

for 450 people in Jharsuguda. The Chemical & Petrochemical downstream sector witnessed a significant boost with the approval of Aegis Vopak's project to establish a Greenfield Tank Storage Facility for liquid Ammonia of 80,000 TPA capacity production unit in, Gopalpur Ganjam, with an investment of INR 1,000 crore and an employment potential of 100 individuals. The Government has always encouraged and welcomed industrialists to invest in the State. As these projects gather momentum, Odisha's economic landscape is set for unparalleled growth, making it the preferred destination for investments and industrial expansion in Eastern India

Odisha's Gen. Narayan Mohanty Invited to President's Bodyguard Ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Bhubaneswar (KCN) : Lt. Gen Narayan Mohanty PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) was recently invited to the Rashtrapati Bhavan to attend the Presentation of President's Standard of Bodyguard and Renewal of Regimental Standard of Presidents Bodyguard on the occasion of 250 years its raising which was held last week. The President's Bodyguard is the oldest regiment in the Indian Army, having been raised as the Governor-General's Bodyguard (later the Viceroy's Bodyguard) in 1773. On January 27, 1950, the regiment was renamed the President's Bodyguard.



General Mohanty has served as a staff officer of two former Presidents, R. Venkatraman and Shankar Dayal Sharma. He had earlier received the 'National Outstanding Veterinary Award' that was conferred by the Union Minister of Animal

Husbandry. His contributions during his tenure as the President VCI, Gen. Mohanty was instrumental in streamlining the Veterinary education and Service delivery system in the Country. An alumni of OUAT, Bhubaneswar, with a

graduate and post graduate degree in veterinary Science Lt. Gen. Mohanty was commissioned in the Indian Army as an officer at a very early age of 22 years and was promoted to the coveted rank of Lt General. He was chosen as the first Director

General of RVC of the Indian Army and had played a key role in bringing the Indian Army to deal with serious security concerns with neighbouring countries in operational planning and execution. Besides his military honors, he was also conferred the award of Pride of India for being an outstanding and successful military leader. Gen. Mohanty is engaged in many philanthropic and charitable activities aimed at the upliftment of economically weaker sections of the Society and other fields. He is a Life Member of INTACH, Bhubaneswar Chapter.

Sensitization on 'Report fish disease' application for effective health management



Kolkata(KCN):ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute has organized one day fish disease surveillance and Report fish disease application program for effective health management under NSPAAD phase II project funded by Pradhan Mantri MatsyaSampada Yojana (PMMSY). Under the supervision of the

Director, ICAR-CIFRI, Dr. B.K. Das, the program was conducted at East Kolkata wetland, West Bengal on 23rd November 2023. A total of 20fishers including 12 women and 8 men participated in the program. During the program, the team enlightens the gathering on several areas of disease

surveillance and health management of fish including the aquatic environment vis-à-vis antimicrobial resistance issues, the status of fish disease management, sustainable approaches for aquaculture development, etc. Later, the newly developed application 'Report fish disease' was shared with fishers. The application was installed on the mobile phones of fishers and the working principle and benefits were informed. The program was coordinated by Dr. Vikash Kumar and research scholar of the NSPAAD Phase II project Mr. Souvik Dhar with great efficiency.

Heritage Business School organized International Conference in collaboration with Lincoln International Business School, UK

Kolkata, (KCN): On 23rd and 24th November, Heritage Business School in association with Lincoln International Business School, UK organized an International Conference on "Sustainable Development: Views from Different Perspectives" on a hybrid mode. The Conference was addressed by experts across the globe on various issues related to Sustainable Development in the areas of International Law, Public Procurement, Social and Environmental issues and many more. The inaugural session of the Conference was addressed by Dr. Anup Sinha, Chief Mentor, Heritage Business School and Chairman, Bandhan Bank, Prof. Simon Lilley, Director of Research Lincoln



International Business School, UK, Prof. K K Chaudhuri, Director, Heritage Business School and Prof. David Rugara, College Director of Internationalization, Lincoln International Business School, UK. The Keynote address was delivered by Prof. Purnomita Dasgupta, Ford Foundation Chair Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi. During these two days the Conference was addressed by Prof. Richard Barnes, Prof.

Matthijs Bal, Dr. Dragana Radicic and many more. The entire conference was being coordinated by Dr. Rimu Chaudhuri, Associate Professor, Heritage Business School, Dr. Satarupa Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Heritage Business School, Prof. Shrabani Saha, Associate Professor of Development Economics (Reader), Lincoln International Business School, UK, Prof. David Rugara, College Director of Internationalization,

Lincoln International Business School and Dr. Anup Sinha, Chief Mentor, Heritage Business School. "At Heritage Business School, we organize such Conferences every year to give the students real practical inputs from the experts across the world. Such an exposure is mandatory for a management graduate aspiring to take up the challenges in the corporate world," said Shri H.P. Budhia, Chairman, Heritage Business School, Trustee, Kalyan Bharti Trust and Chairman, Patton International Ltd. "This Conference will help the students to learn the various factors which are important for Sustainable Development," said Shri P.K. Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions Kolkata.

Celebrating a Century of Service: Bharat Sevashram Sangha's Gaya Branch Centenary

Kolkata, (ABHIJIT SETH): In a grand celebration spanning from November 30 to December 3, 2023, the monks of Bharat Sevashram Sangha and the citizens of Gaya are set to commemorate the centenary of the Sangha's Gaya Branch. Established under the visionary leadership of Acharya Swami Pranabananda, this milestone is a testament to the Sangha's enduring commitment to humanity and its unwavering service over the past century. "The Sangha sets forth a synthesis of the ideals of the Vedic age and the spirit of national re-organization of the Buddhist period", Acharya Swami Pranabananda had articulated. He once stated, "My Sangha is but the second and more perfected edition of Great Buddha's Sangha, founded to fulfil the demands of the age. This spiritual brotherhood of monks and selfless workers is dedicated to the service of humanity, embodying a philanthropic and



charitable ethos with a non-sectarian, non-communal, and non-political character". Acharyadev, as the revered leader is



affectionately known, has tirelessly worked to deter the influence of goondas and miscreants, ensuring the safety and sanctity of general devotees and pilgrims visiting Gaya for Panda Dan since 1924. To honor his contributions, a vibrant procession will grace the streets of Gaya on November 30, 2023, at 2 pm. The celebration will not only be a reflection of the Sangha's spiritual essence but also a showcase of diverse cultural performances. Culturists from Jharkhand, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Carbi Anglong, Dhimesa Tribes, and the captivating Chow Dance of Purulia will participate in the procession, adding

a colourful tapestry to the event. The centenary program will be inaugurated on December 1, 2023, by the honourable Chief Minister of U.P – Yogi Adityanath. Eminent educationists, culturists, teachers, lawyers, and saints from across the country will join in the festivities, enriching the program with their presence and blessings. In tandem with the centenary celebration, a noteworthy milestone in healthcare initiatives by Bharat Sevashram Sangha is set to unfold in Kolkata, West Bengal. The second phase of the B.S.S. Hospital at Joka, Kolkata will be inaugurated on November 27, 2023, at 10 am, on the auspicious day of Rash Purnima. Swami Purnatmananda, Working President of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, and Swami Subiranandaji Maharaj, Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, will grace the occasion and extend their blessings. This

eight-storied building will house state-of-the-art facilities for Obstetrics and Gynecology, Neuro Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, ENT, General Surgery, including Neuro Modular O.T., and other advanced treatments. General and Economy wards, Cabins, ICU, and H.D.U. will be available for specialized treatment under the guidance of expert doctors. The diagnostic wing will include MRI, CT scan, Digital X-ray, EEG, Endoscopy, Pathology, Histopathology, physiotherapy, and more at rates substantially lower than the market average. As Bharat Sevashram Sangha enters its centenary year in Gaya, the celebration is not merely a reflection of the past but a promise for a future where selfless service continues to be the guiding light for the Sangha and its devoted followers. Acharya Swami Pranabananda's vision lives on, inspiring generations to come in the pursuit of a better, more compassionate world.

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Human Values & Tolerance

Soura Chandra Mohapatra



Empathy, love, care, support, and other virtues like these make the world beautiful. Yet, it is also true that no one would become able to express these virtues freely if there is a lack of tolerance all around. In the present world, everyone is in haste. Unfortunately, this hastiness and lack of sympathy towards fellow people are breeding intolerance in society. However, for a healthy and peaceful society, no one should ignore the significance of tolerance; it doesn't matter how busy the world gets.

Tolerance shows how 'valuable' humans actually are. It plays a crucial role in every stage of a person's life be it during childhood,

adolescence, or adulthood. Being tolerant makes life fruitful. And when you understand the deeper meaning of tolerance, you'll realize its real importance. Tolerance is a quality found in a civilized person who has self-confidence. To tolerate and believe in co-existence is a great attitude which has to be developed if one is to live in a harmonious society. Intolerance has its roots in unawareness, narrow-mindedness, chauvinism and dwells in unwarranted self-esteem and pride. Intolerant people cannot accept others as their own lot; instead they set out to destroy anything which does not mirror their ideologies and dogmas.

Tolerance is the approach to extend freedom to people of all traditions, even though we may disagree with it. The

beauty in accepting the disparity and respecting with mutual understanding is tolerance. Love sprouts out of tolerance and are nurtured by compassion and concern. A person who has the talent to appreciate the goodness in the other person is more tolerant. Tolerance helps in defusing tensions that are sparked by differences and will remove the camouflage that is divisive between two individuals.

We humans have lots of emotions and feelings and that differs from each individual. By using our mind and intellect that we are blessed with enables us to feel much more than animals and other life forms, and we are able to discriminate between right and wrong. Most of us use our intellect to condemn immoral practices like stealing and being untruthful.

Though it is appropriate many of us never think of our behaviour of being intolerant towards our fellow being which has to be equally condemned. We have not learnt to accept people as they are and the events as they happen. It is our selfish nature which wants things to happen as we wish and expects people to be in the same wavelength as we are.

We find that it is due to fanaticism and racism that we behave inhuman and hate those who differ with our views. It has become unruly for us to have developed all through the ages to show intolerance of thoughts and faiths and traditions that are alien to us. We have never made an effort to understand that this earth plane has space to many like us and that they do have their own views which has to be respected it not followed. So long as we give in to envy, hatred, jealousy and

greed, tolerance will never unfold in us.

The day has come where every individual needs enlightenment so that he appreciates the universal values of liberalism through which he discovers to listen to others and at most agree to disagree rather than enter into war of words. When such a thing happens, the harmony of the society will be preserved. And then this earth will be a better place to live in.

Thus, try to always be grateful to everyone around you, appreciate diverse cultures in your country and give respect to wide-ranging lifestyles with a meditative heart. You'll feel a profound inner calm and live peacefully and happily with others making the world even more beautiful.

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Digital Technologies as End of Print Newspaper Era

Vijay GarG



Almost all communication channels that use paper as a medium to some extent are affected by the digital revolution. Paper letters gradually fell out of use. According to the polls, almost two-thirds of Americans believe that by 2050 no one will send the usual post letters. Therefore, direct mail advertising is used less and less. Newspapers and magazines are in an unequal struggle with the electronic media; they are suffering from falling circulation and advertising revenue, and have been forced to close or move online. Printed books more insistently forced out by e-books. Now the online retail giant Amazon announced that sales of e-books are almost twice as high as the realization of printed books in hardcover. Why is it happening? New technologies are objectively cheaper and more efficient than older. Digital information is updated instantly and comes to us almost free – the cost of access to the Internet becomes cheaper all the time. We have become inseparable with mobile devices and we are interested in getting information

anywhere and at any time. To use new digital innovation is considered to be fashionable and stylish. Compared with digital, print media looks primitive, dull and outdated, and besides, the factor of saving trees is becoming increasingly important. The industry is trying to fight back. Magazines launch ad campaigns praising the benefits of paper in comparison with electronic media. Book publishers are struggling with booksellers by trying to get them to maintain priority over the electronic paper books, but all these attempts do not change the main trend. Printing is going to die, and it is happening much faster than we can imagine. Finally, it became clear in spring 2010, after the extraordinary success of the iPad. Demand for this device and its popularity have clearly shown that people – and not just the younger generation – are ready to move to new technologies, and in fact, want to go after them as soon as possible.

Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout, Punjab

“Lord Rama, the human Avatar of Supreme Consciousness”

Dr. Dillip Kumar Moharana



One problem that human beings are facing since time immemorial is 'Dukha', so much so that we have accepted sadness, dissatisfaction, anxiety, and frustration as an inevitable part of life. Over the period of human evolution, the physical aspect has been evolving and transforming, but the way nature has been programming the human mind, remains the same. Times have changed, the physicality has changed, but the way our mind deals with the world, has not changed. However, with the passage of time, number of the ignorant minds have increased substantially, creating problems both at individual and collective levels. History is full of instances of crime, hatred, suppression, and violence committed by humans under the influence of desires and fears. Millions have died because of the mind's insanity, and the struggle is not yet over. Even though the ignorant world has accepted 'Dukha'

as a part of life, but that doesn't mean that untrue will become real, and insanity can be accepted as 'customary.'“ No matter how much asset one accumulates or how much planning one does for a safe and secure future, one cannot free oneself and others from the multifaceted impacts of 'Dukha.' We all are living a dejected life. Humans are quick to blame others, destiny, circumstances, and just everything except themselves. The reality is that the cause of all 'Dukha' is not the situation but the way we 'Deal' with the situation.“

Most of us don't even know how to conduct life correctly. The reason is our mismanaged mind. One part of the mind that is 'I' is working obsessively to empower the other part of the mind that is 'Mine.' The fundamental problem is that both 'I' and 'Mine' are misbelieved as true, whereas the 'Self,' which is the actual reality, is neglected in unawareness. This infectious, lethal, and chaotic state of mind is what I call as Dysfunction of mind.“ As a disease gives unwanted pain and suffering to the body, similarly, dysfunction of mind is compulsively and continuously giving a turbulent and unsettled condition. When just a small headache is intolerable for us, imagine

how much we are suffering unknowingly, living every moment with this dysfunction. The problem is of grave concern. It's not only affecting the part of 'You'; rather, the problem is 'You.' As beings suffer from varied ailments, available medical treatments are also diverse in nature. But interestingly, the cause and effect of mind dysfunction are more or less the same in all beings, and so is its treatment. If not sooner than later, the symptoms of body illnesses are traceable. But unfortunately the mind dysfunction, in most cases, never gets diagnosed.“

A whole lifetime of 70-80 years gets wasted without us realizing the real cause of 'Dukha,' the incessant and compulsive pain and suffering. Just one in thousands acknowledge it, and one in those puts up an effort to correct this dysfunction. Although human psychology has advanced a lot, still this dysfunction of mind is something that cannot be permanently cured by counseling, therapies, or medicines. Had it been so, every being of the world would have been happy by now. A simple pill cures a headache within a few minutes. But there is no such pill that can cure the dysfunction. Sedatives and psychedelic drugs give some relief for a while, but as soon as their effect is over, 'Dukha' comes back

again.“ One can never get a permanent solution to get rid of the effects of dysfunction by doses of medications, intoxications, adrenaline rushes, comforts and luxuries, or ego gratification. The solution lies in first acknowledging that there is a problem and then restructuring the mind to original settings. We must understand that it is us who have spoilt the God-programmed settings, and, therefore, nobody else is to be blamed than us. One universal and greatest manual of procedures that joyfully cures the dysfunction and restructure the mind is none other than the holy 'Ramayana.' It is that one single bouquet that has flowers of inspiration, truth, righteousness, pleasure, courage, determination, love, and, of course, grace. The sole objective of Ramayana is to establish 'Ram-Rajya,' in every being which ensures the permanent cure of dysfunction of mind, and absolute freedom from 'Dukha.'“

The life, miracles, and wisdom of Lord Rama, 'the human Avatar of Supreme Consciousness,' are the very essence of Ramayana. It gives purity, satisfaction, relaxation, and realization, which every human being yearns

for. The in-depth, insightful, and thought-provoking meanings of Ramayana have been first internalized and then presented by many learned ones over a period of many centuries. The greatest one among them is Saint Goswami Tulsidas, the creator of 'Shri Ram Charit Manas.' Based on his teachings and ideas of Shri Ram Kinkar, I have put my humble effort to simplify the insightful concepts that Ramayana upholds. I hope it will appeal to the logical minds of the present era and will attract them towards the greatness of Lord Rama. May the Grace of Lord Rama always remain with all beings, and may the divinity of Ramayana enlightens every soul with 'Sukha,' the ultimate bliss.“ Finally consider Ramayana text like an open source code. There can be new interpretations and insights that you may discover. There is no end of Ramayan. The more you delve into it the newer knowledge will reveal to you. Minds of present era appreciates scientific, logical and questioning approach. For the first time readers will get answers to the many 'Why' and 'How' of Ramayana.

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Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra

Two, money must be given time to grow. Time affords prosperity through the power of compounding and patience. A Systematic Investment Plan (SIP), for instance, demonstrates how it works wonders in mutual funds. The virtue of patience also serves us well while dealing in stocks. Business magnate and philanthropist Warren Buffett says, “The stock market is a device for transferring money from the impatient to the patient.”

Three, money is safe and grows only in good hands and good company. Apart from our healthy habits, the right advice or counselling from well-meaning friends and advisers helps us manage money well. We know how, in the Mahabharat, the counselling of Shakuni led to Duryodhan's fall. If we are surrounded by people who have sumati, noble intent, risks of our losing money are less.

Four, sources and usage of money need to be fair and auspicious. Means of earning money and ends for its use need to be transparent, fair and ethical. Any artha, wealth, gained through the path of a dharma, unrighteousness, finally results in anartha, disaster. In the Buddhist and Jain literature too, Lakshmi is considered a goddess of affluence, abundance and auspiciousness.

Five, money

must be shared. Accumulation of money, exclusively for self, is a self-serving and egocentric activity. Wealth loses its glitter and its charm beyond a point. However, we can satisfy our soul by using our material wealth for 'common good' and higher purpose.

Six, money should not blind, overwhelm, or enslave us. Dazzled and enamoured by its exterior facets – status symbol, power, flamboyant lifestyles – we dance to money's tune sometimes and become its slave. With our wisdom held hostage, we continue chasing wealth and invite misery. Emphasising non-attachment from material possessions, Sri Ramakrishna said: “Taka Mati, Mati Taka” – money is mud, mud is money.

Lastly, money is countable but needs support of the uncountable. “Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts,” said Albert Einstein. Reimagination of 'wealth' in terms of health, relationships, goodwill, character and contentment can add new perspectives to creation and use of money.

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Sustainable solutions for Indian agriculture



The Indian agriculture is not only a vast nationwide operation; but, also a booming economic system that serves as the life blood for the nation. The agriculture sector of India employ millions of people and constitutes around 70% of the national employment occupancy. But whether Indian agriculture is sustainable is a highly debatable question. Both scholars and researchers as well as ordinary citizens hold different views and opinion around this. As a part of a sample national survey conducted by a leading West Bengal based NGO, named Howrah Suparna people are highly divided.

industry in India. Hence, it is important to support native/wild (indigenous) bee varieties for establishing the norms of sustainable agriculture in India. ‘As I know in urban areas I don’t see smallest honey bees on Tulsi flowers... I don’t see smaller varieties of bees....’ comments Ms. Triveni Mathur. She further says, ‘Fruits and flowers of the forest trees are usually of smaller size, for example wood apple, mango, Soapnut, tamarind, Seetha ashoka and more. These smaller bees are gentle and not dangerous. These are being attacked by new species. Smaller bees are assisting our well being. My concern is with the introduction of new bees into the wild nature of India. The government must stop promoting new bee colonies and start considering smaller bee colonies. Human consumption is not just honey or wax. We need many things from nature.’ Ms. D. K. Kavitha from Tamil Nadu recalls that South Indian states are the only few states that are producing and feeding Ayurveda’s raw materials or spices with medicinal values to the whole world. She is always worried about the choices of the foreign importers as they expect only the best available high quality products at the highest prices quoted. The unfortunate locals do not have access to such

high quality natural products as they can afford the extreme high prices. Why is the government not taking initiatives to allow exporters to export 40 or 50% of the produce and insist growers to sell good quality products within the country asks Mr Kumar. ‘The natural forests and farms must be protected from the world..... It is the responsibility of the people across the world..... If scientists from other countries are influencing farmers who cannot understand the strategy of being used to destroy the ecosystem, then the government should not allow’, suggests Professor Suparna Sanyal Mukherjee; a leading social anthropologist from Eastern India. Ms. D. K. Kavitha said ‘.....another concern is that the government is efficiently promoting hybrid cows by assisting loans to farmers to buy hybrid cows. When a loan is requested to buy indigenous cows, the government doesn't provide loans. I was a farmer for about 15+ years. I have understood one thing that government or the world must build a fort around the south Indian states from all experiments from foreign countries. Government must take strong decisions to protect every little thing (traditional+cultural+natural). Everything is interrelated. So protecting natural

evolution is a priority’. Indian agriculture faces several challenges, including:



Small Landholdings: A significant portion of Indian farmers have small landholdings, which make it difficult to adopt modern farming techniques and achieve economies of scale. Water Scarcity: Uneven distribution of water resources and inefficient irrigation systems lead to water scarcity, affecting crop production, especially in arid regions. Monsoonal Dependency: Indian agriculture heavily relies on the monsoon season, making it vulnerable to the erratic and changing monsoon patterns due to climate change. Lack of Mechanization: The majority of Indian farms still rely on traditional manual labor and outdated farming

equipment, hindering efficiency and productivity. Soil Degradation: Overuse of land,

affecting crop yields. Farmers' Debt: Many farmers face crippling debt, leading to a cycle of poverty and suicides in some regions. Lack of Research and

water-efficient practices like drip irrigation to mitigate water scarcity. Mechanization: Invest in farm mechanization to increase efficiency and reduce the labor intensity of farming, making it more attractive to the younger generation. Organic Farming: Promote organic farming practices to reduce chemical pesticide use, improve soil health, and tap into the growing demand for organic produce. Market Access: Develop infrastructure for better market access, including cold storage facilities and efficient transportation networks, to help farmers get fair prices for their produce. Climate-Resilient Crops: Invest in research and development of climate-resilient crop varieties that can withstand changing weather patterns. Sustainable Livestock Farming: Encourage sustainable practices in livestock farming, including better feed management, animal health, and waste management. Cooperative Farming: Promote cooperative farming models to enable smallholders to pool resources, share knowledge, and collectively access markets. Crop Insurance: Expand crop insurance coverage to protect farmers from crop loss due to unpredictable weather events.

Solar Energy: Utilize solar energy for farm operations and provide incentives for the adoption of solar-powered irrigation pumps. Education and Training: Provide training and extension services to farmers to educate them about modern and sustainable agricultural practices. Government Policies: Formulate policies that incentivize sustainable agriculture and support research and development in the agricultural sector. Reducing Post-Harvest Losses: Invest in technology and infrastructure to reduce post-harvest losses, such as better storage facilities and transportation. Digital Agriculture: Promote the use of digital technology and data-driven agriculture for better decision-making and resource management. These sustainable solutions aim to enhance agricultural productivity, reduce the environmental impact, and improve the livelihoods of Indian farmers while ensuring long-term food security.

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Exclusive-Mann matters: Time to make India safe for tourists



While the policy makers of tourism sector of the country always look forward for flood of foreign tourists in India, they ignore the very vital issue. Are we providing safety to foreign or Indian tourists in our country. What are the key challenges in improving safety for tourists? It is a very pertinent question and should be addressed in a holistic manner. Amritpal Singh Mann, President of Indian Tourist Transporters Association (ITTA), says that India is quite safe for tourists. However, there are some areas that are more dangerous for tourists. “Crimes are not common, especially against foreigners. But, they (tourists) have face the issues of petty thefts, scams, touts, and sexual harassments.” Now, the question is that what steps should be taken at the central and state level to ensure greater safety for tourists? Amrit Mann suggests some measures. “Strengthening the security measures at

major hotels, transport hubs, places of worship, tourist attractions, and public places. Government Ministries and Departments, travel agents, tour operators, airlines, hotels etc., must be directed to hire transport vehicles from recognized tourist transport operators only as they are accountable to the Ministry of Tourism.” How we can make India a more desirable tourism destination for foreigners? According to Amrit Mann, “ We should focus on promotional campaigns like “Incredible India!” and “Aathi Devo Bhava”. He adds that India should showcase the rich cultural heritage of India through its monuments, festivals, wildlife, traditions, and customs. It may be recalled that Amrit Mann is a self-effacing man by choice. That he is a self-effacing person is indeed surprising considering the fact that he is part of luxury world. He provides luxury cars and buses to Government of India to almost all the Indian Premier League (IPL) teams like Shahrukh Khan’s KKR to Rajasthan Royals and others. Welcome to the world of Amrit Mann, 54, Director, of Mann

Tours. Under his watchful eyes, his company was doing yeoman service in successfully organising the G 20 summit. “We were providing luxury cars, SUVs, Vans and Volvos not only in Delhi but across India. As you know before the summit that was held in New Delhi on 9-10 September, series of G20 meeting were taking place from Goa, Mumbai, Banaras, Punjab and other parts of the country. Even for that we were providing luxury cars and buses,” informs Amrit Mann. Amrit’s company was among the few companies that were hired by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to provide brands like Mercedes, BMW, Audi, Toyota, Lexus etc. And Amrit Mann and his team spent their blood, sweat, tear, toil and huge investment to provide world class service to delegates during the big ticket event. Mann had invested close to staggering Rs 60 crore to build up inventory for G20. G20 guests minus head of the states were provided Mercedes GLS, Mercedes S Class, Mercedes E Class, and Maybach with trained drivers by Mann’s company. Amrit Mann was

confident that given his long experience of his field, he would rise equal



to the occasion manfully. “ Apart from strengthen our inventory, we had trained for weeks together to our drivers as how to deal with foreign guests. Further, our firm had a very rich experience of providing cars, buses and vans at various international events.” Now, G 20 is a history and he has moved on to take up the other challenges head-on. For instance, he was providing cars and other vehicles for the recently concluded MotoGP event in Greater Noida. For the first time in history, India was hosting a MotoGP event. The event, called the Indian Oil Grand Prix of India, was taking place at

Vivek Shukla the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The MotoGP is one of the biggest and grandest racing events in the world. Well, life has moved full circle for Mann who spent his youth in ShakarPur in East Delhi and Gole Market. “ My father was working in Ram Manohar Hospital and mother was a nurse in Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narain Hospital. My father was allotted a humble government accommodation in Gole Market. I have middle-class upbringing.” Mann was sure even when he in school that he would not do government job as that was the norm then. Kids of government employees used to follow the path of their parents. “ When I was little over 18 in 1986, my parents helped me buying a second hand Ambassador car. That was the beginning of my tryst with cars and transport line. I had started working from

individuals to companies on demand,” he informs. From 1986 to 1991, he had worked overtime to earn money and save whatever he could. Then, he had purchased another car in his kitty and then there was no looking back for him. Now, he owns over 200 luxury Cars, Vans and buses. Where does he park his vehicles ? “ We have hired a big farm house space in Kapashara in South-West Delhi for parking our vehicles. Previously, we park them in and around Nehru Park and Pragati Maiden area,” he informs. Mann’s company was perhaps the first in Delhi to buy Mercedes car in late 1990s . Once the news spread that there is a tourist firm that even provides Mercedes car, I was started getting barrage of work orders from Hotel Lalit, Oberoi and other places. It was like game changer for us,” he tells you. Despite earning both money and reputation, Mann has not forgotten his either humble roots or his days as a taxi driver. He talks very passionately about drivers. “How can I forget my days as a driver. I was a driver for 6-7 years from 1986 to 1991, and I fully experienced and

understand the hardships, pain and difficulties faced by the chauffeurs.” Sadly, they don’t get respect from their employers. They are treated with contempt everywhere. They deserve fair and just treatment from their employers. “ Without an iota of doubt driving is a forced job. Remember a kid never aspire to be a driver even if belongs to very poor family background. It is the circumstances that force him to be a driver. We are short of at least 10-12 million skilled drivers. We definitely need to look and find ways that this gap is filled. We talk about tourism to grow substantially but without good drivers we can never grow,” says Mann. As a President of Indian Tourist Transporters Association (ITTA), he raises the concerns of drivers from every possible forum as they are bedrock of Tourism sector. ITTA is a registered national body of “Tourist Transport Operators”, which is recognized by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, and are solely involved in providing surface transport facilities to the foreign/domestic tourists.

According to Mann, ITTA was formed in late sixties and was reinforced in 1987 to put forward grievances, suggestions and demands to the various Ministries, Departments and Government/Semi Government Bodies. According to Mann, “An average tourist spends 35% of his time with drivers other than spending time in the hotel. If want to boost our tourism sector, we have to improve the state of affairs of them. That is key to progress of our tourism sector.” While looking at the fast moving traffic of Panchkuin Road in national capital from mirror of his office, Mann is sure that Tour and Travel business was in tatters when Mumbai terror took place. That had badly hurt the business sentiments of our industry. It took years to recover. And in recent past, Covid had also hit tourism sector. When during the height of Covid second wave, he did not remove any staffer even though the business was at its lowest ebb. “ How can I remove my trusted staff when the going was tough,” Mann concludes.

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"Can't Keep Bill Pending Indefinitely": Supreme Court Raps Punjab Governor

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court today clarified the role and responsibilities of a Governor in relation to Bills passed by state legislatures. The Court ruled that the Governor cannot indefinitely delay or withhold assent to a Bill, emphasising that such actions undermine the legislative process and the supremacy of the elected representatives. In a verdict released on November 10 and made public last evening, the Supreme Court delivered a judgment on a petition filed by the AAP government in Punjab, which contended that Governor Banwarilal

Purohit was withholding his approval of four Bills passed by the state assembly. "The Governor cannot be at liberty to keep the Bill pending indefinitely without taking any action whatsoever. Failing to make a decision and keeping a duly passed Bill pending for indeterminate periods is a course of action inconsistent with that expression," said a Supreme Court bench comprising Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra, in a 27-page judgment. "The Governor, as an

unelected Head of State, is entrusted with certain constitutional powers. However, these powers cannot be used to thwart the normal course of lawmaking by the state legislatures," the bench added. The Punjab government has also requested a formal judicial declaration that the assembly session held on June 19 and 20 was legally conducted and that all actions taken by the House during that session were valid. "In a parliamentary form of democracy, the true power lies with the elected representatives of the people. The



Governor, an appointee of the President, serves as the titular head of state," the Supreme Court bench said. The fundamental

principle of constitutional law, consistently followed since the Constitution's adoption, is that the Governor acts on the 'aid

and advice' of the council of ministers, except in those areas where the Constitution has entrusted the Governor with the exercise of

discretionary power, the Court said. "This principle cements the bedrock of the constitutional foundation that the power to make decisions affecting the governance of the state, or the nation as a whole, rests fundamentally with the elected branch of government," the Supreme Court judgment stated. "The Governor is intended to be a constitutional statesman, guiding the government on matters of constitutional concern." A running feud has marred ties between Governor Purohit and the AAP government in Punjab, helmed by Chief

Minister Bhagwant Mann. Governor Purohit on November 1 approved two of the three bills presented to him, reversing his earlier stance of subjecting all proposed laws to a rigorous review before allowing them to be introduced in the assembly. These bills were enacted during the June 19-20 session of the Punjab Assembly, which Governor Purohit had previously deemed "patently illegal." Earlier this week, the Supreme Court heard a similar plea by the Tamil Nadu government over the delays in clearing bills in the southern state.

Anti-Terror Agency Raids In Bihar To Foil CPI-Maoist Revival Conspiracy

New Delhi(KCN): The NIA on Thursday raided 31 locations in Bihar as part of its efforts to expose and foil a conspiracy by members of the proscribed CPI-Maoist to revive its organisation in the Magadh zone, an official said. The raids were conducted at the premises of accused and suspected persons in Aurangabad, Rohtash, Kaimur, Gaya and Saran (Chhapra), a spokesperson of the federal agency said. During the raids, the involvement of top CPI (Maoist) commanders in the conspiracy to revive the outfit and its cadres in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh was found, the official said. Two country-made pistols, over 3.53 lakh cash, a host of digital devices, including mobile phones, SIM cards, SD cards and hard



discs, and incriminating documents were seized during the searches, the spokesperson of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) said. The raids were conducted as part of an ongoing investigation in two separate cases registered this year, the official said. The spokesperson said the places where the searches were conducted were identified as residential premises of

four arrested people who are commanders of the CPI (Maoist). Places of 27 suspected over ground workers, supporters and sympathisers of the outfit were also searched, the official said. The investigations have revealed that the four people had co-conspired with other accused persons to revive and strengthen the cadres of the CPI(Maoist) in the Magadh Zone, the official said.

A case was initially registered at the Tikari police station in Gaya on August 10 following the arrest of the chief of the Eastern Regional Bureau of the CPI(Maoist), Pramod Mishra, and the Sub-Zonal Commander, Anil Yadav, the agency said. They were conspiring with other associates to commit unlawful activities and strengthen the cadres of the CPI (Maoist) in Magadh

(Gaya and Aurangabad) area. The NIA took over and re-registered the case on August 31, the spokesperson said. The official said the other case was initially registered on August 7 at the Goh police station in Aurangabad and re-registered by NIA on September 26. The case relates to recovery and seizure of two booklets pertaining to the CPI (Maoist) Magadh Zonal Sangathanic Committee, along with arms and ammunitions, from the possession of accused persons Rohit Rai and Pramod Yadav, the spokesperson said. The official said the duo, along with their associates, were conspiring to commit unlawful activities and were also extorting levy from contactors and brick kiln owners to promote the violent activities of CPI (Maoist).

Fruits, vegetables and breakfast distributed among the needy people



Bokaro (KCN):Helping Corps Foundation

Bokaro Team Bokaro, under the leadership of District Coordinator of Human Rights and Child Protection Afzal Khan, today distributed breakfast and fruits among the needy people. Fruits and vegetables were distributed among the needy children and people while visiting Bokaro Railway Station premises and many other places. Breakfast was distributed. Helping Corps Foundation's Chas Block Coordinator Rohit Tiwari, Shadab, Fardeen, ekram, Saddam Sajjan, Dhannu and Waqar Ansari etc. were present on the spot.

Empowering Tribal Youths: NYKS Organizes 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Program in Kolkata



Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETH): In a commendable initiative aimed at fostering a deeper connection with the rich cultural heritage of the nation and empowering tribal youths residing in remote areas, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) is set to host the 15th Tribal Youth Exchange program. Sponsored by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, this transformative event is scheduled to take place from November 24 to 30, 2023, at Bharat Scouts and Guides in Madhyamgram, Kolkata. The primary objective of this initiative is to sensitize tribal youths to their cultural roots and provide them with the tools to preserve this heritage for future generations. Shri Rajib Majumdar, the State Director of NYKS for West Bengal & Andaman and Nicobar Islands, emphasized the significance of developing the personality of tribal youths amidst these challenges. Speaking to the media, Shri Majumdar outlined the program's core

objectives, emphasizing the importance of enhancing the participants' understanding of life, guiding them toward legitimate career aspirations through employable skills, and providing essential guidance and career counselling. The event will witness the participation of 200 tribal youths aged between 18 and 22, accompanied by their escorts, representing ten districts across four states: Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Maharashtra. The gathering of these diverse tribal communities aims to showcase their socio-cultural traditions, expose them to techno-industrial development, and enlighten them about education and employment opportunities. Moreover, the program will disseminate awareness about various welfare schemes implemented by the Government of India. Shri Majumdar highlighted the multifaceted approach of the initiative, stating that besides showcasing cultural stints, it aims to

provide a helping hand to these tribal youths in developing emotional linkages with their peer groups and enhancing their self-esteem. To achieve these objectives, the participants will be taken on tours to various places of interest in Kolkata, including the Birla Planetarium, Indian Museum, Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), Victoria Memorial, and Belur Math. By bringing together these marginalized communities, the initiative seeks to bridge gaps and foster unity, creating an environment that nurtures mutual understanding and respect. The event promises to be a vibrant affair, with the presence of various dignitaries, including senior officials, social workers, and personnel from CRPF and BSF. This collaborative effort is not just a cultural exchange but a holistic approach to uplift tribal youths, equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate a brighter future while preserving their invaluable cultural heritage.

Global Delegates Gather for INCEEE 2023 at NIT Warangal

Warangal (KCN):Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Warangal (NIT Warangal) is hosting the 3rd International Conference on New Frontiers in Chemical, Energy and Environmental Engineering (INCEEE 2023) during November 24-25, 2023. The conference brought together leading experts from academia and industry to discuss the latest advancements in chemical, energy, environment and sustainability. The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Devang V. Khakhar, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Former Director of the IIT Bombay; Dr. K. Pattabhi Reddy, Retd. Technical Director, Corning Incorporated, USA and Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director of NIT Warangal. Prof. Devang V. Khakar, IIT Bombay, chief guest of the function said, "I am delighted to be part of



this conference and I appreciate the chemical engineering department for organizing the INCEEE series conference with several themes related to sustainable energy, environmental and chemical engineering." Prof. A. Sarath Babu, one of the Coordinators of INCEEE-2023, presented the overview of the conference and welcomed all the participants and the delegates. He thanked the sponsors (SERB, IOCL, Nitro Hydranautics, Citizen Industries, Bondtuf Chemicals Pvt. Limited, Energy Solutions

International (India) Private Limited, Physics Instruments Co, Metrohm India Private Limited, IPGI instruments, PerkinElmer, HDFC BANK and VERDER Scientific) of the conference for their support. Prof. P.V. Suresh, Head of Chemical Engineering, NIT Warangal, presented the overview of the department and its key accomplishments over the past five years. This conference is a testament to the commitment of the chemical engineering department at NIT Warangal to research and

innovation in the field of sustainable energy and environmental sustainability, he added. Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director, NIT Warangal emphasized the importance of Chemical Engineering in addressing the global challenges and he congratulated the department of Chemical Engineering for organizing the international conference with the themes of importance. Dr. K. Pattabhi Reddy, Guest of honour said "I am happy to spend my post-retirement life by helping the society by

motivating and igniting young minds to innovate. Also, meeting young researchers makes me feel younger." Around 160 participants from India, New Zealand, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates presented their research work at the conference. During Inaugural, Proceedings book of the conference has been released by all the delegates and the coordinators Prof. Uday Bhaskar Babu, Prof. Ramsagar, Prof. Raghu Raja and Prof. KS Rajmohan. The INCEEE 2023 conference provided a great opportunity for researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers to share knowledge and discuss strategies for addressing the global challenges of energy and environment. The conference was a resounding success, and the department of Chemical Engineering is committed to continuing this important series of events.

DGFT Pacts With Amazon CS Visits Odisha Pavilion

New Delhi(KCN): Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India is collaborating with the various e-commerce players to leverage the Districts as Export Hubs initiative and promote e-commerce exports from the country. In first such collaboration with different e-commerce platforms, DGFT has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Amazon India.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Santosh Sarangi, Director General, DGFT, Chetan Krishnaswamy Vice President, Public Policy – Amazon and Bhupen Wakankar, Director Global Trade – Amazon India.

As part of this MoU, Amazon and DGFT will co-create capacity building sessions, training and workshops for MSMEs in districts identified by the DGFT



as part of the District as Exports Hub initiative outlined in the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, in a phased manner.

The initiative seeks to link local producers even in rural and remote districts with global supply chains. The collaboration aims to enable exporters/MSMEs to sell their 'Made in India' products to customers internationally.

The core objective of this

collaboration is to leverage e-commerce platforms to support local exporters, manufacturers, and MSMEs in reaching potential international buyers. The partnership aligns with the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, which identifies e-commerce as a focus area for amplifying India's exports.

Under the collaboration, Districts will be identified by various e-

commerce platforms across India, to undertake various capacity-building and outreach activities in collaboration with DGFT-Regional Authorities. These activities will focus on educating MSMEs on e-commerce exports and enabling them to sell to customers across the world. In addition, the capacity building session will allow MSMEs to learn about imaging,

digital cataloging of their products, tax advisory amongst others. With this, Indian entrepreneurs can build their e-commerce exports businesses and global brands. Under the MoU with Amazon India, 20 districts have been identified for such capacity building and handholding sessions. DGFT is in discussion with various e-commerce platforms like Flipkart/Walmart, E-bay, Rivexa, Shopclues, Shiprocket, DHL Express etc. to have similar collaboration in other districts of the country under the Districts as Export Hubs initiative. This will supplement DGFT's efforts to hand hold, promote new and first time exporters and other MSME producers to export from India, thereby making substantial strides towards the goal of \$1 trillion goods exports by year 2030.



Bhubaneswar,(KCN): Chief Secretary Pradeep Jena visited Odisha Pavilion in IITF-2023 at Pragati Maidan here at New Delhi on 23 November.

He appreciated the live demonstrations by tribal artisans which provide insights into the intricate process of transforming raw materials into finished goods.

Notably, the Odisha Pavilion takes pride in presenting handloom, silk products, highlighting an eco-friendly process that

obtains silk without harming insects, reflecting Odisha's dedication to sustainable and ethical practices. The Odisha Pavilion embraces this theme, embodying the spirit of 'Unity through Trade.' It emphasizes trade as a unifying force that bridges diverse cultures and communities, including the representation of tribal groups.

The Odisha Pavilion, featuring 08 Departments, 24 stalls, includes renowned

handloom outlets, Mission Shakti products, Millet Mission and other Government departments, offering visitors a detailed look at brick-colored terracotta artifact models that reflect country's rural culture.

The IITF-2023 organized by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from 14-27 November carries the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: United by Trade."

Odisha government announces substantial hike in ex gratia for wildlife attack victims

BHUBANESWAR: Odisha government on Wednesday announced a substantial hike in ex gratia compensation for damage to life and property in wildlife attacks, in a decision that seeks to address growing man-animal conflict in the state.

Now, kin of people losing their lives in human-wildlife conflicts will be entitled to a compensation of Rs 6 lakh, up from Rs 4 lakh earlier. Similarly, existing compassionate grant of Rs 1 lakh, provided for permanent injury in wild animal attacks, stands hiked to Rs 2.5 lakh for suffering disability of more than 60 per cent and Rs 1.5 lakh for less than 60 per cent disability.

The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said, the compassionate grant provided for permanent injury, temporary injury,

loss of property and crop damage has also been increased significantly as a measure to check escalation of conflicts. The announcement comes days after The New Indian Express carried a report 'Man-Animal Conflict: Too much pain, too little relief' highlighting how poor compassionate grant is forcing people with permanent injuries to live in misery, making the crisis worse in the state. PCCF (Wildlife) SK Popli said with the fresh announcement, Odisha's compassionate grant has become highest among states in the east-central belt. "Our compassionate grant for those permanently injured is also one of the highest in the country," he said.

As per the notification, people who suffer temporary injuries will be provided free treatment and a compensation of Rs

5,000, while those in need of treatment of more than a week will be provided free treatment and financial aid of Rs 10,000. The PCCF said compensation for loss of livestock in wild animal attack has also been raised to Rs 37,500 for cow and buffalo and Rs 32,000 for bullock against the exiting assistance of Rs 5,000. The compassionate grant for crop damage has also been doubled. As per the notification, financial assistance provided to farmers for loss to paddy and cereal crops in wild animal attacks has been increased to Rs 20,000 from existing Rs 10,000 per acre. Similarly, compensation for cash crops has been hiked to Rs 25,000 from existing Rs 12,000 per acre.

Moreover, financial assistance for partial

damage to house in wild animal attack, which was Rs 2,000 till now, has been increased to Rs 10,000, while assistance for complete damage of house, which was Rs 10,000 has been hiked to Rs 20,000. Provision of a house under Biju Pucca Ghar for permanent damage to property is still there. However, the government has decided an amount equivalent to the pucca ghar will be given where it is not possible to provide the victim with a concrete dwelling, forest officials said.

Rs 6 lakh ex gratia for kin of people losing lives in man-animal conflict Rs 2.5 lakh for suffering disability of over 60 % Rs 1.5 lakh for suffering disability of less than 60 %

Rs 10,000 and free treatment for those who suffer temporary injuries

Some farmers count blessings, many distressed over crop loss

BARGARH: While some farmers of Bargarh district are gearing up for the procurement of the rabi paddy which is scheduled to begin from May 6, several others who suffered crop loss due to hailstorm and pest attack are now in distress. The procurement of paddy for the rabi season in Attabira block of the district will begin from May 6 while in other blocks including Bargarh, Bheden, Barpali, Bhatli and Ambhabona, the process is slated to commence from May 12. Considering the summer heat, necessary arrangements like drinking water and tarpaulin sheds have been ensured for the farmers who will be participating in the procurement process.

This season, paddy will be procured from as many

as 85,000 registered farmers in the district across 62 market yards and 100 Paddy Procurement Centres (PPC). Around 84 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) and Women SHGs will be engaged to ensure the process is completed smoothly.

On the other hand, due to unforeseen calamities, hundreds of farmers who suffered complete loss of their standing paddy crops are in a bad state. Unseasonal heavy rainfall between the end of March and first week of April shattered their hopes of reaping a bounty. Subsequently, due to fluctuation in temperature, the paddy crops were infested with pests later identified as neck blast. To add to the woes, the recent hailstorm on April 22 ravaged crops over large

tracts of land.

As per the eye estimation report, Bargarh has recorded crop damage of over 6050 hectares of land in 52 villages. This includes the maximum damage in Bargarh block at 2631 hectares, followed by 2314 hectares in Attabira, 885 hectares in Bheden and 220 hectares in Barpali. The farmers of Attabira and Bheden have already submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister through Attabira MLA Snehangini Chhuria, demanding to take appropriate action towards compensation considering the hailstorm related damage.

Farmer leader, Ramesh Nahapatra said, "While the eye estimation report was sent on April 26, several other land on

which crops were damaged due to hailstorm were identified much later. The actual figures could be ascertained only from the joint verification report."

However, on the basis of field visit and observation, crops over at least 10,000 hectares of land has been damaged this season, he said. "Considering the massive damage, input subsidy and crop insurance compensation to the farmers should be disbursed at the earliest," he added.

Paddy procurement centres will be opened in Koraput district from June 3 and about 12.42 lakh quintal paddy has been targeted to be lifted by Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation through 20 LAMPS, 15 SHGs and three pani panchayts.



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Delhivery has Outlier Growth Prospects with Profit Round the Corner: Ventura Securities

New Delhi: Calling Delhivery as the proxy for eCommerce growth in India, leading brokerage firm Ventura Securities has said in its report that the logistics firm has outlier growth prospects with profits being just round the corner.

Citing the highly fragmented nature of the Indian logistics markets, the report adds that Delhivery is uniquely positioned to emerge as the sustainable business leader in an essential vertical having a total addressable market size of \$316 billion. The company's IPO comes at a time when the Indian government is focusing its investments on infrastructure-led growth through a slew of measures including its flagship initiative- the

PM Gatishakti Program. The move will likely benefit the company in long term.

Some of the company strengths highlighted by Ventura Securities include that Delhivery's revenues will grow at a CAGR of 56.7%, touching an amount of Rs 14026 crore by FY 2024. The integrated portfolio of logistics services allows Delhivery to deliver services which other competitors cannot do. The logistics major is being valued at 2.4 times the FY24 EV/Sales. This is attractive when compared to BlueDart and TCI Express that trade at the ratio of 3.1X and 4.1X their FY24 revenues. Delhivery's revenue base is well diversified into major segments like express

parcel, supply chain, Part truck load and cross borderservices forming a large part of the total revenue. A few trends like shift in trends from unorganized to organized players, evolving customer trends and emergence of new markets will be helpful for Delhivery, the report says. To recap, Delhivery, India's largest fully integrated logistics company has filed RHP with SEBI for its INR 5,235 crore IPO. The issue will close for subscription on May 13. The anchor investment was received from top long only funds comprising of foreign and local funds. Out of INR 5,235 crore fund raise, INR 4,000 crore comprises of fresh issuance while the rest is for offer for sale.

Astarang Port: Legal Triumph Sparks Hope Amid Land Acquisition Struggles

Bhubaneswar ,(KCN):The proposed Astarang Port project in Puri of Odisha is witnessing a ray of hope as legal matters that once cast a shadow have now been vacated.The Astarang Port project, a venture valued at several billion rupees, has triumphed over a major roadblock—land acquisition challenges. Previously shrouded in uncertainty due to vehement opposition from local residents regarding land acquisition, resettlement, and compliance with new construction regulations, the project is now on a more favorable

trajector.Rewinding to December 2013, during the UPA government in India, efforts to secure new land for the port gained momentum and became operational in January 2014. However, a critical stipulation emerged, stating that a government project in a region can only proceed if 80% of the locals agree. The lack of unanimous consent became a significant roadblock.In the absence of a village council and facing opposition from seven villagers in the proposed port area, a legal battle ensued. The case has now been settled in



court in 2021. Minister of Commerce and Transport in Odisha, Tukuni Sahu, has provided updates in the ongoing Assembly session, highlighting that land acquisition for the port is still in progress.For the development of the port, the Navyug Engineering company of Hyderabad secured a contract with

the state government in December 2008. The ambitious project aimed to acquire 5,064.965 acres of land, with 3,332.255 acres belonging to local residents and 1,732.710 acres being government-owned.The construction of the Astarang Port held promises of job opportunities for 10,000 workers. Additionally, a

planned railway line spanning 50 kilometers from Khurdha to Sakshigopal and Astaranga aimed to facilitate the efficient transportation of goods. As part of the project, the Puri district administration identified 15 revenue villages for land acquisition. The Astarang Port project, though once marred by significant hurdles in land acquisition, now stands as a beacon of hope for the Astarang block as well as Odisha. The legal battle is over, signaling a new chapter for this ambitious coastal developments.

Sony announces the Next-Gen Smart BRAVIA 32W830K Google TV with crystal clear picture and refined sound

Bhubaneswar : Sony India today announced the launch of BRAVIA 32W830K television with attractive picture quality and life like sound. The all-new 80 cm (32) HD ready Google TV lets you enjoy movies, games and shows from apps or broadcast in an instant with advanced voice controls and built-in Chromecast.

Now seamlessly integrate Google TV and bring together more than 700,000 movies, shows, live TV and more from

apps and subscriptions and organize seamlessly. With BRAVIA 32W830K, browse content from across your apps, intelligently organized just for you. Customers can easily find something to watch with personalized recommendations and bookmark shows and movies by adding a watchlist from phone and watch it on TV to keep track of what to watch. Users can even add to their Watchlist from their phone or laptop with Google Search and find

everything in one place. BRAVIA 32W830K supports Apple Home Kit and AirPlay that seamlessly integrates Apple devices like iPads and iPhones with the TV for effortless content streaming. Easily control your TV with Hands-free voice capabilities. The hands-free voice control is built into the TV, no need to reach for the remote every time to search for entertainment, get answers, or control the TV and smart home devices. Simply say, "OK Google" to issue a voice command.

NewDelhi,(KCN):NTPC Bongaigaon has been honored with the 1st Runner up position in the Best Health Care Services Award for small hospitals with fewer than 30 beds. The prestigious award was presented during the CMO Administrative Meet held at CC EOC, New Delhi, on November 23, 2023. Shri Gurdeep Singh, CMD, NTPC

Bongaigaon, presented the award to Dr. Ela Chakraborty, CMO, NTPC Bongaigaon Hospital, in the presence of Shri D.K. Patel, Director (HR).Shri Sital Kumar, CEO (UPL) & ED (HR), and Smt. Sangita Risbood, CMO, Corporate Centre, along with



other senior officials, graced the award ceremony with their

presence. The award recognizes NTPC Bongaigaon

Hospital's unwavering commitment to providing quality healthcare services to its patients. The hospital has consistently demonstrated its dedication to excellence through its innovative and humane approach to healthcare outcomes. NTPC Bongaigaon Hospital is committed to continuous improvement and innovation.

Ambulance employees felicitated for their humanitarian works

Bhubaneswar : Ziqitza Healthcare Limited (ZHL), the operating agency for 108 ambulance services in Odisha, today felicitated its ambulance employees for showing exceptional humanitarian support in difficult times to patients while on duty. Whereas the company also felicitated 13 meritorious children of their staff members who were top scorers in the Class 10th examinations. The awards were given under the Ziqitza Odisha Scholarship 2022, organized here today. A total 7 Cluster Leaders, 7 Maintenance Executives (ME), One Quality Auditor, 21 Crew members were awarded for their distinguished efforts. Attending as chief guest, Sri Sabyasachi Biswal, State Head - Odisha, ZHL

Odisha inaugurated the programme by lighting up the lamp. Whereas Sri Deepak Srivastav, HR-Head Odisha and Rajiv Kumar Das, Head of Operation, ZHL were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on this occasion, Sri Sabyasachi Biswal, State Head, said, "Ziqitza Healthcare Limited & its employees are always committed to serve the public with utmost care. Our crew members have shown their highest resolve in serving people at many occasions. Be it bringing patients in stretcher from their home in case of no motorable roads, Donating blood to patients in difficult time, showing highest devotion towards duty during natural calamities or returning of money and other valuable belongings

to patients are among few noble works,"

The crew members who got felicitated on the occasion were Sri Prasanta Ku Barik, Shaktisri Dalai, Uttam Kumar Mohanta, Susanta Kumar Majhi, Gagan Bihari Mahanta, Suman Kalayan Mahakud, Prasanta Behera, Sukant Paikray, Sudipta Rana, Dasrathi Maharatha, Biranchi Narayan Ratha, Rabindra Kumar Badatyia, Bansi Harijan, Manisanta Hira, Rajkumar Patel, Gopabandhu Swain, Motilal Pradhan and Jitu Seth. This apart three crew members Bhabanishankar Mahakud, Padmalochan Maharana & Parikhita Naik were choosen as best crew members for their outstanding effort in serving people at distress going an extra mile.

Apeejay Education and AWS Announce New Accelerator Program

Bhubaneswar – Apeejay Education, an academic institution in India established for more than 50 years, and Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, today announced the launch of the National Education Policy Accelerator Program (NEPAP), an initiative to enable academic institutions in India to align with the technology requirements documented in the Government's National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). This is the first program in India to support the technology transformation of education institutions as per the NEP 2020.

The NEP 2020 aims to strengthen India's education sector that directly contributes to the country's growth and development, demonstrating the need to integrate technology in education to improve learning and teaching at all levels. The accelerator program will address two key tenets of the NEP 2020 – on the extensive use of technology in teaching, learning, education planning, and management; and in the creation of open, interoperable, evolvable, public digital infrastructure in the education sector to support multiple platforms and point solutions.

The accelerator program will guide academic institutions on multiple aspects of the NEP 2020. It will support academic institutions by conducting digital innovation workshops to focus on identifying and prioritizing unique challenges of the academic institutions, and co-building solutions or proof-of-concepts (POCs) using technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AWS will drive these workshops based on the Amazon Working Backwards innovation methodology, which uses design thinking to identify and define a customer-focused problem or opportunity and develop prototypes. Through the accelerator program, AWS and Apeejay Education will support academic institutions with AWS credits, capacity building workshops, and access to dedicated resources, to build and implement the POCs. Apeejay Education will bring expertise on the use cases of digital solutions in the education sector, and support with testing the solutions to extend the reach to other institutions across India. Apeejay Education is a pioneer in the adoption of technology and cloud computing and today, Apeejay Styta University – part of Apeejay Education – runs its entire learning management, fee and billing, governance, administration and admissions systems on AWS. The university's digital readiness enabled it to offer online classes to students within 24 hours of the initial lockdown imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and scale its learning management system as needed. By running its critical systems on AWS, the university accelerated its journey to align with the NEP, and effectively engage its 35,000 students and 2,500 faculty members across 26 campuses in India.

HCL's Roshni Nadar Malhotra says demand environment robust

North Asia, Central America, Eastern Europe and Africa are newer geographies for the company, she said, adding "this is where we plan to grow in the future as new frontier countries, in addition to our existing large geographies and markets".Citing her interactions with various customers in Europe and the US, Nadar said their utmost priority has been about accelerating digital transformation programmes with efficiencies.

The demand environment for technology "continues to be robust" despite the challenges seen over the last two years, and global clients have a razor-sharp focus on accelerating

digital transformation with efficiency, HCL Technologies Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra said on Thursday.

North Asia, Central America, Eastern Europe and Africa are newer geographies for the company, she said, adding "this is where we plan to grow in the future as new frontier countries, in addition to our existing large geographies and markets". "The last two years have been unpredictable, challenging, and yet the demand environment continues to be robust," Nadar said at a media briefing.Citing her interactions with various customers in Europe and the US, Nadar said their

utmost priority has been about accelerating digital transformation programmes with efficiencies. Nadar noted that the majority of the company's "very steady healthy growth" has come organically, and that continues to be a focus for the IT services provider. "...Tuck in acquisitions, specialised acquisitions, which give us certain domain expertise and a certain strength in different business lines is something that we will do, but the focus has been organic growth."And that's something that we have demonstrated very well over the last couple of years, and we continue to focus on that as well," Nadar said.

Empowering the mother is crucial for ensuring wholesome childcare and development

New Delhi: To raise awareness about wholesome childcare and development, SHEROES, the world's largest social platform for women, recently hosted a panel discussion, with experts from SOS Children's Villages of India, India's largest self-implementing NGO. The sharing of journeys and experiences served as inspiration, especially since the stakeholders talked about their challenges, solutions they adopted, and milestones achieved despite hurdles.

During the conversation, Mr. Sumanta Kar, Secretary

General, SOS Children's Villages of India said, "At SOS Children's Villages of India, mothers serve a crucial role, across all initiatives. The organisation's Family Like Care programme is 600 plus Mothers and Aunts strong; these dedicated team members take care of more than 6000 plus children in 32 Villages, across 22 states / UTs. In the Family Strengthening Programme, as also the other Basket of Care Solutions, mothers or caregivers are empowered to secure a caring, loving and safe environment for their children, and communities. The core

idea is to make caregivers empowers in order to ensure a Domino Effect that encourages sustainable and positive change for a better today and brighter tomorrow. Of course, there are many challenges faced during the journey; hence, maintaining balance and health are crucial. Besides this, gender equality and equity are paramount."

Sairee Chahal, Founder & CEO of SHEROES and Mahila Money says, "Women have many aspirations – from growing skills, launching businesses and building remote careers, to accessing capital to fuel their businesses.

LIC HFLrevises its rates for loan products

Mumbai ::LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL), one of India's largest Housing Finance companies, has revised the rate of interest for its loan products on the back of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) announcement on 4th May 2022, revising the repo rate. Accordingly, LICHFL has revised its rates of interest upwards across retail loan product

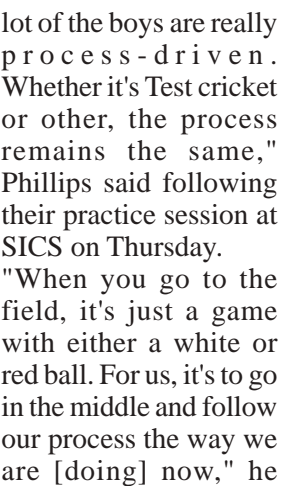
categories. The new interest rate on home loans starts from 6.9%with effect from 13th May 2022.

Commenting on this interest rate revision, MD & CEO Shri Y. Viswanatha Gowd said, "RBI has after a long time increased the policy rates and the effect is being seen across the lenders. We have kept our home loan rates

competitive despite the increase in the cost of funds to support the aspirations of home buyers. For borrowers with CIBIL score 700 and above the rate hike has been limited to only 20 bps. In my view, this increase may not have significant impact on the EMI outgo. I am confident that demand for Home Loans continues to be high."

Ben Stokes to miss IPL 2024

"At the end of the day, a



said, adding that a couple of days break before coming to Bangladesh helped them a lot. "It was good for the guys to be in Dubai for a couple of days. It refreshed us and some of us went home to see the families. It was really good I think before a Test series, especially after the World Cup to have this sort of break and come out here refreshed," he

said. Phillips, who previously toured in this part of the world with the U-19 team during the 2016 ICC U-19 World Cup, said that he was surprised as the wicket was greener than what they anticipated but hoped to get a good game both with the bat and ball.

"It's really great to get out there. The pitch is a

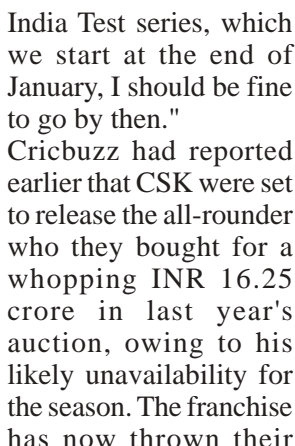
little greener than what we thought it was gonna be. It was good practice all round. Boys are going to bowl and boys are going to bat. So happy with that," said Phillips, who is making his first trip to Bangladesh with the senior team.

Phillips added that he was excited to see a lot of left-handed batters in the Bangladesh batting line-up as it makes him feel that he will have a role to play.

"Obviously, I'm the only one to bowl off-spin. I'm the only one to turn the ball differently from the other boys. But for me, as Bangladesh have quite a few left-handers in their line-up, my involvement will definitely put pressure on them," he said.

The series-concluding Test is scheduled at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka from December 6.

New Delhi: England all-rounder, and Test skipper, Ben Stokes has made himself unavailable for next year's IPL, his franchise Chennai Super Kings confirmed on Thursday (November 23). Stokes, who made a u-turn from last year's ODI retirement and featured in the just-concluded World Cup in India, will undergo a surgery on his left knee and will be on the road to recovery ahead of England's highly-anticipated Test tour of India towards the end of January 2024. He will however, not participate in the IPL that will follow in order to manage his workload and fitness. "I will hopefully be fine for the Test series [against India]," Stokes had said during the World Cup. "I am having surgery after the World Cup... There was a lot of time put into deciding when to get it done. The



India Test series, which we start at the end of January, I should be fine to go by then."

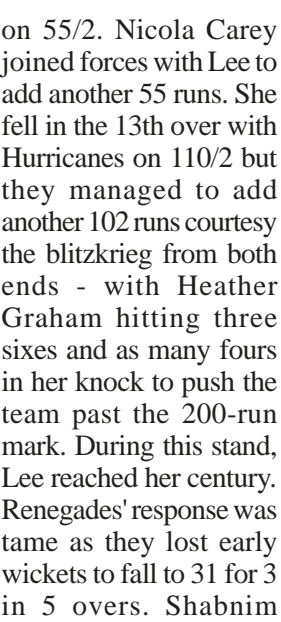
Cricbuzz had reported earlier that CSK were set to release the all-rounder who they bought for a whopping INR 16.25 crore in last year's auction, owing to his likely unavailability for the season. The franchisee has now thrown their

support behind the England player and his decision to skip next season.

"The Chennai Super Kings management is supportive of Ben in his decision to manage his workload with England playing a 5-Test series in India before the IPL and then the T20 World Cup in June 2024," an official statement from CSK said.

Lizelle Lee's fiery ton keeps Hurricanes' knockout hopes alive

New Delhi: Lizelle Lee's 53-ball 101* - with 12 fours and 4 sixes in it - and Heather Graham's whirlwind 28-ball 55 set up Hobart Hurricanes' 93-run victory over Melbourne Renegades. The pair powered the team to a massive 212/3 in 20 overs, before the spin pair of Maisy Gibson (4 for 25) and Amy Smith (3 for 17) ran riot to bowl out the chasing side for just 119 in the 17th over. With this win, Hurricanes moved up to fifth spot and are only a point behind fourth-placed Brisbane Heat with one more game to go in the league stage. Hurricanes flew off the blocks after being asked to bat first as Lee and Elyse Villani added 55 in five overs before the latter was dismissed. Georgia Wareham struck for the second time in the same over to leave Hurricanes

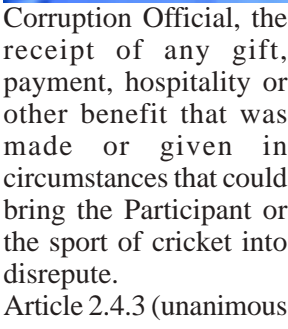


on 55/2. Nicola Carey joined forces with Lee to add another 55 runs. She fell in the 13th over with Hurricanes on 110/2 but they managed to add another 102 runs courtesy the blitzkrieg from both ends - with Heather Graham hitting three sixes and as many fours in her knock to push the team past the 200-run mark. During this stand, Lee reached her century. Renegades' response was tame as they lost early wickets to fall to 31 for 3 in 5 overs. Shabnim

Ismail did the early damage after which left-arm spinner Maisy Gibson ripped into the middle order to pick up four wickets. Amy Smith did the damage from the other end with her off spin as she bagged 3 wickets for just 17 runs. Sandwiched between these two spin performances was Emma de Broughe's undefeated 19-ball 40 that included 8 fours. Her effort dragged the team total past 100 but The Renegades still fell well short of their target

Marlon Samuels slapped with six-year ban under anti-corruption code

New Delhi: Former West Indian international cricketer Marlon Samuels has been banned for six years from all forms of cricket after an independent Anti-Corruption Tribunal found him guilty of breaching the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) Anti-Corruption Code in August earlier this year. Samuels' ban takes effect from November 11, 2023. Samuels was charged by the ICC (the designated body for anti-corruption under the Emirates Cricket Board's code) in September 2021, and subsequently found guilty in August, for the following four offences: Article 2.4.2 (by a majority decision) - Failing to disclose to the Designated Anti-



decision)- Failing to disclose to the Designated Anti-Corruption Official receipt of hospitality with a value of US \$750 or more.

Article 2.4.6 (unanimous decision) - Failing to cooperate

with the Designated Anti-Corruption Official's investigation. Article 2.4.7 (unanimous decision) - Obstructing or delaying the Designated Anti-Corruption Official's investigation by concealing information

that may have been relevant to the investigation. "Samuels played international cricket for close to two decades, during which he participated in numerous anti-corruption sessions and knew exactly what his obligations were under the Anti-Corruption Code," said Alex Marshall, ICC General Manager of the HR and Integrity Unit, in an ICC statement on Thursday (November 23). "Though he is retired now, Mr. Samuels was a participant when the offences were committed. The ban of six years will act as a strong deterrent to any participant who intends to break the rules."

Suryakumar, Ishan, Rinku shine in India's last-ball win

New Delhi: An explosive 42-ball 80 from Suryakumar Yadav on captaincy debut, his 112-run stand with Ishan Kishan (58 off 39 balls) and the finishing act from Rinku Singh were all pivotal to India's thrilling two-wicket win over Australia in the first of the five-match T20I series in Vizag on Thursday (November 23). Australia rode on Josh Inglis' frenetic 47-ball ton to post a strong total of 208 and also had India at 22/2 but the Suryakumar-Ishan stand helped India to get into cruise control with the stand-in captain almost batting through the chase. A late collapse threatened a heist but Rinku held his nerve to see India through off the last ball.

A first for Steve Smith
He's been around for a long time but it took until 23rd November 2023 for Australia's premier batter to open the innings for the first time in his career. Smith started off with a few boundaries despite not timing them very well. His opening partner Matthew Short also struck three boundaries as Australia got off to a steady start.

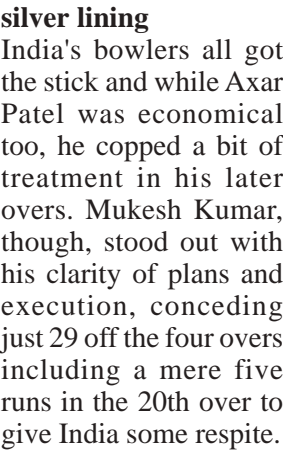
Wrist spin strikes for India
With the openers starting well for Australia, Suryakumar turned to spin very early and while Axar Patel's first over didn't get the reward, leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi broke through. A well-disguised googly dipped and spun past Short's

swipe across the line to disturb the timber.

Inglis sets Vizag on fire

He didn't get many opportunities to shine in the ODI World Cup but T20 cricket is where Josh Inglis' talent comes to the fore significantly. Sent in at no.3, Inglis wasted little time in getting used to the pace of the pitch and toyed with India's bowling. There were shots all around the ground and the small ground dimensions played right into Inglis' hands. Spin wasn't that easy to take on but he did it with aplomb, even as Smith struggled for timing right through. Inglis kept the impetus going and brought up his century off just 47 balls to put Australia on course for a 200-plus total.

Mukesh, India's only



A diamond that Rituraj wouldn't want to remember
Diamonds are priceless but not diamond ducks and Rituraj Gaikwad was the unfortunate recipient of it after a big mix up with opening partner Yashasvi Jaiswal. A comfortable run out ensued as Australia got a gift-wrapped wicket early in the second half.

After a few boundaries and a six, Jaiswal also fell in pursuit of upping the ante, leaving India at 22/2 in the third over.

Suryakumar, Ishan turn it on

There was no sign of nerves for Suryakumar in his captaincy debut as the top-ranked T20I batter got to work straightaway. Ishan started scratchily with a maiden against Jason Behrendorff but with his captain striking them clean at the other end, the left-hander also found his groove gradually. The rollicking partnership took Australia's bowlers apart, notably leggie Jason Sangha who got smoked for boundaries and sixes aplenty. The one thing in Australia's favour was the lack of dew which

Suryakumar had anticipated while opting to bowl at the toss. However, this stand-in skipper continued to make merry for India in the chase. **Sangha's double-strike gives Australia hope** Against the run of play, Sangha removed Ishan and Tilak Varma in successive overs to dent India's charge a bit. The leggie showed remarkable temperament despite getting hammered and his bravery gave Australia a small window of opportunity to sneak back into the game. **Suryakumar goes up a gear to put India on the brink** The stand-in skipper was unfazed with the two wickets and instead went up a notch in his strokeplay. Even

Australia's death specialist Nathan Ellis went the distance in the 16th over that went for 18 runs. It left India with just 20 to get off the last 18 deliveries. Rinku also gave his captain the ideal support by striking some timely boundaries at the other end.

Rinku stays calm amidst chaotic late drama

Suryakumar perished in pursuit of ending the game quickly and his wicket once again gave Australia a sniff to sneak back. Rinku kept the tempo going with two crucial boundaries - one off the penultimate ball of the 19th over and the other to start the 20th over. These were priceless in the context of what unfolded thereafter.