight into Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology curriculum which will be incredibly useful for Class XI and XII students to crack the medical entrance

examination. Riding on digital transformation, AudiPREP aims to provide efficient and effective learning through a multi-sensory learning approach. The audiobook makes the process of revision of lessons anytime and where more convenient. The audiobook also encompasses a special feature called spaced repetition that assists students in grasping and retaining dry subjects easily. It is an effective and efficient tool for better time utilization. The audiobook offers some exciting features such as high-quality audio content with proper modulation and clear pronunciation curated by Aakash

experts and a compilation of subject-wise previous year questionnaires called NEETY GRITTY. It also offers powerful mnemonics, elaborative explanations of diagrams, tables and flow charts to improve the retention power of the students.

The audiobook also entails a Content Builder feature which covers relevant NEET concepts even beyond the NCERT syllabus and has interactive quick quizzes for self-assessment aiding in practising and preparing in a fun way. AudiPREP also provides a quick recap at the end of each chapter for rapid revision and cluster of important formulae making complex

concepts engaging and easier to understand.

Commenting on the launch of AudiPREP, Mr Aakash Chaudhry, Managing Director, Aakash+BYJU'S, said, "We are a forward-looking organization and to honour our student's first approach, we are constantly innovating to bring in the best technologies that provide a conducive learning environment. We are a pioneer of many educational trends in the industry. AudiPREP is yet another path-breaking tool giving NEET aspirants the extra edge. The comprehensive audiobooks offer high-quality study materials curated by experienced teachers and engage

students by appealing to their multisensory learning."

AudiPREP is a portable audiobook solution enabling the best utilization of time. One can listen and learn anytime, anywhere at their convenience. The tool also facilitates spaced repetition which is scientifically proven to improve long term memory recall. The audiobook also facilitates multisensory learning by encompassing visual sense through printed study material, hearing through audio recordings while arousing the sense of touch through writing my underlining the keywords and taking running notes.

Lifestyle announces launch of Miss Raja Season 2 contest to celebrate Raja Parba in Odisha

Bhubaneswar : Lifestyle, India's leading fashion destination, announces its second season of Lifestyle Miss Raja in Bhubaneswar, to celebrate the occasion of Raja Parba. The #LifestyleMissRaja2022 contest aims to showcase the passion and unique fashion sensibilities of the city's young women. The three-day festival in Odisha, which is a celebration of womanhood, will be commemorated by Lifestyle through its 2nd season of Miss Raja Parba contest. Popular Ollywood actress Bhoomika Dash announced the contest on 27th May on her social

media #LifestyleMissRaja2022 welcomes young women from Bhubaneswar to participate in the contest by uploading their most stylish picture on Instagram using the hashtag and tagging @LifestyleStores. The entries would be evaluated on the basis of the stylish look created, and the number of likes garnered on the post. 10 pre-finalists will be announced on the 9th of June and invited for a stylish makeover in Lifestyle's newest trends by an industry expert and photographed professionally. These images will be further posted by the pre-finalists on their Instagram page for a voting round. The

contest will culminate on the 15th of June with the announcement of the winner with the highest votes. The grand finale will be conducted at the Lifestyle store in Esplanade One Mall and will have none other than the popular actress Bhoomika Dash announce the Lifestyle Miss Parba of 2022 and hand over voucher worth Rs. 50,000. The contest is being aggressively promoted through different online and offline avenues.

All the young fashionistas of Bhubaneswar who aspire to be successful models, #LifestyleMissRaja2022 provides a perfect platform to be recognized

for one's great fashion sense.

Announcing the contest, celebrity Bhoomika Dash said, "I feel glad to be associated with Lifestyle for the 2nd season of #LifestyleMissRaja2022 contest. This is a great way for the brand to connect with the young women of Bhubaneswar. Lifestyle is best known for its latest and trendy fashion collection across all categories with an affordable price range. Do visit the Lifestyle store at Esplanade mall for your Raja Parba shopping!"

Rohini Haldea, Assistant Vice President - Marketing, Lifestyle said,

"Celebrating the Raja Parba Fest in Bhubaneswar has been a great experience for us. The passion and enthusiasm of the participants truly fuel the energy of the contest. Lifestyle, with its trendy festive collection and #LifestyleMissRaja2022, proudly celebrates the festival with the young women of Bhubaneswar as a true ode to womanhood."

Lifestyle offers a great range of ethnic wear with vibrant colours and modern silhouettes that perfectly capture the vibe of the festive season.

Airtel Xstream Fiber unlocks its NEW All-in-One plans

Bhubaneswar: To serve the needs of premium households who want the next generational connectivity and entertainment experience, Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier communications solutions provider, has once again raised the bar in the home broadband segment with the launch of three new all-in-one plans built for the evolving entertainment needs of today's connected homes.

Vir Inder Nath, CEO - Homes, Bharti Airtel had this to say: "Our new plans are built for India's emerging entertainment needs. Through these bundle offers we plan to offer our discerning customers great value, convenience and unlock a multi-faceted digital experience."

Increased broadband consumption in Indian homes has given rise to the phenomena of hybrid viewing, where families are looking to consume OTT content on the TV screen along with linear TV without the hassle of managing multiple subscriptions and devices. Airtel's plans are the first of their kind in terms of catering to the evolving entertainment needs of the whole family and come with: Subscription to 17 premium OTTs to go with unlimited data. This includes Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ Hotstar and Airtel Xstream Premium ((SonyLiv, Lionsgate, Hoichoi and 11 more OTTs). 350+ TV channels covering the best of linear TV. Airtel 4K Xstream TV Box* that allows you to enjoy OTT and linear TV content with a single device and single remote.

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

Barcelona: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality.

The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education.

As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge

production, policy dialogue, exchange, and networking.

Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called "Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective". Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations' list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit.

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,

Agar one of the most resilient characters I know: Mitchell Marsh

New Delhi: Ashton Agar has had a rollercoaster tour of India. The allrounder arrived as Australia's second spinner in Tests with Nathan Lyon but saw Todd Murphy usurp him to that spot and debut in the opening Test of the series in Nagpur. When the action shifted to Delhi and Australia saw the need to pick three spinners, he was still ignored as the think-tank went with Matthew Kuhnemann - a left-arm spinner like Agar - giving him a debut despite not naming him in their original squad for the tour. Agar then returned home to lead Western Australia to One-Day Cup glory before returning to team up with the ODI squad in India. He sat out two ODIs

where Australia played Adam Zampa as the lone spinner before getting his opportunity in the decider at Chennai where the pitch was expected to take turn. When the chance came, Agar's resilience shone through as he played a big role in Australia's win. The left-arm spinner triggered India's middle-overs batting slump and finished with figures of 2 for 41 in 10 overs. Mitchell Marsh was effusive in his praise for the returning spinner, praising the way he handled himself through the tough time. "Certainly it has been an indifferent sort of six weeks for him but Ash [Agar] is one of my closest mates. He's one of the most resilient characters I know,"



Mitchell Marsh said after Australia's series victory. "That's why he's able to come and perform whenever he plays for Australia. He's been the second spinner to Adam Zampa for a long period of time, but one of his strengths is

his ability to be present when he's playing and competing. I am really proud of the way he's handled himself for the last six weeks and it is a testament to the group that we have guys like him that just want to play for Australia and

he was fantastic tonight." Marsh himself has had a series to be proud of, coming through as Australia's make-shift opener with scores of 81 (65), 66* (36) and 47 (47). Such was Marsh's impact in the absence of

David Warner, that he kept his top spot even as the latter returned to action in the third ODI. Despite enjoying the new batting role, Marsh acknowledged the fact that Warner will reclaim it soon in the lead-up to the World Cup in India. "I certainly enjoyed the opportunity to open the batting but as a group we spoke before the first game that this is really the start of our campaign for the World Cup," Marsh said. "Certain guys bat in different positions at times and it is really important that we have a squad mentality so with Davey out, it was my opportunity. He's been an incredible player for Australia for a long time and one of the best ODI openers

ever so I am sure he'll slot back in at some stage but I think it is really important that we're all really flexible and it was nice to perform for the team." Marsh too has had the tough reinitiation into the side following an injury. The allrounder underwent ankle surgery in December and vowed to make a slow return to full allround duties. He declared before the series that he wouldn't bowl yet as Australia filled their squad with an array of allrounders. Though he bowled at full tilt in training on the eve of the Chennai ODI, he didn't have to take the ball in the fixture and finished the series as specialist batter. "It was fantastic," Marsh said in jest about the

mindset of not being able to bowl and fulfill his role as an allrounder. "It was certainly a lot easier on the body. I was a lot fresher when I was batting." "But I just love bowling and I love the fact that we have all rounders in the squad. It gives our captain a lot of options when we're out there. Poor old Stoiny had to bowl 10 overs today and I felt bad for him. We spoke about it briefly before, that we haven't done that in a long time. As much as I love bowling, it is also about being there for my mates and making sure I give the skipper as many options as I can. So hopefully the bowling's not too far away," Marsh added.

No NOC for Bairstow but Livingstone available for PBKS

New Delhi: Punjab Kings have some bittersweet news as England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has cleared Liam Livingstone for participation in the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) but has stopped Jonny Bairstow from taking part. Both were crucial to the Punjab team who splurged more than Rs 18 crore on the two English batsmen. The other big English player in the Punjab side is Sam Curran who cost the franchise virtually as much as his two senior England teammates.



According to sources, Bairstow, who underwent surgery on a broken leg and dislocated ankle in October, is expected to be up and running in a couple of weeks' times but given the long injury lay-off, the ECB has decided not to issue him the NOC for the season, which kicks off on March 31. The ECB hopes he will be available for the Ashes later in the year. Bairstow (33), who was bought by Punjab Kings

for Rs 6.75 crore in 2022 auction, has not played competitive cricket since August. Livingstone (29) has been out of action since the Rawalpindi Test last December because of injuries to his knee and ankle. However, he was part of the Lancashire County Cricket Club's off-season training recently in Dubai and has gone back home since. Although there has been no formal announcement either way about his

participation in the IPL, Cricbuzz understands that Livingstone will be available for the entire IPL season for Punjab Kings. He was bought by the franchise for Rs 11.50 crores. Apart from Livingstone, Curran's participation was also confirmed. The English all-rounder became the most expensive buy at an IPL auction earlier this year when PBKS bought him for Rs 18.50 crore. Sources also have

confirmed that all other England players, barring Will Jacks but including Mark Wood (Lucknow), Jofra Archer (Mumbai Indians) and Ben Stokes (Chennai Super Kings), will take part in the IPL. Jacks, bought for Rs 3.2 crore by Royal Challengers Bangalore, has been ruled out because of an injury. RCB has already announced Michael Bracewell as his replacement. England players in IPL 2023 Sam Curran (Punjab Kings), Ben Stokes (Chennai Super Kings), Harry Brook (Sunrisers Hyderabad), Phil Salt (Delhi Capitals), Reece Topley (Royal Challengers Bangalore), Adil Rashid (Sunrisers Hyderabad), Joe Root (Rajasthan Royals), Liam Livingstone (Punjab Kings), Jonny Bairstow (Punjab Kings), Moeen Ali (Chennai Super Kings), Jofra Archer (Mumbai Indians), Jos Buttler (Rajasthan Royals), David Willey (Royal Challengers Bangalore) and Mark Wood (Lucknow Super Giants).

Kyle Coetzer retires from cricket with immediate effect

New Delhi: Kyle Coetzer, the former Scotland captain, has announced his retirement from cricket with immediate effect. The 38-year-old, widely regarded as one of the best Scottish players, has already accepted a coaching role that is set to commence this week.

Coetzer made his debut almost two decades ago and finished his career as the highest run getter in the 50-over format for his country with 3192 runs including five centuries. Among those five hundreds was the one he scored in 2015 as he became the first Scottish player to register three figures in a World Cup game. Having led Scotland for a long time, Coetzer stepped down from his role last year. The highlight of his reign came in 2021 when he led Scotland into the Super 12 stages of the T20 World Cup. Coetzer, who was named the ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Decade in 2020, finishes his career on a high after Scotland



lifted the ICC CWCL2 Trophy in Nepal last month. "I don't ever think there's a perfect time for a decision like this, but I've been considering my options for some time, and an opportunity came up which was too good to turn down," Coetzer said. "The chance to move straight into the performance game isn't always there, and I'm

fortunate that this opportunity opened up for me at this moment and I can take it on. "I've been so lucky throughout my Scotland career, that it's tricky to pick out a highlight. Getting our first win in the ICC T20 World Cup against Hong Kong in India in 2016 was special....but then so was the whole of 2018. The victory against England at The Grange

was just amazing. That whole year - Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, England - just felt like a change of momentum and belief amongst the players about competing against the best teams in the world. Reaching the ICC T20 Super 12's in 2021, having never achieved it before, and being the captain of that squad, will also always stay with me."

Donald backs Ebadot to shine in all three formats

Dhaka: Bangladesh pace bowling coach Allan Donald believes that young fast bowler Ebadot Hossain has all the skills to shine in all formats of the game. Ebadot was labeled a Test specialist since his international debut and had to work hard to remove the tag from his shoulders. Ebadot made his Test debut in 2019 but had to wait until 2022 to make his bow in ODIs and T20Is. He has done reasonably well since being introduced to white-ball cricket and left an impression in the series opener against Ireland, picking 4-42.

"He's (Ebadot) brought the house down from the moment we met in Johannesburg exactly 12 months ago," Donald said ahead of the final ODI against Ireland. "He has kept on being impressive and if you say there's one area he needs to improve on, I'm still trying to find it. "But what's pleasing is Ebadot is always in the game and it doesn't matter if he goes for four or six. You know he is in the wickets column every single game. He is that kind of bowler that he is up there bowling 145, 148 km/hr at times where

you know that pace will have a massive impact on the game. He showed that again the other night. "He's an athlete with a great engine on him and a great kid to work with. Love working with him, a wonderful talent. He won a fast bowling competition to come to where he is now. He could consistently become a member in all three formats. All of them, we are working on small things and its more tactical than anything else. It's our game intelligence that we work on every single time for all three



formats and that's what we work on as a group," he said. Donald said that he is not very keen on taking credit for the recent development of the pace unit as they are going from strength to strength while he added that he was

focused on removing the fear of failure from their minds. The pace unit has done well in the recent past and gone are the days when Bangladesh were labelled a one-dimensional team relying on spinners. The inclusion of Hasan Mahmud in place of

Mustafizur Rahman in the second game of the series only validates the fact that the pace unit is making rapid strides under the South African great. "As coaches we are not here to get pats on the backs. We're here to make an impact. As I said before, you can sell a product and the players will have to believe in buying into that product and at least trying it," he said. "It's wonderful to see how the group of guys, not just the pacers but the others as well like Hasan and the guys that haven't been here like Khaled (Ahmed).

All part of the journey we are on. It's wonderful how we have adopted this new way of thinking. "When I met this group, I didn't want to come in and just ask questions. You sit back and listen and then to ask questions. I ask every single individual where there game's at and what they need from me. At this level if you are worried about whether you are going to be picked again, you don't have a place and we needed to get that way of thinking out of the window.

"For me then, I had to focus on mindset and it's all about mindset at this level like being fiercely competitive. It took four or five months for the group to trust me in that thing and my message has been clear that you don't have to worry about making mistakes. I have made mistakes and absolutely fine to make mistakes and make plenty. I think the more the group got rid of it, this is the growth we are seeing now. We are taking opposition on and competing in the right areas."