

Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan voices concern over tribal rights in Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): A mid the Opposition parties' uproar over the recent Cabinet decision on the tribal land sale and transfer, which was later put on hold, Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan on Thursday expressed his concern over the 'controversial' decision. Speaking at a national convention of 'Biswa Manabika Adhikar Surakhya Sangathan' in Bhubaneswar on Thursday, Harichandan said, "Tribal people in the state are a deprived and neglected lot." In a veiled reference to the recent Cabinet nod to the tribal land transfer issue, he further observed that the tribals should not be deprived



of their rights. The Chhattisgarh Governor demanded that the existing laws pertaining to the rights and welfare of the Scheduled Tribes should be strengthened rather than tweaked. Harichandan's concern came at a time when the Winter Session of the Odisha Assembly has witnessed repeated

disruptions for the last three days due to opposition by legislators of Congress and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), who have accused the ruling BJD of trying to render the tribals landless by tampering with the existing laws related to the transfer rights of their land to non-tribal people.

Odisha's Deepa Sahoo country's first transgender PhD holder to get Presidential Award

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In what could bring cheer among the transgender community in Odisha as well as the country, Deepa Sahoo from Cuttack who has obtained PhD in Biology from Utkal University will be the first transgender from the country to get the Presidential Award-2023. Deepa will receive the award from President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on December 30. Deepa was intimated in this regard through a communiqué from the Rashtrapati Bhawan on Thursday. "The Indian Government feel proud that Ms. Deepa Sahoo (TG) has honored the PhD as the first Transgender of India. So your name has been selected for the Presidential Award 2023 which will be awarded to



you. You are therefore intimated to be present at Rashtrapati Bhawan on 30th December 2023 to receive the prestigious Award," the letter read. After receiving the news, Deepa, a resident of Haripur in Buxi Bazar area of Cuttack is now on cloud nine. She has set an example for her community by dint of her hard work and determination which helped her notch up such an academic success, eventually proving herself eligible enough for the covetous honour from the

first citizen of the country. Things took a different turn for Deepa when she was 12 and studying in Class VI. Her behaviour and demeanour started to change and she more felt like that of a woman. Her family members and the people frowned upon her for such behavioural changes that she had not wished at all. She did not cringe back for fears of social slandering, but she braved all odds that came her way. She was determined to reach her goal in life and that has been achieved now.

Royal Bengal Tiger Covers 2,000 Km For Suitable Territory, Spotted In Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): A Royal Bengal Tiger, which has been spotted in a forest in Odisha, has travelled more than 2,000 km across four states, perhaps in search of suitable territory, a forester said on Thursday. The same big cat was earlier found in a Maharashtra forest, he said.

The male tiger, whose stripe pattern was found to be similar to a big cat photographed in a forest in Maharashtra, has been sighted in the Mahendra forest range in Odisha's Gajapati district since September, Paralakhemundi divisional forest officer S Anand told PTI over the phone.

After sighting the big cat in its jurisdiction, the Paralakhemundi forest division officials in Gajapati district have



been tracking the movement of the wild animal, he said.

As the tiger was sighted for the first time in the area, they sent the pictures and other details of the tiger to the Wildlife Institute of India to find its original territory, Anand said.

"The WII has confirmed that our camera trap image matched with a tiger previously photographed in the Brahmapuri forest division of Maharashtra. "From its unique stripe patterns and other details, it was confirmed that the tiger has come

from Maharashtra to Odisha travelling almost 2,000 km and covering four states-Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha," the forest official said. Residents of Analabara village panicked after the tiger mauled a cow to death.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Opposition BJP and Congress continued to stall the Assembly Proceedings for the second day today over the State Cabinet's decision to allow Scheduled Tribe (ST) people to sell their land to non-tribals.

Soon after the House assembled for the day for Question Hour, the BJP and the Congress intensified their protest in the Assembly, demanding the roll-back of the Cabinet's decision. Speaker Pramila Mallik adjourned the proceeding till 4 PM, as Members of the Opposition trooped into the well of the House and shouted slogans against the BJD Government.

After the adjournment of the House, BJP Lawmakers marched to Raj Bhavan to meet

Governor Raghubar Das and submit a memorandum on the transfer of tribal land. In the memorandum, the BJP members said the Tribal Advisory Council in its last meeting which was held on date 11.07.2023, recommended relaxation for scheduled tribes to obtain bank loans for agriculture, construction of residential houses and higher studies of children only. But the Government has approved transfer of immovable property of Scheduled Tribe to other than Scheduled Tribe in scheduled area which was not decided in this TAC meeting 2023 unanimously, they said. "Therefore, we condemn the action of the Odisha Government which is against the interest of Scheduled Tribe people.

The intention of the Government is doubtful," read the memorandum. The BJP MLAs sought intervention of the Governor in order to safeguard the interest of Scheduled Tribe people in the State. Adorned 'Angabastra' with tribal motifs, the BJP members held placards aloft and raised slogans in the House, alleging that the House. "The Cabinet should withdraw the land transfer rule. The BJP will continue to corner the government till the decision is not

revoked," he told reporters outside the House.

Congress Chief Whip Taraprasad Bahinipati said his party is working for the development of tribals, the members raised the issue in the House for the second day. As the BJD Government is on the backfoot for its decision, it has adjourned the House directly till 4 PM, he said.

The Congress Members demanded that Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announce the complete withdrawal of the cabinet decision on the tribal land transfer. Opposition Whip and BJP MLA Mohan Majhi said that the Speaker again rejected their request to allow a motion to discuss the issue suspending other businesses of the House. "The Cabinet should withdraw the land transfer rule. The BJP will continue to corner the government till the decision is not

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Sinha Harps On Steel Skill



Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Union Secretary Steel, Nagendra Nath Sinha has harped on recent trends on Skilling needed in Steel Sector. Shri Sinha, who is on Odisha visit addressed Industry oriented Skill Development Program on "Different routes on Iron and Steel Making" which has been organised by Biju Patnaik National Steel Institute.

BPNSI organized the two days long Skill Development Program at State Council of Technical Education and Vocational Training Conference Hall.

This Skill Development Program was inaugurated by Steel Secretary Shri Sinha as

Chief Guest. He delivered an illuminating lecture to the participants about the current trending on skilling in Iron and Steel manufacturing. Arun Kumar Rath, Green Field Head of Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel has attended as an Honoured Guest of this program. Diploma Engineering Students and Faculty of

Ganesh Institute of Engineering and Technology have participated in this workshop. Professor Suresh Chandra Patnaik had made an elaborate deliberation on Iron and Steel Making to the participants. Simanta Mohanty trained the participants about Man Management and Soft Skills. The National Institute Director Pritam Shankar Purakayastha conducted the valedictory session in the Skill Development Program.

As a part and parcel of the Skill Development Program, the participants will visit the TATA STEEL, Kalinga Nagar, Duburi for on the spot knowledge gathering.

Petitioners Seek Open Court Hearing Of Same-Sex Marriage Verdict Review Plea

New Delhi(KCN): A

petition seeking review of the October 17 verdict refusing to accord legal recognition to same-sex marriages by queer couples was on Thursday mentioned before the Supreme Court for an open court hearing. A bench led by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud took note of the submissions of senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for one of the petitioners, that the review plea needed to be heard in open court to redress the grievances of those seeking validation of same-sex marriages. The bench also comprised justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

"I have not examined the (review) petition. Let me circulate it (among judges of that constitution bench)," the CJI said.

"All judges (of that constitution bench) agreed that there is discrimination and if there is some kind of discrimination then



there has to be a remedy. The lives of a large number of people depend on it. We have urged for an open court hearing," Rohatgi said, adding that the review plea was listed for consideration on November 28.

According to Supreme Court procedures, the pleas seeking review of a judgement is considered by judges concerned in chambers with no oral submissions by lawyers. However, review pleas in exceptional cases, including the one pertaining to handing down the death penalty, are heard in an open

court. The review plea, which was mentioned on Thursday, was filed by Udit Sood, one of the 21 petitioners, in the first week of November assailing the judgement. It said the judgement acknowledged the discrimination against queer couples but "turned them away with best wishes for the future". The constitution bench headed by the CJI had delivered four separate verdicts on the batch of 21 petitions seeking legal sanction for gay marriages.

KiiT International School National Children Literary Fest to Kick-off from Nov 25

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The much-awaited ninth edition of the National Children Literary Fest (NCLF) of the KiiT International School (KiiT-IS), Bhubaneswar will be organized from November 25 to 26, 2023. The literary fest, the first and only of its kind in India for school students, will be attended by more than 1000 students from 75 schools across the country.

Internationally renowned Indian music composer and three-time Grammy award winner, Dr. Ricky Kej; and G20 Sherpa and former CEO of Niti Aayog Mr. Amitabh Kant will interact with students during the two-day

KiiT International School, among the top-ranked International Schools in the country,

offers CBSE as national curriculum and IBDP and IGCSE as international



curriculum. Taking off from 2013, NCLF has become one of the most loved and interesting Children's Festival. It has grown in stature during the course of the last nine

years, hosting popular writers, poets, and artists who have contributed immensely

to the field of competition, quiz competition, candle making workshop, story telling competition, and a unique 'Out of the Box Production'. The event will conclude with a concert by Ankit Tiwari, a popular playback singer.

As a prelude to the event, the School had organized 'Lit-o-Fest' to celebrate the creative talents of the little ones. The fest, open for children from the age group 3 – 10 years, witnessed enthusiastic participation from Kinder Orland students of KiiT-IS. The events included puppet making, clay modeling, face painting, human library, storytelling, word search, etc.

7th NATIONAL MEDIA CONCLAVE – 2023 AWARD

Award of Excellence for 'Best Public Sector Organization Implementing CSR'

Bhubaneswar (KCN): NTPC Limited, ER-II Headquarters, Bhubaneswar conferred the 'Award of Excellence' in the category of 'Best Public Sector Organization Implementing CSR' by the jury member of the 7th National Media Conclave – 2023 held at KIMS Auditorium, Bhubaneswar on 23.11.2023.

The award was presented by Shri Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, Hon'ble Minister of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare, Govt. of Odisha and Shri Pradip Kumar Amat, Hon'ble Minister of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water, Govt. of Odisha.

The award was conferred to NTPC Limited, Eastern Region-II, Bhubaneswar as the 'Best Public



Sector Organization Implementing CSR' for outstanding contribution towards the implementation of CSR initiatives and well-being of communities and society through environmental and social measures in the Eastern Region-II. Out of many flagship CSR initiatives, NTPC's Girl

Empowerment Mission has reached new heights of success in helping young girls to realize their goals and befitting over a million of courtyards. This year NTPC has carried out its GEM programmes in 41 locations. Shri Virender Pratap Singh, DGM (HR) and Shri Rajendra Sahoo, Assistant Manager (HR) received the award on behalf of Shri Partha Mazumder, Regional Executive Director (ER-II). Shri Partha Mazumder, Regional Executive Director (ER-II) and Shri Rajnish Rastogi, General Manager (HR) have conveyed their appreciation to the ER-II Team for this achievement.

V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) Shines Spotlight on Refractive Errors in Children: The Overlooked Vision Challenge

Bhubaneswar (KCN): L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) concluded its Children's Eye Care Week with an awareness walk on November 19, 2023, centred around refractive errors in children. This vibrant week-long celebration marked the 15th-year milestone of LVPEI's dedicated children's eye care unit, the Miriam Hyman Children's Eye Care Centre. Dr Ramesha Kekunnaya, Director of Child Sight Institute, LVPEI, and Dr Srikant Sahu, Head of LVPEI, Bhubaneswar, inaugurated the newly renovated and updated outpatient wing in this pediatric facility, underscoring the centre's commitment to providing excellent eye care services and eradicating avoidable blindness in children.

The celebrations featured an array of engaging programs, including a live art exhibition, a children's painting competition, an enlightening awareness talk, a knowledge-packed

expert lecture, and an insightful surgical workshop. These initiatives were carefully curated to share knowledge and amplify awareness about refractive errors in children. In the spirit of inclusivity, a special fun camp was organized for children with special needs and their parents from two blind schools in Bhubaneswar. Refractive errors, such as myopia (nearsightedness), hypermetropia (farsightedness), and astigmatism, can affect children due to natural differences in eyeball sizes, leading to difficulties in correctly processing images. These errors often result in symptoms like headaches, eyestrain, and fatigue during reading and may even lead to the development of squint as children adapt to visual challenges. Uncorrected refractive errors are a significant global concern and a leading cause of blindness.

In India, 20% of visually impaired individuals suffer from unaddressed refractive errors. The prevalence of myopia, in particular, is rising, posing a potential public health crisis. Without intervention, projections suggest that nearly half of the world's population may be affected by myopia by 2050. Dr Vivek Warkad, Head of Miriam Hyman Children's Eye Care Centre at LVPEI Bhubaneswar, emphasized the importance of recognizing early signs of refractive errors, urging immediate consultation with an eye specialist. While addressing the gathering at the Children's Eye Care Walk, he spoke about the standard early symptoms to see if a child has refractive error, such as reading or watching television at a close distance, difficulty seeing the blackboard clearly at school, frequent headaches, eyestrain, and squeezing

or squinting of the eyes. "Early diagnosis and treatment of refractive errors are crucial, with eye examinations recommended at ages one, three, and five," he added.

The reasons for the surge in refractive errors are complex. Genetics play a role, with a higher likelihood of Myopia if one or both parents have it. Environmental factors, such as prolonged near-work, excessive screen time, and insufficient outdoor activities, predispose one to Myopia. Exposure to dust and smoke can cause eye allergies, and constant eye rubbing can increase the risk of astigmatism. The impact of these conditions on children is profound. Children adapt to their blurred vision, adjusting to close-range activities and avoiding tasks that require sharp focus, affecting their academic performance and taking a toll on their psychological well-being.



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Alia Bhatt thanks Sidharth Malhotra for giving her 'first love' of her life: 'He's a 10 but could be a 20'

Karan Johar hosted Sidharth Malhotra and Varun Dhawan on the latest episode of Koffee with Karan and during the episode, Alia Bhatt made an appearance via a recorded video where she spoke about her equation with both actors. The three of them made their debut in the movies and on Koffee with Karan together in 2013. Alia thanked Sidharth for giving her the "first love" of her life, her cat Edward and revealed some lesser known "facts" about him. Thanking him for her



"first love", Alia said, "I'm very thankful to Sid because he's given me my first love of my life which was Edward." Alia also spoke about the time when the trio made their first appearance on Koffee with Karan and said that it was an "unforgettable debut

trolled for that. Sharing three "unknown facts" about Sidharth, Alia revealed that he is a really good singer and shared, "Sid is a 10 but he could be a 20 if he just sings more often and more openly." She also shared that Sidharth is very health conscious and thus, does not like to party but mentioned that he is great at getting a party started. "People run away from him at parties," she said. She added that even when he does party, he is the first to fall asleep. "He would be the first

person to fall asleep at his own birthday party," she said and Karan said, "That's because he got drunk." Alia concluded by saying, "They really make me feel very comfortable and very safe and I only have love for them. I love you both." After their debut appearance on the show, the three actors have never appeared together. Alia and Varun appeared together on the couch in 2017. Alia has already appeared on this season of Koffee with Karan with Kareena Kapoor.

Salman Khan's action film trails Hrithik Roshan's War by Rs 75 crore

Salman Khan's Tiger 3 might be his biggest hit in six years, but it's still being seen as an under-performer considering its massive budget and expectations. On its 11th day of release, the film made Rs 5.7 crore across all languages in India, registering another marginal day-to-day drop. In total, Tiger 3 has made Rs 249 crore domestically, according to industry tracker Sacnilk.

Produced for a reported Rs 300 crore, the film had a large opening on Diwali, which happened to be a Sunday. It made

Rs 44 crore, and seemed to be doing just fine until Bhai Dooj a couple of days later. But since then, it has struggled to maintain a steady pace at

the box office, and was further hurt by Team India's progress at the 2023 Men's Cricket World Cup. The film's daily collections

dropped below the Rs 20 crore mark by day five, and below the Rs 10 crore mark by day nine. Expectations were considerable going into

release, especially since the cat was out of the bag about Shah Rukh Khan's cameo. SRK reprised his role as Pathaan in Tiger 3, which is the fifth installment in YRF's Spy Universe. Pathaan made Rs 1000 crore globally, and Tiger 3's global gross only recently crossed the Rs 400 crore mark. While it's no longer the lowest-grossing movie of the shared universe, having recently overtaken Ek Tha Tiger's Rs 335 crore lifetime haul. Tiger Zinda Hai, Salman's last outright hit, made Rs 565 crore worldwide, while

the Hrithik Roshan-starrer War made Rs 475 crore.

On day 11 of release, Tiger 3 reported a nationwide Hindi-language occupancy of 11%. The dubbed Tamil and Telugu versions have all but disappeared from circulation. The movie hasn't had any real competition at the box office so far, and will likely be overwhelmed on December 1, when Ranbir Kapoor's Animal and the Vicky Kaushal period drama Sam Bahadur are released in theatres.

Mirzapur actor Isha Talwar says artistes should be given medals as survival is 'really hard': 'There's self-doubt, pressure to make it big'

What doesn't kill your spirit, makes you a movie star. Actor Isha Talwar, best known for starring in the Amazon Prime Video series Mirzapur, says being in the film industry can be a daunting task as artistes battle insecurity, competition, bitterness and the pressure to succeed at all cost.

Isha started her film career with the 2012 Malayalam movie Thattathin Marayathu and continued to work in the industry, along with Tamil and Telugu films, before she appeared in Salman Khan's Tubelight in 2017. Post that, her Bollywoood appearances included Kaalakaandi, Article 15, Sharmaji Namkeen.

She finally got her breakthrough success with Mirzapur in 2020 and followed it up with this year's Saas, Bahu Aur Flamingo. Isha is now gearing up for her next, Chamak. The Sony LIV musical thriller is set in Punjab and is gearing to release on December 7.

In an interview with Indianexpress.com, Isha Talwar talks about how she has stopped chasing the constant need to



"make it big" as per the worldly standards, the move to reinvent herself and join an acting course and why actors need to be applauded more often for surviving in the industry.

You entered the industry in 2012 with a Malayalam film. What has the decade taught you? The learning is interesting. I got a lot of exposure because of South cinema. It is a different market, my foundation was set there. Everybody who is in films should be given a medal, because it is hard. The amount of self-doubt an artiste lives with, add to it the

pressure... It is self-inflicting pressure though, of wanting to make it big, where there is a set definition of 'making it'. I have stopped chasing that now.

Where you at some point?

When I came here, of course I was chasing it. When I didn't get it, it made me think what I was chasing.

Now I do it more for the love of it, not so much for 'I have to be successful'. That unnecessary pressure is off my head, but it is not like I am less ambitious today. Our

industry. This understanding comes after many years. You know the industry is unpredictable, but to live through it takes time. It took me some time.

Did it help that your father was from the industry, so you at least knew that this is a gamble?

Yes, but when you are dreamy eyed, you are not thinking about these things. You think how you are going to be the next superstar. I never focused on such things.

Eventually when you get five-six slaps from life, you go like, 'Oh damn, this s**t also happens.' No one prepares you for it, you just find

out. What are you craving for right now?

Chamak feels like a new beginning of sorts, because usually people play bhabis and bahus later. But for me that came in first and now I am going in this space of younger women. Somewhere that image of being a rooted actor, someone who is doing more UP, Rajasthan roles was clinging to me. If not for anything else, Chamak's character is definitely closer to my age group.

Bigg Boss 17: Ankita Lokhande throws 'chappal' at husband Vicky Jain; lat...

Yes that and Saas Bahu and Flamingo just reinforced that. Madhuri and Bijli, as much as I love them, I also want to do a Javvinder Kaur in Chamak. Which is why it feels like a new beginning. I do feel new. My new year has come in a bit early. There is a tendency to get bitter if you spend too much time, too many ideas of what needs to happen. But the acting course has ensured that I am back to square one and I want to chase some really cool things from here on now.

RAM JANMABHOOMI – THE MOVEMENT AND ITS POLITICAL MOMENTUM

M.R.LALU

Finally the Ram Temple at Ayodhya is going to be a reality. Its consecration being scheduled for January 22, 2024, the majority of India's population is going to witness a dream fulfilling moment. Of course, the journey to the effect of its consecration did not come with happy negotiations and peaceful deliberations. It has a long history of struggle and the world witnessed India's political weather constantly changing ever since the Ram Janmabhoomi movement for a grand temple at the birth place of Lord Ram at Ayodhya became an outcry. A society that remained silent and passive until then began to sense a purpose for its unity and the effect of such a movement had seriously delivered a great deal of unforeseeable political outcome that

the electorate in the country once thought would never be a reality. That was the real fact, the history of the rise of the saffron politics in India's political courtyard. Almost all parties from the strongholds of the ruling and opposition camps believed that the minority consolidation of votes would ensure their success leap to the power corridors of the country. And the majority, they thought, would remain a divided group and well calibrated attempts to further divide and dismantle it were always afoot. The Ram Janmabhoomi movement, a socio-cultural one- found reasons to demand and purpose to churn the sleepy sensations of the major chunk of the country's population. It restructured the political belief systems that otherwise was busy in appeasement politics. All through its journey, the movement for the temple at Ayodhya steadily progressed while adversities wove barriers. But the level of acceptance it could garner was

profound. A significant event needs a special reference here. The BJP kept itself out of the entire scenario in the beginning but later became calculative and found chances of fortunes breaking its floodgates of insignificance. It decided to drive its organizational acumen to directly enhance the movement while mixing it with spirituality and politics. The flavor it discovered was well received. The party, in its National Executive meeting at Palampur in Himachal Pradesh in June 1989 decided to officially launch its involvement in the movement. The movement caught fire when the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) in September 1989 announced its plan to carry consecrated bricks from across the country for the shilanyas (the foundation laying) at Ayodhya. A soft breeze at that began to turn into a terrible storm with a large segment of the country's population supporting and mobilizing the cause that was buried under the dust of

submissiveness and a let h a r g i c forgetfulness. In his poetic resonance Atal Bihari Vajpayee called the temple a "national aspiration" which according to him should have become a reality without enmity shrieking from the sides of Hindus and Muslims. Other than Ayodhya, Mathura and Kashi also demanded emancipation. All three were equally important for the Hindus and the process of rejuvenation of Kashi could almost be finished under the Modi regime. But the conflict which is under the purview of the court on Gyan Vapi is yet to be resolved. Political climate in the country does not insist on one more movement in the line of Ram Janmabhoomi. Neither Mathura nor Kashi would call for it. This could be better viewed from a precise political angle. Through the transformation of the agitation into an earth shattering sensation all over the country, Ayodhya held the real sense of necessity and the fight for the shrine gained Himalayan strength. Veterans in

the BJP discovered future prospects as its basic ideological leaning remained with Hindutva. Though not suddenly, the party's involvement in the movement had made it a recognizable partner that jumped into the fray for a holy temple for Lord Ram in his birthplace in the same way as Kaaba in Mecca has for Muslims worldwide. This was mainly because the parties that existed in India those days chose not to directly be involved in it. Obviously, the Congress party which ruled the country for decades had failed to respond to what the sleeping souls of the Hindu population had been demanding. An aspirational political class emerged from the classic calculative move of the BJP with its firm belief that the emancipation of Ayodhya was possible only if the BJP came to power. Its subsequent manifestos decreed its vision and mission for the same. Undoubtedly, the party was slowly rising from the debris of its failures, piling more and more bargaining power in its political exchequer. Elections to the 9th

Lok Sabha were held in November 1989 and the results threw the ruling Congress out of power with the Janata Dal emerging as the largest single party and V.P. Singh with the help of the BJP placed at the helm. In its meticulous calculated move, the BJP with its veteran L.K. Advani mounting on the chariot started the Ram Rath Yatra from Somnath in Gujarat to Ayodhya. Ever since the consecrated bricks were being carried to Ayodhya by the VHP, the Rath Yatra further pushed the BJP into a more advantageous position. Hundreds of villages and millions of villagers found a spiritual reason behind the politically motivated Rath Yatra by L.K. Advani. The party could convince the electorates across the country to principally believe that the BJP's intervention would make the 'Mandir dream' materialize. Ultimately, an angry mob toppled the d i l a p i d a t e d controversial building into dust on 6 December 1992, bringing the questionable social

cohesion of India into the attention of the world and Political flip flops and rise and fall of governments followed. The movement also burst into instances of chaos and skirmishes and agony as it unfolded. January 22, 2024 is going to be crucial for the BJP and its opposition. While BJP has reasons to celebrate the opposition is yet to make up its mind. Having completed a decade in the government, the party and its most popular leader are going to seek a hat trick opportunity this time. What needs to be seen is the impact of the Ram Temple, the plank that the BJP kicked off most of its political campaigns. Would the inauguration of the temple give the party a "what next" moment? Elated with its accomplishment but devoid of a fresh subject that could single handedly alter the electoral arithmetic in India, the BJP is least likely to once again harp on to an issue in line with Ayodhya. It is not fair to conclude that the party would

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Digital Detoxing is a Journey of Self-Love and Self-discovery

Dr Shalini Yadav

it also leads to a sense of obliterate, strain and lassitude whether you desire or not. This is where the concept of digital detox comes into play. In other words if we say, it is a kind of fasting and fasting has been included in various religions from ages to purify one's body, mind and soul. Theologian and philosopher Saint Augustine has said: "Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust and kindles the true light of chastity." Like fasting or eating less or selected healthy cuisine, detoxing one's body is about eliminating harmful toxins from the body, avoiding and keeping yourself away from junk food and high calorie diets, digital detox or digital fasting insinuates to a period of time where individuals can intentionally disconnect themselves from their electronic devices, such as smartphones, tablets, laptops, and even social media platforms. Via this one can step away from the ceaseless flow

of information. It also assists in regaining a sense of positive poise and perceptual lucidity. Fasting of any kind either it's about food or digital content, "is the greatest remedy- the physician within"- articulates Swiss physician and alchemist, Paracelsus. The way, a systematic cleansing and detox is required after a luxurious holiday trip or after attending a marriage ceremony or partying with friends, requisite for a digital detox has also become progressively proliferating due to the mounting dependency on technology. Studies suggest that the average person spends several hours a day consuming digital content, and this constant exposure can have detrimental effects on our well-being at various levels.

In specific, young generation is at high risk due to excessive usage of digital devices and digital content. They are extensively engaged in these sitting at one place, watching reels on Instagram or chatting for long hours with friends and sidelining their studies and career outlooks. Therefore, there is an avalanche in several diseases such as weakness of eyesight,

obesity, early age heart strokes, neural diseases and psychological illness etc. Mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression, are also on the upsurge, and one of the major reasons of these problems is excessive technology use. Moral degradation is also one of the aftermaths of unwarranted practice of reading and watching digital content without any censorship.

The power of detoxification is immense and the paybacks are bounteous and across-the-board. Firstly, it allows us to take a break from the constant hullabaloo of social media and distractions of the virtual or on-screen world. By disconnecting, we can tune into our surroundings, engage in evocative and sensible face-to-face conversations touching the core, and cultivate deeper relationships with those around us. This hiatus empowers us to be present in the moment and appreciate the simple pleasures in life including relishing nature and our real-life relations. Currently not only youth but also all age group people need to opt for frequent digital detox, which we cannot surpass, also improves mental health and gives time to a person to be serene and composed. Social media platforms, in particular, have been linked to feelings of meagreness when one sees everyone voicing out loud about their professional or personal stuff and unfortunately that creates in many the "fear of missing out" (FOMO). Unplugging from the digital world is not so easy we all know, as it causes stress to many of losing something, yet by removing ourselves from these virtual spaces, we can set ourselves free from the comparison ploy and foster a fitter and healthier liaison with us. A digital detox allows us to explore our inner selves and reconnect us with it, practice introspection and self-reflection, and prioritize self-care.

Thus, it can be said that digital detox offers irreplaceable benefits in today's technology-driven world where everyone seems to be fully engrossed with their gadgets discarding real treasure of humanity and nature. Such breaks from our devices can help us in reclaiming our time, focus, and mental-physical well-being. So, we should be ready to gift ourselves this gift time to time and relish the positive impact it can have on our life.

(Writer, Editor & Professor)

Congress will form the Govt. in Rajasthan again :Dr. R.C. Khuntia, Ex-MP



Jaipur(KCN): Dr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, Ex-MP, Ex-CWC Member & Incharge Coordinator for Congress Guarantee RathYatra along with other PCC Leaders campaigned in UdayapurZone, 28 Assembly Constituencies of RajasthanState. The Congress guarantee Yatra was started from 13th November to 21st November with several leaders, and with election campaigned with designed Boxin Udayapur Zone. The

Yatra covers 3600 KM, 30 public meetings, street corner meetings and Nukkad drama about 10 points which has been implemented in Rajasthan, 25 lakhs Insurance Scheme, 10 Lakhs compensation, Gas cylinder@500/-, revival of old pension scheme and also assurance for free education in English Medium Schools, Laptop, tablets & Smartphone for students, Rs. 2/- per 1 KG cow dung manor, Gas in Rs. 400/- per cylinder and insurance scheme up to 50 lakhs.

Sj. MallikarjunaKharge Congress President addressed the public meeting of Congress Guarantee Yatra at Mouli, Sj. Rahul Gandhi MP also addressed the Congress Guarantee Yatra rallies at Ballavnagar and Smt. Priyanka Gandhi, General Secretary, AICC attended the addressed the Congress Guarantee Yatra rally at Chhitorgarh. All public

meetings are well attended and great success. Dr. R.C. Khuntia, Ex-MP with the support of DCC, RPCC and INTUC President SjJagdish Raj Srimali, Sj Pradeep Mohapatra, Secretary OPCC, Odisha Coordinated all public meetings and all programme of Congress Guarantee Yatra in UdayapurZone on 21st November. SjMallikarjunaKhargeji addressed the concluding meeting of

Congress guarantee programme RathYatra. BJP Modiji could not fulfil the assurance to give 15 lakhs to the everybody bank account 2 crores employees in a year controlling price rise and raise of price of petrol, diesel and gas on the other hand Rajasthan Congress Govt. has fulfil all the assurance. Hence Congress will win the Rajasthan with thumping majority and from the Govt once again said Dr. R.C. Khuntia, Ex-MP

Major Step Towards Building "Green" Electric Tugs - GRSE



Kolkata, (KCN): In a major move towards achieving India's goal towards becoming the 'Global Hub for Green Shipbuilding' by 2030, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd – one of India's premier defence shipyards – signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Shift Clean Energy (Shift), Seatech Solutions International (Seatech) and the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) today, to develop Electric Tugs E-VOLT 50.

The E-VOLT 50 aims to reduce carbon emissions, improve operational efficiency, and set new benchmarks for performance and environmental

sustainability in the tugboat industry. GRSE which has established itself as a leading defence shipyard in the country, will build the platform based on the design by M/s Seatech with M/s Shift providing the energy storage and ABS would ensure that the construction and design adhere to all applicable regulatory standards, certifying safety, reliability, and compliance.

Highlighting the importance of the MoU, Cmde PR Hari, IN (Retd), Chairman and Managing Director, GRSE said: "We are excited to be part of this groundbreaking collaboration that combines the expertise of GRSE and three

industry-leading organisations. "E-VOLT 50" is a bold step towards a cleaner and greener future for the maritime sector. By utilizing sustainable energy solutions and cutting-edge technology, we aim to redefine the standards of performance, efficiency, and environmental stewardship."

GRSE has already made progress towards the building of green vessels. At the moment, the shipyard is building a zero-emission electric ferry for the Government of West Bengal that will have a capacity of 150 passengers. Once commissioned, this ferry promises to redefine passenger services along the Hooghly and other major rivers.

On November 12, a section of the under-construction tunnel from Silkyara to Barkot collapsed, trapping 41 labourers in debris on the Silkyara side. The trapped workers are in a 2 km-built portion, complete with concrete work for their safety. Among the trapped labourers, two each are from Uttarakhand and Assam, one from Himachal, eight from Uttar Pradesh, five each from Bihar and Odisha, three from West Bengal, and 15 others are from Jharkhand.

While speaking to ANI, Jaymal Singh Negi mentioned that his brother informed him about the trapped men

engaging in yoga and exercises inside the tunnel. He also advised his brother to continue these activities. "I advised my brother to keep doing yoga, exercise and walking, and he said yes, we are doing it," Jaymal Negi said.

Earlier in the day, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami visited the rescue site. He spoke to Gabbar Singh Negi and another worker, Saba Ahmed, to inquire about their well-being. Dhami updated them on

KCR Promises Special IT Park Near Hyderabad For Muslim Youths If Voted To Power

Hyderabad(KCN): In a bid to woo minority voters, Bharat Rashtra Samithi President and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao on Thursday said if his party is voted to power again, the government will set up a special Information Technology park near here for minority youths.

Addressing a rally in

Hyderabad, Mr Rao said wealth has been growing as his government is putting in efforts and maintaining fiscal discipline. He said there is no water tax in Telangana, unlike any other state in India even as the government is providing 24 hours of free "quality" power to farmers.

KCR said the agricultural situation has improved in the state and, if the same

measures are continued for another 10 to 15 years, farmers would come out of the woods.

Alleging that the Congress is saying that KCR is wasting taxpayers' money and giving 'Rythu Bandhu', an investment support to farmers, he said if the BRS is voted to power again, not only will the scheme be continued but the amount under it would be increased to ? 16,000 gradually from the existing ? 10,000 per annum.

Congress guarantee programme RathYatra. Telangana will remain a secular state," he said. According to the chief minister, development was possible in Telangana after it became a separate state. "Who achieved statehood for Telangana? Who is able to implement 24-hour free power? Who brought tap water to every doorstep?" he asked the people, who shouted back "KCR".

Stating that when Telangana was formed, the situation was chaotic with no proper drinking and irrigation water

They're Practising Yoga, Says Brother Of Man Trapped In Uttarakhand Tunnel

Uttarkashi(KCN): All 41 workers trapped in the Silkyara tunnel are practising yoga and other exercises while rescuers work to create an escape route, according to Jaymal Singh Negi, brother of Gabbar Singh Negi - one of the men stranded for 12 days. Jaymal Negi also expressed hope for 'good news' soon.



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"This operation is just like a war situation where one keeps guessing about enemy moves," he said. He further mentioned that in this operation 'Himalayan geology' is the enemy.

Inspector-General of Police Garhwal Range KS Nagyal also mentioned that the rescue's duration is uncertain due to machinery work. "The attempt at the

rescue is in progress and rescue is expected to be carried out very soon. It is machinery work so a stipulated time can't be decided. The rescue work will go on at night as well," IG said.

A total of 41 ambulances are stationed at the Silkyara tunnel site, with 31 from '108' and 10 provided by the administration, as informed by Mukesh Nautiyal, the project manager of the Operation 108 Ambulance initiative.

Supreme Court Gives Defaulting States Last Chance To Pay Arrears To Lower Court Judges

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court granted a last opportunity to the defaulting states and Union territories on Thursday to clear the salary arrears and other dues of lower court judges in accordance with the recommendations of the Second National Judicial Pay Commission (SNJPC).

The SNJPC recommendations cover the pay structure, pension and family pension and allowances, besides dealing with the issue of establishing a permanent mechanism to determine

the subjects of the service conditions of the district judiciary.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud noted that despite its directions dated May 19, some states have not complied either fully or in part with those.

Fullscreen "We are, prima facie, of the view that the chief secretaries of all defaulting states and Union territories are in contempt. In order to grant one last opportunity of compliance, we direct

that the directions shall be effected on or before December 8, 2023, failing which the chief secretaries of all defaulting states and Union territories shall personally remain present before this court," the bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said.

The court also clarified that compliance shall mean actual crediting of the amount payable to each judicial officer and in the case of family pension, the surviving spouses.

In another direction, the

bench also allowed the High Court of Telangana to increase the superannuation age of judicial officers from 60 to 61 years, in line with that of the state government officials. Describing the district Judiciary as the backbone of the judicial system, the top court had, on May 19, directed all the states to clear the revised rates of pension, which have been approved by the court, shall be payable from July 1, 2023.

"For the payment of arrears of pension, additional pension, gratuity and other retiral

benefits as well, following the orders dated July 27, 2022 and January 18, 2023, it is directed that 25 per cent will be paid by August 31, 2023, another 25 per cent by October 31, 2023 and the remaining 50 per cent by December 31, 2023," it had said.

The court had also said necessary amendments on issues, such as uniformity of cadre in the district judiciary, must be carried out in the service rules of judicial officers across all jurisdictions to implement the recommendations made

SNJPC.

The litigation moved by the All India Judges Association dates back to 1993 and consequently, the need was felt to have a judicial pay commission, separate and independent from the executive, in order to ensure that a system of checks and balances is in place and the judiciary has a say in their pay and service conditions.

The First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) was constituted by the government by a resolution dated March 21, 1996.

Subsequently, the SNJPC was set up and it submitted its report on November 10, 2017 after acknowledging the fact that the salary of the judicial officers was not raised for more than 10 years.

A report on interim relief was submitted on March 9, 2018 and considering that the judicial officers were without upgraded pay, the top court had on March 27, 2018 directed the states and the Centre to implement the recommendations of the commission with regard to the interim relief.

Transformation of tribal school hostels gains momentum in Odisha's Sundargarh

OURKELA(KCN): In a significant move, the ST&SC Development department has initiated the phase-wise transformation of school hostels in the tribal-dominated Sundargarh district.

Plans include replacing approximately 66 highly damaged or risky hostel buildings with new constructions, aligning with the government's high school transformation programme under the 5T framework.

This was discussed by Sundargarh collector Parag Harshad Gavali at the Zilla Parishad council meeting held recently.

The district administration, in February 2022, decided to undertake necessary repairs and renovations for hostels run by the SSD department. The transformation initiative encompasses renovating hostel buildings, enhancing amenities such as toilets, bathrooms, dining halls, and common rooms. It also involves constructing new hostel buildings, boundary walls, and playgrounds where required.

However, the plan was lying in cold storage for a long time before it started gaining momentum a few months back.

With about 515 hostels, including 138 residential schools for classes I to XII, and 239

residential schools for classes I to X, the SSD department caters to over 47,000 ST & SC students who reside in

hostels. The Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) in Sundargarh are overseeing the programme, with the SSD department allocating Rs 10 lakh for each hostel's renovation and an additional Rs 5 lakh for new classroom construction. However, the implementation of a previous decision to utilise components of the MGNREGA scheme for developing gardens and greenery at hostel campuses is pending. Among the 204 hostels constructed 30 to 40 years ago, 66 severely damaged ones are slated for demolition and replacement with new 60-seat hostel buildings, with contributions from the District Mineral Foundation (DMF). Many existing hostels face acute fund constraints, leading to delayed repairs. Additionally, plans were unveiled to introduce extra dietary provisions for these hostels, including the supply of nutritious Ragi Laddu.



New rules for operation of boats in rivers of Odisha soon

CUTTACK(KCN): The state government will soon bring in Odisha Inland Vessel Rules, 2023 to regulate operation of boats in rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state to ensure safety of passengers/tourists. This was informed to the Orissa High Court by director of Ports & Inland Water Transport Padmalochan Rout in an affidavit on Wednesday. The court was hearing three PILs seeking judicial intervention for safety of passengers travelling in boats and ferries. While one PIL was filed by Rohina Kumar Maity in 2013, lawyer Prabir Kumar Das had filed the other in 2014. The high court had registered one more PIL suo motu. Amicus curiae



Saktidhar Das had earlier submitted before the court that till date there is no legislation to provide for remedies for those suffering as a result of the mishaps occurring due to plying of boats in the state. The court had directed the state government to come up with an affidavit on the status of legislation to provide

compensation to the victims of accidents during plying of boats and ferries. In his affidavit, Rout stated the Odisha Inland Vessel Rules, 2023 has been formulated with the assistance of the National Inland Navigation Institute (NINL), Patna. "It was submitted to the state government for approval on November 9 and is already under active consideration of the Commerce and Transport (Commercial) department", Rout said. After approval, the death or injury of boat passengers due to accident shall be compensated as per the Odisha Inland Vessel Rules, 2023, Rout stated in the affidavit.

Orissa HC denies anticipatory bail to Sambalpur MLA Jayanarayan Mishra

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The Orissa High Court declined to entertain Sambalpur MLA Jayanarayan Mishra's anticipatory bail application in a case registered against him for allegedly abusing a tehsildar during an eviction drive near Durgapali within Khetrapur police limits on February 15, 2022. However, the single judge bench of Justice Debabrata Dash said, "In the event the petitioner surrenders before the trial court and prays for grant of regular bail, the same shall be considered on its own merit without being influenced by this order and disposed of early in accordance with law."



The case, registered under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and some sections of Indian Penal Code, is pending before special judge, Sambalpur. Mishra had filed his petition on October 17, 2023. When the matter was taken up for hearing on November 16, Mishra's counsel SC Mohapatra filed an affidavit along with medical documents

which stated the legislator is suffering from illness and in view of his deteriorating health condition, he was admitted to a hospital at Kolkata on October 20, 2023. "No useful purpose would be served by arrest and likely detention of the petitioner in the case which relates back to the incident which took place in February, 2022", Mohapatra submitted while urging for grant of anticipatory bail to

The alleged incident occurred when an eviction drive was on for implementation of the state government's SAMALEI scheme on February 15, 2022. Jayanarayan along with his supporters reached the spot and reportedly tried to stop the work. An argument ensued between the BJP workers and officials present there and Jayanarayan allegedly misbehaved with Sadar tehsildar Laxman Amat.

Suspended from Congress, Biswal backs party nominee in Odisha's Jagatsinghpur municipality bypoll

JAGATSINGHPUR(KCN): Despite facing suspension from the Congress party, former MLA Chiranjib Biswal actively campaigned in support of the Congress candidate, Chinmayee Nanda, during the by-election in Ward No. 6 of Jagatsinghpur Municipality on Tuesday. However, local

Congress, and BJP, vying for the post with 1,077 eligible voters. Rosalin Das from BJD, Chinmayee Nanda from Congress, and Bishnupriya Singh from BJP are the contenders, with a particularly intense competition between Das and Nanda. Prominent leaders from BJD, including local



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Vitesco Technologies aims to achieve 100% carbon neutral production by 2030

Pune :Vitesco Technologies a leading international manufacturer of modern drive technologies and electrification solutions recently celebrated the second anniversary of its Pune facility.Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun, Senior Vice President of Operations at Vitesco Technologies, visited the facility to commemorate the occasion.The facility is spread across 20 acres and contains more than 17580 m² of manufacturing space, including over 900 employees.

The Pune plant, like all Vitesco Technologies facilities, serves its grid demand entirely through renewable energy sources. Furthermore, the site generates sustainable electricity. All new photovoltaic systems have been built

in the Talegaon facility, generating 03 GWh of electricity from solar energy. The installed capacity is currently 2.6 MW, with the company aiming to increase it to 3.6MW by the end of the year. The facility is also strongly driving automation, digitization, and Industry 4.0, with over 25 cobots and robots installed on the production lines and shopfloor.During his tour of the facility, Dr. Hans-Jürgen BraunHead of Operations at Vitesco Technologies said“*We have a clear vision of the key characteristics of the plant of the future, which are sustainable, smart, and predictive. And our plant in Pune already embodies these qualities with highly automated production lines, state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 solutions and a strong*

focus on sustainability. But what is most important for me is the highly motivated team, because I genuinely believe that people, not only technology, will shape the plant of the future. I am very impressed with India's business competency and the employees' enthusiasm to support us on this journey.

Dr. Braun further highlighted that“*The carbon footprint must be dramatically decreased to combat climate change, which is one of the major issues of our time. We must take on responsibility for our environment. As a result, the plant of the future must be climate-neutral in operation. That is why I am proud that the plant in Pune has truly established itself as a driver of sustainability.*

Spice Money nearly doubles its nanopreneur (Adhikari) network hitting 1 million milestone in FY22

New Delhi: Spice Money, India's leading rural fintech that is revolutionising the way Bharat banks, achieved the significant milestone of 1 million Adhikaris (nanopreneurs) in FY22, growing by nearly double over the last financial year. Spice Money's strategy, to provide the first-of-its-kind zero investment model, continues to yield results and growth in Adhikaris. This network is spread across rural India covering more than 95% rural pincodes, 700+ districts serving a base of over 100 million consumers, through the Spice Money app and web portal.

In FY23 Spice Money aims to expand into other digital and financial services. The company will consolidate its ATM, banking and payments

business, while scaling its enterprise Cash Management Services (CMS) business. The company, additionally, will be introducing a financial products & services marketplace which will offer solutions such as insurance, credit etc. Considering the crucial role agriculture plays in the rural economy, Spice Money will also venture into digital solutions for the industry. With the country emerging from the pandemic, Spice Money's phygital super app will further help rural communities get essential services like basic banking, payment services, financial services, travel services and entrepreneur solutions along with healthcare and e-commerce at their doorstep, assisted by Spice Money's 1 million+ Adhikaris.

Sterlite Power wins orders worth INR 1600 crores

New Delhi: Sterlite Power, a leading power transmission developer and solutions provider, has secured multiple orders worth ~INR 1600 crores across its Solutions business in the domestic and international markets.

The company has secured orders from customers like Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), and West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL) in the MSI (Master System Integrator) segment. The orders are for the installation and supply of high-performance conductors and re conductor ing solutions for transmission projects. In the Products segment, Sterlite Power has acquired strategic maiden orders of EHV cables for state transmission utilities in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka and orders for overhead lines from large and reputed international

customers in North America and CIS regions.

Commenting on the order wins, Mr. Manish Agarwal, CEO – India Transmission Business, Sterlite Power, said, “We are happy to win these new orders across our Solutions business which significantly adds to our robust orderbook. Our integrated model provides us with a strategic advantage in delivering complex projects successfully while also diversifying our revenue base.”

As part of its Solutions business unit, the company manufactures and sells a diversified portfolio of products, covering high performance conductors, OPGW and EHV power cables, to international customers, including central and state electricity transmission companies, transmission developers and transmission engineering, procurement, and construction ("EPC")

contractors. Further, its MSI sub-unit is a provider of specialty contracting services, delivering bespoke solutions for the upgrade, uprate and fiberization of brownfield transmission infrastructure projects. In addition, the company also offers underground EHV turnkey services including cable laying and substation development.

Under its infrastructure business segment, where the company bids to develop transmission projects, it has recently won inter-state transmission system projects in J&K as well as north-east India which will play a pivotal role in connecting clean and green power to the national grid. The Kishtwar transmission project is based in Jammu & Kashmir and comprises a 400/132kV GIS substation at Kishtwar and 400 kV LILo (Line in Line out) transmission line.

Aakash BYJU'S Launches Its Third Flagship, after South Extension and Janakpuri, and the 17th Centre in Delhi, at Vasant Kunj

Delhi: Aakash BYJU'S, India's leader in test preparation services, today launched its third flagship in Delhi, after South Extension and Janakpuri, at Vasant Kunj, responding to the growing demand for its NEET, JEE and Foundation courses from the Capital. This new addition to the Aakash BYJU'S expanding pan-India network of centres, currently totaling 330+ in 24 states and union territories, reflects the institute's commitment to reaching its standardised direct coaching services to students where they live. Located in an area of 14952 sq. ft. of space in a prime location at Ambience Tower, Second Floor, Plot No 3, Sector- A, Pocket II, Vasant Kunj, the flagship has 17 classrooms and can offer direct classes to 2000+ students. Featuring connected and smart classrooms, it can also provide



a seamless learning experience to the students of its hybrid courses. Aakash BYJU'S has been constantly scaling up its operations across Delhi NCR, with the past few months seeing new centres coming up in Bhiwadi, Sonipat, Najafgarh, Faridabad, Greater Noida, Rohini, Jasola etc to name a few. Currently Aakash BYJU'S has around 34 centers in the whole of Delhi and NCR. The new flagship will be the 35th in the region. A feat that speaks volumes of its popularity, pedagogy and student centric approach, this year, till now, 17000 students have enrolled for various courses of Aakash BYJU'S from the National Capital alone with the number set to grow significantly as the new session kicks in. The flagship at Vasant Kunj, Delhi was inaugurated by Mr. Abhishek Maheshwari, Chief Executive Officer, Aakash BYJU'S along with Dr. Yash Pal, Regional Director in the presence of other company officials.

Lifestyle announces launch of Miss Raja Season 2 contest to celebrate Raja Parba in Odisha

Bhubaneswar : Lifestyle, India's leading fashion destination, announces its second season of Lifestyle Miss Raja in Bhubaneswar, to celebrate the occasion of Raja Parba. The #LifestyleMissRaja2022 contest aims to showcase the passion and unique fashion sensibilities of the city's young women. The three-day festival in Odisha, which is a celebration of womanhood, will be commemorated by Lifestyle through its 2nd season of Miss Raja Parba contest. Popular Ollywood actress Bhoomika Dash announced the contest on 27th May on her social

media #LifestyleMissRaja2022 welcomes young women from Bhubaneswar to participate in the contest by uploading their most stylist picture on Instagram using the hashtag and tagging @LifestyleStores. The entries would be evaluated basis the stylish look created, and the number of likes garnered on the post. 10 pre-finalists will be announced on the 9th of June and invited for a stylish makeover in Lifestyle's newest trends by an industry expert and photographed professionally. These images will be further posted by the pre-finalists on their Instagram page for a voting round. The

contest will culminate on the 15th of June with the announcement of the winner with the highest votes. The grand finale will be conducted at the Lifestyle store in Esplanade One Mall and will have none other than the popular actress Bhoomika Dash announce the Lifestyle Miss Parba of 2022 and hand over a voucher worth Rs. 50,000. The contest is being aggressively promoted through different online and offline avenues.

All the young

fashionistas of Bhubaneswar who aspire to be successful models, #LifestyleMissRaja2022 provides a perfect platform to be recognized

for one's great fashion sense. “Celebrating the Raja Parba Fest in Bhubaneswar has been a great experience for us. The passion and enthusiasm of the participants truly fuel the energy of the contest. Lifestyle, with its trendy festive collection and #LifestyleMissRaja2022, proudly celebrates the festival with the young women of Bhubaneswar as a true ode to womanhood.”

Lifestyle offers a great range of ethnic wear with vibrant colours and modern silhouettes that perfectly capture the vibe of the festive season.

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAIT SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

Singapore: Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a S\$50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the Airline's main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around

1,150 customers within their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The Airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: “Extensive customer engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey.

“Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA's premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport's anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore's future as a pre-eminent global air hub.”

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

Barcelona: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education. As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge

production, policy dialogue, exchange, and networking. Swami Amritaswarupananda Puriji, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called “Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective”. Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations' list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit. The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,



'Be selfless, fearless' - Suryakumar's message to team as India captain

New Delhi: The aggressive, risk-over-regret batting template set by Rohit Sharma at the 2023 World Cup is set to have far-reaching effects in Indian cricket. His 597 runs at a strike-rate of 126 ft. record-breaking 31 sixes unfortunately ended up on the runners-up side but if you ask Suryakumar Yadav, the batters next in line are looking to "try and replicate the same thing" going forward. After all, an opportunity to make a difference with Rohit's batting disposition is only about six months away, when another World Cup awaits.

"What he's done in the World Cup is one thing which will set an example," Suryakumar, India's stand-in T20I captain, said of Rohit on

the eve of the first match in Visakhapatnam

"It was a completely different Rohit Sharma that you saw. I mean, he literally walked the talk; what we spoke about in the team meetings, he did the same thing on the ground. We are very proud of him. As a leader he led by example and we'll try and replicate the same thing."

Suryakumar, who will be leading India for the first time, cut a relaxed figure in his maiden media interaction in that capacity. It wasn't too different from how his India ODI and Mumbai Indians skipper handles press conferences.

"I am also young

yaar!" Suryakumar interjected, with a smile, when he was asked about captaining the 'young' guys in the side.

Let's settle for the word "younger" but one of Suryakumar's first messages to the squad as captain was about being "selfless" and always putting the team first, much like Rohit did for all of the World Cup campaign.

"What I told them [squad] when I met them in the afternoon today was let's be very selfless when we go into the field," Suryakumar said. "Because I'm a guy who doesn't think too much about the personal milestones and instead thinks of the team's goal. And I've always told them that you have to keep the team first and then whatever comes after

that, you can take your call. And I've played with them a lot of times during the IPL and a few India games as well, so they know how I function. And it wasn't that difficult and we are really excited to go about in

the series."

While Rohit cools his heels off after a gruelling World Cup campaign, Suryakumar is in Visakhapatnam to take on Australia in a five-match T20I series. And it must not help that it's the same

team to which India lost the World Cup only four nights ago. "Difficult" and "disappointing" is how Suryakumar describes the aftermath of that big loss in Ahmedabad. "It is difficult. It will take time. I mean it

is obviously a little disappointing. But at the end, when you look back at the journey, it was a really great campaign [for] each and every member - not only the players but also the support staff.

"All of India and all our families were very proud of the way each and everyone displayed their talent on the ground. That was the positive, the brand of cricket which we played throughout the tournament, and we can be very proud of that."

There's a new World Cup to be won next year. There will be a lot of new faces in the squad to try and make that happen. But what is likely to endure is the Rohit Sharma batting template.

David Warner responds to Mohammad Kaif's 'best team did not win the trophy' comment: 'You need to perform when it matters'

New Delhi: India's only loss in the Cricket World Cup 2023 came in the final of the showpiece event. Apart from that defeat, Rohit Sharma's men looked a touch above the rest of the sides throughout the league stage and in the semifinal against New Zealand.

Australia, on the other hand, lost their first two games comprehensively and looked like a team that was on its way out. But mid-way through the first innings against Sri Lanka, things turned for Pat Cummins' men who then later went on a run and eventually lifted the trophy on the back of nine straight wins.

However, former India cricketer Mohammad Kaif felt that the best team at the 2023 World Cup did not win the trophy. "I can never accept that the best team has won the world cup. The Indian team is the best team on paper," he

said on Star Sports. Reacting to this comment, Australian opener David Warner tweeted: "I like MK, the issue is it does not matter what's on paper. At the end of the day, you need to perform when it matters. That's

why they call it a final. That's the day that counts and it can go either way, that's sports. 2027 here we come." Though Warner could not make much of an impact in the final, his partner Travis Head scored a blistering

China Masters Super 750 badminton: Lakshya Sen, Srikanth Kidambi continue to struggle for consistency after first-round exits

New Delhi: Facing tough opponents in the first round, Indian shuttlers Lakshya Sen and Srikanth Kidambi bowed out of China Masters Super 750 on Wednesday in Shenzhen.

Both Sen and Srikanth were up against higher-ranked, seeded players in the round of 32. Sen lost 21-19, 21-18 in a 59-minute battle against home favourite Shi Yu Qi, the world No. 7. Srikanth, facing the reigning World Champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn, went down 15-21, 21-14, 13-21 in 62 minutes. In the other two matches of the day featuring Indians, Priyanshu Rajawat went down 21-17, 21-14 in 46 minutes against Kenta Nishimoto. Rutaparna Panda and Swetaparna Panda lost against 7th seeds Zhang Shu Xian and Zheng Yu of China



21-15, 21-9. The results on Wednesday meant that HS Prannoy and Chirag Shetty-Satwiksairaj Rankireddy are the remaining Indian interests at the final Super 750 tournament of the year.

Sen and Srikanth, both struggling for consistency in recent times, had their moments in their respective matches. For Sen, Shi was perhaps the best of his recent performances as he pushed the Chinese former World No. 2 in both games in a match filled with intense rallies. Sen fought back from 7-11 down to take the opener to the distance at 19-19 but Shi held his

nerves to close it out. The second game also saw Sen close a gap down from 4-9, and even moved into the lead 14-12. It was at that time that Shi called for medical attention on his lower back. The rallies were gruelling at this point but the break in play seemed to affect Sen more than Shi as the Chinese star recovered to close the match out in straight games.

For Srikanth, the opening game went against him but he rallied back well to force a decider against Vitidsarn. The Thai shuttler hasn't been at his physical best in recent times, also nursing a bad back but he put his foot down in the back-end of the match. Srikanth's shot-making collapsed in the final stages as the errors piled on, with Vitidsarn finishing the match with six straight points.

IPL trade: LSG, RR swap Padikkal and Avesh



New Delhi: Lucknow Super Giants and Rajasthan Royals have entered into a direct swap deal for Avesh Khan and Devdutt Padikkal on Wednesday (November 22). Therefore, come IPL 2024, Avesh will make the move to the Royals while Padikkal is set to be part of the Super Giants franchise. The development was confirmed by the LSG management to Cricbuzz. This will be Padikkal's third franchise in the IPL

after having been part of Royal Challengers Bangalore before his stint with Rajasthan Royals. After an impressive start to his IPL career as an opening batter, the left-hander endured lukewarm returns at RR, particularly in the middle order role that he was given in the last two seasons. Padikkal's inclusion also makes an already left-heavy batting unit of Super Giants that much more heavier with the likes of Kyle Mayers, Quinton