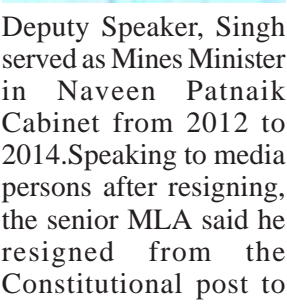


a movement for education in the 1970's is a symbol of the developed public consciousness in this region. The President was happy to note that since its establishment in 1973, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna University has adapted itself with the times. She said that today, when we are moving towards women-led development, the theme of the 11th convocation 'Empowered Women, Prosperous Nation' reflects the progressive thinking of this university. The President said that people of Uttarakhand have always given importance to education. She added that people's attachment to education is also reflected in the literacy rate of the state, which has been better than the national average. She stated that this region has given many great talents to Hindi literature from Sumitranandan Pant to Manohar Shyam Joshi, Shivani, Himanshu Joshi and Manglesh Dabral. The President said that Uttarakhand is a highly environmentally sensitive state. She added that for sustainable development and optimal use of resources - research and new innovations are needed. She further said that achieving economic development and creating employment opportunities by keeping in mind local needs and constraints is both a challenge and an opportunity. She stated that being the only Central University of this state, the responsibility of Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna University is

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Senior BJD Lawmaker Rajanikant Singh has resigned from the post of Deputy Speaker of Odisha Legislative Assembly (OLA) this afternoon. Shri Singh has submitted his resignation paper to Speaker Pramila Mallik in the office of the Speaker in the Assembly. Shri Singh, a Member of the Odisha Assembly since 2004, has been serving as the Deputy Speaker of the House since 2019. He represents the Angul Assembly constituency. Prior to becoming the



Bhubaneswar,(KCN): Hours after arresting the accused in the alleged rape and murder of a minor girl in Kela slum area in Bhubaneswar, the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissioner, Soumendra Priyadarshi on Wednesday said that they have tagged the case as 'sensitive' and efforts are on to ensure that exemplary punishment is awarded to the accused. According to Priyadarshi, the accused Ghania works as a daily labourer and was familiar with the victim minor girl and always used to give her chocolates. The accused had taken the girl to his room with the intention of sexual assault and hence a case under POCSO, and for murder has been registered. Initially, a case under sections 363 and 302 was registered as the minor girl was missing on the day of the incident, said Priyadarshi.

Deputy Speaker, Singh served as Mines Minister in Naveen Patnaik Cabinet from 2012 to 2014. Speaking to media persons after resigning, the senior MLA said he resigned from the Constitutional post to

than the national average. She stated that this region has given many great talents to Hindi literature from Sumitranandan Pant to Manohar Shyam Joshi, Shivani, Himanshu Joshi and Manglesh Dabral. The President said that Uttarakhand is a highly environmentally sensitive state. She added that for sustainable development and optimal use of resources

work for the people in his constituency as he was unable to undertake political work as a Deputy Speaker of the House.

“Henceforth, I will work for the party and organisation. I want to strengthen the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in my region,” he added.

It is expected that the ruling party might give him a major responsibility ahead of the elections as Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan is likely to contest from the Dhenkanal Lok Sabha segment in 2024.

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Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odia film producer Tutu Nayak receives bail in connection with lady journalist thrashing case in Odisha's capital city of Bhubaneswar.Tutu Nayak has been granted bail today, with land worth 50,000 rupees used as a surety. The Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (Sdjm) Court in Bhubaneswar awarded him bail following his arrest on Saturday in connection with a case involving the assault and harassment of female journalists. The incident had sparked widespread resentment with members of Odisha Women in Media (OWM), a platform for female professionals condemning the incident and demanding action against the producer. The OWM members had also met the Bhubaneswar DCP and submitted a memorandum in this connection. The association members also urged the top cop to ensure a safe environment for the working female journalists in the city.

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even higher. She emphasised that all stakeholders of this university should make efforts to use knowledge for the welfare of people. The President was happy to note that the Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna University is completing 50 years of its establishment on December 1 this year. She said that this golden journey is an opportunity to be proud of, but it is also an occasion for all stakeholders to draw future plans and resolve to make those successful. The President advised graduating students to not forget their roots; never compromise with their moral values like truth, honesty and fairness; and do their best to help the people who have been left behind in the developmental journey.

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Already at loggerheads with the Odisha government, the All Odisha Private Bus Owners' Association on Wednesday threatened to go on a state-wide agitation by keeping their buses off roads from December 1, 2023. The Private Bus Owners have also decided to stage a dharna in front of the Odisha Assembly on November 22 in Bhubaneswar, informed association member Barada Acharya.

A decision in this regard was taken by the Private Bus Owners' Association after a crucial meeting held at Bhawanipatna today. The private bus

Leopard Odisha, 2

Rayagada, (KCN): The Special Task Force (STF) of the Odisha Police Crime Branch on Wednesday seized hides of two leopards in Rayagada district. The police arrested two persons in connection with the matter. The accused have been identified as Bikram Majhi and Raja Majhi, residents of Bijapur village under Chandrapur Police limits in Rayagada. As per reports, at a time when leopards are reportedly unleashing terror in the Dharam Nandha section of Nuapada district, the seizure of two hides points to the poaching of the big cats in Rayagada, though it was not confirmed where the

owners have been opposing the launch of bus services from block to district level under the Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI). Though the association had announced to resume their strike on October 30, the stir was postponed following talks with the State Transport Minister. Secretary of the association, Devendra Sahoo said, "A meeting was held at Bhawanipatna today. We have already submitted our demands in writing to the Odisha government. We demanded not to operate buses from blocks to

**skins seized
persons**

animals were killed and hides came from. Acting on a tip-off that deals for leopard skins were underway, the STF officials conducted raids in an area under Chandili Police Station in Rayagada on Tuesday. They arrested two persons along with two leopard skins. Speaking to the media about the seizure and arrest, SP of the STF, KK Panigrahi said that two leopard skins were

district headquarters and rather ply buses from panchayats to blocks. We also want compensation, waiver of additional taxes.” Sahoo said that if the Odisha government doesn’t consider their demands, they will stage a demonstration in front of the Assembly on November 22 and launch a strike on December 1, 2023. “We have given time to the Odisha government to look into our demands. Otherwise, we will be forced to go ahead with our proposed stir after the dharna in Bhubaneswar. We are giving time to the government and ready for discussions,” Sahoo added.

ed in arrested



seized from the two accused after they failed to produce necessary documents in support. Panigrahi also stated that a case has been registered against them under various sections of the Wildlife Protection Act-1972 and the seized skins would be sent to the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Dehradun for laboratory tests. "The accused were produced in the SDJM court today.

Cuttack, (KCN): The Archeological Survey of India (ASI) on Wednesday received a setback from the Orissa High Court in connection with the restoration work of the Jagamohan of the Srimandir in Puri. The High Court, while hearing the case today rejected the affidavit earlier submitted by the ASI regarding the repair of the Jagamohan. The High Court termed the affidavit incomplete and directed the former to submit a fresh and comprehensive affidavit on the matter. Hence, the ASI has withdrawn its affidavit from the High Court. Notably, the ASI has been carrying out the repair and restoration of the Jagamohan since 2017; however, a delay was alleged. The High Court sought to know from the ASI about the reasons for the delay in repair and how far works have progressed from 2017 till date. The next hearing of the case will be held on November 15, 2023. As per sources, the ASI, citing a reason for the delay in the repair of the Jagamohan, said that the IIT-Madras has been contacted about the

design of a cantilever, which will be used during the repair of Jagamohan. After the finalization of the design of the cantilever by the IIT Madras, the technical core committee of the ASI will give its approval and then the repair work will be carried forward, it was stated in the affidavit. The High Court-appointed amicus curiae, N K Mohanty, in his report to the court on August 15, 2023, had told the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) that the Nata Mandap and the Jagamohan were in a critical state and anything could happen at any moment. The amicus curiae's report was based on a petition filed regarding the safety of the Nata Mandap and the Jagamohan.

New Delhi, (KCN): The air quality in Delhi on Wednesday evening slightly improved with an overall Air Quality Index at 398, in the 'very poor' category, according to data from the System of Air Quality And Research (SAFAR). In the national capital, the Anand Vihar station entered in the 'very poor' category with PM 2.5 at 367 at 6 p.m while the CO was at 108, under 'moderate' category, as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The AQI between 0 and 50 is considered 'good'; 51 and 100 'satisfactory'; 101 and 200 'moderate'; 201 and 300 'poor'; 301 and 400 'very poor'; and 401 and 500 'severe'. The Bawana station recorded PM 2.5 at 348, very poor category, and PM 10 at 260 (poor) while the CO reached 68 (satisfactory). At Delhi Technical University (DTU) station, the PM 10

reached 259 under 'poor' category while PM 2.5 was at 182 under 'moderate' category on Wednesday evening. The CO was recorded at 57, under the 'satisfactory' category at 6 p.m. on the weather station. The station at Dwarka sector 8 recorded PM 10 at 459 and PM 2.5 at 429 ('severe'), while CO was at 128 and NO₂ was at 107, under moderate category. The air quality at the

Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport T3 area was in the 'severe' category with PM 2.5 at 440 and PM 10 at 404 while the CO reached 84 in the 'satisfactory' category. The PM 2.5 at ITO was recorded at 377, in the 'very poor' category while PM 10 reached 292, under 'poor' category. The CO was recorded at 117 ('moderate') on Wednesday evening. At Lodhi Road, the AQI with PM 2.5 concentration was at 396 under the 'very poor' category, while PM (particulate matter) 10 was recorded at 349, also in the 'very poor' category while CO was at 116 in moderate category. At Punjabi Bagh, the PM 2.5 reached at 367 and PM 10 at 305, both under 'very poor category' while NO₂ was at 82 and CO at 90, in the satisfactory category.

Supernatural Feeling

DWIT DAVID PHILIP

When climate touches,
I feel, I am a living being,
When sorrow touches,
I feel, I am a human being,
When anger touches,
I feel, I am an animal in the body,
When love touches,
I feel, I am a social being,
When sin touches,
I feel, I am a rejected being,
When tiredness touches,
I feel, I am sleepy,
When a women touches,
I feel, I am a man, with masculine,
Without a touch, I am lonely,
Without a feel, I am deadly,
Without touches and with feelings, one is Godly.



Advocate and Social Worker
9437104303
klddavid@rediffmail.com
www.pensofdavid.com

Satin and grey

RK Biswal

Paint me a picture
Of stain and grey
My life has been empty
Since you went away
Color it dark with
Shades of the night
And bring in the clouds
That have misted my sight



Pick me a flower
That has withered and dried
Destroyed so quickly
By tears that I have cried
The petals have fallen
They are scattered around
And beauty has faded
To dust on the ground

Qtr No- MI/23, Kalinga Vihar,
Chhend, Rourkela. 769015

Quotation of the Day

"The best way to find
yourself is to lose yourself
in the service of others."

- Mahatma Gandhi



Karva Chauth

Karva Chauth is a one-day festival celebrated annually by married Hindu women in which they observe a fast from sunrise to moonrise and pray for the well-being and longevity of their husbands. The festival is also observed by unmarried women who pray in the hope of securing a desired life partner. It falls on the fourth day of the dark fortnight (Krishna paksh or the waning phase of the moon) in the month of Kartik of the Hindu lunar calendar. The date roughly falls anytime between mid to late October. It is mainly celebrated in the states of Northern India such as Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. The word Karva Chauth is made up of two words, 'Karva,' which means an earthen pot with a spout and 'Chauth' which means fourth. The earthen pot is of great significance as it is used by the women to offer water to the moon as part of the festival rituals. It is said that this festival began when women started praying for the safe return of their husbands who went to fight wars in far off lands. It is also held that it is celebrated to mark the end of the harvest season. Whatever be the origins, the festival

offers an occasion to strengthen familial ties. The festival entails keeping a 'Nirjala' fast in which women neither eat nor take a drop of water throughout the day and prayers are offered to the Goddess Gauri, an incarnation of Parvati, who bestows blessings for a long and happy married life. There are various mythological tales related to Karva Chauth. One of the most popular ones is related to Savitri and Satyavan in which the former brought back her husband from the clutches of death with her prayer and determination. Another such story is that of Veervati, the only sister of seven loving brothers. When the brothers could not bear to see her fasting the whole day they misled her into believing that the moon had risen. Veervati broke her fast and had food but soon got the news of her husband's death. She prayed for a whole year and the Gods pleased with her devotion gave back her husband's life. Karva Chauth in Punjab Much like its neighbouring states, festivities related to Karva Chauth start early in the morning where married women wake up

before the sun rises and get ready. A night before Karva Chauth, the woman's mother sends Bayaa which consists of clothes, coconut, sweets, fruits and sindoor (vermillion) for her daughter and gifts for the mother-in-law. The daughter-in-law is then supposed to eat the Sargi (a meal consumed before sunrise on the day of Karva Chauth) given to her by her mother-in-law. It includes fresh fruits, dry fruits, sweets, chapatis and vegetables. As afternoon approaches, women come together with their respective thalis (a large plate). It contains coconut, fruits, dry fruits, a diya (lamp), a glass of kachi lassi (a drink made of milk and water), sweet mathri and gifts which will be given to the mother-in-law. The thali is covered by a cloth. The women then come together and sit circling the idol of Gaura Maa (Goddess Parvati) and the story of Karva Chauth is narrated by a wise elderly woman who also ensures the pooja is performed in the correct manner. The women then start to rotate the thalis around the circle. This is called thali batana. This ritual is performed seven times. While doing this, they sing the following song:

Silent zone

(Shibangi Dhara) Bandana Sahoo

She was silent
But not weak
There was a dark shadow
But not darkness
In the light of sorrow
Those eyes was very silent
In the words of tears
The weak words of the heart were speaking



With slow slow feet
heartbeat was weak
In the walls of a closed room
In the hairs of innocent flowers
Were taking birth
the Embryos of the knee - deep links
filled with intence passion.

There was passion in the eyes
Words full of prides

Heart was burning
Wrapped in a calm and soft body
With one's own innocence
All parts are destroyed
Was dressing in darkness
With a new experience
will wake up that sleeping buried face.

Lay down, got up and wake up
Then she started preparing
for a new meeting.

See....!!
Who is this?
Then I started thinking.

This is not me
May be this was the end
In the womb of silence
This was a birth of a new form.

Jajpur
7205550713

Allow the Beggar inside the Fort

Subhanarayan Swain

Colours of gates to the fort
changed
protectors reshuffled
courtiers replaced
all the Navaratnas
no more there royal treasury
hopes and aspirations !



He was waiting at the
fort gate and
is still there
Let someone say:
'Allow the beggar
inside the fort..'

Author is a young and energetic voice
in conteporary Odia literature.
subhanarayanswain99@gmail.com

MAA NAVA DURGA

Sudipta Mishra

Oh Shailaputri, sitting on Nandi's bull,
flower in right hand, trident in left,
Destroyer of evil and ignorance,
Mother of spiritual awakening
I salute Thee with folded hands.



Oh, Ma! Thou are an embodiment of the divine trinity
Within thou, I can behold my lords Brahma, Bishnu and Maheswara
Oh! Bramhacharini donned in white saree,
representing purity, knowledge, remover of
selfishness, improving our inherent virtues
such as restraint, dispassion, and renunciation.
Holding Rosery beads in right hand and a utensil with water in left hand,

Oh, Ma, you show us the path of penance and abstinence
Oh! Chandraghanta, destroyer of evil tendencies,
demonic powers, bad spirits, always ready to destroy
injustice, having her third eye ever open
keeping watchful eyes on destructive forces to curb it.

Oh, Goddess of divine energy
By adorning the crescent moon on thy forehead,
You threaten the evil ones to punish them with severity!
With thy sublime face, as a mother, you look at me, Ma!
Oh! Kushmanda Devi, creator of Universe
with Your divine smile, the incarnation of warmth,
Cosmic Energy, creation, and preservation of the world,
the fourth aspect of Nava Durga Maa, and Mahadevi.

Oh, Ma, with a glorious warmth for the Universe
You ride on a lion
By keeping the strength to destroy the civilization
You enlighten the ignorant ones

Oh!Skundamata, Goddess of Motherhood,
Love, luck, prosperity and good fortune
to your devotees, whose well-being Thou
always protect with Thy benign grace and love.

Perched on a lotus flower,
Oh, ma! You are the maker of the Universe
With your auspicious arrival, your kids like me feel empowered

Oh!Katyayani Devi, Goddess of Power,
Slayer of tyrannical Mahishasura, and remover
of negative energy, and all hurdles in the path of
progress of devotees, a Benign Mother peace.



Oh, Ma, you are the epitome of love and compassion
You have arrived to release the poor souls
With your fierce clamor
Oh, ma, let the wrongdoers fade away into the dungeon

Oh! Kalaratri, Goddess of Fiercer Form,
depicting the dark side of human life on earth
Slayer of Chanda, Munda, and Raktabeejashura,
demonic one called Chamundeshwari.

Oh, Ma, you liberate the downtrodden
With a calm mind, let me rest
To emancipate the oppressed ones
With long hair, and eyes of fire
My Goddess is present like a savior

Oh!Mahagauri, Goddess of Abayahastini,
fair complexioned, pure and divine,
protector of devotees with a blessing gesture.

Graciously you adorn the pandals
Your gleaming eyes render me peace, oh ma Durga
Seated on a bull
You offer unconditional blessings to thy worshippers

Oh! Siddidatri, Goddess of Learning, Wisdom
and the epitome of spiritual knowledge, another form
of Maa Saraswati, Goddess of Wisdom

Oh, Ma you ever present in a blissful ecstasy
By worshiping thou,
Your devotees gain superpower

Oh, ma, may all the maladies from earth be cured
With thine presence
Your benign presence is
Dispersing the darkness of ignorance and spreading
enlightenment.

Maa Durga is the epitome of feminine strength, prowess
and invincible against any wickedness and power
Let our women imbibe
Her traits inflict shattering
blow on her tyrant, molester, and perpetrators.
May every woman be awakened by the indomitable courage
May she be transformed into a divine energy
Let her nurture the diva within

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Jawan Extended Cut Releases, Netizens Demand More of Ridhi Dogra's Kaveri Amma

The blockbuster hit Jawan has made its much-anticipated debut on the OTT platform, and the fever surrounding the film and its iconic characters remains as fervent as ever. Among the standout characters, Ridhi Dogra's portrayal of Kaveri Aama has captured the hearts of fans worldwide, who continue to shower her with unwavering love and admiration.

With the release of the extended cut for Jawan on OTT, the fandom's excitement has reached new heights. Social media platforms are abuzz with fans passionately advocating for more of Ridhi Dogra's Kaveri Aama in the extended cut of the film. The character's



depth, charisma, and Ridhi's outstanding performance have left an indelible mark, and fans are clamoring for an

even greater presence in the extended version of the movie.

Fans take to social media and write: "#Jawan In

parallel universe, Ridhi Dogra's Kaveri Amma is seen teaching all the planning to Azad! Would love to see those

someday " Another writes "#Jawan Now they should also release a version where we could see more of

Kaveri Amma! #ridhidogra" Another writes "Bhai Kaveri Amma kaha hai, was waiting ke extended cuts me Kaveri Amma aa jaye! @NetflixIndia #ridhidogra" A fan wrote "Yaar, wish it had more of Kaveri Amma! One character from the film I would love to see a spin off on #riddhidogra" Another writes "We want to see more of Kaveri Amma now! #ridhidogra. Ridhi Dogra has enjoyed an exceptional year in her career in 2023. It started with Lakadbagha's release, Asur 2, Badtameez Dil, Mumbai Diaries 2, and Blockbuster Jawan, and is now gearing up for Tiger 3.

Bigg Boss 17 Contestants List: Ankita Lokhande And Husband Vicky Jain To Enter Reality Show?



Days after popular YouTuber Elvish Yadav won the Bigg Boss OTT 2 amid much fanfare, all eyes are now set on the official announcement for the main season of Bigg Boss 17. The buzz is high that it will begin from October end this year and many reports are already hinting at a speculative tentative contestants' list from the show. One big name that is out already is actress Ankita Lokhande and her husband Vicky Jain. Speculation is rife that this popular telly couple - Ankita Lokhande and her husband Vicky Jain are likely to be seen as participants on Bigg Boss 17. Many social media pages are also carrying the news that has originally been quoted in ETimes report.

Jiya Shankar, Abhishek Malhan, Manisha Rani, Aishwarya Sharma, UK 07 Rider (Anurag Dobhal), Neil Bhatt, Arjit Taneja, Gia Manek, Kanika Mann, Alice Kaushik, Sunanda Sharma, Kanwar Dhillon, Shafaq Naaz, who was last seen in Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Meiin, Anjum Fakih, Awez Darbar among many others. Ankita Lokhande and Vicky Jain were earlier seen in Smart Jodi. In previous seasons of Bigg Boss, many real-life couples have participated together, such as Tannaz and Bhakhtyar Irani, Shilpa Saklani and Apurva Agnihotri, and Kishwer Merchant and Suyyash Rai to name a few.

The makers have not released any confirmed list of contestants as yet.

Varun Dhawan, Janhvi Kapoor's 'Bawaal' To Have Grand Screening At Eiffel Tower



Actors Varun Dhawan and Janhvi Kapoor are all set for the worldwide premiere of their upcoming film 'Bawaal'. Before hitting OTT however, the movie will have its first screening at the Salle Gustave Eiffel in Paris.

The movie will make it the first Indian film to get a screening at the Eiffel Tower. The film is a love story set in the backdrop of World War 2 and will feature a gripping narrative, taking the audiences on a journey through Europe. "Bawaal" will be the first Indian Film to have its premiere at the Eiffel Tower. The premiere will take place at the exquisite Salle Gustave Eiffel, offering a panoramic view of the city of love as the backdrop. Apart from Varun, Janhvi, Sajid, and Nitesh, the premiere will be attended by movie enthusiasts and French delegates, making it one of the biggest premieres for an Indian film," a source told Pinkvilla.

Allu Arjun To Make Hollywood Debut Soon? Actor Says 'It's Time To Think Global'

Star Allu Arjun has plans for Hollywood, as the popularity of 'RRR' has propelled Indian cinema worldwide. The actor said that this phenomenon has opened the doors for Indian cinema to go international. Speaking to Variety about his Hollywood plans, Allu Arjun said: "It has opened the doors and the minds of people that there is something beyond our regular traditional markets that we need to go explore and our reach as much as possible."

As part of this expansion, the actor said that he already has plans to sign up with a Hollywood agent: "It's time for all Indian actors to think globally, because India is going to be a global superpower. All businesses in India will flourish and so will the Indian film industry." "I feel in less than 10 years from now, Indian cinema will be viewed all over the world, like how Korean dramas have been watched all over the world, with a



very high probability for India to be in the same spot in the coming decade. It's really a golden era for entertainment industry in India."

Talking about his win at the National Indian Film Awards and becoming the first actor to do so, Allu Arjun told Variety: "Getting the national award is the highest official respect you can get. What we realised was that in 69 years of Telugu cinema, while other technicians and

directors have won, no actor had won best actor at the National Awards." "So that was a path breaking achievement and became the pride of the Telugu people. I was glad that I could contribute to it in a small way."

He attributed the success of 'Pushpa' to its rootedness and rustic nature. "It's the common man factor, it's the character's attitude that really connected across all languages,"

Arjun said. "We wanted a very authentic, rustic, rooted storytelling."

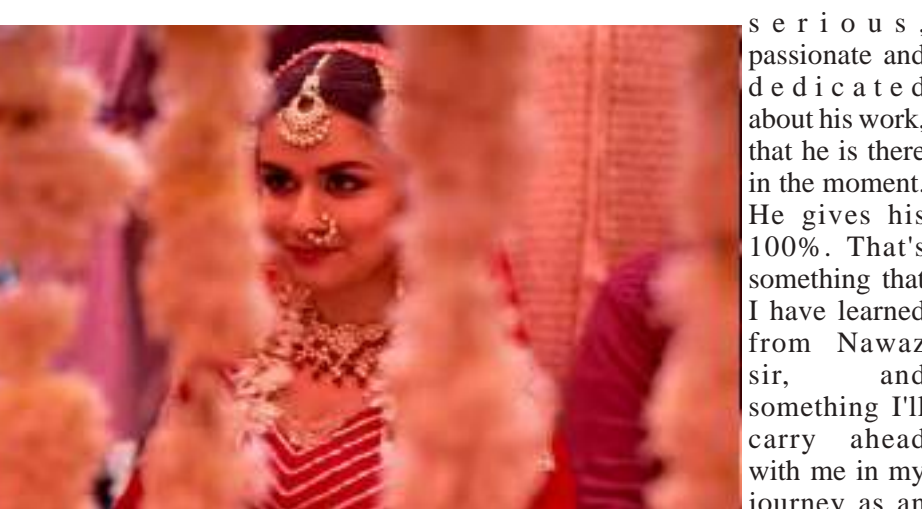
"I think that authenticity and honesty paid off, we were not trying to be somebody else, we were trying to be who we are and still trying to appeal to everybody else. It's like how they say, going local is going global."

'Pushpa 2: The Rule' is due for release sometime in 2024. Allu Arjun has described the film as being "even more of an adrenaline rush."

Avneet Kaur Opens Up On Working With Nawazuddin Siddiqui In Tiku weds Sheru, Says 'He Is Serious, Passionate'

A fun and crazy journey of a hustler and a dreamer, Tiku Weds Sheru is the quirkiest romantic comedy-drama you'll be watching on Prime Video this weekend. Starring the versatile actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui and rising talent Avneet Kaur,

the romedy is a tale of two starry-eyed characters, who want to make it big in Bollywood, journeying through all the worldly chaos and challenges. Avneet started her career in the entertainment industry as a child artist



twelve years ago and has now bagged her big break as a lead in Kangana Ranaut's maiden production.

In the film, she gets to work with the National Award-winning actor Nawazuddin. Recently the actor opened up about the experience and

shared, "The seriousness and dedication that Nawaz sir has for his work is commendable. It is extremely important for us actors to be on and off. When an actor is on screen, they are on screen, you can't let anything affect you at that point. He is so

serious, passionate and dedicated about his work, that he is there in the moment. He gives his 100%. That's something that I have learned from Nawaz sir, and something I'll carry ahead with me in my journey as an

actor, no matter how many projects I do." Kangana Ranaut marks her production debut for the film under her banner of Manikarnika films. Directed by Sai Kabir Srivastva, Tiku Weds Sheru will stream on June 23 exclusively on Prime Video.



His dear town Puri didn't remember the second death anniversary of Dibakar Tripathy, great teacher, social worker and author from Puri. He was one of the architects of the first ever Book Festival at Puri three decades ago. I was never his student, but he was always an icon for me. Incidentally, a Book Festival was begun on the same day where everyone was busy in occupying a Chair ! If you have come across great souls, you may

have got some of that greatness. And, if you have come across some crooks, you are bound to inherit some wicked practices. After remaining in big cities like Lucknow and Delhi for three decades I have preferred to come back to a small town like Puri, for my wife prefers it. In the last two and half years, I have been grossly ignored or sidelined in this small town, but I have become gradually used to it. Small is beautiful. Half a century ago in my small and beautiful town Puri there was a person called Chittaranjan Mishra. He was President of Ravenshaw College Student Union. But, more remarkably, he was the first promoter of Books and Reading Habits in Odisha.I

fondly remember him today. The only Chief Minister with a cultural bent of mind was JB Pattnaik in my opinion. I want to write on my association with JB Pattnaik today, but why something or the other stops me ? Since a new Festival of Books begins today in my small and beautiful town, I will write an article today on the first ever Book Festival of Odisha done by NBT on his initiative way back in 1980. Life is a big race and nobody is a permanent winner. I won yesterday, now I am a loser. You are winner today, tomorrow you may lose and I may happily win the race. Let's accept the destiny...also the communication gap, for no relation is

Prof.MANAS RANJAN MAHAPATRA permanent in this world. Earlier I used to think that people in the practice of art and culture are spiritual people. Now I have changed my perception.Most of them are traders only like pimps.I have never been to that market. Festivals should be organised on own resources.But,most of the Festivals are held these days to grab money from Government and Corporate Sectors.Interestingly,in most of the cases,organisers are in no way connected with writing. The only outstanding Festival organised by writers is Goa Arts and Literature Festival organised by Goa Writers and International Centre,

Goa. In Odia literature chairs do write, not the writers. The vulgar presence of beaucroatic minions in every literary events are becoming a common spectacle. It's better to declare that we don't recognise writers but truly worship the beaucroatic chairs where some writer sits for some time. This vulgarity is to much to live with.In the last few years it has exceeded all limits. Doing a Literature Festival or a Book Fair has now become a business or political circus. Voice of dissent has become a matter of theory than practice these days. But, there was a time when people like Kumar Mohanty and Rajendra Kishore

Panda were writing in Odia against government and Chief Ministers like Nandini Satpathy or Janaki Ballav Pattnayak were listening to them with patience and honour. Vishnu Khare and Mangalesh Dabral were similar poets of dissent in Hindi and PM Indira Gandhi was happy to listen their poetry reading. After reading from state sponsored advertisements and news for the last ten years, I visited the site of the so called Odia Viswavidyalaya, Bakulban, Satyabadi yesterday. What a farce ! I wonder if this university is coming up in the next ten years ? Bureaucrats and politicians can be just revenue administrators, but they can't do academic institutions

.We Odias are so spineless that we want enlightened clerks to become cultural planners ! I have nothing to claim as my own except the sweet memories....but I will be vocal against hypocrisy. H y p o c r i s y unlimited..After killing the oldest library of Puri with a few others, Puri District Administration with the help of some so called Booklovers is holding from today till 12 January a Book Fair ! Perfection can not be realised without making mistakes. Success can not be obtained without experiencing failures. You will never understand the damage you did to someone until the same thing is done to you. This is a wonderful

world. Here some people always publicise the theory of Give and Take, but they never give anything. There are also some people who don't take anything nor they propagate any theory! Dibakar Tripathy or Chittaranjan Mishra were great personalities They always gave, but never took anything for themselves. They only left a legacy for others to follow.

Visiting Professor of Development Communication Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

Prospect of recreational fishery in India



What is recreational fishery ? Recreational fishery, also known as recreational fishing or sport fishing, refers to the activity of catching fish for leisure and enjoyment rather than for commercial or subsistence purposes. It is a popular pastime and outdoor recreational activity pursued by individuals or groups of people who fish for the pleasure it brings, such as the challenge of catching fish, spending time in nature, and relaxation. Recreational anglers engage in fishing primarily for the fun and satisfaction it provides. They may enjoy the thrill of the catch, the peacefulness of nature, or the camaraderie of fishing with friends and family. Many recreational anglers practice catch-and-release, where fish are caught and then safely released back into the water. This promotes conservation and sustainable fishing practices. Recreational fishing can be a solitary activity or a social one, with people often fishing alone, with family members, or in organized fishing groups and clubs. Anglers use a variety of fishing methods and equipment, including fishing rods, reels, baits, lures, and fishing boats, to target a wide range of fish species. In many regions, recreational fishing is regulated by laws and licensing requirements to ensure the protection of fish populations and their habitats. Recreational anglers often play a role in fishery conservation efforts, including reporting data on fish

populations, supporting habitat restoration, and advocating for sustainable fishing practices. Recreational fishery is not driven by commercial profit but rather by the passion for fishing and the enjoyment of being in the outdoors. It has social, cultural, environmental, and economic significance in many regions around the world. **Why is recreational fishery important as emergent global industry ?** Recreational fishery, or recreational fishing, is important for several reasons. Recreational fishing contributes significantly to the economy. It generates income for businesses such as fishing equipment manufacturers, tackle shops, charter boat operators, and tourism. It can stimulate local economies in areas popular for recreational fishing. Recreational anglers often develop a strong connection to the environment and fisheries. This leads to greater awareness and concern for the health of aquatic ecosystems. Many recreational anglers actively support conservation efforts to protect fish populations and their habitats. By promoting catch-and-release practices and responsible fishing regulations, recreational fishing can help maintain sustainable fish populations. This is crucial for preserving fish stocks for future generations. Fishing provides recreational and leisure opportunities, promoting physical and mental well-being. It offers a chance to connect with nature and spend quality time with family and friends, promoting a better quality of life.

Recreational anglers often participate in citizen science programs, collecting data that helps researchers and policymakers make informed decisions about fisheries management. Fishing has deep cultural and social significance in many communities. It fosters traditions, brings people together, and provides a sense of identity and heritage. Recreational fishing can attract tourists to regions with abundant fish resources, benefiting local communities through tourism and hospitality industries. Fishing can be a relaxing and stress-relieving activity, offering an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday. It not only contributes to the economy but also plays a vital role in environmental conservation, education, and personal well-being. It has far-reaching positive impacts on individuals, communities, and the natural world. **What are the prospects of recreational fishing industry in India ?** The prospects of the recreational fishing industry in India are promising, but the industry is still relatively niche and has room for growth. Mr. Peter DeGorter, a retired agronomist and animal husbandry expert and a veteran recreational fishing enthusiast from

Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada provided valuable feed back on this aspect and some key factors to consider are provided below. **Diverse Geography:** India's vast and diverse geography offers a wide range of fishing opportunities, from freshwater rivers and lakes to coastal and marine environments. This diversity makes India an attractive destination for recreational anglers. **Growing Interest:** There is a growing interest in recreational fishing among urban populations and tourists in India. More people are seeking outdoor recreational activities and connecting with nature. **Tourism Potential:** India's extensive coastline and numerous inland water bodies provide opportunities for recreational fishing tourism. Tourists are increasingly looking for unique experiences, and recreational fishing can be a draw. **Cultural Significance:** Fishing has cultural significance in many parts of India, and there are traditional fishing practices and festivals that can be leveraged to promote recreational fishing. **Conservation Efforts:** Many anglers in India are becoming more conservation-conscious, which can help in

sustainable fishery management. Conservation-oriented recreational fishing can help protect fish stocks and their habitats. **Challenges to Overcome:** There are challenges such as environmental degradation, pollution, overfishing, and inadequate infrastructure for recreational fishing that need to be addressed. Regulations and policies supporting recreational fishing and ensuring sustainable practices are essential. **Promotion and Infrastructure:** Investment in marketing, infrastructure, and facilities for recreational fishing can help boost the industry. This includes well-maintained fishing spots, charter services, and fishing gear suppliers. **Research and Data Collection:** Research and data collection on fish populations, habitats, and angler preferences are important for sustainable management and industry growth. **Collaboration:** Collaboration between the government, local communities, and private sector stakeholders can help develop the recreational fishing industry and ensure its long-term sustainability. Overall, the recreational fishing industry in India has the potential to grow, attract tourists, create jobs, and contribute to conservation efforts. However, it will require coordinated efforts to develop infrastructure, promote sustainable practices, and raise awareness about the benefits of recreational fishing.

WINTER IS HERE: SKINCARE ESSENTIALS FOR TRAVELLERS



If you are fond of the cold weather, traveling during winter might be one of the ways to enjoy your favorite holiday destination. Winter makes your skin really dry and travelling makes it tired. The situation is often worse for travelers, with cold weather bringing their own set of troubles. Between the dry, cooler air, long travel, and all the changes in the schedule, diet, and environment, it's important to pack products that will moisturize and repair your skin in order to keep you looking your best. Packing beauty essentials for a winter vacation can be quite a hassle. Maintaining a healthy skincare routine becomes even more essential when you're on the move, and Here are the skincare essentials you'll need to deal with wintry weather if you're travelling. When you are heading on a winter vacation ----stuffing a variety of sunscreen, Lip Balm,Moisturizers, and hair styling products into your suitcase will make your journey comfortable for your outwardly outlook and refreshing your vital organs. Winter is harsh on your skin if you are travelling to snow bound areas / mountainous hills with family in winter vacation then your skin care regime is required to adapt to the changing seasons. Apart from passport, aadhar cards ,tickets, credit cards, which are absolutely essential travel documents , you will need the means to make yourself attractive, while traveling. Even

though it is hard to look fashionable . Think about travel essentials and how to limit your grooming needs, so that you look pleasing and enjoy your trip. Traveling light is an advantage, so you need items that are compact and portable. Get yourself a spacious shoulder bag and two small, plastic lined cases, for your toilet and make-up. Your beauty aids should be within easy reach, so that you can freshen up your make-up and alight from your journey looking attractive and self-confident. Searching for a lipstick or comb in a cluttered handbag can really test your patience. A short hairdo that you can just brush and arrange is good, while for long hair, take along a headband and hair clips, to keep your hair tidy. Remember to take a scarf along to protect your hair from over-exposure to the sun, as well as from wind and dust. You will need it if you are out motoring, boating or even walking by the seaside or hills. The make-up items and clothes you carry depend on what your trip entails. If you are holidaying in a big city and expect to meet people, you will need a few good clothes and accessories, for dining out. Take a few in-between outfits that are neither too casual, nor too dressy. You will also need make-up cosmetics for the night. The lighting at night demands more colour, so include darker shades of lipstick, blush-on, eye-shadow and mascara. A hair-piece can provide instant glamour. Don't forget to take your perfume, one or two good accessories and a neutral evening purse that goes with your dressy outfits. These will help to add the finishing touches. If you are on a sightseeing trip, or on a vacation by the sea or mountains, the emphasis will be on comfort. Casual wrinkle-free clothes, light weight shoes and sunglasses will be needed. On a vacation, one probably needs to

carry more skin care cosmetics and fewer make-up aids. An anti-tan sunscreen or sun block would be good. The effects of sun exposure are greater by the waterside, or near snow, because water and snow are reflective surfaces. By the sea, avoid sun-exposure between noon and 3 p.m. Apply broad spectrum sunscreen when out in the sun, not only on the face, but on all exposed areas. Apply the sunscreen 20 minutes before going out. If you are out in the sun for more than an hour, re-apply the sunscreen. Use high SPF of 30 and above for sensitive skin. Apart from sunscreen, you need skin and hair care essentials, like cleanser, moisturizer, leave-on conditioner and hair serum. For your make-up, carry powder compact, eye-pencil, kaajal stick and lipsticks that are suitable for day wear. Perhaps, a lip gloss will do. By the beach, you need make up products that are "waterproof" or "long lasting" and provide a matte finish. You will also need pressed powder (compact) and powder blush-on. Remember to take a few tissues. If you have oily skin, or the weather is hot and humid, pre-moistened tissues are what you need. Carry them in your handbag when you go out, to clean and refresh your skin. Apart from these, take a deodorant and talcum powder. Travel adds a wonderful dimension to one's life and personality. It enriches our experience and broadens our outlook. Travel also means a time that is refreshing and renewing. There is nothing more enjoyable than getting away from everyday and unwind. If you have taken care of your travel needs, all you have to do is relax and enjoy!

The author is international fame beauty expert and is called Herbal Queen of India

**Apt 6--409
43 Street South,
Lethbridge,Alberta,
Canada, T1J4B3
Email:
saikatbasu@alumni.uleth.ca
The Author is a
Canada based indian
Agro Scientists**

Cong leader Lal Singh Naik commits to abide by leadership decision

He extends support to CPI leader Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao in Kothagudem



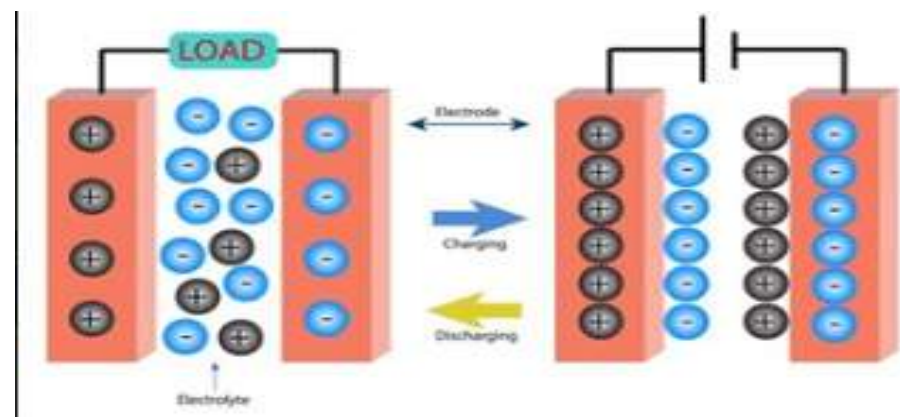
Bhadra d r i Kothagudem, (KCN): In a significant gathering of important rank and file at the Sujatha Nagar Mandal Centre on Tuesday, senior District Congress leader Lal Singh Naik affirmed his party's determination to clinch victory in the upcoming elections to the Telangana State Assembly. As part of this goal, he welcomed the endorsement of former MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao as the Congress-CPI candidate, expressing optimism about his chances of winning the Kothagudem MLA seat. Lal Singh Naik underscored the importance of the alliance with the Communist Party of India (CPI), emphasizing that it would present a promising strategy to unseat the BRS government that had adversely affected m a r g i n a l i z e d communities through corruption and poor governance in the constituency. He stressed that a coordinated

approach between the two parties would be essential for addressing the constituency's challenges from the grassroots level to Mandal like Sujatha Nagar Mandal. Furthermore, Naik called upon all district-level leaders, from villages to Mandals, to unite by setting their differences aside and working towards the common objective of securing victory. He vowed to ensure equitable opportunities based on merit for all people under the upcoming Congress rule. Lal Singh Naik also condemned the attitude of some individuals engaging in anti-party activities on social media over the past two days. He emphasised the firm commitment of Congress party workers to abide by the leadership's decisions, emphasizing the absence of personal interests among party leaders. He warned that anyone involved in activities detrimental to the party's objectives would be

identified and, if necessary, face disciplinary actions, including expulsion from the party. Garibpeta MPTC, Kasanaboina Bhadram, Koyagudem Upa-Sarpanchi Srinivasa Rao, ST Cell Mandal President Manoj Kumar, BC Vice Chairman Yaladji Gummadi, Vijay Kuralleti Srinivas, Kiran Naresh, Santu Rajesh, and other members attended the meeting.

Kolkata Scientists Synthesise Efficient Electrodes for Supercapacitors

Kolkata, (KCN): Scientists of the city have synthesised a class of porous and crystalline organic materials called covalent organic frameworks (COFs) incorporated with quinone groups and sulphur-containing thiophene groups that can act as efficient and versatile electrodes for pseudocapacitors because of their low density, high stability, and well-defined atomic arrangements. Supercapacitors are energy storage devices that can store more electrical energy than capacitors and transfer the stored energy faster than batteries. Although supercapacitors cannot store as much energy as batteries, they have qualities that make them a great asset in many devices. They can be charged and discharged an infinite number of times, giving them a virtually infinite life, and they charge and discharge much faster than batteries. They are also valued for their wide temperature range,



environmental friendliness, improved safety, higher reliability and maintenance-free operation. Because of their unique properties, the search is on to make supercapacitors more reliable, more efficient and longer lasting by different methods like improving their electrodes. . Currently, carbon-based materials such as graphene, which have excellent energy transfer properties, are commonly used as the electrode material for Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC). On the other hand, covalent organic frameworks (COFs) - a

class of porous and crystalline organic materials have proven to be efficient and versatile electrodes for pseudocapacitors because these materials have very low density, high stability, and well-defined atomic arrangements. Scientists from S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS), an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology (DST) stationed in the Salt Lake area of the city, have tailored their chemical properties by incorporating a wide range of organic functional groups into their backbone. The

study published in Applied Energy Materials recently was led by Dr. Pradip Pachfule. Dr Pachfule's team synthesised crystalline COF with dithiophenedione structures in its backbone (TTT-DHTD). The TTT-DHTD sample was prepared by a condensation reaction of two organic compounds -- 4,4',4''-tri(1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyl)trianiline (TTT) with 4,8-dioxo-4,8-dihydrobenzo[1,2-b:4,5-b']dithiophene-2,6-dicarbaldehyde (DHTD). The redox-active quinones showed promise as a low cost, environmentally

friendly, high energy density option for energy storage.

"We present a dithiophenedione-based COF that incorporates redox-active quinone groups and sulphur-containing thiophene moieties in a highly crystalline and porous COF. Due to these combined properties, the dithiophenedione-based COF exhibits excellent pseudocapacitive energy storage performance," explained Dr Pachfule. The evaluation of the charge storage performance of the TTT-DHTD showed a stable, reversible, symmetric pattern—suggesting a stable supercapacitor performance. Further, the cycling performance of the TTT-DHTD COF displayed high capacitance after 2000 cycles, confirming the recyclability of COFs for supercapacitors. Also, the supercapacitor performance of TTT-DHTD was found to be superior compared to its other COF materials. The findings are a significant step forward in the production of high-quality supercapacitors.

BOOK ON HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ODISHA AND KARNATAKA LAUNCHED

Bangalore (KCN) : The book "Beyond Obvious: Odisha - Karnataka Relationship Over The Ages" written by scientist-turned-author Subhransu Mohapatra was recently inaugurated at the Bangalore International Centre. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rajeev Gowda, Vice Chairman for the State Institute for the Transformation of Karnataka, emphasised the various similarities between the two states. He lauded the effort of the author for his work and said that both Odias and Kannadigas have a rich

historical and cultural heritage. Ms. Bhumika Anand, Founder Director of Bangalore Writers' Workshop, congratulated the author for the book and pointed out the need for such a book to get people close to each in times of growing divisiveness in society. Bangalore based eminent Odia thinker Mr. Pranab Pani spoke about the need for such a book when the Odia diaspora in Bangalore has crossed a million people. The event featured a book reading session where the author spoke about some of the interesting connections



between the two states and how from the ancient period, the teachings of Kalinga war have affected life in Karnataka through Emperor Ashoka's inscriptions which are found in highest numbers in Karnataka. While in the Middle Ages, frequent battles between Vijayanagar Empire and

Odisha Gajapati's were common, in the modern age, a deep economic connection between the two states is evolving with Karnataka being home to a million Odias. Anil Dhir, Convener of Intach Bhubaneswar Chapter is of the opinion that proper documentation and

Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu has not been done. These four states have history related to the Ganga and the Suryavamsi Gajapatis. Intach Odisha is soon earmarking on a project to document the entire Kalingan heritage in the four southern states and bring out a detailed

research on the Kalingan influence in the four southern states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu has not been done. These four states have history related to the Ganga and the Suryavamsi Gajapatis. Intach Odisha is soon earmarking on a project to document the entire Kalingan heritage in the four southern states and bring out a detailed report. Since the last two years, a team of Intach Odisha, under the supervision of Deepak Kumar Nayak, has been exploring the region. Nayak has already identified and located many unknown monuments, inscriptions and artifacts in Andhra and Telangana. Many unknown aspects of the influence of the Odia emperors who had extended their kingdom till Deep South have not been studied. Intach's project will be the first detailed survey of Kalingan heritage in these states.

2nd Consignment Of Relief Materials From India Arrives In Quake-Hit Nepal

New Delhi: A second consignment of nine tonnes of emergency relief materials from India arrived in Nepal on Monday for the quake-affected families in the northwest mountainous region where people are facing a shortage of food, warm clothes and medicines as a fresh tremor struck the region. Nepal was jolted by a 6.4 magnitude earthquake just before midnight on Friday that killed 153 people and injured over 250 others. The earthquake, which hit Jajarkot and Rukum West districts in western Nepal, also damaged around 8,000 houses, both public and private, according to officials. India has become the first country to dispatch emergency relief materials to the earthquake-hit districts in Nepal. "India's support to Nepal remains strong and steadfast in this difficult hour," External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said in a post on X. Deputy Chief of the Indian mission Prasanna Shrivastava handed over

the second consignment of relief materials to Chief District Officer of Banke Shrawan Kumar Pokhrel. The second consignment of nine tonnes of relief material was transported to Nepalgunj by a special Indian Air Force C-130 and comprised essential medical and hygiene supplies, tents, sleeping bags and blankets. The first consignment of more than 11 tonnes of relief materials provided by India which included tents, tarpaulin sheets, blankets, and sleeping bags along with essential medicines and medical equipment was handed over to Nepal on Sunday. "India continues to remain steadfast in extending all possible support to the Government of Nepal in the aftermath of the Jajarkot earthquake," the Indian Embassy said in a statement. Pokharel said the relief goods were sent towards the disaster-affected areas from Nepalgunj Airport and escorted by personnel from the Armed Police Force



Nepal. He said a truckload of relief goods is for Jajarkot and the other for Rukum West relief materials will be handed over to the chief district officers of the respective districts. The relief materials include 625 units of plastic tarpaulin and tents, 1,000 units of sleeping bags, 1,000 blankets, 70 large-size tents, 35 packets of tent accessories, medicines and 48 other articles, officials said. Meanwhile, a 5.8-magnitude earthquake struck Jajarkot and surrounding areas at 4:31 p.m. (local time), according to the National

Seismological Center. The epicentre of the quake was at Ramidanda of Jajarkot, it said. This was followed by another 4.5 - magnitude earthquake at 4.40 p.m., said another official. The survivors of the catastrophe cremated their deceased relatives on Sunday. Due to the difficult terrain, the relief materials are yet to reach several areas. According to Suresh BK, a resident of Chiuritol, 13 people lost their lives in the village while several others were injured in the earthquake. At least 56 houses in the village were completely

destroyed while 110 houses, although still standing, have become inhabitable, said Suresh. The villagers have been waiting for help to arrive. "But so far, we have not received any. All our crops, grains, food, clothes and other valuables lie buried in the debris. We haven't been able to retrieve anything as there are no security personnel to help us," The Kathmandu Post newspaper quoted Suresh as saying. "It is unbearably cold outside and none of us have had any sleep since Friday night." Chandra Prakash Gharti, mayor of

Bheri Municipality, said that the local unit is collecting data to streamline relief distribution, which has caused delays in dispatching relief materials immediately to the affected villages. The earthquake victims are in need of immediate help and blame the government for delayed response even during emergencies. Kalawati Singh, a local survivor in Chiuritol, said that after two nights out in the cold, the villagers have started to fall sick. "Elderly people and young children are falling ill. We don't have warm clothes and have been spending our days and nights in the open field," Singh said. "There are no doctors or any medical help here. We have food left for a maximum of two days. We hope more help will soon arrive." Karna Bahadur BK, a local of Aathbiskot Municipality who lost his 27-year-old cousin on Friday night, said that managing tarpaulin, blankets and food for the surviving

members of the family is proving difficult with each passing day. "I finally managed to find a tarpaulin tent for my family. There are limited resources here and people are struggling," said Karna. "No help has arrived. People are starving, falling ill, and fighting for food. Children and the elderly are in failing health but help is nowhere close." On Monday, authorities revised the death toll from the earthquake to 153 from 157, citing duplication of some names. Friday's quake caused the worst human and infrastructure losses since the devastating jolt of April 2015. In 2015, a 7.8 magnitude quake damaged nearly 800,000 houses besides killing nearly 9,000 people, according to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report, 2015. "As per the initial estimate, around 3,000 houses have been fully damaged while an additional 5,000 suffered partial

damages," said Narayan Prasad Bhattacharai, spokesman for the home ministry. "The final tally of damaged homes is yet to come." Preventing possible outbreaks of communicable diseases in the coming days will be challenging, as people are forced to live in the open amid growing chill, Krishna Bahadur Khatri, information officer at the Health Office Jajarkot. "An outbreak of communicable diseases—cold-related ailments and waterborne diseases—is likely in the coming days due to falling temperatures and damaged infrastructure." Along with houses, toilets were also destroyed in the quake. Officials say the destruction of toilets increases open defecation, which risks contamination of water sources. The risk of vector-borne diseases—malaria, dengue, kala-Azar and scrub typhus among others—also increases, according to experts.

SPCB Warns On Banned Firecracker Use

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Following the order of Supreme Court, the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) has warned the public to follow the direction of the court while using firecrackers during Diwali, otherwise action will be taken as per law. The SC on Tuesday ordered a ban on firecrackers across India, saying the directions against the use of barium and banned chemicals in firecrackers are applicable to all States and not just Delhi-NCR. The clarification was made by the apex

court while hearing a plea relating to the issue of firecrackers in the State of Rajasthan. In October 2018, the apex court had banned the production and sale of all crackers except 'green crackers' and those with reduced emissions (improved crackers). Speaking to media persons here today, Dr. K. Murugesan, Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha, said the general public can burst firecrackers from 6 am to 10 pm. Fireworks with sound level not exceeding 125 dBA can be used,

he said.

All the district administrations including SsP have been asked to keep a close eye on use of firecrackers during the Diwali. They have to ensure that no one can use crackers with a sound level exceeding 125 dBA, the Member Secretary Dr. Murugesan said. Similarly, restriction has been imposed on use of firecrackers having barium. The State Pollution Control Board will map the air pollution level before and after Diwali, he said. The Board will also deploy a special



squad for enforcement during the Diwali festival, he added. Meanwhile, the State Fire Service Department has issued guidelines for sale of fire crackers in Odisha. As per the guidelines, temporary fireworks shops can be set up at a distance of 3 mtrs from each other and 50 mtrs from any protected work. No oil burning lamps, gas lamps or naked lights shall be used in the shed or within the safety distance of the sheds, it said. Electrical lights if used, shall be fixed to

the wall or ceiling and shall not be suspended by flexible wire. Switches for each shop shall be fixed rigidly to the wall and a master switch shall be provided for each row of sheds, it said. Display of fireworks shall not be allowed within 50 mtrs of any shed and in one cluster not more than 50 shops will be permitted. The temporary sheds should be made of AC sheets or tin sheets either one side or two side slope and all the fireworks should be made from a registered fire

manufacture/factory. Similarly, fireworks with sound level not exceeding 125 dBA at 200 mtrs distance from the point of bursting. Those fireworks emit light or colour and have a sound level not exceeding 90 dBA at 200 mtrs distance from the point of bursting. Two fire buckets full of water and at least one water type fire extinguisher (9 ltrs) to be kept near the shop. Children and mentally disabled persons will not be allowed for handling the fireworks in the fireworks shop. Diwali festival will be celebrated across the country on November 12 (Sunday).

DAV ZONAL CHESS MEET CONCLUDED AT DAV KALINGA NAGAR

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Zonal Level Girls' and Boys' Chess Tournament 2023 organised under the aegis of DAV National Sports Meet-2023 concluded in a glittering ceremony here at DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar. DAV, CDA, Cuttack lifted the champion trophy with 12 point and DAV, SCB Medical, Cuttack emerged runners-up in boys' category. Similarly, DAV CDA became champion with 8 points and DAV, Chandrasekharpur turned out the runners-up in Girls' category. The tournament provided an outstanding platform for 68 gifted sports geniuses from 17 DAV Schools of Odisha



Zone to showcase their talents. In a colourful closing ceremony organized for this purpose, Principal of the host school Sri Balaram Mahapatra and Principal of DAV, Pokhariput Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo commended the participants for their

spirit of true sportsmanship displayed throughout the event and felicitated the winner and runners-up teams with trophies and medals. Director of Odisha Chess Association, Sri Debasish Panigrahi was the chief arbitrator while

Sri Srujan Ray acted as the official in this tournament. The event was conducted smoothly by the Physical Education department of the school with the co-operation of all the staff members under the supervision of the Principal.

Startup Odisha Launches Millet Innovation Challenge, Leading the Drive to Empower Startups within the Millets Industry in the State

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Millets in Odisha hold a storied legacy of safeguarding food security and bolstering climate resilience for tribal communities. To further empower this sector, there is an increasing need for Startups and innovation to promote millet cultivation, encourage their consumption, and create economic opportunities within this sustainable agricultural domain. In light of this Startup Odisha has launched the Millet Innovation Challenge on the sidelines of International Millets Convention. This challenge serves as a platform for recognized startups operating within the millet industry to pitch their transformative solutions and ideas. By participating, the startups have the opportunity to win monetary prizes, receive promotional support, and even gain an


exclusive opportunity to pilot their solutions with the Odisha Millet Mission. Startups with expertise in diverse Millet industry sectors such as Branding and Packaging, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Quality Assurance and Safety, and Financial and Legal Mechanisms Management are encouraged to participate in this distinctive challenge. Dr. Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman, Startup Odisha said, 'The Millet Innovation Challenge is a crucial step towards fostering innovation in the millet industry. It marks the beginning of a transformative journey where millets will play a central role in ensuring food security, empowering local communities, and driving economic growth. Through this challenge, we aim to catalyse a wave of innovative solutions that will shape a sustainable and prosperous future for

Odisha."

Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha said, "Unlocking the immense potential of millets is at the core of the Millet Innovation Challenge, driven by Startup Odisha. The primary goal of the Millet Innovation Challenge is to support startups in creating innovative solutions that enhance millet processing, improve value addition, and expand the market for millet-based products. This challenge is a significant leap towards a more resilient Odisha, guided by the spirit of innovation."

The application deadline was set for November 5, 2023, followed by the 1st Round Pitch Presentations on November 7, 2023. The winners of the 1st round will be announced on November 8, 2023, with the final pitching

event taking place at the International Millets Convention on November 10, 2023. The challenge will culminate with the announcement of the top 3 winners on the same day, November 10, 2023. The top 3 Startups, distinguished for their innovation and dedication, will receive monetary awards of 3 lakhs, 2 lakhs, and 1 lakh, respectively. In the heart of Odisha, the Millet Innovation Challenge promises to be a transformative force, a testament to the resilience and potential of millets in shaping a sustainable and prosperous future. With the spirit of innovation, entrepreneurship, and a shared vision of a thriving millets industry, this challenge stands poised to make a lasting impact on the state's agriculture and economy. As these startups rise to the occasion, Odisha's journey towards a healthier, more prosperous, and sustainable tomorrow begins.



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CarDekho's launches 2nd Mega Refurbishment Centre for Used Cars

New Delhi : CarDekho, India's leading auto-tech company, has opened its mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai for Used Cars. This is the company's second mega refurbishment centre in the country after NCR. The Mumbai centre will take full control of the refurb process and set quality benchmark through advanced state-of-the-art infrastructure while optimising cost through scale of operations. The company plans to open 20 such refurbishment centres across India in near future.

With 1000 cars monthly refurbishment capacity, the centre will employ 100+ employees once fully operational. As a result of having best-in-class inhouse refurbishment centers, Cardekho ensures that all vehicles sold on its platform are of the

highest quality.

CarDekho offers a 7 days 'No Questions Asked' money-back guarantee on all cars where customers can test-own the car and return it if not satisfied. Also included are 6 months of warranty, and complementary Pan-India roadside assistance (RSA) for all car buyers. A free insurance package and RC transfer are also included with the car.

Sharad Saxena, CEO - Used Car Business, CarDekho Group, said, "The opening of our mega refurbishment centre in Mumbai marks another milestone for the company in its quest to provide the best pre-owned vehicles to its customers. The cars refurbished at this centre will carry CarDekho's trust that offers reliability, affordability and unmatched satisfaction. This centre

integrates the Group's best know-how and reinforces our vision to disrupt the personal mobility space in India. We want our customers to live our promise of 'Bharosa Kar Ke Dekho'."

The refurbishment centre is equipped with State-of-the-art Brake, Suspension & Side Slip Tester, Hitech Pneumatic Tools & Equipment, 3D Wheel Alignment, Wheel Balancing, mechanised Tyre changing, Air Conditioning Service, Injector & Spark Plug Cleaning and a fully mechanised Bodyshop with Electric Dent Pullers, Double action sanders with vacuum extractors, Infrared heating Machine & full functional heated Downdraft Paint Booth along with inhouse paint mixing facility for high-quality painting.

Odisha records 20x growth in job applications in the last 90 days

Bhubaneswar, : As one of the fastest-growing states in terms of economy in India, Odisha has been witnessing a steady growth in job opportunities across sectors and industries and has emerged as a popular destination for job seekers. apna.co - India's largest jobs and professional networking platform - recorded 20x quarter on quarter growth in job postings in the state's capital, Bhubaneswar in the previous quarter. The platform has also noted increased job openings for multiple roles in the last three 90 days.

After recording an economic rating higher than India's GDP, Odisha has become a promising destination for employers to invest in, strengthening the state's economy and creating more job opportunities. apna has become a trusted partner for various popular companies such as Zomato, Bharti AXA, Burger King, TeamLease, Byjus, and Delhivery amongst others in the state to fulfill their hiring requirement. In the last quarter, there has been an increased hiring momentum for roles such as telecallers/BPO, sales, computer/data entry operator, delivery persons, and business development executives amongst others. The capital city continues to be one of the top commercial hubs in Eastern India.

With more than 25 percent female users from Bhubaneswar, apna has become a default partner for women to build their professional networks and participate in helping India unlock its economic potential. According to the platform, there has been a quarter-on-quarter increase in women joining the workforce from the state and participating in uplifting Odisha's economy. Telecalling and business development have consistently been the most popular role amongst women in Bhubaneswar followed by data entry operators. Interestingly, women also opted to get on the field by joining the sales workforce for various organizations after COVID cases dropped drastically.

Commenting on the growth, Manas Singh, Chief Business Officer, apna.co said, "Odisha is witnessing tremendous growth in the past quarter, emerging as one of the key markets with a rise in both workers and employers on apna. We will continue creating more hyperlocal opportunities to help accelerate the economic growth of Bhubaneswar."

FURO Sports Shoes welcomes Shahid Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador

Bhubaneswar: FURO Sports Shoes, (from the house of Red Chief Shoes), is thrilled to announce its much-coveted collaboration with the Bollywood Superstar, Shahid Kapoor. Shahid's youthful and sporty personality of an affable boy gels with the aspiring core values and ethos of FURO Sports Shoes. Shahid appeals to a wider audience across all age groups. While his exceptional fitness lifestyle, dancing prowess, and romantic-action-oriented movies attract the youth, his responsible family guy persona connects with relatively mature age groups as well. Mr. Manoj Gyanchandani (Managing Director) expressing his views on the collaboration, shares, "We are extremely honored to welcome Shahid Kapoor as the newest FURO family member. We couldn't have asked for a better partner in 2022 who comes with such high credible energy which is much needed in such dynamic times to inspire the youth towards athleisure lifestyle. We look forward to a successful partnership with him and hope to have a mutually beneficial long-term relationship."

Mr. Rahul Sharma, (Marketing Head) further shared "To continue leveraging our association both in mass media & digital platforms - Shahid would be part of our forthcoming Brand campaigns, which are back to back lined up starting few weeks from now."

BOB Financial crosses the 1 Million Credit Cards mark

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (Bank) that issues and manages Bank of Baroda Credit Cards, has crossed the 1 Million Credit Cards mark.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Bank of Baroda Credit Cards have grown 9X over the last four years - from 0.12 million cards in March 2018 to over 1.1 million cards in March 2022. Further, the monthly spends on credit cards have grown 10X over the same period - from Rs.80 crore in March 2018 to Rs.830 crore in March 2022.

In CY2022, cobranding with IRCTC, HPCL, Defence Services, and partnerships with fintechs have been some of the key initiatives in the ongoing transformation journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shailendra Singh, MD & CEO, BFSL said, "In 2017, we started on a journey of transforming BOB Financial into a leading credit card issuer in India. Crossing the 1 million credit cards mark is an important milestone. However, while we celebrate this achievement, our ultimate aspiration is to become one of the largest Credit Card issuers in the country, serving customers of every demographic and socio-economic classification."

BFSL has been focusing on investing in people, processes and technology to enhance customer experience.

OKAYA EV Unveils Exclusive Dealership Center in Sambalpur



Sambalpur, : Okaya EV, a leading electric vehicle manufacturer announced the grand opening of its state-of-the-art Exclusive Center in Sambalpur. This innovative space promises to revolutionize the way consumers interact with electric vehicles, showcasing Okaya EV's commitment to sustainable transportation and cutting-edge technology.

Visitors to the

Ambuja Cements introduces Cool Walls, a special product that keep homes cool in summers and hot in winters

Mumbai : Ambuja Cements Ltd, one of India's most sustainable cement manufacturers, is now offering an innovative green solution for constructing strong walls. Ambuja Cool Walls is a unique wall solutions that keeps the house cool during summer and retains inside temperature to make the house warmer in winter. Ambuja Cements is among the first Indian cement companies to offer this unique block and mortar solution to individual house builders.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product made with an innovative heat-barrier technology that is far superior to any other products available in the market. The 'heat barrier technology' of this product helps to maintain inside temperature of any house lesser by 5°Celsius as compared to external temperature. These innovative heat barrier

exclusive center will be immersed in a world of electric mobility, where they can explore Okaya EV's diverse product portfolio firsthand. Okaya EV's scooter portfolio includes high-speed and low-speed models such as the Faast F4, Faast F3, F2B, and F2T in the Faast series product line. While Classiq and Freedom models are part of the low-speed segment

Notably, Okaya EV's product lineup

technology, consistent quality and enhanced strength (>5 MPa) are the main differentiators of this product.

Ambuja Cool Walls is an innovative solution to the problem faced by traditional construction with non-sustainable products. The challenge poised by traditional construction today are efflorescence on walls, termite attack, water absorption and highly prone to earthquakes. Ambuja Cool Walls along with unique jointing mortar makes the wall stronger and eliminates the problem faced by traditional construction practices. This helps the consumers in cost saving on electricity due to thermal insulation, low frequency of repeat painting because of no efflorescence, lesser repeat maintenance and lower construction cost. Additional benefits include noise reduction,

features the ground breaking LFP (Lithium Iron Phosphate) battery technology, setting new standards for energy density, longevity, and environmental friendliness. LFP batteries also ensure safety, which is the core of Okaya EV's ethos. From advanced driver assistance systems to rigorous crash-test evaluations, Okaya EV ensures that customers can confidently embrace electric mobility without compromising on safety.

high fire resistance etc. Also it enables speedy construction and reduces project completion time by ~ 30%.

Ambuja Cool Walls is a sustainable product as it consumes large volume of fly ash in its manufacturing. The walls does not require curing during construction and thus saves 5000 liters of water for a 1000-square feet house. Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and MD & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said, "Ambuja Cements has always pursued innovation to provide customers with eco-friendly solutions for a better and a greener future. It's our endeavor to provide world class solutions to customers in India. Ambuja Cool Walls is a testimony to our commitment to provide sustainable, high strength and durable solutions to our customers".

This Diwali, brighten up your health by adopting these 5 habits

Bhubaneswar : Consider presenting them with assortments of nutrient-rich almonds that not only reflect your affection but also promote their well-being during this festive season. Almonds make for a perfect, healthy gift option, especially during festive seasons like Diwali. Moreover, their versatility allows for various creative gifting options, from beautifully packaged almond assortments to homemade almond-based treats. While traditional sweets hold a special place in our hearts during this festive season, gifting a pack of nutrient-dense almonds can be a thoughtful gesture that not only aligns with the spirit of giving but also promotes a healthier

lifestyle. Almonds, known for their rich reserves of essential nutrients such as vitamin E, magnesium, and healthy fats, offer a convenient and delectable way to boost one's overall well-being. Whether coated in festive flavors or presented in their natural form, these versatile nuts not only symbolize good fortune but also serve as a reminder to prioritize health and mindfulness during the jubilant Diwali celebrations. Attributable to Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head - Dietetics, Max Healthcare, Delhi Amidst the hustle and bustle of the festive fervor, it's crucial to carve out time for physical activity. Whether it's a brisk walk

in the morning, a quick yoga session, or engaging in traditional dance forms, incorporating exercise into your daily routine can help counterbalance the effects of indulgent eating and promote overall well-being. By making the conscious switch to include almonds in your fitness routine you can get a quick energy boost before a workout or as a replenishing source of nutrients afterward, almonds offer sustained energy and aid in muscle recovery, helping you achieve your fitness goals more effectively. Almonds serve as an excellent pre- or post-workout snack, you can have them in between meals as well without compromising on your taste and nutrition.

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It's got to be the greatest ODI innings: Cummins

NewDelhi: Was that the greatest ever ODI knock? Australia captain Pat Cummins, who had the best view of Glenn Maxwell's 201 not out from the non-striker's end, is sure about that. Chasing 292 against Afghanistan in Mumbai, Australia were 91/7 and staring at a defeat when Maxwell produced an innings that Ricky Ponting felt was "nothing like I've seen before." Fighting cramps and humidity, some sharp bowling and mounting scoreboard pressure, Maxwell found gaps and hit sixes to launch Australia into the semifinals. "I mean, just ridiculous. I don't know how you describe this," Cummins

said at the post-match presentation after Australia's three-wicket victory. "Great win but Maxy was out of this world. "It's got to be the greatest ODI innings that's ever happened. We were just chatting and I think it's just one of those days where you go, yep when that happened, I was here at the stadium. And we feel very lucky to be here." "It would have been nice if it was a chanceless knock," said Maxwell. "I certainly had my chances. I led a charmed life out there, I was very lucky and I suppose I just made the most of that. I feel like I have had those types of innings before where I've been given a



chance and I haven't had the most of it. So to make the most of it and go on with it tonight has probably been the most pleasing thing. To see it out, being with Patty [Pat

Cummins] at the end is something I am really proud of." Cummins was involved in an unbeaten 202-run partnership for the eighth wicket with Maxwell, of

which Cummins's contribution was only 12 runs. "Couldn't get strike!" said Cummins with a smile. Did he have something to say to

Maxwell in the middle? "You let Maxy actually do his thing. I mean, how am I gonna say anything to someone who's playing like that," the Australia captain said. "He was great. He was calm. Whenever you're chasing, he's always got a plan. Even from 200 behind, he still mapped me out a way to win the game and it was really special. Zamps [Zampa] was on and off about three times but Maxy wanted to stay out there," Cummins added. This win didn't just confirm a semifinal spot for Australia but also sent a reminder around of what the team is capable of, especially when there's a World Cup to be won.

"I think it was important," noted Cummins reflecting on the win. "Not only for our team thinking that you can win from anywhere, but I think the opposition look at that as well... when you start mapping your 50 overs out with that in mind, you maybe use your bowlers a little bit differently. You have to. "Real belief [in the side] and you know, obviously into the semi finals now. It's great." Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi said he was "very disappointed" and rued the dropped chances but only had words of praise for Maxwell. "Very disappointed.

Cricket is a funny game, it was unbelievable for us," Shahidi said. "We were in the game, our bowlers started very well and the dropped chances hurt us. After that, Maxwell didn't stop, he played every kind of shot and I can give credit to him. "I think the dropped catches were the key, after that Maxwell played really well. Our bowlers tried their best but he didn't give us any chance. Proud of the team, but we will be disappointed tonight. We didn't think it would be this way, part of the game. This is cricket. We will try to come back strong against South Africa."

Injured Shakib ruled out of Bangladesh's final World Cup game

NewDelhi: Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan will miss the team's final game of the ongoing World Cup and potentially the home series against New Zealand that follows later this month after breaking his left index finger. Shakib suffered the injury while batting in the team's win against Sri Lanka in Delhi on Monday (November 6). An x-ray conducted after the game confirmed a fracture which has ruled him out of the tournament. His deputy Najmul Hossain Shanto will lead the side against Australia on November 11. "Shakib was struck on his left index finger early in his innings but continued to bat with supportive taping and



painkillers. He underwent an emergency X-ray in Delhi after the game which confirmed the fracture on the left PIP joint," National Team Physio Bayjedul Islam Khan said on Tuesday. "Recovery is estimated at three to four weeks. He will leave for Bangladesh today to begin his rehab." After aggregating over 600 runs in the World Cup four years ago, the

36-year-old Shakib had a lukewarm campaign in India, totalling only 186 runs from seven innings at an average of 26.57. Eighty two of those runs came in yesterday's victory, in which he also picked up two wickets to win the Player of the Match award. Shakib was one of the central protagonists of the 'timed out' drama that unravelled in Delhi yesterday and also raised eyebrows

midway through the tournament when he flew home to work on his game with his personal coach. Later, it was also confirmed that wicketkeeper-batter Anamul Haque will be officially replacing Shakib in the 15-man squad for the final game. Anamul has played 45 ODIs so far for Bangladesh with his most recent appearance coming in an Asia Cup game against India almost a couple of months ago. Bangladesh, who have just two wins from eight games, are already eliminated from the race to the semifinals but continue to chase qualification to the 2025 Champions Trophy.

Ajay Jadeja Mocks Marnus Labuschagne With Hilarious Dance

NewDelhi: Former India cricketer Ajay Jadeja hilariously mocked Australia batter Marnus Labuschagne when he complained about the dressing room of Afghanistan cricket team during their World Cup clash at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. Fans on social media could not keep calm after the former India cricketer was seen dancing after Aussie batter complained something about the opposition dressing room while batting. With Australia needing 292 runs to win, they were down for 43/2 when Labuschagne entered the field. The Afghanistan dressing room's movement, which the right-hander said was impairing his vision and



concentration, was a frequent source of complaint. Earlier in the first innings, Afghanistan opening batter Ibrahim Zadran made history on Monday, becoming his country's first-ever centurion in the history of the ICC Cricket World Cup. Zadran reached this record during the match against five-time champions

Australia at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on Tuesday. Zadran carried his bat till the end, scoring 129 in 143 balls, with eight fours and three sixes. He scored his runs at a strike rate of over 90. This is Afghanistan's first-ever WC ton. Previously, Samiullah Shinwari's 96 against Scotland in the 2015 Cricket World Cup was

Afghanistan's highest individual score in tournament history. Zadran is the fourth youngest to score a hundred in the ODI World Cup at 21 years, 330 days in age. The youngest player to score a World Cup ton is Ireland's Paul Stirling, who was just 20 years, 196 days old when he smashed a ton against the Netherlands in 2011.

Freakish Maxwell double ton confirms Australia's semifinal spot

NewDelhi: There is no footage from Tunbridge Wells and only those that were present at the venue 40 years ago will perhaps be able to attest if Kapil Dev's incredible exploits have been matched, or even surpassed by Glenn Maxwell, who produced an innings of a lifetime to put Australia in the 2023 World Cup semifinal. Maxwell cramped, hobbled, batted on one leg and finished with an astonishing 201* off 128 balls as Australia recovered from 91/7 to chase down Afghanistan's 291. Maxwell registered the highest ODI score while chasing and put on a staggering 202-run partnership for the eighth wicket to which his partner, Pat Cummins, contributed 12 off 68. But beyond the numbers, Mumbai - the spiritual home of Indian cricket - was witness to a theatre of the absurd in which Maxwell defied both belief as well as his physical limits.

In the 41st over of the chase, with victory still 55 runs away, Maxwell completed a single to long on and convulsed, collapsing to the turf in pain after having spent a good five hours out in the muggy confines of this famous stadium. The umpire looked concerned and the physio charged out - not for the first time - to tend to him. Adam Zampa, Australia's No. 10 batter, had made the walk down the steps from the dressing room, fully ready to take Australia past a disbelieving Afghanistan. An hour and a half before Maxwell sent a 10th projectile into the Mumbai sky (he also hit 21 fours), Hashmatullah Shahidi and his team had every reason to believe they had added another former champion, and

arguably the greatest of them, to their list of scalps this tournament. They had the five-time winners spooked to the point where Mitchell Starc walked off despite not edging a ball. It had, in fact, gone to the 'keeper off the stump. Naveen ul Haq and Azmatullah Omarzai had found swing under the lights and snared a brace of wickets each. The latter had dismissed David Warner and Josh Inglis off successive balls and Maxwell walked out to deny the hat-trick. Marnus Labuschagne then ran himself self out before the star man, Rashid Khan, added the wickets of Stoinis and Starc. Australia were tottering while Afghanistan were bristling with energy on the field. Then came the fateful 22nd over, bowled by Noor Ahmad. With the second ball, the left-arm legspinner had Maxwell play down the wrong line and won an LBW appeal with



the umpire. Maxwell reviewed, more in hope than with any conviction, and had begun walking to the dressing room when DRS projected the ball to be bouncing over the stumps. Three legitimate deliveries later, he attempted a sweep but couldn't get on top of the bounce and ended up lobbing a simple catch to short fine-leg, where Mujeeb Ur Rahman

inexplicably dropped it. Maxwell was on 33. Those two reprieves somehow seemed to turn a switch inside him. And he began to play his shots. A half-arm jab from Rashid in the next over nearly went over the ropes and a slog-swipe off Noor whistled to the mid-wicket fence. So far ahead were Afghanistan that they didn't quite comprehend the

turning of the tides, not even when Maxwell got to a 51-ball half-century. Then he added the next 50 to his score in just 25 more balls and those in the Afghanistan dugout were now pictured shifting uneasily in their seats. Shahidi backed his team's spin strengths to a point where he kept his two seamers away from the attack for too long. When Naveen did

return, the complexion of the game had changed and Australia needed under 100 runs to win. Pat Cummins, the Australia captain, had made just 8 runs when the partnership had touched 100 and 11 when it passed 150. By then Maxwell's movements had been severely restricted by the bout of cramps and he began denying singles, choosing instead to stand and swing boundaries at will. Cummins, at the other end, was happy to play out maidens, fully aware that Maxwell's hits were keeping the asking rate well in control. And Afghanistan had become powerless to deny this duality. As fate would have it, it was a Mujeeb over that sealed their fate. Maxwell went dot, six, six, four and six to round off one of the most incredible games of cricket in World Cup history by becoming the first man from his country to score an ODI double hundred. From an Afghanistan point of view, it was a

crushing end to a day that had promised so much. They'd won the toss and hedged their bets on putting Australia under scoreboard pressure on a ground that is notoriously tough to defend on. Ibrahim Zadran stitched half-century stands with Rahmat Shah and Shahidi enroute to becoming the first Afghan batter to score a World Cup century. Zadran carried his bat through to score 129 off 143. Rashid Khan provided the finishing kick with a sensational 18-ball 35 and the pair of them added 75 from the final six overs to take Afghanistan to their highest score in ODI World Cup history. All of it, however, ended up being footnotes at the end of the night. Brief scores: Afghanistan 291/5 in 50 overs (Ibrahim Zadran 129*, Rashid Khan 35*, Josh Hazlewood 2-39) lost to Australia 293/7 in 46.5 overs (Glenn Maxwell 201*, Pat Cummins 12*, Rashid Khan 2-44) by three wickets