

PRESIDENT OF INDIA LAUNCHES AN EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ‘NEW EDUCATION FOR NEW INDIA’ OF BRAHMA KUMARIS, SAMBALPUR

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES 42ND CONVOCATION OF SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

NewDelhi,(KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu launched an Education Campaign ‘New Education for New India’ of Brahma Kumaris, Sambalpur at Sambalpur, Odisha today (November 22, 2023). This campaign is envisaged to inculcate values and uplift the consciousness of the students for better society. Speaking on the occasion, the President said that education has always played an important and transformative role in society building. She highlighted that moral and human values ??like



service, equality and sympathy are the foundation of our culture and youth should be familiar with these great ideals. They should take care of their elderly parents and people from the deprived sections of society to make a better society. She added that positive attitude towards these values ??should be created in the minds of children through education. The President said that moral education helps in

building our life and brings positive changes in the society. Moral education makes us aware of the life values ??of compassion, kindness, friendship and fraternity. Positive changes can occur in an individual having these qualities. Positive changes in an individual can result a better society. She was happy to note that Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is making the path to happiness, peace and joy, accessible through character-building, self-realization and divine experience.



NewDelhi,(KCN):The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the 42nd convocation of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning at Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh today (November 22, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that spirituality is India's invaluable contribution to the world. From time to time, great spiritual figures have spread the message of virtue, compassion and philanthropy. Sri Sathya Sai Baba was one such great personality who sanctified the area of ??Puttaparthi. Millions of people have been and will continue to benefit from

his blessings. She stated that the concept of education of such personalities brings alive our great traditions. The President said that teaching life values ??and morality is real education. Inculcating the values ??of truth, good conduct, peace, affection and non-violence in every student is the main goal of integral education. She was happy to note that Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning gives fundamental importance to human and spiritual values. She said that the institute's holistic vision towards education is

very impressive. Concept of edu-care instead of education is very useful and meaningful. The President noted that this institute has included physical, psychological, intellectual, emotional and spiritual dimensions in the education process. She expressed confidence that students of this institute will succeed in developing professionally sound, socially responsible and spiritually aware personalities. She said that they are expected to spread values ??and teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba and present examples of spiritual growth along with modern development.

CS Opens IIM-ATM 23'

Bhubaneswar(KCN): 77th Annual Technical Meeting of Indian Institute of Metals and National Metallurgist Awards (IIM-ATM 2023 & NMA) is being held at KIIT Convention Centre, Bhubaneswar from 22-24th November 2023. This flagship event of metal industry is being jointly organized by the Angul, Sambalpur and Bhubaneswar Chapters of IIM, in association with Hindalco Industries Ltd. and KIIT. Pradeep Kumar Jena, Chief Secretary, inaugurated the Plenary Session of IIM-ATM 2023 in the presence of Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries. Sajjan Jindal, Vice President, IIM and Chairman, JSW Group, Amarendu Prakash, Chairman SAIL, Satish Pai, President, IIM and Managing Director, Hindalco Industries Prof. BS Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad and Dr. Komal Kapoor, Chief Executive of Nuclear



Fuel Complex, both, Vice Presidents of IIM graced the occasion. Inaugurating the event Chief Secretary, Odisha Shri Jena focused on Odisha as a higher revenue surplus State because of its vibrant mineral sector. The Mining and Metal sector possesses massive growth opportunities and potential to contribute to the State's economy and nation-building agenda of our Government. He focussed on sustainable practices and technology in mineral exploration to lessen its influence on the environment. He hoped that value addition to the development initiatives through brainstorming and

exchange of ideas by important stakeholders of the metal industry would help in a big way at the IIM-ATM. Principal Secretary Industries Sri Sharma in his address highlighted how infrastructure has been improved in the State of Odisha due to growth in the metal and industrial sectors. Focusing on sustainability transformation in Metal Industries, he also expressed that efficiency in metallurgy needs to be geared up. Over 1300 participants, who encompass senior officials from the Government, PSUs, metal industries, prominent corporate

houses and research institutions across the globe, are attending the three-day event. There are about 60 prominent National and International Speakers attending in multiple sessions of the conference, which will have nearly 700 technical paper presentations by subject experts during 10 parallel technical sessions. The Organizing Committee of IIM-ATM 2023 include, S S Mohanty, Chairman IIM-ATM 2023 and MD & CEO, Essar Minmet and Bibhu Mishra, Convener IIM-ATM 2023 and Advisor, Hindalco Industries Ltd. were present in the inaugural session. After the inaugural session, a technical exhibition has been inaugurated by Shri Jindal. An International Symposium on the theme, “Sustainable Transformations in Metal Industries, also inaugurated on the

occasion by Shri Pai. Other dignitaries from Government of India, Industry sector ,experts are attending these three –day programmes scheduled for the occasion. Awards in different categories will be presented to experts in the field of metallurgy which include, Lifetime Achievement, National Metallurgist, Award for R & D in Iron and Steel Sector, Young Metallurgist in Metal Science and Young Metallurgist in Environmental Science during the programme. Indian Institute of Metals is recognized worldwide as a premier metallurgical & materials organization, committed to the promotion and advancement of study, practices and research in metallurgical sciences and technology. With a large membership base, the IIM has chapters today in almost all important cities and industrial towns of India.

Five trapped Odia workers in Uttarakhand's Silkyara tunnel 'safe and fine'

Bhubaneswar(KCN):Five people from Odisha among the 41 labourers who have been trapped inside Silkyara tunnel in Uttarkashi of Uttarakhand where a massive rescue operation has been going on for the last 11 days are reportedly safe and fine. Oxygen, food and water are being supplied to the distressed workers through a pipe. Amidst this rescue operation, got to the ground and talked to an Odia labourer engaged in the tunnel work to know about the labourers trapped inside the tunnel while a ray of hope for their rescue has brightened. Khirod Nayak from Mayurbhanj who works at the project site talked to our New Delhi correspondent and



revealed the latest condition of the entrapped. Khirod said that three people from his native village were among the five Odias in the tunnel. He talked to the entrapped colleagues through a walk-talkie this morning to learn about their condition. “I talked to them at 9 am. His friends said they were not in any kind of distress. They are better than before, safe and fine. Me and my entrapped friends are hopeful of their

rescue after a machine from the USA was deployed in the rescue operation,” Khirod added. He further stated that the family members of the trapped labourers who called him to enquire about their kin's condition in tuner have been told about their safety and ongoing rescue operation and food provision through a pipe. Khirod said that he was asleep outside the tunnel when a part of it caved in, trapping 41 people.

Tiger Spotted In Gajapati

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Forest Officials have sighted a Royal Bengal Tiger in Mahendra forest on the Andhra Pradesh-Odisha border area in Gajapati district. The big cat, captured on camera trap deployed by the Forest Department, has now attracted a slew of safety and awareness measures by the Paralakhemundi Divisional Forest Office. On October 18, the tiger reportedly dragged a cow from a shed in Santoshpur village within the Mahendra-Narayanpur forest range in Rayagada block of the district. Following the incident, the locals are in fear and scared. However, Principal Chief Conservator of



Forests (PCCF) Wildlife, Susanta Nanda appealed to the people not to remain in panic and follow the advice of the forest officials. “As the Tiger Census is underway in the State, tigers and leopards are being trapped in cameras put up at different places.

So, there is no need to panic,” Shri Nanda said. On death of calf/cattle by wild animals, the PCCF (Wildlife) said the State Government is providing Rs 20,000 as compensation to the owners. Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF),

Paralakhemundi, Ashok Behera said the tiger might have entered Gajapati from bordering areas of Andhra Pradesh and preyed on a cow from Analabara village. “The forest department officials found the pugmarks of the tiger

and also recovered the carcass of the cow. In order to confirm the presence of the tiger, we installed five trap cameras in the area and the cameras captured the photographs of the predator,” Shri Behera said. After getting pictures of a Royal Bengal Tiger, the forest department has deployed five teams consisting of 35 members to alert people living in the bordering areas and instruct them not to step out of their homes at night, the ACF said. The locals have been advised to tie their cattle to save them from the predator and not to roam outside in the nights, Shri Behera added.

Tenderly sobbing

DWIT DAVID PHILIP

A human life with fragility,
A human life with divinity,
A human life with all sensitivity,
Best heart without a voting right.

Without requesting, they come into life,
Without knowledge names are given,
Food, water, and air are only demand of life,
From day one facing restrictions and impositions in life,

Though heart and mind is empty,
Nakedness, they are taught from beginning to hide,
Handle with care their heart and mind,
It's they who turn into human bombs also messengers of tranquility.

Compare not with flowers of life,
Compare not with divinity,
Compare not with innocence,
They see what you, me and we have been doing.

Slogans, they are 'future of family, society, country and humanity',
Tenderly sobbing, 'don't declare delinquency',
Who is behind all these?
Voters and the adult suffrage system, never answers all these.

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Let's create a healthy environment

(Shibangi Dhara) Bandana Sahoo

Hello hello how are you?
I have an offer for you
Let's clear up a dirty environment
And create a healthy environment
Will plant trees
Will remove the grime
Will create a healthy environment.

Hello Hello how are you?
I have an offer for you
Let's clear up a dirty environment
Will remove germs
And stay healthy
will create a healthy environment.

Hello Hello how are you?
I have an offer for you
let's clear up a dirty environment
Dengu, maleria will be gone
Our body will be healthy
Life expectancy will increase
There will be no absorption
And let's create a healthy environment.



7205550713
Jajpur

Quotation of the Day

"It's a beautiful day.
Wake in the morning
with a winged heart
and give thanks for
another day of loving."
— Kahlil Gibran



Kartik is the month of Dharma-Sanskriti-Tradition

Dr. Laxman Sahoo



Among the twelve months of the year, Kartik month is a religious month. Purnima Kartik Purnima falling in this month is also known as Rasa Purnima. On the other hand, in Odisha, Kartik Purnima is known as 'Boyt Bandan' day. This festival has been celebrated since ancient times. This festival has been closely associated with Odisha's good traditions, customs, behavior, culture and religious sentiments. It is so closely associated with the ancient history of the glorious Uttara that if the importance of such a holy religious day is left out, then one cannot even think about the innovation in Odisha during BC. In that respect, both religious and historical, its values ??are far-reaching and full of emotional features. Earlier in the month of Ashwin, when after the shardiya bandana of Vishwajani Karunamayi Ma' Durga, the worship of Chandra and Ma' Kali is celebrated with great pomp, then the worship of Dev Captain Karthik is awakened in the mind. Therefore, in this month in Purpalli of Odisha, the Aradhana of Dev Captain Chir Kumar Karthikeya is celebrated with great pomp.

There is a description of the sanctity of the month of Kartik in the Adiparva of the Mahabharata written by the most famous ancient poet of Odisha, Shudramuni Sarla Das. There is a mention of the importance of the month of Kartik from the story of Bhoja Raja and Bhishma's journey to the Ganges on the day of Kartik Purnima described in this festival. If you die in this month, you will get Baikuntha. Again, from a spiritual point of view, Kartik is strongly believed in the public mind as a religious month. As a result, it is seen that in this month, the elderly and pious people, the elderly, and women, take bath early in the morning and wake up with self-confidence in Dev Darshan and Sankirtan. They earn merit by going around the city under the ground of mridang, khod, jhanj, gini, pakhuji, beoori. Purnima is known as the five-day festival or Mahapanchak. On these five days, every Hindu Amish worships the deity with a sense of reverence and a religious attitude. It is heard that the Amish does not touch even this sacred five-day bug.

In spite of all this, the Mahapanchak, held for five days from Shuklavathri 11th or Bada 11th of this month, becomes very important from the religious point of view for Hindus. Although offering pinds on the occasion of Kartik Purnami is not currently practiced in Odisha, it is still followed in the orthodox tradition of observing the vow with

devotion. On this day, women observe the Rai-Damodar Vrat. Every woman gets out of bed early in the morning and gathers at the pond and bathes herself to see the goddess. After returning from the temple, Kartik concentrates on reading or listening to Mahatma. The tulsi tree is worshiped with great devotion in this month. This month is very important for widows. In rural areas, widows are seen taking bath in the morning and going around the city to purify themselves by washing the bride's neck or



around the temple. The 'Sakshigopinath' temple of Sakshigopal near the shrine is thronged with people to see Radha's feet and gain merit on the occasion of Amla Nivini that falls in this month.

According to the legend, the demon Jalandhar was overcome by the passion of his adulterous wife Tutsi. Even as long as Bandhavati's sativa

remained active, despite the efforts of the gods, no harm was done to the water. In this month Lord Vishnu wakes up from sleep. He shows special grace to make the creatures created by Him happy. It is believed that Lord Vishnu's mother Lakshmi travels the earth and rescues devotees. It is considered auspicious to plant tulips and get married in the month of Kartik. Those who worship Goddess Lakshmi-Narayana in this month never feel want. He spends his life in wealth, wealth,

abundance and happiness, peace and health.

According to the Puranas, Lord Vishnu and Tutsi are worshiped in the form of Shalagrama. According to ideal Ayurvedics, the month of Kartik has great significance. They say that bathing in the sun in the month of Kartik has special significance. According to Ayurveda, during the

month of Kartik, one should avoid eating pulses and should not sleep in the afternoon. Rather, there is a special significance in the use of ginger in this month. Vedic belief is that if all the days of Kartik month are equal to Ganga. Even on the last three days of T r o y o d a s h i , Chatrudashi and Purnima, if a devotee bathes and worships in the Ganges before sunrise, then the devotee gains all the merits of the month of Kartika. The month of Kartik is the month of charity, religion and virtue. Judging from

the quality of worship, one bathes in a pool or a river bed and the mind is enlivened by reciting the Kartik Mahatmya Purana. In this month virgin girls go to the river or pool to bathe.

The worship of Lord Vishnu, Mata Lakshmi, Ramdev D h a n v a n t a r i , Kartikeya, Govardhan has special significance in this month. The significance is that

Kakar has special significance in Shukla Paka in the month of Kartik according to the Mahabharata Anushas festival. According to Shiva Purana, Karthik's deeds of charity and dharma are destroyed. According to the Skanda Purana, Lord Vishnu is the greatest among the gods. In the Gita, Lord Krishna considered superiority and said that Tutsi in Banaspati, Harikapuri in Tirtha, Ekadashi in Tithi and Kartik in Masa are the best. Thus Kartik is believed by Sanatan dharma to be the best month. In this deep belief the importance of

The establishment of the bright sky lamp is another important merit of Saint K a r t h i k ' s achievements. At the time of Kartik month, Pater Pratha begins. In order to show the way to ancestors and fathers and illuminate their dark and difficult path, the practice of lighting these lamps in high places has been in vogue. Usually in every village sky lamp is lighted in the evening by stringing a tall bamboo pole. A sky lamp is lit every evening before the day's auspicious occasion. In the month of Kartik, this Akashdeep is a lamp that is raised on a bamboo that is buried in the square from the full moon to the full moon. A perforated earthen pot is placed with sand and cow dung at the bottom and a lamp is kept on top of it. It is placed in a basket, a rope is attached to the basket in front of the bamboo, and the lamp is lifted up. The related pot is known as Akashhandi, bamboo bamboo. There is a ritual of lighting candles for ancestors.

There is a rule of floating a boat made of coconut palm during the full moon vacation. On that day, early in the morning, take a dip in Abal-Umka-Banita river or Puskarani, light a lamp in a toy boat made of kaddi bahanga or sole, and put pangua in it and float them. At this time everyone sings with exultant hearts 'A ka ma bai, pan gua thii pan gua tor, masak dharam mor.' Generally there is a strong belief that on this day all kinds of sins are destroyed if you take a bath early in the morning. On the

contrary, Ashadha, Kartik, Magha and Baisakh - these four months are the solar solstice. It is possible that there is a legal system for worshipping the sun god on these solstice days. It is clear from Puranic studies that these four months are religiously auspicious and very favorable for the worship of the Goddess. Therefore, it cannot be said that this f o u r - m o n t h Aadyavarna 'Aka Ma Bai' is not affecting the general public life. It may be to worship Ganga or Lakshminarayan in Odisha's Narnari water, the symbol of Swadesh culture is toss tumbul, akshat and sesame seeds in the form of blessings from the deity. During this time, the tradition of floating small boats made of coconut palm is still prevalent in Shamadesh (Thailand).

During this Kartik Purnima holiday, the role of the Bali Yatra held in the area near the Barbati Fort in the suburbs of the historic Cuttacknagari, the capital of ancient Uttar Pradesh, is as important as it has gained fame in the entire Odisha. From this point of view, Kartik Purnima has become a major festival in Odisha. Its association with Utah's extinct neo-tradition has been widely recognized. As a result, Kartik has become a month of strong religion-culture-tradition...!!!

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IFFI 2023: Shahid Kapoor Opens Up On His Next 'Deva'

Actor Shahid Kapoor opened up about his upcoming project, 'Deva' and shared his love for Goa at the International Film Festival of India. He said, "We have started shooting for 'Deva' which is going to come out next year on Dussehra." He further shared his excitement at arriving at one of his favourite cities and added, "I am happy to be here in Goa, one of my favourite cities and I am very happy to be at IFFI, which is one of the prestigious events."

'Deva' will star Pooja Hegde and will be directed by Malayalam filmmakers Rosshan Andrews. Commenting on his look, one of the fans wrote, "WHAT A LOOK!!!! Best of luck" Another mentioned, "Shahid Kapoor with buzz cut, chain bracelet on wrist, white shirt and gun in his hand ... what a fabulous combo" Right now, the actor has reached Goa to

attend IFFI, which started on November 20. The guest list for the event also includes Vijay Sethupathi, Sara Ali Khan, Pankaj Tripathi, Sunny Deol, Karan Johar, Shantanu Moitra, Shreya Ghoshal and Sukhwinder Singh, among others.

According to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting press note, Catching Dust, thriller by award-winning British filmmaker Stuart Gatt, has been selected as the opening film of the gala. About Dry Grasses directed by French Director Nuri Bilge Ceylan will be the Mid fest film and The Featherweight directed by Robert Kolodny is the closing film for 54th IFFI.

Filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani will serve as the head of the five-member jury for the best web series (OTT) award at the festival. Divya Dutta,



Prosenjit Chatterjee, and filmmakers Krishna DK and Utpal Borpujari are part of the jury panel for the inaugural category. A total of 32 entries across 10 languages from 15 OTT platforms have been selected for the inaugural Best Web Series award.

Speaking about the newly introduced OTT awards, Anurag Thakur said that since the COVID-19 pandemic, the OTT industry has seen a boom in India and

original content created in India is employing thousands of people. In response to the dynamic landscape of this sector, growth of which stands at 28 percent annually, the Ministry has introduced this award celebrating the outstanding content creators on OTT platforms. Renowned Hollywood actor and producer Michael Douglas will be honoured with the prestigious Satyajit Ray

Excellence in Film Lifetime Award. He will also address the IFFI Master Class on November 28.

The Indian Panorama is chosen by a jury of notable film personalities from across India, with a total of 12 jury members for feature films and six jury members for non-feature films, led by the respective chairpersons. The Feature Film Jury, which consists of 12 members, will be chaired

by famous director, actor, and producer TS Nagabharana.

The Feature Film Jury chose Anand Ekarshi's film Aattam (Malayalam) as the opening feature film of the Indian Panorama Section.

Noted documentary film director Arvind Sinha presides over the six-member Non-Feature Film Jury. Indian Panorama section will showcase 25 feature films and 20 non-feature films from India. In the non-feature section is 'Andro Dreams' from Manipur.

From a pool of 239 modern Indian non-feature films, a package of 20 has been chosen for screening in the Indian Panorama segment. The collection of short films shows young and veteran filmmakers' ability to capture, examine, entertain, and reflect modern Indian values.

54th IFFI will conclude on November 28.

International Emmy Awards 2023: Shefali Shah Loses Best Actress Award To Karla Souza



Actor Shefali Shah on Monday (local time) lost out the Best Performance by an Actress award to Karla Souza. Karla bagged the award for her performance in the 'La Caida [Dive]'. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), International Emmy Awards shared a post and wrote, "The International Emmy for Best Performance by an Actress goes to 'Karla Souza in La Caida [Dive]' produced by Madam / Filmadora / Infinity Hill / Amazon." Shefali was nominated in the Best Performance by an Actress category for

her performance in the web series 'Delhi Crime Season 2', which streamed on the OTT platform Netflix. She was competing with Connie Nielsen from Denmark, Billie Piper from the UK, and Karla Souza from Mexico. Helmed by Tanuj Chopra, the show starred Shefali as the protagonist, DCP Vartika Chaturvedi, while Rajesh Tilang and Rasika Duggal were also cast in lead roles.

Produced by SK Global Entertainment, Golden Karavan, and Film Karavan, 'Delhi Crime

S2' was inspired by true events.

The first season of the show was based on the Delhi Police's investigation into the infamous 2012 Delhi gangrape. It was the first Indian web series to win an International Emmy Award.

An actor known for easy diverse roles and a wide array of characters with aplomb, Shefali left the audiences spellbound with her magnetic screen presence and brilliant performances in 'Jalsa', 'Human', and 'Darlings' and 'Doctor G', among others.

Shah Rukh Khan To Release First Song Lutt Putt Gaya From Dunki On November 22?

The first song from Rajkumar Hirani's upcoming film 'Dunki' is all set to release this week. While the audience is already intrigued to witness the heartwarming world that Rajkumar Hirani is about to bring with the film, it would definitely be a treat to witness the first melody from the film. So, stay tuned as the first song, Lutt Putt Gaya is on its way to rule your playlist.

As per a source close to the project, 'After 'Dunki Drop 1' and intriguing posters, the makers are planning to release the first song from 'Dunki' titled 'Lutt Putt Gaya' on November 22, the romantic track is a soulful yet fun melody with quirky dance steps that will make everyone groove to the it." 'Dunki Drop 1', the first video unit from the film grabbed everyone's eye and piqued the excitement a notch higher. Following this,



the makers dropped the posters that gave the audience a wider glimpse into its world that is filled with love, friendship, and nostalgia attached to home. Now, the makers are all set to kick start the musical journey with the first song, Lutt Putt Gaya gearing up for its release this week.

'Dunki' features an ensemble cast, with colourful characters portrayed by an exceptionally talented actors, Boman Irani, Taapsee Pannu, Vicky Kaushal, Vikram Kochhar, Anil Grover, starring along with Shah Rukh Khan.

'Dunki' is a Red Chillies Entertainment, and

Rajkumar Hirani Films presentation, produced by Rajkumar Hirani and Gauri Khan. Written by Abhijat Joshi, Rajkumar Hirani and Kanika Dhillon, the film is slated to release on December 21, 2023 worldwide and on December 22 in India. 'Dunki' will face a Box Office battle with Prabhas-starrer 'Salaar', which is also arriving in cinemas on December 22. 'Salaar', also starring Prithviraj Sukumaran, Shruti Haasan, Jagapathi Babu and Easwari Rao, will be released in Telugu along with dubbed versions of Kannada, Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam languages.

Tara Sutaria Transforms Into Fierce Warrior, Here's Why Apurva Trailer Made A Powerful Impact

Tara Sutaria has left the audience speechless and craving for more with the 'Apurva' trailer. No wonder, it is wild and gripping right from the very beginning. Here are some moments from the trailer that make it one of the grittiest thrillers of all time.

Tara Sutaria's intense and dramatic transformation in the trailer, from an ordinary woman to a fierce survivor, is truly captivating. The actor immerses you in her story with her emotions, vulnerability, and fierce avatar. This is distinctly different from what we have seen Tara Sutaria portray in her earlier glamorous roles. We've seen Abhishek play Hathoda Tyagi in



'Paatal Lok,' and he excels in every character he takes on. In 'Apurva,' Abhishek looks even

more menacing and powerful in his portrayal. The actor sends shivers down your

spine with every moment in the trailer. Rajpal Yadav is here to surprise you. You'll be

scared to see him in a thug avatar. The expressions on his face are sure to give you



chills. The trailer teases an intense survival story set in one of India's most dangerous places, Chambal, making the plot and its backdrop a significant point of interest. 'Apurva' appears to be an adrenaline-pumping and powerful thriller, and these elements in the trailer have certainly piqued the audience's curiosity.

Star Studios presents 'APURVA,' a Cine1 Studios and Star Studios Production, written and directed by Nikhil Nagesh Bhat and produced by Murad Khetani and Star Studios. It will be streaming from November 15th onwards exclusively on Disney+ Hotstar

Vote For Women



It was almost a century ago that Sarala Devi, one of the earliest legislators in India, was Acting Speaker of Odisha Assembly. Pramila Mallik, the latest speaker of a legislative assembly is also from Odisha. Time has come to see more women lawmakers. According to data from the Election Commission of India, only 716 of the 8,054 candidates in the 2019 Indian general election were women, meaning that only 9 percent of seats were contested by women. One third of these women did not receive support from any political party. In 2014, there were only 668 women candidates out of a total of 8,251 candidates. Surprisingly, 716 female candidates ran in the 2019 general election, with 78 elected to the 17th Lok Sabha. This is roughly a quarter more than the previous election in 2014, when 62 women were elected. In our opinion, when women rise, the nation shines; when women fly, the nation grows; and when women succeed, the nation succeeds. Now we can see this belief becoming a reality as lawmakers in both houses of Indian Parliament recently saw unity and were part of good debate over Women's Reservation Bill 2023, officially Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Leader of the House thanked all political parties for their support and meaningful debate regarding The Constitution's One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha. The One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Constitutional Amendment) Bill, 2023, popularly referred to as the women's reservation Bill or Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam which seeks to provide 33% reservation to women in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies, was recently passed by both houses of Parliament, though no date for its implementation has yet been set. In light of the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill 2023 in a special session of the Indian Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha), we have reason to say and that can be added in the following paragraph, that India can join the top three powerful economic nations clubs of the world. We are aware that in India, women are known as the best finance ministers of their own homes and they

know how to run the home with less money, save money for the future, and work for family development. So, with the passage of the bill we should expect to see greater innovation for national progress from female parliamentarians in parliament. Even India's current finance minister is a woman. The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on September 20, 2023, with 454 votes in support and two against. On September 21, 2023, the Rajya Sabha passed the bill unanimously with 214 present member votes in favour and none against. Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that he is "delighted" with the passage of the women's reservation bill by the Lok Sabha and hailed every member of parliament who voted in favour of the bill. Calling the 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam' a "historic legislation", PM Modi said, "It will boost women empowerment". "Delighted at the passage of The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha with such phenomenal support. He thanked MPs across Party lines who voted in support of this Bill. "The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam is a historic legislation which will further boost women empowerment and will enable even greater participation of women in our political process," he said. BJP and Congress always bat for women's reservation in legislative bodies. In April, 2019, BJP had promised to reserve 33 percent of seats in the Parliament and state assemblies for women if it returns to power after 2019 Lok Sabha Polls. "Women's welfare and development will be accorded a high priority at all levels within the government, and the BJP is committed to 33 percent reservation in parliament and state assemblies through a constitutional amendment," the BJP's manifesto said in 2019 Lok Sabha Polls. So BJP kept its one major poll promises. Similarly, The Congress on April 3, 2019 announced its 2019 election manifesto "Hum Nibhayenge" in the capital and its provisions for women empowerment and gender equality. In its promise for the next term, if it wins, the Congress has promised to pass the Constitution (Amendment) Bill to provide for reservation of 33 per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies in the 71st session of the 17th Lok Sabha and in the Rajya Sabha. So congress sparty also keeps its promises while supporting the bill. The Congress 2029 manifesto offered 13 provisions to improve

the safety of women and increase gender equality. Apart from 33 per cent reservation for women in Lok Sabha, the manifesto has also promised women 33 per cent of appointments to Central Government jobs. The 128th Constitution amendment bill, referred to as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, will now require the approval of a majority of state assemblies. It will be implemented after a delimitation exercise to redraw parliamentary and assembly constituencies based on census which the government has said will be commissioned next year. The bill seeks to increase the number of women MPs from 82 to 181 and the number of women MLAs from 740 to more than 2,000. However, the percentage of women in the Lok Sabha has gradually increased from 5% in the first Lok Sabha to 15% in the 17th Lok Sabha. According to data from the Election Commission of India, only 716 of the 8,054 candidates in the 2019 Indian general election were women, meaning that only 9 percent of the tickets were awarded to women. A third of these women did not receive support from any political party. In 2014, there were only 668 women candidates out of a total of 8,251 candidates. Surprisingly, 716 female candidates ran in the 2019 general election, with 78 elected to the 17th Lok Sabha. This is roughly a quarter more than the previous election in 2014, when 62 women were elected. Demands and Responses While supporting the bill, Congress parliamentary president Sonia Gandhi said the delay in its implementation is an injustice to women," She demanded its implementation in next year's Lok Sabha Polls, She asked: "How many years will they have to wait - two, four, eight?" While replying in Lok Sabha, Union Home Minister Amit Shah asserted that census and delimitation will begin soon after the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. He indicated that reservation for women will come into force after the 2029 Lok Sabha polls as he sought the support from the bill's critics in the House, saying the law will not come into force any earlier if they do not back the proposed legislation. The bill includes a provision that the new law once enacted will come into force only after a fresh census and delimitation, meaning that the women's reservation is unlikely to be in effect in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. According to Article 82 of the Constitution, which was amended in 2002, the delimitation process can be carried out based on the first

Prof.MANAS RANJAN MAHAPATRA

Census taken after 2026. When will the Bill be implemented? The last Census in India was conducted in 2011. The next decadal census was to be conducted in 2021, but the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the timeline of the exercise. The exercise has now been pushed eight times with the official rationale of the pandemic. The 16th census is expected to be conducted in two phases: a house listing phase and a population enumeration phase. While there is no confirmation as to when the next census will take place, political leaders and experts have said that it will not likely be conducted before 2025 - - this is if the house listing phase takes place after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. If it is conducted in 2025, then the results are likely to be released only in 2026 or 2027. Article 82 of the Constitution provides for the readjustment of the constituencies (number and boundaries) of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies after every Census. However, the 42nd Amendment froze this delimitation exercise until the first Census after 2000 was published. In 2001, the government further extended this freeze for 25 years. So now, delimitation would happen on the results of the first Census after 2026. Article 81 of the Indian Constitution states that "there shall be allotted to each State a number of seats in the House of the People in such manner that the ratio between that number and the population of the State is, so far as practicable, the same for all States." The same is said about constituencies within states. The House currently has 543 seats, which are filled by the election of up to 543 elected members. Between 1952 and 2020, the President of India nominated two additional members of the Anglo-Indian community on the suggestion of the Government of India, which was abolished in January 2020 by the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019. AIMIM MPs Asaduddin Owaisi and Imtiaz Jaleel, on the other hand, had participated in the debate, but both legislators voted against the women's reservation bill in Lok Sabha. They afterwards explained themselves. AIMIM MPs Asaduddin Owaisi and Imtiaz Jaleel, on the other hand, had participated in the debate, but both legislators voted against the women's reservation bill in Lok Sabha. They afterwards explained themselves. Asaduddin Owaisi, an AIMIM MP, noted a weakness in equal

representation and opposed the Women's Reservation Bill, alleging that it would only grant reservation to "savarna women," and questioned why OBC and Muslim women, who have even less representation in Parliament, are not given any quota. "I am opposed to this legislation.... The bill's premise is that it will increase the number of women elected to Parliament. If that is the case, why isn't it applied to the OBC and Muslim women, whose representation in this august House is minimal?" Owaisi asked. "We know Muslim women are seven per cent of the population, but in this Lok Sabha their representation stands at only 0.7 per cent," he stated. It was former PM Rajiv Gandhi in 1987 whose government constituted a 14-member committee led by Union Minister Margaret Alva to give recommendations for improving the status of women. Then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi introduced the C o n s t i t u t i o n Amendment Bill to provide one-third reservation for women in rural and urban local bodies. The Bill was passed in Lok Sabha but failed to get passed in Rajya Sabha in September 1989. In 1992 and 1993, then prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao reintroduced the C o n s t i t u t i o n Amendment Bills 72 and 73, which reserved one third (33%) of all seats and chairperson posts for women in rural and urban local bodies. The Bills were passed by both the houses and became the law of the nation. Now there are nearly 15 lakh elected women representatives in panchayats and nagarpalikas across the country. On September 12, 1996, then Deve Gowda-led United Front government for the first time introduced the 81st C o n s t i t u t i o n Amendment Bill in Lok Sabha for reservation of women in the Parliament. After the Bill failed to get approval in Lok Sabha, it was referred to a Joint P a r l i a m e n t a r y Committee chaired by Geeta Mukherjee. The Mukherjee committee presented its report in December 1996. However, the Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. Two years later, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led NDA government pushed the WRB Bill in the 12th Lok Sabha in 1998. However, this time too, the Bill failed to get support, and lapsed again. It was s u b s e q u e n t l y reintroduced in 1999, 2002 and 2003 under the Vajpayee government,

but with no success. Five years later, the WRB bill again gained some traction during the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government-1. In 2004, the government included it in its Common Minimum Programme and finally tabled it on 6 May 2008, this time in Rajya Sabha to prevent it from lapsing again. Five of the seven recommendations made by the 1996 Geeta Mukherjee Committee were included in this version of the Bill. The legislation was sent to the standing committee on May 9, 2008. The standing committee presented its report on December 17, 2009. It got the stamp of approval from the Union Cabinet in February 2010. The Bill was eventually passed in the Rajya Sabha with 186-1 votes on March 9, 2010. However, the Bill was never taken up for consideration in the Lok Sabha and eventually lapsed in 2014 with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. Bills introduced/ passed in Rajya Sabha do not lapse, hence the Women's Reservation Bill is still very much active. However, owing to a lack of political will and consensus, the endeavor was unsuccessful. A long-term plan was made to extend this reservation to the federal parliament and to state legislative assemblies. On 19 September 2023, the Narendra Modi government introduced a form of the bill as the 128th Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2023, Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, during Parliament Special Session in Lok Sabha in new parliament building. Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam was passed by Lok Sabha on 20 September 2023 with 454 votes in favour and two against. As of 20 September 2023, the bill was expected to be voted on by Rajya Sabha; the result was unanimous approval. On the day 2 of the Special Session, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his inaugural speech at New Sansad Bhavan emphasized the importance of women-led development. Shedding light on the extensive debates and considerations within the Parliament regarding the reservation of women, he disclosed that the initial bill addressing this matter was first presented as the 81st C o n s t i t u t i o n a l Amendment Bill in 1996 during Janata Dal-led United Front government tenure of H. D. Deve Gowda.[18][19] PM further revealed that it had been introduced multiple times during the tenure of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, yet regrettably failed to amass the necessary numerical support to transform the aspirations of women into tangible reality. In light of the increasing

involvement of women across various sectors, the PM underscored the significance of incorporating more women into the realm of policy-making, thereby amplifying their contributions to the nation building. On this momentous occasion, he asked the members to facilitate greater access to opportunities for women in the p a r l i a m e n t a r y democracy. Referring to this One Hundred and Twenty - E i g h t h Amendment in Indian Constitution, he unveiled Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam as a measure to enhance the robustness of India's democratic system by increasing the involvement of women in policy-making. The Constitution 108th Amendment Bill, 2008 seeks to reserve one-third (33%) of the total number of seats in state legislative Assemblies and Parliament for women. The bill proposes sub-reservation for SCs, STs and Anglo-Indians within the 33% quota except OBC quota. The 1996 Women's Reservation Bill report advocated reservation for OBC women. Reservation was also suggested for the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils. Reserved seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in the state or union territory. The bill says that the reservation of seats for women shall cease to exist 15 years after the commencement of the amendment act. UN Women hailed India's passage of the Women's Reservation Bill on September 18 as a landmark moment for gender equality, especially in terms of women's political leadership. The passage of the bill is

testimony to India's commitment to w o m e n - l e d development, for which it mobilised global support during its G20 Presidency this year. Calling it a "bold" and "transformative" step, Susan Ferguson, C o u n t r y Representative of UN Women India, underlined the importance of political representation for women's sustained empowerment, while hoping that the proposed Bill will be endorsed by all stakeholders, including Members of Parliament and civil society. "Globally, women currently occupy only 26.7% of parliamentary seats and 35.5% of local government positions," Ms Ferguson said. "This quota reserving 33% seats for women will leapfrog India into one of 64 countries around the world who have reserved seats for women in their national Parliaments. Typically, achieving a critical mass of 30 per cent representation by women in Parliament is known to yield positive outcomes for women's e m p o w e r m e n t . However, we hope that implementing such reservations will ultimately lead to achieving 50 per cent representation of women in Parliaments across the globe."

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Letter To Editor

Sir
Really a heartbreaking final for Team India cricket fans. If at least one of the so called 'super batsmen' who are known to create miracles and records realised it was a 'mega final' and had the patience not to throw their wickets so carelessly and had the determination to bat for some more overs definitely the score card would have shown something else. Cricket is a mind game too and the more the patience the players show the more the team benefits and this was followed faithfully by Australian batsmen who even after three quick wickets resolved to stay and fight. As for the men in blue when the leader and the experienced senior players who ought to have led the whole lot and shown them how to play unfortunately could not do it the team very sadly lost in the final, breaking the hearts of millions of Team India cricket lovers. Nevertheless, cricket lovers will always cherish beautiful memories and records of their favourite team and players. Cricket lovers the world over will forever cherish being part of a Cricket carnival, which was magnificent and conducted in a stupendous manner by India. Definitely the tournament gave us beautiful moments and memories which we will cherish for long time.

**M Pradyu Kannur
Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.**

ICAR-CIFRI celebrated World Fisheries Day on ‘Pan India’ scale



Kolkata, (KCN): World Fisheries Day aims to draw attention to overfishing, habitat destruction and other serious threats to the sustainability of our freshwater and marine resources. This year, ICAR-CIFRI celebrated World Fisheries Day on the ‘Pan India’ scale with the theme, World Fisheries Day as “Build enabling policy environments for small-scale artisanal fisheries.” Keeping this in mind, ICAR-CIFRI conducted

three mass awareness camps at Hasnabad, West Bengal, at Vazhani Reservoir, Kerala and at Sangam, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. During this event, over 350 small-scale artisanal fishers were sensitized on ecosystem health management and the significance of conservation through these awareness programs. As part of World Fisheries Day 2023, ICAR-CIFRI Regional Research Centre, Guwahati

participated in an exhibition organised by the Directorate of Fisheries, Govt. of Assam. Regional Research Centre, Bangalore participated in the exhibition conducted by the Department of Fisheries, Karnataka. More than 1000 people all over Karnataka participated in the programme. On the occasion of World Fisheries Day (WFD) the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D),

Government of India has organized a Global Fisheries Conference 2023 (GFC- 2023) from 21-22 November 2023 at Gujarat Science City, Ahmedabad, Gujarat which aims to provide a unique platform to foster collaborations for the holistic growth and development of the sector and “Celebrate the Fisheries and Aquaculture Wealth”. The Regional Research Station of the Institute, Vadodara has participated in the

exhibition to showcase CIFRI’s technologies and achievements in this prestigious forum. Dr. B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI also attended the conference and presented a key-note address in the Technical Session on “Emerging Challenges and opportunities in Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture”.

As a part of the celebration, ICAR-CIFRI has distributed fisheries inputs like fish seeds and fish feed to 84 women of fisherfolk community at Hasnabad, Sundarbans under CIFRI’s ‘Mission 3000’. The seeds of Etropulssuratensis were stocked in the Vazhani reservoir, Kerala to support the livelihood of the tribal fishers of the reservoir. World Fisheries Day was celebrated by ICAR-CIFRI on “Pan India” scale to sensitize and create awareness among the small-scale artisanal fisheries about conservation needs, habitat restoration and existing policies.

Live Demonstration of Drone Technology in Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) Events in West Bengal Draws Interest of Farmers in Support of Smart farming & Good Yields

Kolkata, (KCN): The adoption of drone technology in the agriculture sector has the potential to transform the way that farmers manage their crops and improve their yields. Drones offer farmers a range of benefits, including increased efficiency, improved yields, and reduced costs. Drones can be used for a wide range of tasks in the agriculture sector, including crop mapping, soil analysis, irrigation, and pest management. The key benefits of using drones in agriculture included improved efficiency, identifying issues early, enhanced crop yields, reduced cost of manual labour thus minimising the use of pesticides and other chemicals and last but not the least, improved accuracy towards capturing high-resolution images & data providing farmers with a detailed view of their crops. And this initiative has been demonstrated live in the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), whether it is the gram Panchayat area of Paschim Medinipur, or Bankura or Alipurduar. The initiative earned wide response from the farming sector in the places mentioned.

Women Beneficiaries Throng in Numbers at VBSY Events at Different Parts of West Bengal for listening to Farm Specialists as well as for AADHAR Authentication towards Ujjwala Yojana

Kolkata, (KCN): The Centre is very much in the spree of empowering marginalised women and have come up with various initiatives to help them in pursuing ease of living, like that of providing subsidised gas connection through Pradhanmantri Ujjwala Yojana and the necessity of AADHAR authentication for that. Besides, Krishi Vigyan Kendras of ICAR at various districts have come forward to augment income of the women farmers. And that became imminent in the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) events at various locations of Bankura, Paschim Medinipur, Alipurduar. Besides, The farmers

took much interest in spreading pesticides in the fields bearing crops through drones. Today, BCKV, ICAR explained to SHG members on schemes to augment income at Lodhasuli of Jhargram district. Here also, women involved in agriculture thronged in numbers listening with apt attention schemes towards agriculture.

On Monday, the second phase of the VBSY programme was held at Topshikhata Gram Panchayat of Alipurduar 1. Besides, the first phase of VBSY was held at Salkumar-2 Gram Panchayat of Alipurduar 1 today. This apart, VBSY events also took place at

Dabadari Gram Panchayat of Debra block, Paschim Medinipur, Dhargram under Dahala Gram Panchayat of Khatra block, bankura. Oil marketing companies involved in the domestic gas sector are providing A A D H A R authentication services to facilitate subsidy transfer to the bank account of the beneficiaries, especially women beneficiaries in most of the VBSY sites. That apart, change in personal details regarding gas connection is also being provided at the venue, which attracted several women beneficiaries in most of the places where VBSY is going on.

34th PECUC Sisumela Concluded

Many eminent personalities and talented children honoured

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The 34th Sisumela, organized by People's Cultural Center (PECUC), one of the leading voluntary organizations of Odisha, at Ekamra Haat Amphitheater concluded on 20th Nov, 2023. Many dignitaries and eminent personalities of the state attended this seven days event and encouraged the children. On its valedictory function, many talented children and eminent personalities were honored. The seven-day program was held with the support of the Odia Language, Literature and Culture Department of the Government of Odisha and many institutions.

On this occasion prestigious annual awards of PECUC were given for outstanding performance in various fields. Senior Journalist S. Siba Mohanty was honoured with prestigious “Swarup Jena Memorial Award 2023” for outstanding contribution in the field of journalism, as Retd. Teacher Surendra Kumar

Pattnayak received “Abani Baral Memorial Award 2023” for his contribution in the field of teaching, S. Subha Narayan Satpathy was honoured with “Sisusathi Award 2023” for outstanding contribution for children's literature, S. J. Prasanna Kumar Mishra received “Dr. Prafulla Chandra Dash Memorial Sisu Adhikar Suraksha Award 2023” for his social work in the field of Child Rights & Women Sarpanch Ms. Ramalata Nayak was given “Aradhana Nanda Smaraki Samman 2023” for her leadership to protect children's right. Many talented children also received awards on this occasion. “Dr. Sarat Chandra Pujari Memorial Award 2023” to Child Artist Tapas Kumar Sarangi for acting, “Dr. Prafulla Chandra Das Memorial Sisu Pratiba Award 2023” to Ms. Shifa Prizm for all round achievement, “Baji Rout Memorial Award 2023” to Ms. Sabitri Nayak for bravery and courageous

activity, “Prananath Pattnaik Memorial Award 2023” to Ms. Rishita Samantaray for social work, “Adaramani Baral Memorial Award 2023” to Sasmita Bhoi for girl leadership, “Sushama Mohapatra Memorial Award 2023” to Priyankaree Muduli for outstanding achievement in the field of sports, Jayana Das was chosen for “Baby of the Year award 2023”. Vicky Dance Group, UDRA, Kokila Dance Group, Capital High School Hostel Group, Littlestar, Purunajhanti Adolescent Group, Mahakalaswar group, Chetna, Lakshya Dance Group, Dasavata Natya shala, Divya Jyoti Smriti Peetha, Kelasahi's Sunrise Ecosavers youth Network, Pearly International School, DM School and Pratiba Adolescent Group of Barijang, Nrutyashree and Nrutya Pratiba Dance Group, Kargil's Prakruti Adolescent Group, presented various cultural programmes in the evening.

Principal Accountant General, Srinagar

Srinagar, (Aasif Malik): The Office of the Principal Accountant General, Srinagar proudly concluded the highly anticipated Inter University/ College Debate competition. Held on 21 November, 2023 at SKAUST-Kashmir, the event witnessed a remarkable convergence of young minds and experts in a vibrant exchange of ideas and perspectives. Sh. Pramod kumar PAG (Audit), J&K, Ms Inabat Khaliq, DAG (Audit), J&K and Prof. N. A. Ganai (vice-chancellor, SKAUST-K) along with other dignitaries graced the event as judges and

guest speakers, contributing valuable insights and enriching the discourse with their expertise. Six teams showcased their prowess in analyzing and debating the nuances of issues like Artificial intelligence, Tourism as a tool of development and Right age to access social media. S. P College's Shayan Showkat Allaie and Shahzaib Parvaiz emerged as the winner against the Kashmir University's Khaleel Firdous Shah and Eleena Raja. Winners along with runner up presented with cash

award and momentos. Also the Lubna Parvaiz from Govt College for Women was presented with best speaker award, honoring the dedication and skill demonstrated by the participants. Throughout Audit Week, a diverse array of activities unfolded, from an Audit Marathon cum Cleanliness Drive on November 19 to a blood donation camp to sports events along with Quiz, Painting Competition and culminated in a vibrant Cultural Evening on November 25. The weeklong celebration marked the foundation day of CAG India.

"Power of Friendship" Themed Friendship Regatta to mark 100years of Heritage of collaboration of LRC - CRC in World Heritage week

Kolkata, (PARTHA ROY): An unique Celebration of Heritage of Friendship between Calcutta Rowing Club (CRC) and London Rowing Club (LRC) inaugurated in Kolkata on 20th November 2023 to celebrate 100 years of friendship and collaboration between the two top Rowing Clubs with rich heritage and contribution in development of "Rowing" as sport in International sporting arena over one and half century. World Heritage Week is being observed from 19th - 25th November. CRC's first paid visit to participate in rowing competition in Rangoon (Yangon) in Myanmar was in the year 1923 and immediately after winning it, the club got affiliation from the London Rowing Club.

In 1923, Calcutta Rowing Club was shifted to the present location in Dhakuria. In 1901, CRC got the affiliation from the Amateur Rowing Association. 2nd International Friendship Regatta is being organised by Calcutta Rowing Club to mark mark 100years of friendship between LRC-CRC from 21st to 25th November 2023 where Rowers and Rowing Clubs from four different geographical regions of the planet Earth are participating namely London Rowing Club, Southampton Rowing Club, Molesey Rowing Club from UK (Europe), Auckland Rowing Club of New Zealand (Oceania), Victoria Lake Rowing Club of South Africa (Africa), and Calcutta Rowing Club (Asia). The theme "Power of



Friendship" of 2nd International Friendship Regatta infused great spirit of solidarity and goodwill in the air. During Friendship Regatta period, Trainers from London Rowing Club will also conduct training program for young

Rowers at CRC. There will be interactions between foreign Rowers and Indian Rowers to share information on skill development on Rowing. London Rowing Club was established in 1856 and Calcutta Rowing Club was

in 1958. Calcutta Rowing Club played important role in development of Rowing as formal sporting activity and produced world class Rowers from India. CRC has reciprocal clubbing arrangement with 110 Rowing clubs in India and

abroad. 1st International Friendship Regatta was organised by CRC during its 150 years celebration in Kolkata. Mr. Richard Twining born in 1944 in Mumbai who is based in London, one of the oldest member of

Calcutta Rowing Club who joined CRC when he was around 10 years old attended the Inauguration Ceremony. His father who served Indian Navy was also member of CRC. Mr Richard Twining has experience of Rowing in many countries and an internationally acclaimed rower. Mr. Jack Macdonald of Auckland Rowing Club of New Zealand mentioned it is life time opportunity to participate in the International Friendship Regatta. The grand Celebration of 100years of Friendship between LRC-CRC is product of interactions between President of LRC and Chandon Roy Choudhary who is Hony. Secretary of CRC for last 22 years and who has played important role in development of

Rowing as sport in India. On behalf of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage), a Memento was presented by Shri G M Kapur Head of INTACH West Bengal Chapter to London Rowing Club to mark 100 years Celebration of Friendship. Rowing as informal sport or leisure activity came in to existence from prehistoric time from dawn of human civilization and played important role of catalyst in human civilizational development across the planet. Rowing as sport not only promote good health of the rower but also promote the spirit of camaraderie as well as tenacity and enriches human development individually and collectively as well as a society.

MAS Holdings To Invest Assn Flock To 5T Boss

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Mahesh Amalean, Chairman of MAS Holdings, a global apparel conglomerate, today met Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at Naveen Niwas. 5-T Chairman V K Pandian was present during the discussion.

Shri Amalean informed the CM on the portfolio of his company and showed keen interest for investment in Odisha. The company is interested in setting up an Integrated Textile & Apparel Manufacturing Facility in Odisha. The project can provide employment to more than 5000 persons.

During the discussion, the Chief Minister said that all possible support



will be provided to the company for investment in Odisha. It was mull

to invite the Apparel Company to set up a Textile Unit in Khordha

region. Support will be available in terms of skilling and industrial

e c o - s y s t e m development. The State will provide

suitable land and also facilitate necessary tie ups to establish supply chain and skill development centres.

MAS Holdings is a top global apparel company providing high-end apparel solutions for world's leading apparel brands.

Headquartered in Sri Lanka, the company had 53 manufacturing units in 16 countries providing employment to about one lakh people. It has design and development hubs in New York, London, Hong Kong and Colombo. It supplies its products to some of leading brands like Nike, Decathlon, Jockey, Calvin Klein, Marks & Spencer and many others.



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Various service associations, about 9, public and private organizations of the State today met 5T, Nabin Odisha Chairman VK Pandian at Naveen Niwas and wished him for the new assignment.

Expressing happiness over his new responsibilities as Chairman of 5T Initiative and Nabin Odisha, they said that the kind of hard work and the pace, at which he is working to fulfill Chief Minister's dreams, is simply astounding.

We have confidence in your ability to realize objectives of the transformation drive and we will support you in this endeavour', they added.

Thanking the organisation members, the 5T Chairman said that Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik is on a transformation drive to build a new Odisha. Together, we can see it coming. Together we can make this happen. Together we will realize the CM's vision of new Odisha.

Sujata Empowers Shakti

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Women in Odisha now not only became self-reliant, they also lead their families by taking major decisions within the family, which we can say is the real empowerment of women.

All this happened only due to the sincere and continued efforts made by Mission Shakti Secretary Sujata R. Karthikeyan, who has been working for the women, especially those who belong to poor and marginalized families. Usually, India and our state is considered male dominated society. But, now the women are very actively participating in decision making within and outside their families.

As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) report, in 90.2 per cent families in Odisha, married women are participating in taking household decisions against the national average of 88.7 per cent.

In Rural areas the percentage stood at 90.3 per cent while in urban areas, it was 89.9 per cent.

In the previous survey (NFHS-4), women in 81.1 percent families were taking part in making such family decisions. Within just four years, the figure jumped by 9 per cent. This shows the real empowerment or golden period for women started in Odisha.

From bringing the women from four walls of their houses to making them financially self-reliant and now converting them as small entrepreneurs, all efforts made by Sujata, a senior IAS officer from the soil, said a senior woman entrepreneur supported by Mission Shakti.

Due to her strong determination and devotion, Odisha's Mission Shakti has transformed today into a massive social movement and 7 million women organised into 6 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs) joined in the movement.



To make women empowerment a reality in the State, Sujata has always stood tall behind the 70 lakh women and ensured them all kinds of assistance to realise their dreams.

From providing interest-free loans, to issuing work orders in government businesses, Mission Shakti Scooter Scheme and many more, the Secretary has ensured all support for the Mission Shakti Groups. Besides, to give more focus to the women SHGs, a separate Mission Shakti Department has been formed on 1st June 2021, which shows how serious the State Government is for the empowerment of the SHGs.

The Interest Subvention target of Rs 300 crore has been crossed and Rs 587 crore has been provided. As promised, for providing loans to SHGs @ 0% interest up to Rs. 5 Lakh, the Government has reimbursed Rs.587 crore to the SHGs towards Interest Subvention in the last 4 years.

And, for the first time in history, credit flow to SHGs has crossed Rs 11,000 crore in 2022-23 – a quantum leap over a period of 8 years. The average loan size has also seen a big jump from Rs 1.06 lakh in 2016-17 to Rs 3.01 lakh now.

This quantum jump was boosted by the State Government's decision to provide zero-interest loans upto Rs 5 lakh. In the past four years, Rs 587 crores has been reimbursed directly to bank accounts of more than 4 lakh SHGs with Rs 216 crore in the last year alone.

Unparalleled reduction has been recorded in NPA of SHG loans from 14.2% to 1.99% in the last six years. This is one of the lowest in the country.

For the first time, 1103 GPs in Odisha are NPA Free – a fact also praised by the Government of India.

Similarly, Odisha also recorded an impressive rise in the usage of Bank Accounts by women. About 86.5% women in Odisha have a Bank or Savings account that they themselves use. Previously, the NFHS – 4 of 2015-16 had shown 56.2% women in Odisha had Bank/Savings accounts that they use themselves. To reach the unreached, Mission Shakti has placed more than 2318 SHG members as BCAs in unbanked GPs across Odisha having a business of Rs 1159 crore during last year with earnings of Rs 3.68 crore.

Powered by the Cabinet decision to provision Government goods and services worth Rs. 5000 crores from SHGs, Rs 4949.14 crore worth of Government business has already been facilitated in convergence with 20 Government Departments.

Convergence guidelines have been prepared to incentivize the role of SHG in different schemes. This has created opportunities for more than 1 lakh SHGs and enhanced their economic standing by generating a cumulative income of Rs 1226 crore in the last 4 years. More than 11008 clusters have been promoted under different livelihood sectors. Mission Shakti Cafes

across the State provide healthy and nutritious food to people in a homely setting while being a good source of revenue generation for SHG members. More than 100 such cafes have already been set up.

With high quality training being provided by Institute of Hotel Management (IHM), these cafes have a daily footfall of 50-100 and average monthly earning of Rs 50,000.


About 28,575 MT vegetables valued at more than Rs 67 crore were sold last year by 50,100 PG members. Also, 1,147 Millet Enterprises have been established by SHGs, promoting healthy and sustainable food practices. Pisciculture by 13,431 SHGs in 13501 GP tanks has led to a business turnover of Rs 139 crore.

To promote market-oriented activities and to help transform SHGs to SMEs, the Secretary is focused on new age skilling for SHG members in the areas of agri-ventures, fashion design, beauty and wellness, food and retail sector and so on. The strength of the SHG movement lies in the strength of its institutions. Over the last few years, she has focused on the strengthening of SHG institutions right upto the grassroot level.

The Government has provided Rs. 1 crore Revolving Fund to 30 DLFs, Rs 50 Lakh Revolving Fund to 338 BLFs, Community fund of Rs. 1697 crore to all 6178 GPLFs in the last 4 years.

Also, Rs. 217 crore per annum as Meeting Fees and TAs to all EC members of all federations has been given. Uniform and Smartphone allowance to all 70,000 Community Support Staff and Laptops to 2000 Bank Mitras for assuring SHG finance.

The thrust has also been on the development of Mission Shakti infrastructure.



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“ALL IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SERVICE CERTIFICATES FOR MY DEAR SOLDIERS”-BOBBY CHAKRABORTY

Kolkata,(KCN):We are all familiar with the free of cost, global awareness program for the youth, against addiction of all sorts and harmful social trends titled ‘I AM THE KING OF MY MIND’, which is a selfless initiative of actor/activist/teacher of method acting, Bobby Chakraborty. We are also familiar with the ‘COMMUNITY SERVICE CERTIFICATES’ that selected students receive from Bobby, after his sessions. We spoke with him, asking him to elaborate on this much talked about ‘CERTIFICATE OF A SOLDIER’ and the future plans with his much acclaimed ‘ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN’.

Here’s what Bobby said :-“Many years ago, before I became an actor, I was a marine engineer by profession, serving for Forbes Gokak which later on merged with ExxonMobil. I remember , before joining my first ship, I was thoroughly screened and scrutinized

in my Mumbai and United Kingdom manning offices. In those series of never ending trainings, written tests and interviews, I was repeatedly asked to produce my certificates. By default I used to always exhibit my academic certificates first, from the plastic folder I used to carry with me . It was the CEO,Capt. Mistry who asked me to produce the certificates of ‘extra curricular activities’ and ‘community service’ if any, which by the way I had many in number. But never did I think they would be of any use for a marine engineer, being scrutinized to serve in a foreign ship, where all he had to do was fire boilers, clean oil purifiers, maintain pipelines and look after the pumps/valves and safeguard the Main Engine.

Capt.Mistry with all his wisdom and experience, had explained to me, how important those non-academic certificates of extra curricular activities and community service



were. As my employer and my boss, he was searching a new employee for his fleet, who was not only academically superior, but an all rounder in various fields and more importantly a person with social responsibility, who would mix seamlessly with the multinational crew, ushering an environment of peace and brotherhood. My innumerable ‘COMMUNITY SERVICE

CERTIFICATES’(which I thought weren’t of much use) he said ,were a testament for the element of great social responsibility in me. I believe I got that much coveted job in a multinational company like Forbes/ExxonMobil because of my community service certificates and not only because of my academic degrees. Years later when I started organising ‘My Anti Addiction Campaigns’ globally, I

took it up as my lifelong duty and responsibility to guide the youth, who are our future, towards a positive and healthier path in life. In doing so, my sessions in schools, colleges, universities worldwide became the battlefield, where I started my fight against the social evils of addiction and other harmful trends among the youth. Those who would have that element of social responsibility to give back to the society, will obviously fight with

me and eventually become my ‘SOLDIERS’.

MADAME TUSSAUDS IS BACK IN A NEW LOCATION

Noida: Madame Tussauds – the greatest wax attraction in the world – is back to serve its fans in an all-new avatar at an exciting new venue at DLF Mall of India, Noida. The attraction at its new location will be known as Madame Tussauds India and is set to provide the opportunity for fans to get up close to their favourite celebrities and experience their most iconic moments of fame through 360 sets and cutting-edge technology. The new location at DLF Mall of India, Noida will exhibit close to 50 figures of leading Indian and International personalities from the fields of sports, entertainment, history, and music.

Madame Tussauds first opened its doors in 1835 in London and has over 200 years of heritage and legacy. Each figure at Madame Tussauds is created using the expertise of sculptors who use the same techniques as the famous Marie Tussaud. To create

a single life like figure it takes an artist minimum of 12 weeks, and during that time they document 500 precise body measurements, insert real hair strand by strand, apply countless layers of paints to build up the skin tones, and more. This entire process helps to achieve the incredible likeness that has made Madame Tussauds world renowned for over two centuries.

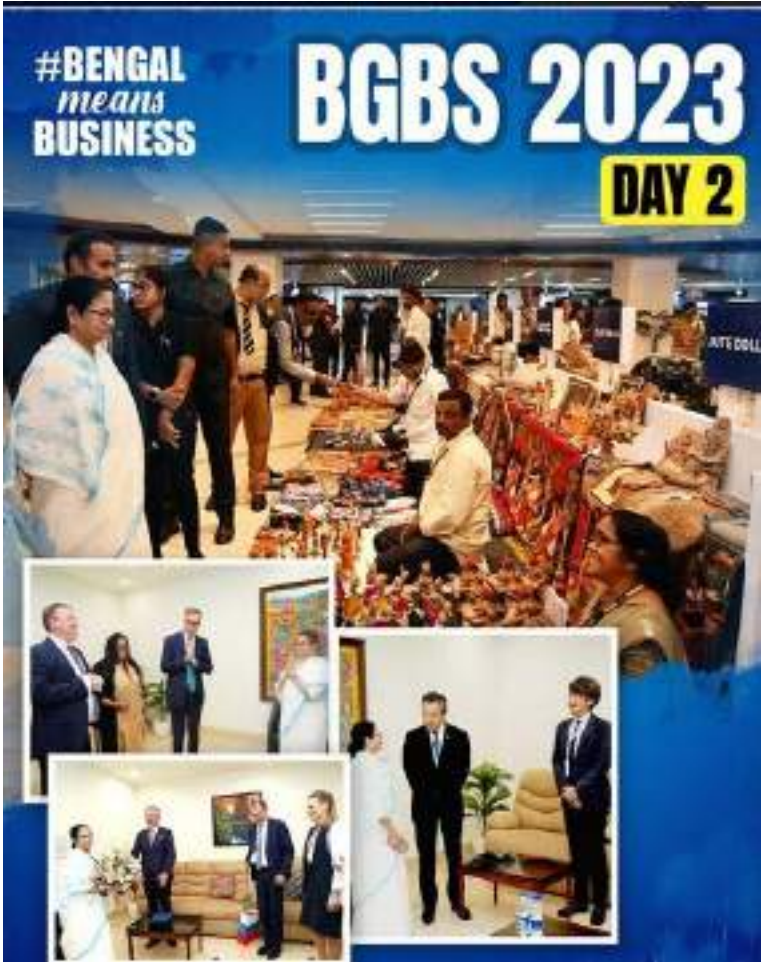
The world-famous wax attraction first opened in Delhi at Connaught Place in 2017. The earlier edition of Madame Tussauds in Delhi successfully celebrated several years of curating a spectacular fame experience through its star-studded gallery. At its new location at DLF Mall of India, Noida, Madame Tussauds India will offer a safe, star-studded experience for guests, with extensive covid protocols in place.

Rob Smith, Divisional Director, Midway Asia Pacific, Merlin Entertainments Group

like in my formative years, are giving these young boys and girls, that extra leverage in the formation of their career too. That’s the least I can do as their beloved ‘BobbyDada’.

As far as MY ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN goes...it just the the start...miles to go before I sleep...as the people of all ages around me are either asleep or silent spectators. Hence a tough battle I know is ahead of me to awaken them or break into their denial mode. I know I have to win and not let the same mishap like my family, to occur in anyone else’s.

Chief Minister of West Bengal Honourable Ms Mamata Banerjee Highlighted Bengal's stellar economic achievement and growth With an 8.41% growth rate. Bengal Global Business Summit 2023 concludes.



Kolkata,(KCN):Chief Minister of West Bengal Honourable Ms Mamata Banerjee Highlighted Bengal's stellar economic achievement and growth With an 8.41% growth rate. Bengal Global Business Summit 2023 concludes.

Day 2 of Bengal Global Business Summit 2023 commenced with great energy and promise!

Chief Minister of West Bengal Honourable Ms Mamata Banerjee welcomed international delegates from the UK, Russia, Japan and Bangladesh to set the stage for a momentous day. With such proactive engagements, the summit is poised to pave the way for progressive collaborations and knowledge sharing, shaping a brighter economic landscape for all involved. In the 7th edition of Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS), a glance of Bengal's booming industrial and economic sector was achieved and in the presence of eminent businessmen, several investment declarations and partnerships emerged.

Under the visionary guidance of Hon'ble CM Ms Mamata Banerjee, the state is going ahead towards the

glorious development of Bengal and aimed to achieve higher milestones in future! People of Bengal proud of their CM Respected Mamata Didi Ji. It is a Maa mati manush government led by Ms Mamata Banerjee. Bengal leads the way! On Day 1 of the Bengal Global Business Summit, Honourable CM Ms Mamata Banerjee proudly highlighted Bengal's stellar economic achievement and growth. With an 8.41% growth rate, the state has emerged as an economic powerhouse, actively seeking further investments and development across various sectors and industries. BGBS 2023 Bengal Means Business

Narayana Nethralaya and Acer India Team up to build India's first PC & tablet-based software therapy for children

Bengaluru Narayana Nethralaya in collaboration with Acer India today launched the PC + tablet based software, “VisioNova” designed for children suffering from Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI). This initiative by Narayana Nethralaya and Acer India aims at breaking down barriers and providing the patients with better access to treatment.

Acer VisioNova, a path-breaking innovation was conceptualized as a mobile alternative to on-site therapy for CVI children that will offer them the standard of care. Narayana Nethralaya as a part of its ‘Buds to Blossoms’

initiative provides dedicated therapy programs to help children develop and improve motor, cognitive and visual abilities that significantly improve their quality of life.

Cortical Visual Impairment is a condition of bilateral visual loss caused due to injury of visual areas in the brain without significant eye or anterior visual pathway impairment. CVI is currently an emerging cause amongst children across India. With 161 children in every 100,000 born with CVI, India has declared it to be a high priority issue and classified it as one of 30 conditions that all babies

must receive mandatory screenings. These children with CVI have great difficulty in performing visually guided activities and these therapies rely on machines that are bulky, expensive and require the child to be in the hospital for the entire duration of six-to-nine-month therapeutic process. In order to address this, Acer provided PC and 100+ tablets under CSR to kick-off this noble cause. Acer has also further intent to supply around 2000 tablets for patients where patients can pay the hospital a small, refundable deposit and receive the tablet for use from the comforts of

their home and still continue treatments even with COVID disruptions.

The tablet will offer CVI patients exercises that can benefit and help them develop and improve their deficient skills and visual abilities that significantly improve the quality of life. Also, since a number of specialised therapies that are deployed require expensive equipments that need the child to be present at the center for the entire duration of the treatment, this tablet will allow remote therapy under the mentorship of Narayana Nethralaya’ CVI experts, making this treatment accessible to the outreach.

On the occasion of this

launch, Mr. Harish Kohli, President & Managing Director, Acer India said, “It is a matter of pride for us to join this innovative collaboration with Narayana Nethralaya where technology helps break barriers to improve lives. Acer VisioNova engineered the overall solution, comprising both the software and the hardware. At Acer, we always believe in closing the gap between people and technology and to meaningfully improve clinical outcomes and reduce the systemic cost of healthcare, VisioNova will help patients with timely access to care when they need it.

EKA partners with NuPort Robotics to introduce smart Electric Buses

Mumbai: EKA, an electric vehicles & technology company, and a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries Limited, is once again leading the way as they enter a partnership with NuPort Robotics to introduce Level 2 autonomy, advanced driver assistance systems, to their electric bus models. This is a first-of-its-kind-in-the-country initiative towards the utilization and incorporation of progressive Level 2 autonomy and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Electric buses on Indian roads. EKA begins testing on a range of autonomous features developed by NuPort, an advanced technology that promises to contribute to notable improvements in safety, reducing environmental footprint, and increasing operational

efficiency. Following a period of rigorous testing, the technology will be deployed with over 5000 buses, representing a minimum investment of nearly INR 150 Crores in innovation and contributing to the future of transportation and sustainability. More importantly, when such technologies are deployed in commercial vehicles, they have been associated with reducing crash rates by nearly 50%. NuPort Robotics, a Canadian company announced its plans earlier this month to set up operations in India and fully develop and deploy its technology in India for commercial vehicle manufacturers, beginning with electric vehicle manufacturers. NuPort will be following a “Made in India” approach

thereby contributing to the advancement of economic development and innovation ecosystem within the country. NuPort’s technology provides level 2 autonomy features specifically targeted for Indian roads, considering the complex nature of Indian traffic, and understanding the Indian driving mindset. NuPort’s partnership with EKA is strategic, as it allows both NuPort and EKA to offer Indian customers cutting-edge innovative vehicles that can be continuously updated to retain that innovative advantage. NuPort is using proprietary AI technology which will progressively enable autonomous features thereby increasing safety, operational efficiency, and reduced carbon footprint.

