



PM addressing at the inauguration and laying the foundation stone of various projects at Gandhinagar, in Gujarat

Odisha Assembly Speaker, Two Ministers Resign Amid Speculation Over Cabinet Reshuffle

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha Assembly Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha and two ministers today resigned from their posts amid speculation of a reshuffle in the Council of Ministers in the state.

School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash and Labour Minister Srikant Sahu have resigned from their posts, sources said.

Arukha sent his resignation to Odisha Assembly Deputy Speaker Rajani Kant Singh while Dash and Sahu sent their



resignation to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, sources added. "I have resigned from the post of Assembly Speaker over some



personal reasons," said Dash said he resigned from his ministerial post to devote himself in the organizational work of



Biju Janata Dal (BJD). "My resignation has nothing to do with the outcome of a recent Zilla Parishad by-election in my constituency," he

added. Patnaik had revamped his Council of Ministers, first time in his fifth term in Odisha, in June last year. The reshuffle exercise was effected a day after all the 20 ministers tendered their resignations to the Chief Minister.

It is the first incident in the political history of Odisha when all ministers were asked to submit their resignation. As many as 13 cabinet ministers and eight ministers of state with independent charge had been sworn in by Governor Ganeshi Lal.

CBSE Class 10 Results: Bhubaneswar Ranks 8th In Country

Bhubaneswar: The CBSE announced the results of Class 10 Examination for the year 2023. The total pass percentage of the students stood at 93.12. While Trivandrum topped the list with 99.91% region-wise pass percentage followed by Bengaluru, Chennai, Ajmer and Pune, Bhubaneswar ranked 8th among top 10 cities in the country with the pass percentage 93.64. Total 21,65,805 students had appeared in the annual Class 10 Examination conducted by the CBSE this year, out of which 20,16,779 students had cleared the examination. A total of 1,95,799



students scored 90% and above, while 44,297 students scored 95% and above in the examination. Like previous years, the girls have done much better than boys by 1.98%. While 94.25% girls passed the examination, the pass percentage of boys was 92.27 this year. This year, 1,34,774 candidates were placed in compartment. The percentage is 6.22. The examination was conducted from February 15 to March 21, 2023 at 7241 centres across the country.

New Parliament Building Likely To Be Inaugurated By May-End



New Delhi: The new Parliament building is likely to be formally inaugurated by end of this month, according to sources aware of the developments. Sources further said that the inauguration may tentatively take place on May 26, as it is the date on which Prime Minister Narendra Modi took oath in 2014, though it is yet to be confirmed. The Prime Minister is expected to inaugurate the new structure. However, sources said that the forthcoming Monsoon session, which is scheduled to begin in July, is not likely to be held in the new building. There are speculations that a meeting of Speakers from Parliaments of G20 nations may take place in the new building later

this year, as India has the G20 presidency for 2023, sources privy to developments said. The triangular shaped building's construction started on January 15, 2021 and was to be completed by August 2022. Sources say that the new Parliament building has three main gates, which have been named as Gyan Dwar, Shakti Dwar and Karma Dwar. The building will have separate entrances for MPs, VIPs and visitors, sources informed further. Another highlight of the building is the Constitution Hall, which has been built to showcase the democratic heritage of the country. A copy of the original Constitution of India is

learned to have been kept in the hall, sources said. The new Parliament building will have portraits of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose and also of other prime ministers of the country. A portrait of polymath Kautilya is learned to have been installed in the building along with a model of the wheel of Konark's Sun Temple, sources informed further. Built in an area of 64,500 square metres, the new building will house 1,224 MPs and is a four-storey structure. It has a library, multiple committee rooms and dining rooms. Tata Projects has constructed the building at an estimated cost of Rs 970 crore.

Howrah-Puri Vande Bharat Express To Be Flagged Off In Odisha On May 18

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Howrah-Puri Vande Bharat Express will be flagged off at the Puri Railway Station on May 18, East Coast Railway sources said. The inaugural run of the semi high-speed train

was earlier scheduled for May 15. However, it has now been rescheduled to May 18. The train will be flagged off at 12 noon on the scheduled day. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to flag off

the train, virtually. The trial run of Howrah-Puri Vande Bharat Express had started on April 28. The stoppages for the trial run were Kharagpur, Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road,

Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Khurda between Howrah and Puri with halt of two minutes at the stations. The Vande Bharat Express will operate between Howrah and Puri, with fewer stops in between.

Two Persons Electrocuted While Drying Clothes In Odisha's Jajpur

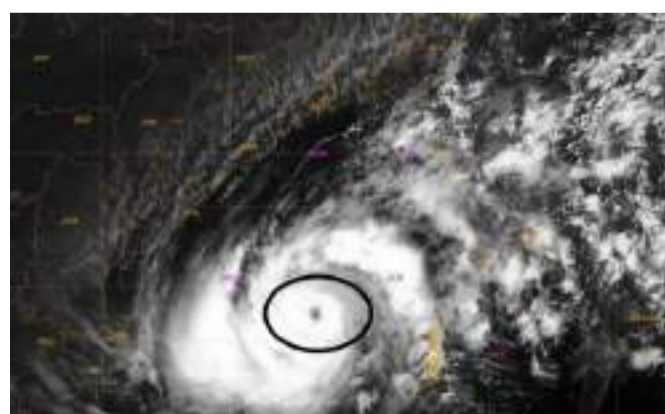
Jajpur: In a shocking incident, two persons reportedly died after coming in contact with live wire in Janindapal village of Tomka tehsil in Odisha's Jajpur district here today. The deceased were identified as Nitu Marndi (32) and Shyamsundar Marndi (45). As per reports, Nitu belonged to Tangiriapala within Daitari police limits of Keonjhar but was working as headmistress of Raighati Primary School and living in Janindapal. Similarly, Shyamsundar hailed from Chakradharpur of Mayurbhanj but was posted here as Railway Police constable. eer Wankhede, 4 others While it is still unclear how the duo got electrocuted, police during preliminary investigation informed that they came in contact with live wire while drying clothes on it.

Satellite Captures Eye Of Cyclone Mocha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Satellite captured the eye of very severe cyclonic storm Mocha over central Bay of Bengal

centered at 0530 hours IST of today, the 12th May 2023 over Central adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal near latitude

cross southeast Bangladesh and north Myanmar coasts between Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) and



adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal. As per IMD, the Severe Cyclonic Storm "Mocha" (pronounced as "Mokha") over Southeast adjoining Central Bay of Bengal moved northwards with a speed of 9 kmph during past 6 hours, intensified into a Very Severe Cyclonic Storm and lay

13.2°N and longitude 88.1°E, about 520 km west northwest of Port Blair, 1010 km southwest of Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) and 930 km south southwest of Sittwe(Myanmar). It is very likely to move north-northeastwards and intensify further over Eastcentral Bay of Bengal. It is likely to

K y a u k p y u (Myanmar), close to Sittwe (Myanmar) around noon of 14th May, 2023 as a Very Severe Cyclonic Storm with maximum sustained wind speed of 150-160 kmph gusting to 175 kmph. Fishermen, ships, boats and trawlers are advised not to venture into southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman Sea till 13th May, central Bay of Bengal and north Andaman Sea till 14th May, and into northeast and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal during 12th-14th May, 2023. The IMD issued warning signal No.2 (DW-2) at all ports of Odisha.

Heat Wave Conditions To Make Comeback In Odisha From May 15

Bhubaneswar: Several parts of Odisha may sizzle under heat wave conditions from May 15 as the Regional Meteorological Centre has issued Yellow Warning in this regard. Heat wave very likely to prevail at a few places over the districts of



Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur and Angul on May 15, the Meteorological Centre forecasted. Heat wave very likely to prevail at a few places over the districts of Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Angul, Sonepur, Boudh and Bolangir on May 16, the Meteorological Centre added. No large change in maximum temperature (day temperature) during the next 3 days and very likely to rise by 2-4 degree Celsius at many places over the districts of Odisha in subsequent 2 days, it said in its temperature forecast.

Awareness On Mental Health

Bhubaneswar: Expressing concern over rising suicidal tendency among youths especially college students, the State Government is going to start mental health awareness programmes in Government, Government-aided colleges & State-run Universities. In this regard, an MoU was signed between 'Mo College' and 'Indian Psychiatric Society (Odisha State Branch) on Friday to create awareness about psychological and mental health

issues among students of various government, government-aided colleges & public universities. Akash Dasnayak, Chairperson of 'Mo College', Amrit Pattojoshi (President) and Ashrumochan Sahoo (Secretary) were present during signing the MoU. Rapidly increasing mental health issues including suicidal tendency of students is the major concern of society these days. Competitive and academic race among young

minds without being aware about its negative impacts the student has to bear the brunt throughout his/her life. India Psychiatric Society is one of the oldest professional bodies with an aim to work for the improvement of mental health in society and to reduce the stigma and create awareness regarding mental health, officials said. Equipped with learned eminent psychiatrists with vast experience, it will be working



major areas of deficit that needs urgent attention like, increasing suicidality, stigma leading to gaps in

treatment, reduced self-help skills, poor coping style, strained interpersonal relationships etc. they said. Throughout the training, students from various colleges and universities of Odisha will be trained to identify different mental health issues, stress management, create awareness, reduce stigma and also to identify warning signs of suicide as well as to build resilience and other supportive methods. "These days students are getting mentally pressured due to several reasons. Let it be social media, online gambling,

expectations of family and relatives as well as the peer pressure of establishing themselves well in society. When all this doesn't go accordingly, suicidal tendencies occur, so mental health awareness is need of the moment right now," Shri Dasnayak said. In the first phase, this awareness campaign will be held in 100 colleges, he informed. On the other hand, Dr.Pattojoshi stated "Human life is a gift of god. The main

motive of this MoU is to empower youngsters and students as well as to create awareness over their mental health. It includes emotional, psychological, and social well-being." Mental Health affects how one thinks, feels, and acts. It also helps determine how one can handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood," he said.

KiiT International School Students Excel in CBSE 10th & 12th Board Exams Sneha Nayak Regional Topper in Humanities

Bhubaneswar: Students of KiiT International School (KiiT-IS), Bhubaneswar posted excellent results in the Class X and XII examinations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), results of which were declared on 12th May 2023. KiiT-IS student Sneha Nayak emerged as the regional topper in humanities. The students excelled in all three streams of the Class XII CBSE Examination 2023. All students of the School stood out with first division, while 35% students secured 90% or more marks. Shuvam Sohan topped the Science stream with 98%, while Prachurjya Mohanty scored 98% in



Commerce. Similarly, in the 10th Board Exam, over 60% students of the School scored above 90%. Sushree Manisha Mallick, Aastu Nayak, and Aditi Nayak secured 97% marks, which is the

highest score of the School. KiiT International School which offers CBSE, IGCSE, and IB DP curriculum has always excelled in academics and all co-curricular activities since the past 17 years of its inception. Congratulating all students for their success, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KiiT & KISS said, KiiT IS in true sense an international School and one of the best international Schools in India. It has been possible only because of proper care and modern teaching methodology. He thanked Chairperson Dr. Monalisa Bal, Principal Dr. Sanjay Suar and other staff for their effort towards this success.

Sanjibani Seva Sangathan distributed The Chabila Madhu Barnabodha Book

Cuttack Sadar, (KCN) : Developing Our Odia language Mother tongue and improvement of Children's knowledge about Odia Shabdakosha the leading social organization Sanjibani Seva Sangathan distributed of Chabila Madhu Barnabodha Book as author Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao. This distribution of books among all childrens belongs to Mahanaga Block Gopalpur GP four UP school & three Anganwadi Kendra with encouragement to all students to read this. This good



programme organised by Sangathan president Poet Soumya Ranjan Bhyan, secretary paribesabit Bikram Keshari Nath, treasurer Trinath Maharana, member Sukant Sharma, Sagar Pradhan, School teacher Trilochan Das, Biranchi Narayan Mishra, anganwadi workers Kalyani Sahoo, Minarva Swain were joined with make the programme grand success.

Jagannath Temple's Landed Property: SJTA To Take Action Against 147 Illegal Crusher Units

Puri: Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) in Puri today identified at least 147 illegal crusher units, which are operational on the landed properties owned by Jagannath Temple here. During a review meeting on the effective management and safety of the Lord's landed properties, it was ascertained that a total



of 232 crusher units are functioning in Khordha and Begunia localities. Out of which only 85 units had entered into

agreements with the SJTA in the FY 2022-23. Moreover, 52 crusher units alone have applied for renewal of their respective Agreements for FY 2023-24. SJTA has written to the Khordha district Collector, State

Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and the state Energy Department in this regard, seeking immediate closure of the unauthorised crusher units. It has been decided in the review meeting to collect the outstanding royalty amount under Orissa Public Demands Recovery (OPDR) Act, said the SJTA Chief

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India's Best Dancer 3 Mother's Day Special: Contestant Ram Bisht Gets Reunited With His Mom After 7 Years

Popular dance reality show India's Best Dancer Season 3 will see the 'Best Ka Double Test' on Saturday and the 'Battle of the Best' on Sunday. Combinations of two or three contestants along with their choreographers will have to perform together to win the hearts (and marks) of the E.E.N.T specialists - judges Sonali Bendre, Geeta Kapur & Terence Lewis in the first challenge. The second challenge will have the contestants battling each other in intense dance face-offs, truly proving their mettle with each move. One such battle that is set to leave everybody spellbound will be between the 'Best 13' contestants - Ram Bisht and Apeksha Londhe on the song 'dum dum mast hai' from the film 'Band



Baaja Baaraat'.

Geeta Kapur is affectionately called Geeta "Maa" for good reason and on 'Mother's Day', Geeta will plan a sweet surprise for Ram Bisht. Ram, who has not met his parents for the past seven years, will be reunited with them on the stage of India's Best Dancer Season 3. The reunion would make him

emotional, and a grateful Ram Bisht would share, "I had called him when I was in Punjab and cried on the phone. However, I did not meet my mother and I went back to Mumbai. It's been 6-7 years since then and I am meeting them now. And, India's Best Dancer Season 3 made this happen by giving me this opportunity. Truly

Grateful. I could have gone back but I was chasing the dreams of my life and I always want to see them happy as I come closer to achieving my dreams." With his family by his side, Ram would be motivated to give his best in the dance battle, and he would dedicate this performance to his family. Talking about how his

beloved mother has always supported his dreams, Ram Bisht added saying "My mother has always supported me and my dreams. Although we did not have much money, my father would pay my school fees and my mother would then convince my principal to let me use the school fees for my dance classes. I wanted to go to a dance competition and at that time, my mother used to earn 200 rupees a day. She worked for a whole month, earned 1500 rupees and paid for my entrance fee into the competition. She always wanted me to pursue my dreams. I want to tell my mother a big thank you. I have danced a lot for myself and for others, today I want to dance for my mother." Ram Bisht whose is 25 from Ludhiana, Punjab known for his breaking and open

style is amongst the Behereen 13 for India's Best Dancer Season 3. He is amongst the most favorite of contestants of this season and enjoy dancing to the fullest. Praised by everyone on the sets, Ram will be seen performing this weekend with his mom to whom he has never seen since last 7 years and will be performing the same on Mother's Day special occasion. The young dancer will also pay a tribute to his dear mother, dancing to the tune of 'Tujh Mein Rab Dikhta Hai'. The performance will be so moving that it will leave everybody teary-eyed. Judge Sonali Bendre would tell Ram to not punish his parents like this anymore, and meet them frequently and not keep his mother waiting for another 7 years.

Sara Ali Khan Is Back At Work, Shares Glimpse From 'Luka Chuppi 2' Dubbing Session

Sara Ali Khan has taken over the work and in a full-fledged manner and has turned her busy mode on. Currently, the actress is occupied with dubbing for 'Luka Chuppi 2' and is running a packed schedule. Sara Ali Khan was previously in Kedarnath and now that she is back, she is completely investing her energy into work life, shoots

and is fulfilling all her commitments. Taking to social media, Sara Ali Khan shares a picture of herself from the dubbing studio and writes "Lovely to be back to Somya." Sara Ali Khan is one of the most promising actresses in India amongst the younger lot. Fans love her for her fun, witty personality and can never have

enough of her. Her work schedule is tight as of now and the actress has no time on her hands except for anything but work. With several interesting projects lined up, Sara Ali Khan will next be seen in 'Aye Watan Mere Watan', Homi Adajania's 'Murder Mubarak' and Anurag Basu's 'Metro.. Inn Dino'. She was last seen in



'Gaslight' alongside Vikrant Massey and Chitrangada Singh. Sara made her debut in Bollywood with Abhishek Kapoor romantic tragedy 'Kedarnath' in which she starred alongside Sushant Singh Rajput. After her debut, she has worked on several successful films including 'Simmba', 'Atrange Re', among others.

Akshay Kumar, Yo Yo Honey Singh's Party Anthem Kudi Chamkeeli from Selfiee Out

Actor Akshay Kumar unveiled the third track Kudi Chamkeeli of his upcoming family entertainer film Selfiee. Taking to Instagram, Akshay shared a full song video titled Kudi Chamkeeli and captioned it, "Heere ki chamak bhi iss #KudiChamkeeli ke saamne fail hai. Full Song Out Now! #Selfiee in cinemas on 24th Feb." Sung and written by Yo Yo Honey Singh, it's



his next 'party anthem'. The song video features Akshay and

Diana Penty dancing together, grooving to the beats. They are

joined by Honey Singh. Soon after Akshay shared the full

song, fans swamped the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. Another fan wrote, "Khiladi is back kudi chamkeeli with yo yo honey Singh." Previously Akshay and Honey work together in a hit party anthem tracks like Party All Night, Boss-Title Track, Alcoholic, and Lonely. Recently, the makers of Selfiee released two songs of the film Main Khiladi and Kudiye Ni

Teri which received good responses from the fans. The film is an official Hindi remake of the Malayalam film Driving License, which starred Prithviraj and Suraj Venjaramoodu in the lead roles. Helmed by Raj Mehta, the film stars Akshay Kumar, Emraan Hashmi, Nushratt Bharuccha, and Diana Penty in the lead roles. It is all set to hit the theatres on February 24, 2023.

Mandana reacts to being called a gold digger, 'I have dated powerful men but not because they have money, I spoil myself with my own money'

In the latest episode of Lock Upp, Azma Fallah tells Mandana Karimi that some people were badmouthing her saying she has only dated directors. Mandana says it's not true and Saisha Shinde adds, "Even if she does, what's the problem." Azma talks about the secret that Mandana revealed previously and says she's also being called a gold digger. Mandana says, "I may

look fancy but I am spoiling myself with my money, what I have earned. As far as my dating is concerned, yes, I have dated powerful men. But it is not for their money. It is on record, I have broken up with a powerful man because it wasn't worth my time or life. In fact, many times my things have gone. They have ruined my name, and my life. Just like my ex." Mandana says that Ali Merchant has been



putting words in her mouth. She says, "I know what I have done. I know who I have loved and with whom I have been in a relationship and how it was." Later, Ali goes to speak in front of the camera and calls Mandana the most fake person in the house. He says, "I am not directly calling her a gold digger. But she has similar traits of a gold digger. She looks for prey, earns their sympathy, gets

close, makes them hear her sob story and then befriends them like she tried to do with Zeeshan and I." Mandana tells in front of the camera, "People like Ali, who don't know you, they go around and talk, gossip. Ali is a person who came to the show, tried to move ahead in the game with the help of his ex. And when Sara left, he is using others. Such people will reach nowhere."

The Governor's committee should be formed on the appointment of VCs

Dr. Estari Mamidala



Even though the universities in the state of Telangana have changed from the rule of in-charge vice-chancellors to the rule of regular vice-chancellors less than a year ago, there has been no development in terms of grant of funds and appointments of teaching and non-teaching posts in the respective universities. The debate on the appointment of VCs started last year when a total of seven petitioners filed a petition in the State High Court seeking their removal, alleging that the government had appointed unqualified persons as VCs without any merit and in violation of

UGC norms. As expected, governance in universities has become the will of VCs. As the political interference in the appointment of VCs is evident, the universities are being criticized for making decisions against the rules at the behest of the politicians. The recent incident in the case of Telangana University shows that even though the governing councils have a system to implement the decision of the VCs, the functioning of the governing councils is similar in each university.

Criticism of the Executive Council?

The Telangana University is one of the newly established universities in the state. The Vice-Chancellor of the University has been accused of appointing registrar without the permission of the Governing Body, promoting teachers and making

constructions, purchases and corruption in a recent meeting where the University VC and the Governing Body have thrown out the University Registrar who was appointed without the permission of the Governing Body. As there was an argument between the members, widespread criticism was expressed on the performance of the VCs on one side and on the performance of the Governing Council on the other. After appointing an EC OK registrar and a VC registrar, the respective bank officials were also confused as to whose signatures are valid for the salaries of the employees. Finally, the politicians held a meeting with the VC and EC, but the problem did not come to a conclusion.

Why is there a strange trend in the appointment of VCs? Even though the governing body has received complaints

about the behavior of the VCs in all the universities in the state, this has happened only in the case of the VC of Telangana University. Even in Osmania University, some people have been promoted in violation of UGC rules, while the faculty unions are clamoring for other appointments, while the student unions are protesting against the work of the VC, the governing body has been criticized for not paying attention. On the other hand, many criticisms are pouring in on the VC rule in Kakatiya University. Prof. Ramesh, who has been appointed as VC in Kakatiya University, said that the appointment was illegal, the government has violated the UGC rules and appointed Prof. Ramesh, who has no experience as a professor for 10 years, as KU VC, and the retired professors of Osmania University,

Prof. Manohar Rao and Dr. Vidyasagar Reddy, the retired principal of Nizamabad Degree College, filed a petition in the High Court separately. The leaders of the faculty say that the aggression of the varsity VC has increased as the case is still not known, relying on the flaws in the judicial system. In the past, when Prof. Ramesh was working as a professor in the Department of Sociology, keeping in mind the differences between his fellow employees of that department, Prof. Ilaiah and Prof. T. Srinivas, when he got the power as VC, one of them was not promoted and the other was demoted from professor to associate professor as part of the factional efforts against them. Disciplinary action has become a topic of discussion in the varsity. On the one hand, there is criticism that lakhs of money are

being misused by conducting seminars in the name of centers that are not physically anywhere, but many people think that acting in such a way as to pay for what they have done is reminiscent of the proverb "KanakapuSihasanamu". **Autocratic tendency with a political mask** The autocratic tendency with political mask is also present in Kakatiya University, the way four registrars have been changed in a single year, the appointment of registrars, the suspension of promotions of some teachers as part of partisan actions, and the issuance of show-cause notices to all of them, the setting up of committees and disciplinary action against them, but no results have been seen. Many people are of the opinion that political interference will be seen in the functioning of the Governing Council as well. Incidents such as the

fact that some retired professors were not promoted as senior professors, but the current VC and registrars, before their retirement, violated the UGC rules, government regulations and the law of universities, not only on the manner in which the senior professors were promoted, but also on the way that the associate professors of the university approached the High Court for stopping the promotion of all. The leaders of the varsity teachers' association say that they are expressing autocracy. **The problems of the varsities will be solved only if the cases of VCs are solved** The problems of students, teachers and non-teaching employees are everywhere in all the universities. Many are of the opinion that the governance of the VCs in the universities has become arbitrary as the

VCs of the universities, the governing council members of those universities, and the government have not taken any action. It is said that the inefficient administration will continue as the VCs of almost all the universities have trampled on the rules of the UGC and appointed those who have no experience as professors for at least 10 years and retirees. If the governance is to run smoothly and the universities will develop, then the High Court should put a stop to the appointments of VCs or all the officials should issue a white paper on their qualifications. Or the varsity intellectuals are asked to self-criticize and resign from their posts.

General Secretary, Association of Kakatiya University of Teachers, Associate Professor of Kakatiya University, TS

Disconnect to Reconnect: The Power of Digital Detox

Surbhi Mishra



In today's world, it is difficult to escape technology. We are constantly connected to our phones, tablets, and computers, and the constant barrage of notifications and messages can be overwhelming. Many of us feel like we are always "on," and this can lead to stress, anxiety, and burnout. As our dependence on technology grows, more and more people are beginning to recognize the importance of taking a break from digital devices. This practice, commonly known as a "digital detox," involves disconnecting from screens and technology for a period of time, in order to recharge and reconnect with the physical world. Taking a break from



technology from time to time is becoming important now. A digital detox can help us recharge our batteries, reduce stress, and improve our overall wellbeing. By disconnecting from screens and technology, we can focus on other things that are important to us, such as spending time with family and friends, exercising, or pursuing hobbies and interests.

Of course, taking a break from technology is easier said than done. It can be difficult to disconnect, especially if you rely on technology for work or communication. But with a little bit of planning and preparation, it is possible to take a break from screens and technology. One strategy is to set aside a specific time each day to

disconnect from technology. This could be during meals, before bed, or first thing in the morning. During this time, turn off your phone and other devices, and focus on other activities, such as reading, journaling, or spending time outdoors. Another strategy is to schedule a longer digital detox, such as a

weekend or a week-long vacation. This can be a great opportunity to recharge and reconnect with the physical world. During this time, try to avoid screens and technology as much as possible, and focus on other activities, such as spending time with loved ones, exploring nature, or trying a new hobby. Of course, a digital

detox is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Some people may find it easier to disconnect than others, and some may need to stay connected for work or other reasons. But for many of us, taking a break from technology can be a powerful way to reduce stress, improve our wellbeing, and reconnect with the world around us. A digital detox is an important practice that can help us recharge and reconnect with the physical world. By disconnecting from screens and technology, we can feel improvement in our wellbeing, and focus on other activities that are important to us. So why not give it a try? Our mind and body will definitely thank us.

Indian Institute of Mass Communication, Dhenkanal 8826716929

Letter To Editor

Dear Sir,
Light metal can bright the country

Recently as per, the Geological Survey of India and mining officials, the capacity of Lithium (light metal) reserves discovered in Degana, Rajasthan, is greater than the capacity of Lithium reserves discovered in Jammu and Kashmir. This is a matter of glee. It is claimed that there is so much Lithium in Rajasthan that it can meet 80% of India's total demand. According to reports, China maintains its global market monopoly despite having Lithium reserves of approximately 6 million tonnes. In fact, China accounts for approximately 55% of India's total Lithium imports and our country is completely reliant on imports from other countries too. Now it is believed that China's Lithium monopoly may end. According to the World Bank, global demand for Lithium metal will rise by 500% over the next two decades. From this point of view, getting immense reserves of Lithium in Rajasthan is extremely beneficial not only for the state but also for the country's economy.

Dr. Vijaykumar H K Raichur, Karnataka

Sir
Immediately after an accident or an untoward incident - be it a road mishap, a boat tragedy, a fire accident, a rail derailment, a stampede and whatever may be so - the concerned state or central machinery immediately comes out with a list of procedures - enquiry, investigation, commission, compensation and so on. A question that rises here is that if the concerned authority and those linked directly with the incident had been alert, vigilant, meticulous, stern, strict and complying to regulations, it is cent per cent sure such tragedies could be avoided or atleast reduced. The most surprising factor is that even though we have all the rules and regulations strong enough to bring those who have erred to book, political and monetary influences, slow paced investigation, delayed legal verdicts and come-what-may attitude leads to more and more incidents. This happens because there are loopholes through which people involved in such incidents can escape scot-free without getting punished. This creates fearlessness in many. If the states and the centre are strict to the core regarding such matters, penalties and punishments are given instantly and the younger generation especially at the school level itself are made fully aware of such matters at least in future such incidents can be avoided, if not at least reduced.

M Pradyu Kannur Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.



The Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy, Shri Raj Kumar Singh being handed over a Report of the Group on 'Development of Electricity Markets in India' during a meeting at Shram Shakti Bhawan, in New Delhi

IIT Kharagpur Develops 'Matri Seva' Software for Ramakrishna Mission Home of Services, Varanasi

Kolkata: IIT Kharagpur has developed 'Matri Seva' - database software, free of cost that works on patient's particulars and database for Vivek Sanjivani, an initiative for healthcare and education of Ramakrishna Mission Home of Service, Luxa, Varanasi. The software has been hosted in the Microsoft Cloud-based server to provide easy access to all the centres. It is used for primary healthcare, mental healthcare, follow-up visits, management of chronic-disease conditions, medications management, health education and other clinical services. Vivek Sanjivani Telemedicine Service is a real-time telemedicine solution which offers a virtual alternative to the in-person doctor's visit. It expands access to quality patient care, especially to regions

with underserved populations. It provides a way to cut down on healthcare spending and keep connected patients throughout the year. iMediX, the telemedicine system that was launched by the Computer and Science Department of IIT Kharagpur on October 2, 2020 provided emergency healthcare services for the IIT KGP students, campus residents and employees which was further expanded to MSMEs for commercialisation. Its open-source version is named iMediXcare. The telemedicine system iMediX offers special telemedicine services through Vivek Sanjivani includes psychiatrist, ENT, Medicine, Oncologist and Community Medicine at the door step of the rural people. Vivek Sanjivani, an initiative for Healthcare and Education of

Ramakrishna Mission Home of Service, Luxa, Varanasi offers Telemedicine services through 12 centres in which six Stationary telemedicine units (STUs) are fixed at a place and six mobile telemedicine units (MTUs) are roaming. It provides mother-child, primary healthcare, adolescence healthcare, community mental healthcare, eye check-up, general movement assessment in neonates and infants and distribution of nutritional food supplements in three districts including one aspirational district of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and another from Uttarakhand. During 2022-23, Vivek Sanjivani served 27,875 patients through stationary telemedicine units and mobile telemedicine units and conducted non-communicable disease

screening for 18,878 patients. The telemedicine programmes of Vivek Sanjivani are backed with a 195-bed referral hospital of the Ashrama in Varanasi. Speaking on Matri Seva, Prof. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay, the lead researcher of the open source telemedicine software iMediXcare, IIT Kharagpur remarked, "Matri Seva is an extension of services of the existing telemedicine system iMediXcare dedicated to the service of the community that Vivek Sanjivani initiated for the underprivileged. We are still living in the pandemic which showed us where we stand as a nation when it comes to a proper healthcare system. iMediX has served the IIT Kharagpur community providing emergency consultancy services through remote

consultation by physicians. I am hopeful that this technology will be further incorporated and adopted in other community health services as well." According to Swami Divyasukhananda, Coordinator, Vivek Sanjivani, this telemedicine service directly provides improved access, cost efficiency and quality healthcare services to patients from marginalised group within the reach of their homes in three districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh including one Aspirational District and another of the same kind from Uttarakhand. The mobile telemedicine units of Vivek Sanjivani offer flexible and viable options to offer healthcare facilities to the vulnerable groups in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh.

World Bank Approves \$82 Million for Prevention of Zoonotic, Endemic Diseases in India

New Delhi: The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved an \$82 million loan towards the adoption of global best practices for animal health management to prevent, detect, and respond to endemic zoonotic, transboundary, and emerging infectious diseases. It will strengthen India's One Health approach, which recognizes that people and animals are connected with their shared environment. Animal disease outbreaks globally continue to pose risks to public health systems and have enormous economic costs. With India having the largest livestock population in the world, these risks are particularly

high. For example, foot and mouth disease alone costs the country more than \$3.3 billion annually. The Animal Health System Support for One Health Program will support India's Livestock Health and Disease Control Program, which seeks to control animal diseases and zoonoses. "The new program will help reduce the risks of animal disease outbreaks by improving disease surveillance and veterinary services in the livestock and wildlife sectors," said Auguste Tano Kouame, the World Bank's Country Director for India. "At least 2.9 million livestock farmers will have increased access to improved animal health services in the



participating states of Assam, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Madhya Pradesh." Through state-of-the-art laboratories, the program will also strengthen collaboration and data sharing with the human health sector. It will also enhance

food quality and safety in animal products, especially in livestock and wet markets. "In India, around 68 percent of the workforce relies on farming and remains in close contact with domestic animals and poultry, thereby becoming frequently

exposed to sick or infected animals," said Hikuepi Katjuongua, Adarsh Kumar and Anupam Joshi, the Task Team Leaders for the program. "By supporting evidence-based policies on animal disease and zoonoses management, the program will address food safety in livestock value chains." The \$82 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) uses the Program-for-Results (PforR) financing instrument that links disbursement of funds directly to the achievement of specific program results. The loan has a maturity of 11.5 years with a grace period of 4.5 years.

One Cop Killed, 4 Injured In Attack By Insurgents In Manipur

Imphal: One policeman was killed and four others were injured on Thursday when suspected militants opened fire at them near Tera Khongfangbi in Bishnupur district, about 50 km south of Imphal, officials said. The condition of one of the injured police personnel is critical, they said. The incident took place a few km away from Torbung, where the recent violence in the state had first erupted. Police have launched a combing operation to flush out the militants from the area, the officials said. Meanwhile, two persons were allegedly abducted by suspected militants in Toribung, a police officer said. "The duo had gone to



fetch foodgrains from their ransacked home when they were abducted. A search operation has been launched to trace them," he said. Violent clashes broke out in the northeastern state after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status. The officials added that

curfew has been further relaxed in all the 11 districts where it was clamped, by six hours from the earlier duration of five hours. The curfew timings vary in these districts. In another development, 100 trucks travelling from Dimapur to Imphal, carrying essential commodities, were stopped by mobs at different places in North Kangpokpi district, they said.

Disqualification Of E Shinde, 15 MLAs Not Inevitable: Maharashtra Speaker



New Delhi: The Supreme Court might have said a political party appoints the whip, but has not said which faction of the Shiv Sena comprises the political party, argued Rahul Narwekar, the Speaker of Maharashtra assembly this evening. The decision on whether the Chief Minister and 15 MLAs they will be disqualified or not, will ultimately boil down to whether Uddhav Thackeray or Eknath Shinde represents the real Shiv Sena, he indicated. Earlier today, the top court said it cannot disqualify Mr Shinde and 15 other MLAs for revolting against then Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray in June last year. That power, it said, will rest with the Speaker until a larger panel of judges take a call on it. But the court made it clear that Mr Narwekar had erred in recognising the whip. It also tasked him with taking a call on the disqualification of 16 rebel MLAs including Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. I

am yet to decide that. The court has never said that a particular faction is the real Shiv Sena," he added. He said he would take a decision on disqualification as soon as possible, but "won't hurry to deny justice and will look at facts" of June and July 2022. "I don't agree that disqualification of Shinde and 15 MLAs is now inevitable... Won't allow any miscarriage of justice," he added. All Mr Narwekar's decisions though, can be called into question once the seven-judge bench of the Supreme Court takes a call on the 2016 Nabam Rebia judgment. The judgment deals with powers of assembly speakers to decide on disqualification pleas. In its judgment, the court had decided that an assembly speaker cannot proceed with a plea for disqualification of MLAs if a prior notice seeking his removal is pending before the House. The judgment had helped the faction led by Mr Shinde, allowing the rebel MLAs to remain in the assembly.

Asked about the Thackeray faction's argument that the Speaker's failure to recognise the whip now has to be rectified and the rebel MLAs disqualified, Mr Narwekar disagreed. "If it was so simple, the court would not have asked me to get into the issue of who was in charge of the political party," he told NDTV. In July last year, Mr Narwekar, as the newly elected Speaker, had appointed Bharat Gogawale of the Eknath Shinde faction as the whip, removing Sunil Prabhu, who belonged to the Thackeray faction. Mr Gogawale's appointment as the whip has been held bad in law because he was appointed by the legislature party, Mr Narwekar said today. "Now that the court has said you need to decide on the basis of the political party, the court has never said that the Shiv Sena led by Uddhav Thackeray is the political party which actually represents the Shiv Sena or it is the Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde the actual Shiv Sena. I

Tech Boost For Odisha

Bhubaneswar: In a joint collaboration with Electronics and Information Technology Department, Odisha, Computer Application Centre (OCAC) & ETGovernment, an initiative of The Economic Times, Transforming Odisha Conclave-2023 has been held today at Vivanta, Bhubaneswar.

Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik participating through virtual mode as the Chief Guest of the occasion, congratulated Electronics & IT Department and Economics Times for organizing the 2nd edition of Transforming Odisha Conclave – 2023 on the occasion of the National Technology Day.

Chief Minister said, Odisha has radically transformed as one of the leading innovation centres and technology

hubs of India in the last decade. Big IT players like Infosys, TCS, Tech Mahindra have recorded consistent growth over the years contributing to software exports from the State. Over the years, many home grown IT companies have ascended the value chain in terms of business maturity, market acquisition and quality standards. This is a clear indication of the transformation of the IT landscape of the State. Our progressive policy framework for information technology has been instrumental in attracting many frontlines IT and consulting MNCs like IBM, Deloitte and Concentrix to the State. Chief Minister also said, "My Government is focussed on creating employment opportunities for the youth of our State. Grand success of the Make In Odisha Conclave 2022 in



attracting over Rs. 10.5 lakh Crore investments to the State truly showcases the transformation of Odisha and the advent of New Odisha. We are strengthening our talent pool qualitatively and quantitatively through world class skilling, reskilling and upskilling programs so that industry will not have to look far for hiring manpower resources. "Skilled in Odisha" is today a buzzword in industry circles. Close to 11 lakh youth in both short-term and long-term courses have been

trained under this program." In the conclave, an MOU has been signed between Electronics and IT Department, Odisha and India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) and a declaration has also been made by the VLSI Society of India to start an Odisha chapter. Congratulating on the occasion, Hon'ble CM said, this MoU with IESA will help the State of Odisha to realize its aspirations in the electronics manufacturing sector and declaration by VLSI,

India is a mark of Odisha's intent in the ESDM and Semiconductor space. Participating in the Conclave Minister, Science & Technology, SSEPD & Public Enterprises Ashok Chandra Panda said, "Odisha as a State has made rapid strides in the science and technology space in the last couple of decades. These strides have transformed Odisha into a major Technology Hub. Today, the State hosts the development centres of leading global and domestic companies, has premier technical

institutions such as IIT, NIT, and IIIT, and some leading start-ups making pioneering breakthroughs. "The department of Science and Technology has also played a crucial role in the development of Geo-ICT and Satellite Communication Technology Applications under the visionary 5T initiative launched by our esteemed Chief Minister. These cutting-edge technologies have been instrumental in enhancing the efficiency of various government departments and agencies, enabling them to make data-driven decisions and implement policies more effectively. Minister, Electronics, IT, Sports and YS, Home Shri Tushar Kanti Behera said about how information technology and allied technologies have contributed to scripting of the growth

story of Odisha over the last decade. Attending as special invitee Guest Shri Asit Tripathy, Principal Advisor to Chief Minister of Odisha & Chairman, Western Odisha Development Council spoke about how e-governance and being the data on web site has made it easier to provide citizen centric services accessibility to the public. Addressing in the Conclave Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena said that how technology has transformed Odisha in governance to a welfare State. Starting from disaster management Cyclone to COVID management we have achieved radical changes in many sectors with the use of 5T principles of Government including in health care sector, providing service to the people under food security Scheme, High School Transformation, sports

sector and management of Minor minerals. Principal Secretary, Electronics and IT & Chairman, OCAC, Manoj Kumar Mishra while context setting about the conclave, presented details about how IT innovations have been helpful. Odisha achievement in different sectors like food grain production in Odisha, 24X7 Drink From Tap-drinking water supply provision in Puri, implementation of different Govt. Schemes, management of disaster, sports infrastructure and in many more fields. Manas Ranjan Panda, Special Secretary, Electronics & IT Department and MD, OCAC gave welcome address and Anoop Verma, Editor, ET Government, Economic Times offered vote of thanks in the inaugural session.

Alert On Heatwave

Bhubaneswar: With the IMD's warning for heatwave in many places across the State for next four to five days, Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) and Additional Chief Secretary Revenue & Disaster Management, Satyabrata Sahu held a meeting to review the prevailing situation and preparedness made to SRC & ACS Shri Sahu asked concerned departments to take necessary steps to mitigate the heatwave condition.



Drinking water centres will be opened at different public gathering places in urban and rural areas. "Paniya Jala Seva Kendras" (Drinking Water Kiosks) are required to be opened by Urban Local Bodies/ Gram Panchayats at market places, bus stands and other congregation points, Shri Sahu told officials.

He also directed to engage tanks to supply drinking water in the areas, where there is a shortage of water supply. Sahu has instructed to repair all tube-wells and

pipes and provide drinking water and ORS to bus passengers. The authorities were asked to store sufficient lifesaving medicines, saline, ORS in the dispensaries, PHCs, CHCs and subdivision/ District Headquarters Hospitals to meet the requirement. Similarly, the construction and repair of shallow vats may also be ensured for roaming livestock, he directed. In view of scorching heat, workers should not be engaged in any activity when the day temperature is very high, while steps must be taken to ensure uninterrupted power supply. People have been advised not to venture out

between 11 AM and 3 PM unless it is very urgent. They have been advised to carry water bottle, use sunglasses & umbrella and wear loose clothing to escape the wrath of heat.

Heatwave conditions continued to prevail across the state with mercury breaching 40 degrees Celsius mark at 16 places on Thursday. Boudh and Jharsuguda were the hottest places in the state and recorded the day's highest maximum temperature of 43.4 degrees Celsius. Sambalpur recorded a maximum temperature of 43.3 degrees Celsius, followed by Hiraakud at 42.3 degrees, Sundergarh—42.1 degrees, Rourkela—42 degrees, Angul—41.7 degrees, Sonapur—41.3 degrees, Bolangir—41.2 degrees, and Titlagarh, Talcher, Nuapada—41 degrees each.

The other places that recorded 40 degrees Celsius or above are; Baripada (40.6), Bargarh (40.2), Nayagarh (40.2) and

Malkangiri (40). While Cuttack recorded a maximum day temperature of 38.5 degrees C, capital city Bhubaneswar remained a little cooler at 37.7 degrees.

Forecasting thunderstorms with lightning on Friday, the IMD has issued yellowed warnings for districts of Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Ganjam.

There will be no large change in maximum temperature during next three days. The day temperature will rise thereafter over the districts of Odisha, the IMD said.

Maximum temperature is likely to be 40 degrees and above at a few places over the districts of interior Odisha during next five days. Hot and discomfort weather is very likely at a few places over the districts of Interior Odisha during next five days. People are advised to take precautionary measures while going outside.

Das Takes Sports Charge

Bhubaneswar: Senior IAS Officer Siddhartha Das has taken charge of Director Sports & Youth Services Department on 11 May.

Honest, Hardworking and a Suave Mandarin, Shri Das has served in State Finance Sector for long time and brings in indepth knowledge on various sectors of the Governance.

After taking charge as Director Sports, Shri Das called on Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Tusharkanti Behera and discussed the focus areas for sports development in Odisha. Later, he visited various facilities and High Performance Centers located at the Kalinga Stadium and engaged in



discussions on the activities and programs. Sports Persons across the State are happy over his appointment as Shri Das is a 'Positive Minded Mandarin', who will spearhead the massive sports program ushered in by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Secretary to CM V K Pandian, making the Capital City as Sports Capital of the Country.

One of the most dynamic Secretary Sports and Youth Services R Vineel Krishna is also at the helm of the Sports Sector, for which activities of Sports has gone up to Next level, admit Sports Writers.




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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number

of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life

and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and

Threats held out to Indian Democracy & to the Constitution of India by PM Modi

Bhubaneswar: Mr Narendra Modi of the BJP has been the Prime Minister of India since May 26, 2014. It is a fact that he has been ruling India as a dictator. Mr Modi feels that as Prime Minister of India he has all the powers. The Powers of the President of India are being considered by him as his. Same way he feels that the Powers of the State Governors or LGs also come within the ambit of his Powers. Even Powers of the Election Commission (EC) are, in practice, of Prime Minister of India. This dictatorial attitude has been there since PM Modi ordered "Demonetizations". The Presiding Officers of both the Houses of the Parliament: Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha have been acting as Sub-Ordinate Officers of the PM. This has been vindicated the way the key-points in the Speech of Rahul Gandhi delivered on 7th February, 2023 on the floor of the Lok Sabha relating the Financial Nexus between PM Modi and the Businessman Gautam Adani were expunged by Mr Om Brila the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Same way the key points in the speech of Mr Mallikarjun Kharge, delivered on 8th February 2023, were expunged by Mr Jagadeep Dhankhar, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The Budget session of the Parliament in 2023 got virtually washed away because PM Modi stonewalled all questions raised against Mr Adani. He kept mum all throughout - thus rendering Parliamentary

Democracy to a non-entity. The Governors of States ruled by non-BJP Parties are conducting themselves most dictatorially at the behest of PM Modi. Mr R.N. Ravi, Governor of Tamil Nadu, has refused to give his "assent" to as many as 20 Bills passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. To cite a case, he withheld a Bill on Banning the online gambling that has seen 40 Deaths in the State of Tamil Nadu. He kept the Bill with him for 131 days. Then he sent the Bill to the House for reconsideration. The Bill was passed once again by the TN Legislative Assembly. But he sat over the Bil. On 10th April, 2023 the DMK Government led by the CM MK Stalin passed a resolution asking the Central Government to fix a time limit within which a Governor has to give his assent on a Bill passed by the State Legislature. As soon as this Resolution was passed, the Governor Mr RN Ravi got activated and gave his assent to the Bill which was pending with him for months together. Surely he did it at the behest of PM Modi. It is a matter of fact that the Prime Minister has been controlling the EC and taking away its Freedom for Political Benefits that must accrue to his Party, the BJP. On one day, within 24 hrs, he got Mr Arun Goel, an IAS Officer of Punjab Cadre got appointed as the Member of the Election Commission. This has stunned India.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India became quite unhappy with regard to the functioning of the Prime Minister relating to the composition of the EC.

So, on 3rd of March, 2023 the Supreme Court has decreed that hereafter Appointment to the EC has to be finalized by a 3-Member Committee comprising of Prime Minister of India, Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

PM Modi has not yet dared to hold a single Press Conference during the last 9 yrs. He considers himself as if he is above the Law. This is happening because of a great shortcoming that is there in the Electoral System of India. He has taken advantage on the present First-Past-the-Post-System of Election of India. He is having 303 Members of Lok Sabha as his BJP MPs. This is 56% of total membership of the Lok Sabha. Had there been Mixed PR Election System of Germany, or of New Zealand, or of Nepal in India, PM Modi would have got only 200 Members of the BJP in the Lok Sabha as his Party polled 37% of the Votes cast in the 2019 Lok Sabha Elections. Once this gets rectified, the authoritarian attitude of PM Modi would vanish in no time.

Election in India should be held on "One Day" as is the practice elsewhere in the World. Counting of votes should be held soon after. There should not be any scope for manipulation.

As Indians we are very much grateful to the Present CJI of the Supreme Court, Justice DY Chandrachud. He has refused to be influenced by PM Modi. PM Modi wants to make India a Hindu Rastra. This must not be done.

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers - Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO - which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience adigital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples - Bhubaneswar - celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' - The Journey of a Young Woman - the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take Pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves - truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

Valedictory function of Mathematics Association for the academic year 2022-23



Warangal (KCN): Mathematics is the language of all the engineering branches said Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director, NIT Warangal. He graced as chief guest in the Valedictory function of the Mathematics Association for the academic year 2022-23, organized by the Department of Mathematics, NIT

Warangal, on 12th May 2023. He appreciated the events conducted by the Mathematics Association during the academic year 2022-23. Prof. B. Sri Padmavati, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Hyderabad, who was the guest of honour, delivered a talk on "Overview of general boundary condition in

stokes flow". Prof. H. P. Rani, Head of the Mathematics Department, presided over the function. Dr. K. Kaladhar, the Faculty advisor of the Mathematics Association, presented association insights and Dr. T. P. Shukla, Treasurer of the Mathematics Association, proposed vote of thanks.

BLS International registers highest ever Operational Revenue of Rs.448.6Cr in Q4 FY23

New Delhi: BLS International, a trusted global tech-enabled services partner for governments and citizens, released today the audited consolidated financial results for the fourth quarter and financial year ended March 31, 2023. Management Discussion & Analysis of Results - Company delivered robust operating results for the quarter ending March 31, 2023. Consolidated Revenues rose 76.7% YoY. Annualized Return on Equity (a key measure of capital efficiency) stands at 25.4%. Company continually strives to improve this through better asset utilization & cost optimizations, leading to margin improvements.

Company generated cash from operations of Rs.225crores during the year, which is the highest ever cash generation. Management is focused on improving cash generation as a key business performance metric. Moreover, the Company continues to remain debt-free. BLS ranks amongst the top 3 Visa & Consular Services companies globally. Amongst several others, the Company processes visa contracts for Spain, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Thailand, Morocco, Lebanon, Vietnam, Malaysia etc. BLS has bid for several contracts for visa services across the world and expects continuous growth through new contracts.

Company has rewarded shareholders through issue of bonus shares as well as dividends during the year. Board have recommended the final dividend of Rs. 0.25 per share, subject to the shareholders' approval. Recent Major Updates- BLS International signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to accept Electronic Visa on Arrival (EVOA) Seamless Travel to Thailand. Company signed contract with Embassy of Poland in Manila for VISA Outsourcing Services. Company signed contract with Royal Thai Embassy for South Africa and Neighboring Regions for VISA Outsourcing Services.

BOB Financial and HPCL launch co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) - a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL BoB Co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as

well as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network.

Cardholders of HPCL BoB RuPay Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points.

The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, Skill Development and Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries Department, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana.

Commending the development, Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Department, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth.

To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by

our Prime Minister to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of

Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 3I's - types of Income; Inflation and its impact; types of Investment; 3S - Start early- Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

Big Bash League set to witness major revamp in structure



New Delhi: The 13th edition of Australia's Big Bash League will see the competition shortened to 44 games with Cricket Australia advancing the changes to the tournament structure that were due to be implemented under the new TV rights deal. Men's BBL will revert to 44-game season - 40 home and away league matches, and four-match finals between the top-four sides, of which the structure is yet to be confirmed - in BBL-13 and future seasons a year in advance of CA's extended seven-year broadcast deal with Foxtel Group and Seven West Media. The WBBL remains unchanged, 59-game competition with 56 league games and three finals. "A shortened BBL will allow us greater

flexibility to ensure we can deliver the best possible fixture for clubs and fans, while providing a platform that allows players to continue to produce the world-class levels of cricket we've seen over the duration of the tournament," CA's general manager of Big Bash Leagues, Alistair Dobson said. Dobson did not rule out possible changes to WBBL structure in the future. "Whilst no changes have been made to the WBBL schedule, it's vital that we make sure the tournament continues to be at the forefront of T20 Leagues as the global women's game continues to evolve at a rapid rate. "As a League we're always reviewing and looking at ways we can evolve, adapt and

innovate, and as part of that, we'll continue to consider the structure of the WBBL season," he added. In addition, another change to BBL will be the ability to trade draft picks, with the order set to be confirmed via a lottery ahead of the season, while the inaugural WBBL draft is due in September. In another first, both BBL and WBBL will see a week-long retention window where clubs will get first rights at re-signing up to 12 men's and 10 women's players respectively, including national players who have already signed multi-year deals. This season's retention window begins on May 15 and will end with the lifting of the contracting embargo and beginning of the trade period on May 22.

Jaiswal, Chahal break records, take RR to third

New Delhi: Yuzvendra Chahal and Yashasvi Jaiswal broke two big individual records on their way to carrying Rajasthan Royals to a massive win over Kolkata Knight Riders, and up to third spot in the points table. When Chahal dismissed Nitish Rana, he became the leading wicket-taker in IPL history, and went on to pick three more in figures of 4 for 25. Jaiswal got to a 13-ball half-century - the fastest-ever in the tournament - and finished with 98* off 47 as RR chased down KKR's 149/8 with 9 wickets and 41 balls to spare.

On a slow Eden Gardens surface, Nitish Rana decided to bowl the first over himself. Yashasvi Jaiswal welcomed that by dancing down the track for a six over long on first ball. The RR opener carted the next ball over deep backward square leg fence and proceeded to peel off three more fours in the same over - one gorgeous cover drive and two cuts through point. In defence of their 149/8, Rana conceded 26 runs - the second most-expensive opening over in the tournament. The Jaiswal juggernaut didn't stop at taking down Rana's experiment as the RR opener went to on make mincemeat of Harshit Rana and Shardul Thakur's bowling in the second and third overs

respectively, to bring up a 13-ball half-century - the fastest in the history of IPL. In the middle of a frenetic start to the chase, Jos Buttler fell for a third-ball duck off a run out but Jaiswal didn't let RR feel the pinch. The visitors got 78 in the PowerPlay, with 62 of them coming off Jaiswal's willow. Jaiswal enabled RR to wipe out more than half their target in just the first six overs, and continued in the same vein even as KKR got to spread out their fields. Not for the first time on the night, he gave a spinner the charge - Sunil Narine this time - to cart a six over extra cover in the seventh over. Suyash Sharma bowled short to the left-hander and got tonked over long-on for Jaiswal's fifth six of the innings. KKR came armed with extra spinners for this game - as Anukul Roy replaced Vaibhav Arora - but all of them got a rather disdainful treatment from Jaiswal as well as Sanju Samson. The RR skipper got in on the fun too, as he welcomed Anukul with a six over long off. That first - and only over from Roy - fetched 20 runs as Samson capped it with two more sixes - one down the ground and another over long-on. Rana turned to Chakravarthy who had conceded just 15 in his two overs - conservative in the context of the



chase - but he too got toyed with. He began with a short ball to Jaiswal which the left-hander pulled for four. Samson dished out more severe punishment for a half-tracker, hitting it deep into the cow corner stands. Jaiswal finished the chase with a four on the first ball of the 14th over to bring an end to RR's incredible mid-season slump (5 defeats in the last six games) in some style. In 10 of the 12 innings this IPL, KKR have lost at least two wickets. The pattern of starting wobbly continued for the home side as they lost both Jason Roy and Rahmanullah Gurbaz to Trent Boult in the PowerPlay. The wickets however, belonged to Shimron Hetmyer and Sandeep Sharma who took excellent catches. First, Roy's flick that was headed past the deep backward square leg fence

was picked off by Hetmyer right at the edge of the boundary. Gurbaz then drove uppishly and was caught by a diving Sandeep Sharma at mid-off. Between the third and the ninth over, KKR struggled to middle the ball and had a 29-ball phase without a boundary. Nitish Rana broke that rut by sweeping Joe Root for a four. The KKR captain aimed to lead his team's recovery even as Venkatesh Iyer made a circumspect start amidst a lot of spin bowling. Runs didn't come easy but the first over after the strategic timeout gave KKR the wings they needed. Iyer found the next gear to his game as he carted Ashwin for two sixes while Rana slapped a boundary in the 18-run over that took KKR to 76/2 in 10 overs. Just when KKR appeared to be steadying themselves, Samson brought Chahal on and

earned instant gratification. Chahal tossed one up to Rana outside the offstump and the left-hander dragged it from there for a slog sweep. Hetmyer however, took another sharp catch to send the KKR captain packing and give Chahal his record-breaking 184th wicket in IPL. Iyer went after Chahal in his second over to pick up 15 runs and set KKR up for a late flourish that could have taken them to a defensible total on the tricky pitch but once again Chahal poured cold water over KKR's best plans. Chahal has been one of RR's potent death-overs weapons this season and he came through once again. First, he stopped Iyer in his tracks with a loopy ball that the KKR batter sliced to Boult at cover. In the same over he had Shardul Thakur trapped leg before and then built up dot-ball pressure against KKR's best batter this season - Rinku Singh - and had him caught at long off by Joe Root. Chahal finished with a spell of 4 for 25 in 4 overs and KKR were thus restricted to 149/8 which proved to be grossly insufficient on the night. Brief Scores: Kolkata Knight Riders 149/8 in 20 overs (Venkatesh Iyer 57, Nitish Rana 22; Yuzvendra Chahal 4-25) lost to Rajasthan Royals 151/1 in 13.1 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 98*, Sanju Samson 48*) by 9 wickets

Europa League 2023 Semifinals: Juventus Snatch Late Draw Vs Sevilla, AS Roma Beat Bayer Leverkusen

New Delhi: Substitute Federico Gatti scored deep into stoppage time to salvage a 1-1 draw for Juventus against six-time champion Sevilla in the first leg of the Europa League semifinals on Thursday. Gatti headed in the equalizer in the seventh minute of added time in Turin to keep alive the Italian team's hopes for a European trophy after a long drought. Juventus won the competition when it was known as the UEFA Cup three times, most recently in 1993. The team will have to win in the second leg next week to get a chance to claim a first European title since winning the Champions League in 1996. Sevilla has won the trophy six times and the Spanish squad again proved it is a title contender. Youssef En-Nesyri scored in the 26th minute to finish a lethal counterattack for Sevilla, which eliminated Manchester United in the quarterfinals. It was the forward's



18th goal in all competitions. The visitors suffered a setback when Lucas Ocampos, who had several attempts on goal, had to be substituted in the 34th due to an injury. Sevilla had another good chance but goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny tipped Ivan Rakitic's shot over the bar. Earlier, Ángel Di María helped Juventus create some pressure but it was the visitors who struck first. Sevilla has never lost a semifinal in this competition.

Roma stayed on course to claim back-to-back European titles by beating Bayer Leverkusen 1-0 in the first leg of their semifinal. José Mourinho's team won the inaugural edition of the third-tier Europa Conference League last year. Leverkusen has been on the rise under coach Xabi Alonso, who played for Mourinho at Real Madrid, but Roma had the upper hand at Stadio Olimpico. Edoardo Bove scored the decider in the 63rd. The 20-year-

old midfielder netted his first European goal on a rebound with a left-foot strike after goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky saved the initial attempt by forward Tammy Abraham. In the first half, Hradecky kept the visitors in game by saving a Roger Ibañez header from close range. Jeremie Frimpong failed to capitalize on Roma goalkeeper Rui Patrício's blunder in a clear chance to equalize. Said Benrahma and Michail Antonio led West Ham's second-

half rally to beat AZ Alkmaar 2-1 at London Stadium. Benrahma converted from the spot to erase the Dutch team's lead before Antonio scored from close range. Tijjani Reijnders put the visitors ahead four minutes before halftime with a strike from outside the area. It was a rare chance for the Dutch at this stage. The Hammers have been waiting for a European trophy since the 1965 title in the European Cup Winners' Cup. In Florence, Zeki Amdouni scored in stoppage time as Basel came from a goal down to stun Fiorentina 2-1. Andy Diouf had equalized in the 71st minute. In the first half, Fiorentina kept attacking with Basel holding firm at Stadio Artemio Franchi until Arthur Cabral headed in the opening goal for the hosts following a corner kick in the 25th. It was the seventh goal for the striker, making him the top scorer in the competition.

Afghanistan to play in India in between Bangladesh tour: BCB official



New Delhi: BCB Cricket Operation Chairman Jalal Yunus claimed on Thursday (May 11) that Afghanistan will be playing a series in India in between their Bangladesh tour. Afghanistan were scheduled to play two Tests, three ODIs and three T20Is next month. However, recently it was announced that one Test has been scrapped from the itinerary. The latest development has seen one T20I now getting scrapped as well. Yunus told reporters on Thursday in England that ACB requested them that they want to play one Test and later move to India to play a series

before returning to Bangladesh to complete the remaining games of the tour. "We had two Tests with Afghanistan but we have excluded one Test from it and now we will play one Test along with three ODIs and two T20Is and this is the itinerary. We are in discussions with the Afghanistan Cricket Board and hopefully within a day or two we can finalize the venues. "They wanted to go to India after playing one format. Here we will play one Test and later they will move to India during the Eid ul Adha to play the series and later after completing their assignment in India, they will return to

Bangladesh to play the remaining part of the series. They (ACB) are very excited with the India series and after it was finalized they requested us to play in the new schedule. We have accepted their request considering at that point there is Eid ul Adha break and that is the reason we did not have any reservation," he said. Cricbuzz understands the lone Test will be played between June 10 to June 19 before the visitors move to India to play a white-ball series. Prior to their Bangladesh visit, Afghanistan will travel to Sri Lanka to play a short three-match ODI series.