

RBI fixes  
interest for Govt  
floating rate  
bond at 7.14%

New Delhi, (KCN): The rate of interest on Government of India Floating Rate Bond 2024 (FRB 2024), applicable for the half year November 7, 2023 to May 6, 2024, has been fixed at 7.14 per cent per annum, the RBI said on Monday.

The rate of interest on FRB 2024 is reset at the average rate (rounded off up to two decimal places) of the implicit yields, at the cut-off prices of the last three auctions of Government of India 182-days Treasury Bills, held up to the period preceding the coupon reset date, which is November 7, 2023.

The implicit yields are computed by reckoning 365 days in a year, the RBI statement said.

## CM Launches Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha Yojana In Kandhamal, Angul And Gajapati Dists

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday launched the Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha Yojana in three more districts of the State.

The Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha, which aims at strengthening the infrastructure for building a new Odisha and a strong Odisha, was launched in Kandhamal, Angul and Gajapati districts on the eleventh day of the ambitious programme.

Under the programme, Rs 85.50 crore has been sanctioned for the three constituencies of Kandhamal district. The constituencies are Baliguda, G. Udayagiri and Phulabani. The funds will be spent on 2099 projects in 171 panchayats of 12 blocks of these constituencies. The Chief Minister has



sanctioned Rs 112.50 crore for five constituencies of Angul district. These constituencies are Talcher, Pallahara, Chhendipada, Athamallik and Angul. As many as 2796 projects will be undertaken in 225 gram panchayats of eight blocks. Similarly, Rs 74.50 crore has been allocated for two constituencies of Gajapati district. These constituencies are Mohana and Parlakhemundi. The

funds will be spent on 1662 projects in 149 gram panchayats of 7 blocks. As part of the Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha, the basic foundation of Odisha's culture will be improved by spreading Jagannath culture in every village, developing every place of worship, along with development of digital infrastructure. This will be the basic foundation for building an ambitious Odisha. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that the spread of culture and

improvement of modern infrastructure will take our villages to the pinnacle of development. The new wave of development will instill deep confidence in the people of the village. From our strong cultural base, the new Odisha will spread its wings and reach new heights to touch the wide range of modern scientific knowledge and we will build the new Odisha, the Nabin Odisha, the CM said.

The CM said that the development of all villages is our goal. There will be guarantee of development for everyone in the village. Everyone in the village will be guaranteed education and health. Culture will be preserved and modernity will be developed in villages.



## Odisha Guv Meets PM

New Delhi (KCN): Governor of Odisha, Shri Raghubar Das called on the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today. The Prime Minister's Office posted on X; "Governor of Odisha, Shri @dasraghubar, met Prime Minister @narendramodi."

## Headmaster thrashed for 'molesting' girl student in Odisha's Balasore



Balasore, (KCN): A headmaster was reportedly thrashed after he allegedly molested a girl student in Bhograi area of Balasore district on Monday.

Locals allegedly thrashed the headmaster while accusing him of molesting the girl student of Chandipur Mundhabani Nodal School.

It is alleged that a few

days ago, the headmaster of the school, Gobinda Jena molested a girl student. Later, a meeting was held over the issue on the school premises on Monday. Some villagers, teachers, and the cluster resources centre coordinator were present at the meeting. The headmaster reportedly admitted to his wrongdoing and tendered apologies at the

## Mortal Remains Of Odia Jawan To Be Cremated With Full State Honour

Puri (KCN): The mortal remains of deceased Odia Jawan Pratap Ranjan Parida will be consigned to flames on Monday. The martyr will be awarded a full state honor during his cremation. Afterwards, his body will be taken to his ancestral village, Malla of Badatara Panchayat under Gop block in Puri district for last rites. As per information, Parida's younger brother had died in a road accident two years ago. While his elder brother is presently working with the CRPF. His family members were informed about his death by BSF officials. The reason behind Parida's death is still unknown. His widow, Satyabhama Parida has demanded CBI enquiry regarding his death.

### IMD Predicts Drop In Minimum Temp In Odisha By 3 To 4 Degree C

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Get ready to experience the winter chill as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday predicted a considerable drop in the minimum temperature across Odisha in the coming days. As per the IMD, there will be no significant drop in the night or minimum temperature in the 24 hours. However, the mercury is likely to drop by at least 3 to 4 degree Celsius after that in several parts of the state.

## Odd-Even Scheme In Delhi From Nov 13-Nov 20 To Curb Air Pollution, Classes Except 10, 12 Shut Until Friday

New Delhi (KCN): Delhi continues to be covered in thick haze as the air quality remains in the 'severe' category, data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) showed on Monday. This is the fourth consecutive day that the national capital recorded a 'severe' air quality. The overall air quality index (AQI) of Delhi was recorded at 437 at 9 am, according to CPCB data.

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai announced on Monday that the odd-even car rationing scheme will be implemented in the city from November 13 to November 20 in view of the worsening air quality. He further said that schools of all classes, excluding 10 and 12, will remain shut till November 10. Earlier, classes from 6 to 12 were "given the option" of going online, even as primary classes were ordered to stay closed till November

10. Rai said that the earlier ban on BS3 petrol and BS4 diesel cars in Delhi will continue, and there will be no construction-related works in the city. Rai's announcement came following a

high-level meeting on the increasing air pollution in Delhi and the national capital region (NCR), chaired by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Officials of other concerned

departments, Delhi Education Minister Atishi and ministers Saurabh Bhardwaj and Kailash Gahlot, among others, were also present at the meeting. Delhi was put under Centre's Stage IV of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) on Sunday amid 'severe' air quality. This is the final stage of the anti-pollution plan, and it is activated at least three days before the air quality index (AQI) surpasses the 450 mark in the national capital. However, proactive implementation could not happen this time.

## 60,000 Security Personnel In Place For First Phase Of Chhattisgarh Polls

Raipur (KCN): Voting for the first phase of Assembly polls for 20 seats, several of them in Naxal-affected Bastar division, in Chhattisgarh will take place on Tuesday, with poll officials stating that 25,249 personnel have been deployed for the purpose.

Voting will be held between 7am and 3pm in 10 seats, namely Mohla-

Manpur, Antagarh, Bhanupratappur, Kanker, Keshkhal, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Dantewada, Bijapur and Kanta, they said.

Votes will be cast between 8am and 5pm in Kharagpur, Dangaragarh, Rajnandgaon, Dongargaon, Khujji, Pandariya and Kawardha Bastar, while 5,148 polling teams have been sent to



respective booths by buses. Of the 5,304 booths, web casting facility will be available in 2431," the release said. A senior police official said 60,000 security personnel, including 40,000 from Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), have been

deployed for smooth conduct of polls in 12 constituencies of Naxal-hit Bastar division. Of the 20 seats, 12 are reserved for Scheduled Tribes and one for the Scheduled Caste category. The highest number of contestants is in Rajnandgaon constituency (29) while

the lowest number of candidates is seven each in Chitrakot and Dantewada seats, polls officials said.

Chhattisgarh Congress chief and MP Deepak Baij (Chitrakot), ministers Kawasi Lakhma (Konta), Mohan Markam (Kondagaon) and

Neelkanth Tekam from Keshkhal.

The Aam Aadmi Party's state unit chief Komal Hupendi will contest from Bhanupratappur seat, while MLA Anup Nag, after being denied a ticket by the Congress, is fighting as an Independent from Antagarh seat.

The Congress holds 19 of these 20 seats, including two it won in bypolls. In the 2018 Assembly polls, the Congress had won 17 of these 20 seats, the BJP two and the Janata Congress Chhattisgarh one.

The first phase of campaigning saw Prime Minister Narendra Modi attacking Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel over the alleged Mahadev betting app scam, while other

leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party spoke on religious conversion, deteriorating law and order and corruption.

BJP leaders made it a point to tell people at rallies that their party's promises are "Modi's guarantees".

The Congress based its campaign on the slew of welfare schemes of the Baghel government for farmers, women, tribals and Dalits as well as a promise to waive farm loans if it retains power. It also attacked the BJP-led Centre for "handing over" resources to "industrialist friends".

The Congress has 71 seats in the 90-member Assembly. In the 2018 polls, it had inflicted a crushing defeat on the BJP, which had been ruling the state since 2003.

## 2nd International Conference on Advances in English Language Studies (ICAELS-2023) held at University of Engineering and Management, Jaipur

**Jaipur (KCN):** The University of Engineering & Management hosted a two-day 2nd International Conference on Advances in English Language Studies (ICAELS-2023) from November 3rd to 4th, 2023. The conference featured keynote speakers from across the globe who shared their valuable insights and perspectives on the theme 'Reimagining English Language Education with Digital Technology'. Distinguished professors like Prof. David D. Perroidin (USA), Prof. (Dr.) Darshana Samarweera (Sri Lanka), Prof. (Dr.) Laxman Gnawali (Nepal), Prof. (Dr.) Rajul Bhargava (India), Prof. (Dr.) ZN



Patil (India), Prof. (Dr.) Masood A. Malik (India), Prof. (Dr.) Shalini Yadav (India) and other eminent scholars from various parts of India graced the inaugural session of the conference on 03 November, 2023. During the inaugural address, Prof. (Dr.) Satyajit Chakrabarti, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of UEM Jaipur, emphasized that English is a necessary language for achieving success in life and advocated for an equitable focus on local and regional languages alongside English to enhance understanding in international interactions. Prof. (Dr.) Satyajit Chakrabarti, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of UEM Jaipur, also stressed the significance

of understanding the advances in English language studies to enhance students' employability prospects. Prof. (Dr.) Biswajoy Chatterjee, the Vice Chancellor of UEM Jaipur, emphasized the uniqueness of the conference, which concentrated on the advancement of English language studies in the context of the latest

technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. He stressed that English should be viewed as more than a mere communication tool, focusing on its application in various domains. Prof. (Dr.) Biswajoy Chatterjee shared numerous examples and insights with an engaged audience of over 150

participants, including both physical and virtual attendees. Thereafter, Prof. (Dr.) Biswajoy Chatterjee, Vice Chancellor, UEM Jaipur, Prof. (Dr.) Pradeep Kumar Sharma, Registrar, UEM Jaipur, and Prof. (Dr.) Aniruddha Mukherjee, Dean-Academics, UEM Jaipur extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries by presenting

conference mementos. This prestigious conference received a significant number of submissions, with over 300 research articles from across the globe. A rigorous selection process led to the acceptance of more than 70 papers. These selected works were presented over the course of the two-day conference in front of esteemed professors in the field of English language. The paper presenters were from India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

The conference convened, Prof. (Dr.) Mukesh Yadav, explained that the ICAELS-2023 Conference achieved its objective as it provided a valuable platform for scholars, academicians, and experts from around the world to share their insights, research findings, and engage in discussions to enhance their knowledge. Furthermore, it encouraged the long-term exchange of knowledge and the exploration of use of digital technology in improving teaching learning process. The conference concluded with the presentation of certificates to all participants, along with the recognition of the best paper, which demonstrated outstanding content and a

## EMAMI POSTS RESILIENT PERFORMANCE WITH 20% EBIDTA GROWTH IN Q2FY24

**Kolkata (Ambar Mukherjee):** EMAMI Limited's consolidated revenues at Rs. 865 crore grew by 6% for the quarter and half year ended 30th September 2023. The Board of Directors of Emami Limited met on Monday to consider the unaudited financial results of the company.

The Company demonstrated remarkable resilience in the second quarter and half-year ending on 30th September 2023, overcoming challenges such as poor monsoons, food inflation, and subdued demand in rural markets. Despite the challenges, the Company's Consolidated Revenues at Rs. 865 cr grew by 6% in Q2.

The Domestic Business witnessed a commendable 4% growth with a volume growth of 2%, driven by channels catering to urban markets such as Modern Trade and E-commerce. The International business also expanded by an impressive 12% during the quarter, delivering a constant currency growth of 16%, primarily attributed to robust performances in the SAARC and MENAP regions.

Notably, the Company unveiled a range of

innovative digital-first products in the Domestic business during the quarter, including Glycerine bathing bars under the BoroPlus range, an Organic Onion hair mask under the Kesh King brand and introduction of 10 new products on the Zanducare portal. The Company also launched 3 new products under the Creme 21 brand in the international markets.

Additionally, the Company made its foray into the juice category with "AloFrut" through strategic investment in Axiom Ayurveda Pvt Ltd and its subsidiaries/associations by acquiring 26% equity stake. Axiom markets beverage products under the brand "AloFrut", which are most refreshing and healthy fusion of aloe vera pulp and fruit blends.

Leveraging lower raw material costs and judicious price hikes, the quarter saw a remarkable expansion in Gross margins by 350 basis points, reaching 70.1. EBIDTA soared to 234 crore, showcasing an impressive 20% growth, with margins at 27.0%, an increase of 300 basis points. In the first half of FY24, the Company achieved a 7% growth in Revenues, expanded Gross Margins by 290 basis points, which led

to a 15% surge in EBIDTA, with margins reaching 25.1% - expanding by 180 basis points. Moreover, the Profit for the period surged to 2316 crore, reflecting a strong 23% growth. The Board of Directors declared an interim dividend of 400%, amounting to 4 per share for FY24, in recognition of the Company's performance, thereby rewarding the shareholders for their support and trust.

The Company's ability to navigate challenges and achieve significant growth and profitability signals a promising trajectory and highlights its commitment to innovation, strategic partnerships, and value creation for its stakeholders. Mr Harsha V Agarwal, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Emami Limited said:

"In this dynamic and challenging environment, our results exemplify our dedication to growth and innovation, marked by a good increase in both volumes and revenues. Strong performance by both Modern Trade and e-commerce has led to a decent revenue growth of 6% and an impressive constant currency growth of 16% in our international

business during this quarter. Our recent expansion into the juice category, marked by a strategic 26% investment in Axiom Ayurveda (AloFrut), aligns with our vision to diversify into high growth segment where we are currently not present. These strategic entries in diverse categories act as a launch pad for future growth of the Company."

Mr Mohan Goenka, Vice Chairman and Whole-Time Director, Emami Limited said:

"I'm delighted to announce our Company's positive performance in Q2FY24. Despite macroeconomic challenges, we achieved a 6% revenue growth. Notably, our gross margins expanded by 350 basis points, showcasing our operational excellence. EBIDTA soared by 20%, with margins expanding by 300 basis points, underscoring our dedication to value and quality.

These achievements affirm our commitment to delivering value and quality to our consumers, partners and stakeholders. With the Government's support creating favorable conditions in rural markets, we're poised for a strong second half, amplifying our market presence."

## ICT tools facilitate effective teaching and learning: NITTTR Director Prof Usha

## Two-week course at NITTTR inaugurated



**Chennai, Nov 6 (KCN):** "Development of new broadband communication services, convergence of telecommunication with computers and recent developments in the field of communication protocol have fostered challenges as well as offerings in the wide-ranging use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to support the creation of dynamic and interactive teaching and learning environment," said Director of National Institute of Technical

Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai, Prof Usha Nateshan. Delivering Presidential address in the Inaugural of a two week online course on "Integrating Information and Communication Technology Tools for Teaching and Learning" on Monday, Prof Usha Nateshan said that that learners, on the other hand, take part in the sharing of needed learning space to acquire collaborative learning principles, learning independence and to enhance critical thinking, creative thinking and

problem-solving skills. Digital India programme is a flagship programme of the Government of India with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, she added. Delivering the inaugural address, Director General of Colombo Plan Staff College in Manila, Philippines Prof GLD Wickramasinghe said that Mastering ICT skills and their application would improve teaching and learning effectively, 30 teachers from nine countries participated in the programme on the first day.



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## Munawar Faruqui, Vicky Jain Fight Over Coffee

The dynamics within the 'Bigg Boss' house are in a state of flux, especially after the recent eviction of Manasvi Mamgai. While after each eviction, the relationships, friendships, and even enmities within the house tend to shift dramatically but tonight's episode promises some electrifying twists and turns.

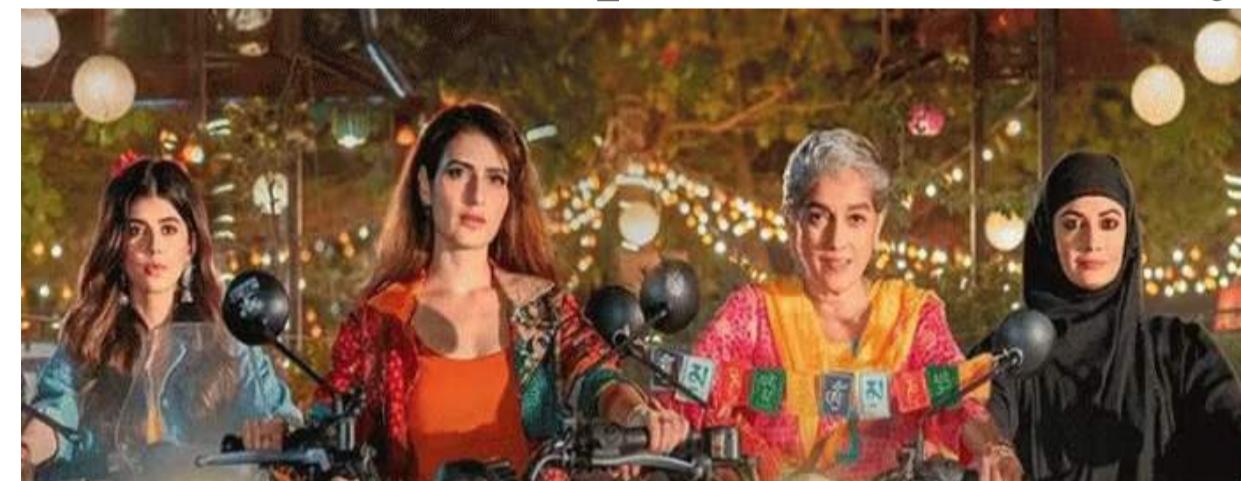
As the mastermind of the 'Dimaag' house Munawar who stumbles upon a coffee box in the 'Dil' house during a ration task, playfully flaunts it to Ankita Lokhande and Aishwarya Sharma with an intent to spark a light-hearted moment. However, situation takes a turn when members of the 'Dil' house, especially Vicky, take it as a challenge to reclaim the coffee box, resulting in multiple heated arguments between the 'Dil' and 'Dimaag' house members. Will the Dil house get their coffee back? Will this situation be resolved or it would affect the harmony between the two houses. Ankita Lokhande and Abhishek Kumar get into an argument. She claims that Abhishek is not loyal



to the 'Dil' house. Khanzaadi alerts Ankita and asks her not to trust anyone in the house except Vicky. Munawar tells Ankita that she has been losing her identity because of her group. Well, while the atmosphere of the house is bit intense, the Sunday's special segment of 'Just Chill with Arbaaz and Sohail' brings some respite for the inmates. The dapper hosts Arbaaz Khan and Sohail Khan interact with the house members and give them a touch of reality while adding some light-hearted moments after the tough 'Shanivaar Ka Vaar' with

Salman Khan. In their innate style, Arbaaz and Sohail roleplay Isha and Samarth and shed some light on the love triangle going on in the house since last week. Sohail, enacting Samarth, asks Arbaaz who's acting as Isha, "Do you know how you look to the outside world?" To which Arbaaz, in character, replies, "Do you know how you look inside this house talking like that?" Well, one can say that this segment is surely going to add humour and entertainment in episode tonight. Sohail and Arbaaz play

## Dhak Dhak: Fatima Sana Shaikh Takes A Road Trip Of Self-Discovery



Having always impressed the audience with her impeccable performances in her films, Fatima Sana Shaikh is on her way to delivering yet another one. The trailer of her upcoming film 'Dhak Dhak' has been released and nothing to doubt Fatima is leading her way ahead with an immensely intriguing story and an interesting character.

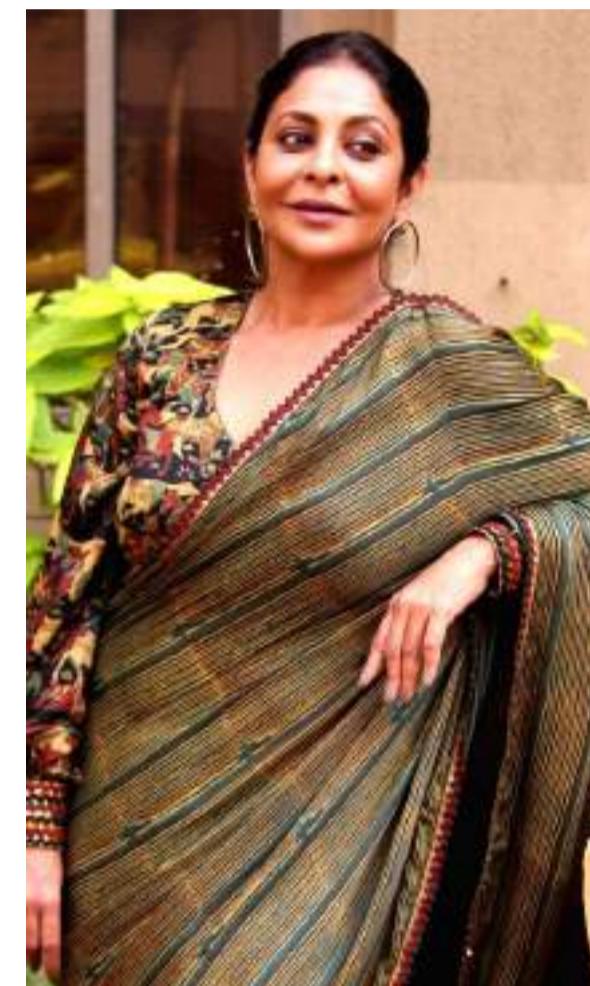
Bringing a never seen before avatar, the actress is seen riding on the bike on the road of self-discovery with a bunch of other talented actors 'Dhak Dhak' trailer showcases Fatima as a travel blogger, Sky. Carrying a bold, fierce, and modern personality, the actress seems to have stepped into this new character effortlessly piquing the excitement to watch her in the film. The

trailer of 'Dhak Dhak' has indeed come as an absolute treat for Fatima's fans. It would be exciting to see the actress in this new coming-of-age drama along with a bunch of talented actresses like Ratna Pathak Shah, Dia Mirza, and Sanjana Sanghi featuring with her. It is to be noted that that 'Dhak Dhak' is the maiden production of actress Taapsee Paanu. The film will bring a never-seen-

before story of four women, all different from each other, and daring to ride bikes to world's highest motorable road, the Khardungla Pass. The film stars Fatima Sana Shaikh, Ratna Pathak, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi in lead roles.

Apart from 'Dhak Dhak', Fatima has interesting films in her future line. She will be next seen in Sam Bahadur and 'Metro.. In Dino'.

vibe task with Mannara. She says she gets vamp vibe from Khanzadi, toxic vibe from Anurag, Aww vibe from Navid and fake vibe from Ankita. Ankita and Mannara get into an argument and the former asks her to stop talking to her. Ankita confronts Vicky for manipulating her and asks him to give her space. Arun, Anurag and Sunny decide to ruin Bigg Boss property to revenge other team. Bigg Boss gives a task to

Emmy Nominated  
Actress Shefali

Shefali Shah is one of the most prolific actresses in Bollywood and holds a distinct charm, grabbing the spotlight in every project she appears in. Having delivered rock-solid performances in The Human, Jalsa, Doctor G, Dalings and many more, the actress has been nominated for an Emmy Award for her exceptional performance in Delhi Crime this year and she is now gearing up for the release of her upcoming film, 'Three Of Us' which is releasing in cinemas on this Friday, November 3rd. The film presents Shefali Shah in the character of Shailja, and the recently released trailer has received an extremely positive response and audiences cannot wait to see Shefali in this new avatar of hers.

Prior to the theatrical release, did you know that the film "Three Of Us" has already made waves in some of the prominent film festivals and one of them is the Indo German Film Festival. The film has been screened in the festival and has received unanimous response and Shefali Shah won the Best Actress Award for her nuanced performance in the film "Three Of Us".

The film 3 Of Us presents Shefali Shah in a completely different role, and this is purely the result of her outstanding talent that has made her won this prestigious award for Best Actress.

Be it the theatrical medium or the digital platform, Shefali booms every platform with her exceptional talent in which she works.

## Ritesh Sidhwani, Farhan Akhtar Organise Grand Success Party For Bambai Meri Jaan



to celebrate the success of the show. The success party was attended by the producers of the show, Farhan Akhtar, Ritesh Sidhwani, cast Avinash Tiwary, Kritika Kamra, Vivian Bhatena, director Shujaat Saudagar, and Rensil D'Silva, amongst others. Excel Entertainment, which was co-founded by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar, has time and again served the audience with several blockbuster films such as 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara', 'Dil Chahta Hai', and many more.

widely acclaimed from every corner, with fans and audiences praising the content and the performances of the cast. Following the massive success of the show, Excel Entertainment reported organizing a grand success party

# Promoting Inclusive Education for Migrants and Refugees



Protecting the right to education for migrants and refugees, regardless of their identification documents or residence status, is a crucial moral and legal imperative in today's interconnected world. Discriminatory barriers, explicitly prohibited by international legal and political agreements, must be eradicated through unequivocal legal measures. Furthermore, governments should take proactive steps to ensure that migrant and displaced families are aware of their rights and provided with information on registering and progressing in school. Timely access to education is essential to minimize the duration children spend out of school to no more than three months. Therefore, it is imperative to include displaced people in national education systems, allocate

sufficient resources, and address the unique challenges faced by migrants and refugees. Eliminating Discriminatory Barriers

Discriminatory barriers to education should have no place in any society. International agreements have unequivocally condemned discrimination based on nationality or residence status, and these principles should be enshrined in national law. Regulations must be drafted precisely, leaving no room for misinterpretation or arbitrary decisions by individual officers. Legal frameworks must protect the right to education for all, irrespective of immigration or refugee status. The objective is to provide equal opportunities to every child, fostering social cohesion and preventing marginalization.

Raising Awareness and Minimising Educational Disruption

Awareness is the first step toward ensuring the right to education for migrants and displaced families. Authorities should actively disseminate information about

registration procedures, available resources, and the importance of education. This can help dispel misinformation and fears that often hinder enrollment.

Besides, minimizing the time spent away from studying is crucial. The aim should be to have children out of school for up to three months. This requires streamlined registration processes and support mechanisms to address language barriers, cultural differences, and the trauma often experienced by displaced children. Schools should offer counselling services to help students and their families cope with the emotional challenges of migration and displacement.

Inclusion in National Education Systems

A cornerstone of ensuring the right to education for migrants and refugees is their inclusion in national education systems. This inclusion should be achieved through multiyear education sector planning with adequate budgetary provisions. Given that most displaced people are hosted in low or middle-income countries, wealthier

nations should step up and provide the necessary financial and technical support to ensure accessible education within a few months of displacement.

While exceptional circumstances may temporarily hinder full inclusion, governments must work diligently to minimize the time spent in schools that do not follow the national curriculum or do not lead to recognized certificates. This is essential to safeguard the educational trajectories of migrant and displaced children, ensuring that their learning is not compromised.

Supporting Education in Humanitarian and Development Aid

Nine out of 10 refugees find refuge in low and middle-income countries that often lack the resources to provide adequate education services. Meeting the educational needs of migrants and displaced individuals necessitates a significant increase in the allocation of resources. Education's share of humanitarian aid should be raised substantially to meet these requirements.

## Prof (Dr.) S N Tripathy

However, humanitarian aid alone cannot suffice. There is a pressing need for humanitarian and development donors to coordinate efforts. Education should be integral to a broader package of solutions, including shelter, nutrition, water, sanitation, and social protection. This comprehensive approach recognizes that education enhances individual lives and contributes to social stability and economic development.

Mitigating Educational Disparities in Slum Settings

Migrants in slum settings often face disproportionately fewer educational opportunities. The out-of-school rate of primary and secondary school-age children in slums can be significantly higher than in other urban areas. Therefore, public authorities must prioritize public education in slum settings and ensure that schools are easily accessible to these marginalized communities.

Seasonal employers, such as construction and agricultural companies, should

collaborate with governments and NGOs to guarantee that education is provided to children of seasonal migrant workers. This includes developing strategies to accommodate the mobility of these populations while ensuring that educational progress is not disrupted.

**Bridging Language Barriers and Cultural Adaptation**

Providing school places for migrants and refugees is just the beginning. Schools must adapt to and support their diverse student populations' unique needs. Many migrants may find themselves in an educational environment with a language of instruction different from their mother tongue. In such cases, bridging programs with qualified teachers are essential to help students gain proficiency in the new language.

Language proficiency is essential for academic progress and socialization, relationship-building, and a sense of belonging. A lack of proficiency can increase the risk of discrimination, bullying, and low self-esteem among migrant

students. Therefore, inclusive education must prioritize language acquisition and cultural adaptation.

### Conclusion

The plight of migrants and refugees is a global humanitarian concern, and addressing their unique challenges is paramount. At the heart of this endeavour lies the provision of education. Education is not merely a privilege; it is a fundamental right that can be the key to rebuilding lives shattered by conflict, persecution, or displacement.

By affording migrants and refugees access to quality education, we empower them to overcome adversity and contribute positively to the societies they join. Governments, international organizations, and donors must prioritize inclusive policies that make education accessible to displaced populations. This entails investing in language programs, bridging curricula, and creating safe, welcoming learning environments. When we enable access to education, we foster a sense of belonging and self-reliance, reducing the vulnerabilities faced by migrants and

refugees. Moreover, we unlock the potential of a diverse talent pool, fostering innovation and cultural enrichment in host societies.

In championing the right to education for migrants and refugees, we not only stand up for human dignity but also foster harmonious, inclusive communities where every individual's potential can flourish. It is our collective responsibility to pave the way for a brighter future for all, and education is the bridge that leads the way. Ensuring the right to education for migrants and refugees is a moral and legal imperative that all nations should uphold. Discriminatory barriers must be dismantled, and inclusive policies should be enacted to protect the educational rights of all, regardless of their immigration status. This includes mitigating educational disruption, supporting displaced individuals, and fostering their inclusion in national education systems.

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

## Now Christians-Muslims also celebrate Diwali



become the festival of even Christians. Meanwhile, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) campus is also gearing up for Diwali festivities. Like in the past, major buildings of JMI would be lit for Diwali. JMI is always decked up for the festival of light. A JMI official says that even though JMI is grappling with several issues, still some buildings would be decked like a bridge on Diwali.

Even Gol Masjid just couple of minutes away from India Gate

is also gearing up for Diwali illumination. It was very respected Islamic scholar and Imam of Gol Masjid, Maulana Jameel Ahmad who had started putting diyas outside the Gol Masjid around forty years ago. Later, Maulana's son, Maulana Omer Ilyasi, the champion of Inter-faith dialogue has continued the legacy of his late father. "If I am a Muslim, it does not stop me to celebrate Diwali. When my Hindu friends celebrate Eid with me, why we should not celebrate Diwali with them," Maulana Omer argues forcefully.

Even the Delhi Brotherhood Society (DBS) would also

illuminate their Brothers House in national capital. It was started in 1877 based upon the vision of Bishop Westcott, initially under the title of the Cambridge Mission. Westcott's vision was for an Anglican community of celibate brothers from Cambridge University to set down roots in India. The venerable St. Stephen's College and many other schools and colleges were established by the Delhi Brotherhood Society.

Brother Solomon George, member of the Delhi Brotherhood Society, says, "The nation is in a festive mood. We are also celebrating Diwali with our Hindu friends, colleagues and countrymen. In our several projects across India, many Hindus work. We celebrate Diwali with them," adding, "As Charismas has become an Indian festival which is celebrated even by Hindus, Christian celebrates Diwali."

And while talking about Diwali and Delhi Brotherhood Society, it may be mentioned here that close friend of Gandhi ji, Charles Freer Andrews was an

Anglican priest and member of Delhi Brotherhood society. He was an educator and an activist for Indian independence

### Vivek Shukla

has been decorated with diyas on every Diwali since long.

A massive show of lights, colours, and decorations



movement. He became a close friend both Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi and identified with the Indian liberation struggle.

If you go to Mumbai, you would see the lighting up of Haji Ali Dargah. Same is true for the Hazrat Nizamuddin Dargah in Delhi. Both are very venerable places and thousand people visit there. Of course, Muslims are very much a part of Diwali celebrations of this nation. The dargah of Baba Hazrat Maqbool Hussein Madani near Shanivar Wada, Pune,

accompanies Diwali. It represents the triumph of light over darkness, goodness over evil, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair ideologies that form the basis of every Indian family's moral principles. Festivals seek to bring together people from all backgrounds in joy and celebration. From donning new clothes to lighting diyas, every tradition has its own significance.

Lighting diyas is one of the important Hindu traditions and is considered auspicious as they are meant to

protect against bad spirits and negative energies and symbolise kindness and purity.

Meanwhile, Muslims have been celebrating Diwali since ages. It is

cooked delicacies in the Mughal court for the occasion. The ghevar, petha, kheer, peda, jalebi, phirni and shahitukda became part of the celebratory thali that welcomed guests to the palace for Diwali celebrations.

On Diwali in Akbar's court, the Ramayana was read, followed by a play depicting Lord Ram's return to Ayodhya. This tradition strengthened Akbar's empire, (noted by his biographer Abu'lFazl in Ain-i-Akbari), as it helped the king bond better with his Hindu subjects, and encouraged many Muslim merchants to take part in the festivities.

Finally, Diwali is also a major religious festival in Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism, lasting for five days from the 13th day of the dark half of the lunar month Ashvin to the second day of the light half of the lunar month Karttika. The name is derived from the

Sanskrit term dipavali, meaning "row of lights." The festival generally symbolizes the victory of light over darkness. The Jains celebrate Diwali to mark the spiritual awakening of their Lord Mahavira, marking the enlightenment of mankind from darkness. As far as Sikhs are concerned, they celebrate Diwali to commemorate the return of their young spiritual leader Guru Hargobind, the sixth guru to the holy city of Amritsar on release from wrongful imprisonment symbolising understanding & common goals. Some Buddhists also celebrate the festival to honour their Emperor Ashoka's decision to convert to Buddhism and follow a path of peace and enlightenment. Says Maqsood Ahmed, a teacher in famous Anglo Arabic School, Delhi, "I feel honoured that we celebrate so many festivals in India. I love to celebrate Diwali, Eid and Holi with my family and friends." Ends.

**The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor**

# India-Canada Ties In 'Deep Crisis, Its Worst Ever': Experts

**New Delhi:** Mending frayed diplomatic relations between India and Canada will be a long process after each side adopted maximalist positions, despite New Delhi's surprise move to ease some visa curbs on Canadians, officials and experts say. India recently decided to partially restore visa services, weeks after suspending them in anger at Ottawa's claim that Indian agents may have been involved in the murder of a Khalistani terrorist from Punjab. Mutual recriminations since that accusation, which India strongly denies, have strained ties between the two countries - close for almost a century and with extensive links through the Sikh community - to their worst in memory. And while India's relaxation on visas may have raised some expectations of improved relations, it was not a breakthrough, as neither side has much incentive to hasten a return to normalcy, officials and experts in both countries said.

Neither New Delhi nor Ottawa looks likely to take dramatic steps to reconcile soon as Canada's murder investigation proceeds and Prime Minister Narendra Modi prepares for Indian national elections by May. "The relationship is in deep crisis, perhaps its worst ever," said Michael Kugelman, director of



the South Asia Institute at the Wilson Center in Washington. "Each side may have a strong interest in the crisis not getting completely out of control, but that doesn't mean there are strong incentives to resolve the crisis."

Ajay Bisaria, India's ambassador to Canada from 2020 to 2022, said the relationship is in a "de-escalation phase" following "quiet diplomacy". Even with the reprieve, the visa curbs are expected to hinder the movement of tens of thousands of Indians and people of Indian origin who live in Canada or plan to study there.

Although both governments have spared business and trade links, the acrimony has delayed discussions on a free-trade deal and threatens Group of Seven member Canada's Indo-Pacific plans, where New Delhi is critical to efforts to check an increasingly

assertive China. On Sept. 18 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian government agents to the June killing in a Vancouver suburb of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, 45, who had advocated the fringe position seeking to carve an independent Sikh homeland of Khalistan out of India. Canada expelled India's intelligence chief in Ottawa. India quickly responded by halting 13 categories of visas for Canadians and cutting Canada's diplomatic presence in India, a move Ottawa said violated the Vienna Conventions. Then on Oct. 25, New Delhi said it would resume issuing visas under four categories, a measure Indian officials said aims to help people of Indian origin travel to India during the wedding season beginning this month.

"This is not a thaw," an Indian foreign ministry official told Reuters. "People can read whatever they want into it." Ottawa triggered the crisis and must take the first step towards climbing down from its position, another official said. A senior Canadian government source said that while Ottawa's ultimate goal was to return to where things were, unpredictability in coming months over the murder investigation and trial, as well as India's elections, could interfere. "This is a difficult moment, but Canada is not abandoning its Indo-Pacific strategy," the source said. Officials in India and Canada spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorised to speak on the subject. The Indian foreign ministry did not respond to a request for comment.

Canada's foreign ministry pointed to comments made by Foreign Minister Melanie Jolie on Oct. 30. "We have a long-term approach when it comes to India because this is a relationship that has spanned decades, and we all know that we have very strong people-to-people ties with the country," Jolie said, adding she continued to talk to her Indian counterpart.

Canada has the largest Sikh population outside Punjab, with 770,000 people reporting Sikhism as their religion in the 2021 census. India is by far Canada's largest source of foreign students, accounting for 40% of study permit holders - a vital source for Canada's fast-growing international education business, contributing over C\$20 billion (\$15 billion) to the economy annually. India-Canada tensions over Sikh separatism have haunted the relationship since the 1980s. PM Modi, who heads a Hindu-nationalist party and cultivates a strongman image, is unlikely to be seen backing down, especially before the elections.

Despite the "modest de-escalation" over visas, Kugelman said most of the retaliatory measures remain "and there's still a lot of anger on both sides. So we shouldn't overstate the de-escalatory potential here".

**Kolkata**(Saikat Kumar Basu): CMRI hosted a remarkable Mid-Term CME on Hand Surgery in collaboration with Plastic Surgeons of West Bengal at the CMRI Auditorium today, featuring the presence of Dr. Anupam Golash, a distinguished plastic surgeon from CMRI Hospital, along with renowned speakers, Dr. G. Karthikeyan from Government Kilpauk Medical College & Stanley Hospital, Chennai, and Dr. Hari Venkataramani from Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore.

CMRI Kolkata's unit head, had the honor of felicitating the esteemed guest speakers and commended Dr. Anupam Golash for his pivotal role in organizing this prestigious conference in the Eastern region.



Additionally, Mr. Roy proudly announced CMRI's recognition as a leading center for plastic surgeries, a testament to Dr. Anupam Golash's exceptional leadership and the remarkable work accomplished at CMRI.

## Arvind Kejriwal To "Work From Jail" If Arrested? What AAP Said

**New Delhi**(KCN): The Aam Aadmi Party has said it will seek the court's permission to have Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal working from jail in case he is arrested by the Enforcement Directorate. At a meeting today, the party MLAs have told Mr Kejriwal that even if the Central agency arrests him, he should run the government from jail.

"We will go to court and seek permission to hold the cabinet meeting in the jail itself," she added.

Mr Kejriwal was summoned for questioning by the Enforcement Directorate, which is probing the alleged money laundering angle in the liquor scam, on November 2. He skipped the questioning, and predicted that he would be arrested soon. He has earlier been questioned by the Central Bureau of

even if he goes to jail, he should remain the CM. The people of Delhi have elected him as CM and he should remain the CM," said Delhi minister Atishi. "We will go to court and seek permission to hold the cabinet meeting in the jail itself," she added. Mr Kejriwal was summoned for questioning by the Enforcement Directorate, which is probing the alleged money laundering angle in the liquor scam, on November 2. He skipped the questioning, and predicted that he would be arrested soon. He has earlier been questioned by the Central Bureau of

Investigation or CBI. Mr Kejriwal's former Deputy, Manish Sisodia, had stepped down from the cabinet post after his arrest in February. He is still in jail. Last week, the Supreme Court turned down his bail petition, saying tentative evidence has been established by the investigating agencies. In a 41-page order, the court accepted the argument of the CBI that there is a "carefully hatched conspiracy" to ensure that a select few make windfall gains. The policy "facilitated getting bribes" from wholesale distributors who are "assured of exorbitant profits".

# "Until We Win": Israel Steps Up Assault, Says Gaza Strip "Cut Into Two"



**New Delhi:** Tel Aviv, Israel: Israel said Sunday it was pounding Gaza with "significant" strikes after cutting it in two, as America's top diplomat pressed a Middle East tour focused on humanitarian aid for the Palestinians. Israeli forces "have encircled Gaza City... Now there exists a south Gaza and a north Gaza," army spokesman Daniel Hagari said.

He spoke after US Secretary of State visited the occupied West Bank, Iraq and Cyprus Sunday on a whirlwind tour with the focus on aid for beleaguered civilians in Gaza and preventing attacks by Iran-backed groups on American troops in response to Israel's Gaza war.

Blinken met Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas who denounced what he called "genocide" in Gaza, where the health ministry in the Hamas-run territory said at least 9,770 people, mostly civilians, had been killed in more than four weeks of war.

With the telecommunications in Gaza cut for a third time, Washington rebuffed calls for a ceasefire and backed Israel's goal of crushing Hamas who staged the worst attack in

the country's history on October 7, killing more than 1,400 people, also mostly civilians, and taking over 240 hostages, according to Israeli officials.

Global concern has soared over the spiralling Gaza death toll, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu again vowed that "there won't be a ceasefire until the hostages are returned".

"Let them remove this from their lexicon. We are saying this to our enemies and to our friends," the veteran right-wing premier said after meeting troops at an air force base.

"We will simply continue until we win. We have no alternative." Soldiers engaged in house-to-house combat on Sunday as tanks and armoured bulldozers churned through the sand in footage released by the army.

"This strike is like an earthquake," Gaza City resident Alaa Abu Hasera said in a devastated area where entire blocks have been reduced to rubble.

Blinken, in his talks with Abbas, said Palestinians in Gaza "must not be forcibly displaced", a US State Department spokesman said.

Israel has distributed

leaflets and sent text messages urging Palestinian civilians in northern Gaza to head south, but a US official said Saturday at least 350,000 civilians remained in what is now an urban war zone. Abbas denounced "the genocide and destruction suffered by our Palestinian people in Gaza at the hands of Israel's war machine, with no regard for the principles of international law," the official Palestinian news agency Wafa said. "Stop extremist violence" Israel has relentlessly pounded Gaza in its battle to destroy Hamas, levelling entire city blocks.

"Right now, parents in Gaza do not know whether they can feed their children today and

whether they will even survive to see tomorrow," said Cindy McCain, head of the World Food Programme. Blinken last week told a Senate hearing Abbas's Palestinian Authority (PA) should retake control of Gaza after the war. It currently exercises only limited autonomy in parts of the West Bank and Netanyahu has long sought to sideline it.

Abbas said Sunday the PA could return to power in Gaza in the future only if a "comprehensive political solution" is found for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Washington has said it backs a Palestinian state alongside Israel, but Netanyahu's hard-right government has been implacably opposed.

The war has exacerbated

tensions in the West Bank, where more than 150 Palestinians have been killed in clashes with Israeli forces and in settler attacks, according to the Palestinian health ministry.

Blinken and Abbas discussed "the need to stop extremist violence against Palestinians" in the West Bank, the State Department said.

Since Israel sent ground forces into the north of Gaza late last month, "over 2,500 terror targets have been struck" by "ground, air and naval forces", the army said Sunday.

Phone and internet connections were down for the third time during the war, according to Paltel, the last remaining major operator.

Shortly after the blackout, the Israeli army launched

its intense bombardment on Gaza City and other nearby zones in the territory's north.

Some explosions were so powerful they could be heard in Rafah in the far south, an AFP journalist said.

Hamas said Israel was carrying out "intense bombings" around several hospitals in northern Gaza.

Images showed civilians heading south away from the fighting, though military spokesman Hagari told foreign reporters Hamas was using roadblocks to try to prevent them from fleeing.

"We saw dead bodies in the streets," Suhad Zorob said as she fled south. "We saw the tanks... only one street away from us."

The Gaza health ministry said Israeli bombing of Al-Maghazi refugee camp late Saturday killed 45 people, with an eyewitness reporting children dead and homes smashed.

"An Israeli air strike targeted my neighbours' house in Al-Maghazi camp, my house next door partially collapsed," said Mohammed Alaloul, 37, a journalist working for the Turkish Anadolu Agency.

He told AFP the bombing killed four of his children, four of his brothers and

several of his nieces and nephews.

The Israeli military has said it is looking into

whether its forces were operating in the area at the time of the bombing.

Blinken faced a rising tide of anger in meetings with Arab foreign ministers in Jordan on Saturday, where he reaffirmed US support for "humanitarian pauses" rather than a ceasefire.

The new US ambassador to Israel, Jack Lew, said Sunday the October 7 Hamas attack was "a stain on humanity that cannot happen again".

After visiting the West Bank, Blinken made a brief stop in Cyprus, the nearest EU member state, which has said it is

working towards establishing a maritime corridor for aid to Gaza. He then flew to Baghdad and met Prime Minister Mohamed Shia al-Sudani.

"I made very clear that attacks or threats coming from militias that are aligned with Iran are totally unacceptable," Blinken said in Baghdad. Later Blinken was

expected in Turkey, whose President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has held Netanyahu personally responsible for Gaza's growing civilian death count.

Turkey on Saturday said

it was recalling its ambassador to Israel and breaking off contacts with Netanyahu.

International concern mounted over the suffering.

French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna, visiting Qatar, called for "an immediate, durable and observed humanitarian truce" that could "lead to a ceasefire".

Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry of Egypt, which has been acting as the sole conduit for foreigners to escape Gaza and for aid to get in, on Saturday called for an "immediate and comprehensive ceasefire".

That call was echoed by thousands of protesters in Washington in solidarity with Palestinians, one of multiple rallies held from Indonesia to Iran, as well as in European cities. Thousands also demonstrated in Israel on Saturday as pressure mounts on Netanyahu over his government's lack of preparedness for the October 7 attacks and its handling of the hostage crisis.

Hundreds outside Netanyahu's Jerusalem residence calling on him to resign, while in Tel Aviv relatives and friends of some of the hostages chanted "bring them home now".

# WE NEED TO MAKE CONSCIOUS DECISIONS TO SHIFT AWAY FROM THOSE FOODS THAT ADD TO THE PROBLEM OF CLIMATE CHANGE: PRESIDENT MURMU

**New Delhi (KCN):** The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the valedictory session of the World Food India 2023 in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, the President appreciated the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for organising the second edition of World Food India. She said that WFI will go a long way in making the rich Indian food culture more familiar to the world. This will also prove to be a great platform for micro, small and medium enterprises in this sector to better align themselves with larger domestic and global

players. The President said that WFI has the potential to help India become a kitchen to the world. The event is also an ideal platform to showcase India as a sourcing hub for agricultural and food commodities. She expressed confidence that the investor community must have found immense opportunities in our food processing and allied sectors.

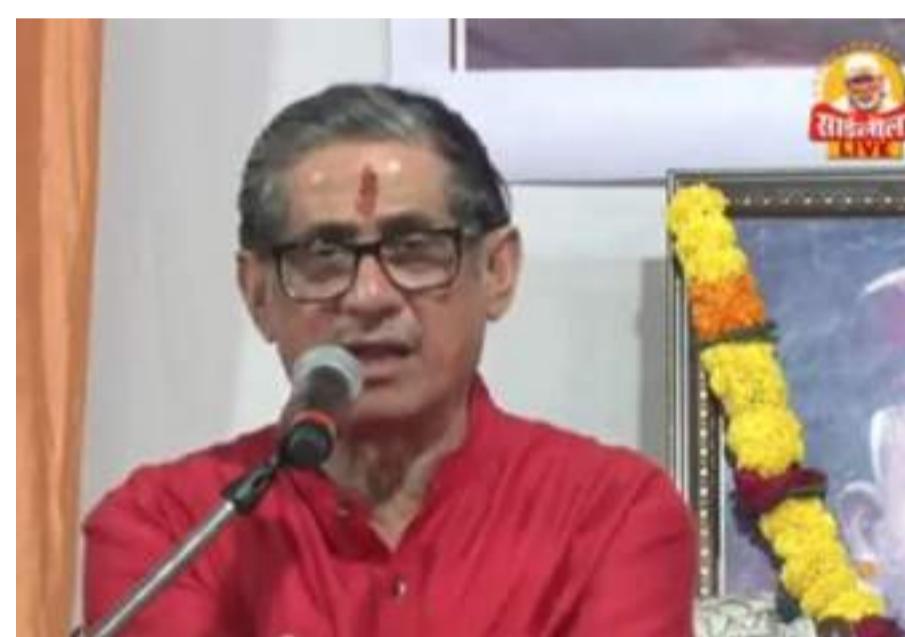
The President said that food is a defining characteristic of humankind. The shift from foraging to agriculture and from raw food to cooked food was



## Guruji Mantra On Sadguru

**Mumbai (KCN):** Guru Samaprn Divas was observed here on 4 November by the Shri Kaka Saheb Dixit Trust of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba. This annual event is dedicated to remembering the first divine encounter of Shri Kaka Saheb Dixit with Shri Shirdi Sai Baba on November 2, 1909 as per the advice of Gurujee Chandra Bhanu Satpathy.

Kaka Saheb alias Hari Sitaram Dixit, a revered figure among devotees of Baba, was a prominent lawyer of his time, known for his impeccable reputation. His life took a profound turn when he visited Shirdi for the first time on that fateful day in 1909. Overwhelmed by the divine presence of Shri Sai Baba, he prayed for mental peace and wholeheartedly surrendered himself at the feet of Saibaba. In remembrance of this sacred moment, Guru Samarpn Divas is observed each year. Addressing the devotees and faithful Gurujee Dr. Satpathy, emphasized the



incredible power of a sadguru in attracting and guiding devotees. He highlighted how Shri Kaka Saheb Dixit, along with others, was drawn to Shri Sai Baba, ultimately becoming instruments for greater societal welfare. Dr. Satpathy reflected, "A sadguru has the power to pull devotees, just as Shri Kaka Saheb Dixit was drawn, signifying the Sadguru's ability to inspire and shape their devotees. They are instruments for calling, training, and using devotees for the

betterment of society. Sadgurus possess an innate knowledge of the human soul." He also acknowledged the spiritual richness of Maharashtra, blessed with numerous Sadgurus. The event was a vibrant fusion of cultural performances and spiritual devotion. Venkatesh Inamdar presented a detailed overview of the trust's multifaceted initiatives. Students of Nalanda Natya Mahavidyalaya, guided by Vaidehi Rele Lal, enthralled the

### Puri temple Ratna Bhandar: Odisha told to form panel

**Puri (KCN):** The Orissa High Court Friday directed the state government to form a high-level committee, if approached by the Shree Jagannath Temple Managing Committee to supervise the process of inventory of the valuables including jewellers stored in the Ratna Bhandar (treasure house) of Puri Jagannath Temple. Odisha's economy to grow at 7.8% in 2022-23, higher than national growth... The SJTMC, headed by Puri royal scion Dibyasingha Deb, looks after the administration and governance of the 12th century shrine. "Such committee be constituted by the government within a period of sixty days from the date when the SJTMC will approach them" the court said.

## Singh Deo Connects People

**Bolangir (KCN):** Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Veteran Ananga Udaya Singh Deo has said that under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Odisha is moving forward towards transformation.

Shri Singh Deo was leading Jana Sampark Yatra of Governing BJD here at District headquarters.

Shri Singh Deo along with leaders of BJD organized the People Connect Program he and said transformation of the State has enhanced the self confidence of the people.

Shri Singh Deo said that Food Security, Disaster Management providing irrigation and farmers' empowerment has turned out as 'Model' for other states.

Former Minister said 70 lakh women SHG has empowered the women and helped them to improve their economic level.



Shri Singh Deo said that the BJD Government is working for the development and empowerment of women, poor, youth and SC & ST communities. He said the State Government's Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) has brought a revolution in the healthcare sector. It has enhanced the expectation of people from the system. The Government's school transformation program has helped to bridge the gap between government and private schools, he added.

The BJD Veteran urged his party leaders and workers to spread the message of development to every household in the district, so that common men and women will be aware about such positive development.

He slammed the opposition for spreading lies and misleading the people of the district. Former MP Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, BJD Leader Aarkesh Narayan Singh Deo have sent messages for the workers to scale up the Peoples' Connect Program in a big way across the district.

the beginning of civilisation. Food is invariably the cornerstone of any culture. Moreover, just as food helps forge bonds among strangers, it has been food that has historically brought different cultures closer. The President said that food remains one of the basic necessities of life for every human being. It is distressing indeed to realise that a substantial number of human beings go to bed on an empty stomach in many parts of the world. This puts a strain on the great economic and technological progress humankind has achieved.

She underlined that the large-scale prevalence of hunger is not due to the lack of production, but due to the lack of distribution. Pointing out the environmental costs of what we eat, the President said that the time has come when we have to choose our menu in a way that avoids any harm to nature. We need to make conscious decisions to shift away from those foods that add to the problem of climate change and to shift towards the ones that are good for not only our health but also for the health of the planet, she added.

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# Odisha Government Announces Ground Breaking Subsidy Scheme at Global Stainless-Steel Expo 2023

**Bhubaneswar:** The Odisha Government has unveiled an ambitious Special Subsidy Scheme to boost the stainless-steel Industry within the state. This momentous announcement was made during the inauguration of the Global Stainless-Steel Expo 2023 (GSSE 2023) in Mumbai, further solidifying Odisha's commitment to becoming the 'Stainless Steel destination' for the world.

The GSSE 2023 event, was inaugurated by esteemed dignitaries including Shri. Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries, Government of Odisha; Mr. Abhyuday Jindal, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless Ltd.; Dr.

Aruna Sharma, GSSE Steering Committee Member and Former Secretary, Ministry of Steel; and Ms. Anitha Raghunath, Director, Virgo Communications and Exhibitions.

In his inaugural address, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, Mr. Abhyuday Jindal said, "It won't be an exaggeration to say that stainless steel is omnipresent, and even for a big event like the G20, stainless steel adorned the roads. Be it the art installations in Lutyens Delhi or the security barriers, stainless steel made its presence felt. It was a historic moment to witness stainless steel reach the moon when the Chandrayaan-3 made a



soft landing on the lunar surface recently." He also touched upon the industrial park in Odisha by his company, and said it is the first-ever stainless steel Industrial park in India with the vision to strengthen the industry.

A special report on stainless steel titled 'India's Amritkal' by SteelMint was unveiled at the event. According to the report, the stainless-steel industry struggled to regain equilibrium due

to the lingering impact of weakened global and domestic demand. This demand contraction reverberated throughout global melt-shop production, with the first quarter of CY23

## RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

**Mumbai:** RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA's toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL's toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building toy manufacturing in India.

Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started its India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market.

"Keeping with our

honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar India, this collaboration with Plastic Legno's deep experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets," said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited.

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand - Rowan, making RBL one of the leading

toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India's largest chain of toy stores.

"We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno's experience in Toys production and Hamley's commercial outreach, will complement one another to enable the JV Company to achieve greater heights and successes. We have important development plans to implement, always in the spirit of creating a cultural background in this specific sector in India. We are ready for the challenges of the future, but when there is a group like RBL alongside, we are sure that together we can do a great development," said Paolo Sunino, Co-owner, Sunino Group.

Aditya Birla Group formally launches TMRW - a Digital First 'House of Brands' venture in the Fashion & Lifestyle space

will set-up a nimble and agile founding team with the right skill sets and capabilities. Prashanth comes with extensive experience in Digital & Technology across strategy, growth and investing. He also brings to the fore rich entrepreneurial experience in helping build and scale new age ventures in Digital & E-Commerce.

Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL said, "The formal launch of our D2C business, TMRW, is a key milestone for the company. This venture has the potential to become a significant growth engine by tapping into the new wave of entrepreneurial energy in India. Our aspiration is to build a portfolio of 30+ brands in the next 3 years. With the launch of this venture, we intend to double down on our ongoing program of strategically attracting new pools of capital that are seeking investment in high-growth businesses. We are confident that this

foray will successfully

meet the aspirations of digitally native consumers and also create long-term value for investors and other stakeholders."

Prashanth Aluru, CEO and Co-Founder, TMRW said, "I am excited to embark on this journey to build TMRW - a long-term enduring platform that will be home to the leading disruptor brands that provide the new age digitally savvy consumer what she is looking for across Fashion & Lifestyle. With the backing of the Aditya Birla Group and the right profile of long-term investors we will bring in, we are confident of powering the growth of several brands that shape the next phase of digital commerce growth till 2030 and beyond. With a new age Digital first DNA, at TMRW, we will jointly create an ecosystem of the most-loved disruptor brands partnering closely with highly competent founders."

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

premium two-wheeler

sales grew from 154,416 units in May 2021 to 287,058 units in May 2022. Domestic two-wheeler sales grew from 52,084 units in May 2021 to 191,482 units in May 2022.

Motorcycle sales grew from 125,188 units in May 2021 to 148,560 units in May 2022. Scooter sales of the Company grew from 19,627 units in May 2021 to 100,665 units in May 2022.

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

total exports registered sales of 110,245 units in May 2022 as against 114,674 units in May 2021. Two-wheeler exports recorded sales of 95,576 units in May 2022 as against 102,332 units in May 2021.

Three-wheeler of the Company grew by 28% from 12,473 units in May 2021 to 15,924 units in May 2022.

The domestic two-wheeler sales include TVS iQube Electric sales of 2,637 units in May 2022.

## HINDI DIWAS OBSERVED AT ECoR:

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** East Coast Railway has observed Hindi Diwas at its headquarters in Bhubaneswar and its three Divisions at Waltair, Khurda Road, and Sambalpur.

To mark the occasion, the staff and officers of ECoR, led by its General Manager Shri



Manoj Sharma, took an oath to promote Hindi. Hindi Diwas is

witnessing a 5% year-on-year decline to 13.66 million tonnes (mnt). China led this dip with 8.27 mnt. The report also underlined that the Indian Stainless-Steel industry quickly recovered by FY23, reaching about 3.5 mnt. Looking forward, SteelMint's forecasts are intriguing, estimating demand to rise to 4.5 mnt by FY25.

Shri Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries, Government of Odisha quoted Odisha (Orissa), is making significant contributions to the stainless-steel sector and the minerals sector. Being the largest

producer of iron ore and bauxite in India is indeed a noteworthy achievement. Odisha's status as the largest producer of iron ore and bauxite showcases its rich mineral resources. This positions the state as a critical player in the raw materials supply chain for various industries, including steel and aluminium.

He announced Jindal Stainless steel Plant is a massive 1.2 MTPA stainless steel plant and proposed plant expansion to 3.2 MTPA by Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL) in Odisha is a game-changer. This

investment represents a substantial commitment to the stainless-steel sector in the state and will likely contribute to its growth and prominence in the industry.

"The demand for stainless steel in India is expected to grow at an average of 9 to 10 per cent per annum over the next few financial years, doubling the growth rate of 4.5 per cent in the last five financial years," said Ms. Anitha Raghunath, Director of Virgo Communications and Exhibitions, the organizer of the GSSE Expo.

## Stryker Launches Campaign During World Stroke Week to Raise Awareness in Bhubaneshwar



**Bhubaneshwar(KCN):**

Stryker, a global leader in medical technology, has launched an awareness campaign in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, during World Stroke Week to highlight stroke as a leading cause of disability in India and promote prevention and improved treatment options.

Through this initiative, Stryker aims to unite individuals, healthcare professionals, and policymakers in the fight against stroke to save lives and enhance the quality of life for survivors.

Stryker is closely working with various stakeholders on the public health emergency related to stroke.

The Company's total exports registered sales of 110,245 units in May 2022 as against 114,674 units in May 2021. Two-wheeler exports recorded sales of 95,576 units in May 2022 as against 102,332 units in May 2021.

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significantly reduced with the right and timely administration of already available treatments and through better awareness about the issue. A panel discussion comprising of Dr. Somnath Jena, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery and Neurointervention, HOD-Dept. of Neurosurgery, SUM Ultimate Medicare and Dr S Mohanty- Director Medical Education & Training Odisha was organised. During the discussion, Dr. Somnath Jena, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery and Neurointervention, HOD-Deptt. of Neurosurgery, SUM Ultimate Medicare, addressed challenges faced by stroke survivors, including physical and communication disabilities, cognitive changes, work and income loss, and caregiver burden. He emphasized the growing stroke epidemic in India, particularly in the northeastern states, where stroke is the leading cause of death. Dr. Jena also discussed available treatments, such as intravenous tissue plasminogen activator (IV-tPA) and mechanical thrombectomy. He highlighted the effectiveness of mechanical thrombectomy, which can be administered up to 24 hours after symptom onset and, when combined with IV-tPA, has shown significant efficacy in terms of functional independence at 90 days. The latest guidelines for stroke prevention and management released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare highlight the technological breakthrough in clot removal in ischemic stroke through mechanical thrombectomy. Over the past five decades, the incidence of stroke has doubled, with approximately 87% of ischemic stroke cases and 13% haemorrhagic stroke cases. \*India witnesses around 17 lakh new stroke cases each year, resulting in a projected annual economic loss estimated at ₹2.34 trillion. Despite a 50% increase in stroke prevalence from 1990 to 2019, stroke has not received the attention it urgently requires from the government.

year to promote the culture and heritage of Hindi and the importance of the language in our culture.

Mukhya Rajbhasha Adhikari and Principal Chief Electrical Engineer Shri Alok Sahay coordinated the programme.

# Walter believes 'outskilled' SA can still turn the tables on India

**New Delhi:** Rob Walter brings many attributes to his position as South Africa's head coach. An oversized ego is not among them, which helps when you're lumped with explaining a record defeat. There was no better candidate to do so in the wake of India's thundering 243-run win in a men's World Cup match at Eden Gardens on Sunday. The game was a top-of-table clash between teams who had lost only one of their combined 14 matches in the tournament. But there was just one side in it throughout as India piled up 326/5 with Virat Kohli scoring 101 not out to equal Sachin Tendulkar's ODI world record of 49 centuries. Then Ravindra Jadeja took 5/33 as South Africa crashed to 83 all out in 27.1 overs to seal their

heaviest ever loss by runs in the format. India made more runs in their powerplay - 91 - than the South Africans in their entire innings. How had things gone so badly wrong? "Good question and an understate m e n t altogether," Walter said. "It was just a day where we were outskilled. They got off to a flyer and we pulled it back nicely. [India's total] was too much on that deck, and then from a bowling point of view they put us under pressure from the word go. We couldn't claw our way back in." South Africa's XI bristled with Quinton de Kock, Rassie van der Dussen, Aiden Markram and Heinrich Klaasen, who scored eight centuries between them in their team's first seven games. On Sunday none of them made more than

Klaasen's 13, and they made 28 runs combined. Marco Jansen arrived at Eden Gardens as the World Cup's most dangerous new-ball bowler, having taken 18 wickets in the powerplay. After his first four overs on Sunday he had been hit for 43 runs. He finished with a career-worst 1/94 at an economy rate of 9.72. Walter didn't think that chastening experience would damage Jansen's confidence: "It's a gift, isn't it, being able to run out in front of thousands in a game like today and with so many learning opportunities out there? He struggled today but he's got the skill-set to bounce back and be effective the next time around. What he has now is the value of having competed and felt what it's like to be in a cauldron with so many

people cheering against you. That experience is invaluable. You can't get that anywhere else but here."

As both teams had qualified for the semifinals before Sunday, not much was riding on the match. But South Africa could meet the Indians again in the



knockouts. How did that make Walter feel?

"You have to believe that on the day, if you execute your skills, you've also got a chance. We didn't get that right from the word go today."

"But you get taught new lessons every day and get surprised every day. So it wouldn't surprise me if

the tables were turned the next time around. The beauty of it is that there may well be another shot for us."

At least, South Africa's supporters will say to each other, their team didn't beat themselves. Instead, they fell victim to vastly better opponents. Walter concurred: "The

scoreboard will tell you everything you need to know. India were far superior, there are no two ways about that."

"Just like we've been far superior to other teams that, on paper, we have looked evenly matched with or are potentially superior to us."

"Once you get your nose in front in international cricket, I believe anyone can beat anyone. And today the Indian side got their nose in front. We weren't able to get back into the game."

That didn't mean the South Africans would wear their defeat lightly:

"If you walk into that changing room now you're going to find a group of guys highly disappointed that we weren't able to pay tribute to what was an awesome occasion and a great opportunity to showcase our skills. We've played

so well throughout this World Cup and we would have wanted nothing more than for this to be a great contest."

Walter's team will have to regroup in time for a potentially challenging last league match against Afghanistan

in Ahmedabad on Friday. "As far as the next four days go, for us it's about doing what we've done the whole time, using the time available to us to get ready for the next fixture, and then it's into a semi-final. Nothing changes."

"The guys have worked incredibly hard on their game and we have invested a huge amount of time into our preparation. Now it's about recovering mentally and physically and being ready to compete like we have the whole tournament."

But not, he didn't have to say, like they failed to do on Sunday.

## To equal my hero's record in ODIs is a huge honour: Virat Kohli

**Kolkata:** Sachin Tendulkar has a wish. That Virat Kohli goes from "49" to "50" much sooner than the 365 days it took him to turn a year older.

On Sunday, Kohli got to the '49' - the record-equalling number of ODI centuries with Sachin Tendulkar. India's batting superstar referred to his feat as "stuff of dreams" and opened up how just equalling his "hero's record" was a "very emotional moment" for him.

"Every opportunity to play for India is a big one. To be able to ton up on my birthday is stuff of dreams," Kohli said in the innings break at the iconic Eden Gardens, immediately after his record feat. "Grateful to God that I've blessed with such moments."

After India sealed a massive victory over South Africa by 243 runs, Kohli was a bit more open about his feelings around the hundred that put him at par with Tendulkar in the ODI format.



"To equal my hero's record in ODIs is something that is a huge honour for me," he said during the post-match presentation ceremony. "I know that people like comparisons but I am never going to be as good as him [Sachin]. There's a reason why we've all looked up to him. He's perfection when it comes to batting... he's always going to be my hero regardless of what happens. It's a very emotional moment for me. I know where I come from, I know the days that I've watched him

play on TV, so just to stand here and get this appreciation from someone like him means a lot to me." Did he have a sense that playing another top team on his birthday, and at the Eden Gardens in front of about 65,000 people, would be special? "First things first, it was a big game. Probably playing the toughest team in the tournament we've played so far, to be very honest. They played some amazing cricket so there was this motivation of wanting to do well for the team. Because it

happened to be my birthday obviously it becomes a bit more special. People made it a bit more special for me. "I had this sense of... it's going to be something more than one more game in the World Cup. I did wake up with that excitement," Kohli revealed.

After a few years of low returns, Kohli is back to his usual run-scoring ways but he's more grateful for being able to enjoy the game, a feeling he admitted to having lost somewhere in the middle of playing all the cricket. "I would say I am enjoying myself playing cricket all over again. That to me is more special than thinking about phases [in my career] as such. I think in a phase when things are not working well, you're not enjoying yourself, that's what I take out of it. You're still able to score runs because of your experience, but being out there even for those 50-60 runs is not as enjoyable as it is right now."

**New Delhi:** West Indies spinner Sunil Narine has called time on his international career. The 35-year-old revealed his decision via a post on his Instagram page while also re-affirming that he will continue to play franchise cricket around the world. Narine broke into the limelight during the 2011 Champions League T20 and made his international debut in the same year for West Indies. While he played only six Tests, with his last appearance in the format coming almost a decade ago, he played a prominent role in West Indies winning the World T20 in 2012.

Narine also took the IPL by storm in his very first season in 2012 when he was named the Player of the Tournament, helping Kolkata Knight Riders win the title. While he continued his merry ways for two more seasons, he was suspended from bowling in international cricket in November 2015.

He was cleared to bowl again in April 2016 but post that, he managed to play only a handful of games for West Indies, with his most recent appearance coming in August 2019 in a T20I. Later on, despite showcasing form in the IPL, Narine wasn't considered by West Indies for the T20 World Cup in 2021 after failing to meet the required fitness standards. Overall, the 35-year-old has picked 165 wickets across formats in international cricket.

"I appreciate it has been

over four years since I last played for West Indies but today I am announcing my retirement from international cricket," Narine said. "Publicly I am a man of few words but privately there are a few people who have given me unwavering support throughout my career and helped me realise my dream of representing West Indies and to you I express my deepest gratitude."

"I would like to acknowledge and thank Cricket West Indies, the

coaching staff, passionate West Indies fans and of course my teammates who enabled me play at the highest level, in all formats and with some memorable successes."

Narine also confirmed that the ongoing Super50 Cup will be his final tournament in List A cricket. "Winning this current Super50 Cup will be the perfect send-off," he said. "Needless to say, outside of this it will continue to be business as usual for me in the franchise world in the foreseeable future."

## World Cup Semi-final Scenarios For All 6 Teams In Contention Explained

**New Delhi:** With India and South Africa having already qualified for the World Cup semifinals and following Pakistan and Australia winning their respective matches in the World Cup on Saturday, here is how the qualification scenario looks like for the other teams in the competition:

**Australia (10 points):** With two more ties to go for the Kangaroos, currently placed third, they need to win one more fixture to ensure a spot in the semis. Afghanistan and Bangladesh are their upcoming opponents. If they lose both their games, they will have

to depend on favourable results in other matches.

**New Zealand (8 points):** The BlackCaps, currently fourth, don't have much of a choice now and need to prevail in their only remaining match against Sri Lanka. However, a victory in that encounter would not guarantee them their place in the semis, as they will also have to expect Pakistan and Afghanistan to lose their remaining games.

If New Zealand lose, they will have to rely on Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and the Netherlands to lose their remaining

contests, and that too by huge margins.

**Pakistan (8 points):** The Men in Green are currently placed fifth

and in a similar situation as New Zealand. While they will also have to win their remaining contest

against England, they will also have to ensure that they win by a big margin to better their net run rate (0.036)

compared to the Kiwis (0.398). If they lose to the Three Lions, they would hope that NZ, Afghanistan, Lanka and the Netherlands also lose by big margins.

**Afghanistan (8 points):** The Afghans are currently placed sixth and have a simple task ahead -- win their remaining matches against Australia and South Africa and secure their place in the semis. But, it will indeed be a daunting task for them, especially against Australia, who are desperate for a semis berth.

If Afghanistan lose one or both the fixtures, their only hope would be for New Zealand and Pakistan to lose their respective remaining match by big margins.

**Sri Lanka (4 points):** The Lions, currently placed eighth and are exactly in the same situation as the Lankans. They would be hoping to win their remaining encounters against England and India by massive margins, which looks like an impossible task. However, it will also boil down to New Zealand, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka losing their contests by big margins to bolster their run-rate. One more defeat would spell the end of their race.



would result in their elimination.

**Netherlands (4 points):** The Dutch are currently placed eighth and are exactly in the same situation as the Lankans. They would be hoping to win their remaining encounters against England and India by massive margins, which looks like an impossible task. However, it will also boil down to New Zealand, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka losing their contests by big margins to bolster their run-rate. One more defeat would spell the end of their race.