

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES THE 20TH CONVOCATION OF UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

New Delhi, (KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the 20th convocation of the University of Kashmir at Srinagar today (October 11, 2023). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the country is proud of the responsible youth of Kashmir. She urged students of University of Kashmir to actively participate in social service along with their studies. She said that by doing this, they could bring social change and set an example. She was happy to note that alumni have brought glory to this university by serving the country.

Referring to the motto of the University of Kashmir which means 'let us move from darkness to light', the President said that the more our youth move towards the light of education and towards the light of peace, the more our country will progress. She added that the society and country whose youth follow the path of development and discipline, move forward on the path of progress and prosperity. The President was happy to note that 55 percent of students at Kashmir University are girls. She said that they present the picture of our country and its destiny. The women and girls are



ready to play a bigger role in the leadership of the country. She

expressed confidence that the 'Nari Shakti Vandan Act' 2023 would

prove to be a revolutionary step towards women-led

development in our country. Speaking about

sustainable development, the President said that the lessons of sustainable development are part of Kashmir's heritage. She cited a saying which means 'there will be food only as long as there are forests' and said that it is the responsibility of all of us to preserve this paradise on earth. She urged Kashmir University to be alert in preserving the Himalayan ecosystem. She was happy to note that work related to glaciology, biodiversity conservation and the Himalayan Ice-Core Laboratory is at different stages. She expressed confidence that the university would work at a fast pace in all

such areas. The President said that in the National Education Policy emphasis has been laid on Indian Knowledge Systems. If our youth are given good information about Indian Knowledge Systems, they will get many inspiring examples. The work done by an expert, Suyya, about 1200 years ago, to save the city of Srinagar from the flood of Jhelum can be termed as hydraulic engineering. She said that our country has priceless treasures in every field of knowledge and science. It is the responsibility of the academic world to find ways to re-use such organically grown knowledge systems in today's circumstances.

Odisha will be self-sufficient in animal husbandry and egg production



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Odisha will be self-sufficient in animal husbandry, milk production, meat and egg production. Sri Asit Tripathy, Principal Advisor to Chief Minister has informed that all kinds of facilities will be provided to the farmers of Odisha to become successful entrepreneurs through Mukhyamantri Krushi Udyog Yojana. Today, the review meeting of Fisheries and Animal

Resources Development Department has been held in the conference hall at Kharveh Bhawan. About 60 lakh families are engaged in agriculture in Odisha. They practice traditional farming and also take up cattle rearing, fishing and poultry farming. Sri Tripathy opined that this has given them an opportunity to become entrepreneurs. A recent survey was conducted by the help of APICOL, Fisheries and

Animal Resources Development Department and Agriculture Department. A scheme will be prepared to promote potential farmers as successful entrepreneurs. Incentives will be provided to the skilled farmers identified in this survey of about 6000 farming families to do multiple farming. Mr. Tripathi has directed to conduct a similar survey and prepare a plan for their progress after

taking feedback from the farmers. Cross breed cows, distribution of fodder, subsidy in animal husbandry are being supported in the state to increase cattle rearing. Steps are being taken to connect producers with markets. On the other hand, egg and meat production has increased in the state through commercial poultry farms, semi-commercial poultry farms and backyard poultry. In the review meeting, Shri Suresh Kumar Vashishth, IAS, Principal Secretary of Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department other officials of the department were present. In addition, the members of OMFED and APICOL were present in the meeting.

Rajasthan Assembly Election Now On Nov 25 As ECI Revises Schedule

Jaipur, (KCN): Rajasthan Assembly Elections dates have been postponed by the Election Commission of India (ECI). Election to the 200-member Rajasthan Assembly will now be held on 25 November instead of 23 November. The counting of votes will take place on 3 December. The ECI cited "large-scale" weddings and social engagements in Rajasthan on 23 November, for postponing the assembly election dates. "Representations have been received in the Commission from various political parties, social organisations and also issues raised in various media platforms for change of date of poll considering large scale wedding/social engagement on that day which may cause inconvenience to large number of people, various logistic issues and may lead to reduced voters participation during (Rajasthan assembly) poll," the official statement read.

SC Issues Notice To Centre On Uniform Guidelines For Digital Birth, Death Certificate



New Delhi, (KCN): The Supreme Court of India notified the Union government to develop uniform guidelines for issuing birth and death certificates through digital mode. "Issue notice to the Government of India and to be served via the concerned Additional Solicitor General on the issue of formulating suitable guidelines for uniform birth and death certificates through

digital mode. It will avoid delay and inconvenience to those who wish to apply for it," ruled a recent order from the bench of Justices S. Ravindra Bhat and Aravind Kumar. This decision was made when the bench deliberated a special leave petition brought by a village official convicted of violating the Prevention of Corruption Act for

allegedly taking a payment from a deceased person's son in exchange for certifying his father's death. It issued the appellant-officer notice of the sentence's length and granted him temporary bail. The appellant challenged the one-year sentence given by the Madurai bench of the Madras High Court after being accused of requesting a Rs. 1,500 illegal gratuity.

CM Naveen Felicitates Odisha Hockey Stars Amit Rohidas, Deep Grace Ekka With Cash Award For Hangzhou Feat



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik felicitated Odisha's hockey players, Amit Rohidas and Deep Grace Ekka, for their remarkable feat in the recently concluded Hangzhou Asian Games. He felicitated Amit Rohidas with a cash award of Rs 1.5 crore, while Deep Grace Ekka was felicitated with a cash prize of Rs 50 lakh. Both the players were part of the Indian Hockey Teams. While the men's team had bagged the coveted Gold & qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024, the

women's team had secured the bronze. Chief Minister expressed his immense pride in the achievements of these two outstanding players, who have brought great honour to the state through their dedication, hard work, and exceptional talent. Secretary (ST) V K Pandian was also present during the felicitation and congratulated both the players for their commitment and hard work for the country. Amit Rohidas, a prominent hockey player, has consistently displayed exemplary skills on the field. He has been an

instrumental part of the Indian Men's Hockey Team, contributing significantly to their victories on the international stage. Amit's stellar performance has made him a role model for aspiring athletes across the nation, particularly in Sundargarh, the hockey cradle of Odisha. Deep Grace Ekka, a star in the world of women's hockey, has also been a source of pride for the young women players of the state. Her consistent excellence in defense has been instrumental in the success of the Indian Women's Hockey Team at many international events. Both Amit Rohidas and Deep Grace Ekka expressed their gratitude for the honor and vowed to continue working hard to bring more glory to Odisha and the nation through their sporting achievements.

Odisha CM Launches 'Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana'; 15K Women Receive Scooters

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today launched the Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana for the members of self-help groups (SHGs) in the state. The scheme will facilitate full interest subvention on bank loans up to Rs 1 lakh to eligible women to purchase scooters of their choice. While 100 women were handed over the keys to scooters, at least 15,000 women will receive scooters under the 'Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana'. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the performance of women involved in the Mission Shakti scheme is not only good but praiseworthy. Speaking on the occasion, the CM said, "Today marks a pivotal moment in the journey of empowerment of women. We have taken a significant stride



towards supporting our mothers as they receive their Mission Shakti scooters. The State Government is providing a generous interest subvention of Rs 528 crore. Over 2 lakh Mission Shakti mothers and grassroots staff will benefit from this program, with more than 15,000 already receiving their scooters today." The Federation ecosystem, from panchayat to district level has been set in place to support Mission Shakti SHGs at the grassroots. SHG

Federation Leaders and Community Support Staff provide crucial services and handholding towards training, financial inclusion, livelihood promotion, and market linkage. In recognition of the contribution of Federation Leaders and CSS towards women's empowerment, the State Government has announced an "Interest-Free Loan for purchase of Scooter by Mission Shakti Federation Leaders and CSS", further empowering them in their roles. By providing Mission

efficiency and expand their outreach within the community. Around 75,000 Community Support Staff (CSS) comprise Community Resource Person-Community Mobilization, Master Book Keeper, Prani Mitra, Krushi Mitra, Bank Mitra, Livelihood Support Person, Community Resource Person — Enterprise Promotion, Udyog Mitra, Business Development Service Provider including SHG members acting as Business Correspondent Agent.

Nearly 1,25,000 Federation Leaders comprising Executive Members and Office Bearers of GP / Ward Level Federation, Block Level Federation (BLF) / City Level Federation and District Level Federation (DLF) will benefit under the new scheme. With a dedicated budgetary provision of Rs. 528.55 crores over the next five years, Mission Shakti is determined to make this scheme widely accessible, empowering more Community Support Staff and EC members across the State. The "Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana" not only eases the personal mobility of women but also acknowledges the vital role played by Community Support Staff and EC members in driving social change and development for women empowerment across the state.

Aspects of Love

RK Biswal

Between brother & sister
Its share affection
Laughing and teasing

For parents it
In its purest form
Demands devotion and respect
And it is very worm

With friends and mates
Its unselfish sharing
The ups and downs of life
And mutual caring

With teacher it is
Based on trust
While obedience and good
Manners is a must

Between man & woman
It's a magical thing
Giving meaning to life
OH, love lights everything.

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Naked trained

Dwit David Philip



I am standing around the wealth of the world,
Nothing is mine, I have captured,
Not satisfied what I have all,
A body is given to me, that I am giving to others, for my fall,
My body, with experiences and with wisdom and strength, that's enough,
Time unknown, getting worry to overcome,
Born without strength, experience and wisdom,
How will end off no one knows,
Always sorrowful, if anything is not enough,
Enough, is the store house, the universe,
I am standing around being without even a single cloth,
A begger, till I am longing all those for,
I am a slave of my expectations, really I saw.
My body is mine, desperate and needs to add on,
Who sent me or the one behind me not yet known.
I have a real anger against all the religions,
I have not found yet my own message and saying good or bad to the world,
Creator and created, sudden or with a purpose, is my imagination,
Bible of truths, found logical, it sounds well and have got applications.
No religion,
Born naked, earned experience and given some wisdom that's all,
Social research or physical research
Trained analysis, if says yes, I need to make final.

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Quotation of the Day

“Every day may not be good,
but there's something
good in every day.”

— Alice Morse Earle

Amrita Pritam: a Memoir

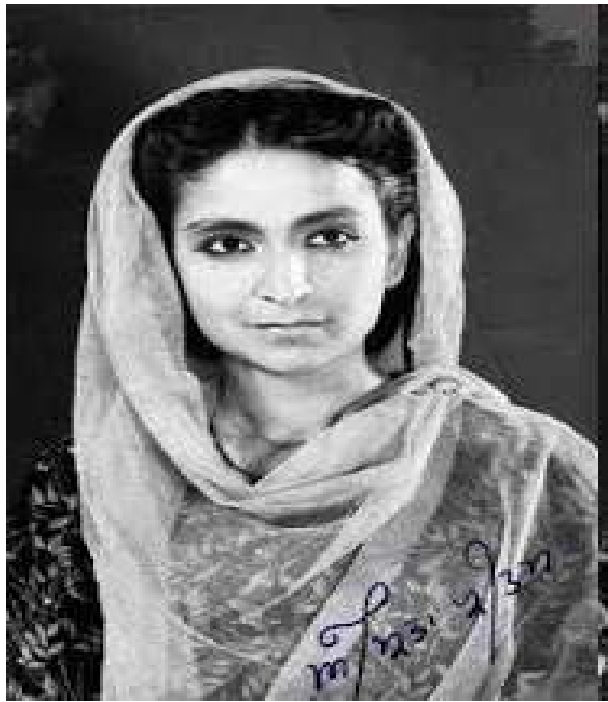
Prof.MANAS RANJAN MAHAPATRA



When I joined NBT way back in 1990 my office was in a rented building at Green Park. House of Dr J P Das at Hauz Khas was almost in front of my office and often I used to meet him for advice. Houses of two great authors of Punjabi, Amrita Pritam and Kartar Singh Duggal were almost next door.

National Book Trust did not have its Odia Advisory Panel Meeting for 13 years when I joined. My immediate predecessor was a nice person, but had no background of literature and publishing. I took Odisha Sahitya Akademi as a partner in many activities. To my great fortune, Indubhusan Kar, who was an OAS officer, was the Secretary. We together planned to hold a National Conference of Odia Literature at Delhi. Indubabu and I together roamed around Delhi to meet prominent writers of other languages who can possibly be roped in to participate in the conference to give it a national colour. It was the maiden attempt to put Odia Literature in the national perspective. We went to residences of writers like Indira Goswami, Sisir Kumar Das, Kedarnath Singh and many, and finally reached the residence of Amrita Pritam. It

was evening. One gentleman came out. I presumed, he may be Imroz with whom Amrita Pritam was living in for years. He welcomed us and took inside. The room had dreamy light, not very sharp. Indubabu informed Amrita Pritam beforehand. We met her.



What a graceful beauty she had. And, a very soft tone. She was a personal friend of Nandini Satpathy, writer and former CM and had visited Odisha a number of times. She agreed to be in the Conference and did it. With Coffee and Pakoda we returned with a happy note. I have been to the house of Amrita Pritam on many occasions for some or the other works of NBT. Many times I met Imroz, who always tried to keep himself away from public eye and used to do painting. Whenever Young Odia Writers used to ask me for help to meet renowned writers in Delhi, I used to send them to meet these luminaries. Amrita Pritam died a bit early. I translated her poems and wrote a

piece on her when she got Jnanpith in Alok in 1981. There was a lot of hue and cry when she got Jnanpith. Later I understood that many such awards are given on several considerations and not literary excellence alone. But she was a very good writer. A few years back after

the death of Amrita Pritam, Nirakar Das, PRO of East Coast Railways wanted to hold a function to remember the great author and wanted Imroz to be there. He approached me and I called Imroz. 'Manasji, when Amrita was alive, I used to not accompany her, for I always wanted her to remain great alone. Now, after her death I still maintain the same conviction. I don't want to take a share from her greatness.' Imroz politely replied.

Visiting Professor of Development Communication
Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India
Former Director,

Located in eastern India along the Hoogly river, Kolkata (formerly known as Calcutta) is often referred to as the cultural capital of India. With the grand colonial architecture, rich traditions, beautiful music and art, this city has a unique character. As a home to esteemed artists like Rabindranath Tagore and Satyajit Ray, among others, the people of this city have a special appreciation for literature as well as cinema. The city also provides an unparalleled religious and cultural experience of Durga puja each year.

“Dugga Dugga” echo the united voices of all the ladies in the household as they move towards the pandals for pujo, wishing for a safe journey ahead in life. The sound of intense beats coming from the dhak mixed with the aroma of the dhunuchi lit in every house, park or corner fills the streets of Kolkata. Clad in the most beautiful attires, adorning the heaviest of jewels and thickest of bangles with sindoor and bindis on their temple, the women seem to walk a step ahead of the men today. After all, Durga pujo is the day of the Devi. Nothing but colour and festivity flow through the lanes in the nine days that Maa Durga stays in her basha (house) with her four children, only to be united with her



husband Shiva on the tenth day, (also known as Vijayadashami). But does it really end there? The massive grandeur and style of Durga puja is not restricted to being just a nine-day festival. It houses itself in the hearts of the devotees who utter “Maa Dugga” at the smallest of hiccups in life. The resounding ullu (a high-pitched ululation sound created by striking both cheeks with the tongue believed to be very auspicious and said to ward off any evil) echoes in the streets of the city long after the pujo is all wrapped up. The legends speak of Goddess Durga as a creation of the three most powerful Devas (Gods) in the Hindu Pantheon – Brahma (the creator), Vishnu (the preserver) and Shiva (the destroyer). The story of Durga's birth is narrated in the Devi Bhagvatam. According to this sacred text, once a son called Mahishasura was born to an Asura (demon). Born as an Asura, he saw the victory of Devas over Asuras in every fight. Annoyed by the constant defeat of the Asuras, Mahishasura

decided to perform a tapasaya (a long penance) to please the Devas. Years went by. Impressed by Mahishasura's dedication, Lord Brahma decided to grant him a boon. Elated at such an opportunity, Mahishasura asked Brahma to bless him such that neither a man nor a God could kill him. Thus, his death would lie only in the hands of a woman – which in his mind was impossible. Taking advantage of the boon, Mahishasura, along with his troop of Asuras, invaded the Earth. He looted and killed with impunity. Soon, raging with power, he decided to take over heaven believing he could be the ruler of all the three realms. The battle between the Asuras and the Devas was ferocious. Mahishasura finally defeated the army of Indra in Amravati. Humiliated, the Devas met with the Tridevas, hoping to find a solution. Frustrated and angry at the defeat of the Devas, the Tridevas started to think. “Only a woman can kill Mahishasura” said Lord Brahma, thinking

about the boon he had given the Asura. But which woman in the three realms was strong enough to take on the battle? The Tridevas put their minds together and using their powers created energy that took the form of Devi Durga. Each of the Devas gave their weapon to the Devi to help her kill Mahishasura. Himavat, the God of Himalaya, gave the Devi a Lion to mount on. Initially, when Durga approached Amravati, Mahishasura laughed at the thought of fighting a woman. But as the war raged, Mahishasura realised that he was no match for the supreme powers embodied within the Devi. In the ten days of battle, the Asura kept changing forms to confuse her, but the Devi never missed her aim. As soon as the Asura changed to his original form, a buffalo, Durga swiftly beheaded him, thus freeing heaven and earth of the tyrant. Hence, Durga came to be known as Mahishasura Mardini (The Killer of

Mahishasura). This last scene is replicated in many of the idols of the Devi worshipped in the Durga puja. In some idols the stance of Maa Durga while killing the Asura is similar to that of Shiva during Tandava. Celebrated in the month of Ashvin (September–October), Durga puja (fondly referred to as Pujo) is one of the most awaited festivals in India, especially in West Bengal. Even though the weather starts becoming cooler, the air is thick with the warmth radiated by the devotees. The origins of the Devi as a deity are lost in the mists of time. Over time, we find mentions of the Goddess in various texts from the Vedic era and also in the Ramayana and Mahabharata. Even much later, Krittivasi's rendition of Ramayana, composed in the 15th century, speaks of Durga being worshipped with 108 blue lotuses and 108 sacred lamps by Lord Rama before his battle with Ravana. The day that Lord Rama defeated Ravana is celebrated as Dussehra which falls on the tenth day (Dashami) of the Durga puja.

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Leo Trailer: Vijay's Fans Break Seats, Goes On Rampage At Chennai Theatre, Videos Go Viral

The first official trailer of actor Vijay's much-awaited film 'Leo' was dropped only recently, bringing joy to his fans across the globe. However, in Chennai, some of the fans went a little too excited after watching the trailer at a cinema hall and went on a rampage at Rohini Silver Screens in the capital city of Tamil Nadu. The incident occurred at Chenna's Rohini Silver Screens where a special screening of the 'Leo' trailer was organized for fans.

Videos and photos from the theatre show that several seats were broken and the hall was littered with confetti

remains. According to reports, fans became unruly and started cheering and dancing after watching the trailer. Some fans even climbed onto the seats and started jumping, which caused them to break.

The theatre management has condemned the incident and said that they will be taking legal action against the fans who damaged the property. They have also appealed to fans to show respect for the theatre and other moviegoers. This is not the first time that fans of Vijay have damaged property. In the past, there have been several incidents of fans vandalizing theatres and public property after



watching trailers or films of their favourite actor. The incident has sparked a debate about the behaviour of fans and the role of celebrities in curbing such incidents. Some people have criticized Vijay for not

appealing to his fans to show restraint. Others have said that the onus is on the theatre management to take better security measures and to prevent fans from damaging property.

It is important to note that not all fans of Vijay behave in this way. Most of his fans are respectful of the law and of other people's property. However, there is a small minority of fans who engage in

destructive behaviour. This behaviour is unacceptable and should not be tolerated. The theatre management should take steps to prevent fans from damaging property. They should have more security guards in place, and they should install CCTV cameras throughout the theatre. They should also make it clear to fans that any damage to property will result in legal action. It is important to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all moviegoers. Everyone has a role to play in preventing incidents like this from happening in the future.

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



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

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

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

before story of four women, all different from each other, and daring to ride bikes to world's highest motorable road, the Khardungla Pass. The film stars Fatima Sana Shaikh, Ratna Pathak, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi in lead roles. Apart from 'Dhak Dhak', Fatima has interesting films in her future line. She will be next seen in Sam Bahadur and 'Metro.. In Dino'.

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' Postponed? Fans Speculate It Might Clash With Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3'

: After Pathaan's massive success at the box office, Shah Rukh Khan is all set to collaborate with Atlee for 'Jawan' and the superstar's looks leaked from the sets have kept fans excited. However, the latest update on the film is that it has been postponed. Film trade analyst Ramesh Bala

took to his Twitter handle and wrote, "#SRK - Dir #Atlee's #Jawan release is being pushed from June to October." This left the fans confused as Salman Khan's Tiger 3 is also headed for a Diwali release so pushing the release date might led the two films to clash at the box office. "Oct means

Diwali period? But, 2023's Diwali is pre-occupied by @BeingSalmanKhan's #Tiger3," a user commented. "Well, hang on! Diwali is on 12th Nov this year. #Tiger3 on 10th Nov. Maybe #Jawaan on 1st Friday of Oct?," wrote another user. Jawan is helmed by Atlee. It also

stars actress Nayanathara and Vijay Sethupathi. The film is billed as an event film with high-octane action sequences. Shah Rukh's production company Red Chillies Entertainment has produced it. Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3' on the other hand, is all set to release on November 10.



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

Excel Entertainment is one of the leading production houses in Indian cinema and has always hit a chord with its content on every platform. While they have proved their mettle in the theatrical medium, their hands on the digital platform also have no match.

Recently, the production house boomed the digital entertainment sector with their widely acclaimed show 'Bambai Meri Jaan'. The much-acclaimed show, released on Amazon Prime Video, served audiences with top-notch content, taking them into a completely new world



led by exceptional talents Avinash Tiwary and Kay Kay Menon. The show met with

widespread acclaim from every corner, with fans and audiences praising the

content and the performances of the cast. Following the massive success of

the show, Excel Entertainment reported organizing a grand success party

to celebrate the success of the show. The success party was attended by the producers of the show, Farhan Akhtar, Ritesh Sidhwani, cast Avinash Tiwary, Kritika Kamra, Vivan Bhatena, director Shujaat Saudagar, and Rensil D'Silva, amongst others.

Excel Entertainment, which was co-founded by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar, has time and again served the audience with several blockbuster films such as 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara', 'Dil Chahta Hai', and many more.

Empowering Lives through Vision: World Sight Day's Importance



World Sight Day is celebrated globally on the second Thursday of October every year. This year it falls on Thursday, 12 October. The day is celebrated to create awareness about vision loss, blindness as well as vision related problems, highlighting the importance of good vision for all people. The theme of World Sight Day 2023 is "Love your eyes at work: Eye care in the workplace!" This theme underlines the importance of prioritizing vision health in the workplace as a fundamental aspect of overall well-being, as modern lifestyles and with the increasing use of computers, laptops, mobiles and other electronic devices at workplaces, the eyes get stressed the most. In this way, people who spend too much time on the screen are at risk of developing many eye-

related diseases over time. Blue light emitted from mobile-computer or television screens is very harmful for the eyes. World Sight Day promotes equal access to eye care services, especially for underprivileged and marginalized populations. This emphasizes the need to make eye care affordable and available to all. World Sight Day is very important because eye diseases are on the rise across the world. Vision loss affects people of all ages and most affected people are above 50 years of age. The world is becoming blurry due to the increasing number of eye patients. According to WHO, there are more than a billion people who cannot see properly because they do not have access to glasses. Of these, one billion people suffer from preventable vision impairment. Blindness has a long-term impact on every aspect of life such as personal activities, travelling, schooling and work, daily routine, social interaction and

conversation. Eyes and their visual acuity are very helpful in the beauty of the body. Poets have praised the eyes by giving similes in their poems, ghazals and songs. In their imagination, when there is a lack of words; the eyes speak, hence it is important to know about the eyes and protect them on Sight Day. Yes, every part of our body is very precious and important for us. If any of those organs become damaged or weak then we have to face many problems. Not only this, we are also not able to enjoy this life properly. Especially if we talk about eyes, it is the most important part of our body. This is a unique gift of nature, through which one can see the colours and good and bad things of the entire world. In such a situation, if something happens to the eyes, how colourless will the world become? This is a matter of grave concern for anyone; it is the incompleteness of life. The function of the eyes is to see and to convey the scene message to the brain. Eyes are the most

delicate part of the body; hence it is important that we take special care of our eyes. To keep the eyes healthy, it is very important to eat right. Eyes are that part of the body which makes us feel the beauty of the world. However, with



time, the risks associated with it are increasing due to disturbances in lifestyle and eating habits. Be it spending too much time on mobile and computer or diseases like sugar and BP, all these are having an adverse effect on eye health. The main causes of blindness and poor vision in the United States are diseases such as cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma. Eye is that

organ of living beings which is sensitive to light. Good vision has a profound impact on a person's quality of life. It enables people to perform daily tasks, receive education, and participate fully in society, contributing to

overall well-being. Sight Day is aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which emphasize that ensuring good vision is an integral part of achieving broader global development objectives. World Sight Day promotes global collaboration, uniting individuals and organizations in a shared mission to prevent vision loss and blindness. Every

year, the Lions Club Foundation becomes active in raising awareness about blindness and vision loss across the world. Its inspiration was the American writer, peace activist, anti-war political activist, social reformer and

motivational speaker Helen Keller, despite being blind herself; she amazing things. In 1925, when Lions International was only seven years old, the famous Helen Keller challenged Lions members at their annual convention to become 'knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness', giving an inspiring address on the prevention of blindness. That speech set a new direction for Lions and

since then the Sight First campaign has been eliminating blindness through the Netra-Kranti. Millions of Lions members around the world are doing remarkable work to help visually impaired people. This effort is being supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). IAPB is a global organization in which various charitable organizations and NGOs from more than 100 countries work together to create a world in which awareness is raised on the issue of blindness, including blindness prevention and finding a cure, through various programs. Many people in some parts of the world are at higher risk of blindness and other optical problems because they do not have adequate access to eye care. World Sight Day provides a perfect inspiration to donate to a charity that helps people who are struggling to get the vision care they need.

Eye health is of utmost importance and vision loss and blindness affects education, employment, quality of life and much more. Therefore, world organizations and individuals must join hands to actively support universal access to eye health and ensure that this mission and vision makes sense for everyone. At the 74th World Health Assembly, Member States adopted two global targets: a 40 percent increase in effective coverage of refractive errors for eye care and a 30 percent increase in effective coverage of cataract surgery by 2030. The above goals will not only increase global eye care coverage but also provide quality services. Along with taking a pledge to donate eyes, we should extend our helping hand to give improved vision to eye patients and strengthen humanity and develop balance and equality in the world.

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RAHUL GANDHI- CONFRONTING HINDUISM BEFORE GEARING UP FOR THE BATTLE



Irrespective of their show of confidence and the display of unity, the opposition parties in India are still short of credible reasons to peel the popularity of the prime minister away. I suspect this trend is only likely to continue. Every allegation and outcry against the government and its leader left the electorate with a question as to who in the opposition alliance is capable and credible enough to counter the prime minister. A void deep and difficult to fathom is felt by the common man. Though cherishing moments of unity have been exhibited by the I.N.D.I.A block, at present, there is no leader influential enough to replicate the prime minister's persona and political positioning. His initiatives for a decade set visible success bars probably beyond the

reach of the warlords in the opposition and he, throughout his tenure maintained the image of a true nationalist, an emotion that he has been using to cement his essence and presence as a leader among people. Transforming the country with more takers leaning and supporting the Indian Nationalistic brand of politics, the Modi fiefdom is all set to sustain if not expanded. Has the I.N.D.I.A block a chance to change the tide in its favor? Let us check the other side. On the Congress side, which is the principal opposition, is Rahul Gandhi, the only leader with a national clout. Rahul Gandhi's unpredictable intellectual makeover is sometimes staggering. I was literally gobsmacked, obviously I was, when I flipped through his article 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram' (Indian Express – October 1) which had nothing to call him a politician. The entire literary expression in the article seemed to be his philosophical

tutoring painted in colorless letters. Why was it necessary for the Congress leader to come out with an article that explained his understanding about Hinduism? Was that probably to build a counter narrative that he thought was required to defend his colleague in Tamil Nadu, the DMK, whose political fracas created a lot of hubbubs across the country? Overwhelmingly philosophical, the article takes you through certain intellectual twists and turns but it ultimately lands you on a smoggy terrain with the visibility reduced to plain puzzlement. But in some areas, the philosopher in him encounters flashes of reality about Hinduism. This means, he has obviously captured a fraction of the gist of what Hinduism is. "To call Hinduism a set of cultural norms is to misunderstand it. To bind it to a particular nation or geography is to limit it. Hinduism is how we mitigate and understand our relationship with our

fears. It is a path towards the realization of truth and though it belongs to no one, it is open to anyone who chooses to walk on it." Scribbling these lines Rahul Gandhi has gone beyond his normal intellectual boundary and tried to encapsulate Hinduism in its spiritual realm. Undoubtedly, Hinduism does not exist in a set of rituals and cultural norms alone. It takes a real practitioner through various paths of seeking the truth and a true seeker ultimately lands on the territory of unlimited joy with his inner spiritual splendor unfolding to its absolute potential. Hinduism is an open path with an access to anyone, as rightly Rahul Gandhi says, irrespective of the identity of the seeker. "In the ocean of life everyone would swim for some time and drown. Realizing this reality of life, a true Hindu looks at himself and others with love and compassion and respect." These lines have a political connotation as well. These lines in his article and his

statement at the Sciences Po University in Paris need to be taken together for a better view of his political admonishment. Criticizing the RSS and the BJP, Rahul said, "I have read the Gita, a number of Upanishads; I have read many Hindu books but there is nothing Hindu about what they do." Exercising an intellectual ambush on his political rivals, Rahul Gandhi was deliberately trying to separate the Hinduism he experienced with his spiritual firmness from the Hinduism that the RSS –BJP combo politically propagated. Rahul Gandhi unequivocally accepts Hinduism as the religion of peace, truth and non-violence. This is an explicit expression of his party's duplicity as well. Let us examine it. Most of the values that Hinduism is known for such as truthfulness, righteousness and compassion have come from its epics and Vedic lore. Hinduism flows from the values embedded in the Ramayana and Mahabharata. Lord

Rama and Ramayana, the religious text depicting his life of supreme values form the core of India and Hinduism. The Hindus believe a life devoid of the values enshrined in these epics would be meaningless. So was the significance of Ram temple for the Hindus in his birth place in Ayodhya. Their fight for the temple was long and consistent. But the Congress in 2009 when it was in power filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court questioning the existence of Lord Ram, probably resulting in the Congress to be buried in the minds of a large section of the Hindu population giving the history an unprecedented turn in 2014. Excavating its duplicity further, the Congress came up with the 'Hindu Terror' narrative that the party set to confront a possible upsurge of a majority which began to disfavor its vote bank gimmicks. The grand old party thought to satiate its minority vote bank by fabricating a right wing terror. Drilling back in history, what we find is more examples of the Congress duplicity. The

UPA government's Sethusamudram project began in 2004 proposing to create a shipping channel by dredging a walkway connecting India and Sri Lanka. The Hindus believe that the bridge Ram Setu was built by Lord Ram as he proceeded to Lanka to retrieve Sita from the clutches of demon-king Ravana. The UPA government in its affidavit in the Supreme Court stated that there was no historical proof of the structure being built by Lord Ram. By doing this, the government and the Congress had questioned the existence of Lord Ram. Undoubtedly, Rahul Gandhi's discovery of a Hindu in his article was accurate. "A Hindu is humble and is always ready to listen and learn from any being that swims in the great ocean of life." Throughout the course of its history this was the reason why Hinduism never entered into a dispute with any other religion but suffered acrimony and religious barbarity from external forces. Politically speaking, the historic mistake of the Congress party was that it took the humility of the majority

as its weakness and ideologically failed to recognize what Hinduism stands for. The compassion, truthfulness and love that the religion holds to its bosom were never recognized by political parties as they were compelled to genuflect to collective vote banks. Scenario changed when Narendra Modi turned the course of the wind. Continuous failures and its falling into political insignificance and oblivion is the reason why Rahul Gandhi and his party turned to their soft Hindutva pedalling. But Congress, being the political opposition of Modi, needs to know where the shoe pinches. Modi has calculated it long ago and he knows where to mend. With his ideology, governance and vision making a perfect amalgam for electoral victories, his Hindutva plank would further intensify his momentum.

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INSTITUTE OF ADVANCE EDUCATION & RESEARCH ORGANIZES BOBBY CHAKRABORTY'S 411TH ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN

Kolkata, (KCN): A transition from school to college life means access to more 'independence' and 'money' for a young mind, both of which are powerful weapons, which can make or break a life. So we greatly appreciate The IAER (Institute of Advance Education & Research) family, with the main initiative from Dr. (Prof.) Srabani Talukdar, Dean of School of Health Science, to collaborate with actor/activist/teacher of method acting Bobby Chakraborty, for his globally acclaimed, free of cost awareness program, titled 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND', for the youth, against all sorts of addiction and harmful social trends, at their



reputed college on 10th October. This was Bobby's 2nd session here. The official photographer of the session was Bivas Saha, a hardworking, dedicated student from BCA (1st year) assisted by Debangshu Sasmal. Bobby took stage to address the students from different streams,

most of whom were from the 1st year, on burning issues of smoking, alcoholism, substance abuse, smart phone addiction, addiction to pornography, ragging, bullying, abusive language, online gambling and obscene/age inappropriate behaviour online to address the students from different streams,

He took to true incidents as reference points, including the mishap in his own family due to addiction, to explain the necessity of the powerful formula HCF (Health - Career - Family) to lead a worthy life. He devised ways to rule one's own mind in order to believe in the mantra of life 'I am the king of my mind'. The students or Bobby's

'soldiers', were extremely receptive and supportive about each point of his pertinent discussion. The ceremonial titles of 'The 1st Soldier' went to Debangshu and 'The Trendsetter' went to Mousam. The surprise contest at the end had Tanushree, Premjit and Biswajit as the winners, who along with Bivas were given special prizes, HCF t-shirts and Community Service Certificates by their beloved 'Bobbydada'. The session saw a powerful and emotional vote of thanks from Dr. Srabani Talukdar who thanked Bobby for his years of selfless service to the society for the betterment of the youth, who are our future.

250 elderly people took advantage of the free eye examination



Sunabeda: (KCN) A free eye camp has been held at Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Club, Ganjam Colony, Sunabeda-3, Koraput District. In this camp, 250 people's eyes were examined. Glasses were given free of cost to those who had eye examination. Dr. Rajendra Kumar Patra Sunabeda Chairperson Municipal Mayor, was present as the chief guest. Dr. Ramesh

Kumar, Dr. Sandeep examined the eyes of elderly men and women. Purna Mohanty, Dr. Shivashankar, Prakash Khosla, president of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Club, aspirants Padmini Harijan, Saraswati Harijan along with Daniel Kuldeep, Sagar Khara, Deepak Naik, Anganwadi Didi Soudamini Ojha, Saraswati Sahu,

Hanuman Bazar and Ganjam Colony Mass Group along with others present. was Ward No. 5 Councilor Manoj Suna conducted the program and he was assisted by Ward No. 2 Councilor Ram Benia. Councilor Manoj Suna said that such health camps will be conducted in the coming days and the local people will be provided with facilities.

DIRECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN COAST GUARD VISITS



Kolkata, (KCN): The Director General, Indian Coast Guard, Rakesh Pal, PTM, TM Director General, Indian Coast Guard was on his maiden visit to Coast Guard Region Headquarters (North East) from October 10-13, 2023 to review the Operational Readiness and status of ongoing infrastructure development projects in the State of West Bengal, which would involve inspecting afloat

facilities and equipment at Haldia and visit to forward Indian Coast Guard base at Frazerganj for assessing Operational preparedness. The Flag Officer visited Headquarters (NE) today and was received with the Ceremonial 50 Men Guard of Honour. He was presented with an overview on Coast Guard Operational and on-going Coast Guard infrastructure

development projects in West Bengal and Odisha. In his address, the Flag Officer apprised officers and men of Indian Coast Guard on policy reviews, upcoming development in terms of Infrastructure, augmentation of CG Fleet and international cooperation. The Flag Officer will be Chairing the National Maritime Search and Rescue Board meeting (NMSARB) tomorrow at Kolkata.

BJP Nominates Purandar Mishra from Raipur North Seat

Raipur/Bhubaneswar, (KCN) : Bhartiya Janata Party nominated renowned social leader and founder Chairman of Lord Jagannath Temple at Raipur, Purandar Mishra as its candidate to contest ensuing Assembly Election. Shri Mishra has been given Party's Ticket from Raipur City North Assembly seat. Shri Mishra will be having the privilege of contesting Chhattisgarh Assembly poll as the lone Odia candidate from any nationalised party. It is worth mentioned here that the Gayatri Nagar,

where Shri Mishra has founded the largest Lord Jagannath Temple of Chhattisgarh State comes under his electoral constituency. Recently Purandar Mishra has been unanimously elected as the President of Greater Odia Samaj in Chhattisgarh. The Samaj has been formed with the representatives of 24 odia communities representing 35 lakhs of odia inhabitants in the state. At present Shri Mishra also holds the coveted position of Chief Patron of Chhattisgarh Branch of

World Odisha Society. The entire Odia Community from the nook and corner of Chhattisgarh welcomed the pleasant news of the announcement of Shri Mishra's candidature in Assembly poll with much fanfare and massive euphoria. Congratulatory notes and best wishes have been pouring in from his fans, followers and well wishers from Odisha and across the country. As per family sources several Non Resident Odia leaders from India and abroad have also sent their goodwill messages to Shri Mishra.

TWO LeT TERRORISTS NEUTRALISED IN SHOPIAN BY SECURITY FORCES

Srinagar, (KCN): On receipt of intelligence inputs from agencies about presence of two Unidentified Terrorists in general area village Alishahpur, Shopian, a joint search operation was launched by the Indian Army and JKP on intervening night of 09/10 October 23.

The area was cordoned by the security forces to carry out search. At around 01:00 AM the terrorists opened

fire on the security forces which resulted in a fire fight. Two terrorists were neutralised during the operations. The slain terrorists have been identified as Morifat Maqbool and Jazim Farooq, both from LeT. It has also been learned from police sources that Jazim Farooq alias Abrar was involved in killing of Late Mr Sanjay Sharma a Kashmiri Pandit in Pulwama on 26 February

this year. Two AK Series rifles, one pistol and other war like stores have been recovered.

This has once again brought to fore the nefarious designs of Pakistan in supporting terrorists and trying to disrupt peace and development in Kashmir. The high level of synergy between security forces and intelligence agencies has once again proved to be very effective in elimination of terrorists in hinterland.

World Post Day & National Postal Week observed by India Post across India

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): World Post Day was observed by India Post across India on 9th October 2023. Theme of World Post Day 2023 was "Together for trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future" World Post Day is celebrated each year on 9 October, the anniversary of establishment of Universal Postal Union in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland. It was declared World Post Day by UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. Since then, countries across the world participate annually in the celebrations. The Postal systems in many countries use the observance to introduce or promote new postal products and services. India Post across India observed World Post Day on 9th October 2023. India Post West Bengal Circle, observing World Post Day and National Postal Week from 9th October to 13th October 2023. Shri Anil Kumar Post Master General MM and BD West Bengal Circle

briefed media on India Post West Bengal Circle achievements. Based on theme of 2023 "Together for Trust", India Post initiated several measures to connect with common people. India Post is playing critical role in the socio-economic development of the nation. West Bengal Postal Circle, in the wake of economic upheaval in the post covid period, has excelled on a trail of services such as DNK, Parcel Packaging Units, ODOP and other social security benefits through AePs. These services are provided to people in line with the ethos of Digital India. To take the services at the door step of the common people, West Bengal Circle has also started the Dak Community Development Program which is being conducted in each division on monthly basis. The events aim to bring under one roof all the services of the Department and to cater to the needs of the people. West Bengal Circle is also one of the



forerunners in providing hassle free international mail service through Dak Niryat Kendra presently operational in 30 locations, booking EMS merchandise and document, international air parcels and also registered letter and packets. India Post started Express Cargo Service jointly with Indian Railways. The special focus of the service is on e-commerce

customers and MSMEs. Any customers can transport items weighing between 35 kgs and 100kgs. Number of parcels booked from January to August 2023 in West Bengal Circle is 10721. Total charges amounting is INR 3138373/-. India Post earned INR 1261351/- as charges of parcel business operation. India Post West Bengal Circle has shown growth in its

revenue during the FY 2022-23. Total revenue achieved in Speed Post document and Parcel was INR 196.39 cr and that of other BD products was INR 97.78 cr. Postal Department and it's sub Division observing : •Vittiya Sashaktikaran Diwas : 10th October , •Philately Day : 11th October , •Mails and Parcels Day : 12th October •Antyodaya Diwas : 13th of October 2023. To observe 'Philately Day', a permanent pictorial cancellations on Durga Puja and important landmarks of Kolkata was launched and Picture Postcards released at Kolkata GPO by Shri Sanjiv Ranjan Postmaster General Kolkata Region in presence of Shri Gaurav Singla Director of Postal Services Kolkata Region. India Post is observing Postal Week to spread awareness of its wide range of services amongst the common people in the society as well as how common people can benefit from the various services in every day life.

Sialendoscopy Can Cure Salivary Gland Sans Scars, Says Expert at KIMS Guest Lecture

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The advent of advanced medical care has come as a boon to treat not only complex cases but also eliminate the possibility of surgery-related scars. Sialendoscopy is one such pathbreaking procedure in treating salivary gland-related diseases. It leaves no facial scars if a patient needs to go for surgical intervention, said Renowned Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) surgeon Prof Milind M Navalakhe. Speaking at a Guest Lecture Series at KIMS, Prof Navalakhe, who is associated with the GS Seth Medical College & KEM Hospital in Mumbai, emphasized that the procedure is suitable for individuals of all

ages, from new-borns to octogenarians, due to its precision and results-driven approach. "In the age of selfies and minimally invasive surgery, people are averse to scars on their skin and it's a big no when their face is involved. Therefore, Sialendoscopy is the best possible way for diseases relating to salivary glands both for their diagnosis and treatment," he said. Prof Navalakhe said that insurance companies often cover a substantial portion of the associated expenses, making it a practical option for people across different age groups. During his lecture, he also discussed the potential of endoscopic methods



in managing salivary gland issues, including the removal of salivary gland stones, known as Sialolithiasis. Professor Navalakhe holds the distinction of being the second Indian ENT surgeon to undergo specialized Sialendoscopy training. He is also the first practitioner in the private sector to have performed nearly 2,000 such surgeries to date. As part of his visit to KIMS, he conducted four live demonstration

surgeries for faculty members and residents. However, Professor Navalakhe acknowledged that the Sialendoscopy procedure can be expensive, primarily due to the cost of one-time-use accessories. A diagnostic Sialendoscopy process is estimated to be around Rs 70,000, while a surgical procedure like the removal of salivary gland stones (Sialolithiasis) can cost

approximately 1.5 lakhs. The Guest Lecture by Dr. Navalakhe was attended by several dignitaries, including Professor Ramnath Misra, Dean of R&D and Head of Clinical Immunology & Rheumatology; Medical Superintendent Professor Rama Chandra Das; Vice-Principal Professor Shubhansu Patro; Additional Medical Superintendent Professor Kabi Kanta Samantray and Head of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) Professor Khageswar Rout. Senior Professor of Orthopaedics Tanmoy Mohanty, Head of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Professor Jyotsnamayee Panda, and postgraduate students were also present.

INAUGURATION AND LEAGUE MATCHES OF 'GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT LOLAB 2023 PRELUDE EVENT OF LOLAB MELA'

Kupwara Kashmir (Aasif Malik): Nurturing sports talent in girls, especially in the sport of volleyball, is essential for promoting gender equality in sports and fostering a healthy, active lifestyle. Providing young girls with access to volleyball training programs, facilities, and coaching is the first step in identifying and developing their potential. By creating a supportive and inclusive environment, we can encourage more girls to participate in volleyball and unlock



their hidden talents. This is for the second time the *Volleyball Tournament for Girls* is being organized prelude to *LOLAB MELA* at

such a huge level in Lolab, Kupwara. In this Girls Volleyball Championship, A total of *17 teams and 180 girls* from Lolab, Kupwara District will

be participating in the event. The event will be conducted for more than a week. The participation in the event has been overwhelming as teams participating in the event are from various educational institutes of Lolab valley.

The event's aim is to identify sporting talents and provide the Girls and women of Kashmir the immense opportunities to excel in sports. The event is highly appreciated by the Civil Administration, PRIs, Locals and the participants.

PMG, Kolkata Region Releases Permanent Pictorial Cancellations on Durga Puja & Important Landmarks of City

Kolkata, (KCN): As a part of celebrating the National Postal Week from October 9 to 13, 2023, the Department of Post today observed the 'Philately Day'. To mark the occasion, a programme was held at Kolkata GPO where permanent pictorial cancellations on Durga Puja and important landmarks of the city, like Victoria Memorial, Alipore Central Jail, Indian Museum, Jorasanko Thakurbari, Kalighat Temple and Dakshineswar Kali Temple were released along with picture postcards by Shri Sanjiv Ranjan, Postmaster General,



Kolkata Region. These collections are available for the public in the Philately department of GPO. While addressing the audience, Shri Ranjan urged the youngsters to grow up the habit of stamp

collection and mentioned the rich cultural heritage of the city which gave birth to the genius like Rabindranath Tagore, the poet Laureate. The programme was attended by dignitaries like Shri Gaurav Singla,

Director of Postal Services (Hqrs) and Deputy Director of Post Offices, West Bengal, Shri Anup Kumar Mandal. Besides, prizes were awarded to those who achieved records in increasing the numbers of Postal Life Insurance (PLI) beneficiaries.

Rahul Maharana's Heroic Efforts: Reviving Mangrove Forests to Combat Climate Change in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The picturesque coastal region of Astarang, nestled in the heart of Odisha, holds an invaluable treasure: its vibrant mangrove forests. These lush ecosystems, rich in biodiversity, are crucial in the fight against the adverse effects of climate change. In recent years, the state of Odisha has witnessed an alarming increase in natural calamities, primarily due to climate change. Districts like Bhadrak, Balasore, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, and Ganjam have emerged as sensitive areas vulnerable to the ravages of storms and floods.

The primary threats to these regions are man-made, specifically pollution of the rivers and seas. As rivers and oceans struggle under the weight of pollution, the need to protect the rare mangrove forests along the coastline becomes paramount. These forests, often referred to as hental forests, are vital not only for their intrinsic ecological value but also for their role in mitigating the effects of climate change. Amidst these concerns, a beacon of hope shines



bright in the form of Rahul Maharana, a 23-year-old resident of Balipatna in Khordha district. Rahul, who works as a security guard in a private company in Bhubaneswar, has dedicated himself to the cause of saving the mangrove forests of Astarang in the Devi estuary under the Puri district. He has initiated a weekly mangrove forest cleanliness campaign, aimed at decontaminating the mangrove forests adjacent to the Devi river mouth and Keluni mouth in Puri district. Rahul's commitment to the environment is exemplified by his unwavering dedication. He tirelessly works every weekend to clear the mangrove forest in the Devi river mouth area, which had been marred by the devastating effects of plastic pollution. Over

time, he and his team have managed to collect tons of garbage from the Astarang mangrove forest, all of which is sent for recycling. Rahul's selfless efforts have not gone unnoticed. He received a well-deserved accolade from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who praised his work during his 'Mann Ki Baat' program. The recognition is a testament to Rahul's indomitable spirit and his contributions to the preservation of these vital ecosystems.

The Odisha mangrove forest cleanliness campaign spearheaded by Rahul Maharana is now a community-driven initiative. It seeks to address the pressing issue of waste disposal along the river and ocean, which poses a severe threat to the mangrove forest's biodiversity. River-side villagers and tourists are

often responsible for dumping tons of garbage daily, directly impacting the ecological balance.

Rahul's vision for the future includes not only cleaning up the mangrove forests but also creating awareness about the importance of these ecosystems. He plans to ensure that all waste materials are collected and sent for recycling, paving the way for a more sustainable and cleaner coastal environment. Through his campaign, he intends to educate the coastal communities of Astarang about the significance of protecting these mangrove forests.

In the face of rising climate change challenges, Rahul Maharana's dedicated efforts stand as a beacon of hope for the Devi estuary in Astarang and the entire Odisha coastline.

His selflessness, passion, and unwavering commitment to environmental conservation exemplify the power of individuals to make a positive impact. In the journey towards safeguarding our planet, it is individuals like Rahul who inspire us all to take action and work towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

After a decade, ASI begins excavation of Barabati Fort again

CUTTACK (KCN): After a gap of 16 years, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) restarted the excavation of Barabati Fort at Cuttack on Monday. On the day, a broken structural fragment was found. Built by the Ganga dynasty on the banks of the Mahanadi River, the fort was declared an ASI-protected monument in 1915 and excavation at the site began in 1989. The fort was last excavated in 2007. The digging work this time, ASI (Puri circle head) Dibishida Gadnayak said, is aimed at tracing the link between Odisha and Southeast Asian countries. A trench has been created in the




northeast direction of the remains of the pillared hall of the fort. During the excavation of the trench on the day, a broken part of a sculpture was found which could date back to the 13th to 14th century if the style of the fragment is taken into consideration, Gadnayak said. The trench appears to have two to three metres of deposits and the sculptural fragment was dug from the spot, he

added. Four areas in the fort have been identified for excavation. The previous excavations of the site were carried out to establish the cultural chronology of the fortified fort. In these digs, some of the important antiquity finds included a seated goddess, lion-head, lamp fragment, balls and pot fragments of stone, sling balls, fragments of animal figurines of terracotta and axe and a stylus made of iron. The

pottery finds comprised storage jars, spouted vessels, lamps, knobbed lids, miniature pots, dishes and bowls, the final portion of a hukkah and pieces of Chinese porcelain.

During the 1989 excavation, the central mound area of the fort revealed the remains of a palace, a pavilion and foundation blocks made of rhodolite. Eighteen massive pillar bases, aligned in four rows at regular intervals, were exposed in the southern area.



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Elevate Your Festive Vibes and Embrace Sennheiser's Exclusive Deals at Amazon Great Indian Festival Sale 2023

Bhubaneswar: Sennheiser, a German audio giant, has unveiled enticing discounts across its premium audio product range during the Amazon Great Indian Festival Sale 2023. Prime users gained early access starting from midnight on October 7th, 2023, while the sale officially kicked off on October 8th. Customers now have a golden opportunity to seize incredible deals and discounts on Sennheiser's extensive lineup of professional audio products,

including the Sennheiser MKE 200, Sennheiser XS Lav USB-C, Sennheiser HD 280 PRO, Profile USB microphone, Sennheiser E835 Vocal Microphone, Sennheiser XS-1, Sennheiser HD25 headphones, and Sennheiser XS Lav Mobile. Sennheiser Profile USB microphone tailored for podcasters, streamers, and gamers, is now offered at an enticing price of INR 7,790 for the Base set and INR 12,499 for the Streaming



set. The Profile USB Microphone seamlessly combines performance with accessibility. Powered by USB-C, this microphone features a

cardioid condenser capsule, prioritizing audio quality and a sleek design. Specifically crafted for podcasting and streaming, the Profile incorporates three essential controls: Gain Control for microphone level adjustment, Mix Control to balance microphone and device audio, and Volume Control for headphone monitoring level settings. Sennheiser Professional Audio XS-1 Dynamic XLR Unidirectional Cardioid Microphone, crafted to deliver

superior sound quality and will be available at an attractive price of INR 2,390. This versatile microphone is designed for those embarking on their professional live sound journey, featuring excellent feedback rejection and a silent mute switch for enhanced flexibility and control. Housed in a durable all-metal casing, the XS-1 stands as a reliable companion on any stage. The Sennheiser MKE 200, crafted to deliver exceptional sound quality will be up for grabs at an enticing price of INR

5,190. This remarkable microphone surpasses the constraints of built-in mics, enhancing videos with high-quality audio. The microphone features built-in wind protection and integrated shock absorption, ensuring compactness and versatility for various recording scenarios. XS Lav mobile omnidirectional condenser microphone is the perfect companion for enhanced dialogue applications will be available at an attractive price of INR 1,999 and XS Lav C Type at INR 2,995.

Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital successfully treated 33-year-old suffering from a rare case of Salivary Gland Cancer

Bhubaneswar/Cuttack: Doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, Cuttack, treated 33-year-old Reema (name changed), hailing from Western Odisha, from Parotid Gland Carcinoma, a rare form of cancer that occurs in the salivary glands situated right below the earlobes. The cancerous gland was resected by conducting an advanced form of Total Parotidectomy Surgery on the patient while preserving her facial nerves, which are responsible for facial expressions. This incredible feat was achieved by Dr Manjunath NML, Senior consultant Surgical Oncologist and his team at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack.

Reema suffered from unexplained excruciating pain continuously on the face and earlobes for a period of 8 months. In order to get relief from the pain, she visited neurological specialists and physicians from multiple hospital where she was misdiagnosed for other neurological diseases and was treated with analgesics, as they failed to diagnose her actual condition. She consulted the doctors at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital, who discovered a vague swelling near the earlobes and with suspicion of a tumour. Imaging of the parotid gland was conducted to check for any malignancy and it was discovered that she had

a parotid lobe tumour in the junction between the superficial lobe and the deep lobe, right behind the mandible or the lower jaw bone. Nerve sparing total parotidectomy was conducted using advanced form of equipments such as surgical loupes, nerves monitoring devices and Vessel Sealer, which helped surgeons achieve an absolute haemostasis or minimal blood loss during the surgery. This four- and half-hour surgical procedure was conducted by preserving the facial nerves that passes through the superficial lobe and deep lobe and any implication on the facial nerves would lead to disfigurement of the face, paralysis on one

side of the face, lack of expressing emotions, inability to close the eyes and move the eyebrows. Elaborating the complexities of the surgery, Dr Manjunath NML said, "This is a unique and a rare case among young women, where we usually witness just one or two cases per year. This was one challenging case, as the cancer tumours were adjacent to the facial nerve and we had to carefully dissect them without causing any hinderance or impact to the nerve. With the advanced facilities at HCG Panda Cancer Hospital Cuttack, we were able to resect the tumour successfully and witness a big smile on the patients face." Post her successful

surgery, while thanking her doctors, Reema said, "For the past eight months, the events that occurred to me because of this condition are unexplainable. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Manjunath and the entire team for the timely help in relieving the pain I was enduring and helping me recover back from this deadly tumour. Alsoi was worried about my facial expressions when doctors explained me about the tumor in relation to facial nerve and need for its removal if required. Thanks again to the entire team for helping me to get rid of this bad tumor with my smile intact" (with a big smile on her face).

Ashok Leyland reaches yet another milestone, showcases 'CNG engine H series' at EXCON

Chennai,: Ashok Leyland, the flagship Company of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer today showcased 'CNG engine H series' at the ongoing EXCON 2022, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Based on strong leverage of Auto BSVI engine development, the CNG engine H series (4 and 6 Cyl) is designed for off highway / CEV clients, and this product will be

the first of its kind in the CEV / mining and off highway segment. The H series CNG engine has a number of features, including ECU-controlled gas leak detection; improved cold start capability; enhanced lower end torque and flat torque from 1200rpm to 2000rpm; gear-based torque control for better fuel economy; durable engine valves and valve seats for CNG operation; proven, durable engine for CEV application;

turbocharged engine provides higher torque, fuel efficiency, better drivability, and transient response; maintenance-free engine. The CNG engine H series also fulfils CEV V standards without SCR or DPF, and features proven multipoint sequential gas injection for dependable performance; a 500 hours oil drain interval; and the maximum power in the sector. Sharing his views, Mr. Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman,

Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland's expertise in engineering has paved the way for the company to establish itself as a key player in the CNG engine sector, and we aspire to continue to do so by expanding our portfolio of CNG Engines and technology solutions. Ashok Leyland aims to make India's CNG engine sector self-reliant, and to be one of the leaders in the "Make in India" narrative." Present at the event Dr

N Saravanan, CTO, Ashok Leyland said, "Ashok Leyland has a track record of catering to customer needs with world class products that generate higher profitability. With the increasing need for better fuel efficiency and use of alternate fuels, we have a solid pipeline of such technologies. We aspire to lead the market in this segment, as the need for engines with alternative fuels grows".

AIC-GIM Foundation, Climate Collective and the Taj Hospitality Brand collaborate on a Global Single Use Plastics Challenge

Panaji: The consumption of Single Use Plastics (SUP's) in the food and beverage industry grew dramatically during the Covid-19 outbreak and is now expanding at a 2.5-fold rate. With the aim of reducing single use plastic from the F&B industry in Goa, Atal Incubation Center Foundation at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM) in partnership with Climate Collective Foundation and IHCL's Taj hospitality brand is bringing the Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Challenge.

The SUP challenge is inviting innovations to reduce single use plastic from the F&B sector. The selected solutions will get the opportunity to test their ideas in Goa with the Taj hotel network of Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL). "As a company, we want to put a strong emphasis on sustainability as a way of life for everyone, which thus culminates in the adoption of a variety of sustainable business methods. We are happy to collaborate with AIC-GIM Foundation and Climate Collective Foundation for the Global SUP challenge which will reduce the usage of Single Use Plastics across our properties in Goa" said Mr. Vincent Ramos,

Area Director, Indian Hotels Company Limited. The SUP Challenge will assess the volume of single-use plastics waste reduced through piloting and scaling ventures' innovations along with environmental impact avoided, such as waste diverted from landfills, incineration or avoided entirely. Additionally, the challenge will guide startups to fine-tune their business cases for F&B industry and insights derived from their pilots will contribute to a study around understanding the environmental impacts of alternatives to single-use plastic packaging.

Symphony, in partnership with AEEE, invests in the 'SAHARA Programme'

Bhubaneswar: Symphony Ltd., in partnership with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), initiated the first-of-its-kind pilot programme "SAHARA", an initiative for Supporting Affordable Heat Action for Resilient Academic Institutions in India by deploying Evaporative Air Coolers. It is envisioned to enable a pathway to achieve Thermal Comfort for a Billion Lives (TCBL). This initiative aims to mainstream energy efficient, affordable and sustainable cooling solutions in India's academic Institutions to bring a paradigm shift at the ecosystem level and enable TCBL. With

around four trillion-person cooling degree days, India is characterised by tropical and sub-tropical climatic conditions coupled with a lack of access to cooling, rising temperatures and ever-evolving socio-economic trends such as rapid population growth and urbanisation, which will not only amplify the climate change-induced heat stress but would also fuel the demand for space cooling. SAHARA programme would act as a catalyst for disseminating knowledge about the thermal comfort situation in India's academic institutions. It could bring about systemic changes on multiple fronts in the long term.



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Bangladesh's top-order a big concern, admits Hathurusingha

NewDelhi:Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha said on Tuesday that their top-order is a concern but urged patience with the new-look opening pair. Bangladesh have opted for Litton Kumar Das and Tanzid Hasan Tamim to open the innings in the World Cup after Tamim Iqbal made himself unavailable, but the opening pair has failed to impress thus far, adding 19 runs against Afghanistan and 14 runs against England. It hurt the team even more in Dharamsala, where they were playing with six bowlers in the Playing XI. "If you don't get a start, if you lose more than

three wickets early in the Powerplay, you're not winning many matches. So definitely it's a concern. We need to, because when we play seven batters also, we want our top-order to fire. So that's a big concern," Hathurusingha told reporters after the game in Dharamsala on Tuesday. "It is a concern, we've not been scoring (as an opening pair) but then Litton coming into form this game was a good positive for us and then Tanzim scored runs in the two practice games so he was in form. So, there are two failures. In the World Cup, it can happen for any team. So, I'm hoping those two,



those guys will fight because most of the batters now got into form. And in the coming games, hopefully, we'll perform as a group," he said, adding that they need to be patient with Tanzid. "You're right, he (Tanzid) got out two times. But he was in the runs in the two practice games. He is just getting

into international cricket. If you judge someone with two innings, then Malan would not be playing this game as well. So we have to be patient," he said. Hathurusingha added that he is disappointed with the performance of their bowling unit which failed to live up to their reputation against England. He added that the bowlers need to understand how to execute their plans in the middle. "I don't think we made a mistake by bowling first because the wicket had something. And especially it's a 10:30 start, and then yesterday, a little bit of rain. There was something on the wicket," said Hathurusingha. "The fact was that we did not bowl good areas, our lengths and lines were not good. We were a little

disappointed with the way we started. We could have bowled a little bit more onto the stumps, especially in the first 10 overs. We came back well. Especially Shoriful, I thought was very brave to bowl those variations when we were really under pressure. They would have got 400 at one stage I thought. There are some positives but we didn't bowl well," he said. "The fast bowlers were unusually off-colour in the powerplay in the last two games. Normally, in a day game, early on, there is something for the fast bowlers. Even this game, there was seam

movement early on, a little bit tacky and two-paced. Two openers were playing and missing, there were mishits, and they were a little bit lucky. After that, they batted really well. So, if we had some early wickets, the story would have been different," he said. "The plan was not to bowl outside the stumps, the plan was to bowl at the stumps. I think the execution let us down. This game especially. In the last game, we came back later with the help of the spinners. This game what happened was our spinners did not bring us back into the game due to the good intelligent batting," he said.

Dawid Malan: The consistent one among freaks

NewDelhi:Dawid Malan looks imposing with a bat in hand. It's an assessment that every bowler who has run into him this year will concur with. He's six feet tall and lines up almost fully straight and upright before the ball is bowled - with shades of Marcus Trescothick to his stance. Early on Tuesday morning in Dharamsala, full of sunshine and opportunities on a flat wicket, he put on display minimal footwork for an outrageous shot that would've made Trescothick proud. Bangladesh fast bowling pair of Mustafizur Rahman and Taskin Ahmed started promisingly, getting the ball to subtly move or straighten and beat both the opening batters in the first four overs. Malan had had enough of that,



and planted his front foot just a touch out of the way and whacked a delivery angled into him from the left-armer behind square leg for the first six of the innings. It was premeditated, all the way back from the nets sessions on Monday. Less than 24 hours before he pulled off the audacious hit, he was doing it in the nets against throwdowns. For a good 20 minutes,

Malan hit shots on both sides of the net with his feet firmly planted in place. Drives against fuller throwdowns came easily but for short and length deliveries, he reached out to cut, pull, and flick, the way he did against Mustafizur in the game, without moving his feet. It seemed like a peculiar drill to do on the eve of a game, but clearly came with potential for

application in a game situation. This replication, straight from the training ground, threw Bangladesh off their game, and kickstarted what was an extremely busy first half of the game for Shakib Al Hasan. This was the first of numerous occasions where Malan forced Shakib to make a reactionary field change. Fine leg and square leg fielders constantly went in and out, based on which area Malan expertly targetted. At the end of the first 10 overs, he'd outpaced and outscored his opening partner, Jonny Bairstow, who was playing his 100th ODI for England. Malan comfortably used his feet against Mehidy Hasan, a spinner who had previously kept him

on a leash in the format, and blunted him. He stepped up to be proactive right after Bairstow fell, fought past a period of lull between overs 20 to 30, before spearheading England's violent up-shift in gears, incidentally against Mehidy again. An exasperated Shakib gestured wildly and changed his field every ball but to little avail as the over fetched 22 runs, with Malan hitting two fours and two sixes. Against the skidding new ball in the early stages, Malan's risk of taking the pacers on came off. Against the trio of Shakib, Mehidy and Mahedi Hasan, he got 84 off 64 balls - an ever-improving spin game which ironically, is down to the years he's spent playing in the Bangladesh Premier League.

New York Strikers Solidify Their Squad By Picking Kusal Perera, Mohammad Haris At The Abu Dhabi T10 Player Draft

NewDelhi:The New York Strikers, owned by Sagar Khanna, have successfully built a formidable squad for the seventh edition of the Abu Dhabi T10 through the Player Draft. With 11 out of the 17 player slots to fill, they've made strategic moves to bolster their team. Heading into the 2023 edition of the Abu Dhabi T10, the New York Strikers have chosen to retain Carl Crowe as their head coach, a seasoned mentor who previously led the Deccan Gladiators to victory in the 2021 edition of the tournament. Crowe's coaching expertise extends to various cricket franchises globally, including his stint with the Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL. Crowe will be assisted by former South Africa all-rounder Albie Morkel, who will continue to serve as the team's bowling coach,

adding a wealth of experience and knowledge to the coaching staff. Before the Player Draft even commenced, the New York Strikers had already made significant additions to their roster. They retained former Windies captain Keiron Pollard as their Icon Player, a move that generated significant anticipation. Pollard shared his thoughts, stating, "I'm privileged to lead the New York Strikers again and work with this exceptionally gifted squad that has been assembled. Within this team the standard we aspire to is nothing short of excellence and, as a result, we'll give our all to go one step further than last year and secure the Abu Dhabi T10 championship." Joining Pollard are compatriot Sunil Narine

(Platinum), former Pakistan captain Shoaib Malik (Asian Super Star), and the fiery left-arm pacer Mohammad Amir (Cat A), all of whom promise to be valuable assets to the team. Additionally, the team decided to retain Trinidadian spinner Akeal Hosein and UAE batter Muhammad Waseem, further strengthening their lineup. Notably, the New York Strikers made some strategic selections in the draft, bringing on board a blend of international talent and emerging prospects. From Sri Lanka, they secured the services of four promising players - Lahiru Kumara (Cat C), Chamika Karunaratne (Cat C), Kusal Perera (Cat C), along with young Lasith Croospulle (Emerging), who is a top-order batter.

The Rizwan masterclass: When willpower conquered pain

NewDelhi:Imam-ul-Haq told one of the coaches as he shifted from net No.2 to net No.3 in Pakistan's second practice session in Hyderabad. Both Imam and Fakhar Zaman had struggled against the pacers on that pitch, and it was Mohammad Rizwan's turn to occupy that net. The 'keeper-bat who had practiced for 20-odd minutes to keep his compulsive pull shots to the ground, was left hurt soon after he moved to the troublesome turf of Net 2. A length delivery rose sharply and hit him on his hand - not as much as a grimace of pain, or an excuse - he continued his training after briefly letting the pain settle. There's explicit, old-fashioned bravado with which Rizwan looks at physical pain. Last year during the T20 World Cup, when Shan Masood was hit on the head while ducking to

Mohammad Nawaz's straight smash in the nets in Australia (leaving everyone around slightly stunned) Rizwan tried to lighten the mood. "Jang ladne jaa rahe ho, ek-do qurbaaniya to deni padegi (we're going to a war, we will have to make a few sacrifices)" he said jokingly. On Tuesday, when he was in the middle, visibly troubled by the cramps for more than half an hour, he chose to carry on. 'Cramp Fix' was all he needed - he claims to have helped him ease back - from the physio to stay put at the crease and see the side over the line in the record run chase against Sri Lanka. And when asked about how he dealt with the visible pain, he kept his humour intact. "It was sometimes cramps and sometimes acting." It wouldn't be too far-fetched even if he was serious about playing to the gallery. Two weeks in the city, and

he had the crowd egging him on. Cheering, hooting and whistling even the singles he took hobbling in immense pain. The 23,000-odd people, who had largely split their allegiance during the match, had turned unanimously vocal in support of Rizwan by then. The stadium atmosphere, in his words, made him feel as if he was playing in Rawalpindi. In some ways, for the Hyderabad crowd that he said proved to be the 'real supporters of cricket' for the manner in which they backed both teams, he had showcased the best of Pakistan's batting. After a century in the warm-up game, in the two World Cup matches, he walked in at times when the top order had faltered and consolidated the innings in the company of the most inexperienced batters - Saud Shakeel and Abdullah Shafique,



guiding them through the course of match-winning partnerships, and in the process their respective landmarks. "Irrespective of how the pitch is, when you're chasing a 300-plus total, there is obvious pressure. I told Abdullah that till the 20th over, we don't need to look at the scoreboard. Till the 20th over - since Babar Azam got out the way he unfortunately did - there was one plan (to take the team score to

100). And till the 40th over, there was another plan. "When you're chasing a big score and lose two wickets early, it becomes slightly complex. The key is to remain calm... We were under pressure when two wickets fell early. We were trying to take the game deep and put the pressure back on Sri Lanka. And that's what happened eventually." The duo stitched a 176-run stand, but soon after Shafique fell, Rizwan

was also in physical trouble. The first signs of his inability to remain standing came in the 36th over when he fell to the ground after a failed attempt to lob a short delivery over the 'keeper's head. With ample batting to come, a conventional way that cramping batters use to maximise their stay in the middle is to go for the big shots. Rizwan, however, controlled that temptation and kept running. "I didn't want to give it

away, because Sri Lanka have decent bowlers. If I had given away my wicket at that moment, it would've been difficult for the new batsman. I had seen this at the start of my career when I would come into bat at No.7 or 8. I know it becomes difficult for lower-order batters. We were lucky the way Iftikhar [Ahmed] and Saud Shakeel came and batted and played impactful innings." Rizwan's international career may have taken an upswing frustratingly late, often delayed due to reasons beyond his control, but he has made swift progress within the setup as a senior, responsible figure. It's a role that he has historically thrived under. Even as a batter, there has been a marked improvement in his ODI game. Till January 2022, he averaged 28.80, and thereafter it's shot up

to 60.47. It has allowed Pakistan to beef up its middle order which had remained a cause of concern for a long time. The dependency was largely on the top order, and it was instrumental in most of Pakistan's 300-plus run-chases in the recent past. However, with Fakhar Zaman, Imam ul Haq and Babar Azam collectively going through a lean patch, the onus has fallen on the middle order to carry Pakistan's batting early in this World Cup. It is also one of the key areas of improvement for Pakistan in recent months that the coaches have excitedly tried to divert attention towards. While rejecting any specific work behind the scenes, Rizwan credits the team management's decision to back him at a higher position in the order for the transformation of results in his ODI game.