

No firecrackers in Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Twin City after 10 pm on Diwali

Bhubaneswar(KCN):The Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Commissionerate Police has put restrictions on the bursting of firecrackers in the twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar during the Diwali celebration on Sunday. Police Commissioner Saumendra Priyadarshi on Friday said that denizens of the Twin City will be allowed to burst permissible varieties of crackers only up to 10 pm on the day of the grand festival.



As per Priyadarshi, action will be taken against the persons bursting crackers with noise levels of more than 125 decibels. Moreover, he appealed to denizens to use green

crackers to keep the environment free from pollution. The Police Commissioner further informed that a special team has been formed to curb the bursting of illegal

firecrackers in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. “As per the guidelines, denizens can burst firecrackers up to 10 pm on Diwali. They can’t create noise by bursting crackers beyond the time limit. I request all the people of the Twin City to celebrate Green Diwali by using green crackers. Please help the administration to control air and noise pollution,” said Priyadarshi. However, denizens and firecracker vendors are still confused about the

guidelines issued by the Commissionerate Police on Diwali and the use of green crackers. “There is not much demand for sound-producing firecrackers. People are mostly buying fancy firecrackers. We were not sure about the licenses to obtain from the administration for selling firecrackers this year. However, we got permission at the last moment. We are hopeful of good business,” said a firecracker vendor.

Stampede Outside Puri Jagannath Temple Injures Many



Puri(KCN): Several devotees sustained injuries in a stampede in the Puri Jagannath Temple after the ‘Mangala Aalati’ on Friday morning. All the injured were taken to the Puri Sadar Hospital. Reportedly, the devotees

included a number of habisiyalas (widows). The stampede situation in Puri Jagannath Temple occurred when the devotees tried to push their way into the temple during the Mangala Arati. It is worth mentioning

here that all the injured have been admitted to the Puri Headquarter Hospital (DHH) for treatment. Many of the devotees felt asphyxiated due to the heat and the huge crowd, said reliable reports.

'Miscreants loot' Rs 1.5 crore from ATM van in Cuttack



Cuttack,(KCN):Masked miscreants allegedly looted cash over Rs 1.5 crore from an ATM cash van on Godijharia Nua Sadak Road near Kalim Bagicha Rice Mill under Tigiria Police limits of Cuttack district. According to sources, over eight masked miscreants carrying firearms chased an ATM van in an SUV and motorcycles. They waylaid the van at a secluded place near Kalim Bagicha Rice Mill. As per reports, pointing a pistol, miscreants asked the driver to stop the van. Thereafter, the miscreants fled from the spot with a trunk loaded with cash from the van.

The trunk reportedly had cash of over Rs 1.5 crore. On being informed, Athagarh Police launched a probe and manhunt for the miscreants. “The money was withdrawn from the Athagarh SBI. Then we went to GIMSAR, Swapneswar, market and then to Godijharia. When we were returning after loading cash in an ATM machine at Godijharia, an SUV stopped in front of us. We were four in the van. Seven to eight masked miscreants got down from the SUV and came to us, all carrying pistols and sharp weapons. They first snatched the rifle from me and then

terrified others in the van with sharp weapons. Thereafter, they took the cash trunk and sped away from the spot,” said Ranjan Kumar Dehury, a security guard accompanying the cash in the van. Recalling the incident, loader boy, Sanjay Swain said, “Like any other day, we withdrew money from the SBI ATM. After loading cash in ATM machines at Madhapur, Athagarh Bazar, and Godijharia, we were returning when a stone hit our van near the rice mill. As the driver slowed the vehicle, miscreants in an SUV and a bike stopped us and took the cash trunk at gunpoint. Before leaving

the spot, they also took away our mobile phones. They were speaking in Odia.” “We were scheduled to load cash in 13 ATM kiosks. The incident occurred when we had already loaded four ATM machines and nine more were left,” he added. Informing about the incident, Cuttack Rural SP, Mihir Panda said, “They had already refilled four ATMs and were going to refill the other ATMs. Then they were intercepted by seven to eight criminals in a Scorpio van. They looted the cash trunk at gunpoint. We suspect the trunk had cash of over Rs 1.5 crore. We have formed three teams to investigate the case. They are on the job. Blockings have been put up at different locations. We are in touch with the police in the neighbouring districts.” When asked about the involvement of the staff, Panda said, “It can’t be ruled out. We are investigating the matter from all possible angles.”

Two Killed In Road Accident In Jajpur

Jajpur(KCN): Two persons were killed and one seriously injured when their motorcycle collided head-on with an oil tanker in Odisha’s Jajpur district, police said on Friday. Three persons were travelling in the motorcycle which collided with an oil tanker near Baruhan Square on National Highway 20 on Thursday night, they said. The deceased have been identified as Sudarshan Behera and an elderly woman (yet to be identified), while the injured is Purnima Behera, a pregnant woman, all of them belong to Sana Biruahana Hata Sahi village in the district. While the elderly woman died on the spot, locals rescued the seriously injured Sudarshan and Purnima and rushed them to the Jajpur District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) for treatment. While undergoing treatment, Sudarshan died.

IYDP From 15NOV



Bhubaneswar(KCN): To encourage participation of youth in the field of sports, culture, social work and make them active partners in the development of State, Government has launched a new scheme under “Integrated Youth Development Programme” (IYDP). The new scheme envisages to conduct competition and activities among the students at the Institutional level. Later, Youth Festivals will be organised under the scheme at the District and State level. Today there was a high level meeting on this Chaired by Atanu sabyasachi Nayak Minister Higher Education. Secretary Higher Education Aravind Agrawal graced the occasion. After the meeting briefing media

Minister Sri Nayak told that 687 numbers of Higher Education Institution including all Government, Government Aided Colleges and Universities are covered under the scheme. Institutions will organise competitions among the students in the field of Sports, Culture and Social Work related activities from 15 November to 31 December. For successful implementation of the scheme, Sports and Youth Services Department has placed funds and implementation guidelines. Promotion of Sports, Cultural activities and Social Activities in the Higher Education institutes is the main objective of the scheme. These activities will provide a platform to the youth to develop their leadership, team spirit and individual talents and it will connect the youth with the larger community, Minister Sri Nayak told. The meeting held in the Conference Hall of OSCB in Virtual mode was attended by, Higher Education, Special Secretary Promod Kumar Mishra, Director Hight Education Bhabani sankar Chayani, Principals, lectures, students and other departmental Officers were present.

Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated the new centre of Synopsys Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated the new centre of Synopsys, a Global Leader in Semiconductor tool & IP at Bhubaneswar by putting a new milestone in Semiconductor journey of the State. This Bhubaneswar Centre will be Synopsys’s First Design and R&D unit in Eastern India where 300+ highly skilled VLSI & Semiconductor Design Engineers will work. Synopsys is a world leader and provider of Electronic Design Automation (EDA) software and associated services. It offers world’s most advanced technologies for chip design, verification, IP integration, and software security and quality testing. The company’s product portfolio also includes application security,

semiconductor IP, verification, design and silicon engineering. Synopsys having 35+ years in business, 5+ billion USD annual revenue and 19,000+ employees worldwide have established its First Design and R&D unit of Eastern India at Bhubaneswar. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Chairman ST Initiatives & Nabin Odisha Shri VK Pandian, Minister of State, Electronics & IT, Sports & Youth Services & Home, Shri Tusharkanti Behera, Principal Secretary, Electronics and IT Department, Shri Manoj Kumar Mishra, Special Secretary, Electronics and IT Department, Shri Manas Panda, Vice President, Synopsys Shri Amit Sanhgani, SVP (HAT) Synopsys Dr Shivananda Koteswar,



Group Director (R&D), Synopsys India Shri Rashmi Ranjan Mohapatra and Other Senior Officers from State & Central Government leaders & Professionals of Synopsys. Addressing the gathering, Hon’ble Chief Minister said, “Odisha has emerged as a ‘Destination of the Future’ with growing scale of investment, talent pool and ambition. Government of Odisha has taken a

range of bold and pioneering initiatives to lay a strong foundation of a future where the State will emerge as a key player in the Semiconductor landscape. Synopsys Bhubaneswar shall steadfast State’s commitment for fostering Innovation, economic growth, creating job opportunities as well as realise State’s vision and capability to transform into an ideal Semiconductor Hub and

technology-driven enterprises. Echoing similar sentiments and calling Synopsys as the anchor organization in the ESDM & Semiconductor space in Odisha, Hon’ble Minister Electronics & IT Department Shri Tusharkanti Behera added that, “Now with the seeding of the advanced technologies for chip design from Odisha, Synopsys has taken a leading role to

show case its deep-rooted belief in State’s Potential and capabilities in Semiconductor sector. The new centre shall stand as a symbol of State’s potential as an emerging hub for ESDM & Semiconductor with Technological excellence”. Recently during the visit of high level State delegation to USA, meeting was held with senior leadership team of Synopsys Inc to discuss on setting up of it centre in Bhubaneswar. With grounding of the Project and inauguration of Synopsys Bhubaneswar, the mission has been successful said Shri Manoj Kumar Mishra, Principal Secretary, Electronics and IT Department. It is pertinent to mention that, the Electronics and IT Department; Government of Odisha is making significant efforts continuously to

attract major investments into the state in IT/ITES & ESDM sector. Government has launched Odisha Semiconductor Fab Policy to leverage the potential and cost advantages enjoyed by the State in Semiconductor and Fab Manufacturing sector with fast mover advantages. In another path breaking initiative, under the visionary leadership & guidance of Hon’ble Chief Minister, State Government has launched most ambitious Odisha Semiconductor Fab and Fabless Innovation and Acceleration Program (O-Chip) with an aim to make Odisha the cradle of semiconductor innovation in India. The O-Chip Program shall cultivate an ecosystem where startups,

researchers, and students can thrive with provision of tools, funding, and mentorship they need. Furthermore, recently during launching of Odisha 4 Silicon program, Government of Odisha has signed a MoU with Synopsys for building a collaborative supporting ecosystem, Semiconductor and VLSI focused talent-transformation and providing Semiconductor-focused research support. With inauguration of Synopsys, Bhubaneswar, the new centre shall contribute immensely for building a larger ESDM ecosystem, creation of employment opportunities for youths and act as a catalyst for overall growth of the ESDM & Semiconductor Industry as well as economy of Odisha.

Sri Sri University Celebrates 10th Convocation ceremony with Padma Vibhushan Poojya Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Sri Sri University, a distinguished academic institution, marked a momentous milestone with the celebration of its 10th Convocation Ceremony. 600+ students from various courses were presented with their respective degrees. The event was graced by the Founder and Lifetime President of Sri Sri University, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankarji. The proceedings were led by President of Sri Sri University, Prof (Mrs) Rajita Kulkarni and Vice Chancellor, Prof B R Sharma. Shri Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, the Honourable Minister of the Department of Higher Education, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare, Cooperation, Government of Odisha, served as the Chief Guest, underscoring the government's

commitment to education. Mr. Jo Leinen, a former member of the European Parliament and the Guest of Honour at the Convocation, applauded the remarkable achievements of Sri Sri University. A notable highlight of the ceremony was the conferring of honorary degrees, "honoris causa," upon three distinguished individuals. The esteemed recipients of this recognition were Padma Bhushan, VaidyaDevendraTriguna, Padma ShriSudarsanPattnaik, the internationally renowned sand artist and Arjuna Awardee ShriDilip Kumar Tirkey, President of Hockey India, all lauded for their exceptional contributions to society. Sri Sri University proudly conferred degrees upon 5 Ph.D.



awardees: Dr.Guruprasad Dash, Dr.Nivedita Roy, Dr.Sipra Ram, Dr.Gopikrishna Panda, and Dr. Monalisa Patel, exemplifying the institution's commitment to academic excellence. Awards were also given to 28 gold medallists across various programs and specializations for their outstanding

academic achievements. The students were awarded gold medals in recognition of their exemplary performance in their respective disciplines. SSU boasts a diverse array of 45+ programs, encompassing both pivotal and distinctive courses delivered through cutting-edge academic offerings. The university's pioneering

efforts in integrated health sciences, encompassing Osteopathy, Ayurveda, Yoga, Sports Physiology, Nursing,

and the Faculty of Contemplative and Behavioural Sciences, have made a significant positive impact on healthcare and

education. Sri Sri University, in its decennial year, earned the prestigious NAAC 'A' grade accreditation, reaffirming its unwavering commitment to educational excellence. The university's remarkable achievements were further underscored as it was ranked as the 8th Best Private University in India by Outlook-ICARE and secured a global ranking among the top 200 universities according to THE Impact Rankings 2022. Of particular note, the Government of Odisha has taken a significant stride in establishing a

regulatory framework for Osteopathy education, positioning Sri Sri University as a pioneer in this field in India. The Osteopaths trained by the university have provided non-invasive, drug-free, manual treatment to over 20,000 patients in 12 Government hospitals in the state, bringing hope and healing to many. Sri Sri University remains steadfast in its dedication to academic excellence, innovative programs, and its overarching mission to create a positive societal impact, continually shaping the future of education and healthcare in India.

BSKY Care In 765 Hospitals



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Biju Swasthya KalayanYojana (BSKY), 765 super speciality and world-class hospitals from private sector partnered with State Government (as of now) for delivering clinical treatment services under the scheme. This was known from one recent review taken by Secretary Health & Family Welfare and Chairman SHAS, Shalini Pandit. Looking into the progress made in extension of cashless treatment to Odia people in private hospitals both inside and outside the State, Smt Pandit directed senior officers of State Health Assurance Society (SHAS) to keep oversight on the services and facilities available to the patients in the empanelled hospitals. She also directed the Nodal Officers to scrutinize on daily basis the claims raised against the treatment provided by the hospitals for their payment within the scheduled timeline. Review showed that as of now 155 super speciality hospitals from 16 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Telengana, Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu,

Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand partnered with State for implementation of BSKY. Similarly, 610 hospitals from different districts of Odisha came under its fold. Major empanelled hospitals in other States included the Christian medical college, Vellore; Sri Shankara cancer foundation, Bengaluru; Tata medical centre, Kolkata; Homi Bhaba (HB) cancer hospital, Vizag and Sangur; Dr Bhubaneswar Borooah cancer Institute (BBCI), Guwahati; H.B. cancer hospital, Varanasi; Mahanana Pandit Madan Moham Malaviya cancer centre, Varanasi; Advanced centre for treatment, research and education in cancer, Mumbai; and, Tata Memorial, Mumbai. In Fortis group of hospitals, 24 centres operating at Chennai, Delhi, Deheradun, Vashi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Jaipur, Noida, Ludhiana, New Delhi, Delhi, Punjab, and Kokalata, along with 07 super specialty heart hospitals in Narayana Hrudayalaya group at Bengaluru, Mumbai, Raipur, Kolkata, and Jamsedpur also accepted BSKY for implementation. Other empanelled super specialty hospitals in

Visakhpatnam included A.N. hospital, Queens NRI Hosptl, Sagar Durga Hospital, Vijetha Hospital, MB Multi-specialty hospital, KIMS ICON hospital, GJ hospital and trauma centre, Giggles and OMNI Women and Children hospital, GITAM institute of Medical science, OMNI hospital, Ayushman hospital, and Medcover hospital. In Raipur, Life worth super specialty hospital, SMC heart institute, Medishine Health care, Kanha Children's hospital, Sanjeevani cancer hospital, OM hospital, Shree Narayan Hospital, Sagar multi-specialty hospital, Vardaan hospital, JMJ Morning Star hospital, Mittal institute of medical science, Petals new-born and children hospital, Suyash institute of medical science, Agrawal hospital, Goodwill's medical science, Shri Krishna hospital, Raipur institute of medical science, Sri Ananta Sai hospital, Balgopal children hospital, and Kalda burn & plastic surgery were brought under BSKY fold. KD Nupur Hospital, and Nilakanth hospital, in Surat; Great Eastern Medical School & hospital, Medcover hospital, and KIMS SAI Seshadri Hopstl in

Sirkakulam; HCG EKO cancer centre, Kolkata; Velammala medical college Madurai; Medcover cancer hosptl, Hyderabad; Shri Balaji Metro hosptl, Chhatisgarh; Apex super specialty hosptl, Raigarh; and, Venkatarama hosptl at Dwarakanagar and Vizianagaram; Tirumala Medcover hosptl, Vizianagaram were also brought under BSKY fold. Available data showed, 54 District Coordinators were engaged at district levels both inside and outside the State for visiting the empanelled hospitals regularly, and keeping watch over the patient-centric services there. At hospital level, 773 Swasthya Mitras were engaged to pride necessary assistance to the patients in matters of connecting to doctors, admission in hospital, and processing of their documents for discharge after treatment. Around 140 qualified and experienced doctors were looking into the treatment provided to the patients on daily basis, and were scrutinizing the claims raised by the private sector hospitals. Additional Secretary and Joint Chief Executive Officer SHAS along with senior officers of the Society presented required data for the review



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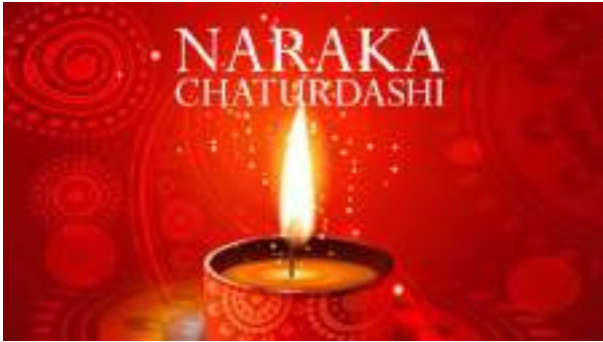
Deepabali & Narak Chatruthi



Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra

named him Bauma. Bhudevi took the child to Pragjyotishyapura, the "Light of the East" as the time passed. Bauma because of his Asuric instincts took over all the kingdoms on the earth plane and led his mighty army to Devaloka. Indra along with the demi-gods made a hasty retreat from the heaven. The Asura took 16,000 women from the palaces as prisoners killing every male who resisted his venture. He was called Narakasura from then on; which meant the one who takes one to hell. As he was leaving he happened to notice a pair of glowing earrings adorning the ears of Aditi, the mother of Indra. Fascinated, he grabbed them from her. He was called Narakasura from then on; it means the one who takes one to hell. Disturbed Aditi went to Satyabhama, the consort of Lord Krishna. Lord Krishna knew that the Asura was son of Bhumidevi who had incarnated as Satyabhama in the Lords

Krishnavatara. "Do not worry, Mother, we'll set things right at once!" He said to Aditi kindly. After



all she was His mother in Vamanavatara and as a son He had to do His duty. He turned to Satyabhama. "Come on, Satya! You've always wanted to join me in battle. Here's your chance! Gather the weapons and Garuda will take us there." Together, they mounted on Garuda, who transported them to Narakasura's Pragjyotishyapura. Narakasura saw Krishna's arrival flung a mace at Krishna but Garuda swooped low and it missed its target. Krishna sent down arrows which killed all the Asuras and their

mounts. Garuda with his great wings could strike down the horses and elephants. Satyabhama

was only playing a part, for it was the arrow from Satyabhama that was destined to kill the Asura.

The 16000 women were freed and the earrings of Aditi retrieved. Bhagadatha, the son of Narakasura was crowned the king of Pragjyotishyapura. Krishna and Satyabhama returned to Dwaraka from battle victorious. And it is to celebrate this victory of good over evil, that Deepawali, the festival of lights is celebrated.

As for why one has to have a traditional oil bath? Well, when Krishna and Satyabhama returned from battle before daybreak, it is said that they both were smeared with blood and grime; they needed a cleanup with sandal paste and scented oils. So we too take that oil bath on this auspicious day like them and celebrate the LIGHTS of JOY!

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The Array of Lights : Light of Wisdom

Jasawini Pattanaik



The human being is a composite of man and beast and God, and in the inevitable struggle among the three for ascendancy, we must ensure that God wins, suppressing the merely human and the lowly beast. This festival of Deepavali is to express gratitude at the defeat of the Naraka tendencies in man, which drag him down from Divinity. Naraka is the name for hell, and the Asura whose death at the hands of Krishna is celebrated today is called Narakasura, the personification of all the traits of character that obstruct the upward impulses of man.

From the very name of the Dipavali festival, it can be seen that the Divine effulgence is manifested in it. Dipavali means the array of lights. Tamaso maa Jyotirgamaya, is an Upanishadic prayer. This means that where there is darkness, light is needed. What is this darkness? Sorrow is one form of darkness. Peacelessness is another. Loss is another. Disappointment is one form of darkness. Lack of enthusiasm is another. To get rid of the darkness of sorrow, we have to light the lamp of happiness. To dispel the darkness of disease, we have to install the light of health. To get rid of the

darkness of losses and failures, we have to usher in the light of prosperity. These apparently opposing conditions are not totally separate from each other. They are inter-related. If there is no sorrow, one cannot know the value of happiness. If there is no darkness, the value of light cannot be appreciated. Hence, if the greatness of light is to be realised, darkness is necessary. It is rightly said that pleasure is an interval between two pains. From the practical worldly point of view, the festivals have one aspect. From the spiritual viewpoint, they carry different significance. But there is a common purport in both.

Looking at the Dipavali festival from the scientific point of view, it should be noted that at one time in the distant past, our ancestors lived in the Arctic region. In this region, darkness prevailed for six months. The sun appears on Mesha Sankranti day. The sun sets in this region on Tula Sankranti day. In the movement between these two signs, there is an interval of six months. After the sun sets in Libra, the dark half-year starts. Today is the fourteenth day in the month of Kartik. It is the New Moon day. This month is called Kaumudi. The people in the polar region used to start lighting their lamps from this day. The lighting of the lamp is not without significance, as they would be in darkness for a long period. They described the lamp that was lit as "Nitya-jyoti."

If we want to light a lamp, we need four things. First, a container; second oil; third, wick; fourth, a

match box. If anyone of these is lacking, we cannot light the lamp. This lamp, however, can only remove the darkness. How can the darkness of the heart be removed? It can be removed only by the light of wisdom, and nothing else. How can this light of wisdom, this spiritual light, be lit? This also needs four elements. Vairaagya is the container. Devotion is the oil. One-pointed concentration is the wick. Knowledge of the Supreme Truth is the matchstick. Without all the four, the light of the spiritual wisdom cannot be got. Of the four, the primary requisite is the spirit of renunciation. Without this detachment, all knowledge of scriptures is of no avail.

Dipavali has to be observed as the day for getting rid of all the bad qualities in us, symbolized by demon Narakasura. The Gopikas who were freed on that day represent the imprisoned good qualities in us. They should be manifested effulgently. This is the inner significance of the festival. As long as demonic qualities remain in man, he will be immersed in darkness. Bad qualities and thoughts have to be got rid of altogether. Our festivals and holy days should be observed in the right spirit, with an understanding of their deeper significance. The destruction of Narakasura symbolizes the destruction of evil and the restoration of what is good.

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Maha Kali

Soura Chandra Mohapatra

perceive. See Kalpa as well as Indra's Jeweled Net.

Kali's nudity implies a similar meaning. In many instances she is described as garbed in space or sky clad. In her absolute, primordial nakedness she is free from all covering of illusion. She is Nature, stripped of 'clothes'. It symbolizes that she is completely beyond name and form, completely beyond the illusory effects of maya. Her nudity is said to represent totally illuminated consciousness, unaffected by maya. Kali is the bright fire of truth, which cannot be hidden by the clothes of ignorance.

Her disheveled hair forms a curtain of illusion, the fabric of Space-Time which organizes matter out of the chaotic sea of quantum-foam. Her garland of fifty human heads, each representing one of the fifty letters of the Sanskrit alphabet, symbolizes the repository of knowledge and wisdom while the heads themselves represent impure thoughts, which She has severed from the personalities of Her devotees. She cuts down all the conflicting concepts which debate their various ideologies within the arena of mind, silences the tumultuous roar of mental conflict and the anguish of egotistical attachment, takes the physical manifestations to Herself, and makes a garland of perplexity. Thus She wears all Karma as an ornament, while She stops the

chattering voices of the active mind, so that Her devotees can experience the purity of inner peace in the absorption of solitude.

As the Destroyer of Madhu and Khaitabha, Too Much and Too Little, She puts



Her devotees in the balance of divine meditation. She is called Camunda, the Slayer of Anger and Passion, who cuts down all the angry thoughts and impure passions along with their tremendous armies. When Canda and Munda, Anger and Passion, hurled thousands of discuses at Her, She merely opened wide Her mouth, and all of those terrible opposing weapons entered the gateway to infinity, absorbed into Her being without effect.

She is dancing to infatuate Him, causing Him to direct His attention to Her. But Shiva does not forget that it is Nature who is dancing, not I; and He remains the silent Witness. This body is

Nature. I am Consciousness, the silent witness of the actions of Nature. I am not the performer. This body acts according to its nature, because that is its nature. Remembering this, I am free, one among the

oblivious to the transient externals, totally self-contained within. Pure Consciousness knows that the world of matter will continue to revolve according to its nature, in a cyclical flow of creation, preservation and transformation - the wheel of life. It goes on of its own accord. When one can reside within, without identification or attachment to the ever-changing externals, then the supreme truth can be realized. Kali is jnana shakti, the energy of Wisdom, the intuitive illumination within, as compared with the intellectual contemplation of the external. Knowledge is conceived, wisdom is intuited. When Kali takes away the darkness of the Dark Luminosity of the outside world, She grants illumination to the Dark Luminosity of the inner world. Such is Her Grace.

With Kali's Love we become unattached, free from reaction, the silent witness of the stimulus and response which action and interaction brings. We cease to react emotionally to the circumstances of life, and rather plan our actions for the optimum efficiency; so that all the sooner we can complete our necessary contributions to creation according to our karmas, and spend the balance of our time delighting in Universal Consciousness. This is the path that Kali shows.

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When there were neither the creation, nor the sun, the moon, the planets, and the earth, when the darkness was enveloped in darkness, then the Mother, the Formless One, Maha Kali, the Great Power, was one with the Maha Kala, the Absolute. Mother Kali is known as Kali-Ma, the Black Goddess, Maha Kali, Nitya Kali, Smashana Kali, Raksha Kali, Shyama Kali, Kalikamata, and Kalaratri. Among the Tamils she is known as Kottavei. Maha Kali and Nitya Kali are mentioned in the Tantra philosophy. 'Kal' means Darkness; Kali takes away that Darkness. She takes away the darkness from every individual who strives in the path of perfection by performing the spiritual disciplines of purifying austerities. Just as all the colors of the visible spectrum mix into white, yet still the black void remains black, so too, Kali, who is completely Dark, Unknowable, takes away all the Darkness, yet She, Herself, remains unchanged. 'Kal' also translates as Time and 'i' means the Cause; Kali, the Cause of Time or She Who is Beyond Time, activates Consciousness to perception, allows Consciousness to

Lead Me From Darkness To Light

Nirupama Bhuyan



"Asatho Maa Sad Gamaya Thamaso Maa Jyothir Gamaya Mrithyor Maa Amritham Gamaya"

Lead me from untruth to truth; Lead me from darkness to light; Lead me from death to immortality.

Diwali is a celebration of the victory of good over evil as depicted in the Ramayana the upholding of dharma takes place through the multitude of characters who all play their part in this great depiction of Lord Rama's life. For me, each one represents a life lesson.

The reason being that, at specific instances in my life, these characters were presented to me to teach me valuable life lessons. The troubles of Lord Rama taught me that life is uncertain and that overcoming obstacles is a necessary part of my spiritual growth. This is in keeping with Bhagawan's words 'life is a game, play it' and gives me the strength to face struggles with patience and

forbearance. On the other hand, Mother Sita is the light of hope that shines despite the circumstances she finds herself in. She is a pillar of faith when all seems lost; she teaches me to trust the 'Sai spirit' within me, by recognising the divinity in all beings and helps me to recall Bhagawan's words of "Why fear when I am here". Lord Hanuman symbolises spirituality and devotion, he is the sibling and friend I strive to be. And Mother Kaikeyi who portrays misguidedness, inevitably teaches me the importance of good company.

The second day that holds great significance is Govardhan Pooja, which traditionally falls the day after Diwali. This is a celebration of Lord Krishna defeating Indra, the deity of thunder and rain. The story goes, that after seeing farmers and villagers preparing offerings for Lord Indra every year, one year Lord Krishna instructs them that they should be doing their duty and concentrating on farming properly and protecting their own cattle, rather than undertaking elaborate worship praying for prosperity and protection. Convinced by Lord Krishna's guidance, the villagers unanimously decide that dharma is more

important and choose to focus on that instead of propitiating Lord Indra. Thwarted by this break in tradition, Lord Indra gets angry and threatens to flood the village with heavy rains and stormy weather. However, his plan does not succeed as Lord Krishna lifts the famous Mount Govardhan on his little finger, providing shelter to all the villagers and their cattle, protecting them from the storm. Defeated by Lord Krishna's righteous stance and mighty action, Lord Indra accepts Lord Krishna's words as true and joins in the celebrations to uphold dharma.

This Diwali, I look forward to my rajasic detoxification and insightful introspection. I pray to Bhagawan to send through lessons and the opportunities to learn and practice to uphold Dharma through the Sathya Sai Organisation that He has so lovingly created and I look forward to another year of making my life His message.

District Co-ordinator (Education), Sri Satya Sai Seva Sangathan, Kendrapara District, Odisha, Mob. : 9937470980

Green Diwali Ideas For Celebrating An Eco-Friendly Diwali



The diyas are lit, homes illuminated, beautiful Rangolis made, decorations put up, sweets shared, families gathered and gifts exchanged. It is the festival when we see a lot of fireworks & firecrackers which make kids and adults happy. However, Diwali celebration has also led to a lot of pollution in the surroundings which calls for a time when Diwali festivities turn green and eco-friendly. Green Diwali celebrates the festival of lights in such a way that no damage is caused to the environment especially due to firecrackers. It is an eco-conscious step towards sustainable development which adds to the festivities.

What is a Green Diwali?

A green Diwali is one that doesn't cause pollution or increase the

global warming threat to the environment and lets us have celebrations that are actually synonymous with joy, peace, love, and gratitude rather than noise, firecrackers, and pollution.

Importance Of Having A Green Diwali

There is a need for significant measures to be taken during Diwali, as if not done, carelessness can cost us our health due to the harmful effects that accompany air pollution. It's high time that we recognize the need for eco-friendly celebrations and have a happy & healthy Diwali each year. Let's have a go green Diwali. During Diwali, pollution peaks with firecrackers holding major responsibility. Not only should the use of pollution-causing firecrackers be discouraged but the other pollution-causing factors shall also be replaced with eco-friendly alternatives during the Diwali celebration.

10 green Diwali ideas to switch to eco-friendly ways of celebration.

1. Use Earthen Diyas For Lighting During Diwali

Use Earthen Diyas For Lighting During Diwali

We are a society that has turned to plastic for convenience & cost so much that there are plastic diyas easily available for use in the market. However, the old-school way of lighting rows of earthen diyas remains the coolest as it does the environment a favor by not causing any trouble. Plus, when you buy beautiful earthen diyas, you support the livelihood of the potters.

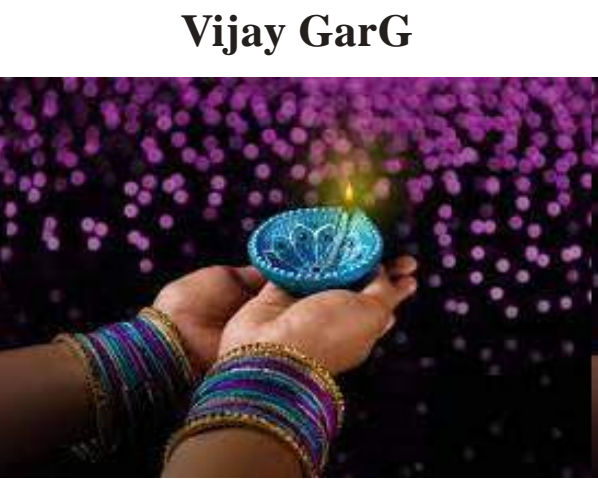
2. Use Eco-Friendly Fire-Crackers

We can't eliminate the firecrackers from Diwali celebrations no matter how hard we try as they make an integral part that excites kids and adults alike. However, using green crackers that cause no pollution is an option that keeps the Earth happy and so do the kids.

3. No Plastic Gift Packaging

No Plastic Gift Packaging

Take your gift-wrapping game on Diwali a notch up. Wrap the present you got for your family members in paper or cloth wrap which looks gorgeous and can be reused, causing no harm like plastic does to the



environment.

4. Make Rangolis with Organic Colours

Make Rangolis with Organic Colours

On Diwali, pretty Rangolis welcomes the guests at every doorstep, inviting positive energy and warding off the negative. Make sure that your Rangoli is good for the environment too by choosing natural and organic colors rather than non-organic, non-biodegradable ones which harm the environment.

5. Use Solar Lights To Conserve Electricity

Diwali is the day in the year when every corner of your home is illuminated, all the lights switched on, and every railing decorated with string lights, all of which consume a lot of energy. Thus, to save electricity consumption

leaves one with a lot of old things to dispose of. Since we know that disposal is a major challenge posed by the world, what one can do is give away the old stuff to someone who can make use of it.

8. Give Eco-Friendly Gifts

Let the gifts you so thoughtfully choose for your loved ones be the ones that are hand-made, and plant-based while being of interest so that you do your bit for the environment in small ways that make a huge difference in the long-term.

9. Celebrate With Home-Made Delicacies

Celebrate With Home-Made Delicacies

On Diwali, people tend to buy eatables, sweets, and more from the market but if you pay attention, you will see that these are packed in plastic packaging which is not good for the environment. Cooking at home is not only good for the environment this way but also good for your health as these include health-conscious ingredients.

10. Avoid Playing Music On Loudspeakers

Loud music during Diwali is widely

prevalent which causes a lot of noise pollution which isn't good for animals, people with heart conditions, and anxiety issues. So, celebrate with a medium volume that's pleasing to the ears of all and doesn't trouble anyone.

11. DIY Decor

Brighten up your home this Diwali by creating your own decorations from recycled materials or natural items like leaves, flowers, and clay as an eco-friendly alternative to the plastic decorations that you get in the market.

12. Local Shopping

If you don't have time on your hands to make decorations at home, what you can do is purchase handmade and locally crafted Diwali items and in this way, you will be going green while supporting local artisans and businesses whose livelihoods are primarily dependent on the festive season.

13. Compost Organic Waste

A surprising amount of Diwali waste can be composted which frees up the space in your waste bin while creating good manure for your garden. Properly composting food and other biodegradable

waste from Diwali celebrations will reduce landfill waste and will be better for your environment.

14. Community Celebrations

Participate in community-based celebrations that promote eco-friendly practices. Additionally, you can also spread awareness about celebrating a green Diwali by educating your friends and family about its importance and encouraging them to do the same.

15. Go Digital

Send e-greetings and messages to reduce the use of paper cards. You can find a lot of vibrant Diwali card templates available online that you can customise as per your liking. It would be a quick send and its best benefit is that it is completely free of cost.

Final Words

Let the smiles on Diwali spread throughout your year by choosing an eco-friendly way of celebrating the festival. Make health-conscious and environment-friendly choices to celebrate green Diwali this year.

Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout ,Punjab

Eco friendly landscaping



Mausumi Mohanty

Eco-friendly landscaping refers to planning, constructing, and planting plants, flowers, and grasses that not only beautify a space, but facilitate erosion control, create a green space for activities, and provide a food source for you and beneficial bugs. With the introduction of non-native plants (with hidden alien insect invaders) used in landscaping, 42% of threatened or endangered species are at risk due to invasive species. Not only do these non-natives introduce pests and disease, but the general upkeep and maintenance of a non-native plant in the wrong zone can be taxing on resources—and your back. When sprawling, green expanses of land complete with native trees boasting naturally resistant abilities to bugs and weather are turned into concrete jungles with artificial grass (or no grass at all), our insects and animals become displaced, affecting ecosystems globally. Between the insect crisis, invasive species, and water waste from conventional lawns and landscaping begs the question as to why sustainable gardening and landscaping aren't more mainstream. Let's embark on a journey into your future eco-friendly yard to learn how to give it an eco edge (perhaps using some landscaping

edging).

Eco landscaping is the practice of designing and maintaining outdoor spaces in a way that minimizes negative impacts on the environment while promoting ecological health. While ecological garden is certainly one component of this, green landscaping and eco-friendly practices behind it aren't limited to the garden, but rather seek to improve the sustainability of one's entire yard and property. The goal in creating an eco landscape is to create a beautiful and functional outdoor space that simultaneously supports the local ecosystem, conserves resources, and reduces the carbon footprint of landscaping practices.

Conserve Water

Conserving water is a top priority in eco irrigation and landscaping, considering an estimated 50% of water is wasted outdoors. Eco-friendly water conservation strives to select low-maintenance plants that require less water.

Increase Biodiversity & Protect Native Habitat

Green landscaping plants—such as native plants and diverse species—seek to revive and restore natural ecosystems, often through dedicated rehabilitation areas of wild, unmaintained growth. Ecological Landscaping is a method of designing, building, and maintaining landscapes that considers the ecology of a site and creates gardens that enhance the surrounding environment for the benefit of humans and all other life in the ecosystem. By studying the inter-relationships between living things, non-living things, and the

environment, ecological landscapers can create a landscaped community that will conserve natural resources, preserve biodiversity, and protect the environment. With proper design and implementation, a healthy pattern begins to form with each component in the landscape; people, animals, plants, water, soil, insects, and wildlife, all interacting in a sustainable way. Conservation is an important part of ecological landscaping. The objectives of an ecological landscaper are to reduce water consumption, preserve water quality, prevent soil erosion, protect biodiversity, diminish the use of toxic pesticides, and minimize the use of non-renewable resources. By striving toward these goals, the ecological landscaper can create gardens that are both environmentally and enjoyable to experience. Sustainable Landscaping Design-

The basis of most sustainable landscape design ideas involves making optimal use of the natural world, including the landscape that already exists and the surrounding climate. The basis of life, soil, is an important part of landscaping, whether you're planting desert plants or a vegetable garden. The best way to ensure your soil is fed organic materials, free of chemical fertilizers, is to build your own with compost.

Aquaponics- Is used to grow nutritious vegetables in a full-circle system. In landscaping, water can be cycled out and into an adjoining bed to feed

and water plants. If using an eco-irrigation system, energy-efficient options attached to your garden hose are available to conserve water

Once you've planned out your sustainable yard ideas, you'll need to populate your plans with plants. There are two main categories of plants to consider. Perennials are a landscaper's dream, as they offer the "one-and-done" approach. Planting an immature perennial like clematis and watching it return yearly, climbing and crawling on the lattice to provide shade and privacy. Annuals used in landscaping can provide a vibrant pop of color while attracting beneficial insects, and aid erosion control. Consider adding these flowering beauties to your green landscape design: petunias, sunflowers, and zinnias. Low-water requirement plants like cacti and succulents are excellent in supporting zones to limit water usage and deciduous trees shoot deep roots that require little supplemental watering once properly established. If landscaping doubles as a food forest for your family, using edible plants and shrubs like blueberry, raspberry, and blackberry, produces yearly and provides a makeshift border or fence. Eco-friendly herbs like echinacea, lemon balm, and mint are considered "good bug blooms" that can be dried for tea while beautifying your landscape. Wildflowers and native plants smell wonderful, while benefiting the environment and your garden beds. Planting

native plants, trees, and shrubs, attracts beneficial insects that would otherwise fly over artificial grass. The key benefits associated with lawn care and landscaping include:

Reduces chemical usage , Minimizes environmental impacts on land, water, habitat, and wildlife by reducing forest fires, soil erosion, runoff and, pollution , Reduces worker hazard , Leads to safer sites, decreases hazard exposure, and reduces fire danger, Reduces service disruptions, Lowers vegetation management costs, Increases worker productivity, Decreases utility customers' costs. Risks associated with lawn care and landscaping include: High Pesticide Concentrations in Urban Areas. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) water quality monitoring data indicate higher concentrations of pesticides in urban and suburban areas when compared to agricultural areas. While landscaping can negatively impact the environment by replacing natural ecosystems and displacing wildlife, there are responsible ways to alter the land around us. Opting for more sustainable landscaping might seem insignificant. But if everyone makes these small changes, we could see a huge difference in our environment in the near future.

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DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHT,Light the flame of love

Uma Shankar Prasad



Diwali or Deepavali, is an auspicious and cherished festival celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm across India. It is a

of Diwali also denote a time for destroying all our negative ambitions and thoughts and for a deeper more introspective illumination. It is also symbolises the rebirth of the soul. When Almighty was overwhelmed with his own love, his love overflowed and became the basis of world's existence. That is why he

Chaitanya and more. The Sufi Baha-ud-Din was once asked , “ How did you achieve God?” He said “ By illumining the heart and not by darkening it. Learning the scriptures by rote only leads to a darkening of the heart; I did not darken my heart. On the path of Truth , I stayed away from words and illumined my heart”.



Festival that signifies the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance. But if actually we consider then light the flame in your heart, be a lover like the moth, whose attraction for the flame drives him mad and despite knowing the consequences it gets closer and closer to be destroyed eventually. Diwali is a time to reflect on one's life and previous deeds and make the necessary changes for the upcoming year in addition to the lights, gambling and fun-filled surprises and gifts. This festive most essentially shines a light in your inner selves. The lights

created human beings with many festive that evidence of God's Love. It is another matter that today the very word love has come to be aligned with almost every thing and more often than not used quite meaning Lessley. Has anyone ever seen such a love where the lover is seen but the beloved is not seen any where? The fact is that one who is invisible is 'the reality' and what we are actually seeing- the visible self is a fallacy. We are all visible right now, this visibility is a fallacy. We are visible but mortal. Almighty is invisible yet true. And the path of love is amongst various paths on the journey to Truth, Mystics like Meerabai,

answered ‘ with love’. “ leave every thing ; enough of verse and dogma. Now illumine your heart with the glow of love's fire. You too burn in the fire of divine love. But know that this fire cannot be sourced from outside. You have to kindle it within and ‘you’ yourself have to burn in this fire-nobody else can do it for you. Another bright example is the love of Gopa people and Gopangana for which Krishna lifting of the Giri Goverdhan Hill to shield villagers from the rainstorm caused by Lord Indra. This was the true love of God and attachment with their lovers. So let us come and lighting the love of light on our inner darkness. This year Eco-friendly Diwali known as ‘Green Diwali’ whose aims to preserve the environment, reduce air and noise pollution and promote love in every heart.

Columnist, Khurda (63706 75562)

Capacity development of fish farmers of Nawada District, Bihar: ICAR-CIFRI initiative



Kolkata, (KCN): ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute organized 7 days capacity building programme on “Inland Fisheries management” for the fish farmers of Nawada District, Bihar during 03-09 November 2023. A total of 30 fish farmers and Fisheries Development officer participated in the training programme. Dr. B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI interacted with the farmers and encouraged them to develop their knowledge for securing a sustainable livelihood. He urged fishers to use their available resources to maximize outputs and productivity. The trainees were

sensitized with some basic knowledge on water quality management, nursery and rearing of pond culture, enclosure culture for livelihood improvement, and induced breeding and hatchery management. The participants were taught on various aspects of fish feed management and Fish disease management. A general overview on climate change and its impact on inland fisheries were covered during the training sessions. The fish farmers were also introduced to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), ornamental hatchery units, and fish

feed mill. The programme has been oriented to strengthen the practical skills of farmers for fish production enhancement in open waters including ponds and tanks and also through field exposure visits. The field trip was organized to visit Halisahar fish farm, East Kolkata wetland, ornamental fish market and ICAR- CIFA, Kalyani Research Centre. The week-long programme was concluded on 09 November 2023 with certificate distribution to all the participants. The trainees were expressed their high level of satisfaction from the capacity building programme.

Diwali-Mela held at Rajdhani College to celebrate the advent of Deepawali the festival of light

New Delhi, (KCN): “Sanskriti” the Cultural Committee of Rajdhani College, University of Delhi, organized “JUGMUG” a 2-day Diwali Mela on 7 and 8 November 2023 in the College premises. The Diwali Mela was organized not only to celebrate the advent of the festival of light, but also to showcase the significance of the celebration of Deepawali. On the first day of the Diwali Mela some Inter-College Competitions, like, Semi-classical Solo Singing, Poster Making and Diya Decoration were held. Participants from various constituent colleges of the University of Delhi enthusiastically participated. The students creatively depicted the several Kaands of Ramayana, like the Bal Kaand, Ayodhya Kaand, Aranya Kaand, Kishkinda Kaand, Sundara Kaand, Lanka Kaand and Uttara Kaand, with an intent to highlight the significance of Deepawali. On the second and penultimate day of the Diwali mela cultural performances, food and craft stalls were the main attraction. Prof. Rajesh Giri, the Principal of the college along with Prof. Ashutosh Bhardwaj, the Chairman



of the Governing Body, Prof. H.C. Rathore, former Vice-Chancellor of the Central University of South Bihar (Gaya) and Prof. Ranjan Tripathi, Joint Dean, University of Delhi, were present in the ceremonial lamp-lighting ceremony where Saraswati Vandana was rendered by the students of “Rubaiyat” – the music Society of the college. Prof. Rajesh Giri in his welcome speech highlighted the importance and significance of the celebration of the festival of light. Prof. Giri pointed out the importance of the life of Shri Ram and urged the younger generation to

take inspiration from the life of Shri Ram. Students presented the myriad colours of Indian art and culture through regional and folk dance and musical performances. The Students of “Rubaiyat” – the Music Society started the cultural extravaganza with a soulful medley of songs. The girl cadets of the National Cadet Corps of Rajdhani College, presented a fusion of Bengali and Gujarati dance forms. “Nrityangana” the dance society of Sri Venketeswara College performed the unique and mesmerizing “Bhavai” dance of the state of Rajasthan. Another student group

from Sri Venketeswara College presented the rituals of the “Chhath Puja” through a dance performance educating the audience about the ceremonial rituals related with the people of Bihar. The north-east students group of Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College performed the “Mask dance” of the state of Arunachal Pradesh. The student group of Sri Guru Gobind Singh College performed the “Gidda” which energized the crowd with the vibrancy of the people of Punjab and North India. Students of the Deobhoomi community showcased the culture and tradition of the state of Uttarakhand through

their hill dance and musical performances. The students of “Panache” – the Fashion Society of Rajdhani College presented a Fashion Show which showcased the rich and colourful ethnic attires of India blending a fusion of tradition and modernity. The day-long event concluded with a musical performance by Monty Sherawat and team singing Haryanvi songs that entertained the audience and made them ecstatic. The convener of the Cultural Committee Mr. Shafiqul Alam presented the Vote of thanks to mark the conclusion of the successful completion of the Diwali Mela.

Mines Secretary Visits HCL Corporate Office

Kolkata, (KCN): Shri V L Kantha Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, visited the Corporate Office of Hindustan Copper Limited in Kolkata on Wednesday. Shri Rao was warmly welcomed by Shri Ghanshyam Sharma,

CMD, HCL, along with S/Shri Sanjay Panjiyar, D(Op), Sanjiv Kumar Singh, D(M), Upendra Kumar Pandey, CVO, and other senior officials, on his maiden visit to Tamra Bhavan, HCL Corporate Office. In a detailed

presentation, the Secretary, Mines, was apprised of the overall activities of the Company along with its ongoing projects. During the meeting, Shri V L Kantha Rao, interacted at length with the senior executives of HCL.

Lauding the unique position of the Company as the only Copper miner in India, he advised all to focus on enhancing the production of Copper ore and Metal-in-Concentrate. He further stated that the Ministry of Mines

will extend all possible support, cooperation and help in the administrative and policy matters. Shri Rao encouraged the HCL personnel to put their best foot forward in order to build a glorious future for the Company.

Walkathon, Fun Runs Mark Vigilance Awareness Week Observation by SMP, Kolkata



Kolkata, (KCN): Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMPK) organised multiple events in connection with Vigilance Awareness Week – 2023, in compliance with awareness campaigns and outreach activities recommended by the Central Vigilance Commission. The three-month long celebration of VAW-2023 was concluded on November 8, 2023 at Haldia in a befitting manner. The day began with a Walkathon and Fun Runs in the morning, which was attended by more than 500 participants from SMPK, CISF, Coast Guard, Port Users and students of DAV Public School & Vivekananda Mission School. The Fun Runs were flagged off by Shri Rathendra

Raman, Chairperson, SMPK, who then led the Walkathon along with Shri A. K. Mehera, Dy. Chairperson, HDC and Dr. Preeti Mahto, Chief Vigilance Officer, SMPK, in presence of DIG, Coast Guard and Sr. Commandant, CISF. In his keynote address, Shri Raman highlighted the importance of maintaining probity in public life by every Indian citizen, thereby achieving a corruption free society, which is essential to transform our great nation into a developed economy. Shri Raman also highlighted the digital initiatives taken by the Port to enhance transparency in its systems & processes towards ease of doing business, and the pivotal role played by the vigilance functionaries of the

organisation in this regard. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mahto. Later in the day, a grand closing ceremony was held, graced by Shri Raman, in presence of the Dy. Chairperson, HDC, the CVO and other dignitaries. The gala event showcased the variety of activities undertaken by SMPK in compliance with the mandate of CVC in respect of VAW-2023. Creative performances, pertaining to anti-corruption & vigilance, by students from several schools kept the audience captivated. The event also included prize distribution of all in-house and outreach activities with respect to VAW-2023 as well as inauguration of the Annual Vigilance Journal “ALOE” by the dignitaries.



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah at the 62nd Raising Day Parade ceremony of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) at Dehradun, in Uttarakhand

ICAR-CIFRI ORGANISED SHORT TERM TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “RECENT ADVANCES IN RIVER ECOLOGY AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT”

Kolkata, (KCN): Indian rivers have been the lifeline for millions, supporting diverse ecosystems and providing livelihoods. However, these water bodies have faced various threats, including pollution, habitat degradation, and overexploitation of fisheries resources. Both anthropocene and climate change have been the responsible factors for many dead rivers. In such a context, the need for effective and science-based approaches to river conservation and fisheries management becomes more evident than ever. Realizing the

importance ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore organized a short-term training programme on “Recent advances in River ecology and fisheries management” from 07th to 13th November 2023. The main objective of the training programme is on capacity building for teaching and research faculties, and students on the recent technological interventions towards sustainable river ecosystem and fisheries. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. B. K. Das Director, ICAR-CIFRI in the presence of all Heads of Divisions, research

faculties and trainees. At the outset, Dr. A. K. Sahoo, Co-ordinator of the programme welcomed all the delegates and briefed about the programme objectives. He said a total of 15 participants including teaching and research faculties and students from various Universities representing from Odisha, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh have participated. He highlighted the advance course contents of the Training programme includes Drone based river habitat mapping, Use of IoT in river



ecosystem monitoring, Environmental flows towards sustainable fisheries, Advances in fish passes, Application

of GIS and Remote sensing in Inland water resource mapping, Microplastic pollution,

Bioremediation and Practical use of Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) in river

discharge estimation. Dr. B. K. Das, Director welcomed all the participants and said the programme should be more of interactive and practical. He advised for developing the group dynamics and developing conceptual models for the river basin management. Furthermore, he highlighted the concept of river ranching and conservation of river germplasm through advanced tools. He said ICAR-CIFRI under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programme has reached more than 90 lakh fingerlings of Indian

Major Carps (IMC) and 85000 adult hilsa in river Ganga towards restoration of the species and livelihood improvement. He said the river ranching has been a success programme in the river Ganga. Realizing the current stressors in river ecosystem, Dr. Das appreciated that the present training programme would help in transfer of scientific knowledge that ICAR-CIFRI has generated since 1947. Dr. Das congratulated and wishes for the successful completion of the programme.

INDIAN ARMY QUIZ-2023 QUARTER FINAL ON 09 NOV 23

Srinagar, : To celebrate the 25 years of glorious Kargil Victory in 2024, Indian Army is undertaking many adventurous, cultural and educational activities. One such initiative undertaken by Army Welfare Education Society under Adjutant General Branch of Indian Army was to organize India's biggest school quiz competition named Indian Army Quiz 2023. Famous as “Battle of Mind”, the quiz made headlines when 32,441 schools across the country registered for Round-1 in online mode and as many as 3600 schools advanced into Round-2. After two online Rounds, only 216 schools in the country made it to Quarter Final Round, of which 19



schools were from Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh. A houseful Chinar Auditorium in Badami Bagh Cantonment witnessed, these 19 schools compete in gripping and fiercely fought Quarter Finals with four Rounds of 05 question each and a Rapid Fire round of 10 Questions. 200 school students and teachers

from various schools from Srinagar town, NCC students, Army officers, gallantry awardees and prominent sports person witnessed the exciting quarter finals. GOC, 31 Sub Area was Chief Guest on the occasion. A total of 06 Teams qualified for the Semi Finals which are scheduled tomorrow. All participants and their mentors were awarded Certificates and Cash

Prizes by the Chief Guest. The students got the opportunity to witness a motivating movie on Indian Army, weapons display and photo gallery showcasing the achievements of Indian Army. During the interaction with students, the GOC, 31 Sub Area motivated the students to join Indian Army and contribute towards nation building.

BJD in Turmoil: Leader Defies Party Protocol, Sparks Ticket Controversy



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In a surprising turn of events, the ruling party BJD finds itself embroiled in controversy as Odisha Tourism Development Corporation Chairman and BJD spokesperson, Mr. Lenin Mohanty, declared Kakatpur MLA and State Home Minister Tushar Kanti Behera as the chosen candidate for the upcoming assembly election during a training camp in Konark Yatri Niwas. The announcement, made in defiance of the BJD's ticket distribution authority and party

supremo Mr. Naveen Pattnaik, has stirred internal gossip and criticism among Kakatpur BJD workers and constituency voters. Mr. Mohanty's statement, asserting that no one can prevent Mr. Behera from receiving the BJD ticket, has raised eyebrows and sparked concerns about adherence to party rules. This deviation from party protocol contrasts with the recent warning issued by BJD Organizational Secretary Mr. Pranav Prakash Dash in a meeting at Nimapara.

Dash emphasized the need for hard work and cautioned party workers that only the ticket for BJD supremo Mr. Naveen Pattnaik is confirmed. He stressed that nobody else can guarantee their tickets, urging everyone to focus on party efforts. The controversy has the potential to create disturbances within the party organization, with political intellectuals expressing concern about the implications of Mr. Mohanty's announcement. The move may impact the morale of other BJD

ticket aspirants who have been diligently working for the party, raising questions about the internal cohesion of the party in Kakatpur constituency. As the BJD grapples with internal dissent following Mr. Lenin Mohanty's unorthodox declaration, the party faces a critical juncture in maintaining unity and adhering to established party procedures. The fallout from this controversy could have wider implications as the party prepares for the forthcoming assembly election.



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‘UnserHaus’ by BSH Home Appliances - Kolkata’s new luxury address

Bhubaneswar: BSH Home Appliances Group, one of the world’s leading home appliances companies today launched its first ‘UnserHaus’ in Kolkata. This is BSH’s only experience center in India to house all its three brands – Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau under one roof. Located at Salt Lake city’s Adventz Infinity @ 5, this new experience center is all set to welcome customers as well as Kolkata’s strong architecture & design community. The company already has two other stores in Kolkata – a multi-channel Bosch & Siemens Brand Store in Dhakuria and a Bosch Studio in Shakespeare Sarani. UnserHaus is the German name for “Our House”. It is a place where comfort, convenience, inspiration,

and memories reside in every corner. The philosophy and ethos of BSH’s UnserHaus are focused on building long-lasting trust with all customers & business partners. Keeping this in mind, the space is designed to ensure that all visitors feel at home when they visit, helping them experience the products as if they were in their own house.

Commenting on the launch of UnserHaus, Kolkata, Neeraj Bahl, MD & CEO, BSH Home Appliances (India & SAARC)said, “Kolkata is one of our high performing markets and we’re thrilled to further expand our presence here by opening doors to our 101st retail space*. The new-age Indian consumer continues to look for offline experiences especially in

the home and cooking category and we’re glad to offer this state-of-the-art, practical space where buyers can get a first-hand experience of our innovation-fueled appliances across all three brands Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau. This is our sixth experience center in India and the only one to house all our three brands. We look forward to continued growth momentum in the city and we’re confident that this space will also boost our presence in key neighboring cities as well.”

*The company now has six experience centers across Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai and Kolkata, and an India-wide retail network of 95 brand shops (80 brand stores for Bosch and 15 brand stores for Siemens).

Rise of non-communicable diseases in India

Bhubaneswar : India has a high burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and dyslipidaemia, a cross-sectional and population-based survey of 33,537 people aged over 20 in urban and 79,506 in rural areas across 31 states and Union Territories has found . This study also demonstrates that although all metabolic NCDs are more common in urban regions, rural areas have significantly greater prevalence rates than previously reported. However, experts agree that NCDs are largely preventable and controllable by adopting healthier lifestyles, engaging in regular

physical activity and improving dietary habits. In the battle against NCDs, the significance of a well-balanced diet cannot be overstated. Even taking small yet mindful steps to improve your diet can prove to be beneficial in the long-term. Incorporating nutritious and natural foods instead of HFSS (High Fat, Salt, and Sugar) foods can be an excellent way to boost your health. Almonds are one such food that holds immense potential for promoting overall health. Almonds are a natural source of 15 essential nutrients such as healthy fats, dietary fibre, protein, vitamin E, zinc, copper, magnesium, calcium, and



phosphorus, amongst others. Multiple research studies have indicated that incorporating almonds into a well-balanced diet can positively affect cardiovascular health , cholesterol reduction, blood sugar, and weight management . Additionally, almonds have satiating properties that promote feelings of fullness, which may help to manage hunger between meals and keep cravings for unhealthy

food away. Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head – Dietetics, Max Healthcare, Delhi, said, “I believe that prevention is key to reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases. This makes it very important to be mindful of our lifestyle habits. Hence, I would urge everyone to make a commitment to prioritize their health and well-being by making healthier choices such as including

natural and nutritious foods like almonds in their diets. Almonds are a nutrient-dense food that can help to reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, and other health issues. They are rich in several nutrients like vitamin E, protein, calcium, magnesium, and phosphorus required for the growth and development of the body. In fact, a review by a panel of Indian nutrition and cardiovascular experts, published in the journal Nutrients, suggests that daily inclusion of almonds as part of a healthy diet may help reduce dyslipidemia, one of the most important risk factors for cardiovascular disease among Indians .”

Godrej Appliances offers wide range of home appliances and enhanced shopping experience to consumers

Bhubaneswar: Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group announced that its business Godrej Appliances plans to strengthen its presence and expand its network of exclusive brand outlets further, inaugurating its first store in Chandol, Kendrapara district in the state of Odisha, India. This will be the brand’s 26th exclusive outlet in Odisha under Bhubaneshwar branch.

Towards strengthening the supply chain and creating a next-level experience for customers in Kendrapara, Godrej Appliances has launched its exclusive brand outlet- called Godrej

Inspire Hub spread over 1200 sqft, strategically located on the Chandol main road, in collaboration with its channel partner Jagannath Electronics.

Convenience and comfort are primacies for consumers today. This is evident from the gradual increase in demand for premium products, even in tier II and tier III cities. Moreover, with the pandemic in the backdrop, appliances have emerged as a necessity in every Indian home.

EBOs solidify Godrej Appliances’ already extensive network across the country, fulfill the premium product requirement of its

customers and most importantly give them a much wider display to choose from thus enhancing their purchase experience. The brand currently has 120+ exclusive outlets across the country and aims to have 140+ EBOs by this financial year.

Speaking on the occasion of the launch, Sanjeev Jain, National Sales Head - Godrej Appliances said, “We have always endeavored to be as close to our customers as possible. We believe our Exclusive Brand Outlets will give even greater value to our loyal customers. With our exclusive showroom, we have the opportunity to

showcase our entire range of best-in-class appliances at a single location. Odisha is an important market for us and we look forward to delighting our customers with the best shopping experience.”

Adding further, Sanjay Kumar Behera, Owner of Jagannath Electronics said, “We are extremely delighted to have partnered with Godrej Appliances, which is a highly respected and trusted brand. We are sure that our outlet will prove to be a great destination for the discerning customers of Chandol through its unique offerings from Godrej Appliances.”

The exclusive brand outlet will display the

entire range of Godrej appliances including refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, dishwashers, air coolers, deep freezers, microwave ovens, thermoelectric technology-powered Godrej Qube and UV-C technology-based Godrej Viros shield. To top it, there are inaugural assured gifts on purchase of select models for customers. Consumers will also be able to avail one-year free extended warranty on select models and one year of product insurance, exclusively, at every Godrej Appliances’ exclusive brand outlet. The brand also provides priority after-sales service to every Godrej exclusive store customer.

Mahagram offers door to door banking services through Kirana stores

Bhubaneswar: Mahagram is a social enterprise focusing on Financial Inclusion that has enabled banking from the mom-and-pop store around the corner through fintech solutions. The company’s mission is to enable rural women to save money at the local Kirana (or grocery) stores, instead of traveling miles to the nearest bank branch.

Recently, Mahagram has tied up with a public sector bank – the Bank of Maharashtra to roll out the ‘Bank Sakhi’ project in Odisha. The fintech

would provide financial technology and infrastructure support to augment rural financial inclusion. As part of the tie-up, the company has onboarded more than 11,000 bank sakhis (women) on the BharatATM platform to help the rural citizens avail themselves of basic banking services at their doorstep or the next door Kirana stores.

Mahagram aims to increase the ratio and habit of household savings in rural India. “At Mahagram, we are indulged in offering basic banking services

like deposit and withdrawing transactions to consumers but it is now high time for rural people to save money. We are focusing on Financial Inclusion the flagship project of Modi government, by helping lot of beneficiaries to open bank accounts under the ‘Jan Dhan Yojana’. We are also emphasizing on rural women because they are the ones who run households. Our vision for 2022 is to offer women the service of recurring deposit.” says Mr. Ram Shriram, CEO, Mahagram.

Amazon.in launches ‘Back to School’ store

Bhubaneswar: With the opening of schools and resuming of offline classes, Amazon.in announced the launch of ‘Back to school’ store – a one stop destination to simplify the shopping needs of children. The specially curated store offers deals on a wide range of products across study essentials like stationery, laptops, tablets, mobile phones, PCs, headsets & speakers, printers, Amazon devices, home furnishing among others

to help parents, teachers and students with school supplies and to create an effective learning and productive environment. The offers and deals will be available till 12th June 2022.

Here are some popular products customers can choose from the ‘Back to school’ store on Amazon.in. All offers & deals are from participating sellers. HONOR MagicBook X 15, Intel Core i3 Anti-Glare Thin and Light Laptop – It has stylish

appearance with premium aluminum metal body with 16.9MM thickness, 5.3 MM narrow bezels and the weight of the laptop is only 1.56kg, which allows you to carry it easily, making it very convenient for school, travel, and work. It is available for starting INR 37,990 on Amazon.in. Lenovo Tab M10 FHD Plus Tablet, Platinum Grey - Make way for the stylish 8.1 mm Tab M10 FHD Plus.

OSL Group founder bags ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ for reshaping Shipping & Logistics scenario in Eastern India



Bhubaneswar(KCN) : On the august occasion of the 4th Edition of prestigious Times Business Awards Odisha 2023, Orissa Stevedores Limited (OSL) founder Sri Mahimananda

(Mahima) Mishra was conferred with the coveted ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ for reshaping the shipping and logistics scenario in eastern India.

The OSL Group founder received the honour at a glittering event organized by the TIMES Group at the Central Hall, Mayfair Convention here in the state capital city. Notably, the TIMES Group organizes such a glorious event in a bid to celebrate and honour outstanding business houses and business leaders who have made significant contributions to their respective fields and communities as decided by a renowned research agency.

Annual General Meeting of Vitesco Technologies

Regensburg: Vitesco Technologies, a leading international developer and manufacturer of cutting-edge drive systems for sustainable mobility, held its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) today. The AGM was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In separate votes, the shareholders formally approved the actions of all the Executive Board members during their term of office in the 2021 financial year. The actions of all members of the Supervisory Board in office in 2021 were also approved for their respective terms. “We are delighted to have received this vote of confidence from the Annual General

Meeting. We regard this outcome as a clear mandate to continue the successful collaboration and positioning of Vitesco Technologies as a supplier of sustainable drive solutions with a clear goal,” said CEO Andreas Wolf.

All current members of the Supervisory Board representing the shareholders who were up for election were re-elected to office. The members of the Supervisory Board who represent the employees will be elected separately. A complete list of all Supervisory Board members and the results of the voting at the AGM are available on the Vitesco Technologies website under ‘Annual General Meeting’.

LV Prasad Eye Institute Organizes a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk

Bhubaneswar: L V Prasad Eye Institute’s MithuTulsi Chanrai Campus in Bhubaneswar organized a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk on 8th May 2022. This walk is part of the ‘Whitathon’ event organized by LV Prasad Eye Institute across its campuses in Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam and

Vijayawada. Celebrity actor, Mr Sabyasachi Mishra, will be flagging off the walk.

Whitathon is L V Prasad Eye Institute’s annual cause-related event focusing on raising awareness and funds for early diagnosis and treatment of Retinoblastoma – a Life and Vision-threatening Eye Cancer in Children. One of the most common

symptoms of Retinoblastoma is White Reflex (white glow) in a child’s eye. Through this walk, LVPEI aims to raise awareness among the public that if they spot a ‘White Reflex’ in a child’s eye, it could be a sign of eye cancer that needs immediate medical intervention. Hence, the event is named ‘Whitathon’.

Dr Devjyoti Tripathy,

Ocular Oncologist, MithuTulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar, L V Prasad Eye Institute said, “Our aim is to raise awareness about early detection and treatment of retinoblastoma eye cancer in children. No child should die of eye cancer because of lack of awareness and treatment. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Sabyasachi Mishra for joining us for

the Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk and spreading awareness about Retinoblastoma. We also acknowledge the support received from Aroh – Giving Hope, an NGO working for children with Cancer and their families.”

Dr Tripathy further added that it is time to make detailed eye check-ups a part of mandatory paediatric examinations.

We have to dissect this - Silverwood on Sri Lanka's 'inconsistent' campaign

New Delhi: And with them, also sank the hopes of their Asian counterparts - Afghanistan and Pakistan, unintentionally invoking the spirit of Gulbadin Naib 2019. "Hum to doobe hai sanam, tum ko bhi lekar doobenge" (If I'm going down, I'll take you with me). On Thursday, their challenge wasn't blown away the way it was against India in the Asia Cup final. Not by an inspired bowling spell but the opposition in helpful conditions, but by a more uninspired batting performance of their own. There were patches of dominance when Kusal Perera took the attack to the New Zealanders early on. There were patches of fight with both bat and ball, but too late to repair much of the early damage. But the momentum - on a pitch that was much slower and vastly different from

the one offered in the previous game at the same venue - never swung their way. Such was the enormity of the context of this one contest, that its eventual result eventually impacted the fortunes of four teams in the tournament. As it stands now, New Zealand are almost through to the semifinals, and Pakistan and Afghanistan are almost out. All this while Sri Lanka have their hopes of qualifying for the 2025 Champions Trophy in the hands of four other teams who will be competing over the next couple of days. There have been better days in Sri Lankan cricket, and there will be many more better days in the future. But Thursday wasn't one of those. It was, if anything, a disappointing culmination of a forgettable tournament that was far removed from the performances of the same team a couple



of months ago. At the moment, head coach Chris Silverwood isn't in a position to reflect on the team's performance at the World Cup. He was hesitant to even open up about the possible positive takeaways from it. "We have to let the emotions settle at the moment, we have to dissect this," Silverwood said following Sri Lanka's loss against New Zealand in their last

league game of the tournament. "We have to have a very good debrief and dig deep into what has worked and what hasn't worked and then try and plan that way forward obviously for the next cycle. "They're the positives that we need to take from this now, is how do we best prepare the boys and the generations that are coming through to actually compete in the next World Cup and

make sure that come that World Cup, we are competing and we're ready." At the Asia Cup, in home conditions, they seemed to have had most of their bases covered despite the absence of a few key players. While injuries, the turmoil in the board, the captain leaving the team mid-way and the Timed Out controversy would've likely played a part in impacting the team in

India, their on-field performances left a lot wanting. Skills-wise, Sri Lanka are far from the team that turned up for the World Cup, as evidenced by their Asia Cup performance where they reached the final. Silverwood pinned the poor performance down to 'inconsistency'. He further added, "We've played some good cricket along the way, and I think we'll look back on certain games and rue missed opportunities, to be honest. There have been certain games during this campaign that if we'd have taken the opportunities that were put our way, this could have looked a lot different. But the fact is that we have been inconsistent and it's something that we've been working on for a long time and something we need to continue working on. So, yeah, I think inconsistent is a

word we can use." To begin with, their strength - the spin attack - was blunted, eventually ending the tournament with the worst returns among all teams. While Wanindu Hasaranga's injury would've played a part, Maheesh Theekshana, Dushan Hemantha and Dunith Wellalage - to go with the part-time options of Charith Asalanka and Dhananjaya de Silva - couldn't pose enough of a threat. Theekshana, who had picked 31 wickets in 15 games at an average of 17.45 in 2023, ended up picking only six wickets at an average of 63.66 in the World Cup. Dunith Wellalage, who had emerged as the breakthrough young star in the Asia Cup, picked up only two wickets at an average of 98 in India. On the batting front, while Sadeera Samarawickrama and Pathum Nissanka had a

fairly successful tournament, the team rarely clicked as a unit. The second opener's slot was never sealed, and their in-form batter Kusal Mendis fizzled after starting with a century and a fifty in. Angelo Mathews, who joined the team mid-way, couldn't give its batting a facelift. Silverwood admitted that there is a long-term issue to fix with respect to the collapse of the batters. "It's happened a couple of times now, a few times," he admitted. "And it's something that certainly during the debrief, when we get back and when we dissect what's happened in this tournament, it's something that we have to look at and we have to find some answers because clearly, we need to start putting runs on the board on good wickets and putting other teams under pressure. And we haven't done that."

World Cup qualification scenarios: New Zealand put Pakistan, Afghanistan on brink of elimination

New Delhi: New Zealand put themselves in the best position for a semifinal clash against India at the Wankhede stadium on November 15 after an NRR-boosting victory over Sri Lanka in Bengaluru on Thursday. The day began with the fourth spot still up for grabs and a three-way tussle between New Zealand, Pakistan and Afghanistan. New Zealand went into the game with the upper hand owing to a superior NRR and further enhanced it by dismissing Sri Lanka for just 171 and chasing it down in the 25th over. A win for Pakistan over England in their last group stage game on Saturday (November 11) will take them on par with New Zealand on points but the task of



usurping their NRR looks nearly impossible. As it stands, New Zealand's NRR is +0.743 while Pakistan have +0.036. For Pakistan to overcome that big a deficit, they need to: - Limit England to 13 if they score 300 batting first. - Limit England to 62 if they score 350. - Limit England to 112 if they score 400. Coincidentally, Pakistan

find themselves in a very similar situation ahead of their last group stage game in this World Cup as they did in the 2019 edition. Back then too, they needed a win by an unimaginable margin - of 300-plus runs - to overtake fourth-placed New Zealand on NRR. They batted first and only got to 315 for 9, needing to limit Bangladesh to seven runs. The chasing side

got to 8/0 in 1.5 overs. The requirement for Afghanistan is even worse. Hashmatullah Shahidi's side is sixth currently with a NRR of -0.338. Until two nights ago, they had their fate in their hands as two wins in their last two fixtures would have taken them past both New Zealand and Pakistan to fourth spot. They were on track during the game against Australia when they had them down to 91/7 in chase of 291/5, but Glenn Maxwell denied them with an incredible double-century. For them to still make it to fourth, Afghanistan need to beat South Africa on Friday by 439 runs (if they score 500 batting first) to surpass New Zealand's NRR.

New Delhi: France Cricket is currently facing serious allegations of fraud and corruption, prompting potential investigation by The International Cricket Council (ICC). The ICC stated, "We're looking into it," in response to a report in the French media, which asserted that France Cricket has significantly exaggerated claims about the conduct of matches. In fact, the report alleges that France Cricket has been involved in the fabrication of matches and has been submitting falsified reports to the ICC. "Instead of the scheduled women's match, the men's under-19 semi-final - which should have ended far earlier - was taking place. Once the game ended, around 3:30pm, both teams



packed up and left. The women's second division game apparently did not follow. Three days later, France Cricket rubber-stamped the match as having taken place and posted the results on their website," France 24 said in a detailed report under the sub-head of Phantom matches. The report further said that the clubs fake scoresheets. "Most clubs cheat, they pretend to have a

women's team. They pay for licences and then they fake score sheets online. We have refused to fake matches and that means that even if we qualify we're likely to never be able to get a promotion." the coach of a club has been quoted in the report as saying. While the ICC has been in contact with France Cricket and is gathering information, France Cricket dismissed the

report as baseless: "These are absolutely fake and baseless allegations from a British-origin journalist trying to get some attention, especially with myself being of Indian origin and at the helm for the past 10 years, they haven't been any part of the system for a while for cricket in France. "As Cricket recently has been included in the Olympics, if you try and understand, the timing couldn't be better. Now, they are just trying to get some traction. We have already been in touch with ICC and our Lawyer is taking all the required measures," Prebou Balane, the president of France Cricket, told Cricbuzz on Thursday. France Cricket is an associate member of the ICC.

Donald to step down as Bangladesh fast bowling coach

New Delhi: Allan Donald, Bangladesh's pace bowling coach, is all set to quit from his position after their last game against Australia, scheduled on November 11. The legendary pace bowler disclosed his decision to his charges during a team meeting in Pune on Thursday. A top BCB official confirmed the development to Cricbuzz on request of anonymity. "Yes, he(Donald) informed us that he will not carry on with us after this World Cup during the team meeting," the official said on Thursday. This development marks the end of a brief yet significant tenure for Donald who took charge



in March 2022 with the T20 World Cup as the main target. However, with the impressive progress of the team's pace bowling stocks, his contract was extended by the BCB till the ongoing ICC World Cup. Cricbuzz had earlier reported that following the ongoing ICC World Cup there will be wholesale changes in the coaching panel of Bangladesh. BCB on November 8

announced that they will seek explanation from Donald for taking a swipe at skipper Shakib al Hasan after he appealed for the 'timed out' dismissal against Angelo Mathews during their game against Sri Lanka in Delhi on November 6. When Donald's attention was drawn in this regard, he looked hardly bothered. "That's all ok with me if they (BCB) seek an explanation. As far as I am concerned the explanation was in the news today!," Donald told Cricbuzz adding that he is not interested to carry on with the Bangladesh national cricket team after the ongoing ICC World Cup.

"Pretty Surreal Feeling": Rachin Ravindra On His Name Being Chanted By Indian Fans

New Delhi: New Zealand batsman Rachin Ravindra admitted it felt "surreal" to hear his name being chanted by Indian fans during Thursday's World Cup win over Sri Lanka. However, the 23-year-old shouldn't be too surprised as the southern city was once home to his parents before they moved to New Zealand. Ravindra, one of the breakout stars of the World Cup, gave fans plenty to shout about as he made 42 in his team's five-wicket win which has almost guaranteed New Zealand a place in the semi-finals. "It's a pretty surreal feeling," Ravindra told Star Sports.



"I am grateful for the support, especially playing in Bangalore. The crowd chanting my name is something I will never take for granted.

"I dreamt of it as a child. I feel very happy to be here, lucky enough it worked out." With a first name reflecting his father's love of the game -- 'Ra'

from Rahul Dravid and 'chin' from Sachin Tendulkar -- Ravindra has shown no sign of suffering any burden carrying the names of two of India's most famous cricketing sons. He has three centuries at this World Cup and a tournament-leading 565 runs from nine innings at an average of a shade over 70. "Six to 12 months ago, I wasn't even in the frame," he admitted. He almost didn't get his opportunity at the World Cup, only named in the starting line-up when skipper Kane Williamson needed more time to recover from a knee injury.

"It's a funny one. I have idolised Kane. I have idolised a lot like Virat Kohli, Steven Smith, Joe Root. "But Kane, his leadership, on and off the field, just keeps it calm." India is proving a memorable place for Ravindra to visit. In 2021, at the second Test in Mumbai, he held the catch that allowed teammate Ajaz Patel to become just the third bowler in history to take all 10 wickets in an innings. It would have helped ease the bruising 372-run loss the Kiwis suffered. "It was a nervy moment in my career. Lucky to have taken the catch," he said.