



Dr Pabitra Mohan Samantaray Editor in chief, Paryabekhyak & The Kalinga chronicle Group with Samaja delhi Bureau chief Sakti Prasad Nayak, Philanthropist & Founder of Hunger free society Madam Aruna Goenka at Kanchan Shree ,Vasant kunj ,New Delhi

Dr A K Bisoi has been nominated as the new president of AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

New Delhi, (KCN): Dr Akhsya Kumar Bisoi is Professor of Cardiac Surgery at AIIMS, New Delhi. He is an accomplished surgeon, with three decades of professional excellence and innovation to show. He has performed over 32,000 procedures, has created and made operational various effective and sustainable models of healthcare. The intention was to especially take care of the weak and deprived sections of society. Dr Bisoi has received several laurels, including the prestigious Dr B.C Roy National Award, given to Eminent Medical Teachers.



2,000 Notes To Be Withdrawn, Exchange Them By September 30, Will Remain Valid

New Delhi: The central bank has said it will withdraw 2,000 notes from circulation and people can exchange or deposit them in their bank accounts by September 30. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 19 regional offices and other banks will start taking 2,000 notes for exchange with lower denomination one from May 23. They will remain legal tender, the RBI said. The RBI has told all banks to stop issuing 2,000 notes immediately. The RBI started printing the 2,000 note in November 2016 after Prime Minister Narendra Modi scrapped high-value 1,000 and 500 notes overnight.



"The objective of introducing 2,000 banknotes was met once banknotes in other denominations became available in adequate quantities. Therefore, printing of 2,000 banknotes was stopped in 2018-19," the RBI said in a statement. "In order to ensure operational convenience and to avoid disruption of regular activities of bank branches, exchange of 2,000 banknotes into banknotes of other denominations can be made up to a limit of 20,000 at a time at any bank starting from May 23, 2023," the RBI said.

Court Asks Odisha Government For Action Plan To Contain Malnutrition In Children

Cuttack: Orissa High Court has directed the state government to draw up an effective action plan to ensure total elimination of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and reduce by half moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children by the year end. The order was passed on Thursday by a HC bench of Chief Justice S Muralidhar and Justice Gourishankar Satapathy while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) on the death of 11 children in Danagadi block of Jajpur district allegedly due to malnutrition. The malnutrition affected children are divided into two categories. Those under SAM are considered to be in the red zone and run a higher risk of contracting secondary



infection and suffer from severe illnesses. The children under MAM show signs of malnourishment but are in the yellow zone, which means that their lives are not under threat. The court order said that the chief secretary should convene a meeting in the next month and draw up an action plan to achieve the target of bringing down the number of SAM

children completely and reduce by more than half the number of MAM children in the state by the end of 2023. The division bench also asked the secretaries of the women and child development, school and mass education, health and family welfare, tribal welfare, food supplies and consumer welfare departments to hold a meeting within one month to firm up the

action plan and start working towards achieving the target. During the hearing, WCD department secretary said that there are approximately 36 lakh children in Odisha of whom 28,541 (as of April, 2023) are stated to be in the SAM category and around 86,000 in the MAM category. "To have in Odisha in 2023 nearly 30,000 SAM and 86,000 MAM

children is a cause for alarm not just for the state of Odisha but for the government of India as well," the HC observed. The petitioner highlighted the situation concerning SAM and MAM children in the Danagadi and Sukinda blocks in Jajpur district. There could be other districts and blocks in Odisha where the situation may be equally bad or perhaps worse, he said. The Court extended the scope of the petition to include Keonjhar district and directed its collector and CDMO to visit the blocks in the next one month to ascertain for themselves the factual position regarding children in the SAM and MAM categories. The court has scheduled the next hearing on August 1, 2023.

Inaugural of National Level Workshop "Towards Effective Management of NITs" held at Bose Hall of Seminar Halls Complex

Warangal (KCN): After lightening the lamp and declaring the workshop open, Shri S. Goverdhan Rao, Registrar, NIT Warangal shared the welcome address. He shared the idea and purpose behind organizing the workshop. He said a similar workshop was organized in 2019, January to bring together effective practices from different NITs. The deliberations were also shared with the ministry, he said. He said this workshop aims at discussing best practices of administration in various NITs. Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director, NIT Warangal welcomed the delegates to the workshop. He said that 31 NITs should have synchronization. We should learn and adapt the best practices from each other. NIT Warangal has taken this



step to invite our colleagues from our sister institutes to discuss the best practices and bring out deliberations to make NITs better institutes. Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao, *Director, NIT Rourkela, said that there will be change just not in NITs but the entire education system. "Time makes the biggest change," he said, he hailed from a small place at Nalgonda where seeing a train was a

dream. While he was in the class tenth he saw Falaknuma Express for the first time passing through their place and later when he went to study at IIT Kharagpur, he traveled on the same train. Every single person working is as important as the Director of the institute. "We have a lot to do and we can do magic. It is like a game where everyone has to perform and then we can make our institutions the best in the world," he said

Prof. Sunil Kumar Sarangi, Former Director, NIT Rourkela and chief guest said NIT Warangal is special in the NIT System. It was the first of the RECs founded in 1959 and is considered to be the eldest brother and is good that the institute is organizing a workshop that is timely. He quoted that "What cannot be measured cannot be managed" and hence it is important to measure efforts towards work but not attitudes. He hoped

that this workshop can take the NIT system one step forward. Dr. K. Veerajanyulu, Organizing Secretary proposed the vote of thanks. During the next two days, 7 sessions will be organized on administration. 60 delegates are participating in the two-day workshop. Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, and officers of the Institute coordinated the program. Deans, Heads of the Department, Officers and staff participated in the event. Later in the evening, Prof. Sunil Kumar Sarangi spoke on Cryogenics - An uncommon technology for the common man and Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao delivered a talk on National Education Policy - 2020 to the faculty of the institute.

3 Killed As SUV Hits Bike In Odisha's Bolangir

Bhubaneswar: In a tragic incident, three persons were killed in a mishap on Loisingha-Bharasuja road near Karkachia Square in Bolangir district of Odisha today. The deceased have been identified as Rajesh Patel of Rota, his brother-in-law Tulsiram Patel of Sadeipali and Suranjan Patel of Kusanga, police said. The mishap took place when the trio was on their way to Bolangir from Rota village on a bike, sources said. The trio sustained critical injuries when a speeding



SUV hit their bike from the front near Karkachia Square. The locals along with a few employees of the Electricity department rescued the trio and rushed them to a nearby hospital. However, the doctors declared them dead-on-arrival, sources said.

Soon after the mishap, the locals ransacked the SUV and thrashed its driver. On being informed, the Loisingha Police reached the spot and launched a probe. "We have seized the SUV and detained the driver," said a police officer.

Odisha Crime Branch Issues Advisory On Misuse Of Pre-Activated SIMs

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Police's Crime Branch on Friday issued an advisory for telecom service providers to crack down misuse of pre-activated SIMs, which has become a serious issue having a bearing on national security apart from

affecting individuals. ADG, Crime Branch, Arun Bothra has advised the telecom operators to make calls to the Aadhaar-linked phone number for tele verification. Dealers having permanent shops should only be allowed to sell SIMs, he said.

Telecom service providers (TSP) were asked to devise a mechanism for the customers to complain about the fake SIM and to get it deactivated. Those point of sales (POS) who are caught violating the SOP of SIM activation will be blacklisted.

New Feathers in the Academic Programme of CUO

CUO to starts four New Programmes from 2023-24

Koraput: The Central University of Odisha is going to start three new undergraduate programmes and one postgraduate programme from the academic year 2023-24. These are four-year B.Sc. programmes in Agriculture Science, Dairy Science, and Forest Management and two-year PG/MBA Programme in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi had a meeting in the Ministry of Education,

Govt. of India, at New Delhi to discuss about the starting of new programmes for the young generations of not only Odisha but also India. Considering the academic scenario in India, it has been decided to launch the above new programmes to cater the interest of the young population including the tribal community. "The Koraput region situated in the Eastern Ghats is a highland plateau with a number of hills and hillocks. Except for the North-Western and West-



Central part, almost the entire district is occupied by dense forests and highly rugged mountains. Agriculture, livestock, and forest products are the mainstay of the district economy, and

more than 80% of the population in Koraput district directly depends on agriculture. The majority of farmers use traditional farming systems in Koraput whereas farmers all over the

country are struggling to adopt modern technologies. This traditional knowledge is transmitted from generation to generation by families. It is worth mentioned that in 2012 the Food

and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations has accorded the status of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) to the traditional agricultural system being practiced in Koraput region of Odisha for promoting food security and conserving biodiversity. Keeping in view of the above, the University is going to start four-year B.Sc. programme in Agriculture Science, Dairy Science and Forest Management from the academic

session 2023-24", said Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the CUO. Further, He said that Koraput is a prominent producer of rice, millet, ginger, coffee, black pepper, vegetable, and jackfruit. Strawberry, dragon fruit, apple, banana, and other rare fruit are also produced in the Koraput soil. In spite of such huge production, there is no adequate management and supply chain system for marketing these products at the national and

international level. The new programme i.e. two year PG/MBA programme in Logistics and Supply Chain Management will fulfill these demands. The University will issue admission notification shortly for the above programmes and the admission process will be completed by 31st July 2023. The intake capacity in each discipline will be 44. The new faculty for the above programmes will be recruited in near future.

33th Birth Anniversary of Vietnamese Leader Ho Chi Minh & International Museum Day observed by Indian Museum

Kolkata (Partha Roy): 133th Birth anniversary of Vietnamese Leader Ho Chi Minh (May 19, 1890 - September 2, 1969) and International Museum Day (18th May) observed by Indian Museum at its premises in Kolkata on 18th May 2023.



India and Vietnam have historical cultural relationship spanning many centuries old . However, India and Vietnam established full fledged Diplomatic relationship after both countries became independent on 7th January 1972 which has entered in to its 51st year .

Indian Museum Kolkata in collaboration with Indo Vietnam Solidarity Committee(IVSC) presented a photo exhibition and seminar on "Imprints of Indian Culture in Vietnam to mark 133rd Birth Anniversary of great revolutionary leader and Father of the nation of Vietnam Ho Chi Minh and International Museum Day.

The photo exhibition showcased well preserved ruins of about two hundred Hindu Temples at various sites of Central Vietnam and numerous idols, sculptures of myraid Hindu deities recovered through various excavation and preserved in museums in Vietnam.

Ruins are proof of age-old traditional relations dating back to many

centuries. The exhibition was opened by Governor of West Bengal Shri C V Anand Bose in presence of Ambassador of Vietnam to India Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hai ,IVSC Convenor Smt. Kusum Jain ,Sri Prem Kapoor Secretary of IVSC , Dr. Sayan B h a t t a c h a r y a Educational Officer of Indian Museum and other dignitaries.

Governor of West Bengal spoke on historical social and cultural connections between India and Vietnam .He highlighted freedom struggle of Vietnamese people. He mentioned about growing and deepening bilateral India -Vietnam relationship far beyond Cultural Relations in the evolving geo- political scenario. India - Vietnam relationship expanded to economic & trade, defence, education , cyber security , media , tourism and evolving sunrise sectors. Shri Anand Bose shared his personal experiences during his visit to Vietnam.

Shri Anand Bose said India Vietnam Relationship is like "

Rainbow Bridges" Ambassador of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hai spoke on historical connections between India and Vietnam and India's support to people of Vietnam during freedom and unification movement . He highlighted Great Revolutionary leader Ho Chi Minh's visit to Kolkata and warm reception extend to him . India and Vietnam are collaborating in various international forums to improve quality of life in each other's country as well as in other nations also. Ambassador of Vietnam mentioned about introduction of several flights between India and Vietnam as well as direct shipping services between two nations will further enhance people to people connection between two nations.

India's Buddhist and Brahminical culture had great influence in Vietnam over several thousands years .First convoy of Indian traders set off to Vietnam from Champa Puri (Bhagalpur) via Tamralipta (Bengal) and Gopalpur (Odisha) also during the first century or

78th death anniversary observed of eminent writer Gopal Chandra Praharaj

Cuttack Sadar,(KCN) - Pioneer of comprehensive lexicon The Purnachandra Odia Bhashakosha(A set of 7 Volume) saraswata sadhaka Gopal Chandra Praharaj 78th death anniversary observed at ancient Institution Gopal Smruti Vidyapitha Siddheswarpur Cuttack Sadar by Praharaj Pratibha Puja Parisad & G.S. Vidyapitha old students Association respectively.Honorable president of Parisad Byanga Poet Pratap Chandra Behera presided the shradhanjali sabha in presence of respected guests Aasadha Sahitya Sansad editor renowned poet Pitamber Mahapatra, Poet Ramakanta Nayak,Vidyapitha senior teacher



Nikunja Kishore Pnigrahi, Teacher Mamatamayi Barik,Pramod Kumar Das. All members & Public garlanding of Paharaj statue. Basudev Das paid thanks to all for their presence.

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Popular TV Couple Rahul Vaidya And Disha Parmar Announce Pregnancy

On Thursday evening, the duo shared the good news with their fans and Instagram followers. Disha and Rahul posted several images. The first image shows the duo twinning in black as Disha flaunts her baby bump for the first time. They can be seen holding a black slate that has 'Mummy Daddy' written on it. The couple also

shared a picture and video of the sonogram wherein we see a glimpse of the baby. "Hello from Mummy Daddy to be & the BABY," the duo captioned the post. As soon as Rahul and Divya dropped the update, fans flooded the comment section with congratulatory wishes. "Congratulations," actor Jasmin Bhasin commented.



"Woohhhhhooooo congratulations," actor Anita Hassanandani wrote. Rahul and Disha got married on July 16, 2021. The couple tied the knot in a star-studded wedding ceremony which took place in Mumbai. They had been dating for a few years, and later, Rahul proposed to her during an episode of Bigg Boss

14. After months of speculation, Disha finally arrived on the show and accepted his proposal. Disha gained a lot of popularity for her performance in the TV serial 'Bade Ache Lagte Hain Season 2' in which she was seen opposite actor Nakuul Mehta. On the other hand, Rahul rose to fame with his singing stint on 'Indian Idol'.

'Gully Boy' to 'Darlings'- Vijay Varma has come a long way

Gully Boy, India's official entry to the Oscars celebrates 4 years today, and while the film was highly celebrated for its impactful performances, it was dark horse Vijay Varma who stood for the sheer potential he showed and for holding his own despite the strong and established cast.



The actor was praised for his performance as Moeen Arif, and his portrayal instantly caught the attention of audiences and critics alike. From thereon, Vijay continued to impress with web series like A Suitable Boy, She and Mirzapur 2 and Ok Computer, all of which he won rave reviews for. But it was finally with Darlings, that Vijay

Varma cemented his position as the 'King of Grey' as his character 'Hamza' was yet another example of Vijay's incredible prowess as a performer who constantly raises the bar with every project he takes on. Critics spoke about how Vijay 'nailed

the character', 'was like a chameleon', 'terrific and absolutely scintillating' making audiences feel the dread that Badru (Alia Bhatt) felt everytime his character Hamza came home. From being a supporting cast

alongside Alia Bhatt in Gully Boy to being a parallel lead opposite her in her production Darlings, the actor has come a long way in the last 4 years and his journey has been nothing short of inspiring.

It's no surprise then that after his phenomenal performance in the film, he is now part of some of the most exciting theatrical and OTT content including Sujoy Ghosh's untitled next alongside Kareena Kapoor Khan, Reema Kagi's Fallen and Sumit Saxena's untitled project that took almost 100 days of immersive, relentless work. Each of these are versatile and challenging but nothing that the actor can't pull off!

Samantha Ruth Prabhu Climbs 600 Steps Barefoot, Prays to Palani Murugan



Samantha Ruth Prabhu climbed 600 steps of the Palani Murugan temple in Tamil Nadu on February 13 draped in an all-white churidar-kurta and offered prayers at the temple.



She also lit a camphor diya and tweeted on the same. She was

accompanied by her 'Jaanu' movie director C. Premkumar and other friends. The actor, who suffers from Myositis, an autoimmune disease condition that causes acute muscular pain, has started shooting for the web series 'Citadel' in which she shares screen space with Bollywood

actor Varun Dhawan. 'Citadel' is the Indian version of the international sci-fi action web series of the same name created by the Russo Brothers. In the international series, Priyanka Chopra plays the lead. The Indian web series is directed by the

director duo Raj and DK, who had helmed the popular web series, 'The Family Man', in which Samantha played the role of Raji, a Sri Lankan Tamil militant.

She had recently tweeted: "I am thrilled to be part of this brilliant universe conceptualised by the Russo Brothers AGBO. I am also looking forward to working with Varun for the first time. He is someone who is full of life and cheer when you are around him." Samantha is awaiting the release of her Telugu mythological movie 'Shakunthalam' in which she shares the screen with Prakash Raj and Dev Mohan. The movie is to be released on April 14.

Karan Johar reviews 'The Romantics', asks Aditya Chopra if he can share their personal pictures clicked over the decades

The 'Romantics', which released on OTT on the occasion of Valentine's Day, has received an emotional review from Karan Johar. He confessed to binge-watching the four episode long docu series, which got him thinking about old school filmmaking.

"I realised the purity, the innocence and the conviction we all collectively had... is so lost today for most of us.... Yash Chopra is not just a legend of romance... a connoisseur of chiffon, music and beauty... a maestro of musicals... he was also a pillar of belief and conviction... is there any conviction left today? We are burdened by media commentary... box office analytics, research engines (all probably relevant to the technology and times) but where did good old fashioned conviction vanish," shared Karan Johar.



He went on to state how the series made him reflect on his own journey and added, "The rom doc reminds us of the past that seemed so organic and



heartfelt.... Makes me want to go back to that zone of filmmaking.... I am so deeply inspired by the YRF story... it's

origin and it's journey.... Having learnt everything I know from the corridors of the studio I stand blessed and watching The Romantics made me so self aware... of my strengths and my failings.... Thank you @smritimundhra for weaving a narrative out of the archives and actually making an audience go through the many emotional beats through the 4 episodes... just brilliant!"

Chopra scions, Aditya and Uday, KJo added, "And finally my Best friend has a face and how beautifully articulate was he!!! Adi does that mean I can post all the images we have shared over decades that you have threatened to never speak to me if I put out ??? #justasking #IloveyouAdi congratulations to my dearest friend @udayc for being such a force behind this."

Success of Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan is the victory of the age-old, exploitative, nepotistic top-heavy system, says Vivek Agnihotri



The Kashmir Files director Vivek Agnihotri, who had previously criticised Pathaan amid the controversy over the Besharam Rang song, recently credited Shah Rukh Khan for the success of the Siddharth Anand directorial. However, he said in the podcast, "They will go back to their fundamental beliefs that audience is an idiot and you just need star power and lot of marketing hype to make a film successful."

"After Pathaan, I have a feeling that everybody will fall back to the same old system because Pathaan's success is the success or in today's environment I would choose the word victory. It's the victory of the age-old, exploitative, nepotistic top-heavy system," he added.

The filmmaker further said that Pathaan's success should also be credited to those who threatened to boycott the film and made 'stupid statements' against it. He said that the film's promotions had turned into a political campaign, adding that Pathaan worked purely because of SRK's charisma and his fan following.

"The way he marketed it, the way he took it on his shoulders 'that, okay it's my film and I am responsible for it' which is pretty good. I also think that some credit should also go to people who were making stupid statements against the film and people who were unnecessarily protesting and asking for boycott and these are different people from regular 'Boycott Bollywood' gang," he said.

Pathaan has now become the highest grossing film in the history of Hindi cinema. The movie has grossed Rs 901 crore worldwide. While it has grossed Rs 558 crore in India, it has raked in Rs 343 crore in the overseas market.

The movie also features Deepika Padukone, John Abraham in the lead, followed by Dimple Kapadia, Ashutosh Rana and others in pivotal roles.

Speaking about the immense success of 'Pathaan', Shah Rukh Khan had shared "The four years that I had... Covid had good and bad parts. I didn't work. I was with my children. I saw them grow up. My last film had not worked and people had said my movies now won't work. So, I thought of an alternate career: cooking Italian. In these four days, I've forgotten my last four years."

Gani Rajendra Vijay: The 'Gandhi' of Tribal's



Gani Rajendra Vijay, the pioneer of the Sukhi Pariwar Campaign, the messiah of tribal life and eminent Jain saint has been active on tribal issues for the last 36 years, he has launched many public welfare activities-schemes for the upliftment and development of tribal life, including education, service, medical and has taken initiatives for economic upliftment, which is a shining light in the lives of tribal people. Recently, while launching projects worth 4400 crores in Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi remembered Gani Rajendra Vijay with affection and intimacy while talking to the tribal women of online quota, the whole country saw this scenario and felt their services. Remembering this saintly man by Modi in this way, makes us feel his pride and existence. Definitely Gani Rajendra Vijayji is ready to give proper status to the tribal society and solve their problems. They themselves are capable

and prosperous, so they themselves come forward for basic facilities like education. In a way, with the efforts of a saint, an entire backward and neglected tribal society is getting ready to build itself in an ideal form; this is an exemplary and commendable effort. But these tribal people also got political patrons, for this they made contact with the leaders of all political parties and made them aware of the pain of tribal life. The ideals that have been conceived in Indian society are accepted by Indians with the same reverence even today. The public's faith in price loyalty is not yet lost. Even if a person is alone but is in favour of morality and someone powerful is opposing him with crookedness and conspiracy, then the public will like the person alone. Establishment of these values is the aim of Gani Rajendra Vijay's mission and vision. Gani Rajendra Vijay is such a personality who has blossomed further in the effort of spiritual development and moral upliftment. He has been striving for the upliftment of tribal life for a long time and is especially aware of the plans for education in tribal life; In 2010, the then Chief Minister Narendra Modi

inaugurated this school and other schemes among about one and a half lakh tribal people, such a huge tribal presence was showing Ganiji's influence in this area. Many public welfare schemes are being run under his leadership, in which Brahmi Sundari Girls Hostel is being run efficiently for girl's education. In this tribal area, where a Gaushala is operated with the view of life, then the mobile hospital is also providing its remarkable services for medical and service. For the economic progress and self-reliance of the tribal people, they are also running the happy family village industry. For the success of these broad undertakings, they do hard meditation and heat their body. In his programs, along with education among the tribals as well as common people, he awakens the light of drug addiction and eradication of stereotypes. The aim of his efforts is to awaken interest in education and reading as well as to inculcate faith in the minds of tribal people towards non-violence, morality and human values. Let every man look within himself and examine himself. Humanity is in danger today not because immorality is on the rise.

Immorality has always been there - sometimes less and sometimes more. The most dangerous thing is that there is no faith in morality. Filled with sacrifice, meditation, simplicity, enlightenment and compassion, you are constantly striving to protect the identity of the tribal caste and to establish human values. As if he is the emerging 'Gandhi' of Gujarat holding Dandi. Gani Rajendra Vijayji, born in a tribal family on May 19, 1974 in this tribal soil, became a Jain monk at the age of just eleven. There is a flame within this saint who

-Lalit Garg -

has written more than twenty books, which is sometimes seen agitating against obscenity, and sometimes becomes vocal against those who forcibly convert religion. Sometimes it becomes



vocal for the existence of water, land and forest. The kind of efforts that this saint has made for building a healthy and non-violent society, there is no show-off, no demonstration, no hunger for publicity, no longing for any respect, calling any politicians on his platforms There is no desire for a show of power. In his passion, this saint is trying to

establish the ideal and change the face of the tribal society and if we want to see the results of these efforts, it can be seen in tribal areas like Kanwat, Balad, Rangpur, Bodeli etc. Gani Rajendra Vijayji is active in the Sukhi Pariwar Campaign run by the Sukhi Pariwar Foundation to make the family strong. It is my good fortune that from the year 2006 being the founder general secretary of this foundation, I am currently serving as its president. Ganiji's topmost priority is that first of all the family should become cultured, the parents should become cultured, only then the children will be able to increase the prestige of the family by becoming cultured. If the children go astray from the right path, then their life will go into that deep pit of darkness from where it will be very difficult to get out again. Gani Rajendra Vijay is making special efforts to make children cultured. India is waiting for a cultural revolution today. This task cannot be left to the government machinery. Family, society and nation can be made moral and character-rich in real sense only by building for the right education and right values. In my view, the initiative and efforts

of Gani Rajendra Vijayji is the incarnation of a light in the tribal area, it is such a light that is becoming the solution to problems like violence, terrorism, Naxalism, Maoism. Often we seek solutions to these problems through politics, while the crisis seems to be deepening instead of the solution. Because due to political interests these neglected and needy people have been seen being exploited. The tribal society under the leadership of Gani Rajendra Vijayji is determined to move forward with the light to improve the life of this tribal area and to motivate the entire humanity. The result of Gani Rajendra Vijayji's spiritual aura and hard penance is the empowerment of the tribal society. It is a matter of great pleasure that Gani Rajendra Vijayji has prepared the basis for building a non-violent society with his spiritual brilliance. Many times he not only pacified the bloody struggle, but also brought different opposing groups on a single platform. While the groups were eager to kill each other with different types of weapons for widespread violence and loss of life. To make this area non-

violent surrounded by wide possibilities of violence would be called a revolution and a miracle. Tribal people really need love, compassion, affection and strength, which is possible only through a saint like Ganiji and a human welfare initiative like the Sukhi Pariwar Campaign, a light is indeed being born, which is exemplary for other violence-affected areas as well. The specialty of Gani Rajendra Vijayji is that he has made tribal upliftment the resolution and yearning of his life. There is a lot of light in the lives of tribal people too, but efforts have been made to snatch these lights, are happening and will continue to happen. Today there are more internal threats than external threats. There are many challenges of violence and alienation that beg solutions. But never get the right answer on the wrong question. When bread is needed, bread becomes the solution. Without bread, you cannot make any theory an injection of strength.

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BJP'S BAD PERFORMANCE IN KARNATAKA MAY BE BOON FOR CONGRESS

Uma Shankar Prasad



The Bad performance of BhartiyaJanata Party is a boon for Congress party in Karnataka. One question arises in the mind of different political observers and general people can congress party continue this achievement and found a new strategy to counter B.J.P in other states? The pundits who claim to understand the electoral behaviour of the people wonder if the congress has evolved a new Formula and strategy—which it would use in the lok-sabha election, too about one year. Such a formula mayor may not be there, but political analysts have busied themselves in

dissecting the reason of the BJP's dismal performance. The most obvious reasons that occur to them belong to the internal issues that the BJP could not handle correctly. Those issues had led to top-level defections from the party just a couple of weeks ahead of election date. Persons such as former Chief Minister Mr JagdishShettar left the BJP and joined the Congress Party, thus offering a direct benefit of their move at the last minute of the Congress party. Besides this, the BJP also did not have a strong Chief Ministerial face in Mr.Basavarajbomma, even though he was Chief minister for some time. Even though the BJP did not admit it ever. Mr.Bomaiwas seen to be a weak leader against the very aggressive Congress party that employed all sorts of political tricks to conducts its

election campaign. One of the most effective ploy the Congress Party used was to get Prime Minister Mr NarendraModienaged by heaping all sorts of abuses on him. The BJP did respond to that dirty campaign as aggressively as possible, but somehow could not acquire the required sting in it. If Congress party would utilise the Karnataka experience in the campaign for elections in other states such as Chhattishgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and try to corner the BJP and claim success. The BJP will have to come out with an effective response to an upbeat congress for the ensuing State elections and the subsequent LokSabhaelections. The BJP must have analysed its performance by now and must have started chalking out its

strategy for the coming electoral contests. In Rajsthan, the popular mood appears to be tilted against Chief Minister Mr Ashok Gehlot, while the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mr.ShivrajChouhan is facing similar difficulties. In Chhattisgarh, however Chief Minister Mr.BhupeshBaghel appears to be doing wellfor his Government. No matter these details, it is obvious that the electoral outcome in these states would be difficult to predict. So Congress should have try to conquer in the above states by adopting a special formula and policy forgetting their internal disputes. In all these states the fight would be straight between the BJP and Congress in the same manner like in Karnataka. Whatever newer and smarter election campaign

strategies BJP adopt to counter Congress in Chhittishgarh and Rajsthan, all will be in vain if Congress Party be strong and aggressive. Now as a well organised party BJP will start booth-level and page-level handling of the voters has acquired a legendary status in the whole country. Has the Congress Party stumbled upon a eye-catching formula in Karnataka to counter in coming Lok-Sabha Poll? But it is regretted to say that after obtaining a full majority in Karnataka The Congress Party could not select his Chief Minister Candidate, already five days passed! It is forecasting the Congress party's internal processes which claimthat the Congress party has never adapt any magic formula to defeat BJP.

Columnist, Khurda (63706 75562)

Letter To Editor

Sir

It is good to know that the Union health ministry has decided to draft a curriculum titled organ donation to be incorporated in the curriculum of senior school students to make the future citizens of our nation aware of the importance of organ donation and also to sensitise them on this great humanitarian activity. The draft curriculum has been sent for expert review by the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) from health ministry and as soon as it is approved the NCERT will incorporate the chapter on organ donation. Even though our nation has the world's largest population it has the lowest number of organ donation in comparison to developing and developed nations. Experts say that it is because of certain societal stigmas, lack of awareness and some misconceived beliefs that people are not ready for this. Experts believe that if the younger population are inculcated in the right manner and proper knowledge in this matter is imparted to them at a very young age it will definitely have a positive impact as they grow up. According to medical statistics a total of 15,561 organ transplants took place in 2022. Medical reports state that every year thousands of patients register for organ transplants but most often many are put in waiting lists for life-saving organ transplants due to shortage of organs. The initiative to teach the young about the significance of organ donation is truly a step towards medical advancement and definite medical progress.

M PRADYU KANNUR
Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.

Sir,

Environmental laws seems ineffective

Due to negligence, a recent gas leak in the crowded Punjab state claimed innocent lives. It is unknown what the gas is or how it formed, but there was a evidence that it leaked from the sewer. Some questions like Are applicable regulations ineffective or out of date? And how can such occurrences be avoided? Unfortunately, these issues are only noticed when there are a large number of fatalities. Several gas leaks have occurred in the last year, many of which are related to the use of ammonia in small-scale industries. The simple fact is that hundreds of environmental laws and burden some regulations are currently ineffective. Also, inspection is not a mere solution. New monitoring and monitoring mechanisms should be tested and evaluated using available data connectivity and other technological advances. When it comes to regulating toxic pollution, governments can't put off calculating for long.

Dr. Vijaykumar H K
Environmentalist
Raichur, Karnataka



PM being welcomed by Indian diaspora at Hiroshima, in Japan

India Fully Prepared To Protecting Its Sovereignty: PM On Ladakh Standoff



New Delhi: Amid the India-China standoff in eastern Ladakh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India is fully prepared and committed to protecting its sovereignty and dignity, and emphasised that peace and tranquility on the border are essential for normal bilateral ties among the neighbours.

In an interview with Japanese publication Nikkei Asia, PM Modi said, "the future development of the India-China relationship can only be based on mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interests", and noted that "normalising" the ties would benefit the wider region and the world. He stressed on his country's respect for sovereignty, the rule of law and the peaceful resolution of disputes. India-China ties have

been fraught since the Galwan clashes in 2020. Both sides have been periodically holding meetings to defuse the crisis at the border but a lasting solution has eluded them so far. On Pakistan, the publication quoted him as saying that India wants "normal and neighborly relations." "However, it is incumbent upon them to create a conducive environment free from terrorism and hostilities. The onus is on Pakistan to take necessary steps in this regard," he said. Speaking about the Indian economy, he noted that it has been one of the world's fastest-growing.

"Our progress is evident, as we have risen from being the tenth largest economy in 2014 to now being the fifth largest globally... While it is true that global headwinds pose challenges to

growth, we have built a strong foundation in recent years, which positions us favorably," he said.

On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Modi said India's position on the matter "is clear and unwavering." "India stands on the side of peace and will remain firmly there. We are committed to supporting those who face challenges in meeting their basic needs, especially in the face of rising costs of food, fuel, and fertilizers. We maintain communication with both Russia and Ukraine," PM Modi said.

"Cooperation and collaboration should define our times, not conflict," he told Nikkei Asia. The Prime Minister is on a three-nation trip to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

"I Dare CBI To Arrest Me If There's Corruption Proof": Trinamool Leader

Bankura (West Bengal): TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee, who has been called by the CBI to appear at its Kolkata office on Saturday as part of its probe into the school jobs scam, dared the central agency to arrest him if it has any proof of corruption or misconduct against him. Banerjee accused the

BJP of "using" the central agency to stop his ongoing mass outreach campaign as the BJP was "afraid of the public support" for the programme. "I will not bow my head before anyone apart from the masses. The BJP is afraid of the public support for the mass outreach campaign. CBI has summoned me, as

they (BJP) want this mass outreach campaign to stop," he said while addressing a road show here. Standing atop a vehicle, the TMC's national general secretary thanked people for their "overwhelming love and support". "I dare the CBI to arrest me if they have any proof of corruption against me.

Trinamool "Directly Involved" In Bengal Illegal Factory Blast, Alleges BJP Leader

Bagdora: Bharatiya Janata Party leader Suvendu Adhikari alleged that the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) has "direct involvement" in an explosion at an illegal firecracker factory in West Bengal's East Medinipur, in which nine people died. He further said that the death of the main accused in the Egra accident is a "personal loss" for Mamata Banerjee's party. "Anyway it is not good news, it is sad news, it is a huge loss of TMC, personal loss of Mamata Banerjee. There is direct involvement. Bhanu Bag whose



good name is Krishna Prasad Bag, was a prominent TMC leader, it is not only a loss of their family, it is also a loss for Mamata Banerjee," Mr Adhikari said. A massive blast took place at the factory in Khadikul village

under the Egra police station at around 11 am on Tuesday, killing nine people. Earlier, Suvendu Adhikari filed a petition demanding a National Investigation Agency (NIA) probe in the case, which was later

mentioned before the Calcutta High Court. The main accused in West Bengal's Egra blast case Krishna Prasad Bag alias Bhanu Bag died in a hospital in Cuttack, Odisha on Friday, said police. He was the owner of

the illegal firecracker unit where the blast killed nine persons on Tuesday.

Bag was undergoing medical treatment after suffering severe burn injuries during the massive blast that occurred in his firecracker factory in Khadikul village of East Medinipur district on May 16. With the death of Bag, the toll in the tragedy has reached 10, while several others are injured.

On May 18, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) had detained Bhanu Bagh, his son, and his nephew in connection with the explosion.

"Please Have Mercy": SRK In Alleged Chat With Officer Who Arrested Son Aryan

Mumbai: Sameer Wankhede, the former anti-drugs officer accused of trying to extort Shah Rukh Khan after arresting his son Aryan Khan in 2021, today produced what he claimed were his chats with the Bollywood superstar as part of his defence. Sameer Wankhede, the former zonal director of the Narcotics Control Bureau in Mumbai, submitted in the Bombay High Court screenshots of alleged chats in which Shah Rukh Khan appeared to beg him to free Aryan Khan as "he will break as a human being". Aryan Khan was arrested on October 3, 2021, following an anti-drugs raid on a

party on a cruise ship. He was released nearly a month later. Wankhede is now accused by the CBI of allegedly demanding ₹25 crore bribe from Shah Rukh Khan to not implicate Aryan Khan. In the chats submitted by Wankhede in court, SRK appeared to have written long, desperate messages urging the officer to free his son. NDTV cannot independently verify the authenticity of the chats.

"I beg you man please don't let him be in that jail. These holidays will come and he will break as a human being. His spirit will be destroyed because of some vested people. You promised you will reform my child not put

him in a place where he may come out completely battered and broken. And it's no fault of his," the 57-year-old actor writes, according to a screenshot.

"I beg you please have mercy in me and my family. We are a simple set of people and my son has been a bit wayward but he doesn't deserve being in jail like a hardened criminal. You also know that. Have a heart man please I beg you (sic)," says a purported message. The messages often end with the signoff "Love srk".

The chats have not been corroborated. There is no response from Shah Rukh Khan or his legal team.



In one screenshot, the actor appears to assure Wankhede that he will do "everything in his power" to make someone retract a statement. "I promise you I will do all of it and won't shirk away from begging them to stop. But please send

my son home. You also know in your heart it's been a bit too harsh for him by now. Please please I beg you as a father," he pleads, according to a screenshot.

The officer's answer, purportedly, is short: "Sharukh I know you

as a fine human being. Let's hope for the best. Take care of yourself." Some of the messages seem to have been sent on October 4, a day after the arrest, and go on long past midnight, till dawn. SRK appears to say he

knows it is "officially inappropriate and maybe outright wrong" but pleads with him to speak "once as a father".

In alleged messages sent on October 14, around the time Aryan Khan's bail plea came up in court, SRK appeared to beg the officer to "show some kindness" but the officer replied: "Dear Sharukh, I wish I could talk to you as friend and explain you about the current situation and not as a zonal director, all the murky and unscrupulous elements are vitiating the entire atmosphere. I wanted to look towards the kids in an reformatory approach and provide an

opportunity for best living and national service. But unfortunately my attempt is being maligned by some dirty persons with malafide and vested interests."

Wankhede was granted protection by the High Court from any "coercive action" in the extortion case filed against him. The former NCB officer had requested the court to scrap the FIR filed by the CBI against him. An NCB report has alleged that Wankhede made multiple trips abroad with his family and owned vast property disproportionate to his income.

E-Auction For 12 Granite Blocks

Bhubaneswar: After transferring a minor mineral subject to its jurisdiction, Steel and Mines Department for the first time issued Notice Inviting Tenders for e-auction of 12 Granite Blocks in the district of Gajapati. While Odisha Granite is now appreciated for its quality and sheen, southern Investors are increasingly showing their likeness for this decorative stones. When the investors from Andhra Pradesh met Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at Make In Odisha (MiO) 2022, they requested him to provide them quality granite, which is abundantly available in Odisha. At that point of time

Chief Minister promised them to go for Granite exploration sooner and expedite the auction process. Thanks to efforts of the Directorate of Mines headed by G Rajesh, now the State Government is going for auction of 12 Granite Blocks. The Director of Mines and Geology has issued the NIT as per Section 15 of Mines and Mineral (Development & regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Odisha Minor Mineral Concession Rule, 2016 and Odisha Specified Minor Mineral Auction Rule, 2019. The 12 Granite Blocks put for electronic



auction for the purpose of grant of mining lease are— Baharapada - Jamurhiha (East), Baharapada - Jamurhiha (West), Betarsing Block-A, Betarsing Block-B, Damba, Derab (East), Derab (West), Jhadapada, Lausahi, Nuagan (Nuagad), Nuagan (Tuburuba Mouza) and

Tentulikhunti. Excluding Tentulikhunti, all other stone blocks have some forest land. The Government has invited financial bids in digital format only while technical bids can be submitted both in digital and physical format from eligible bidders. Eligibility condition, date and time for

participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Detailed Tender Document along with the timeline, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process for the mineral blocks are available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC

Limited. Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the website of MSTC Limited. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model tender documents and mineral block summary are available free of cost on the website of MSTC Limited. The interested bidders can purchase tender documents after payment of a tender fee on website of e-auction platform provider's website by June 29, 2023, and the

last date for submission of the bid is July 07, 2023. The Directorate has set Rs 50,000 (excluding GST) price of tender document for each of the mineral blocks. The GST is payable under the reverse charge mechanism and the reserve price of all the 12 mineral blocks is 5 percent. The State Government had transferred the administration of minor minerals from the Revenue and Disaster Management Department to Steel and Mines Department. To accommodate this transfer process and implementation few measures like e-auction, prevention of

illegal mining and theft of minor minerals through i4MS, automation of transit pass issuance for transportation of minor minerals etc., Odisha Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016 (OMMC Rules, 2016) have been amended after approval by the Cabinet last month. After the first phase of e-auction pertaining to Specified Minor Minerals, the State Government has amended Odisha Specified Minor Minerals Auction Rules, 2019 (OSMMA Rules, 2019) taking various issues and dynamics into consideration to bring more transparency in the auction process.

Over 96 % students clear Odisha high school exam, a 5.64 % surge over last year

CUTTACK: The Board of Secondary Education (BSE), Odisha announced the results of class X annual matriculation examination 2023 on Thursday. As many as 96.4% of students passed the High School Certificate (HSC) examination against last year's pass rate of 90.55%.



Students can now check their scores at the official websites - bseodisha.ac.in and bseodisha.nic.in. Compared to the last year, the results this time mark a 5.64 percent jump in the success rate of the Class X examination for which BSE adopted a Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) process. Newly appointed school and mass education minister Pramila Mallik announced the results and congratulated the successful students and thanked the teachers for their cooperation. This year 4158 students passed in AI grade (above 90%) while 29,838 students passed

in A2 grade (80-90%), as many as 77,567 passed in B1 grade (70-80%) while 1, 18, 751 students passed in B2 grade (above 60%). As many as 1, 21, 611 students passed in C grade while 95,006 students passed in D grade. "All measures have been taken to release error-free results on time. The students have appeared for the exam as per the assessment system adopted after the covid pandemic with summative-1 and summative-2. However, the department is considering changing it to the previous system of one board exam from this year," said school and mass education secretary S Aswasthy.

A total of 96.40 % of students cleared the examination in the regular stream whereas, in the ex-regular stream, the success rate stands at 73%. As many as 5,32,746 candidates belonging to regular, ex-regular, correspondence regular and correspondence ex-regular had filled up forms of whom 5,21,444 students appeared for the examination. Once again, the female students have outperformed their male counterparts. The boys achieved a pass percentage of 95.5%, while the girls shone brightly with an impressive 97.07% pass percentage.

Cuttack and Jagatsinghpur districts secured the highest pass rate of 97.99 % while Malkangiri district secured the lowest pass rate of 92.68%. The success rate among SC and ST category students was higher, at an impressive at 94.22 % and 94.27 % respectively this time, as compared to the last year's pass percentages of 88.07 and 86.34 respectively. Unsatisfied students can apply for rechecking of marks from May 23. This year the board will also conduct supplementary exams for unsuccessful students, which was not done last year.

Improve pension disbursement system: Naveen

BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday called for improvement in disbursement of pension to retired employees and asked all departments to work towards the objective. Naveen reviewed implementation of 'Mo Sarkar' initiative by different departments and observed that good work must get appreciation while those failing in their duty must face punishment. The chief minister's review comes ahead of the assessment of the performance of the ministers to start from May 22. The chief minister praised the performance of health



and revenue departments during the meeting. Health, revenue, home, agriculture and other departments made presentations of their performance before the chief minister. According to the chief minister's office (CMO), performance of health and family welfare department has been outstanding as 99 per cent of the feedback from people are satisfactory. While free medicines are issued in government

hospitals, immediate steps are being taken if there are problems in execution of Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) in private hospitals, he added. Similarly, functioning of the revenue department has also improved as time taken to deliver different services to people has come down drastically. Previously, 100 to 150 days were taken to resolve mutation cases, but the time period has come down to less than 21 days in 2023-24. The chief minister was informed that 3.7 lakh land pattas were disbursed within a week. Besides, time taken to issue different

certificates including caste certificate has also come down. The CMO informed that basing on feedback from the people, six officers of the Odisha Administrative Service (OAS) have been given compulsory retirement and four have been dismissed. While 32 OAS and 14 Odisha Revenue Service (ORS) officers were suspended, gratuity and pension of 11 OAS officers have been stopped. The chief minister observed that there is also a need for improvement in the process adopted for promotion of employees. Development Commissioner Anu Garg and ST secretary VK Pandian were also present.



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CarDekho's launches 2nd Mega Refurbishment Centre for Used Cars

New Delhi : CarDekho, India's leading auto-tech company, has opened its mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai for Used Cars. This is the company's second mega refurbishment centre in the country after NCR. The Mumbai centre will take full control of the refurb process and set quality benchmark through advanced state-of-the-art infrastructure while optimising cost through scale of operations. The company plans to open 20 such refurbishment centres across India in near future.

With 1000 cars monthly refurbishment capacity, the centre will employ 100+ employees once fully operational. As a result of having best-in-class inhouse refurbishment centers, Cardekho ensures that all vehicles sold on its platform are of the

highest quality.

CarDekho offers a 7 days 'No Questions Asked' money-back guarantee on all cars where customers can test-own the car and return it if not satisfied. Also included are 6 months of warranty, and complementary Pan-India roadside assistance (RSA) for all car buyers. A free insurance package and RC transfer are also included with the car.

Sharad Saxena, CEO - Used Car Business, CarDekho Group, said, "The opening of our mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai marks another milestone for the company in its quest to provide the best pre-owned vehicles to its customers. The cars refurbished at this centre will carry CarDekho's trust that offers reliability, affordability and unmatched satisfaction. This centre

integrates the Group's best know-how and reinforces our vision to disrupt the personal mobility space in India. We want our customers to live our promise of 'Bharosa Kar Ke Dekho'."

The refurbishment centre is equipped with State-of-the-art Brake, Suspension & Side Slip Tester, Hitech Pneumatic Tools & Equipment, 3D Wheel Alignment, Wheel Balancing, Air Conditioning Service, Injector & Spark Plug Cleaning and a fully mechanised Bodyshop with Electric Dent Pullers, Double action sanders with vacuum extractors, Infrared heating Machine & full functional heated Downdraft Paint Booth along with inhouse paint mixing facility for high-quality painting.

Odisha records 20x growth in job applications in the last 90 days

Bhubaneswar.: As one of the fastest-growing states in terms of economy in India, Odisha has been witnessing a steady growth in job opportunities across sectors and industries and has emerged as a popular destination for job seekers. apna.co - India's largest jobs and professional networking platform - recorded 20x growth in job postings in the state's capital, Bhubaneswar in the previous quarter. The platform has also noted increased job openings for multiple roles in the last three 90 days.

After recording an economic rating higher than India's GDP, Odisha has become a promising destination for employers to invest in, strengthening the state's economy and creating more job opportunities. apna has become a trusted partner for various popular companies such as Zomato, Bharti AXA, Burger King, TeamLease, Byjus, and Delhivery amongst others in the state to fulfill their hiring requirement. In the last quarter, there has been an increased hiring momentum for roles such as telecallers/BPO, sales, computer/data entry operator, delivery persons, and business development executives amongst others. The capital city continues to be one of the top commercial hubs in Eastern India.

With more than 25 percent female users from Bhubaneswar, apna has become a default partner for women to build their professional networks and participate in helping India unlock its economic potential. According to the platform, there has been a quarter-on-quarter increase in women joining the workforce from the state and participating in uplifting Odisha's economy. Telecalling and business development have consistently been the most popular role amongst women in Bhubaneswar followed by data entry operators. Interestingly, women also opted to get on the field by joining the sales workforce for various organizations after COVID cases dropped drastically.

Commenting on the growth, Manas Singh, Chief Business Officer, apna.co said, "Odisha is witnessing tremendous growth in the past quarter, emerging as one of the key markets with a rise in both workers and employers on apna. We will continue creating more hyperlocal opportunities to help accelerate the economic growth of Bhubaneswar."

FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

Bhubaneswar: FURO Sports Shoes, (from the house of Red Chief Shoes), is thrilled to announce its much-coveted collaboration with the Bollywood Superstar, Shahid Kapoor. Shahid's youthful and sporty personality of an affable boy gets with the aspiring core values and ethos of FURO Sports Shoes. Shahid appeals to a wider audience across all age groups. While his exceptional fitness lifestyle, dancing prowess, and romantic-action-oriented movies attract the youth, his responsible family guy persona connects with relatively mature age groups as well. Mr. Manoj Gyanchandani (Managing Director) expressing his views on the collaboration, shares, "We are extremely honored to welcome Shahid Kapoor as the newest FURO family member. We couldn't have asked for a better partner in 2022 who comes with such high credible energy which is much needed in such dynamic times to inspire the youth towards athleisure lifestyle. We look forward to a successful partnership with him and hope to have a mutually beneficial long-term relationship."

Mr. Rahul Sharma, (Marketing Head) further shared "To continue leveraging our association both in mass media & digital platforms - Shahid would be part of our forthcoming Brand campaigns, which are back to back lined up starting few weeks from now."

BOB Financial crosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (Bank) that issues and manages Bank of Baroda Credit Cards, has crossed the 1 Million Credit Cards mark.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Bank of Baroda Credit Cards have grown 9X over the last four years - from 0.12 million cards in March 2018 to over 1.1 million cards in March 2022. Further, the monthly spends on credit cards have grown 10X over the same period - from Rs.80 crore in March 2018 to Rs.830 crore in March 2022.

In CY2022, cobranding with IRCTC, HPCL, Defence Services, and partnerships with fintechs have been some of the key initiatives in the ongoing transformation journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shailendra Singh, MD & CEO, BFSL said, "In 2017, we started on a journey of transforming BOB Financial into a leading credit card issuer in India. Crossing the 1 million credit cards mark is an important milestone. However, while we celebrate this achievement, our ultimate aspiration is to become one of the largest Credit Card issuers in the country, serving customers of every demographic and socio-economic classification."

BFSL has been focusing on investing in people, processes and technology to enhance customer experience.

Vedanta Aluminium deploys IIoT technology in power plant to improve emissions control

Bhubaneswar: Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, has augmented its 2400 MW Thermal Power Plant with Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) devices in fabric filters to improve emissions control. Fabric filters are special bag filters placed after electrostatic precipitators in chimneys to collect or particulate matter from the hot gas emanating from the power plant boiler system, stopping them from escaping into the atmosphere. The differential pressure between the bags plays a pivotal role in improving the efficiency of the filters. This is the 3rd line of defense in capturing particulate matter and gases, which significantly improves the air quality. The company has moved from the traditional way of measuring differential pressure through transmitters to using IIoT

devices for precise monitoring and immediate action.

Customised applications of leading-edge technologies across the value-chain are helping Vedanta Aluminium exercise stringent control on operational parameters to bolster ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance) performance. This includes a laser focus on environmental parameters such as energy conservation, carbon reduction, air quality, water sustainability, circular waste management, and biodiversity.

Vedanta's Smelter-I in Jharsuguda (Odisha) was the national benchmark in water efficiency amongst aluminium producers, with the lowest amount of water consumer per tonne of metal produced in FY22. All of Vedanta Aluminium's business units have robust Environment Management Systems (EMS) adhering to ISO

14001:2015. Speaking about Vedanta Aluminium's endeavours to bolster ESG excellence, Mr. Rahul Sharma, CEO, Vedanta Limited - Aluminium Business, said, "We are committed to further improving our environmental sustainability performance through a structured approach that includes adoption of best-in-industry practices, leading-edge digital technologies, consistent improvements in efficiency of resource-intensive processes, circular initiatives and incorporation of 'Design for Sustainability' principles into our operations. In our journey as India's largest aluminium producer and the world's second most sustainable aluminium company, we are striving to emerge as the industry benchmark in operational excellence and environmental performance, as we add value to our customers, communities and country."

Flipkart clocks over 200 Million Fashion products in the Spring-Summer

Bhubaneswar: As the Spring Summer season 2022 draws to a close, Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has recorded a sale of over 200 million fashion products across close to 19,200 pin codes. The Spring Summer Season also played a key role for customers and sellers and saw close to 175,000 fashion sellers participating. These sellers came from not just metros but from tier 2 and tier 3 towns as well. Customers shopped for fashion and lifestyle products including sarees, men's t-shirts, watches, sunglasses, women's kurtis and footwear, from national, international and homegrown fashion brands.

The season saw customers shopping for fashion products from across the country including metros and a majority of these customers also from tier 3, 4 and 5 cities shop for fashion products from cities like Ranchi, Ernakulam, Kanpur,

Medinipur, Cuttack to name a few; and a substantial number of the overall customer base were first-time fashion shoppers.

Sandeep Karwa, Vice President, Flipkart Fashion, said, "We are extremely delighted with this overwhelming response from the customers, who consistently choose Flipkart for all their fashion and lifestyle needs. This year's spring-summer season saw a resurgence in consumption on the back of renewed economic recovery post-pandemic and we are pleased that lakhs of sellers saw a phenomenal response during this season. It is also a testament to our efforts to bring unparalleled value in fashion shopping to our customers. With a range of technology-led innovations that are making shopping experiences personalised and seamless for our customers, we are bringing India and Bharat closer ushering in considerable growth

opportunities for lakhs of sellers and brand partners."

Ayush Baid, a Flipkart Fashion seller who sells Women's ethnic wear from Surat, Gujarat, said, "We have grown on Flipkart by 500% during the spring-summer season and this was possible due to the technology and power of ecommerce. Growth on Flipkart has led to the overall growth of the company."

Harish Dadwani, a Flipkart Fashion seller partner from Agra, Uttar Pradesh, said, "It has been 4 years since I joined ecommerce and through the Flipkart platform have seen a growth of over 10X since then.

I had launched several new products in the spring-summer collection which has seen a 50X growth spike. I am very positive to set new milestones and garner new opportunities in the coming years and feel that I can achieve much more through ecommerce, technology and Flipkart."

IIT Delhi Student Wins Coveted TCS CodeVita Season 10

MUMBAI: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), announced the winners of Season 10 of its flagship global coding contest, TCS CodeVita, at a virtual grand finale. CodeVita, holder of the Guinness World Records™ title as the world's largest computer programming competition, has been inspiring students across the world to build and test their coding expertise for the past 10 years. The contest promotes programming as a sport and encourages participants to pit their skills against each other and solve intriguing real-life challenges.

The winner claimed the grand prize of \$10,000, while the first and the second runners-up were awarded \$7,000 and \$3,000 respectively. In a first, the third runner up, Michal Stanik from Czech Republic, was also recognized by TCS with a prize of \$1,000. Moreover, all four winners earned an internship opportunity with TCS' Research & Innovation organization. Registration for Season 11 of TCS CodeVita will commence soon.

"Season 10 of CodeVita has been remarkable in harnessing the passion for coding among the youth. We were thrilled to see how the four finalists

solved all the 10 problems, which has never happened before. I am happy to see CodeVita is encouraging youngsters to write good code and apply it to solve challenging problems," said K Ananth Krishnan, Chief Technology Officer, TCS. Winner Kalash Guptasaid, "Thank you so much, it's unbelievable! When I started with the contest, I never thought I would even be in the top 3 but this is a very humbling experience. I'm very excited about the prize money. Initially I was not confident, as I took longer than I expected to solve the first problem.

Ambuja Cements introduces Cool Walls, a special product that keep homes cool in summers and hot in winters

Mumbai : Ambuja Cements Ltd, one of India's most sustainable cement manufacturers, is now offering an innovative green solution for constructing strong walls. Ambuja Cool Walls is a unique wall solution that keeps the house cool during summer and retains inside temperature to make the house warmer in winter. Ambuja Cements is among the first Indian cement companies to offer this unique block and mortar solution to individual house builders.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product made with an innovative heat-barrier technology that is far superior to any other products available in the market. The 'heat barrier technology' of this product helps to maintain inside temperature of any house lesser by 5°Celsius as compared to external temperature. These innovative heat barrier

technology, consistent quality and enhanced strength (>5 MPa) are the main differentiators of this product.

Ambuja Cool Walls is an innovative solution to the problem faced by traditional construction with non-sustainable products. The challenge posed by traditional construction today are efflorescence on walls, termite attack, water absorption and highly prone to earthquakes. Ambuja Cool Walls along with unique jointing mortar makes the wall stronger and eliminates the problem faced by traditional construction practices. This helps the consumers in cost saving on electricity due to thermal insulation, low frequency of repeat painting because of no efflorescence, lesser repeat maintenance and lower construction cost. Additional benefits include noise reduction,

high fire resistance etc. Also it enables speedy construction and reduces project completion time by ~ 30%.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product as it consumes large volume of fly ash in its manufacturing. The walls does not require curing during construction and thus saves 5000 liters of water for a 1000-square feet house. Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and MD & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said, "Ambuja Cements has always pursued innovation to provide customers with eco-friendly solutions for a better and a greener future. It's our endeavor to provide world class solutions to customers in India. Ambuja Cool Walls is a testimony to our commitment to provide sustainable, high strength and durable solutions to our customers".

KiiT International School becomes the only school from Odisha to win at Toycathon

Bhubaneswar: The revered founder of KiiT International School, Shri Achyuta Samanta, has always inspired and encouraged the youth to think outside the box. This motivation has led to an immense achievement for the school. A game, 'Untold Stories', designed by Shree Roy, a 10th Grade student of KiiT International School, has been selected as one of the top 7 winning games at Toycathon, an inter-ministerial initiative of GOI, in association with AICTE.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mona Lisa Bal, Chairperson, KiiT International School said, "This is an extremely proud moment for KiiT International School family. I congratulate Shree for her endeavours. This is an

accomplishment not just for her but the entire school. We always nurture our students to think beyond their textbooks and take interest in activities outside their classroom. I am glad that this morale-boosting has steered us to achieve this great honour. I firmly believe that these leaders of tomorrow can drive us towards a better tomorrow with proper education and guidance."

Shree's game 'Untold Stories' is a multiplayer game where one must answer questions about India's heritage to move on to the next level. With this game, Shree intended to revive the art and culture of India. With modernization and technology, most youngsters are glued to their smartphones and the internet. Shree designed this

game with the help of the school's research wing, Inspiron, in a pursuit to move them away from this exposure while enhancing their knowledge on India's art, history, and culture. From over 14 lakh online entries, 200 games were chosen for the physical edition of Toycathon. Untold stories was the only winner from Odisha among the top 7 felicitated games.

Under the 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' initiated by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, Toycathon is conceived to challenge India's innovative minds to conceptualize novel Toy and Games based on Bharatiya civilization, history, culture, mythology and ethos.

Kohli ton trumps Klaasen's as RCB coast to clinical win

New Delhi: RCB's playoff hopes remained intact as their openers blazed past the target of 187 set by the Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium on Thursday (May 18). The Bangalore franchise won the toss and asked SRH to bat first, and the hosts responded duly with a competitive total of 186-5, riding on the explosive hundred by Heinrich Klaasen, by far their best batsman of the season. However, an inspired performance by the RCB openers left the SRH bowling unit clueless as they coasted home by eight wickets.

Over the course of the tournament, many batting teams have gotten off to a terrific start in the powerplay before squandering it in the middle overs. Today, however, a tight opening spell from Wayne Parnell and Mohammed Siraj had Abhishek Sharma and Rahul Tripathi in

check. However, as soon as they cut loose against Parnell with a 16-run over to get the run-rate from sub-3rpo to almost 7rpo, Michael Bracewell scalped them both in his very first over, rendering the powerplay a failure for the SRH innings. It was then that Heinrich Klaasen entered the arena and attacked from the get-go. After blazing a flurry of boundaries, against the RCB bowlers, Klaasen got to his fifty off just 24 deliveries, successfully rescuing the SRH side yet again with a counterattacking innings. However, the supporting role from Markram ended up costing SRH 20 balls, in which he scored only eighteen runs, and despite a good innings from Harry Brook in the end, which contained a few lusty blows, it was undoing some of the good work done by Klaasen, who by the



penultimate over got to his hundred with a six, at a strike-rate of over 200! If only the supporting roles had played their part, SRH would have gotten 200. Outside of Klaasen's 51-ball 104 and extras, SRH scored 76 runs in 69

balls at a strike-rate of just over 100

In retrospect, it was all over from Ball 1. The intent with which Virat Kohli hit the first two balls of the innings for boundaries, it looked like it was over for SRH. Kohli

and orange-cap holder Faf du Plessis wreaked havoc, taking on the SRH bowlers indiscriminately, hitting through the line and invariably finding the gaps, leaving the SRH contingent clueless in defence of an admittedly-

competitive target. As compared to previous innings, this time, the mayhem did not cease, despite a touch of luck - Nitish Reddy was denied a maiden IPL wicket, because he overstepped, rendering a terrific catch

by Mayank Dagar futile, and handing Faf du Plessis a life.

It didn't quite have the asterisk on his score as it used to, but Virat Kohli was back, and this time, he is taking no half-measures in taking RCB to the title. The two openers continued to toy with the SRH bowling, and Kohli eventually got to his sixth IPL hundred, fittingly, with a six lofted over midwicket off the bowling of Bhuvneshwar Kumar, equalling the IPL record of Chris Gayle for the most hundreds in the history of the tournament. Kohli fell the very next ball, targeting the same area, but this time he had all but secured victory for his side.

It wasn't exactly a scare, but the scars of the past couldn't stop the thought of the inevitable choke. Virat Kohli and Faf du Plessis had fallen, with 10 required off 10, and two new batsmen at the crease. Stranger things had happened in cricket, and

perhaps in this very edition of the IPL. However, a typical reverse-swat from Maxwell off the final ball of Natarajan's spell sealed the deal leaving 3 to get off the final over, which the pair managed to get in the first two balls of the final over, sealing victory for RCB, and keeping them well and truly alive in this competition.

This win gets RCB into the top four, for now, and gives them enough control, with them playing the final game of the league stages too (albeit against the top ranked side of the tournament). Despite that hundred by Klaasen, SRH remain at the bottom, and look like strong contenders for the wooden spoon this year.

Brief Scores: Sunrisers Hyderabad 186-5 in 20 overs (Heinrich Klaasen 104, Michael Bracewell 2-17) lost to Royal Challengers Bangalore 187-2 in 19.2 overs (Virat Kohli 100, Faf du Plessis 71, T Natarajan 1-34) by 8 wickets.

Graham Clark's stroke-filled century powers Durham



New Delhi: Graham Clark consolidated a strong top-order showing from Durham by cracking a 155-ball stroke-filled 100 - with 13 fours and 1 six. It helped carry Durham to 393 for 9 at stumps on Day 1, after captain Scott Borthwick and Bas de Leede hit fifties. For Somerset, George Barlett hit 21 fours enroute a solid 121 off 214 deliveries as the side reached 326 for 6 at stumps on Day 1. Barlett was well-supported by two other batters in captain Tom Abell (77) and Tom Kohler-Cadmore (66).

Leicestershire's 37-year-old medium-pacer Chris Wright wreaked havoc on

Worcestershire on a 22-wicket Day 1 in Worcester. Leicestershire folded for just 173 after being asked to bat first with Jack Leach and Matthew Waite picking three wickets each, but Wright outshone both with a fifer that skittled out the home side for just 83 in response. Worcestershire batted for just 21.1 overs as Wright ran riot through the top-order to finish with figures of 5 for 32. As many as eight Worcestershire batters fell for single-digit scores.

At Hove, Ollie Robinson (4 for 29) and Aristides Karvelas (3 for 30) gave Sussex the early advantage over Glamorgan as another fixture started off with a cluster of

wickets falling. Glamorgan struggled, with No.10 batter James Harris's 28 being the best individual effort as they folded for just 123.

Nottinghamshire made a strong start in their fixture against Essex through Brett Hutton (4 for 69), Stuart Broad (3 for 53) and Dane Patterson (3 for 48). The bowling troika constantly dented Essex's batting innings, keeping them down to 298 allout.

Surrey made an identical start to their game against Kent as they too had a bowling trifecta to do maximum damage. Daniel Worrall, Jordan Clark and Tom Lawes accounted for nine of the 10 wickets to fall as Kent folded for 278.

Virat Kohli Reaches Sixth IPL Century With A Six, Draws Level With Chris Gayle

New Delhi: Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) batter Virat Kohli equalled a massive record of his former teammate and 'Universe Boss' Chris Gayle when he notched up his sixth century in the Indian Premier League in a must-win IPL 2023 match against Sunrisers Hyderabad in Hyderabad on Thursday night. Kohli hammered a 63-ball 100 to help RCB chase down 187-run target after SRH's Heinrich Klaasen had also scored a maiden IPL hundred.

Kohli's century helped RCB jump over Mumbai Indians into the 4th position on the IPL 2023 Points Table with their second successive win and they now have 14 points from 13 matches. It was Kohli's 7th century in all T20 cricket, helping him surpass KL Rahul and



Rohit Sharma's record of six centuries. Kohli deservedly won the 'Player of the Match' award for his match-winning century and called it a 'special' one considering the magnitude of the game. "It is quite special considering the magnitude of the game. We saw the ball was gripping in the middle. We wanted a solid start

but did not expect to be 172 for no loss. That's how well Faf and I have played, he's been on a different level. I had a quiet couple of games and wasn't hitting as well in the game as I was in the nets. My intent from ball 1 was to go after the bowlers," Kohli said at the post-match presentation.

The former RCB captain revealed that he prefers

not to play any 'fancy' shots in his innings unlike batters like Suryakumar Yadav, who have come to be known as 'Mr 360'. "Happy that it all came together nicely. I never look at my numbers. I don't give myself enough credit sometimes for playing impact knocks. I take pride to play the situation. I don't play fancy shots. We have to

play 12 months of the year, so you can't play fancy shots and throw your wicket away. I try to stay true to my technique and take pride which helps my team," Kohli said.

On his 172-run opening partnership with RCB captain Faf du Plessis, Kohli said, "I think it's the tattoos. Very similar to how AB and me batting together. There's a good sense of where we are and how to take the game forward. It's been a beautiful transition. Blessed and grateful for the support. I told Faf that it was like a home game, cheering for RCB and taking my name as well. I feel you can't create this. I'm myself on the field and think it resonates with the people. Great to see people happy when I perform."

UEFA Europa League: Sevilla Beat Juventus With Extra-Time Goal, To Face Jose Mourinho's AS Roma In Final

New Delhi: José Mourinho will have a chance to claim a sixth European trophy, although to achieve that his Roma team will have to stop Sevilla from winning a record-extending seventh Europa League title. Roma reached the Europa League final by holding Bayer Leverkusen to a 0-0 draw in Germany on Thursday following the kind of disciplined defensive performance that Mourinho's teams have become known for. The Italian club went through 1-0 on aggregate after winning the first leg of the semifinal at home. Roma will face six-

time champion Sevilla, which knocked out Juventus with a 2-1 win after extra time to prevent an all-Italian final. The final takes place on May 31 in the Hungarian capital of Budapest.

Leverkusen forward Moussa Diaby hit the crossbar early and Roma goalkeeper Rui Patrício was busy at times but Roma's defense held firm, despite the team rarely venturing forward and managing just one effort on goal in the entire game.

Mourinho is bidding for back-to-back European titles with Roma after winning the inaugural edition of the Europa

Conference League last season. He has won the Europa League — or UEFA Cup as it was previously known — with both Porto and Manchester United and also has two Champions League titles. "It's an unbelievable team, I don't know if I can ask for more from Roma but these guys deserve something special," Mourinho told Sky Sports.

Winning the Europa League could also be the only chance for Roma to qualify for next season's Champions League. Sevilla trailed 1-0 at home in the second half but substitute Erik

Lamela set up the equalizer that forced extra time and then headed in the winner in the 95th minute at the Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán stadium.

After the two teams drew 1-1 in Torino last week, substitute striker Dušan Vlahovic gave Juventus the lead in the 65th with a precise chip from inside the area. Suso, another substitute, scored the equalizer with a long-range effort seven minutes later.

Sevilla defender Marcos Acuña was sent off after picking up his second yellow card five minutes before the final whistle. Sevilla hopes

to salvage a turbulent season with a seventh triumph in the second-tier European competition.

It sits just 10th in the Spanish league but has once again showed that it thrives in Europe, knocking out Manchester United in the quarterfinals. Sevilla won the trophy six times between 2006-20.

Substitute Pablo Fornals scored deep into stoppage time for West Ham to beat AZ in Alkmaar 1-0 in the second leg of the Europa Conference League semifinals and send the Premier League club to a European final for the first time in 47 years.