

## Journalist Rural Welfare Scheme Inaugurated



**Bhubaneswar (KCN):** The 7th Foundation Day of Organization of United Working Journalists (OUWJ) was celebrated in a grand ceremony at the Buddha Temple Assembly Hall. Veteran journalist Mr. Dulal Mishra and other guests formally inaugurated the conference and ceremony by lighting the candlestick. Dr. Prasanna Pattshani, member of the State Planning Board and Former Bhubaneswar MP joined as the chief guest and gave important information to the journalists and advised the journalists to always be vigilant and clean

and serve the true news. Dr Rabindra Nath Behera Former Technical Director NIC gave a lot of valuable information and told the journalists that it is necessary to give caution to the media. Highlighting various welfare schemes of the government, he revealed how journalists can improve. Rajya Sabha MP Shri Munna Khan was present as the guest of honor and wished the union success. The highlight of the day was the official unveiling of the Rural Journalists Welfare Scheme by all the guests. Chairman of Hitech Medical College and Hospital Dr. Tirupati Manigrahi told the reporters that

he would provide the necessary emergency services for health care to all the fellow journalists. Initially, representatives of 11 districts have been announced as the Beneficiaries of the newly launched Health scheme. Chairman of Grameen Sambadik Kalyan Yojana, former MLA Mr. Pravat Ranjan Biswal promised to provide necessary emergency assistance to journalists with health services and announced that all journalists working at every block level should be included in this scheme. Finally Mr. Sandeep Sahu BBC representative, Niraj Patnaik of News7, Vijay Kumar

Panda of Sushasan, Ashok Kumar Baral of DD1, Durga Prasad Sadangi, Nandighosh TV, Pappu Mohanty, News editor of The Samay, and 30 more journalists were presented with Citations and

Producer, Rabindra Kumar Mishra as the human rights activist, Raj Kishore Das as the best corporator, Binapani Jaysingh, Pramod Prusty and 7 eminent talents of various field have been honored.

Editor in chief, PARYABEKHYAK and THE KALINGA CHRONICLE presided over the program and advised the journalists to come forward in a united fight. Vice President Rajni Kant

the announcement of the results of the election held on 22nd of Last month the names of the elected Office Bearears for the next 3 years were greeted with a loud applause by all the journalists present and gave his consent. Elected General Secretary Harishikesh Mohanty gave the schedule for the next 3 years while President-elect Sanjay Das introduced the guest and called for meetings to be held in every district in every month. It is known that due to some opposition groups creating obstacles in the pre-scheduled program, the venue of the program was

changed at the last moment and the program was highly successful with the participation of all the journalists. The program was conducted by Treasurer Mr. Pradyumna Das, Vice President Dr. Hari Prasad Patnaik, Executive Members Sharat Barik, Prasanna Prusty, Arun Mohanty, Himanshu Hota, Amita Mishra, Rabindra Kumar Mishra, Jitendra Kumar Panda, Himalaya Satpathy. Advocate Anjan Kumar Hota managed the stage while Shivani, Pinky, Harpriya, Suchitra, Saraswati supported the programme.



## Odisha CM To Unveil The Iconic Dakota Aircraft At Biju Patnaik International Airport Today

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The wait to get a glimpse of the iconic Dakota aircraft of former Odisha Chief Minister Biju Patnaik will finally be over. The reassembled plane will be unveiled for public display at Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) by Patnaik's son and incumbent Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at 9.25 am on March 5, on the occasion of the ace pilot's birth anniversary. "It is a matter of pride for the Odisha government to unveil the Dakota DC-3 aircraft which was

relocated from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport in Kolkata to Biju Patnaik International Airport. Public display of the aircraft will serve as an embodiment of the former Chief Minister's courage and adventurism, and inspire people of Odisha to dream big," a release by the Commerce and Transport department read. On January 18, the aircraft had reached the state from the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport in

Kolkata. A 10-member team of Aerospace Research Development had taken 12 days to dismantle the aircraft and pack its equipment. While the Dakota was earlier lying decrepit at the Kolkata Airport, the aircraft was reassembled and renovated after reaching the Bhubaneswar Airport. Notably, the Airport Authority of India (AAI) had allotted 1.1 acre of land for the aircraft to be placed in front of the airport named after the legendary leader for display of the DC-3 aircraft.

## Odisha Vigilance Nabs Two Crorepati Officials In DA Case

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Vigilance department officials in Odisha today arrested an Additional Director of Mines department and an Additional Chief Engineer of Irrigation department on charges of possessing disproportionate assets (DA) worth crores of rupees. The Vigilance sleuths arrested Additional Director, Directorate of Mines in Bhubaneswar, Umesh Chandra Jena for possessing disproportionate assets to the tune 368 per cent of his known sources of

income. Similarly, Additional Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation Circle, KBK, Bhanupatna Kandarpa Pradhan was nabbed by the Vigilance for possessing disproportionate assets to the tune of 70 per cent of his known sources of income. The Vigilance sleuths yesterday searched the house and other properties of Jena at 13 locations in Khurda and Keonjhar districts on the allegation of possession of assets

disproportionate to his known sources of income. As many as 13 teams of the Vigilance department comprising 10 DSPs, seven inspectors and other staff searched five locations in Bhubaneswar and Jena's

house at his native village at Sirisapal, the house of one of his relatives at Ghasipura, a building at Gamaharia and five other places in Keonjhar simultaneously. During the searches, the Vigilance sleuths have unearthed Rs 1.64 crore in cash, 650 gram gold jewellery, one multi-storey building in Bhubaneswar, three buildings at Keonjhar, five plots in prime locations in Keonjhar district, two four-wheeler, two motorcycles, bank

deposits and investments from the possession of Jena and his family members. Similarly, the Vigilance officials searched the house and other properties of Pradhan at eight places in Khurda, Angul and Kalahandi districts yesterday. During the searches, the Vigilance officials unearthed three flats in Bhubaneswar, two buildings in Angul, five plots in and around Angul town, two four-wheelers, a motorcycle and 530 grams of gold from the possession of Pradhan, said an official.



## Odisha On Mission To Provide Global Standard Education: CM

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Odisha is on a mission to provide global standard education having all modern facilities to students, said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik during a programme. Inaugurating the Utkal Gourav International School at Berunapadi in Keonjhar district on virtual mode, he appreciated the goal behind the school, which is built on the philosophy of Swami Yogananda aiming at providing intellectual and spiritual education to promote a harmonious life.

"It is a system of education that aims at physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of our future generation," Patnaik said while congratulating the founder and mentor for leading an initiative to transform education. Utkal Gourav International School at Berunapadi is founded by Dr. Pradeep Sethi and mentored by Salil Chaturvedi. Speaking about the school, CM Patnaik said, "Modern education provides us knowledge to understand the world around us, and use it to our advantage for

sustaining seamless growth. However, as human beings, we also need to look within. We also have our emotional and spiritual needs." "Therefore, we must come together to create a model world civilization where each child from the villages and cities in India would be able to develop material efficiency along with spiritual magnificence," Patnaik said. Focusing on state's initiative to transform education, he gave the instance of MO School, where, he said, "we are connecting former



students to their alma maters, where they are contributing to the growth of education in their schools." "The objective is to

involve an entire society to our education, our development process. As a society, we all must take responsibility and

grow together," he added. Citing the transformation of schools, the CM said, "we are in a mission to

provide global standard education to our children with the provision of all modern facilities. We have transformed more than 4000 schools with smart class rooms, modern libraries, laboratories, facilities for sports, and about 3000 schools are in progress under 5T school transformation."

School & Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash cited the success of Odisha Adarsh Vidyalayas in promoting quality education among rural children. He said that 25 thousand children from villages are studying in 314 OAVs. Keonjhar MP Chandrani Murmu also spoke on the occasion, and thanked the CM for transformation educational institution in the state. Salil Chaturvedi, the mentor and advisor from Mumbai, said that education is nothing but service to mankind. Through education, we must create a culture of infinite learnings. Odisha 5T Secretary VK Pandian was also present during the programme.

# State Lessens Loan Burden BJP To Mark 'Corruption Day' On Panchayati Raj Diwas In Odisha Today

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Despite adverse challenges, the State Government has been able to manage its financial resources very effectively in last two years. Due to which, the State's total loan burden, which was increasing almost every year, now it goes down by Rs 16,825.62 crore. All thanks to the Team Finance led by Principal Secretary, Finance, Vishal Dev. Shri Dev is personally monitoring the State's Fiscal Management and in fact Odisha Fiscal Management has been appreciated across the country and abroad. According to official data, the total outstanding public debt of the State as on 31 March 2020 stood at Rs.92,775.18 crore which is 17.8 percent of the State's Gross Domestic Product

(GSDP). The debt stock crossed Rs 1 lakh crore mark in 2020-21 due shrinkage of State Economy in view of Covid-19 pandemic, sources said. However, in the Financial Year 2021-22, the State Government was able to decrease the total debt burden by Rs 7247.25 crore. In this year, the State has paid interest of Rs 6342.45 crore against outstanding loans. So, Odisha's debt burden has touched Rs 97,205 crore by the end of 2021-22 fiscal. Again, in the financial year 2022-23, the State was able to reduce the net debt burden by Rs 9578.37 crore till January of the current financial year. The State Government's total loan burden remained at Rs 87,626 crore by 31 January 2023, which is 11.5 percent of the GSDP.

It is estimated that the debt stock will increase to Rs 97,037 crore by March 2023 which is 12.7 percent of the GSDP. As the State Government estimated to borrow another Rs 15,000 crore during the upcoming financial year, the total debt stock will reach Rs 1.12 lakh crore by March 2024, the sources said. The State has been able to reduce the debt stock from 50.7 percent of GSDP in 2002-03 to below the prudential level of 25 percent. The Fifteenth Finance Commission and Odisha FRBM Act, 2005 prescribe for limiting the debt to GSDP ratio within 25%. The current debt level of Odisha is within the stipulated debt limit. Accordingly, the per capita loan burden in the State has decreased after several years. From Rs 23,761 by the end of Financial Year 2020-21, the figure now reached at Rs 19,825 (by January 2023).

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The BJP has announced to observe Corruption Day across Odisha on the occasion of Panchayati Raj Diwas scheduled to be held in the State as a tribute to former chief minister and freedom fighter Biju Patnaik on his 107th birth anniversary on March 5. The protest, as per official sources, will be held in as many as 314 blocks with BJP members wrapping black cloth on their hands as a symbolic opposition to corruption in the State. Lashing out at the BJD-led government, BJP State general secretary Prithviraj Harichandan said Odisha has become a breeding ground for



corruption and nearly Rs 5,000 crore worth irregularities are found every year in the Panchayati Raj system here. Addressing mediapersons, he said the BJP is posing these questions to the Odisha government: 1.) Who is doing corruption in Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)? Why is a new list of

beneficiaries not being made? 2.) Who is behind irregularities in MGNREGS and job card fraud and where is the money going to? 3.) Where is the money allocated for panchayats by the Centre to the State under Central Finance Commission (CFC) utilised? Why is the government rebranding CFC funds

and why is the money used in other sectors? 4.) Around 20 per cent people availing ration cards are ineligible. Who are these people and why is the government not monitoring ghost beneficiaries? 5.) From MLAs to officials at district and block levels, everyone is taking commission under the Panchayati

Raj structure. Why has the government stopped palli sabhas? Raising these concerns, Harichandan said the state of affairs in the PRI structure in Odisha is crying for attention. "The government's observation of Panchayati Raj Diwas is pure hogwash. While the entire nation celebrates the day on April 24, Odisha is the only state doing it on March 5. The State has become a hub for corruption and the Panchayati Raj system here is only getting politicised and drowned in corruption. Legislators of ruling party are at the helm of PRI affairs and direct democracy, which the system is supposed to embody, has gone for a toss," he said.

## 57K CR For Drinking Water



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In an aim to ensure safe drinking to all the rural habitations by 2024, the State Government has earmarked to spend an amount of Rs 57,000 on this account. This was informed during the post-budget press conference held by Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water (PR&DW) Minister Pradip Kumar Amat and Principal Secretary PR&DW, Sushil Kumar Lohani here on Friday. Under the guidance of Chief Minister, Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department has taken all out efforts to provide safe drinking water to all the rural habitations. Till now 13,930 PWS projects and 4,77,537 tube wells have been installed in the State, said Amat. He said there is a budget provision of Rs. 5750 crores under Central scheme JJM, Rs.3750 crore under State scheme BASUDHA and Rs.1000 crore under NABARD-supported RIDF to provide drinking water to the people during the financial year 2023-24. An amount of Rs.57,000 crore is the total outlay under different schemes to provide safe tap water to all families by 2024. It includes 207 Mega Drinking Water Supply Projects based on surface water at a cost

of Rs.42,000 crore. Till date, 10 projects have been completed, 163 projects are in progress while the tender process for 34 projects is going on. Out of total 88, 56,387 rural families 50,71,000 rural families of the State are being provided with tap water connection. Besides, one State level, 30 District level and 46 Sub-District level (total 77) water testing laboratories have been set up and are operational for determining drinking water quality, informed Shri Lohani. The total budget provision in respect of PR & DW Department for the FY 2023-24 is Rs. 26,311.95 crore, which is 16% higher than last year Budget. The government has made provision of Rs.1000 crore for revolving funds to provide wages to the job seekers if sanctions under MGNREGS from the Government of India are delayed, Shri Amat said. An amount of Rs. 500 crores have been earmarked as State support to MGNREGS to provide employment in existing 20 migration prone Blocks of Balangir, Bargarh, Nuapada and Kalahandi districts. In this financial year, it is proposed to extend this support to few more Blocks where rural

people migrate out of distress, he informed. During 2022-23, the Minister said, a total of 16.81 crore persondays has been generated so far. Participation in SC and ST is 50% and women participation is 47.9%. During the current FY, 31.74 lakh households have been provided employment covering 49.11 lakh beneficiaries, which also includes 15,697 differently-abled beneficiaries. 3, 36,282 households completed 100 days of employment so far. State Government commits to provide pucca houses to all houseless and households staying in Kutcha houses through various Rural Housing Schemes with a view to achieving the objective of "Shelter Security to All". State has already paid an incentive amount of Rs.1343 crore to 8.20 lakh beneficiaries towards early completion of house construction. State has paid BPGY House Repair Grant of Rs.818 crores @ Rs. 3000 per house to 27.27 Lakh Households towards completed houses under various Rural Housing Schemes. The State has set a target to construct 9.59 lakh houses under PMAY (G) including 1.42 lakh houses towards FANI affected during FY 2023-24. There is a budget

provision of Rs.5933.70 crore under PMAY (G). ORMAS partners 105 Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) to implement DDU-GKY components for making the rural poor youths skilled, employed, and economically independent and establish their own identity in the society in the long run. Since inception of the programme, 2.15 lakh youths are trained and 1.50 lakh skilled youths are placed in private companies inside and outside the State, Lohani said. During the FY 2023-24, he said, an amount of Rs.25 crore has been allotted for starting a new State scheme "Implementation support to ORMAS" for skill, livelihood & marketing. Similarly, an amount of Rs.70 crore has been allotted for capacity building of PRI members and officials under the central sponsored Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGS A) scheme. In the current fiscal year, 54,310 PRIs have been trained by utilizing Rs. 32.79 crore. For the first time, the State Government has provided Rs.250 crore in the Budget for construction of buildings for Vana Suraksha Samiti.

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## 'I'm a martial artist, but still feel unsafe at night', says 'InCar' actress Ritika Singh

Ritika Singh made her debut in the role of a boxer alongside R Madhavan in the 2016 Tamil film Irudhi Suttru. The film was simultaneously shot in Hindi and was released as Saala Khadoos. Ritika is a trained mixed martial artist and bagged the role after the film's makers discovered her during a fight. Since then, the Mumbai-based actor has shared screen space with Vijay Sethupathi and Yogi Babu in the 2016 satire Aandavan Kattalai. She has also worked alongside Telugu star Venkatesh in Guru (2017) and was last seen in the Tamil romantic fantasy film Oh My Kadavule (2020).



The actor is now leading a survivalist-thriller titled InCar. In a case of being cast against the grain, Ritika plays Sakshi in the film, a meek girl who gets abducted by a bunch of men in Haryana. The film details Sakshi's mental and physical ordeal as she awaits her fate. "I consider myself a strong woman and very resilient. Whenever a role is given to me, I think I am ready for it. But when the shooting for InCar started, I realised it was going to be tough. We shot for 35 days non-stop. More

than the physical aspect, it was the mental, emotional churning. It was so draining it felt like torture. After some time the lines between reality and acting started to blur," she says. Such roles can leave their imprint. For a long time after the shoot's wrap, Ritika shares that on some

days she didn't feel like getting out of bed. "This film was shot a while back. When I saw the trailer recently, there was this shot where the car reaches its destination. I am a very lively person in real life. Somebody, whose eyes gleam if she spots a butterfly. But, in that shot, my eyes are drained of all life.

Thankfully, now I have recovered and gotten out of that phase."

InCar also feels urgent in its themes of women's safety and crimes against them. Talking about feeling unsafe as a woman in the country she said, "I feel scared all the time. It is part of being a woman. I don't think there is any woman who feels safe on the street at night."

Sharing an experience she says, "I was taking a cab recently from Kalyan to Mumbai and the driver went away from the car to relieve himself. All this time he was away, I kept on thinking 'What if somebody enters the car?' I kept on looking outside, a bit scared. I think sometimes we take our safety for granted and think nothing bad can happen here. As a woman, I don't think you are safe anywhere."

"I am a martial artist, but still feel unsafe. My mind wanders in different directions and I start imagining how somebody will attack me and how I will defend myself. I, sometimes, am more scared because of all the awareness of an attacker's psyche that I have," she adds.

Directed by Harsh Warrdhan, the film will release in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam on March 3.

## Saiyami Kher To Essay Role Of Para-Athlete In R Balki's 'Ghoomer'

Saiyami Kher is all set to essay the role of para-athlete in R Balki's sports drama 'Ghoomer'. R Balki's 'Ghoomer' is an emotional and inspiring sports drama. Saiyami plays the role of a para-athlete. Although she grew up playing cricket, this role was especially challenging since she had the role of a para-athlete, something she had to work hard to get into character.

Saiyami said, "I play the role of a left-handed

bowler in Ghoomer and, for me, in real life, I am a right-handed player. I could never actually step into the shoes of a real-life para-athlete, but even the small hurdles I had to overcome being an athlete myself, reminded me of things we take for granted. Preparing and filming for Ghoomer opened my eyes in a way that I never thought would happen going into it. It was a physically and emotionally challenging time, but my struggles were minuscule when compared to those heroes

who make our country proud by participating in so many sports as para-athletes".

'Ghoomer', which is expected to release in 2023 is a movie about a sports prodigy and also stars

Abhishek Bachchan, Angad Bedi and Shabana Azmi in pivotal roles. Abhishek plays her coach and Angad Bedi plays her love interest in the movie. The film, which is currently in the post-production stage, is co-written by Balki, along with Rahul Sengupta and

Rishi Virmani, and is inspired by the story of Karoly Takacs, the late Hungarian right-hand shooter who won two Olympic gold medals with his left-hand after his other hand was seriously injured.

Apart from this, Saiyami will also be playing the role of a firefighter in the action drama 'Angi', which also stars Pratik Gandhi. The action drama 'Agni', which is directed by Raees helmer Rahul Dholakia. The cast of 'Agni' recently wrapped up their shoot.



## Rajkumar Rao, Alaya F to bring inspiring story of Srikanth Bolla through 'SRI'



Actors Rajkumar Rao and Alaya F who are gearing up to inspire the audience with the moving story of Indian visionary Srikanth Bolla, titled 'SRI', on Thursday, makers unveiled the release date of the film.

Taking to his Instagram, Rajkumar treated fans with the new announcement related to the movie. Sharing a short clip with the release date, he wrote, "The inspiring story of Srikanth Bolla #SRI all set to release 15th September 2023!."

Rajkumar Rao will be seen essaying the role of visually impaired industrialist Srikanth Bolla. Helmed by 'Saand Ki Aankh' director Tushar Hiranandani, the biopic stars Rajkumar Rao, Sharad Kelkar and south actor Jyothika in the lead roles and is based on the life of industrialist Srikant Bolla, who didn't let his visual impairment come in the way of his vision and founded Bollant Industries.

Srikanth has faced immense opposition and struggle early in life right from his birth to fighting a long-standing legal battle with the state after class 10 to opt science stream. However, Srikanth always had bigger dreams, he not only cleared his tenth and twelfth standard exams with flying colours but also managed to be the first international blind student to study at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

The new project will be produced by Bhushan Kumar's T-Series and Chalk N Cheese Films Production LLP. The film slated to release on September, 15, 2023.

Apart from this film, Rajkumar will be seen sharing screen space with Janhvi Kapoor in 'Mr. And Mrs. Mahi'. He also has 'Bheed' with Bhumi Pednekar in his kitty. The film is scheduled to hit the cinemas on March 24 March 2023.

## Naga Chaitanya meets Ilaiyaraaja



Actor Naga Chaitanya had a fanboy moment meeting music maestro Ilaiyaraaja recently.

Naga Chaitanya described how he felt on meeting the Aagaasam hitmaker. He wrote, "And this happened today ! Such a big smile on my face meeting the Maestro Ilaiyaraaja sir , his compositions took me through so many journeys in life .. so many times have I played out a scene in my head , pictured a script with his reference .. to now rajasir composing for #custody . Truly grateful."

Ilaiyaraaja is scoring the music for Naga Chaitanya's 'Custody' along with his son Yuvan Shankar Raja.

The 'Custody' is directed by Ilaiyaraaja's nephew and filmmaker Venkat Prabhu. The film stars Krithi Shetty Arvind Swamy, Priyamani, R Sarathkumar, Vennela Kishore, Sampath Raj, Premji, Premi Vishwanath and Ramki.

Going by the posters of the movie and the tagline "You must be the change you want to see in the world (A quote of Mahatma Gandhi)", it looks like Custody has Naga Chaitanya playing a rebel constable, who is trapped by the system.

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## BIJU PATNAIK : The Legendary Administrator

Biju Patnaik had a brief tenure in office as he was 'Kamarajed' (A legendary Administrator) out in October, 1963. But during this period he injected a rare dynamism into the administration and lifted the "featureless and futureless" people of Orissa out of despondency. He acutely felt that Orissa mirrors the paradox of all backward areas - poverty amidst potential plenty. Orissa has a wealth of natural resources and yet it is the poorest and most backward state of India. Therefore for him any plan for the development of these vast natural resources, which shall help transform poverty into plenty may well serve as a model for other similarly situated areas in India.

Within that short period during which he took the stewardship of the State administration, Biju Patnaik laid the blue print for Orissa's development and the State was on the threshold of a new of industrial revolution. He not only accelerated the process of development, but was able to locate a number of new industries in the State - the MIG factory at Sunabeda, Balimela Dam, Public Corporations, Panchayat Industries, the Express High way and a lot many. His ambitious projects, which he named as "Decade of Destiny" was meant to elevate the State to a new height.

Biju could not tolerate red-tapism. He would have a thing done immediately and not suffer any delay. Result he was charged with administrative

impropriety. To the officials his advise was, "be loyal to me not to the government but to the destinies of this State, to the prosperity of the people". There is a story that once when a speeding motor truck carrying stones for the Paradeep Port was stopped by a traffic policeman, the driver humorously replied that the speed suggested by the policeman would delay the port work by several years, when Biju Patnaik wanted everybody to work at top gear.

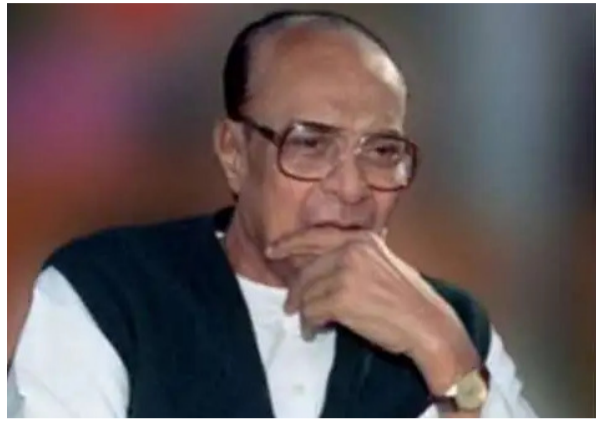
The importance that Biju attached to Orissa's industrial development was reflected in his speech which he delivered at the inauguration of the Orissa Planning Board on June 15, 1962. He had said - "A people cannot grow unless the industries were developed and established here". Calling upon the bureaucrats to change their work-style, Patnaik said, "In the new set-up in the new adventure which we are going to embark upon, I would expect my officials to become thinkers and administrators in turn. I would expect them to collectively and willingly push the State towards the goal of prosperity. I would expect them to become leaders of men and not leaders of the longest notes on the files".

At the invitation of Biju Patnaik, Internationally known Biologist, Scientist and Philosopher Prof. J.B.S. Haldane accepted the post of the Director of the Biometry and Genetics Laboratory at

Bhubaneswar, which was set up by the Government of Orissa. Prof. Haldane, who imparted to the Indian scientific scene a certain colour and character, became an Indian citizen in 1960 and devoted himself to assisting development of science in this rapidly developing country. He accepted Biju's offer because he (Biju) was 'capable of displaying great respect towards individuals whom he considered to be performing worthwhile work'. This genius died in Bhubaneswar on 1st December, 1964.

After Biju Patnaik took the rein of the State administration, Orissa witnessed rapid strides in education. The period between 1961-67 is aptly described as the golden era in the history of education of the State. At his initiative the Regional College of Education was set up at Bhubaneswar. The Regional Engineering College at Rourkela was established in 1961, the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology was set up and during the Chief Ministership of Biren Mitra (when Biju was the Chairman of the State Planning Board). Universities were established in Berhampur and Sambalpur. Thus Biju is responsible for the giant leap forward of education in Orissa. When the Union government refused to construct the Paradeep Port, as the Chief Minister of Orissa he took upon himself to mobilize resources from within the State and built the Rs.14 Crore Port when the

### Uma Shankar Prasad



Centre did not show much interest in the project Patnaik's strong stand on the issue was vindicated when the Centre took over the Port after some years. Biju Patnaik proved his extraordinary organising ability by successfully holding the Congress Session in 1964 at Bhubaneswar. His dream was fulfilled when on 12th March 1966, the Paradeep Port was commissioned.

A close confidant of Pandit Nehru, Biju enjoyed free access to Teen Murti Bhawan, the P.M.'s official residence. Nehru had entrusted him with the additional responsibilities of advising him on defense matters during the Chinese aggression and Patnaik was allotted an office near P.M.'s office in North Block. Pandit Nehru had asked him to visit the United States as an Advisory to the Ministry of External Affairs and discuss sensitive defense issues with the U.S. administration. During his stay in Washington, Biju gave interviews to 'Baltimore Sun' and 'Washington Post', in which he said that he had come to seek both ground to ground and air to air missiles along with radars,

which could conceivably be tied to a network of the South East Asian Treaty Organisation (SEATO). US newspapers also portrayed the Orissa Chief Minister as the corning defense Minister as the coming defence Minister, who will replace Y.B. Chouhan. The opposition charged Biju Patnaik with 'impropriety of revealing defence secrets, including details of the strength of the Indian Army'. There was a furore in Parliament and even the Lok Sabha Speaker Sardar Hukum Singh ruled that- 'it is not proper to disclose such information which is denied here'. But the Prime Minister strongly supported Biju and declared in the Parliament that whatever has been said by him to American newspaper 'did not harm us in any way'. This controversy highlighted how close Biju was to Pt. Nehru.

The Indian National Congress has split in 1969. In May 1970 Biju Patnaik and his followers left the Congress (R) in protest against "naked bossism" and central imposition after he had been denied a ticket to Rajya Sabha by the Congress High Command; although his case was sponsored by the Provincial Congress Committee. In 1970 he resigned from Congress Party and subsequently formed a regional party Utkal Congress. In the 1971 election, no party came out with a clear majority. Biju Patnaik and the Swatantra leader R.N. Singh Deo joined hands. This came as a surprise to political observers, as Singh Deo was a bitter critic of Biju. And with the support of the Jharkhand Party, they formed a United Front. Biju successfully persuaded the 82 years Old veteran Politician Biswanath Das to become the Chief Minister, after his long spell of Political retirement.

A long illustrious career came to an end on 17th April, 1997 when Biju Patnaik passed away at Delhi. His death one of the worst tragedies that had ever happened to the State of Orissa and removed the greatest figure of our time at very climax of his career. Grief and shock swept across Orissa as news of his death spread. It was perhaps a tryst with destiny that Patnaik was cremated at Swargarwara, Puri. He was to rest in peace close to the abode of his Kalia (Lord Jagannath). Though he was not religious in the traditional sense, he had a sentimental attachment to Lord Jagannath. While addressing public meeting in front of the Puri Jagannath Temple, he used to enter into a monologue with the Lord.

"It may not be exaggeration to say that Biju Patnaik was the tallest among all leader from Orissa, who made their mark in national politics. A major reason why he acquired his status was undoubtedly his romantic, impulsive nature, which made him stand out even at a time when, with Nehru and J.P. at the height of their power and there was no death of colourful politicians in India". According to the veteran journalist, there is no epithet that is not used about him. "Why, volatile, flamboyant, dynamic, reckless, daredevil, damn efficient" and what not? Perhaps all these suit him in one context or the other. But in the jungle of attributes his essential human qualities, his deep

love for the people, are often missed. Once Patnaik is deeply moved by the peoples' distress, he will move mountains to give succour. When Government at the State and the centre were busy doing maths on relief expenditure. Biju pressed into service a private aircraft and himself started dropping food packets to the marooned thousands who would have perished, but for this prompt step.

Tales and anecdotes about him are a legion. There is a story that Pt. Nehru once asked Dr. B.C. Roy - Have you met a man called Biju Patnaik? "I have heard about him : but not yet met him", was the reply of the Bengal Chief MINISTER. Nehru said, meet him sometimes. I like such forward-looking, brave people. The only difficult is that sometimes you don't know where he will land you.

A giant transference of energy had taken place between him and his people. He delighted the people by his youthfulness of spirit and body and the people were attracted to his spontaneity and utter freedom from pompousness. In the end, his great strength far outweighed his weakness. Therefore when he died, even his most partisan adversaries felt compelled to acknowledge the immensity of the man they had opposed.

Columnist-cum-Sr. Journalist Bhagat Lane, Main Road, Khordha, Odisha Mob. 8895547490

## Holi : The festival of Colors to Convert Hatred into Love



Holi is not only a religious but a cultural festival; this festival is a unique opportunity to share happiness, love and positivity. The biggest quality of our culture is that all the festivals celebrated here enhance the love, unity and goodwill among the people by establishing human qualities in the society. The spirit behind all the festivals celebrated here is to provide prosperity to human dignity. Holi has a special message that just as nature is full of colours, life should also be full of colours. The colours of life should be such that deep reverence in God along with oneself. Holi is a perfect festival in terms of purity associated with any festival. It is a unique festival which not only associates the body, but also the soul. Holi is a festival of happiness. The happiness in us is also the colour of our soul. In fact, Holi is the

festival of fun and laughter. The most famous story about this festival is also in relation to Prahlada and Holika. Naradapurana states that Prahlada, the son of a demon named Hiranyakashipu, was an exclusive Hari-bhakta, while Hiranyakashipu considered Narayana to be his ultimate enemy. There was also a severe punishment system for chanting the name of Narayana or Srihari in his kingdom. Seeing his son as a Hari-bhakta, he warned many times, but a supreme devotee like Prahlada was always absorbed in piety. His father tried to kill him several times by taking various measures. But, he survived every time by the grace of Narayana. Holika, sister of Hiranyakashipu, had the boon of not burning in the fire. So she entered the fire with her nephew Prahlad in her lap. But by the grace of God, Prahlada came out alive and Holika was burned. The festival of Holi signifies 'Victory of Truth over untruth and 'Victory of Virtue over Misconduct'. In this way, the festival of Holi also symbolizes the victory of truth, justice, devotion and faith and the destruction of injustice, sin and demonic practices.

Holi is a festival that breaks all our limits and unites us. That is why we colour each other and say, May your life also be full of colours. Apart from the euphoria of colours, there are many other mythological stories to celebrate the festival of Holi. In North East India, Holika dahan



is celebrated as the slaughter day of demonic Putna by Lord Krishna, is celebrated as Putna Daah, then in South India it is believed that on this day Lord Shiva consumed the third eye shell of Kamadeva and he danced the ashes on his body. Thereafter, Lord Shiva revived Kamdev, being moved by the grief of Kamadeva's wife Rati, which pleased the gods and showered them with colours. For this reason, on the eve of Holi, fire is

ignited in South India and sugarcane, mango blossom and sandalwood are added to it. Here, sugarcane symbolizes the bow of Cupid, mango blossom of Cupid, the burning of Cupid by the burning fire Shiva and the chanting of sandalwood to

calm Kamdev for burning with fire. Many cultural and public related programs are held to celebrate Holi. The events of Holi in metropolitan culture have given Holi a new zeal and enthusiasm. In these events, there are cultural programs to play songs in a very polite manner. Ghoomar which is a Rajasthani event associated with Holi, people get excited about it. Delicious food items with sandalwood tilak and refresher drinks give this festival a dignified image.

In late night ghoomar, dandiya dance and singing troupes from different regions enhance their fun and joy as the night progresses through their performances. There was no mutual trust, no mutual love, nor a sublime feeling of cooperation, nor did the tone of unity arise in the struggle. No one held hands in the crowd of scattering, nor did anyone release the request. Like this, the divided mind is standing alone in the hope of finding everything again. How false is this wait, how much meaning is this reception. Let us also bring together the countless possibilities of the future and create

a conscious atmosphere again. Make a pledge to fill the colour of truth in it. Holi requires an atmosphere and a mind too, a mind where we are all one and uproot the filthy layers of the mind so that all the faces reflected in the mirror of the undivided mind can be felt by us. In Mathura and Vrindavan, the grand hues of Holi are seen. With the arrival of Basantotsav, the atmosphere of Vrindavan is included in a wonderful fun, the festival of spring is also celebrated with great pomp here. The joy of this festival does not slow down even when it starts, the cool month of Falgun. The traditions of Phalgun month and Holi are related to the pastimes of Shri Krishna and have special significance in the devotee's heart. Celebrating the colorful and joyous festival of Holi with a full devotion of Shri Krishna is a unique experience. Falgun Shukla Ekadashi has special significance in the city of temples Vrindavan. On this day, playing the colours of Holi starts in the traditional form. Both the fun and devotion of Holi in temples spreads its unique beauty. In order to paint

themselves in the colour of this divine month and Holi, devotees come to Vrindavan from far off places and celebrate Holi with full enthusiasm. The environment of Vrindavanis filled with Shri Krishna vibes and the fun of Holi prevails in that too. The special heart-touching dance of the group of devotees is very attractive as soon as it is made in the holy land of Vrindavan. There is no kind of worry, no malice and no madams, only a pleasant atmosphere prevails. To organize Holi in its entirety, we need not only the mind, but also the atmosphere and this is seen in Vrindavan. The word Holi means purity in the English language. Purity is useful to every person and if the heritage of purity is associated with this festival, then the importance of this festival becomes hundred percent. The question is, how permanent is this happiness, which becomes a passion in the days of Holi? The melodic sound of dhapli (drums) and the Dandiya Raas chimes limited the usefulness of a festival like Holi to what can only be called instantaneous happiness, while expecting this tradition of colours to

provide long-term. Such a bond of affection and respect, of love, of friendship and harmony should be tied on which a person can be inspired to do something new. Celebration is the nature of consciousness and the celebration that emanates from silence is real. Holi is a celebration of consciousness. The more one feels joyful by him, the more colours are filled with colours in his life. In a festival like Holi, all kinds of distractions are erased, then it should be felt that in the fire of Holi, all our sufferings, sorrows, worries, animosity etc. should be ignited and the colour of happiness, cheerfulness and joy in life should be scattered. We should have made some resolution and it can be resolved that we ourselves live a peaceful life and wish for a peaceful life for all. Such a resolution and such a life can really make Holi meaningful.

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# Concern for Calcutta & other NGOs celebrate Holi with Rajasthani Culture



**Kolkata :** The spirit of Holi found its complete manifestation in a programme organized by a group of well known NGOs Concern for Calcutta and jointly with Rajasthan Maitri Parishad and Calcutta Citizen's initiatives. Festival of Holi was celebrated with Dhap, Dances and songs by team of 17 Artistes from Rajasthan, Thursday Evening at Rotary Sadan, Kolkata.

Chairman of the organizing committee that Holi represents the spirit of colours of love and affection among people in our Society. IN his welcome address KS Adhikari said Holi celebration has become an yearly signature programme to share joy of music, Dance and cultural programme of diverse range. The Guests of the programme were leading personalities such as BL Soti, Director of

Associated Road Carriers Ltd, and President of Churu Nagarik Parishad, Dr SK Sharma, former Sheriff of Calcutta, Dr Purnendu Roy, CMD of Genesis Hospital Group, CM Bachhawat, former Member of West Bengal Taxation Tribunal and Subhas Sethi, MD, SPML Infra Ltd. Shishir Bajoria, President Rajasthan Bengal Maitri Parishad also sent his greetings to all. Sonu Bawra, Gita,

Anwar bhai and Jk Sunkar's Rajasthani Bawra Music group was a special attraction that kept the audience in spell-bound. Sprit of Rajasthani folk songs typical to the celebration of Holi fully found its expression. The Programme started with famous Hindi songs rendered by German Lady Sabina Pandey followed by vocalists Ganga Pachisia and Joeeta Basu. The programme concluded

with a Bihu Dance rendered by well known Dance Director Swati Banerjee and her Troupe. Joeeta Basu anchored the programme very well. G.M. Kapur, Pawan Paharia, Deepak Jain, Ashok Purohit, KN Gupta, Jagat Baid, Pritipal Singh, Kaushalya Jain, Shashi Agarwal, Pratibha Kothari, J.P. Sethia, Indraj Lodha and others actively participated for making the programme so success.

# NSS Unit of Rajdhani College Organises an Awareness Webinar on "Yamuna River Conservation"

**New Delhi (KCN) :** NSS, Rajdhani College of University of Delhi organised a webinar in collaboration with NGO Bhumi on the topic "Yamuna River Conservation" under the project Vasundhara. On this occasion, Raghav, one of the Chief

many, not only economically but by religious means how are we attached to it but sadly it isn't clean and it is all polluted. During her lecture, a video was displayed which very clearly depicted the plight of our holy river and how we,

water is 7 but it is disheartening that Yamuna's PH has gone down to 7 or 8 which makes it extremely acidic. Showing us the ray of hope he told how despite Delhi being the heart of the problem there are ways by which we can fix everything



Guests and an active volunteers of the foundation introduced the students the Bhumi foundation and its working from past seventeen years. Kirti, the guest speaker from the team, joined the event and spoke about the significance of ecosystem. She also explained in the most simplest way how River Yamuna is a lifeline to

humans are responsible for this. Karan, the guest speaker told everyone how in the delhi stretch pollution and the Yamuna river are going hand in hand. There are no dumping grounds or dustbin nearby for the residents or the shopkeeper there to dump their waste leading to disposal of trash in the river itself. The PH of a normal

and showed a path and different ways by how the river can be brought back to its initial sate just what is required are some hardworking minds with the motto of Yamuna's restoration and cleanliness in their heart. After the question answer session, the event was ended with vote of thanks for the Guest of Honour by the Programme Officer Megha Agarwal.

# Woman should grow as 'Shakti'

warangal(KCN): that the sky is the limit for women to grow. Hanuma konda Zilla Parishad Chairma n M.Sudheer said. Servo Daya Youth Organization, District Rural Development Organization, Women and Child Development Welfare are Department, District Medical and Health Department jointly organized the International Women's Day on Friday and spoke as the chief guest. He said that despite the priority of girls in the family at all times, the birth of girls is not liked but in many areas there are only 915 girls for every 1000 boys born. He said that the



government is providing many schemes and opportunities for women and there are laws, systems and organizations to help them. Srinivasa Rao Project Director District Rural Development Organization said that

Bhimadevarapalli Bharatamata Samaikya Sangham has been recognized as the best association at the state level due to the efforts of women. He said that a woman will think of such ideas that are useful for their family, work and

society Jhansilakshmi Regional Director of Women and Child Welfare Department said, that women are the main role in health and nutrition in the family and they have come a long way with their own strength. Dr. Vanishree

said that wome n's problems can be removed with collectiveefforts Dr. Pallepada Damodar Secretary Sarvodaya Youth Organization, speaking said that Sarvodaya organization is creating awareness in 16 villages with various progra ms for women's rights and implementation of laws District Mass Media Officer Ashok Reddy, CDPO Swaroop ZPTC Ramesh, MPP Jakkula Anitha, MPDO Bhaskar Sarpanchs, MPTCs, CCs Sadanandam, Karunakar icds supervisors, vos and members of the organization participated in this program.

# "Easy To Make Allegation, Doesn't Make It True": Australia Ex PM On Hindenburg



**New Delhi:** Australia's former Prime Minister Tony Abbott has dismissed allegations of fraud by US based short seller Hindenburg Research against the Adani group as just that, allegations.

"It's easy to make allegations. Just because something has been alleged, doesn't make it true. My recollection of the principles of the common law is you're innocent until proven guilty," Mr Abbott told NDTV in an interview today.

in central Queensland, am very delighted that Adani coal is now coming to India to help with electrification of the country because you can't have a modern life without 24x7 electricity. That's what Australian coal from Adani mining is helping to provide, as a result of that deal that our government finalised late last year," Mr Abbott told NDTV, adding he is "very pleased" that Australian coal from Adani is now helping to provide 24x7 power to millions of people in India.

# PM & CM can reduce Poverty in Capital India

**Delhi/ Bhubaneswar: (KCN):** Delhi is the Capital of our country, India where visitors from Abroads and from different States of India come to Delhi as it is a Historical well world class patterns developed metropolitan City of India. When anyone passes through different roads, he or she will see the heart touching and sorrowful ness conditions of the road side staying poor, backward and needy peoples of the Society. They are staying on the road sides in the open air keeping faith, trust & positive hope on Almighty, if anyone will see, he or she can cry. It is not a big & hard work for our India Government as the Government can construct Shelter Houses for the road side staying peoples of India for the sake of equality, integrity, prestige and dignity of our County. Once the Honorable Prime Minister & Chief Minister of Delhi will



personally look into this piquant and miserable conditions of road side staying peoples, they can not sleep as to narrate, explain & to feel poverty or poor ness is heart touching and sorrowful ness. The sensitive and intellectual Citizens of

India do appeal before the Honorable Prime Minister of India & the Honorable Chief Minister of Delhi to look into this sensitive issue personally going into the indepth impartially on humanity ground and do take immediate prompt step for Nation Building.

# Healthcare Professionals Helped India Defeat Covid: Health Minister

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi's faith in the Indian scientific community and stellar healthcare professionals across the country helped India conquer "unsurmountable challenges" during the pandemic, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Saturday. He said India set an exemplary pro-vaccination Covid management model when other countries were struggling with vaccine hesitancy. Mr Mandaviya was speaking at the release of a book -- titled 'India's Vaccine Growth Story-From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' -- authored by Sajjan



Singh Yadav, Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure in the Finance Ministry, at Pragati Maidan here.

"The combination of Narendra Modi's faith in the Indian scientific community and the stellar healthcare professionals across country led India to conquer unsurmountable challenges to achieve a feat no country has before, catering not just to its own nation, but supplying life-saving vaccines worldwide, all in due time," the health minister said. Hailing the unwavering dedication of healthcare professionals, Mr Mandaviya said, "India administered 2.2 billion doses as a part of the world's largest Covid vaccination drive without any shortages across the nation resulting in saving 3.4 million lives." He also encouraged writers to inculcate research-based documentation that would lend a voice to India's treasure of traditions and heritage that lay dormant and forgotten.

"So if there is anything in it, I'm sure the regulators will look into it and let the cards fall where they may. But as far as I am concerned, I am grateful for the faith Adani group has shown in Australia," he said, referring to Adani investments worth billions of dollars in his country. He credited the Adani group for creating jobs and wealth in Australia with those investments, and also drew attention to the Narendra Modi government's efforts at ensuring 24x7 power to millions in India with the help of Australian coal that Adani has imported without having to pay any tariffs. "Well, obviously, as someone who very much supported Adani mining

in Australia... I admire the way Adani and his team have shown perseverance in Australia. As for the claims that have been made about various market dealings and so on, I'm confident that if there is anything in them, it will be referred to the relevant regulator, who will deal with it because Adani is a company that operates under the law. India is a country that operates under the rule of law," Mr Abbott said. Adani Mining's flagship development is the Carmichael mine and rail project, located some 300 km west of the Queensland coast. It is a thermal coal mine and rail project, which transports coal from the Galilee Basin to countries in Asia, including India, delivering thousands of jobs for Queenslanders in the process. On the allegations by Hindenburg, the Supreme Court has formed a six-member committee comprising subject matter experts to look into it. Adani's Carmichael coal mine has faced protests over the years over allegations that it would greatly contribute to global warming and damage the Great Barrier Reef.

## National Security Day: Vedanta Aluminium recruits transgender security professionals for its largest aluminium smelter

**Bhubaneswar; 4th March 2023:** On National Security Day, Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, has recruited seven transgender professionals for the security function of its plant at Jharsuguda (Odisha), which is one of the world's largest aluminium smelters. The seven employees Aarunita Payasingh, Aarohi Sharma, Sandhya Yadav, Siddhi Nage, Khushi Dhruv, Pavitra and Roma Dhruw, will join the company's formidable security team and will be responsible for ensuring strict round-the-clock security of the assets and workforce. This is the second hiring of L G B T Q I A + professionals at

Vedanta Aluminium, with the previous recruits working at the company's Chhattisgarh-based subsidiary, BALCO, in security and material handling functions. Last year, the company embarked on the mission to expand its recruitment ambit to tap into the LQBTQIA+ talent pool, who are yet to find acceptance in the mainstream and corporate world. With 14 transgender employees, Vedanta Aluminium is now amongst the handful of manufacturing companies in India and the world to have L G B T Q I A + employees in core operations. Globally, the gender diversity ratio in manufacturing and heavy engineering industries has traditionally been low,



and this deficit is even more acute in metals and mining. To build a diverse workforce, Vedanta Aluminium has been working extensively towards attracting high-potential women and L G B T Q I A + professionals to join its ranks.

Building an empathetic & inclusive environment by conducting gender-sensitization sessions

for its workforce, with respect to the social and psychological challenges of trans people, proper code of conduct and ways of working to build a cohesive and encouraging environment for all. This also includes ensuring required infrastructural augmentations.

Going forward, the company intends to recruit more

employees, both directly and indirectly through its business partners, from the L G B T Q I A + community to further increase the diversity of its workforce.

Welcoming the new trans colleagues, Mr. Sunil Gupta, CEO, Vedanta Ltd., Jharsuguda, said, At Vedanta Aluminium's Jharsuguda operations, we strive to foster a work culture that

celebrates diversity, equity & inclusion. We have an intersectional approach to diversity, one that recognizes merit and celebrates the diversity of experiences and identities within the broader endeavours towards creating equitable workplaces. We have plans to enhance the diversity of our employee base further so we can harness the full potential of our human capital for adding value to the business, our stakeholders and the country at large."

Arohi Sharma, one of the newly recruited transgender employees, said, "Vedanta Jharsuguda has taken utmost care towards ensuring a comfortable induction into the organization for me and my colleagues. We have been provided with robust functional and

safety trainings, sessions on diversity and equal opportunity, and technical trainings for our roles & responsibilities as part of the company's security force. Our colleagues are friendly and respectful and have made us feel welcomed. I am thankful to Vedanta for this life-changing opportunity."

Another employee, Roma Dhruw, adds, "From struggling to survive in society to being given the responsibility to handle the security of one of the world's largest aluminium plants, I am proud to have come this far. This is a milestone moment in our lives, and the transgender community. I thank Vedanta Aluminium for giving us the opportunity to be part of the company's growth

journey." Vedanta Aluminium, a business of Vedanta Limited, is India's largest producer of aluminium, manufacturing more than half of India's aluminium i.e., 2.27 million tonnes in FY22. It is a leader in value-added aluminium products that find critical applications in core industries. Vedanta Aluminium ranks 2nd in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) 2022 world rankings for aluminium industry, a reflection of its sustainable development practices. With its world-class aluminium smelters, alumina refinery and power plants in India, the company fulfils its mission of spurring emerging applications of aluminium as the 'Metal of the Future' for a greener tomorrow.

## Capacity Building cum Awareness Programme on Child Protection conducted at Isolated areas of Krushnaprasad Block of Puri

**Puri (KCN)** - With participation of more than 700 students, teachers and officials, of 12 schools, the capacity building cum awareness programme on child protection conducted in isolated areas of Krushnaprasad Block like; Malud, Morada, Badjhad, Chilika Nuapada. Two teams including Protection Officer M. Subhanarayan Satapathy, Legal Probation Officer Mr. Santosh Kumar Saahu, Social Worker Mr. Bijay Kumar Parida and Accountant Mr. Harekrushna Sahoo of District Child Protection Unit, Puri visited to the area on 2nd and 3rd March 2023. The matter was raised in the District Child Protection Committee meeting earlier and decided to conduct various capacity building and awareness programme in the isolated areas of Krushnaprasad block. With direction of District Administration and in coordination with Block Education Officer, Mr. Manguli Charan Jena, the programme was conducted. The team deliberated on child



rights, good touch and bad touch, role of students, peers, stakeholders, Childline, Child Welfare Committee on prevention of child marriage, child labour, child trafficking etc in detail. In two days there are so many events like; traditional Paika Play, song, dance, yoga, mono act etc conducted by the

children at Rashakudi Ashram School. Mr. Prabhat Kumar Satapathy, Headmaster Rasakudi Ashram School, Mr. Sayabrata Sahoo, ABEO and Mr. Sidheswar Karan, ABEO extended their utmost cooperation to make the programme successful. Children opined, "We learn so many things on our

rights, protection and it will be very helpful for us". Parents and teachers conveyed thanks to the district team who have dedicatedly worked for the area and created awareness staying there for 2 days. They also demanded for similar frequent awareness on child protection in the area.

## Educationist Er.Suraj donated blood to the needy patient in an emergency



**Cuttack Sadra, (KCN)** : Leading Social Organization Bishnupriya Charitable Trust Orissa (BCT) Cuttack branch coordinator Educationist, Youth Social worker Er.Suraj Kumar Behera belongs to Villagers of Baral, 42 Mouza Cuttack Sadra Block donate blood In emergency requirement time to one patients of Bhadrak at Central Redcross Cuttack branch. Moreover Blood donor Er.Suraj donated 25 times blood till time. As a Corona warriors, lifesaver and a good volunteers he has

done several types of Seva work through BCT in lots of social work program like Plantation, Food distribution, youth awareness, organized blood donation camp, teaching to rural children, seva at orphan houses so that he has create a milestone in society. For his best quality he awarded by The Muhan Sahitya Sansad Mumbai, Saraswati Kala Parishad Kandarpur, Kishorenagar Sishu Mangal Club, Utkal Vikash Parisad (UVP) Cuttack Sadra and much more Organizations.



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## Tata Steel celebrates 'World Environment Day' at Joda

Joda: In line with the theme declared by the United Nations of '#OnlyOneEarth' and reiterating its commitment towards creating a sustainable tomorrow, Tata Steel observed World Environment Day at Joda on Sunday.

As part of the celebrations, mass plantation drives were organised at various locations including Joda East Iron Mine, Khondbond Iron Mine, Ferro Alloys Plant and Bichakundi Manganese Mines. Apart from mass plantation, to create awareness on environmental sustainability, drawing

competitions amongst school children from various schools of peripheral villages along with awareness sessions were organised. The winners of the various competitions were awarded with certificates and gifts. Apart from this, fruit bearing saplings were also distributed among the School children during the drawing competitions.

Tata Steel Foundation also organised many activities on the day that started with plantation of saplings in various Schools across Joda including UPME School, Joda, Government Upper Primary School,

Khondbond and Boys' & Girls' Residential Bridge Course (RBCs) Centres. To promote sustainability among the children, Tata Steel Foundation also organised drawing competitions among the students. It may be noted here that the celebrations would continue throughout the month of June, which is being observed as 'Sustainability Month' across Tata Steel. As part of the month-long celebrations, a series of activities has been planned that includes awareness campaigns, webinars, and online quiz competitions on the theme 'Be Earth Smart'.

## Reliance General Insurance Introduces the Power of Choice in Health Insurance

**Bhubaneswar** : Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd. (RGICL), one of India's leading Private General Insurance Companies, launches the most flexible and customisable health insurance policy – Reliance Health Gain. The policy offers customers an opportunity to design their health insurance policy by choosing features as per their need and paying only for what they choose. RGICL has brought out three different plans - Plus, Power and Prime – and an array of features to facilitate customisation of policy for each customer. With this launch, Reliance General aims to address the evolving and unique medical needs of

modern-day customers of all age groups.

Reliance Health Gain comes loaded with 38 industry leading features like Double Cover that provides twice the amount of sum-insured to be used during same claim; Unlimited reinstatement to restore the base sum insured amount as many times as it gets exhausted during a policy year; Guaranteed Cumulative Bonus, that protects loss of cumulative bonus post claim; or the benefit to reduce Pre-Existing disease waiting period from 3 years to 2 or even 1 year. With many more such benefits, the product has been designed keeping in mind the modern health-insurance consumer.

Excited about the launch, Rakesh Jain, the

Chief Executive Officer, RGICL, said, "Consideration towards health insurance has seen a rapid surge as an aftermath of the pandemic, people are more aware about modern treatments and rising healthcare costs. But choosing the right insurance cover is still a problem most customers face. With the Reliance Health Gain Policy, we want to give customers the 'Power of Choice', so that they can design their health insurance as per their needs. We are positive that Reliance Health Gain Policy will empower customers with choices and help them take control over their health insurance policies. 'Make your own policy' is a futuristic model as it is aimed to bring greater transparency and enhanced trust."

## "WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY" OBSERVED AT ADITYA ALUMINIUM

**Bhubaneswar**: World Environment Day was observed at Aditya Aluminium, a subsidiary of Hindalco Industries Limited of Aditya Birla Group on 5th June 2022 at Chandamal Village of Jangala G.P. under Rengali Block in Sambalpur District. through Mass Planation Drive and at various places of surrounding. The Day was observed in presence of Mr. Sameer Nayak Unit Head, Dr. Vivekananda Mishra Vice President & Head HR, Mr. Satya Prasad Das Head ER & IR, Mr. Goluk Maharana Forest Office Rengali, Mr. Golekh Gaygaria Forest Office, Ms. Reeta Biswal Sarapanch Jangla, Ms

Gandi Behera Ex Sarapanch & Social worker Jangla. Mr. Rajib Mishra Swadhin Ekta Sangathan, Mr. Seshadeb pradhan Ex Sarapanch. To mark the event and make it a memorable event 200 mango saplings were planted in Chandamal Village to convert wasteland into mango orchard. Aditya is planting 30000 saplings for avenue plantation, backyard garden, wasteland development and greenbelt development. Many competitions like Drawing, Slogan & Posters were organized on the World Environment Day's theme "Only One Earth"

from 2nd to 4th June. All winners were felicitated with prizes on the occasion. Ms. Gayatri Sahoo a complete blind from birth CSR Team member presented a beautiful poem on Environment Conservation. An engaging Skit Dashkatia was presented on Only One Earth demonstrating importance of environment conservation and effect of Climate change on our lives. A nursery was also inaugurated named as "MAHIMA NURSERY" by all dignitaries. The purpose of developing nursery in the village to provide collective & hybrid saplings of different fruit bearing & flowers in a cheap rate.

## IMI, Bhubaneswar to organize its 9th Annual Convocation today

**Bhubaneswar** : Director, International Management Institute, Bhubaneswar will be organizing its 9th Annual Convocation on June 7, 2022. Shri Suresh Narayanan, Chairman and Managing Director, Nestle India Ltd. will be the chief guest of the event. The convocation ceremony will be presided over by the Chairman Board of Governor, IMI Board and Prof. Ramesh Behl,

International Management Institute, Bhubaneswar is NBA, NAAC and AMBA accredited Institution which offers PGDM, FPM and executive education. On this occasion, a total of 103 students will be receiving their diplomas from the Chairman BOG. The Institute also recognizes the

achievements of its students and to honour, various medals and certificates will be awarded to the graduating students during the convocation ceremony. This year, along with gold and silver medals, Dr. Ramaprasad Goenka's Best Student Medal and the Director's Medal for overall contribution will be awarded.

## Crompton leads the energy revolution in India with its range of star-rated energy efficient fans

**Mumbai**: Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd., India's market leader in electric fans strengthened its commitment to energy efficiency with a complete transition to star-rated ceiling fans. With this announcement, the company implemented a significant change by switching its entire ceiling fan range to energy-efficient star-rated fans, effective from January 1, 2023 in compliance with the new Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) norms. At an informative media roundtable event held in Mumbai today, the company detailed out its product portfolio, technological prowess, distribution strategy and communication plan that supports this mass transition.

With this move, Crompton has aligned with the Government's vision of achieving its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reiterating its commitment to energy efficiency, enabling and empowering every citizen to make the 'Switch to Save'.



The ceiling fan is one of the most used appliances across Indian households, contributing around 15% to the overall electricity bill per household. As millions of fans are sold annually across India, it indeed, consumes a huge amount of electricity. Given the indispensable daily use of ceiling fans, any improvement in their energy efficiency will have a big impact on overall electricity consumption. Crompton hence democratizes energy savings in ceiling fans by offering its energy efficient ceiling fan portfolio to all segments of Indian

Consumers. With a rich legacy of over 80 years, Crompton has dominated the ceiling fan industry with a leading market share. Considering every 2 seconds, 1 Crompton fan is sold in the country, the company has supplied close to a massive 2 crore fans in a year. Hence, Crompton is well-placed to lead this massive transformation and continue to build focus on energy conservation in the country. In addition to this, the company has also revealed a new TVC titled "Bachat ab sabke budget mein" to educate the consumers and

highlight how Crompton offers a wide range of star rated energy efficient fans with Activ Power technology which are both affordable and energy-efficient. This will be a full-fledged, pan-India promotional campaign which will include TV and digital outreach. Mathew Job, CEO & Executive Director - Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd. said, "This transition to energy efficient fans is in line with our sustainability agenda. Ahead of this switch-over to more energy efficient star rated fans, we devised an

extensive strategy to ensure a seamless and successful transition. As the market leader, we wanted to enable all consumer segments to "Switch to Save" energy by purchasing Crompton Fans across a wide price range, thereby bringing an energy revolution in fans. With our promising technology and legacy as a trusted brand, we are confident that we will continue to be the product of choice in this new era of energy efficient appliances while aligning with the Government's vision of building a sustainable future."

Sachin Phartiyal, VP - Fans, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd. further said, "Today, with energy efficiency being a key narrative, it is essential for us as an organization to create solutions that will help consumers make more informed choices. The new range of star rated fans comes with Activ Power & Activ BLDC technology which is not only superior but also provides the "Right to Save" across all consumer price segments.

## This Season, relish #MaaApproved pickles made with love by Mother's Recipe

**New Delhi**: India relishes its pickles, and no meal or food platter is complete without them. There are fond memories of pickle making process; from procuring quality fruits from the bazaar, to mixing the right masalas as per the traditional recipe or drying them on the terrace.

In its recent social media campaign #MaaApproved, Mother's Recipe emphasizes how the brand handpicks the best

quality ingredients and follows the traditional and authentic pickle recipes endorsed by our mothers. Whichever part of the country you reside in, pickle has always been an indispensable memory. Each one of us has distinct childhood memories of our mother's dos and don'ts to ensure the perfect pickles and her delicacy has resulted in authentic pickles for us. The aromatic process of seeing her make pickles, while she

ensured the ingredients were perfectly sun-dried, the right marinade was used, only fresh oil and masala were added, and the perfect texture and colon set the pallet craving for more. Mothers Recipe are the best experts when it comes to traditional pickle recipes and following the same methods, the brand guarantees the usage of fresh and high-quality ingredients with no chemical preservatives. Mother's

Recipe has curated 50 variants of region-specific pickles, with recipes sourced locally and made in the most traditional way without compromising on taste and quality. Keeping in mind the local taste palette the brand has customized pickles, their wide range of pickles spans from Andhra Avakaya, Karnataka Cut Mango, Madras Thokku, Kerala Mango, Bengali Mango, Punjabi Panchranga, Gujarati Methia

Mango, Maharashtra Mango, Gujarati Gorkeri, Choondo, and Red Stuffed Chillies.

The objective of the campaign was to promote those consumers who consider the pickles that replicate the same authentic taste as prepared by Mothers with old traditional recipes. Mother's recipe promises to all consumers that our pickle assures Maa-approved standards.

## Ms. A Manimekhalai assumes charge as Managing Director & CEO of Union Bank of India

**Mumbai**: Ms. A. Manimekhalai today assumed charge as Managing Director & CEO of Union Bank of India. A seasoned banker with experience of more than 3 decades, Ms. A. Manimekhalai started her career in erstwhile Vijaya Bank as an Officer in 1988 and rose successively as Branch Head, Regional Head, and functional head of various Departments at Corporate Office. She was instrumental in devising &

implementation of strategic policies covering core areas like strategic planning, setting organizational goals, growth strategies, action plans, compliance, internal control, etc. Before joining as MD & CEO at Union Bank of India, Ms. A. Manimekhalai was Executive Director at Canara Bank, wherein she oversaw strategic planning, credit & related matters, inspection,

marketing and financial inclusion, State Level Lead Bank responsibilities and the functioning of Regional Rural Banks. She played a pivotal role in effecting successful amalgamation of Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank. She has extensive experience as Director on the Board of five other companies namely Canbank Factors Ltd, Canbank Computer Services Ltd, Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of

Commerce Life Insurance Co. Ltd., General Insurance Corporation of India, India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd. and Trustee, Canara Robeco Asset Management Co. A member of various committees and working groups constituted by Government of India, she has actively contributed towards policymaking, including drawing the future road map of RRBs, Financial Inclusion, Agriculture Value-chain

Finance, Banking Correspondent issues and creating synergies for seamless credit flow to Health Care and Education.

Ms. Manimekhalai holds Master of Business Administration (Marketing) from Bangalore University, and a Diploma in Human Resource Management from Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Mumbai.

## Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. placed in Leadership position in CRISIL's Sustainability Yearbook

**Mumbai**: In recognition of its relentless commitment towards sustainability and the environment, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd (KNPL) has been placed in the 'Leadership' category in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. The company is one among the only 14 companies that have been placed in this category for their ESG initiatives. Further, Kansai Nerolac Paints

Ltd has earned the highest ESG score amongst paint and manufacturing companies. This recognition further reinforces the company's commitment towards nurturing a beautiful and healthy world for future generations. The CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook is one of the most comprehensive annual publications based on CRISIL's proprietary ESG framework on

Indian companies. Analyzing over 575 companies across 53 sectors in India based on data, from the fiscal data from 2021, the Yearbook covers the latest global and domestic developments in the ESG space, incorporation of climate risks by global financial institutions, decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors in India, implications of transitioning from BRR

to BRSR for Indian companies and showcases insights on ESG trends based on the scores and data of the Indian companies.

Commenting on the achievement, Mr. Anuj Jain, Managing Director, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. said, "We are elated to be placed in the 'Leadership' position in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. This report is a testament to our

commitment towards sustainability. At Nerolac, sustainability is at the forefront of all our operations to deliver value to our stakeholders. ESG continues to remain a priority and that has helped us create a positive impact on our communities and the environment. We will continue increasing our ESG efforts as we focus on growing our business sustainably.

## KIIT launches Week-Long Celebration to Mark International Women's Day

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** KIIT DU has launched a week-long celebration to commemorate International Women's Day which is being observed on March 8. The main theme is 'DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality'. It is being organised by KIIT Women Forum. The Forum is the brainchild of the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta to focus on closing gender gaps and building a gender equality policy. International Women's Day is commemorated to celebrate the achievements of women and mark a call to action for gender equality. KIIT has remained at the forefront of promoting women's rights and has been ranked 8th best university worldwide by Times Higher Education for gender equality. Fifty per



cent of its workforce comprises women. The ongoing events are centered around equal rights, leadership roles, cyber security and health. On March 1, a special talk on the sub-theme 'Women, Law and Leadership' was held at the KIIT School of Law. It was addressed by speakers such as the Director of KIIT School of Law Dr Bhavani Prasad Panda and Faculties of Policy Studies, Doshisha University at Kyoto, Japan Prof Keiji Kawai and Prof Akira Kawaguchi. While

Prof Keiji spoke on the life of women in Japan, Prof Kawaguchi discussed the gender gap in Japan. Faculties such as Prof Paromita Chattoraj focused on 'Women as Change-agents for Law Reforms' and Prof Binita Behara dwelt on 'Fixing the Broken Rung'. Prof Soumya Mohapatra delivered her presentation on Women, Law and Leadership: Issues and Challenges. The special talk was followed by a dialogue on 'Women Security

@ cyber space' the next day, where speakers emphasized the potential of technology for women's empowerment. Principal Technical Officer of National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) Prashant Gupta sensitised the staff about the use of mobile phones and the internet, advising all to avoid getting lured with offers and sharing sensitive information. A presentation was also

made about digital payment platforms, third-party apps and measures to protect against online fraud. Technology remained the central theme of both the discourses on Wednesday and Thursday, especially in the context of greater women's participation in the fast-evolving tech industry. Prof. Sanghamitra Patnaik in her presentation said that more and more should exploit the potential of technology. "The scant presence

of women doesn't just represent a lost opportunity for them but for society as a whole. Greater diversity at work would provide a global and more accurate view of the major challenges our society faces. If women are left out, not only will the gender gap and inequality continue to grow; it will also be harder for us to address and overcome issues related not just to equality but to economic and social problems as well,"

she said. The dialogue on women's security and cyberspace was attended, among others, by KIIT VC Prof Sasmita Samanta and the Registrar Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty. The speakers commended the untiring efforts of Dr Samanta toward women's empowerment, saying that the importance given to women in the field of education and employment at KIIT by him cannot be overstated. Professor Krishna Chakraborty

of KIIT School of Engineering delivered the welcome address and the President of KIIT Women Forum Pushpalata Patjoshi gave the vote of thanks. On March 3, a seminar on 'Reproductive Health' was held at KIMS, a constituent of KIIT DU. The participants at the seminar were sensitized about the overall health of the reproductive system, prevention of sexually transmitted infections, safe pregnancy and delivery, among others. Principal of KIMS School of Nursing Professor Niyati Das, Superintendent of Nursing Sushma Sahu, Vice Principal of KIMS School of Nursing Prof Kalyani Rath and members of KIIT Women Forum such as Dr Soumya Mishra and Deepali Mohanty were present, among others.

## Indore pitch rated poor, handed three demerit points

**New Delhi:** The playing surface at the Holkar Stadium in Indore, venue for the third Test featuring India and Australia, has been rated 'poor' by the International Cricket Council on Friday (March 3). The pitch came under the scanner right from the morning session on the opening day of the Test match with the hosts losing seven wickets in the first session. They were eventually bowled out for just 109. While Australia batted out close to 77 overs in their first innings, things moved swiftly

with India collapsing for 163 in their second outing. As a result, the visitors needed just 76 on the third morning to get the job done with the game witnessing less than 200 overs. While the Australian spin trio accounted for nine wickets in the first innings, Nathan Lyon picked up an eight-fer in the second essay. With the pitch rated poor under the ICC Pitch and Outfield Monitoring Process, the venue received three demerit points after match referee Chris Broad submitted his report. "The pitch, which was

very dry, did not provide a balance between bat and ball, favouring spinners from the start," Broad said. "The fifth ball of the match broke through the pitch surface and continued to occasionally break the surface providing little or no seam movement and there was excessive and uneven bounce throughout the match." If the BCCI wishes to appeal the sanction, they have two weeks time to do so, according to the ICC. Quite interestingly, both captains didn't

have any alarming concerns over the surface post the game. "Honestly this pitch talk is just getting too much," Rohit had said after the game. "Everytime we play in India, there's only the focus on the pitch. Why are people not asking me about Nathan Lyon, how well he bowled. How Pujara played in the second innings? How well Usman Khawaja played. Those are the things, if you ask me, I can give you details of. Not the pitch. We focus too much on the pitch here in India. I don't think it's necessary."



Meg Lanning, Beth Mooney, Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, and Alyssa Healy pose with the trophy

## Tamim bats for sporting wickets despite series loss to England

**Dhaka:** Bangladesh ODI's skipper Tamim Iqbal backed playing on sporting wickets despite the risk of home losses, as he felt this was the best way for the team to develop. Bangladesh lost their first ODI series at home after seven successive series wins, following England's 132-run victory in Dhaka that helped them take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three match series. Since November 2014, Bangladesh have lost only two out of 15 bilateral ODI series at home, with both losses coming against England - in 2016 and in this series. But unlike the past, Bangladesh did not opt for rank turners that brought them success against big teams at their own den, instead choosing sporting wickets for this series as

preparation for the 50-over World Cup later this year, which is expected to be played on batting-friendly tracks. Tamim, the Bangladesh captain, said he won't lose his sleep over the loss on a wicket that had something for both bowlers and batters, insisting that it will reap dividends in the long run. "When I talked about true wickets, I said that we can't be result-oriented all the time. When we win games in Bangladesh, it doesn't mean that we have to win on bad wickets, we also have to win on true wickets. When you are trying to change these things, many things will happen - you will win and lose - and you have to take them as part of the process," Tamim said on Friday (March 3) after the series loss to



England. Jason Roy's 124-ball 132 and Jos Buttler's 76 off 64, along with cameos from Moeen Ali and Sam Curran, powered England to a sizable 326/7 in the second ODI. Bangladesh had their moments with the ball - first they had England at

96/3 and following a 109-run fourth wicket stand involving Roy and Buttler, the hosts bagged quick wickets to leave England at 260/6. But they weren't able to quite deliver in the death, which meant that England breached the 300 barrier.

"I think we bowled badly in the first three to four overs and I felt that we could not bowl well though there was help from the wicket," noted Tamim. "We thought the pitch was a bit tricky. But if you can't bowl in the right areas, it does not matter how tricky the

pitch was, as there will be runs. Also, we have to give credit to them for their batting." Bangladesh struggled in the chase as they were bowled out for 194, with only Shakib Al Hasan managing to cross 50. Tamim said the home-team batters need to apply themselves, citing the examples of Dawid Malan and Roy who scored centuries for England in this series. "I am not concerned about batters getting out early, it's part of the game. But when you reach 30-40, you should make it big. Look at England, someone (Roy) scored 130 today, and someone (Malan) scored 120-ish in the first match. We are lacking there. Any batter can get out early but if you get a start, you need to make it big which we could not

do. "I think when you lose three wickets inside three overs, you are always in trouble," added Tamim. Meanwhile, England opener Roy said he was hungry to score runs after making a silly mistake in the opening game against Bangladesh at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium. Roy, who scored only four runs in the first ODI, made up for it in the second game with his 12th ODI hundred, which included 18 fours and a six. "Every single time it means the world (scoring a hundred). I worked hard to right my wrongs from the first match. I made a silly mistake then, and I was hungry to make some runs," said Roy. "I have realised that very quickly once I stuck that one up in the air in the first game. The way Malan went

about his innings, I quickly realised to switch on, put my head in and bat some time." Roy, who hailed his partnership with Buttler, said it involved a lot of hard work. "There are some hundreds in the past - when you get to 40, and you feel really free-flowing. Every boundary (here) was a scrap. I built a great partnership with Jos. We ticked over nicely. Every place poses a completely different skillsets. None more so like here. "I have scored runs in India. As far as skillset as a batsman (is concerned), to score runs in these sorts of conditions is as rewarding as it can get. I am very happy to score. The amount we scored today on that wicket in a series-defining match was awesome," he said.