

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF 36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND LITERARY FESTIVAL OF ALL INDIA SANTALI WRITERS' ASSOCIATION

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the inaugural session of the 36th Annual Conference and Literary Festival of All India Santali Writers' Association at Baripada, Odisha today (November 20, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President appreciated writers and researchers who are contributing to the Santhali language and literature. She appreciated that All India Santali Writers' Association has been promoting Santhali language since its establishment in 1988. She noted that use of Santhali language has been increased in government and non-government sectors, after its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution on 22 December, 2003. She remembered former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, on the occasion, during whose tenure Santhali language was included in the Eighth Schedule.



The President said that most of the Santhali literature was available in the oral tradition. Pandit Raghunath Murmu has not only invented the Ol Chiki script, but he has also further enriched the Santhali language by composing plays like 'Bidu Chandan', 'Kherwal Bir', 'Darege Dhan', 'Sido- Kanhu - Santhal Hool'. She highlighted that many Santhali writers are enriching Santhali literature with their works. She said that it is a matter of pride that Damayanti Besra and Kali Pada Saren - popularly known as Kherwal Saren - have been honoured with Padma Shri in 2020 and 2022 respectively for education and literature. The President said that authors are vigilant

watchdogs of society. They make society aware and guide it through their work. Many litterateurs showed path to our national movement during the freedom struggle. She urged writers to continuously create awareness in the society through their writings. She stressed that creating awareness among the people of tribal communities is an important task. She said that building a strong and vigilant society is possible only through continuous awareness. The President said that literature is a mirror of the culture of a community. She said that natural co-existence of humans with nature is seen in the tribal lifestyle. She added that the tribal communities believe that the forest does not belong to them

but they belong to the forest. She highlighted that today climate change is a huge problem and nature-friendly living is very important to tackle this issue. She urged writers to write about the lifestyles of tribal communities so that other people could know about the life values ??of tribal society. The President said that India is a beautiful garden of different languages ??and literatures. She added that language and literature are the subtle threads that bind the nation together and literature is enriched by extensive exchange between different languages which is possible through translations. She said that readers of Santhali literature should also be

introduced to the literature of other languages ??through translation. She underlined the need for similar efforts to make Santhali literature reach the readers of other languages. The President said that there is a need to keep children engaged in self-study right from the beginning. She added that anyone can become a good reader by doing self-study since childhood. She highlighted the need to create entertaining and comprehensible children's literature. She stated that emphasis should be laid on creating interesting children's literature not only in Santhali literature but in all Indian languages.

## Odisha CM Inaugurates Housing Complexes For Slum Dwellers In State Capital

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated three housing complexes for the slum dwellers in Bhubaneswar; Keshari Residency built in Satya Nagar, Buddha Vihar in Chandrasekharpur and Barunei Enclave in Subudhipur, respectively.

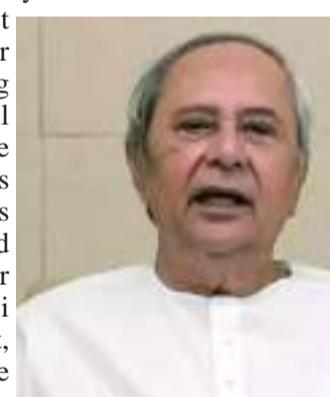
The ambitious project was constructed under an urban housing scheme (Saharanchal Awas Yojana). The Keshari Residency was built for the residents of Shantipalli and Barunei Enclave for residents of Tarini Basti (slum). At least, 840 pucca houses have been distributed so far, an official source said.

Ropeway facility at Nandankanan to restart for visitors from November 18

Around 7,000 ucca houses will be distributed in the days ahead, of which about 1,700 houses have already been constructed. Five hundred-sixty houses are complete as of now in Keshari Residency and the CM handed over the keys of 314 of them to eligible beneficiaries.

Similarly, more than 300 houses in Barunei Enclave were handed over by the CM.

Notably, each pucca house has a bedroom, a hall, a kitchen, and a latrine and bathroom.



## Patha Utsav To Make A Comeback In Odisha Capital



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** There is a piece of good news for youngsters in the Odisha capital here. Patha Utsav, the street festival, is all set to make a comeback very soon. The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) passed a resolution in this regard at its council meeting today.

The BMC will take the necessary steps to hold Patha Utsav on December 10 and two Sundays of January next year, said an official.

"The street festival will

be organized under the three zones of city on different dates. A committee will be formed for smooth organization of Patha Utsav. Steps will be taken to introduce something new in these street festivals," said Mayor Sulochana Das. Notably, the BMC had introduced Patha Utsav in the city here a few years ago to make people aware of various social and civic issues. Hundreds of people from all walks of life used to throng a stretch of the

(DMRC) from the Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar to Trishulia in Cuttack. The DMRC will work as a turn-key consultant for the project.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that this pact signals the emergence of a new epoch in the transportation history of Odisha. He further said that we are now poised to transform the transportation landscape in the capital region. This is a flagship programme under the 5T Initiative of

my Government that will also symbolize the emergence of a New Odisha.

Highlighting the project, he said, "My Cabinet has approved the First Phase of Metro Project from

Bhubaneswar Airport to Trishulia Square at a cost of Rs. 6255 Crore (Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Five Crore Rupee). This is the single largest investment made in any infrastructure project in the history of Odisha. The entire cost of the project will be borne by the State Government."

He expressed happiness over the project, stating that his government is delivering yet another

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA INAUGURATES AN EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL AT KULIANA

**New Delhi(KCN):** The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated an Eklavya Model Residential School at Kuliana, district Mayurbhanj, Odisha today (November 20, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that during her childhood

economic and social well-being. She advised parents to educate their children. Addressing



there was no school near her home; therefore, she had to go away from home for study. She said that many children were deprived of education at that time due to non-availability of a nearby school which is not the case today. She expressed confidence that with the opening of the Eklavya Model Residential School, local children will now have more opportunity for education.

The President said that education is the key to

highways, education, health and other such basic amenities in tribal dominated areas. She was happy to note that more than 700 Eklavya Model Residential Schools are being established across the country for education of tribal children. She said that in these schools more than 3.5 lakh tribal students across India will be able to get quality education and be able to contribute to the development of society and nation.

## 28 police platoons for Odisha Assembly winter session, check traffic advisory in Bhubaneswar



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** As many as 28 platoons of police force will be deployed around the Odisha State Legislative Assembly (OLA) for the winter session of the House beginning tomorrow (November 21). Ahead of the commencement of the session, Odisha DGP Sunil Bansal took stock of the security arrangements today. As per reports, there will be one DCP, eight additional DCPs, 16 ACs, QRT, Bomb Squad and 20 Inspectors to secure the Assembly during the Session. Meanwhile, the Bhubaneswar police has also issued a traffic advisory in view of the Assembly session.

1. Vehicles coming from Housing Board Square will take a diversion from

Power House Square taking a left turn.

2. Vehicles coming from Raj Bhawan Square towards MLA colony and Rabindra Mandap will be diverted towards Sastrinagar Square.

However, the traffic restriction will not be applicable to emergency vehicles (Police, Fire and Ambulance) and the vehicles authorised to enter the official Buildings including the State Assembly, the State Secretariat and other offices located in this area.

## Delhi Metro Signs MoU For Metro Train Project In Bhubaneswar

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In a significant development, Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Corporation today signed an MoU with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation for the proposed metro train project in Bhubaneswar. The contract was signed in the presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik virtually. The project is targeted to be completed in four years. As per the MoU, the first phase of Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Project will be carried out by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

(DMRC) from the Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar to Trishulia in Cuttack. The DMRC will work as a turn-key consultant for the project.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that this pact signals the emergence of a new epoch in the transportation history of Odisha. He further said that we are now poised to transform the transportation landscape in the capital region. This is a flagship programme under the 5T Initiative of

my Government that will also symbolize the emergence of a New Odisha.

Highlighting the project, he said, "My Cabinet has approved the First Phase of Metro Project from



promise, which was made as part of his party's manifesto in 2019. Appreciating the expertise of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, he said that DMRC is a pioneer in the field of construction and operation of Metro Rail in the country. He expressed confidence that the construction of the Metro Rail will be of World Class standard and will be completed in time. He wished grand success for the endeavor and hoped that this would set new benchmarks in the Metro Rail history in the country.

Chief Minister for the Project.

Science & Technology Minister Sri Ashok Panda said that this project will make Cuttack and Bhubaneswar truly a twin city. Chief Secretary PK Jena said that the project will not only ease out traffic in both the cities, it will also spruce up the economy.

DMRC MD Vikas Kumar said that this is an apt time to start transit oriented development in Odisha. It will spruce up economy, and push growth and development in the region.

6th Evening of 34th PECUC Sisumela

## Little Children Shine in Spectacular Fancy Dress

Bhubaneswar (KCN):

The 6th evening of the 34th PECUC Sisumela brought forth the enthralling Fancy Dress Competition, featuring the charming children as the evening's main highlight. Adorned in delightful fancy attire, their presence and laughter enchanted the audience, creating a captivating spectacle. Beyond their charming displays, these young participants also delivered powerful messages advocating environmental protection, highlighting the harmful effects of plastic and promoting

the importance of a clean, sustainable environment and on various social issues. Bandita Das, Sumitra Tripathy, Usharani Behera, Madhumita Das, Nalini Pradhan were in the judge of the Competition. They selected the winner as well as inspired the children with their talks. 19th Nov is also observed as World Day for prevention of Child Abuse and through the awareness messages advocating environmental protection, highlighting the harmful effects of plastic and promoting



Biswal, IAS, Retd. and Odia Cine Artist Samarpita Das and Debarchan Mishra, Artist. Their heartfelt appreciation was

extended to PECUC for its remarkable efforts in offering a platform that allows children to showcase their inherent talents. The

organization's and warmly embraced by all. The winners of the Modern Dance and Odishi Dance Competition received the

Mohanty, Alpana Das, Upama Mohanty, Priyadarshini Swain, Bama Dev Jena, Bishnupriya Mohapatra, Sasmita Sahoo, Satyashiv Rath, Binod Kumar Dash etc. of PECUC facilitated the programme. Children of the Nrutyashree and Nruty Prativa Dance Group performed colourful cultural programme on this occasion, which was very entertaining for the audience. Today's programme was also present. Mrs. Ratna Dash, Mr. Jyoti Sankar Adyasha.

In today's programme Mr. Pradip Patnaik, Senior Journalist and Chairman, PECUC Sisumela Committee, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary PECUC, Mrs. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director, PECUC and Madhabananda Behura, Senior Journalist were also present. Mrs. Ratna Dash, Mr. Jyoti Sankar Adyasha.

## Deepawali Preeti Sammelan enhances bonhomie and togetherness – LN Bangur



Kolkata (KCN):

Deepawali Preeti Sammelan enhances bonhomie and togetherness among people said LN Bangur, famous Industrialist while inaugurating Preeti Sammelan organised by Churu Nagak Parishad on Sunday evening. Speaking as Chief Guest

BL Mittal congratulated all members. Other dignitaries Sishir Bajoria, Chairman, Indian Institute of Management Shillong, Dr SK Sharma, former Sheriff of Kolkata, Rajendra Khandelwal, and Social activist Narayan Jain also addressed the gathering. BL Soti, President of

Parishad welcomed all. Jagat Baid thanked all. Ram Prasad Saraf, Pawan Dhanuka, Ishwar Goenka, Tara Chand Manot, Deepak Jain, Manju Agarwal and others actively helped for making the programme successful. Anshu Sethia anchored the programme very well. Famous singers Dhiren Sanghvi and Sangeeta Sanghvi presented heart touching songs and Bhajans. All appreciated their performance. Master Heyansh Goenka was also felicitated for his success in World wide Book of Records due to his talent in identifying Indian States and its Capital on Indian Map.

## CMD, NTPC inaugurates the 55 kWp Grid Connected Roof Top Solar Plant at NTPC ER-IIHQ Guest House in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar (KCN):

Shri Gurdeep Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, NTPC inaugurated the 55 kWp Grid Connected Roof Top Solar plant at NTPC ER-II HQ Guest house in Bhubaneswar, on 18th November, 2023 in the august presence of Shri Ramesh Babu V, Director (Operations), NTPC and Shri Partha Mazumder, Regional Executive Director, NTPC (Eastern Region - II). This 55 kWp solar plant installed on the roof and

shed of the guest house building comprises of 101 solar panels installed in 8 strings.

The solar plant is expected to generate around 64,000 units of electricity per annum and at present shall meet 82% of the electric energy requirements of the guest house. It is the step towards the "Net Zero Mission" for the guest house in Bhubaneswar. CMD, NTPC congratulated ER-II HQ team led by RED(ER-II) for this initiative towards renewable electricity

generation. He advised the team to explore for installation of more solar panels, with new structures over the roof, for enhancement of the generation capacity. TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL), the distribution arm of Government of Odisha in that area of Bhubaneswar, has accorded the permission for Net Metering to NTPC for this Roof Top Solar on 15th November 2023.



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# Radharani : An Epitome of Devotion



We all have seen Radha along with shree Krishna in so many temples and know that they are the embodiment of love and the purest form of love. We know that they are divine lovers but many of us do not know who Radha was and what happened to her after Krishna left Nandgaon. Did Krishna meet him after he left Nandgaon? How did she leave the earth? All these questions are very ambiguous and are not very clear to everyone. So who was Radha and how did she come on this earth and why?

Actually the reason of this doubt is that there is very less or no

information we have in our mythological texts or Puranas about Radha. Yes it is true. Radha has not been mentioned in any of the major religious texts such as Mahabharata or Padma Purana or Shrimad Bhagvatam, or Harivansha. But there is no mention of Radha in any of these books. Now this is a shocking fact that we get no evidence as to who Radha was or was there any village girl named Radha who ever existed or not?

The first time when Radha is mentioned in the texts is when Jayadev wrote about her in Geet Govind and also when Nimbarka sect started preaching people about her. Before this era Radha was not worshipped with Krishna in any temple. The village cow girl Radha who lived only for Krishna, whose life and soul everything was dedicated to Krishna has not been mentioned in these prime texts.

Radha also called Radhika, Radharani and Radhikarani, is the

childhood friend and lover of Krishna in the Bhagavata Purana, and the Gita Govinda of the Vaisnava traditions of Hinduism. Radha is almost always depicted alongside Krishna and features prominently within the theology of today's Gaudiya Vaishnava sect, which regards Radha as the original Goddess or Shakti. Radha is also the principal object of worship in the Nimbarka Sampradaya, as Nimbarka, the founder of the tradition, declared that Radha and Krishna together constitute the absolute truth. Radha's relationship with Krishna is given in further detail within texts such as the Brahma Vaivarta Purana, Garga Samhita and Brihad Gauthamiya tantra.

In the story of Krishna, as told in the Mahabharata and the Bhagavata Purana, he spends much of his childhood in the company of young cow-herd girls, called Gopis in the village of Vrindavan. Krishna left his native place at the age of twelve for study at

gurukul. The Mahabharata does not describe Krishna's earlier life in Vrindavan in much detail, and focuses more on the later battle of Kurukshetra but within the Bhagavata Purana the child-hood pastimes of Krishna are described very vividly. Within the Bhagavata Purana, Radha is not mentioned by name but is alluded to within the tenth chapter of the text as one of the gopis whom Krishna plays with during his upbringing as a young boy. Krishna left Vrindavan for Mathura at the age of 10 years and 7 months according to Bhagavata Purana. So Radha is assumed to be also 10 years old or less when Krishna left Vrindavan. It is in later texts such as the Gita Govinda where we find the story of Radha given in more detail.

Radha's pain is matchless; no one can worship or regard Krishna without Radha. She got lost in the pages of history and mythology may be because she was an ordinary, simple, village cowherd

**Dr. Arundhati Devi**

girl unlike goddess Rukmini who is an incarnation of goddess Lakshmi; may be because among those grand characters of Mahabharata, she was too simple and ordinary to be mentioned. But love and sacrifice of Radha is too big to be ignored or lost in history. The love and sacrifice of this simple village girl is bigger than anyone. No matter how much we debate about her existence, Shrimati Radharani is the base of love and devotion, she is an epitome of devotion, sacrifice and unconditional love and no doubt that's why we love her so much with lord Krishna and can't stop chanting her name and worshipping her with our beloved Lord Shri Krishna.

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**Director & Secretary, International Indency Prevention Movement, Odisha, Cuttack, Mob. : 9937172810**



**Sri Radha Ashtami, or Radhashtami, the birthday of Radha, 21st November, 2023; is a major festival celebrated by Lord Krishna devotees. It falls on the eighth day of the Shukla Paksha in the month of Bhadrapad. The day celebrates the relationship between Radha and Krishna – a unique relationship between god and human.**

The love of Radha is not mere lust provoked by hormones. There is a divine background here. The love of Radha to Krishna is the love of God Shiva to God Vishnu. Krishna was the incarnation of God Vishnu. You have asked this question thinking of Radha as an ordinary human being without having any divine background. Here, the love of God Shiva to God Vishnu is not lust but divine love. The Gopikas danced with God Krishna based on divine love because the Gopikas were sages who did long and severe penance for millions of births and Krishna was God Himself. Here, you must remember the divine background. If you take the character of Radha as an ordinary human being, your doubt is genuine. If Radha and Krishna were ordinary human beings like Ayanaghsa, then you can

**Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra**

justify Ayanaghsa and blame Krishna. Suppose Radha is a human being although Krishna is God, even then you can blame Krishna. Here, Radha also has a divine background.

The divine background present for both Radha and Krishna should be taken when you raise such doubt. Therefore, between the love of God Shiva and God Vishnu, the love of a human being can't stand at all. Here, through Radha, the role of a climax devotee is being projected which is the most important point from the point of spiritual knowledge. You should not take this incident as some story of ordinary human beings presented in the novel of Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani and then start your novel review! It is told that if there is a scholar, test him in the Bhaagavatam to see how much he has understood spiritual knowledge. Even great scholars of spiritual knowledge are to be tested in the Bhaagavatam. Only then can you call them as scholars. Therefore, there is only divine love and no hormonal lust between God Vishnu and God Shiva.

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# Why do children take wrong decision?

**Prof. Dr. Jyotiranjan Champtiray**



Why do children take wrong decision? What are the factors that force them to commit suicide? How pitiable it is that a child takes his/her own life voluntarily and intentionally. Whether parents have failed to extend comfort zone to the child?" Most of the children who commit or attempt suicide are adolescents. An adolescent is neither a child nor an adult. It is a transition period which can be compared to twilight. Adolescents will always be in a delighted position, so they dream a lot. It is a period they tend to like solitude to mould their dreams, aspirations and desires. Hero worship and role models play a dominant role in their life. They are excited and delighted and they are in an energetic and enthusiastic world, so they laugh a lot for petty things and jokes and always in a joyous and happy mood. Always they are in a sensitive and vibrant mood." Then, WHY do they opt for wrong decisions? Some children end their life because of failure of love. But most of the children who commit suicide write letter to their parents and regret that they could not fulfill their parent's dreams. The problem is parents

thrust their dreams and aspirations to their children and demand them to fulfill them. They want their child should be the topper in the school and should be an achiever in all the curricular and co-curricular activities. They never let the children play and do activities on their own. Most of the parents demand that their children should breathe and walk in the schedule they decide." In the ancient days, man in the family worked and women took care of the children. Or else as it was joint family set up, so elders cared their grandchildren by themselves or with the assistance of servants. Parents can be divided into three categories. First category includes business people, wealthy people and professionals. They provide their children all the modern gadgets and leave their children totally under the care of maids. Most of the time, the children are beaten and abused by the servants. It is a prestige issue, so they dump their children in the reputed schools and never bother and reluctant to take them home even for summer holidays and abandon them in summer camps."Second category parents aspire and demand their children should excel well and strive hard to develop the status of the family. They demand the child should adhere and grow in the sketch they have designed. Children's aspiration, likings, desires and dreams are totally ignored. The circle is drawn clearly

and the children have to dwell in it." Third category parents have to run for their livelihood, so they never have time to look after their children. These children are kept in a very vulnerable position and most of the children are abused by the area people. Parents do not have time to dream and never force the children. Exceptionally talented kids farm their dream and work hard and shine well in spite of all the oddities in life. Our Abul Kalam is an example for it. But most of the children are forced to work for their daily bread." A 11 categories demand the children to live in the way they decide. The children had space in the joint family set up and freely expressed their complaint against their parents to their grannies. Sometimes they scolded their parents when they made the complaint. The outburst automatically relieved them from the stress and tension because they had outpoured all the distaste, anger and distress freely. Always there would be an affectionate aunty to listen to the anguish of the child. Grandparents would question the parents which in turn smoothed the psychological pressure and mental torture of the child. Parents did not have any ego clash when they were enquired by their parents. The children were given the right counseling and consolation by their relatives. The child was made to realize all efforts of parents were only for their welfare.. As the child expressed her/his feeling fully, the pressure and tension drains and the doubt, the anxiety and the fear of disappointing their

parents drives them for suicide. They love their parents and esteem their desires and dreams a lot, so they take fatal decision when they could not fulfill them. Most of them believe that parents are their world and are ignorant that there is a (real) world outside home and they are a tiny part of it." Parent should try to understand the children and accept them with all their weaknesses and help them to overcome the defects and assist them to improve. It is possible if you approach your children with heart full of love and consideration. Do tie (with love, affection, restriction, knowledge about right and wrong, tradition, religious and family ethics) and let the card loose and allow your children to breathe fresh air and grow in the way they like. If such permission is given the child will always return back to you for clarification, suggestion and guidance. Talk with your children happily, spend more time with them, feed them with the dishes they like and fulfill the small aspiration of them. Do not implement hard and fast rules. Instead make them understand the security assured. Sure miracles will happen in the way you aspire, if the children believe and trust you.

**"HOD & Professor, Deptt. of Paediatric, Fakirmohan Medical College & Hospital, Balasore, Mob. : 9437124074, E-mail : djyotiranjanchamptiray12@gmail.com**

# Sri Radha Ashtami

**Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra**

sin as in the case of prostitutes and hell would be the final result.

Similarly, the love between Radha and Krishna is not hormones based lust that happens between ordinary males and females but it is based on the divine love between God Vishnu and God Shiva. The other Narada Bhaktisutra says, "Anyatha jara?amiva..." which means that if hormones-based-lust was the basis between Krishna and Gopikas, that would have become illegal action or sin and punishment will be given to Krishna as well as to the Gopikas. The Gopika is embracing Krishna as God due to devotion which is also love. The intention is pure there. Who is this Gopika? She is a Sage. When the sage was doing penance, several heavenly angels came, danced before him but failed to disturb him. In fact, the sage cursed those dancers. He has already burnt the hormones based lust in penance. How can he get that lust again? When a devoted sage has burnt the lust, will Krishna, who is God Himself, get such lust? So, where is the hormones based lust between Krishna and Gopikas? It is only devotion-based lust. Lust is also action. Action is inert. It can't give any fruit. Only the base of the action which is awareness in the form of intention, has the capacity to give the fruit. In the case of Gopikas, that base is pure.

**Prof. Hepatology Deptt. S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack, Ph :**

# Ukraine, Gaza & Kurukshetra



**Dr. Prafulla Kumar Das**

with Israel despite pressure from the Western world to do so and has once again appealed for peace." This sitting on the neutral fence of peace could well irk critics and prompt the question as to how come, for all our holier-than-thou airs, about Gandhian ahimsa, our most venerated text, the Bhagwad Gita, has Krishn in his cosmic manifestation enjoining the faltering Arjun in the name of dharma, religious duty, to let slip the dogs of war against his kinsmen, the Kauravas, at Kurukshetra. Such an accusation would be based on a profound misunderstanding and misrepresentation of an allegory that uses the metaphor of war to represent the daily inner battle we all must wage against the wily adversary of our own ego which, through the ploys of fear, hate, revenge, envy, and greed, prevents us from breaking the illusory bonds of attachment and attaining liberation." The Gita, generally deemed to be a later addition to the epic, is an anti-war testament in that it seeks to free us from the passions of the mind, which lead to violent confrontations between individuals, ethnic and religious groups, and nations." It is a clash of egos that results in the

raging inferno of war, the hell that humankind unleashes on earth, putting to shame all our achievements of science, art, and philosophy. At the heart of the great tale that valorizes martial feats of skill and subterfuge, the Gita is like a vertiginous zoom-out cinematic shot that awakens and raises consciousness far above the sound and fury of mortal combat to a realm of pacific calm, beyond the earthly boundaries of violence and bloodshed. Another ageless epic set against the backdrop of the clamour and clash of weaponry is Homer's Iliad, about the siege of Troy, which currently is in the literary limelight thanks to Emily Wilson's widely acclaimed English translation that, in unrhymed verse, captures the horrors and tragic futility of warfare. Zhuge Liang, a statesman and strategist in China's Han Dynasty, succinctly summed it up: "The wise win before the fight, while the ignorant fight to win." In other words, the best way to win a war is to learn not to fight one.

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# Climate Stability through Global Cooperation



emissions. A progressive environmental innovation strategy is essential, involving clear targets on costs, resource maximization from both public and private sectors, and exploring potential technologies domestically and internationally.

The strategy emphasizes technical assessments based on user costs and GHG reduction effects through life cycle assessments. It advocates for accelerated public and challenging research and development (R&D) with ambitious goals. Hosting international conferences, like the Research and Development 20 for Clean Energy Technologies (RD20), aims to gather global wisdom and enhance alliances among R&D institutes.

Knowledge-based support is provided for selected companies to strengthen initiatives leading to business, visualizing potential technologies and human resources for business cases. Target setting and issue visualization for commercialization focus on energy efficiency, CCS/negative emission, hydrogen, renewable energy, and nuclear technologies. Innovation in economic and social systems/

lifestyles includes promoting green finance. Mobilizing finance through disclosure, including the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), involves visualizing corporate initiatives and fostering innovation through financial institutions.

This approach ensures a strategic alignment with climate-related opportunities and the formulation of guidance on green investment for financial institutions.

Crafting policies to transition from fossil-fuel-based economies to avert climate catastrophe is a formidable challenge. Tackling this challenge requires a multifaceted approach involving technical, economic, and political expertise, substantial financial resources, and a dedicated workforce.

Unfortunately, the agencies responsible for devising and implementing crucial policies are often understaffed and underfunded. Compounding the issue, regulators frequently rely on information from the industries they oversee, leading to potential conflicts of interest, weak regulations, and missed policy objectives.

An effective strategy to counterbalance this power imbalance

involves independent non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These organizations play a crucial role in providing policymakers with unbiased information and technical expertise, enabling the design of robust regulations that effectively reduce harmful emissions. The example of the US Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to reduce truck pollution highlights the impact of independent analysis. When drafting rules in 2016, various industry bodies presented conflicting information. The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT), an independent think tank, conducted a comprehensive study, offering impartial data demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of stringent pollution standards. Consequently, these regulations are anticipated to result in significant emission cuts, substantial cost savings for truck owners, and substantial damage prevention over the next three decades.

NGOs, such as the ICCT, can also assist emerging economies with fewer resources in initiating transformative climate programs. These

**Prof (Dr.) S N Tripathy**

organizations can increase access to affordable, pollution-free electricity by facilitating the rapid adoption of clean-energy solutions. Additionally, rules promoting cutting-edge technologies can drive innovation, enhance competitiveness, and position countries as climate leaders. India's appliance-efficiency program, launched in 2006, exemplifies the positive impact of such collaborations. NGOs like CLASP and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) played instrumental roles in adapting successful efficiency-labeling programs to the Indian market, substantially reducing GHG emissions and India's emergence as a leading manufacturer of energy-efficient appliances.

While these initiatives may only sometimes attract significant attention, unbiased research provides regulators with the necessary data to develop transparent and effective environmental policies.

Technical assistance from independent NGOs lays the groundwork for policy successes crucial in overcoming the climate crisis. As

economies, both developing and developed, enhance their state capacities, they become more confident in setting ambitious targets, creating a virtuous cycle of progress. With the proper support, the world can ensure that future climate-action reports reflect accomplishments that make future generations proud. Tackling global warming and climate change requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach. Here are some suggestions:

Investment needs to be made in promoting renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal. We need to incentivize the development and implementation of renewable energy technologies. We must encourage the transition from fossil fuels to cleaner transportation, industry, and electricity generation alternatives.

Enforcement of strict energy efficiency standards for buildings, appliances, and industrial processes, use of energy-efficient technologies and practices in both residential and commercial sectors, supporting research and development of

innovative energy-saving solutions, implementation of sustainable land-use practices and prevent deforestation, protection and restore ecosystems such as mangroves, wetlands, and forests, which act as carbon sinks will go a long way in mitigating climatic changes and global warming. We must encourage businesses and industries to adopt low-carbon technologies through economic incentives, use revenue generated from carbon pricing to fund climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, strengthen global cooperation on climate issues through international agreements and partnerships, and share knowledge, resources, and technologies for effective climate action. Allocation of resources to fund scientific research on climate change impacts, mitigation strategies, and innovative technologies, supporting interdisciplinary research to understand complex climate systems better, and translate research findings into actionable policies and practices are also the need of the hour.

Further, we must develop and implement strategies

to adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and changing precipitation patterns, invest in resilient infrastructure and urban planning to withstand climate-related challenges.

Circular Economy Practices through the promotion of the concept of a circular economy to minimize waste and encourage recycling supporting businesses that adopt sustainable and circular production models are also essential. Government Policies and Regulations through enactment and enforcement of policies that limit greenhouse gas emissions across industries, providing incentives for businesses and individuals to adopt sustainable practices, establishing long-term climate goals and regularly reassessing and adjusting policies based on scientific advancements and changing conditions etc., can contribute to mitigating the impacts of climate change and fostering a more sustainable and resilient future.

**Former Professor of Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, currently at Berhampur, Odisha**

The Paris Climate Agreement, signed in 2015, marked a significant global commitment to combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. However, the recent "global stock take" report by the United Nations reveals a shortfall in achieving the necessary cuts to ensure climate stability. This emphasizes the urgency for governments worldwide to take decisive action to limit global warming within safe parameters. While industry, transportation, electricity, and buildings contribute to 75% of global GHG emissions, effective public policies can mitigate pollution, promote consumer savings, protect public health, and stimulate sustainable economic growth.

Promoting innovation for practical application and widespread adoption of cross-sectoral decarbonizing technologies is crucial for significantly reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

## Fostering Excellence in Government Schools: A Welcome and Transformative Initiative"

**Aubaid Ahmad Akhoon**

In the pursuit of educational excellence, the government of Jammu and Kashmir has introduced a series of visionary initiatives aimed at not only elevating the quality of education but also promoting transparency, accountability, and community involvement in government schools. These multifaceted strategies are a testament to the government's unwavering commitment to nurturing a brighter future for the region's youth.

1. Enrolling Teachers' Wards in Government Schools: A Strong Foundation: One of the foundational pillars of this transformative journey is the requirement that government teachers and employees enroll their own children in government schools. This policy is a powerful demonstration of trust in the public education system and encourages teachers to actively engage in enhancing these institutions.

2. Merit-Based Promotions and In-Service Examinations: Traditionally, promotions in the education sector have

been heavily reliant on seniority. However, the government has shifted its focus to merit-based promotions, with in-service exams serving as a crucial component in assessing a teacher's proficiency, knowledge, and dedication. This change ensures that promotions are earned through competence, ultimately benefiting both teachers and students.

3. Transparency through Monthly Reports: To uphold transparency and accountability, Zone Education Officers (ZEOs) are now mandated to publish monthly reports in local newspapers. These reports comprehensively cover government school policies, achievements, activities, teacher standards, and more. This practice not only keeps the public informed but also motivates authorities to continuously strive for improvement.

4. Teacher Training and Professional Development: Investments in teacher training and professional development programs have been prioritized. These initiatives are designed to keep educators up-to-date with the latest teaching methodologies and technological advancements. A well-trained teacher is more effective in the classroom and positively impacts students' learning

experiences.

5. Encouraging Community Engagement: Active engagement of parents and the local community is a critical component. Government schools now actively involve parents through parent-teacher associations and seek community support. This collaborative approach empowers the community, fosters a sense of ownership, and strengthens the school's standing.

6. Infrastructure and Resource Enhancement: Improving the physical infrastructure and providing necessary resources, such as textbooks and teaching aids, is vital. Adequate classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and technology support are being provided to create a conducive learning environment.

7. Holistic Education: Education is not just about academics; it's about character development, critical thinking, and practical skills.

Government schools are emphasizing holistic development to prepare students for academic and life challenges.

8. Regular Assessment and Feedback: To identify areas in need of improvement, a system for continuous assessment and feedback has been implemented. Students, teachers, and parents have channels to

provide valuable feedback on various aspects of the school environment. Tailpiece : the comprehensive efforts to transform government schools in Jammu and Kashmir deserve our utmost appreciation. By adopting an integrated approach that includes academic enhancements, transparency, community engagement, and infrastructure development, these initiatives are poised to create a more conducive and enriching learning environment for students. With sustained dedication and support, government schools can indeed become centers of excellence, nurturing the potential of every child and contributing to the region's progress and development. This transformation represents an investment in the future, where education empowers individuals and uplifts communities....

**Author is a renowned Columnist & Motivational Speaker and an Associate Editor of the Weekly Publication 'Education Quill.' He currently serves as the Senior EDP Head at DD Target PMT Kashmir, a reputable institute renowned for its coaching classes in the medical/JEE/Foundation Classes.**

We are Muslims, the Ummah of our beloved and honorable Prophet Muhammad PBUH. So, where do we stand? Are we the people for whom Prophet Muhammad PBUH used to cry in the midnights? Do we truly deserve to be here? Are we the people whom Prophet Muhammad PBUH wished for? Where did we lose our souls? Where did we lose that humanity? Aren't we starving for peace? What is the cause of the hardening of our hearts?

It's unfortunate to unveil the reality of the Muslim community at this moment. We proudly call ourselves Muslims without truly understanding what Islam is. Many are unaware of the first and last Caliph of Islam and struggle to recall the biography of our Prophet Muhammad PBUH.

Looking at the circumstances prevailing in the world, it's evident that many are not living their lives in peace. There is chaos, suffering, heartbreaks, diseases, and a lack of peace of mind globally. The pursuit of worldly fame has led people away from the Almighty, and in this dreamy world, we've mistaken it for real peace. As we run after worldly fame, it's crucial to remember that this

fame is temporary. Afterward, we'll be running after [AL-NAFSI].

We erroneously consider this worldly fame as if we are going to stay in this world forever, leading us down the wrong path with "HELL" as its destination.

In our journey, we often neglect those who warn us about our misguided path, focusing more on those who support us, considering them dear friends. The opposing voices are seen as enemies. This world, considered heaven by many, is, in reality, a prison for the followers of Allah.

The hardening of hearts occurs when we drift away from Almighty Allah. The obsession with appearance and attire, with little regard for Islam, renders our lives wasted. By the time realization dawns, opportunities blessed by Allah have passed, and the past cannot be recovered.

The signs of the day of judgment are becoming more apparent. Wiser individuals focus on reforming themselves to secure a better Aakhirah. Ironically, people from other religions are converting to Islam, realizing the darkness in which they had been living. Yet, many born Muslims are distant

from their Deen, with converts teaching them about Islam.

The hardening of hearts results from moving away from Almighty Allah. People's concerns about appearance overshadow their connection with Islam, leading to wasted lives.

If you realize you are on the wrong path, come back soon before Allah snatches this opportunity.

In your journey of repentance, remember to stay committed. Do not disclose your plans, as others may divert you. People may try to demotivate you, but have faith in Allah's mercy. Care about what Allah thinks, not what people say.

The journey ahead, though filled with hurdles, will be fruitful if you stay connected with Allah and Prophet Muhammad PBUH. Quoting the insightful words of Aubaid Akhoon, a renowned author, and columnist, as well as my teacher:

"In the pursuit of worldly desires, let us not forget the essence of Islam – a path of compassion, unity, and knowledge. Our Prophet Muhammad PBUH's teachings are a guiding light in turbulent times. It's time to reevaluate our priorities and strive for a better connection with Allah. Let our hearts soften, our

## "Renew, Reflect, Reconnect: Islam's Call"

**Umais Mudasir Farooqi**

minds enlighten, and our souls find solace in the eternal wisdom of Allah. The journey towards self-realization and a better Aakhirah begins with understanding, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to the teachings of Islam." Aubaid Akhoon These words resonate deeply, urging us to reflect on our journey, reform ourselves, and nurture a genuine connection with our Creator. As we embark on a new chapter with optimism and determination, may our actions align with the divine principles of Islam.

Bottom line: In concluding this reflection, let us strive for a collective awakening within the Muslim Ummah. As we navigate the complexities of life, it is essential to reclaim the essence of Islam, seek knowledge, and embody the teachings of Prophet Muhammad PBUH.

With renewed spirits, let us forge ahead on a path that connects us with Almighty Allah and secures a brighter Aakhirah.

**Class: 11th  
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Additional Insights by Aubaid Akhoon, Renowned Author, Columnist, and Teacher**

# Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare launches Digital Life Certificate Campaign 2.0 from November 1-30, 2023.

**Kolkata, (KCN):** To enhance 'Ease of Living' of Central Government pensioners, the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has been promoting Digital Life Certificate (DLC) i.e. Jeevan Pramaan extensively. In 2014, submission of DLCs using biometric devices started. Subsequently, the Department engaged with MeitY and UIDAI to develop a Face Authentication technology system based on Aadhar database, whereby it is possible to submit LC from any Android based smart phone. As per this facility, the identity of a

person is established through face authentication technique and DLC gets generated. This breakthrough technology, launched in November 2021, reduced the dependence of pensioners on external biometric devices and made the process more accessible and affordable to masses by leveraging smartphone-based technology. The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, under the Ministry of Personnels, Public Grievances and Pensions, organised Digital Life Certificate

Campaign 2.0 at eight campaign sites (of PNB and UCO Bank branches across Kolkata. To ensure pan-India coverage, the Campaign is being held at 500 locations in 100 cities across the country, targeting 50 lakh pensioners in collaboration with 17 Pension Disbursing Banks, Ministries/Departments, Pensioners' Welfare Associations, UIDAI, MeitY, PIB Doordarsan, etc. to spread awareness amongst all the Central Government Pensioners as well as the Pension Disbursing Authorities for use of DLC/Face

Authentication technology to submit Digital Life Certificate. With a view to ensure that the benefit of digital modes of Life Certificate submission reaches pensioners in the remotest corners of the country and also benefits super senior/sick / incapacitated pensioners, a comprehensive Circular with detailed guidelines has been issued defining roles and responsibilities of all the stakeholders which includes Ministries/Departments of Government of India, Pension Disbursing Banks and Pensioners'

Associations. These guidelines include nomination of nodal officers by the stakeholders, for the Campaign, spreading awareness / providing due publicity to DLC-Face Authentication technique through banners/posters placed strategically in offices and bank branches/ATMs, use DLC/Face Authentication technique as far as possible where Doorstep banking services are availed, equipping dedicated staff at bank branches with an Android phone to use this technology when pensioners visit the

branch for submission of Life Certificate, holding of Camps to enable pensioners to submit their DLCs without delay and home visit in case of bedridden pensioners. The officer from Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (Shri Ramesh Chandra Sethi, Deputy Secretary) visited bank branches of Punjab National Banks at New Manicktala, Jagachha, Garia, Paschim Putiary and UCO Banks at Kolkata Main Branch, Jadavpur and Baruipur. A large number of pensioners visited these branches for ensuring

the authentication of their Digital Life Certificates. The banks made special arrangements for the campaign ensuring complete assistance and technical support for successful authentication of these digital certificates. The Pensioners Associations namely, Co-ordination Committee of Central Government Pensioners' Association, Kolkata and National Extension Coordination Committee, Kolkata were also present during the campaign.

## Some "Informed Minds Exploiting People's Ignorance": Vice President



**New Delhi(KCN):** Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Monday alleged that some "informed minds" were exploiting the ignorance of people for petty political gains and said this cannot be allowed. He also expressed anguish over the disruption of proceedings and disturbances in Parliament being "weaponised" and stressed a narrative is required to neutralise "such tendencies". Addressing an event of the Santhigiri Ashram here, he also targeted those trying to tarnish the image of the country on "untenable grounds"

and said some people leave the shores of the country to "demean us". "Nothing can be more inappropriate and condemnable that some informed minds monetise ignorance of the people for political equity. That cannot be allowed," he said. The vice president was of the view that an "informed mind" has to be spiritual and nationalist, and a non-exploiter. Referring to the passage of the women's reservation bill in Parliament during a special session, he said those "informed minds" knew that the law cannot come into force

in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, "yet they made an issue of it... intelligent minds must give befitting replies". Soon after the bill was notified into a law, Vice President Dhankhar had used the "informed minds" phrase to attack Congress leader P Chidambaram without

taking his name. The law seeks to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies. It will come into force after the next census and a delimitation exercise (redrawing of Lok Sabha and assembly seats).

## People Not Supposed To Roam Around On Highways: Supreme Court

**New Delhi(KCN):** People are not supposed to roam around on highways, the Supreme Court said on Monday while refusing to entertain a plea raising the issue of safety and protection of pedestrians on highways. The court was hearing a petition challenging an order passed by the Gujarat High Court on a plea raising issues pertaining to the safety and protection of

pedestrians on highways. Dismissing the plea, the high court had said no positive directions can be given as the reliefs claimed in the petition would be a matter of policy decisions. It had said for the grievances raised in the plea, it was open for the petitioners to approach the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Referring to statistics, the counsel said there has

been a huge increase in the number of road accidents involving pedestrians in the country. The bench said such incidents would occur if pedestrians are found present where they are not supposed to be. "The concept of highways is that it is supposed to be segregated. People are not supposed to be roaming around on highways. That discipline is required," it

observed. "Tomorrow, you will say that they should be permitted to walk or stroll on a highway and the cars should stop. How can that happen?" the bench asked. When the lawyer again referred to the statistics and said the number of deaths from such accidents has gone up, the bench said, "That is because highways have increased... our discipline has not increased."

**Kolkata, (KCN):** As the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) programme gains momentum in West Bengal, the people belonging to the economically weaker section of the society with those belonging to the Janjati section are witnessed thronging the IEC van spreading the message on the various welfare schemes of the Union Government. Besides, women beneficiaries were seen thronging the venue where the gas supplying organisations had opened their camps for biometric or Aadhar authentication.. They were seen eagerly

waiting in the queues of enlisting their names for the same who had been already enrolled in the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). This apart, changes in personal details regarding gas services are also provided at the venue. Besides, the spreading of pesticides through drones, thus making effective management of pests in the farming of food crops had gained wide admiration from the far and corners of the villages, where VBSY events are taking place. The VBSY programme which was launched by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on November 15, 2023 aims at reaching the unreach and ensuring effective outreach of government schemes. The focus of the Yatra is to reach out to people, create awareness and provide benefits of welfare schemes like sanitation facilities, essential financial services, electricity connections, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare, clean drinking water, etc. Enrolment of potential beneficiaries also are entertained through details ascertained during the Yatra.

## Cops In Kolkata Should Give Approval To Amit Shah's Public Meet: High Court

Rajasekhar Mantha said that the authorities should grant permission to hold the meeting on that date. Justice Mantha said that the police can impose reasonable restrictions which they can convey to the organisers. He directed that the matter will appear before the court again on Wednesday.

The petitioner's lawyer Srijib Chakraborty claimed the BJP had first applied for permission to hold the meeting on November 28, but it was refused as it had not been placed before the stipulated buffer time. He said that the application was sent again for permission to hold the public meeting on November 29, but was not granted. Observing that it is a free country, Justice

Kolkata(KCN): The Calcutta High Court on Monday said that the police authorities should grant permission to the BJP to hold a public meeting in Kolkata on November 29, scheduled to be addressed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The BJP has

to the high court seeking direction to the city police to grant permission for holding the meeting at Esplanade in the heart of Kolkata, claiming that it was refused by the authorities twice. Observing that it is a free country, Justice

## Will Give Suggestions To Re-Implement Simultaneous Polls: Ex-President



Rajasekhar Mantha said that the authorities should grant permission to hold the meeting on that date. Justice Mantha said that the police can impose reasonable restrictions which they can convey to the organisers. He directed that the matter will appear before the court again on Wednesday.

Speaking to the media, Ram Nath Kovind said "The Government of India formed a high-level committee and appointed me as its chairman. Members of the committee, together with the public, will give suggestions to the Government regarding the re-implementation of this idea.

Political party has anything to do with this and it will ultimately benefit the public as whatever the money is saved can be used in development works. The second meeting of the committee on 'One Nation One Elections' headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind concluded in the national capital on October 25. During the meeting, all the legal and constitutional possibilities regarding the implementation of One Nation One Election were discussed in detail. Meanwhile, the first meeting at Jodhpur Officer Hostel in Delhi lasted for about 45 minutes and the second meeting lasted for about

# Justice Panigrahi On Nature Care

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Orissa High Court Judge, Justice Sanjeeb Panigrahi today appealed one and all to come forward for the conservation of ponds and other water bodies to control ground water duplicity.

Speaking at the National Level Summit on Climate Change & Resilient Development organized by Nature Care Initiative here, Justice Panigrahi said only human beings are responsible for the damage to nature and the environment. If mangrove plantation will not be carried out in the coastline, the

state may face severe damages during the natural disasters in coming days, he said. Protection of the mangrove plantation is also highly essential to get protection from cyclones, the HC Judge Justice Panigrahi said. Stating inclusion of environment subjects in school syllabus will not only help, he suggested to include field study on environment. He also suggested conducting a performance audit of all programmes and schemes of the state government made for disaster management. Speaking on this



occasion, Rajya Sabha Member Sujit Kumar said Odisha is a pioneer state in implementation of Climate Change Action Plan, presentation of special

Green Budget and formation of Green Climate Fund. Due to global warming and climate change, Odisha has faced eight major cyclones in the past 22 years. To get

protection from cyclones and floods, the State Government has constructed 500 shelter homes in different parts of the State, he said. The State has set a target to produce

10,000 MW green energy in next seven years, the MP stated. State Information Commissioner Susant Kumar Mohanty said the people are feeling heat in the month of

November due to the impact of climate change and global warming. People are forced to wear masks due to high-level pollution, for which we the people are responsible.

The Government or any institution cannot control it, everyone should join hands to combat the hidden demon, he added.

Chief Executive Officer of the Nature Care Initiative, Srikant Sekhar Sahu presided over the meeting. In the Technical Session, Nature Care Initiative Chief Advisor Durga Prasad Mishra chaired the meeting.

Dean of Central University, Koraput, Sarat Kumar Palit, Dean of Xavier University Sutapa Pati and Associate Professor of IIT Bhubaneswar Sandeep Patnaik enlightened the participants with their rich knowledge on environment protection and nature care. Eminent Civil Society Personalities, Youth, Environment Activists, and people across the State joined the Day Long State Level Workshop and participated in the deliberations organized by Nature Care initiative.

## Odisha Day@IITF-2023



**Bhubaneswar,(KCN):** Odisha State Day was celebrated with a show of cultural magnificence at its Pavilion at the 42nd India International Trade Fair (IITF-2023) in New Delhi.

Minister Information and Public Relations Pradip Kumar Amat graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Lenin Mohanty, Chairman, Odisha Tourism Development Corporation, Resident Commissioner Ravi Kant, Utkal Prasang and Odisha Review Editor, Kasturi Mohapatra, Director Information and Public Relations, Saroj Kumar Samal, Director Tribal Affairs and SCSTRTI Director, Indramani Tripathy, Additional Director I & PR, Santosh Kumar Das and Joint Director I&PR Surjya Ranjan Mohanty graced the occasion as Honorable Guests.

IITF-2023 holds special significance as it features a robust representation of tribal groups, with a notable focus on women actively participating in the production process. Aligned with the Mission Shakti initiative, the pavilion underscores women's empowerment, highlighting Odisha's commitment to gender equality and recognizing women as pivotal drivers of economic growth. The IITF-2023 organized by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from 14-27 November carries the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: United by Trade." The Odisha Pavilion embraces this theme, embodying the spirit of 'Unity through Trade.' It emphasizes trade as a unifying force that

bridges diverse cultures and communities, including the representation of tribal groups. The Odisha Pavilion, featuring 08 Departments, 24 stalls, includes renowned handloom outlets, Mission Shakti products, Millet Mission and other Government departments, offering visitors a detailed look at brick-colored terracotta artifact models that reflect country's rural culture. Live demonstrations by artisans will provide insights into the intricate process of transforming raw materials into finished goods. Notably, the pavilion takes pride in presenting handloom, silk products, highlighting an eco-friendly process that obtains silk without harming insects,

reflecting Odisha's dedication to sustainable and ethical practices. Visitors enjoyed wonderful cultural performances by Odisha's Troupes during the Odisha State Day celebrations enriching the overall experience of this 14-day-long global trade exhibition.

Delicious foods being served in the Odisha Pavilion, which is a star attraction, said a Delhiite. Earlier on 14 November, Odisha Pavilion was inaugurated by Ashok Kumar Panda, Minister, Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Public Enterprises, and Science & Technology.

Sanjay Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary, Information & Public Relations Department and Ravi Kant, Resident Commissioner, Saroj Kumar Samal, Director Information and Public Relations, ORMAS CEO Guha Poonam Tapas Kumar and others graced the occasion. The IITF-2023 is attracting visitors, featuring participation from States, Countries, Ministries, CPSUs, and several other stakeholders.

Odisha Resident Commissioner Office and Department of Information and Public Relations Officials are working in tandem to make this event successful.



**2023-2024**

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## EHAA Donates e-Vehicles

**Cuttack (KCN):** Setting an example of alumni's role in helping out their alma mater and students, the East Hostel Alumni Association (EHAA) has donated two e-vehicles for the use of physically challenged students of Ravenshaw University.

This afternoon the keys were handed over to the authorities of Ravenshaw University in the presence of some prominent members of the EHAA, physically challenged students, and also the current

boarders of the historic East Hostel, which is the pride of the oldest temple of learning in the entire state. The e-vehicles (e-autorickshaws) will enable the physically challenged students to come to their respective departments and library etc from their hostel as they find it very difficult to shuttle themselves on their own while staying inside the campus. The e-vehicles which are built with all-metal front portions will ensure better safety

features for the riders while commuting inside the varsity campus. On behalf of the authorities of Ravenshaw University Registrar Kanhu Charan Mallik, Prof. Pratibha Kumar Mohapatra from the Department of Botany and Asst Professor Odia Ashish Kumar Sahu and Warden of East Hostel Sarat Kumar Rout were present. Similarly, among the prominent EHAA members Prof

Harihara Panda, Sashanka Sekhar Rout, Binay Dash, Subhranshu Mishra, Bibhuti Barik, Sukanta Samal, Bibya Ranjan Dip, Debapriya Parida and Ashish Choudhury were present.

Before the formal handing over of the keys to the Ravenshaw University authorities a puja was also organized near East Hostel for the e-vehicles as per the Vedic rituals and formalities made with proper branding of the vehicles.

## Sony India announces next-generation APS-C Mirrorless interchangeable lens camera a6700

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Sony India today announced the release of its newest APS-C mirrorless camera, the a6700 (ILCE-6700). This new offering combines the cutting-edge still

image and video capabilities found in the latest full-frame Alpha™ and Cinema Line series with the compact and lightweight design of the a6000 series, resulting in a Sony's



Sony's advanced BIONZ XR® processing engine, the a6700 achieves exceptional imaging performance while maintaining a compact and lightweight design.

The camera supports high-resolution 4K video recording at up to 120fps, a wide latitude of 14+ stops for capturing details in harsh or under-lit conditions and features the S-

Cinetone™ picture profile found in Sony's professional Cinema Line for refined movie imagery that doesn't require colour grading, and it delivers stunning representation of human skin tones.

## Emcure launches EmWocal campaign to raise awareness on Anaemia

**Pune:** To raise awareness on important women's health issues around Anaemia, Breastfeeding and Menstruation, pharma major Emcure Pharmaceuticals has launched the EmWocal initiative. It is an awareness campaign that has been launched in association with the Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists of India (FOGSI). Harnessing technologies like Augmented Reality (AR) and personal digital assistant, the initiative aims to reach 1 crore women across India. EmWocal campaign will be live in nine Indian

languages (Hindi, English, Odia, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Bengali).

At the core of the EmWocal campaign will be smart kiosks displaying QR codes, and thoughtfully installed at the waiting areas of hospitals and clinics. This is to make sure that the long waiting time to see the doctors can be well utilised by visiting patients in educating themselves.

Women scanning the QR code will be guided on to Augmented Reality (AR) videos. Frequently Asked Questions and chat with a personal digital assistant among

others. Patients will also be asked to partake in the digital interaction related to their basic health and lifestyles. The nudges provided by the personal health assistant during the AR journey will help patients discuss their problems with doctors and in turn help doctors having better informed patients.

As per India's fifth National Family Health Survey (2019-2021), the prevalence of anaemia in females aged 15-19 years is a whopping 59.1 per cent whereas that among pregnant women aged up to 49 years of age was 52.2%. Through digitally accessible information

and informative videos, EmWocal campaign will raise awareness about anaemia and prompt women to take appropriate actions to deal with this. While the benefits of breastfeeding for the child are widely discussed, the EmWocal campaign will drive understanding on the significance and benefits for the mother's health. EmWocal's third awareness area is menstrual health. Menstruation is still considered a taboo in India with multiple misconceptions which need to be changed.

Pratin Vete, President - India Business, Emcure

and pharmaceuticals said,

"Issues related to women's health are still widely associated with irrational taboos. This leads to lack of awareness, and in turn affects the health of most women. It gives us a great satisfaction to launch EmWocal, a long needed initiative to help women deal with their health issues through easily available and medically verified information. The best thing about this initiative is that it is personalized to the women accessing the information and guides them to discuss important issues with their doctors."

## Vi ties-up with SonyLIV to offer exclusive plans bundled with premium content

In line with its continuous endeavour to offer unmatched entertainment to its users, Vi, the leading telecom brand, today announced its partnership with SonyLIV to offer premium content services which will bring the world of binge-worthy content and add-on data benefits together for Vi users. Creating a unique bundle option for the customers, Vi in association with SonyLIV has launched a new Prepaid pack offering subscription of SonyLIV Premium along with extra data benefits to the users.

From sports properties like UEFA Champions League, WWE, Bundesliga, UFC to originals like Scam 1992 - The Harshad Mehta Story, Maharanis, Tabbar, Rocket Boys, Gullak Season 3; regional content like Salute, Kaanekkaane, Shantit Kranti and James and international shows The Good Doctor, Fantasy Island and Magpie Murders, SonyLIV has a bouquet of attractive content offerings appealing to audiences across age and interests. The new proposition will enable all Vi prepaid users to enjoy SonyLIV Premium without having to worry about data quota.

For Prepaid Users, Vi has introduced a new add-on recharge of Rs. 82 offering free mobile only subscription of SonyLIV Premium for 28 days along with an added data benefit of 4GB with 14days validity.

In addition to this, Vi offers a rich content library for its customers under Vi Movies & TV (VMTV) on the Vi app. VMTV app has 450+ live TV channels, live news channels and premium content from other OTT apps.

## L&T and VMware join hands to accelerate digital infrastructure adoption across verticals

**Mumbai:** Smart World & Communication (SWC) business of L&T, a leading Indian multinational engaged in EPC Projects, Hi-Tech Manufacturing and Services and VMware Inc, a leading global provider of multi-cloud services have announced a strategic partnership to accelerate the adoption of digital infrastructure solutions across industries, through incubation of a VMware Centre of Excellence (COE).

The offerings would include an AI and automation-led 'Intelligent, secure SD-WAN on-demand' solution, to help clients improve the experience and efficiencies across their enterprise networks. This partnership will help clients attain digital versatility through multi-cloud solutions, leveraging VMware suite of products. The partnership will focus on innovation in the areas of cloud engineering and disaster recovery, improving the resilience of businesses and enterprises.

L&T SWC will also leverage VMware's cutting-edge Telco Cloud products to create unique value propositions for clients through robust, secure Industry 4.0 solutions across verticals over 5G/IOT/Edge.

"With the advent of 5G, we believe, the market is set to see large scale adoption of Industry 4.0 solutions across manufacturing, healthcare, education and other industries. L&T SWC and VMware join hands to build a robust suite of digital infrastructure solutions, to help businesses become highly agile, versatile and resilient," says Mr. J. D. Patil, Whole-time Director and Senior Executive Vice President for L&T's Defence Business & Smart Technologies Business.

## Policybazaar findings indicate a higher propensity to purchase insurance in tier-2 & 3 cities after the Covid outbreak

**Bhubaneswar :** Policybazaar, one of India's largest online insurance marketplaces, conducted an online survey to understand the changing consumer sentiment towards insurance purchase, household finances and investments over the last two years of the pandemic. Policybazaar surveyed 5000 consumers to closely understand the behavioral shift in insurance buying trends. Interestingly, the findings revealed a growing level of propensity to buy insurance, especially in tier-2 and 3 cities of India. At 89%, the highest number of respondents willing to renew their health cover belong to tier-2 cities, as compared to 77% from tier-1. Similar trends

were observed in term insurance, where 59% of respondents who want to increase their coverage belong to tier-3 cities, as compared to 26% from tier-1 cities. The survey results clearly point towards the sense of urgency spurred by the pandemic with respect to insurance awareness across the country. The pandemic has definitely given the cognitive push when it comes to health insurance purchase. Out of the respondents who had contracted Covid, 25%\* were hospitalized. We found out that 18% of them ended up spending over Rs 15 lakhs, and 22% were not adequately covered by their existing policy. Also, it is disquieting to see that 13% of those who got Covid did not have health insurance in place. These figures clearly demonstrate that one should opt for at least Rs 15-20 lakhs coverage for each family member. However, health insurance purchase trends definitely drive positive optimism. As many as 62% of the total respondents had an active policy and didn't just depend on their corporate cover. The figures also vouched for the fact that Covid had acted as a catalyst in health insurance purchase. While 50% of these policies were bought after Covid first wave, 41% were purchased after the Delta wave. Also, 80% of these policies were family floater plans, thereby revealing a higher inclination towards ensuring sufficient coverage for the entire family.

## Symphony limited ropes-in ace cricketers Harbhajan Singh and Shikhar Dhawan for a unique AI-led campaign

**Bhubaneswar:** India's most loved air cooler brand Symphony limited has roped in the country's sought-after cricketers Harbhajan Singh and Shikhar Dhawan for a unique AI-led nationwide initiative. The brand has partnered with Rephrase AI to create hyper-personalized video films for over 2,300 retailers across India. This is the first time in the consumer durables industry that a brand has leveraged artificial intelligence and initiated geo-targeting for each retailer. The heartwarming videos will witness India's popular cricketers appreciating dealers for their constant support and efforts for providing

great customer service. Known for being one of the largest homegrown brands, Symphony has always supported small and local businesses and has been a strong advocate of Vocal for Local. Along with the personalized videos, Symphony has also given letter of recognition, a certificate and a couple of goodies as a token of appreciation. The brand has taken this thought a notch higher by paying a tribute to the work of their trade partners. It strikes an emotional chord by going out of the way in reaching out to the people that matter.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr. Anuj

## 'DigiSaathi' - 24x7 Helpline for information on Digital Payments now enabled on additional channels

**Mumbai :** DigiSaathi - a 24x7 helpline for information on digital payment products and services is setup by NPCI on behalf of a consortium of payment system operators and participants (banks & non-banks). DigiSaathi will be accessible on WhatsApp for the customers to access all the information they need pertaining to digital payment products and services. DigiSaathi will assist the users with all their queries on digital payments via the chatbot facility on WhatsApp by simply messaging on +91828913333. The facility will soon also be available on other social media channels as well.

Launched recently by Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), DigiSaathi is an automated response system that helps customers in addressing their queries related to multiple products and services under the payments system umbrella including Cards (Debit/Credit/Prepaid), UPI, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, AePS, NETC, BBPS, USSD, PPI Wallets, ATM, QR (UPI/Bharat), NACH, TReDs, CTS, MTSS, Mobile and Net banking. The Consortium of Payment System Operators and Participants including ecosystem Partners, Banks, Card Networks,

PPIs, Fintechs, Payments Council of India (PCI), and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) came together for implementing this to empower people to adopt digital payments with even more conviction.

DigiSaathi is available in both English and Hindi for customers wherein they can access information about any of the digital payment products and services. It even guides them on how to avail or use any particular product or service. DigiSaathi also helps customers with their transaction-related queries, by guiding them and sharing the contact details of concerned banks/institutions.

Arora, Global Chief Marketing Officer, Symphony Limited says, "We are ecstatic to have partnered with reputed cricketers, Harbhajan Singh, and Shikhar Dhawan. They came on board to create AI driven customized videos for our dealership partners who are an integral part of our company. The objective is to create brand love and deepen the bonding with our trade partners. We are consistently brainstorming and innovating to come up with intriguing campaigns. With this initiative, we hope to strengthen our relationships and reach new heights together."



# It's the pinnacle of international cricket - Cummins on World Cup win

**New Delhi:** Pat Cummins termed winning the World Cup as the 'pinnacle of international cricket' after Australia emerged victorious in a rather one-sided affair at the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad on Sunday (November 19). A relentless performance with the ball helped them restrict India to 240 before Travis Head put on a show, scoring a fabulous century that helped Australia chase down the target in 43 overs to lift the trophy in the men's edition for the sixth time. "That's huge, I think that's the pinnacle of international cricket, winning a one-day World Cup. Especially over here in India, in front of a crowd like this. Yeah, that's huge. Yeah, it's been a big year for everyone, but our cricket team has been here in

India, Ashes, World Test Championship and to top it off with this is just huge and these are the moments that you'll remember for the rest of your life," said Cummins at the post-match press conference. "It's just every international team comes together. You only get a shot at it every four years. Even if you have a ten-year career, you might only get two chances at it. And yeah, it's just the whole cricket world stops with this World Cup. So, it doesn't get any better."

This has been a year of successes for Australia, what with a World Test Championship title by beating India, retaining the Ashes in England and now the ODI World Cup victory. And when asked to rate the best, Cummins was quick to again label the World Cup win as

their 'pinnacle'. "This is, no doubt," said Cummins. "The World Test Championship was huge like again another two-year campaign - but yet an ODI World Cup - it's the rich history I think and to come out of a place like India where you know the conditions are so different to back home, it's pretty gruelling, 11 games in whatever it was, 5 - 6 weeks, but yeah, the way the group stuck together and got through it and yeah holding the medal is - that's the pinnacle."

One thing that Cummins hoped for before the match was to silence the humongous crowd at the stadium, and Australia lived up to that with their clinical performance. Barring the aggressive start with the bat by Rohit Sharma and India's early strikes with the ball, the 92,000-old who

had turned up at the ground spent the majority of the game in stunned silence. "I always like to say I'm pretty relaxed but I was a little bit nervous this morning you know just pacing around waiting for it to get started just seeing the sea of blue in the hotel, getting nearer

the ground and seeing the sea of blue, walking, making its way to the ground, all the cars parked with their selfie cameras out, you kind of knew you were walking into something pretty special. And then to walk out for the toss and just see 130,000 blue Indian shirts, it's an

experience you'll never forget. Awesome day and the good thing was they weren't too noisy for most of it," noted Cummins. The crowd was especially shocked when Virat Kohli, having registered a fifty and looking good for more, played a Cummins'

delivery onto the stumps. "We did take a second in the huddle just to acknowledge the silence that was going around the crowd. Yeah, it just felt like it was one of those days where it was all made for him to score another hundred like he normally does and yeah that (getting him out) was satisfying," said the Australia captain. Cummins, who has been leading Australia for a while now, spoke about how the players have bought into what the team needs, which in turn has translated into proud moments on the field.

"It's probably for others to judge that but yeah, couldn't be prouder of the team for the last few years. We've had some tough series but we've won some amazing

series as well and everyone stood up and we feel like we've got a great red ball team and the white ball team has won two trophies in the last few years so it's, yeah, things are looking pretty rosy. "It's really tough because you're playing against the best teams in the world and every team wants to achieve the same thing. It's really tough. I always keep saying about our team, we've got a lot of experience and we've got many different characters which is great, you want that in a team. But everyone buys in. Everyone does what the team needs. Everyone's there to look after each other. And I think that's something that's contributed to a few of our successes over the years," Cummins said.

## 'We tried everything we could' - Rohit after World Cup final loss

**New Delhi:** It was a phrase used twice by Rohit Sharma at the post-match presentation after India lost the World Cup final to Australia by six wickets.

"We were not good enough today," Rohit said, reflecting on the game. "But again, I think I'm really proud of the team, how we played from game one. It just wasn't our day."

"We tried everything we could from our side. But yeah, it wasn't supposed to be."

India's winning juggernaut, which saw them win all their nine league games and then the semi-final in Mumbai, came to an abrupt halt at the final. Asked to bat first, the hosts struggled for momentum on a slow

and dry surface in Ahmedabad and were bowled out for 240 off the last ball of the innings.

"I mean 20-30 more [runs] would have been good," Rohit said. "We spoke around 25-30 overs when KL



and Virat were batting. They were stitching a good partnership there and they just needed to bat as long as possible. We were looking at 270-280 at that point, but then we kept losing wickets. We couldn't stitch a big partnership there. And that's exactly what Australia did to win the game. They stitched a big partnership after those

three wickets." Compared to 67 runs between KL Rahul and Virat Kohli for the fourth wicket, Australia correspondingly added 192 runs after losing three wickets just like India. "When you have 240 on the board, you want to take wickets as early as possible and we did that but then again, credit to those two guys in the middle - Travis and Marnus, they stitched up a big partnership and put us completely out of the game," Rohit said.

"But again, we tried everything we could, you know, but I thought the wicket got slightly better

to bat under the lights." With the onset of dew, the pitch started to play better later in the innings but Rohit said that he didn't want to use it as an "excuse" for India's loss. After all, Rohit had revealed at the toss that India too were looking to bat first and put a big total on the board in the big final. "We knew under the lights, it would be slightly better but again, we don't want to give that as an excuse. We didn't bat well enough to put enough runs on the board. And then with the seamers upfront, we got those three wickets where we thought another wicket could open up the game but again, credit to those two guys in the middle for stretching that big partnership."

## 'This World Cup win bigger than 2015'

**New Delhi:** It all came together for Australia in the final. A World Cup they started with back-to-back losses came to a close with Pat Cummins, their captain, holding the trophy aloft in Ahmedabad. Here's how the players reacted to Australia's six-wicket win over India in the final, a victory which took their ODI World Cup title count to six.

**David Warner:** "Our bowlers were fantastic, they were flowing from the last game, they set the tone, fielding was great. Travis Head... the show he put on was just incredible. Took the game on and even when we were 3 for 60-odd, he kept going and played his game. I thought Marnus played another great fun."

**Mitchell Starc:** "He (Cummins) was phenomenal, he's been phenomenal all tournament in his decision-making, his leadership. At times, he had to step up with the ball when it's been a bit flat. Capped off an

unbelievable eight weeks for this group. I haven't got any words left. Between Pat, Ron (Andrew McDonald) and all our coaching staff, all our players across formats, it's been an incredible winter. I don't think you could write a script to top the win that we've had. To win a World Cup in India, it's been a fantastic eight weeks. Bloody successful and bloody enjoyable."

**Mitchell Marsh:** "Pure elation right now. I was telling this to the boys earlier, it's been the hardest 8 weeks of cricket I was a part of. To be here with this group, it feels unbelievable. We were down and out when Sri Lanka were none for 120, seems a long time ago. Unbelievable, absolutely unbelievable!"

## There were a lot of emotions, it was tough to see - Dravid

**New Delhi:** Rahul Dravid gave a peek into what the Indian dressing room may have looked like after the side's devastating defeat in the final of the World Cup on Sunday night. "There is disappointment in the dressing room, and there is disappointment among the boys and among the support staff," the India head coach said about the mood in the change room after Australia recorded a surprisingly crushing one-sided win over the home team.

"There were a lot of emotions in that dressing room. It was tough to see as a coach," Dravid said after the match. Rohit Sharma was seen holding back his emotions while going off the ground after the match and he did well not to let emotional side overcome him. But Dravid revealed that it was tough for him to see the players in such

a state of mind. "I know how hard these guys have worked, what they've put in, the sacrifices they've made. So, it's tough. I mean, it's tough to see that as a coach, because you get to know these boys personally. You get to see the effort they put in, the hard work that we've put in," the India coach, visibly glum, said. "But that's sport. That happens. It can happen. And the better team won on the day. And I'm sure

that the sun will come up tomorrow morning. We'll learn from it. We'll reflect. And we'll move on, as will everyone else. But certainly, I think when the dust settles, we can reflect on what has been a really good campaign."

One of the best factors of his tenure is his perfect chemistry with skipper Rohit, and Dravid was all praise for the captain's

leadership skills and the attacking brand of cricket he has played in the tournament. "He's been an exceptional leader," Dravid declared. "Rohit's really led this team fantastically well. I think he's certainly got the dressing room. I just think he's given so much of his time and energy in the dressing room to the boys. He's always been available for any of our conversations, any of our meetings.

"Sometimes there's been a lot of planning, a lot of strategy that goes in. He's always committed to those things. He's given a lot of his personal time, energy into this tournament. And his batting as well, I thought it was fantastic, the way he set the tone for us. We knew that we wanted to play a certain way. We wanted to play a positive attacking brand of cricket. And he was very

committed to doing that. And he wanted to lead by example. And I thought right through the tournament, he was quite superb in doing that. And yeah, I just can't speak more highly of him as a person and as a leader." Dravid has been a rather reluctant coach and there is a perception that he will walk out and won't continue in this role.

There is also a talk that VVS Laxman will take over. But Dravid said he has not had time to reflect upon his future. "I haven't thought about it (about continuation). I've just come off a game. I have no time to think about this and no time to reflect on this. Yeah, I will when I get the time to do that. But at this point of time, I was completely focused on this campaign. It was focused on this World Cup, and there was nothing else on my mind. And I haven't given any other thought to what happens in the future," the coach said, leaving the question open-ended. Dravid also addressed the issue of India fumbling in the final hurdle of the ICC events and the

perception of having fear of failure in the final. "I won't believe that we played with fear in this tournament. In this final match, we were on 80 runs in 10 overs. We were losing wickets. When you lose wickets, you have to change your strategy and tactics. We showed that in this tournament. When we lost against England, we played differently. You have to play. You start with front foot cricket. And in this match, in the final, we didn't play anything out of fear," the former India captain said at one point.

To another question of similar nature on why India have not won an ICC trophy for 10 years, Dravid said there cannot be one specific reason for that. "I guess if I knew the answer, I would say that. But no, I think, to be honest, I don't know," he

remarked. Under him, India reached the semifinal of the 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia, lost the final of the World Test Championship in the UK and then again now came second best in the World Cup.

"There's not one particular reason you can pin it down to," he said. "I didn't feel at any stage going into this game that there were any nerves or the guys were intimidated by the game or they were concerned about the game. They were looking forward to it, and we were excited about the game. I thought there was energy and the mental space the boys were in leading into this particular game was spot-on, was terrific. Just on the day we probably didn't execute, and Australia played better than us," he strove hard to explain.

