

## Odisha cabinet reshuffle likely on Monday

**Bhubaneswar:** Amid speculations following the resignations of the Odisha Assembly Speaker and two ministers, talks in the power corridor are now abuzz that the State may go for a Cabinet reshuffle on Monday.

If sources are to be believed, then the new ministers are likely to take oath at 9:30 AM on Monday at the convention hall of the Lok Seva Bhawan in Bhubaneswar.

At present, three ministerial berths are lying vacant in the State cabinet.

According to sources, the Governor, Professor Ganeshi Lal, who is in Haryana and scheduled to return on May 22, is reportedly cutting-short his visit and coming back to Odisha tomorrow.

Those who will take charge as minister will get a call from Chief Minister's office



tomorrow evening, sources informed. Meanwhile, the name of Dipali Das, daughter of murdered minister & BJD leader Naba Das, has surfaced in the race for a ministerial berth. Besides, speculations are rife that, apart from Dipali, Susanta Singh and Sarada Nayak from western Odisha are in the race too. Similarly, senior

leaders like Debi Mishra, Prasanta Muduli, Bikram Keshari Arukha, U m a k a n t a Samantaray, and Byomkesh Ray from the coastal belt are among the frontrunners for a ministerial berth.

On the other hand, Amar Satapathy, Shashi Bhusan Behera, Debi Prasad Mishra, Prafulla

Samal, and Niranjan Pujari are in the race for the Assembly Speaker position.

Notably, Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha, School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash, and Labour Minister Srikant Sahu had tendered their resignation on May 12th hinting toward a probable reshuffle in the Cabinet.

## Police Recruitment Board Gets Odisha CM Nod

**Bhubaneswar:** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has approved a proposal for setting up a permanent Police Recruitment Board in Odisha.

The board will consist of a chairman and two members, sources said. The Chief Minister has also approved a proposal to create 24 administrative and other posts at the board.

A DG-rank or Additional DG-rank official of Odisha Police will be appointed as the chairman of the Police Recruitment Board. Two officers—one in the rank of Additional DG or IG police and another in the rank of DIG or SP in Odisha Police—will be the members of board, sources said.

“The board will be responsible for the recruitment of sepoy, Sub-Inspectors and ministerial staffers in Odisha Police. It will help expedite the recruitment of police personnel in the state,” said an official.

## Bargarh Gets Special Rail

**Bhubaneswar:** The Ministry of Railways has notified construction of two new railway line projects in Odisha including the Bargarh Road to Nawapara Road line via Padampur as Special Railway Project. For this project only both the Centre and State Government had locked their horns during the Padampur by-poll.

“In exercise of the powers, conferred by Clause (37A) of Section-2 of the Railways Act, 1989, the Central Government hereby notifies the two project as Special Railway Project in the State of Odisha, with effect from the date of publication of this notification in Official Gazette,” read the gazette notification. The other project is the new Railway BG line between Talcher & Angul with ‘Y’ Connection at Talcher (16.50 km) of East Coast Railway. The new rail line from Bargarh Road to Nawapara Road (142 km) comes under Sambalpur division of East Coast Railway.

In December 2022, during the Padampur by-



poll, the Bargarh-Nuapada railway line via Padampur took a center stage as both BJP and BJD indulged in blame game over delay in starting the project. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik along with many BJD leaders and Transport Minister Tukuni Sahu took a dig at Centre and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw over pro-long delay in execution of the project. Shrimati Sahu had written a letter to Vaishnaw and requested him to reconsider the 142 km new broad-gauge rail line from Bargarh Road to Nuapada Road via Padampur, which was announced in 2018. The project was “shelved” by the Centre in 2019 for not being financially

viable, she had written in the letter.

In his reply, the Railway Minister had said the project work will start as soon as the State Government hands over land for the project. Vaishnaw had blamed the State Government for not approving the DPR for the project.

Later, Transport Minister Tukuni Sahu on Thursday cleared the air and said the DPR is under approval process. The Railway Board has accorded In-Principle Approval (IPA) to Odisha Railway Infrastructure Development Limited (ORIDL) for taking up preparation of a DPR for Bargarh Road-Nuapada Road new railway line factoring conditions such as the land and RR cost to be borne by Government of Odisha. Subsequently, ORIDL has prepared the detailed project report (DPR) of the new railway line and the same is under approval process before submission to the Ministry of Railways for further action, she clarified.

## ‘BJD-Mukt’ Odisha is our aim, says BJP leader Lekhashree Samantsinghar



**Bhubaneswar:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) aims at building a ‘BJD-Mukt’ Odisha, said the party's state general secretary Lekhashree Samantsinghar on the sidelines of the State executive meeting which began in Bhubaneswar on Saturday.

Launching a scathing attack on the conch party, the saffron party leader said, BJP will reach 1 crore families in Odisha and make them aware of various centrally-sponsored welfare schemes and the failure of the BJD government. “Centre implements pucca house, drinking water, employment generation and other schemes. However, the schemes could not reach people in Odisha. The State is heading to be number one in exploitation of

women,” Samantsinghar alleged. “As discussed in the State Executive meeting, the BJP will try to make Odisha ‘BJD-Mukt,’” the saffron party leader said. Samantsinghar stated that the deteriorating law and order situation, Naba Das murder case, power outage during Droupadi Murmu's Odisha visit, Mahanadi water sharing dispute, family dispute of Ananga Udaya Singh Deo and Sashi Bhusan Behera have put the Odisha government in the back foot. During the state executive meeting, the BJP has reportedly prepared a blueprint to counter the BJD government on issues like delay in rituals at Srimandir, ‘missing’ of

Srimandir files, irregularities in the name of 5T transformation, dilapidating healthcare facilities and Kotia border dispute. Notably, the BJP's State Executive meeting began under the chairmanship of the party's state president Manmohan Samal in Bhubaneswar today and discussions on various political and social issues were held in the presence of party's state-in-charge and Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Bishweswar Tudu. Commenting on the development, senior BJD leader and Revenue Minister Pramila Mallik said, “The common men are suffering due to skyrocketing prices of essential commodities. They should go to the common people and ask whom they want to get rid of.”

## Mr.Chinmay Ranjan Moharana felicitated by Ambedkar International Centre

**Cuttack Sadar,(KCN)** : Book launched cum award giving ceremony of Ambedkar International Centre Bhubaneswar observed at Constitution club of India,Rafi Marg New Delhi. In this great occasion chaired by former Additional Director general of Police Gopabandhu Mallick in presence of chief guest editor of daily Odia newspaper The Paryabekhyak & The Kalinga Chronicle also renowned journalist Dr. Pabitra Mohan



Samantaray,guest of honour JNU University New Delhi professor Pradeep Kumar

Chaudhury,President of Ambedkar International Centre Kali Chran Singh,educationist

Dr.Susanta Das joined with delivered there valuable speech about great life story of

Dr.Ambedkar which is immense important for all students mass respectively. In this occasion the release of a book entitled “Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, The Crusader of Human Rights” and other books were launched. Appreciation for significant contribution in the field of Science & Journalism Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Twin City Press Club honorable working president Youth journalist Mr.Chinmay Ranjan Moharana felicitated the “Bharat Seva Ratna Award - 2023”.

## BJD hits out at Central govt over withdrawal of Rs 2000 notes

**Bhubaneswar:** The ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in Odisha came down heavily on the Central government on Saturday over the withdrawal of Rs 2000 banknotes from circulation. Expressing his astonishment, BJD MLA Shashi Bhusan Behera said, “Why the Central government has been creating such financial instability? At the time of demonetization, when they should have had to withdraw bigger notes and introduce smaller notes, they demonetized Rs 500



and Rs 1000 banknotes but introduced Rs 2000 banknotes. It is a common practice to demonetise banknotes of the bigger denomination to

combat black money.” “Are they going to print Rs 5000 and Rs 10,000 currency notes? So, there has been financial instability. The middle-class

families, specifically women are a worried lot because of this,” he added. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) hit back and said the

opposition's job is to oppose the move of the central government. “Rs 2000 currency notes are valid till the end of September. The notes can be converted into Rs 500 notes in banks. But it is not the de-recognition of Rs 2000 banknotes at all,” said BJP's Odisha in-charge, D Purandeswari on the sidelines of a programme in Bhubaneswar. When asked why the Opposition is against the move, she said, “It is their job to oppose whatever the government is doing.”

# Round Table @ Climate Resilient Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Eminent experts lauded Odisha Government efforts for bringing Green Public Finance Management and Climate Budgeting. In fact Odisha has taken lead among the Indian States to bring together experts and officials to design innovative climate friendly policies. Government of Odisha in Department of Finance on Saturday organized a Round Table meeting on building climate resilient Odisha here at Hotel Mayfair. Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari inaugurated the event. Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena graced the Round Table and addressed the Meeting. The Round Table meeting was the first step to initiate a multi stakeholder dialogue among various departments, development partners and technical experts that will lead to clear recommendations about different institutional options and the governance framework. Principal Secretary

Vishal Kumar Dev delivered the keynote address. Special Secretary Planning and Convergence, Chitra Arumgam, and Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner, East and North-East India, attended the meet. The Department of Finance with support from the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Government of UK, Infrastructure for Climate Resilient Growth (ICRG) Program. The discussion during the round table will help the State Government in agreeing with basic principles to address climate change impacts and identifying key programs/initiatives (international, national, and state) that can be leveraged to deliver climate resilience locally for the most marginalized, officials said. One of the outcomes could be operationalization of the State Action Plan on



Climate Change and setting up a Climate Governance and Information System, the officials said. The Round Table meet was held to share lessons from the ICRG program that could help the implementation of Odisha's SAPCC more effectively. And also, draw lessons from other related projects of FCDO, UNDP WB and IMF. Satya Priya Rath, Additional Secretary Finance and Director State Budget coordinated the entire Round Table Meet. Discussion was held on

how the development schemes and programs of the Government, especially the social protection programs can be implemented in a way to increase the climate resilience of the poor in the State, they said. It will also guide and agree on next steps in identifying and addressing the capacity gaps of the implementing agencies/ departments to plan and design the schemes and programs to meet the outcomes defined in the SAPCC. Odisha is highly vulnerable to climate change because of its location and geophysical

conditions. The state, which is the pioneer in disaster management, has introduced many new initiatives while moving towards a climate resilient and low carbon future because of its clear vision and strong leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. It was one of the first states in India to produce a State Level Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC). The plan formulated by an inter departmental team, with civil society inputs, is a coordinated government response to tackle climate change impacts.

Eleven Sectoral Missions such as Agriculture, Coast and Disaster, Energy, Fisheries and Animal Resources, Forests, Health, Industries, Mining, Transport, Urban and water Resources were identified. The implementation of the activities is reviewed by a Monitoring and Advisory Committee of Climate Change Action Plan which is headed by the Chief Secretary. Odisha is also one of the first states in India bringing together experts and officials to design innovative climate

friendly policies like green Public Finance Management System (PFMS), climate budgeting etc. It is realized that there is now an urgent need to operationalize all the initiatives by effective implementation of the State Action Plan for Climate Change (SAPCC), introducing locally led adaptation and mitigation practices and through adaptive social protection measures. A Climate Change Cell has been set up in the Forest and Environment Department to closely coordinate all the recommended actions and also work towards resource mobilisation to implement different components of the action plan in a systematic and time bound manner. Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Government of UK, has partnered with the Government of Odisha since the 1980s to support inclusive sustainable development. This

includes investments in public health, infrastructure, power sector reforms and sustainable climate resilient growth. Presently, FCDO's Infrastructure for Climate Resilient Growth (ICRG) program provides Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India and 7 State Governments, including Odisha, to improve abilities of poor and vulnerable people to cope with climate change impacts. Additionally, various development partners, private sector, civil society organisations are supporting the State Government in mainstreaming climate risk into budgeting, design, policy, and programming. The projects supported by FCDO, UNDP, WB, IMF and other bilateral agencies will be discussed and ways to embed them in the institutionalization process will be further explored, the officials said.

## Pink Note Withdrawal Lauded

Bhubaneswar: Ace Analyst of the Banking Sector, Rajib Sekhar Sahoo has lauded the move of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to take Rs 2,000 notes out of circulation, only 7 years after they were first introduced. Known for his impartial and mature opinion on financial sector, Shri Sahoo said the Government of India has been taking various steps including modification of existing laws to discourage cash transactions and encourage digital payment. The Government had first discontinued the Rs 1000 notes and then stopped printing Rs 2,000 notes in 2019. And, now, this new move to completely remove Rs 2,000 notes from the market, he said. The notes can be exchanged or deposited until September 30 and notes up to the value of Rs 20,000 can be exchanged at a time, Shri Shri Sahoo noted. Due to this move, direct tax collection and GST collection will increase. Besides, financial transactions have been smoothened, he added. People will benefit from it. Those people, who have black money, will face problems making transactions in a huge cash, the Top Financial Analyst said, adding, the some people, who have



evaded tax and stored black money, will be hurt due to the move. The RBI has said that starting from May 23, the notes can be exchanged at 19 regional offices of RBI and other bank branches. People can either exchange the withdrawn currency for notes of lower denomination or directly deposit them into their bank accounts. The notes can be exchanged or deposited until September 30, the Central Bank has said. According to the RBI, the notes are not commonly used for transactions. It said that the number of Rs 2,000 notes in transaction has declined from its peak value of Rs 6.73 lakh crore in March 2018, constituting 37.3 per cent notes in circulation back then to Rs 3.62 lakh crore in March 2023, which is only 10.8 per cent of notes in

meet currency requirements. "In view of the above, and in pursuance of the 'Clean Note Policy' of the Reserve Bank of India, it has been decided to withdraw the Rs 2000 denomination banknotes from circulation," the RBI said. The Clean Note Policy seeks to give the public good-quality currency notes and coins with better security features, while soiled notes are withdrawn out of circulation. The RBI had earlier decided to withdraw from circulation all banknotes issued prior to 2005 as they have fewer security features as compared to banknotes printed after 2005. However, the notes issued before 2005 continue to be legal tender. They have only been withdrawn from circulation in conformity with the standard international practice of not having notes of multiple series in circulation at the same time. The Rs 2000 banknote will continue to maintain its legal tender status, the RBI has said. Members of the public can continue to use Rs 2000 banknotes for their transactions and also receive them in payment. "However, they are encouraged to deposit and/ or exchange these banknotes on or before September 30, 2023," the RBI said.

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**KKBKKJ Trailer Launch: Salman Khan, Shehnaaz Gill Look Stunning In Black Outfits, Pooja Hegde Shines In Yellow Gown**

The wait is now finally over for Salman Khan's fans as the makers of his much-awaited film, 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan' finally dropped the trailer of upcoming action entertainer film. At the film's trailer launch in Mumbai on Monday, the film's cast made stylish appearances on the carpet. Salman Khan reached the venue in a whole black avatar. He donned a full sleeves black shirt with black jeans, shoes and sunglasses. Pooja Hegde, the leading



lady of the movie, wore a yellow flared gown and kept her hair open with minimal makeup. Pooja shared her excitement for the release and talks about her special connection with her character, she said "Working on Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan was an absolute blast. My character is very special to me, as she's super fun and full of life, and I hope people will enjoy my performance in the film. I can't wait for my fans, friends, and family to watch the trailer and get a glimpse of the

excitement and emotions we've poured into this film. What you have seen in the trailer, is just a fun glimpse of the entire film." Bollywood debutant, Shehnaaz Gill looked like a boss lady as she donned a black blazer, crop top, and a leather skirt which she paired up with pencil heels. Actress Shweta Tiwari's daughter Palak Tiwari, another debutant in line, looked gorgeous in her outfit. She wore a skirt and the same print pink colour cord set. She kept her hair and makeup look minimal.

**Mrunal Thakur Talks About Playing A Tough Cop In 'Gumraah'**



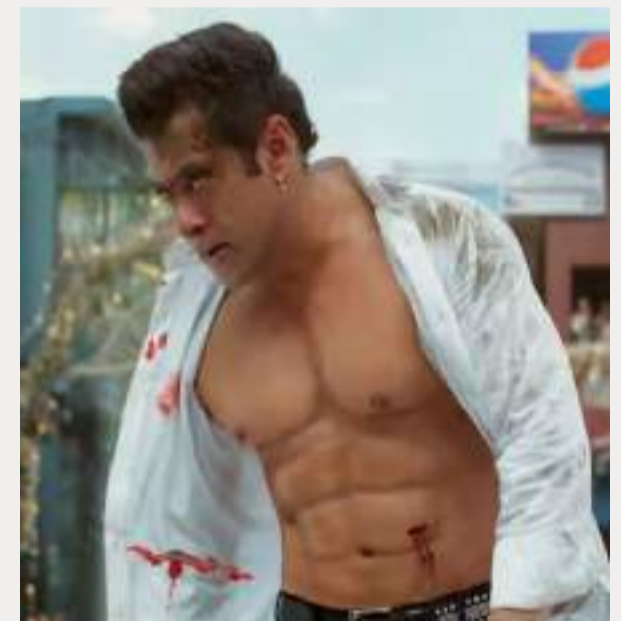
While Mrunal Thakur-starrer 'Gumraah' witnessed a low start at the box office, the actress is being lauded for her performance in a cop avatar. Sharing what went behind her role, Mrunal said, "Playing a tough cop was a new experience for me. I had to put in a lot of effort to get into the skin of the character, but it was worth it. I am glad that the audience has appreciated my performance. Playing a tough cop in Gumraah

was a challenging yet thrilling experience. I have always loved taking chances and doing unconventional roles, and I am glad that my choices have paid off. When I hear compliments about the film's engaging second half, and how my role contributed to it, it makes me feel great as a performer. I am grateful for the opportunity to bring impactful characters to life on screen." Gumraah, helmed by debutant

Vardan Ketkar, is an official remake of the Telugu film 'Thadam' (2019). The film showcased Aditya in a double role along with Mrunal Thakur as a cop. The film is a murder mystery. In the upcoming months, Mrunal she will also be seen in the upcoming period action drama film 'Pippa' alongside Ishaan Khatter and in 'Pooja Meri Jaan' along with actor Huma Qureshi.

**Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan Trailer: Salman Bowls Over Fans With Kickass Action**

In January, Salman Khan introduced the audience to the world of his Eid 2023 release, Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan, by unveiling a teaser of the film. Ever since then, there has been intrigue among the cinema-going audience about the theatrical trailer of this family entertainer. And finally, on April 10, Salman Khan has launched the action-packed trailer of Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan. Within minutes of going live, the trailer has become the talk of the town as the bhai of masses and jaan of families is returning to the big screen with an action-packed family entertainer. The trailer starts off by introducing the



chemistry between Pooja Hegde and Salman Khan. The romance between Salman and his leading lady, Pooja Hegde has a simplistic vibe, which comes across as a

breeze of fresh air which soon rummages into the most face-breaking, bone-cracking, neck-twisting, hammer-Hitting action entertainer you will ever experience.

**Akshay Kumar, Yo Yo Honey Singh's Party Anthem Kudi Chamkeeli from Selfie 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."

## Imran on collision course with 'Sharif' Army

Vivek Shukla



Never in his long career as a sports person to political leader, Imran Khan has ever faced such a grim situation as he is in currently. Even though he got bail from the Supreme Court in the alleged corruption case, both Shabaz Sharif government and Army are after Imran Khan to tame him for ever. As that was not enough, his party leaders are deserting him. Leave apart Mohammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal, arguably the two tallest icons of Pakistan, perhaps no other individual has made deep impact on the life of people of Pakistan as deeply Imran Khan in the last half-century. That was very much evident as Pakistanis were on rampage against the arrest of former Prime minister on the alleged corruption

charges. The angry nation sees their hero is the victim of nefarious role jointly played by the Rawalpindi based Army bosses and the political leadership. Things are rather serious in Punjab, the life and soul of Pakistan, and Khyber P a k h t u n k h w a c o m m o n l y abbreviated as KP or KPK. It is home to tough Pathans. Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has a formidable support base in both these provinces and he banks on the support of their people. They too never disappoint the Pathan leader. Well, that support gives Imran Khan Strength to take Army and his political rivals head-on since his ouster from the post of Prime Minister. Even when he was the Prime Minister, he was not toeing the line of all -powerful Army blindly. That's something the Army also referred as establishment there has never imagined and faced in the history of Islamic

country carved out of India. There writ always prevails there atleast since 1962 when Midnapore born Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy was arrested by Aligarh Muslim University alumnus Gen Ayub Khan in a military coup. Remember, Suhrawardy was the Prime Minister of Bengal when great Calcutta killings took place in 1946. Of course, his arrest was the beginning of Army's vice like grip on the political affairs of Pakistan. Later, it arrested Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He was sentenced to death and executed on April 4, 1979. Of course, it all happened under the watchful eyes of Jalandhar born General Zia ul Haq. Imran Khan too traces his roots to Jalandhar's Basti Danish Manda where his family established Islamia College too. Later, Bhutto's daughter, Benazir Bhutto, Nawaz Sharif and Shahid Khaqan Abbasi were also arrested in



connection with corruption charges by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) for alleged corruption. Interestingly, while Pakistan's first Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, was never arrested, he was assassinated on October 16, 1951. Liaquat Ali Khan was the Finance minister in the interim government headed by Pt. Jawaharlal Lal Nehru in 1946 and he even presented the budget that was known as 'anti Hindu business men budget'. His death remains a mystery, though it is said that Army hatched a plan to finish him. However, Pakistan had never reacted so sharply to the arrest

of these leaders so angrily. Who would have imagined that the nation would revolt against Army. It is considered as the saviour of the country. Their many establishments are burnt down. This is an unbelievable situation. The nation is in a combative mood as majority of people have been seeing ray of hope in him. He has been giving his country laurels and building hospitals when everything was going from bad to worst. They knew he has the capacity to make huge changes in the country not without any reason. After all, he has a spotless career. He believes in fair play and justice. These virtues are integral

part of his personality. They are very dear to him. In 1986, Imran Khan as captain of the Pakistan cricket team, invited Indian umpires to officiate Pakistan's test match against the West Indies in Lahore. It was the first time that neutral umpires stood in a Test match. Almost two decades back on November 4, 2004, Imran Khan was going to Delhi's Jama Masjid with his old pal, Muneeb Iqbal, and your's truly. The winter chill was there, yet Imran Khan was feeling fine in his blue shirt and black trouser. For a change, he was speaking in his mother tongue, Punjabi. As car was moving on Lutyens Delhi roads, he said

replying to a question, "I can not accept injustice or unfair play at any cost whatsoever. When I became captain of Pakistan, I dropped my hero and cousin brother, Majid Khan, from the side as he was not performing well. When we built Shakut Khanam hospital, my father used to look after the affairs of it. But, when I realized that age is catching up and he is not doing justice with his job, I requested him to stay at home." But, power politics is different. It is all about compromises, managing things and giving space to others, including to your critics and detractors as well. But, Imran Khan often is a very stubborn character. Somehow, he feels that only he can change Pakistan. He is the only honest guy in Pakistan. That's the problem with him. Alas, he makes more enemies than friends. He fights with his political rivals and he fires salvos on Army. And imagine he

could not develop long standing cordial ties with Qamar Javad Bajwa, the army Chief who was responsible for his becoming the Prime Minister. Now, Pakistan is boiling and his party leaders like Shah Mehmood Qureshi and Fawad Choudhary are also arrested, things look very bleak for Imran Khan as of now. The Army Chief Asif Munir must be thinking to settle his score with Imran Khan as he had cut short his (Munir) stint as head of ISI in 2019, replacing him with his favourite Faiz Hamid. Imran Khan was keen to make Hamid as the new Army chief after Gen Bajwa. He could not do so as his government fell in last April, 2022. What next for Imran Khan? Perhaps only judiciary can save him. It is possible that he would leave Pakistan in some deal with his detractors.

**The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor**

## Israel is Revolutionizing Dairy Industry through Precision Fermentation Milk



The Israeli government has recently made a significant stride towards revolutionizing the dairy industry by issuing its first marketing and sales license for milk and dairy products produced through precision fermentation. This groundbreaking green technology offers consumers the quality of real milk without relying on traditional cow farming. With this innovative approach, Israel is leading the

way in sustainable agriculture and addressing the environmental concerns associated with conventional dairy production. Precision fermentation is a cutting-edge technology that enables the production of milk and dairy products through microbial fermentation, eliminating the need for traditional animal farming. This environmentally friendly approach involves using genetically modified microorganisms to produce proteins that mimic those found in cow's milk. The resulting products are virtually indistinguishable from conventional dairy, both in terms of

taste and nutritional value. Precision fermentation offers a sustainable alternative to traditional dairy farming, which is known for its substantial carbon footprint, land use, and water consumption. By removing the need for cows, this technology greatly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, water pollution, and deforestation associated with cattle rearing. It represents a significant step forward in combating climate change and preserving natural resources. Precision fermentation eliminates the ethical concerns surrounding traditional animal

Surbhi Mishra

farming practices. With no reliance on cows, this technology spares animals from the often-poor living conditions and potential mistreatment associated with intensive farming. It presents a cruelty-free approach that appeals to consumers who are increasingly conscious of animal welfare issues. Products derived from precision fermentation maintain the same nutritional profile as conventional dairy products. They contain essential nutrients such as calcium, protein, and vitamins, making them a viable option for individuals with lactose intolerance or

dietary restrictions. Additionally, precision fermentation can be utilized to enhance the nutritional content of dairy alternatives, providing an opportunity to develop healthier options for consumers. By using precision fermentation, countries like Israel can reduce their reliance on imports for dairy products, thereby enhancing food security. Furthermore, this technology requires fewer resources such as land, water, and feed, ensuring efficient utilization of available resources and reducing dependence on external inputs.

Israel's decision to issue the first marketing and sales license for precision fermentation milk and dairy products marks a significant milestone in the industry. This move demonstrates the Israeli government's commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture and encouraging technological innovation. The success of precision fermentation in Israel could pave the way for similar initiatives worldwide, creating a global shift towards more sustainable and ethical dairy production methods. While precision fermentation holds great promise, there are challenges that need to be addressed.

Scaling up production to meet consumer demand, ensuring cost competitiveness, and obtaining regulatory approvals are crucial factors for the widespread adoption of this technology. However, with ongoing research and development, these challenges can be overcome, opening up vast opportunities for the dairy industry to embrace a sustainable and cruelty-free future. The Israeli government's decision to grant the first marketing and sales license for precision fermentation milk and dairy products marks a pivotal moment in the dairy industry. This groundbreaking

technology has the potential to revolutionize the way dairy products are produced, addressing environmental concerns, improving animal welfare, and providing nutritious alternatives for consumers. As precision fermentation gains traction, it is likely to reshape the global dairy industry, setting new standards for sustainability, innovation, and ethical practices. The future of dairy is greener, more efficient, and kinder to animals, thanks to precision fermentation.

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# Soren Government should improve the Health infrastructure of the state

**Ranchi(KCN):**Due to the appalling and pathetic condition of the government hospitals of the state, the poor common people & patient are being looted by the private hospitals, which should be acted upon by the Chief Minister and Health Minister of the state by identifying such private hospitals.

Central President of Jharkhandi Information Rights Forum cum Central Vice President of Adivasi Moolvasi Jan Adhikar Manch former MLA candidate Vijay Shankar Nayak by sending an email to Chief Minister Hemant Soren and Health Minister Banna Gupta has stated that for the interest of the public all kinds of

treatment of diseases, Fixation of rates in private hospitals has to be fixed by state government. There has been a demand that the information related to the fee for the treatment of diseases should be displayed publicly on the signboards in the hospitals. He also said that today due to lack of infrastructure in government hospitals, due to lack of doctors and proper medical system, today private hospitals are flourishing and becoming a den of loot. Forced to loot their money at the hands of these private hospitals it has to happen only then they will be able to get good medical system. He further said that how the



poor patients are being looted, a vivid example of which is the Swarna Rekha Hospital located at Tatisilve, about 15 km from Ranchi, in which 10,000 more was taken from the patient in the name of giving oxygen when the patient's relatives appealed to the IMA, then the office bearers of the IMA by intervening, he worked to get back the said excess amount of 10,000. Equally, it is read in various news that today the private hospital is becoming a place of loot. Mr. Nayak further said that today the condition of these private hospitals is very pathetic and lack of infrastructure, careless

treatment arrangements, lack of doctors, lack of nurses, government hospitals are struggling, in such a situation, the poor Gurba people of Jharkhand are feeling helpless. Being helpless, she spent the rest of her life in the shelter of private hospitals. They are forced to loot the deposited capital. Today the government needs to work in this direction so that poor Gurba patients of Jharkhand can get access to good and quality medical facilities. Mr. Nayak has demanded the Chief Minister and the Health Minister and the IMA to immediately fix the rate for primary treatment of patients in private hospitals so that the poor people do not become victims of loot from private hospitals. main demand are 1- Fixation of rates in private hospitals for treatment of all types of diseases. Demand to display the information related to the fee for the treatment of diseases publicly on the signboards in the hospitals. 2- A uniform rate of oxygen charge should be fixed in private hospitals. 3- All government doctors of all government hospitals in the state should be banned from private practice without delay and if caught doing private practice, they should be dismissed from service. 4- Management Hospital Committee should be immediately formed in all government hospitals by including the local citizens and people's representatives.

## District-level CM cup tournament to commence on May 22 in Hanamkonda

**Hanumakonda, :** District official machinery is all set to host district-level competitions as part of the CM's Cup tournament starting from May 22. The initiative aims at discovering and supporting talented athletes from rural to urban areas, said District Sports and Youth Officer (DYSO) Ashok Kumar. Over 1700 sportspersons from all mandals of the district will participate in the three-day sports extravaganza at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here. To ensure the smooth conduct of the competitions, various management committees comprising district officials have been established under the guidance of District Collector Sikta Patnaik. These committees oversee food management, sanitation, medical



services, reception, as well as the management of opening and closing ceremonies, and cultural programmes. Additionally, representatives from relevant sports associations, coaches, experienced athletes, and physical education teachers have been included in the sports management and

selection committee. "With the onset of summer, precautionary measures have been implemented to ensure the well-being of the participants. The games will adhere to the designated schedule without any controversy. District teams will be selected in a transparent manner, guaranteeing fairness throughout

the selection process," Ashok said. Furthermore, special sports attire will be provided to athletes representing the district in the upcoming state-level CM Cup tournament scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from May 28. To facilitate easy navigation for athletes from different mandals, signboards will be installed at the main entrance indicating the respective sports grounds. Upon arrival, coaches and managers from each zone must submit entry forms along with their Aadhaar cards to the reception committee. Only those with authentic ID proof will be allowed to participate. The games will commence promptly at 7 am each day. The sports events have been divided into categories with the schedule to hold

Kabaddi, Athletics, Boxing, Handball, Basketball, Hockey on May 22, Volleyball, Gymnastics, Swimming, Archery on May 23 and Kho Kho, Football, Tennis, Weightlifting, Shooting, Table Tennis (both men's and women's competitions) on May 24. The inaugural ceremony of the sports festival will be attended Panchayati Raj Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao, Women and Child Welfare Minister Satyavati Rathore, Council Vice Chairman Banda Prakash, Chief Whip Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar, Mayor Gundu Sudharani, District Collector Sikta Patnaik, President of District Olympic Association Mohammad Aziz Khan, and officials from various sports associations will also grace the occasion.

## Valedictory Function of National Level Workshop Towards Effective Management of NITs



**Warangal (KCN):**Two-day National Level Workshop on "Towards Effective Management of NITs" concluded today at Bose Halls of Seminar Halls complex at 3:30 PM. Prof. N. V. Umamahesh, Dean Academic, Chief Guest, expressed his happiness and thanked the staff for organizing the workshop. He said that such workshops should be conducted frequently to exchange ideas and make NIT system better. Shri S. Goverdhan Rao, Registrar, appreciated the coordinators for the

smooth organization of the workshop. He said the deliberations from the workshop should help our NITs become better. Dr. K. Veeranjanyulu, Central Librarian, thanked the delegates for participating in the event.

**Air Force Grounds Entire MiG-21 Jet Fleet For Checks After Rajasthan Crash**  
New Delhi: The Indian Air Force (IAF) has grounded the entire fleet of MiG-21 fighter aircraft till the checks are carried out and investigations into the reasons behind the crash over Rajasthan earlier this month are ascertained. Three people lost their lives in the crash when a MiG-21 Bison aircraft airborne from the Suratgarh air base crashed over Hanumangarh in a village on May 8. "The MiG-21 fleet has been grounded till the investigations are carried out and

# Supreme Court Tells Police To Compensate Woman For Her Illegal Detention

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has expressed displeasure over the illegal detention of a woman in Maharashtra despite being granted interim protection and two weeks by the top court to surrender and apply for regular bail in a case, and asked the police officers concerned to compensate her. While terming the incident "very blatant", a bench of Justices SK Kaul and A Amanullah noted the woman, who was an accused in a criminal case, had got the interim protection on November 17, 2021 and the top court had

granted her two weeks' time to surrender and apply for regular bail. "We had given interim protection to the petitioner and despite the same, the petitioner was taken into custody. It is the case of the petitioner that the order of this court was also shown. The petitioner was bailed out the next day, i.e. remained in custody for twenty four hours," the bench noted in its order passed on Monday. The top court, which was dealing with a contempt plea filed by the woman against two police officers, had in its January 5, 2023 order



noted the submission of the petitioner's counsel that despite its November 17, 2021 order, within two days the police had arrested her from a hospital where she

was working as a nurse. "The respondents (two police officers) have filed their affidavit seeking to express an unconditional

apology. To say the least, we don't expect the police officers to behave in this manner and that too in the teeth of the order of this court," the bench said in its

Monday order. During the hearing, the bench told the counsel appearing for the police officers, "You (respondents) have to pay compensation from your pocket." The top court noted that the counsel, on instructions, stated that respondents were willing to compensate the petitioner from their own pocket for her illegal one-day detention. "The petitioner will be compensated with the amount of ₹ 15,000 for the illegal detention for one day which will be shared by both the respondents and the payment to be made

within a period of two weeks from today," the bench ordered. In its January 5, 2023, the bench had noted the woman was arrested by the police from the hospital. "On the prosecution claiming remand, orders were passed by the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate 9th court Bandra, Mumbai, on November 20, 2021 refusing remand and recording that the arrest of the petitioner was not justified," it had noted in its order while issuing notice to the respondents on the contempt plea. Earlier in 2021, the

woman had approached the top court against the August 2021 order of the Bombay High Court rejecting her plea for anticipatory bail in the case. "After some arguments, counsel for the petitioner seeks to withdraw the petition but requests for some time for the petitioner to surrender. The special leave petition is dismissed as withdrawn. The petitioner to surrender within two weeks and apply for regular bail which would be considered expeditiously," the top court had said in its November 17, 2021 order.

# CM Assets Worth 65.40 CR

**Bhubaneswar:** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has properties worth Rs 65.40 crore as of December 2022, which is Rs 42.90 lakh more than his assts possessed a year ago. The Chief Minister along with his Council of Ministers have submitted their movable and immovable property details for the financial year 2021-22, which was uploaded in the CMO website. Shri Patnaik's assets increased to Rs 65.40

crore as of December 2022 from Rs 64.97 crore as of December 2021. As per his property statements, the movable properties has been increased in the year 2022 while the immovable property remained the same.

The website, which was updated on Friday with the latest information about assets and liabilities of public representatives, showed that Shri Patnaik owned movable property worth Rs 12.52 crore, which included bank



accounts in New Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Hinjilicut, and Bargarh, along with jewellery and a four-wheeler.

His immovable assets included his two-thirds share in Naveen Nivas, near Bhubaneswar

airport, worth ? 9,52,46,190 (approximately), and 50% share in the property at 3, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Road, New Delhi worth ? 43,36,18,000 (approximately).

Out of the movable properties, Patnaik has fixed deposits

worth Rs 1 crore in HDFC, RBI bonds of Rs 9 crore, Rs 1.50 crore post office.

The Chief Minister has deposits of Rs 70.11 lakh in a bank at Janpath, New Delhi, and Rs 20.87 lakh in the State Bank of India at

Bhubaneswar. The gold jewellery was valued at Rs 3.49 lakh and the old Ambassador car of the 1980 model at Rs 6,434.

The five-time Chief Minister held immovable properties worth Rs 52.88 crore, all of which were inherited from parents Biju and Gyan Patnaik, according to the CM's property statement.

His immovable assets included his two-thirds share in Naveen Niwas, near

Bhubaneswar airport, worth Rs 9.52 crore, and 50 percent share in the property at 3, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Road, New Delhi worth Rs 43.36 crore.

As on December 31, 2022, Finance Minister Niranjana Pujari has total properties worth Rs 2.89 crore while his wife Binapani was holding assets worth Rs 1.77 crore.

Pujari possessed nine landed properties worth Rs 1.41 crore, bank balance of Rs 76.60

lakh, Rs 20.79 lakh investments in LIC insurance policies, three vehicles worth Rs 9.27 lakh, jewellery worth Rs 31.21 lakh, and Rs 4.73 lakh cash in hand.

Similarly, Rural Development Minister Pritiranjana Ghadai, Handloom, Textiles and Handicrafts Minister Rita Sahu, Steel and Mines Minister Prafulla Kumar Mallik mentioned that they don't possess any four-wheelers.

## 1K FPOs In 5Yrs

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The State Government has come up with a new scheme Support to Farmer Producer

Organizations (FPOs) aimed at building a supportive ecosystem for promotion of FPOs in the state of Odisha.

The Government aims to bring 1000 FPOs under its ambit over 5 years from 2023-24 to 2027-28. An expenditure of Rs.313.61 crore has been approved for this purpose. For the current financial year, Rs 39.37 crore has been approved under the scheme.

The scheme objectively aims at benefiting farmers in terms of aggregation of farm produce, value addition, better market access, access to price information and technology and credit linkages.

The proposed scheme will effectuate interventions like promotional campaign of FPOs, operational and handholding support, capacity building and industry exposure, access to finance, marketing support and export linkage, management and governance support to attract/retain



professionals for FPO management, establish center of excellence for FPOs, single windows system for FPOs, facilitation of education and research on FPOs and allocation of land on need basis to encourage value addition and processing to achieve the end objective of incremental income of Rs 2000 per month per farmer member.

The Directorate of Horticulture will implement this scheme. The Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment

Department has prepared detailed guidelines and regulations in this regard.

At present, about 830 FPOs are functioning in the State, out of which about 314 FPOs have been formed under the Central Government's initiative to form 10,000 FPOs in the country.

Further, about 320 FPOs in the State have been able to successfully run their own farmers' associations and generate income for their members.

A State Level Committee (SLC) under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment will monitor the implementation of the scheme in every quarter and the Project Management Unit (PMU) under the Directorate of Horticulture will take the responsibility of implementation of the scheme in accordance with the Annual Action Plan.

## Miraculous Finding OF Lord Hari Hara

**Kendrapada/ Jagatsinghpur/ Paradeep(KCN) :** The Miraculous Findings of Lord Hari Hara was found at the Village Tikarapanga of Kendrapada District and it is 10 kms away or distances from Paradeep of Jagatsinghpur District, Odisha State. This Hari Hara Lord Stone was found about 10fts inside the earth. The Villagers of Tikarapanga dug the earth about ten feet uttering with Hari Bola along with Nama Sankritana, " Hare Krishna Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna Hare Hare & Namha Shivaya. On this Stone, Eyes & Mouth were there. Villagers worshiped & they have kept it on a small open cemented concrete square type pendal. Now Villagers have given named as Hari Hara Gadi Gosaein Shakti Pitha. The Villagers are now requesting to the Government of Odisha for taking care of this Hari Hara Shakti Pitha and for construction of a Temple.





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# India's economic indications remain robust says DSP Mutual Fund

Mumbai : India's economic growth continues to remain strong even in times when the world is facing economic turbulence says DSP Mutual Fund in the February 2023 issue of its monthly report Netra which tracks the latest economic trends and insights. The report highlighted that India's high frequency indicators remain robust. These include healthy GST collections, near record high volume of petroleum products

sold (a proxy for consumption), electronic toll (including Fastag) collections indicating brisk economic activity along with business activity and sentiments being positive. The report mentions that the recent flat performance of Nifty Index compared to a 26% rally in the MSCI Emerging markets index has resulted in the vanishing of the high valuation premium that India had over its emerging

market peers. This is a positive development as foreign inflows in India had become muted lately due to high valuations. Further consolidation and steady earnings growth can cause India to become attractive once again as we progress into 2023. DSP Mutual Fund feels there is an opportunity in the bond market. Whenever RBI has raised rates, corporate bond spreads have gone up. This

monetary policy is least disruptive the reasons being rates are not as high as previous cycle, liquidity conditions are better vs the last hiking cycle, corporate spreads are also not very high. This means corporations can borrow even during the tightening cycle and the rates are also more conducive. This will help in India's growth from a long-term perspective. DSP Mutual Fund believes that Banking sector is poised for an

appreciation. The current dip in banking equities is another opportunity to add lenders over borrowers. The ratio of NSE Bank Index to NSE Metal Index bottomed out at a time when the yield curve was very steep & RBI was about to embark on a rate hike journey. The recent correction in Banking stocks & a rally in Metals equities makes an attractive proposition once again. Auto sector is also looking very

promising. The long-term earnings trajectory for the technology sector continues to remain attractive. Investors who have been waiting on the sidelines are likely to get a good opportunity to buy into

this valuation and price correction in the technology sector. "The most important thing for equity markets in 2023 is earnings growth and softening valuations. The last 17 month of consolidation has

removed a lot of valuation froth. There is a higher likelihood of better market backdrop going forward," said Sahil Kapoor, Market Strategist and head of products at DSP Mutual Fund.

## DIZO, by realme TechLife, launches DIZO Wireless Dash

**Bhubaneswar:** DIZO, the first brand under realme TechLife ecosystem, today announced the launch of DIZO Wireless Dash that boasts of a unique Kevlar Design, Blink charge feature and 30 hours of total music playback. The feature loaded DIZO Wireless Dash, using an 11.2mm large driver, Bass Boost+ algorithm and PU+PEEK diaphragm, will offer an enhanced audio experience at the most aggressive price. For the uber-fast generation today, the DIZO Wireless Dash offers 10 hours of music playback in just 10 mins charge using the Blink Charge feature along with safe charging chip inside; and a total

music playback of upto 30 hours on a single charge. A steal deal for those who prefer neckband design, it also brings Magnetic Instant Connection, Memory Metal, ENC, dedicated Game Mode and realme Link app customizations, and even the smallest of the detailing such as balanced weight, air pressure control and dual material eartips. The latest DIZO Wireless Dash, designed to complement the uniqueness in you, with its distinct Kevlar design, Blink charge feature and 30 hours of total music playback is priced at just INR 1,599. However, during the first sale on Flipkart (and soon on select retail

stores) from 24th May 2022, 12 pm onwards, the latest neckband earphone will be sold at an introductory price of INR 1,299 only. Commenting on the launch, Abhilash Panda, CEO, DIZO India shares, "We are committed to deliver feature-rich solutions at aggressive price points every time and our team is working towards it daily. With the launch of DIZO Wireless Dash, I am confident to wow our consumers this time again. The latest achievement motivates us more than ever and we promise to deliver products with more dedication and keep brewing new ideas for you all."

## Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital successfully treated 33-year-old suffering from a rare case of Salivary Gland Cancer

**Bhubaneswar/Cuttack:** Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, Cuttack, treated 33-year-old Reema (name changed), hailing from Western Odisha, from Parotid Gland Carcinoma, a rare form of cancer that occurs in the salivary glands situated right below the ear lobes. The cancerous gland was resected by conducting an advanced form of Total Parotidectomy Surgery on the patient while preserving her facial nerves, which are responsible for facial expressions. This incredible feat was achieved by Dr Manjunath NML, Senior consultant Surgical Oncologist and his team at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack.

Reema suffered from unexplained excruciating pain continuously on the face and earlobes for a period of 8 months. In order to get relief from the pain, she visited neurological specialists and physicians from multiple hospitals where she was misdiagnosed for other neurological diseases and was treated with analgesics, as they failed to diagnose her actual condition. She consulted the doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, who discovered a vague swelling near the earlobes and with suspicion of a tumour. Imaging of the parotid gland was conducted to check for any malignancy and it was discovered that she had

a parotid lobe tumour in the junction between the superficial lobe and the deep lobe, right behind the mandible or the lower jaw bone. Nerve sparing total parotidectomy was conducted using advanced form of equipments such as surgical loupes, nerves monitoring devices and Vessel Sealer, which helped surgeons achieve an absolute haemostasis or minimal blood loss during the surgery. This four- and half-hour surgical procedure was conducted by preserving the facial nerves that passes through the superficial lobe and deep lobe and any implication on the facial nerves would lead to disfigurement of the face, paralysis on one

side of the face, lack of expressing emotions, inability to close the eyes and move the eyebrows. Elaborating the complexities of the surgery, Dr Manjunath NML said, "This is a unique and a rare case among young women, where we usually witness just one or two cases per year. This was one challenging case, as the cancer tumours were adjacent to the facial nerve and we had to carefully dissect them without causing any hindrance or impact to the nerve. With the advanced facilities at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack, we were able to resect the tumour successfully and witness a big smile on the patients face." Post her successful

surgery, while thanking her doctors, Reema said, "For the past eight months, the events that occurred to me because of this condition are unexplainable. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Manjunath and the entire team for the timely help in relieving the pain I was enduring and helping me recover back from this deadly tumour. Also I was worried about my facial expressions when doctors explained me about the tumor in relation to facial nerve and need for its removal if required. Thanks again to the entire team for helping me to get rid of this bad tumor with my smile intact" (with a big smile on her face).

## Ashok Leyland reaches yet another milestone, showcases 'CNG engine H series' at EXCON

**Chennai:** Ashok Leyland, the flagship Company of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer today showcased 'CNG engine H series' at the ongoing EXCON 2022, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Based on strong leverage of Auto BSVI engine development, the CNG engine H series (4 and 6 Cyl) is designed for off highway / CEV clients, and this product will be

the first of its kind in the CEV / mining and off highway segment. The H series CNG engine has a number of features, including ECU-controlled gas leak detection; improved cold start capability; enhanced lower end torque and flat torque from 1200rpm to 2000rpm; gear-based torque control for better fuel economy; durable engine valves and valve seats for CNG operation; proven, durable engine for CEV application;

turbocharged engine provides higher torque, fuel efficiency, better drivability, and transient response; maintenance-free engine. The CNG engine H series also fulfils CEV V standards without SCR or DPF, and features proven multipoint sequential gas injection for dependable performance; a 500 hours oil drain interval; and the maximum power in the sector. Sharing his views, Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman,

Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland's expertise in engineering has paved the way for the company to establish itself as a key player in the CNG engine sector, and we aspire to continue to do so by expanding our portfolio of CNG Engines and technology solutions. Ashok Leyland aims to make India's CNG engine sector self-reliant, and to be one of the leaders in the "Make in India" narrative." Present at the event Dr

N Saravanan, CTO, Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland has a track record of catering to customer needs with world class products that generate higher profitability. With the increasing need for better fuel efficiency and use of alternate fuels, we have a solid pipeline of such technologies. We aspire to lead the market in this segment, as the need for engines with alternative fuels grows".

## AIC-GIM Foundation, Climate Collective and the Taj Hospitality Brand collaborate on a Global Single Use Plastics Challenge

**Panaji:** The consumption of Single Use Plastics (SUP's) in the food and beverage industry grew dramatically during the Covid-19 outbreak and is now expanding at a 2.5-fold rate. With the aim of reducing single use plastic from the F&B industry in Goa, Atal Incubation Center Foundation at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM) in partnership with Climate Collective Foundation and IHCL's Taj hospitality brand is bringing the Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Challenge. The SUP challenge is inviting innovations to reduce single use plastic

from the F&B sector. The selected solutions will get the opportunity to test their ideas in Goa with the Taj hotel network of Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL). "As a company, we want to put a strong emphasis on sustainability as a way of life for everyone, which thus culminates in the adoption of a variety of sustainable business methods. We are happy to collaborate with AIC-GIM Foundation and Climate Collective Foundation for the Global SUP challenge which will reduce the usage of Single Use Plastics across our properties in Goa" said Mr. Vincent Ramos,

Area Director, Indian Hotels Company Limited. The SUP Challenge will assess the volume of single-use plastics waste reduced through piloting and scaling ventures' innovations along with environmental impact avoided, such as waste diverted from landfills, incineration or avoided entirely. Additionally, the challenge will guide startups to fine-tune their business cases for F&B industry and insights derived from their pilots will contribute to a study around understanding the environmental impacts of alternatives to single-use plastic packaging.

## Symphony, in partnership with AEEE, invests in the 'SAHARA Programme'

**Bhubaneswar:** around four trillion-person cooling degree days, India is characterised by tropical and sub-tropical climatic conditions coupled with a lack of access to cooling, rising temperatures and ever-evolving socio-economic trends such as rapid population growth and urbanisation, which will not only amplify the climate change-induced heat stress but would also fuel the demand for space cooling. SAHARA programme would act as a catalyst for disseminating knowledge about the thermal comfort situation in India's academic institutions. It could bring about systemic changes on multiple fronts in the long term.

Microtek, the leader in the power product market of India has recently organized a Star Retail Partners' Meet at Taj Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, where the company introduced its newly launched range of inverters and home UPS series to the key retailers of the region. The new range of inverters and UPSs launched demonstrates the latest technological advancements that help to save electricity besides offering the best output in power backup. More than 400 retailers from the region attended the gala event. Talking about the new range of inverters, Subodh Gupta, CMD, Microtek International, shared "The 6 new series of inverters launched, besides providing electricity saving benefits are also aesthetically appealing.

## ViStrengthens 'Vi Hero Unlimited' Proposition with 'Data Delight'

To ensure a worry free data experience for its prepaid users, Vi, leading telecom service provider, has launched 'ViHero Unlimited Campaign' with yet another unique proposition, 'Data Delight'. With this, Vi users can unlock up to 2GB of extra data every month, over & above their daily quota, at no extra cost. Truly providing an unlimited data experience, Vi Hero Unlimited portfolio also includes other unique benefits such as Unlimited High Speed Data from 12am - 6am' and Weekend Data Rollover. In addition, to further strengthen its

hero unlimited portfolio, Vi has introduced more recharge packs under the portfolio. Vi Hero Unlimited packs are structured to provide a one-stop solution to the common concern of data quota exhaustion faced by prepaid users. It's differentiated offerings aim to provide more value to Vi's Unlimited plan users. In today's digital world where availability of mobile internet has become a crucial factor, Vi Hero Unlimited brings a dose of oxygen when needed the most. To promote the proposition, Vi has launched a high decibel

ATL campaign themed - 'Sifnaamkanahinkamka unlimited'. Featuring popular actor Vinay Pathak, the Vi campaign is planned for 8 weeks and to promote this unique 'Hero Unlimited' proposition, multiple media platforms like TV, Digital and OOH along with large on ground activation programs will be actioned. Vi Hero Unlimited packs start with recharges of Rs. 299 and above daily data quota packs. Vi has also added new recharge packs with higher daily data quota at Rs. 359, Rs. 409 and Rs. 475 under Hero Unlimited portfolio.

## Microtek Organised Rockstar & Star Retail Partners' Meet in Bhubaneswar

**Bhubaneswar:** We recently launched our wide range of UPS' in the Indian market like the SmartHybrid UPS series. It is powered by Smart Hybrid Electronics Integrated Circuit Technology for True Sinewave out that gives noiseless performance, and more load handling capacity. The other efficient UPS launched series are Superpower, Heavy Duty with the capacity of running heavy loads & energy-efficient model - Energy Saver. It has an inbuilt energy-efficient transformer for better performance in energy saving. Luxe and iMerlyn are the premium series launched with Luxe having the LCD display that shows running load status, battery charging time and backup time. I am sure this event and our new product range will further strengthen the brand presence in the

Odisha market." The key people of the industry were present at the event. The company also felicitated its channel partners at the event. The event was attended by the officials of Microtek International and trade partners from Odisha. Odisha is one of the important markets for Microtek and the company is looking forward to expanding its presence in the state with the new series. Microtek is planning more such activities for the Odisha Market to create awareness about its new products and further strengthening its business relations with the retail market in the state. The price of the new product range starts from MRP Rs. 6240 and the products are already available through the company's vast distribution network across India.

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# BCB expect Shakib's availability for Afghanistan ODIs, T20Is

**Dhaka:** Bangladesh Cricket Board said on Friday that they are expecting Shakib Al Hasan to be available for the white-ball series against Afghanistan. Cricbuzz had earlier reported that Shakib is unlikely to play the lone Test match against Afghanistan scheduled from June 14 due to his finger injury that he sustained during the second ODI against Ireland.

"Shakib hurt the tip of his right index finger while attempting a catch in the second ODI. An X-ray today confirmed a fracture on the base of the index finger. Such injuries usually take around six weeks to heal," National team physio Bayjedul Islam Khan had said in a statement on May 13. BCB chief selector Minhajul Abedin on Friday confirmed that he is not available for

the Test while added that as the series will be played in two phase they are expecting him in to be available for ODIs and T20Is. Following the red-ball assignment, Afghanistan will depart for India for a white-ball series on June 19 and will return to the country again on July 1 to complete the remaining part of the series, which includes three ODIs and two T20Is running until



July 17. There was speculation doing the rounds that the all-rounder wanted rest from the whole series though Minhajul refuted it. "There is no discussion regarding any such thing (like he wanted rest). Because he has got a fracture and it will take six weeks to recover, he is missing the Test (against Afghanistan)," said Minhajul. "As there is

a big gap before the ODI series that is scheduled after Eid, we are expecting him to be back for it," he said. Bangladesh's next ODI assignment after the series against Afghanistan will be also scheduled to host New Zealand for a three-match ODI series in September before they go to India for the World Cup in October-November.

"The World Cup is still four months away. We have series against Afghanistan and we are thinking of these back-to-back series," Minhajul said. "I think we are the only Test-playing side who are discussing the World Cup now. We have to make a team for the World Cup keeping the fitness and performance of the players in mind," he added.

## We have to work on our PowerPlay game with the bat: Amre

**New Delhi:** Amidst all the disappointment expressed publicly by the head coach and the team owner of Delhi Capitals, there is a soothing balm that has come the way of the players, who have kickstarted their IPL 2023 campaign with three straight losses. Those weren't just losses. Lucknow Super Giants, Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals eased past their challenge rather comfortably, enough to almost make it seem like DC were not even in contention for a win.



Batting has been a major let down, fielding has been shoddy in parts and the bowling has lacked venom. However, ahead of their fourth encounter, against Mumbai Indians, batting coach Pravin Amre backed the players to come good. He doesn't look too far beyond Mumbai Indians, their next opponents, to seek inspiration from their 2015 title-winning campaign.

"We are currently focussing on the present and we are looking forward to our match

against Mumbai Indians," Amre said on Monday, in New Delhi. "And the fact that we are playing at home is a plus point for us. IPL is a long tournament, we've seen that teams have lost seven (five) games but still managed to win the championship.

"As a coaching group as well, we believe in this team. We've retained 20 players. We know these boys. It's not like we don't know their ability. It happens some times in big tournaments where you don't start well. But it's important how you finish. We believe in this

team." The concerns on the batting front are manifold. Barring David Warner, none of the top order batters have stayed long enough to make an impact. And even though the DC skipper has stroked two half-centuries, he has scored at an abysmally slow rate of 117.04.

His opening partner, Prithvi Shaw has had it worse, with only 19 runs in three innings. However, Amre has kept his trust on the DC opener and expects him to come good soon. "Prithvi is a capable

batter. But yes, he hasn't delivered according to our expectations. We are hopeful that he will deliver for us in the coming matches. We all know that he has the ability, it's a matter of where he clicks."

In the three games so far, DC have registered 47/2, 52/2 and 38/3 in the PowerPlay. While two out of three might seem decent starts, but those were only aided by the extras conceded by the bowlers. Amre admitted that there is a need to improve the performance in the powerplay.

"We have to work on our

powerplay game with the bat," he said. "When your top four batters get runs, then your team is in a different position. We will see who will get those runs for our team. "We are looking to see how we can get that balance in the powerplay - where the aggression and caution is also maintained. 50 for 1 is also a good score, and how we can achieve that is what's going to matter in the coming matches, and that's something our think tank can work on."

One of the silver linings in the batting department has been the form of Axar Patel, who has been in good touch lately and even cracked a crisp 36 against Gujarat Titans. Amre admitted that the think tank could consider giving him a more important role with the bat this season.

"We have a good option with Axar. He has been with us for five years now. The way he has batted for India was remarkable. He is a candidate, especially since he is a left-hander. It's been on our minds on how we can utilize him best."

## Premier League: Virgil van Dijk 'Far Better' Than Manchester United Legend Nemanja Vidic, Believes Jamie Carragher



**New Delhi:** Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk is "far better" Manchester United legend Nemanja Vidic, believes Jamie Carragher. The Dutch defender is being criticised a lot these days following Liverpool's average performance this season.

Van Dijk is considered as one of the best in the business since his move to Liverpool in January 2018. The Netherlands international moved from Southampton to Anfield for a massive price tag of £75 million (\$93m). He has won a Champions League, Premier League, FA Cup, Carabao Cup, UEFA Super Cup and a FIFA World Club World Cup

with the club. He has made 213 appearances for the club and is still the main defender of Jurgen Klopp's backline. Former Liverpool defender Carragher respond to a tweet suggesting that "Van Dijk's drop off is actually insane" by saying: "VVD is far better than Vidic, who was a top CB, but have you forgot his performances against Torres? Rio & JT had poor seasons in their career like all players, VVD is having one now. No CB in the PL era has ever had VVD's impact on a team. Never mind the best CB in the league, he's been the best player in the league along with KDB for four years

before this one. We have never spoken about about other CB's being the best player before, that shows the level he was at."

Virgil van Dijk is often compared to the likes of some great defenders of the modern era including some names like Sergio Ramos, Carlos Puyol, Nemanja Vidic, Rio Ferdinand and many more. This all has happened since that one season when no one could dribble past the Dutch wall, yes the same season Liverpool went on to win the Premier League. However, former Liverpool footballer Carragher believes he is better from United legend Vidic.

## Staying 'true to technique' vital for all-format Kohli

**Mumbai:** Virat Kohli dismissed talk around his 'numbers' in T20 cricket, stating that as an all-format player he'd rather 'stay true to his technique' with so much cricket happening all year long. Speaking to the broadcasters at the post-match presentation after his sixth IPL hundred helped RCB pull off a clinical chase of 187 in Hyderabad to keep their playoffs chances alive, Kohli said his methods may be conventional and that he isn't bothered about the outside noise. "The way I'm looked at as an IPL player is like 'yeah, he's fine, has a few impact knocks'. It's my sixth IPL hundred. Sometimes I don't give myself enough credit because I put myself under so much stress already. I don't care what anyone says on the outside. That's their opinion," Kohli said after RCB's eight-wicket win. The victory was led by

Kohli's 63-ball 100 in a 172-run opening stand with skipper Faf du Plessis, over-shadowing Heinrich Klaasen's maiden IPL hundred earlier in the evening, that came at a much faster clip. Kohli timed his chase perfectly and his strike-rate of 158.73, higher his season strike-rate of 135.86, saw him maintain his scoring intent through the length of his innings. Often guilty of slowing down after the initial burst in the PowerPlays, Kohli's conservative approach had frequently drawn flak from critics especially in this season that has seen a record number of 200+ totals both scored and chased down with ease.

"When you're in that situation yourself, you know how to win games of cricket. I've done that over a long period of time. It's not like when I play I don't win games for

my team," Kohli said. "It's playing the situation that I take pride in. I've never been a guy who plays so many fancy shots. I was having a chat with Aiden [Markram] as well - we've to play 12 months of the year.

"For me it's not about playing fancy shots and throwing my wicket away. We've got Test cricket (coming up) after the IPL, I have to stay true to my technique. When I can make an impact in an important game, it gives me confidence, it gives the team confidence."

This was the season's first hundred for Kohli, and his first in the IPL in four years, helping him break into the top-five run-getters with 538 runs now in 13 innings at an average of 44.83. Kohli said he's happy to have addressed 'the dip' in his batting form after not seeing the hard work in the nets translate into success on field the last few games.

## BCCI may make major World Cup announcement after SGM on May 27

**New Delhi:** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has called for a Special General Meeting (SGM) in Ahmedabad on May 27 and there is likelihood that there could be a special announcement, post the meeting.

One of the five points of the SGM agenda is the "Formation of Working Group for the ICC World Cup 2023" and it is discussed that the venues for the October-November championship may be made public that day. The members of the organising committee may also be announced. For the record, the dates and venues of the World Cup have not yet been announced but there is speculation that the quadrennial championship will start on October 5 and end



on November 19 with 12 venues across the country zeroed in. As is well known, Ahmedabad will be hosting the final. It is still not clear if there will be an announcement of the schedule too. Meanwhile, the BCCI will announce the formation of a

committee for the Women's Premier League (WPL). The first edition of the WPL was conducted in March by the governing council of the IPL. Now the BCCI may form a separate body for the women's league, which attracted positive response both from the stakeholders

(mainly owners and broadcasters) and public alike. "Formation of Infrastructure Development and Subsidy Subcommittee; Guidelines for appointment of Physiotherapists and Trainers in state teams and Ratification of

Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy" are the other items on the May 27 meeting. WTC squad to leave in 3 batches

Meanwhile, it has come to light that the squad members for the World Test Championship (WTC) final will leave for England in three batches.

The first batch will fly out on May 23, immediately after the conclusion of the league stage of the IPL. The second batch will go on after the first two play-off games on May 23 and 24 and finally the last batch will leave on May 30, after the final on May 28. The BCCI is planning to organise a practice match for the team in the UK. The WTC final, against Australia, is from June 7 to 12 at the Oval.