



Message

The Kalinga chronicle group wishes its readers, writers, advertisers, Hawkers, reporters, staff and well wishers a happy, prosperous Durga puja & Vijaya dasami

Editor in chief

Declaration

The office will be closed on 23rd & 24th October
So next issue of The Kalinga chronicle will be published on 26th October

Publisher

Goddess Manikeswari's Chhatar Jatra gets underway in Kalahandi

Bhubaneswar,(KCN):An atmosphere of spirituality, devotional and religious fervour gripped Bhawanipatna, the district headquarters of Kalahandi on Sunday, as Goddess Manikeswari, the reigning deity of the Western Odisha town, ventured out of her abode for the annual sojourn called 'Chhatar Jatra'.

As per reports, the Bijay Pratima Chhatar of the deity was earlier taken out from the temple to Jenakhala on the outskirts of Bhawanipatna town. At around 5 am, the Chhatar was brought back to the temple in a large procession, amidst the beating of traditional drums like 'Jena Badya' and 'Ghumura Badya'. Currently, the procession has covered around four kilometers and it is expected to reach the temple at around 12 pm.

The secret rituals were performed at Jenakhala during the night. Devotees whose wishes were fulfilled released pigeons over Chhatar as a symbol of peace and love. They also prayed to Goddess Manikeswari for peace and prosperity throughout the year.

Lakhs of devotees from Odisha and outside the state thronged Bhawanipatna to take part in the festival and seek blessings from Goddess Manikeswari to fulfill their wishes.

Elaborate security arrangement has been made to maintain law and order in the town. As many as 12 platoons of police forces have been deployed for the smooth conduct of the popular festival.

Test Flight Success Of Abort Mission-1 Heralds Successive Sequential

Trial Flights Before Final "Gaganyaan" Launch: Dr Jitendra Singh

New Delhi(KCN): Test flight success of Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) this morning heralds successive sequential trial flights before the final "Gaganyaan" launch, said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh in his first response soon after the entire exercise was accomplished as expected, with a single engine rocket carrying an early depressurised version of "Gaganyaan" Crew Module (CM) to an altitude of around 17 Kilometre followed by



being worshipped with devotion in all the cities of the State including the Twin Cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar, Puri, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Berhampur and Jeypore. Thousands of people are thronging the pandals to get a glimpse of the Goddess and offer

special puja on the auspicious day. The Millennium City of Cuttack is filled with spiritual ambience on the occasion of Maha Ashtami puja in various mandaps. Scores of devotees are making a beeline to have the darshan of Goddess

Durga on the special day. Almost all the puja pandals in the city are witnessing huge crowds. Special lighting arrangements with modern technology-based illumination and impressive theme-based gigantic gates have created a surreal atmosphere in the city. Puja revellers are soaking in the festive mood and all the food stalls and marketplaces are now chock-a-block. "Most of the rituals started at 6.30 am at our mandap. Mangala Alati, Surya Puja, Guru Puja, Pitru Matru Puja, Sankalpa were performed in order. Maha Ashtami puja will be performed today. Chanda, Munda, Bajrakbati Puja Committee.

"We started preparations for Durga Puja from Janmastami. Goddess Durga has arrived on earth to bless us all. Melody and other cultural programmes will be performed for the next three days starting today. Separate responsibilities have been given to all the committee members for the smooth conduct of the puja," said a senior member of Bajrakbati Puja Committee.

Depression Over Westcentral BoB Likely To Intensify Into Cyclonic Storm

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Depression over the west-central Bay of Bengal remained practically stationary during the past three hours over the



same region, informed India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday.

As per IMD, the depression now lies centered some 610 km south of Paradip (Odisha), 760 km south of Digha (West Bengal), and 980 km south-southwest of Khepupara (Bangladesh). It is likely to further intensify into a deep depression during the next 24 hours.

It is likely to move northwestwards during the next 12 hours, then recurve and move north-northeastwards during the subsequent three days towards Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts.

Uma Shankar Das, IMD Scientist in Bhubaneswar today informed that the low-pressure system has intensified into a deep depression and it is likely to intensify into a deep depression. Similarly, it will further intensify into a 'cyclonic storm'.

Man Killed, Another Critical In Murderous Attack

Berhampur(KCN): A man was killed while another person sustained critical injuries in a murderous attack by miscreants near Badarpalli village under Khallikote block of Ganjam district, last night.



The deceased was identified as K Padma Reddy of Komanda village. The injured one, identified as Nrusinghanath Panda of Gudijhara village, was undergoing treatment at the MKCG Medical College and Hospital here.

According to reports, the two were returning home from Purushottampur in an auto-rickshaw, during which a group of unidentified miscreants attacked the duo with sharp weapons.

Panda was later shifted to the MKCG Hospital as his condition deteriorated.

Police have recovered the body and started an investigation into the incident.



"I'm seriously considering a legal response via direct court action and will of course take a decision in due course," he said.

BJP's Response to MP Pinaki Misra's Statement Responding to Misra's clarifications, state BJP spokesperson Anil Biswal took to his X handle and wrote, "He (MP Misra) should clarify whether his name is featured in the affidavit filed in the CBI court or not. What we

said was on the basis of the two affidavits filed in the CBI court. We are also aware of laws. Can anyone conceal his illegal activities solely by threatening legal action? We will not get terrified by someone's false threat?"

"Some facts are now out in the open in Delhi. They have in more ways defamed the reputation of Odisha than caused the Odisha people to worry. Is he not worried about being featured in a

serious allegation like 'cash for query'? Has he fulfilled the wishes of the people for which he was sent to the Parliament or done something which tarnished Odisha's reputation? When will he and his party, BJD, give clarification?" Biswal added.

State BJP president Manmohan Samal also launched a scathing attack on MP Mishra. Addressing a press conference, Samal said, "He is free to do what he thinks. But people have already got the message regarding what he is and what he has done. So, now the people will decide. He is a good advocate. So he should prove that he is speaking the truth, and others are liars."

collaborate in Space projects. This has not only given a boost but also contributed huge value addition both in terms of knowledge as well as finances and an evidence of this is that within a short span of over three years the number of successful

Startups has gone up from less than 5 to over 150. Citing the adage, "Well Begun is Half Done", Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) accomplished today demonstrated the crew escape of the "Gaganyaan" project.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this test flight will set the stage for the remaining qualification tests and unmanned missions, leading to the first Gaganyaan mission with Indian

astronauts. The Minister said, human safety is of paramount importance in the "Gaganyaan" mission. Crew Module (CM) is the habitable space with Earth-like environment in space for the crew, while Service Module (SM) will be used for providing necessary support to CM while in orbit.

Under the able guidance of PM Modi, India's Space programme is aiming for its first manned mission to Space and later landing the first Indian astronaut to the Moon, he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, building on the



success of Indian Space initiatives which got a boost in the last 4 to 5 years, including the recent Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya L1 Missions, Prime Minister Modi has directed that India should now aim for new and ambitious goals, including setting up the 'Bharatiya Antariksha Station' (Indian Space Station) by 2035 and sending first Indian to the Moon by 2040.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the world today acknowledges India's quantum leap in India's Space prowess, spurred by unlocking of the sector by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Ram's name equal to Vishnusahasranama



The word Ram itself is derived from the root Ram which means Raman. The one who resides in everyone's heart is Ram. The one in whom the devotees rejoice is Ram. Ram also means incorporeal beauty, that is, whose beauty even God is not capable of describing. In the context of the word 'Ram', Goswami Tulsidas ji himself has written, 'Karun kaha lagi naam badi'. Ram could not sing his name and virtues. Even Ram himself cannot explain the word 'Ram', such is the name Ram. By saying the word Ram twice Ram-Ram, it also completes the arithmetical structure of the words and expresses the singular coefficient 108 of Purna Brahma. In

the Hindi alphabet, "R" is the 27th letter. The quantity of 'Aa' is the second letter and 'M' is the 25th letter, hence the coefficient formed when taken together is 54 and by saying Ram Ram twice it becomes 108. Ram So Ravanasya Maranam Ram is also called which means that the evil prevailing in the form of Ravana can be eliminated by instilling devotion that makes one happy in the form of Ram. Ram and Ravana are such symbols and symbols which appear contradictory but if seen from a microscopic point of view, this contradiction appears to be mutually complementary. If the characters of Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara are removed from the entire Ramayana, then there will be nothing left to establish Ram as Ram. Similarly, without Ram, Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara would also have no existence. In this, Ram is also Ram because Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara are there and Ravana, Kaikai and

Manthara are also Ram because they are Ram. Good and evil seem contradictory but complement each other. Like the same happiness and sadness. Happiness is also happiness because there is sadness and sadness is also sadness because there is happiness. This incident inspires us to follow the saying mentioned in the Upanishads which states that life is a game and it is wise to treat it like a game. When we become more attached to life and illusion, it all starts to seem like a burden to us. The whole of life is a contradiction and Ram is its symbol which gives us a direct message that life is full of goodness and happiness with only a little amount of sadness in the form of Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara. When we accept only sadness as life, depression comes into prominence. The Creator has written as much sorrow in the lives of everyone as Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara, as it was in the life of Ram. Only Ravana, Kaikai and Manthara have so much

sorrow, the rest of their life is full of happiness. Ram's life is a standard for us from where life starts getting its basis. While Krishna's life is full of Sama-Daam-Dand-Bheda, Ram's life is an expression of ideals. Many of Krishna's customs and policies are time-related, whereas Ram's customs and traditions are timeless. Krishna's Bhagwat Geeta is relevant in any era while the entire life of Ram is relevant in any era. Ram inspires us how to transform from a human to a god, while the life of Krishna inspires us how to transform from a god to a human. Ram's childhood tells that to get a place in everyone's heart, there should be a base like Ayodhya. Ayodhya means where there is no conflict, discord, greed, narrow thoughts. Because only beyond this can a foundation like Maryada Purushottam be built. This foundation can be established in childhood itself. Forgetting one's pride and insults like a child brings simplicity in life.

Dr Lokendrasingh Kot

If you become free from attachment and viceless like a child, your body will become Ayodhya. Saryu river is a symbol of that sound which is very ancient and at the same time the water flowing in it is absolutely original and new. We are both ancient and new. The lineage we represent is ancient and the breath we breathe today is new. In his youth, Ram also had a feeling of mortality and aversion towards it, which took him to sage Vashishtha and became the reason for the birth of Yoga Vashishtha. This Yoga Vashishtha is the basis of humanity today and is also the path to take a step towards enlightenment. This calmness is a step towards accepting the situation as it is. By accepting, the mind automatically becomes calm and only a calm mind can play the best role in bringing about change. There is no anger in Ram, hence his decisions are appropriate, appropriate and best. This quatrain in Ramcharit Manas tells the time when Lord Ram

was going to meditate to ask for a way from the ocean to cross the ocean. Nath Dev Kar Kawan Bharosa. Soshiya Sindhu Kariya, my heart weeps. Dear mind, I call it a base. Daiva Daiva lazy call. When Lakshman says that you have amazing power with which you can change everything in a moment then Ram says that power flourishes only when one is calm. There is no need for display of power for work that is being done peacefully.

Ram reflects a lot from his life. He says that having a small ego can make life painful, whereas having a big ego helps you reach your goal. Everything is changing in this world. It is not necessary that one who is omniscient now or a fool will always remain so. Bihasi Mahes said, then no one is a fool without knowledge. Whatever Raghupati does, whatever happens, that's what happens. Ram's friendship has a different meaning. The friend who is sad after seeing someone sad or feels happiness in

happiness, who has the spirit of selfless service is important in life and can inspire you to move ahead in life. This kind of friendship of Ram with Sugriva shows that the one who forgets the pain of his separation from Sita and thinks about others, starts thinking about nature itself. Whenever we are sad, by going out and serving and helping others, our sorrows become lighter and God Himself becomes inclined to remove our sorrows. You are not interested in golden Lanka, Lakshman. Ram also establishes that if the mind is not good then all the wealth of the world will seem worthless and if the mind is good then even an ordinary house will become a reason for enthusiasm. When the mind is healed, Ganga flows even in difficult times. Ram's life is synonymous with the ideal life which is mandatory for every human being. Only with the entry of Ram in the life can the greed, attachment and anger of

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Ravan Podi : Victory of Goddess Durga

Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra



Ravan Podi is celebrated on the occasion of Vijaya Dashami, which is considered the day of the victory of goddess Durga over the demon king Mahishasura after a nine-night, ten-day long battle. It is also believed that lord Ram killed demon king Ravan on the day after offering his prayers to Goddess Durga. After worshipping Goddess Durga for nine days, on the jubilant day of Vijaya dashami, devotees will burn an effigy of Ravan. The 'Ravan Dahan' celebrates the day when Lord Ram killed Ravan and established the rule of Dharma.

Ravan was highly intellectual, but he was arrogant and cruel. He had ten heads having thorough knowledge of Vedas & Upanishads, he was a great devotee as well but unfortunately he used all his powers for evil purposes. And that's why he was killed in a 'Dharma Yuddha'. Ravan personifies people who run after the

materialistic desires unmindfully and in the pursuit, they keep their ego at the top. The result is such people, no matter how rich or intellectual they are, have to face the defeat ultimately. They may have riches, but they can't enjoy its fruits. They could be great intellectuals, but still they don't get the reverence in society that they deserve. This is because such people

biggest impediments to a person's materialistic and spiritual growth is his own negative aspects, predominantly 'Ego'. Such people give importance to themselves only. Such a mentality gives rise to jealousy, indecisiveness, disappointment, depression, sins and also, desires. The nine-day Navratri festival is meant to overcome



such impediments and other negative aspects and clear the path for prosperity, happiness and success in life. Hence, burn the effigy of Ravan every year and along with that do try to win over your inner demons, including your ego, that arise from the darkness of ignorance. They may stop you from moving forward in life.

Consider 'Self-knowledge' as the beaming light which,

such impediments and other negative aspects and clear the path for prosperity, happiness and success in life. Hence, burn the effigy of Ravan every year and along with that do try to win over your inner demons, including your ego, that arise from the darkness of ignorance. They may stop you from moving forward in life.

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Eko Vasee Sarvabhutha-Antharaathma

Subhasmita Samal



in a particular place or form. It means thinking of God in all that you do wherever you may be. One may ask if this is possible. And the answer is that it is possible by dedicating every action to God.

During the Navarathri festival, there is a form of worship called Angaarpanta Puja. In this form of worship, all the limbs of the body are offered to the Divine in a spirit of surrender. Surrender means offering everything to the Divine and giving up the idea of separation between oneself and the Divine. There can be no true surrender if there is a sense of separation. There must be the conviction that it is the same Divine who dwells in all beings - Eko Vasee Sarvabhutha-antharaathma.

In the performance of Angaarpanta Puja, there is a form of self-deception. When a devotee says, "Nethram Samarpayaami" and offers only a flower to the Lord, he is indulging in a kind of deception. The proper way would be to say that he is offering a flower.

Actually, mantras like "Nethram Samarpayaami" are intended to indicate that one is using his eyes only to see God. The real significance of the Mantra is that you think of the divine

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Dussehra : The Festival of Victory of Virtues over Evil

The festival of Dussehra is celebrated every year on the tenth day of Shukla Paksha of Ashwin month. This festival symbolizes the victory over evil. Over the period of time, this festival also comes to instil a new energy into the cultural consciousness and the sense of patriotism in the country. Even today, the need to enliven the culture of this inspirational and motivational festival has become all the more necessary in order to fight the forces of darkness. The question is who should protect the culture? Who should lead the rise of ideals? Who should get his first name written in the foundation of life values? The process of fighting evil is very difficult. This practice of awakening brilliance and power is very difficult. It is very complex to give a high peak to self-existence and self-identity. After all, how to fight the evils hidden in our house, when Ravana is taking birth in the courtyard of the house, be it in the form of corruption, be it in the form of political criminalization, be it in the form of those spreading communal hatred, be it in the form of anti-national elements. Be it in the

form of terrorists who break the law, or in the form of those who make education, medicine and justice a business. Celebrating this festival every year, where strength is prayed for, attention is drawn towards various issues of national importance. This provides new inspiration, new freshness, new strength, new dreams and new directions.

The festival of Dussehra, which follows Navratri, is a very special festival for Hindus; it comes 20 days before the festival of Diwali. Dussehra is celebrated to mark the victory of Lord Shri Ram over the demon king Ravana. People stage the war between Shri Ram and Ravana in the form of a drama for ten days prior to the arrival of Dussehra. This dramatic life depiction is called Ram-Leela in North India-- people organize Ram-Leela by wearing masks and through various dance forms, which they enjoy, making it a medium of Hindu culture, following the verses of Ramayana. They also make giant size effigies of the three great demons namely-- Ravana, Meghnad and Kumbhakarna in which big fire-crackers are filled; and when the effigies are made to burn, they turn out to be the

brilliant spectacles to watch on. Lord Shri Ram is, thus, the symbol of truth, while his opponent Demon King Ravana is the evil incarnate. This great religious festival and custom is celebrated by the Hindus with the worship of Goddess Durga. The traditions and procedures of celebrating this festival are different across the country. Lord Ram was a devotee of the war goddess Maa Durga, who worshiped Maa Durga for nine days preceding the war, and killed Ravana on the tenth day of war. After this, Shri Ram rescued His Divine consort Sita through fighting a big war in company with His brother Lakshman, devotee Hanuman, and an army of monkeys.

Therefore, Vijayadashami is a very important day of the

victory of Good over the Evil, of the Truth over the Falsehood and the Light over the Darkness. On this day, along with burning of Ravana, there is also a tradition of worshiping weapons, vehicles and worshiping Maa Durga, Lord Shri Ram and Ganpati Devata. Therefore, Vijayadashami has also been called as Vijaya Tithi. It is believed that this day is very auspicious to please

active in the nation, but also a challenge and caution against the misdeeds of neighbouring countries like Pakistan, China etc. After celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav year of Independence, the nation has to be strengthened for the Centenary Year that is 2047. The new consciousness that has come in the country with the strengthening of fundamental beliefs, nationalism is a living

Dussehra is also a festival of Shakti sadhana, karma, new creation and worship. During the last eight decades, there have been continuous political moves to weaken the Hindu religion and culture. Actually Hindu is not a religion, it is an idea, and a culture. Being a Hindu nation does not mean to be a theocratic state, but the all-embracing spirit of Hindu culture has been that it advocates the beloved truth, but also asks for its

culture is the inherent sound of generosity, because it is the only culture in the entire world which embraces pluralism i.e. all religions, ideas and cultures. This country also gave the title of Rishi to a materialistic philosopher-thinker like Charvak who had said that 'Rinaam Kritva Ghritam Peevet' i.e. whatever is there is today, who has seen

prohibition when it becomes harsh.

The Hindu culture is that of non-violence, but it also talks about self-defence by taking up arms if necessary. The word 'Hindu' itself gives the sense of 'Swarashtra' which is a part of the larger form of Hindu culture. Vijayadashami festival is a powerful medium to strengthen this ideology. Through this festival, everyone's voice and objective is to destroy evil and encourage goodness. After Navratri, the last i.e. tenth day of Dussehra is Vijayadashami, which means that you have conquered all the three gunas - Tamas, Rajas or Satva. You passed through these three qualities, saw all three, participated in all three, but you were not attached or tied to any of these three in any way, you overcame all three of them. This is Vijayadashami - the day of your victory.

Indian culture is a worshiper of bravery and valour. The festival of Dussehra has been organized to display bravery in the blood of individuals and society. The festival of Dussehra provides good inspiration to give up ten types of sins - lust, anger, greed, attachment, jealousy, ego, laziness, violence and

theft. One who is full of hatred, full of anger, full of malice, full of jealousy, full of greed, is increasing fear. All these lead to fear and powerlessness. While celebrating Dussehra festival of force and bravery, the biggest need is to burn these vices within us.

India never supported war or violence, but when somebody challenged us and created war-like situations, the skill of Indian politics is to attack and defeat the enemy, instead of waiting for his attack. Since the time of Lord Ram, this day is the symbolic day of victory. Lord Ram had left for the war against Ravana on this day. Maratha Ratna Shivaji also protected Hindu religion by leaving for war against Aurangzeb on this day. There are many examples in Indian history when Hindu kings used to march in victory on this day. The celebration of Dussehra symbolizes protection of religion, display of power and coordination of power. Apart from this, Dussehra symbolizes the victory of positive forces over negative forces.

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- Lalit Garg -

Goddess Lakshmi. Dussehra has a cultural aspect also. It is also a festival to unite the cultural unity and integrity of the country. This year's Vijayadashami festival has special significance, because with the positive revolutionary energy of this festival, not only a strong message has to be given to the negative and anti-national forces

Burn evil acts on Dussehra to burn Ravana.



Ravana, a character from Indian epic Ramayana, is often portrayed as a complex and flawed character with positive and negative traits. Lankapati Ravana was a brilliant, great scholar, ascetic, valiant, powerful, skilled politician, warrior and a glorious king. He was the author of texts like Ravana Samhita, Dash Shatakata, Arkaprakash, Dash Patalak, Kumaratantra, Nadi Pariksha, Uddish etc. He obtained many divine weapons, incredible strength and immunity against Devatas by the grace of Lord Shiva through rigorous penance.

His immoral desires defeated many powerful devta like Indra, Varun, Kuber, Yama and Shani etc. Behind his success was extraordinary strength, knowledge and boons granted by God. It will not be exaggerated to say that there has never been anyone like Ravana in this world nor will there ever be.

Ravana abducted Lord Shri Ram's wife Sita because Surpanakha's immoral desire was not fulfilled. His audacity was such that even though he knew that the ascetic Ram was the

wrong path shown by Ravana. To remind humans of all the evils inherent in Ravana, the day of Dussehra started being celebrated every year in some part of India as Vijay Dashami. Some view it as a way to reinforce the triumph of righteousness over wickedness, while others may criticize it for potentially promoting hatred or misunderstanding.

On the occasion of Dussehra the effigy of Ravana, a symbol of unrighteousness and

Dr Man Mohan Prakash

incarnation of Lord Vishnu, he still had the courage to enmity him and even fight a war. In the end, Shri Ram killed Ravana along with his army, who were symbols of the demonic. After the killing of Ravana, it was thought that the evils would be eradicated from our human society and in future no human being would follow the

pride, greed, malice, jealousy, addiction, wickedness, kidnapping and misdeeds. Now a days hardly a day passes when we are not able to hear or read about the injustice, atrocities, unrighteousness and corrupt practices. Many incidents seem to cross all limits of wretchedness, cruelty and crime. We easily

common. There is no shame in destroying and polluting religious places. It seems that the trend of respecting the big and small and all religions is ending in the society, objectionable comments are becoming common. There is no limit to lies, deception and fraud. The fear of rules and regulations is decreasing, the number of people who believe and follow them is reducing. The sacred relationships between close family members and relatives, teachers and students sometimes appear to be in tatters. Sometimes efforts are also being made to kill the rights of the poor, corruption does not seem to be ending. One can also read the news of atrocities on cows and saints. Fake saints are also emerging who are defaming the revered community of saints by corrupt practices. The adulteration in food material is making people sick and even taking lives.

In such a situation, how can we say that Ravana is dead?, how can we say that we have burnt him on Dussehra and put an end to demonic and demonic tendencies?

We have to understand that if there are bad conducts, there will also be good conduct. In such a situation, the efforts of the common people

should be to select and follow the path of righteousness (truth, non-violence and justice). This is possible only when the common man has developed the courage and strength to oppose atrocities and crime and call right as right, immoral as immoral, wrong as wrong, and injustice as injustice. Humans can develop and adopt path of truth and justice by good conduct, by faith in self-confidence and divine power, and by paying respect and honor towards all religions.

Festivals like Dussehra can also be meaningful only when humans identify the demonic and inhuman tendencies hidden within themselves and burn them and assimilate good tendencies and make them a part of life. One should always keep in mind that (1) arrogance, tyranny and pride lead to downfall, (2) lust and desires may lead to ruin, (3) use of deception has negative consequences, (4) never underestimate the opponents, (5) manage desires and act ethically, (6) respect humility, humanity, honesty, integrity, religion and heed wise, (7) never use power received from God for inhuman activities. Thus 'Ravana's Dahan' serves as a moral lesson about the consequences of bad and negative behavior.



Religiously-spiritually, Navratri is a festival of bowing before the dignity, pride and power of womanhood. In the Indian society where mother power is worshiped, women have always been considered the embodiment of Shakti. In our country, the pace of change in the mental and life circumstances of women may be slow, but the change is happening in a positive direction only. In fact, the policy of women empowerment is included in the Constitution of India itself. Article 14 ensures the right to equality for women. It is pleasant that the increasing figures of empowered women at the community level also confirms the increasing power and acceptance of half the population. The total population of women in our country is approximately 66.3 crores. Of these, about 45 crore women are between 15 and 64 years of age. Among them, there are girls who play a major role in the country's labor force and also daughters who stand first in examinations. There are girls who have won medals in national and international sports competitions and also daughters who are fighting on the military front. definitely Development plans and policies that emphasize the leadership role of women are also strengthening the foundation of this change. In the year 1951, the literacy rate of women of the country was around nine percent. Data from the National Statistical Office shows that the literacy rate of women in the year 2021 was 70.30 percent. In recent years, the number of daughters taking degrees in the fields of technology and science has also increased rapidly. The number of girls studying till high school and beyond is increasing rapidly. Science in India today, The enrollment rate of girls in technology, engineering and mathematics is 43 percent. This figure is more than developed countries like America, Britain and Germany. In other countries of the world, only five percent of pilots are women, whereas here more than 15 percent of pilots are women. This participation of girls in the field of civil aviation, despite the costly training and conditions like being away from home from time to time for work responsibilities, is indicative of a major change. Actually, strength is the aspect related to self-power. With this power of mind But every resource can be progressed despite the lack of every facility. Indian women are becoming strong by mobilizing this spiritual energy. They are reaching their goals, due to which their involvement in society and family has also increased.

Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab



it happening in the future. On the other side in the modern era cases of demonic and demonic tendencies/evils are seen crossing all limits. Demonic tendencies are rampant not only in Indian society but in many countries around the world.

In literature demons were known for their bad eating habits, plunder, crime and murder, unrighteous and immoral activities, ego, oppression and tyranny, lust, anger,

read in newspapers that molestation, drug addiction and crime are increasing in the country, theft, robbery and terrorist incidents are not showing any signs of stopping. We get to read that teenagers are kidnapped and murdered, there is no shame in removing clothes and raping/mass raping of innocent minor girls to old women. News of forced religious conversion, incidents of love jihad and mob lynching becoming

Income Tax search in what circumstances- Part 2

(Contd from 16 Oct 2023)

4. Requirement of Due satisfaction of the officer issuing the warrant of authorisation: In *Parasnath v. Union of India & others* 225 ITR 365 (MP) it has been held that the question as to whether there was due satisfaction or not of the officer issuing the warrant of authorisation was to be determined by taking into consideration the circumstances which existed on the day the warrant was issued and whether the requisite satisfaction satisfied the test of judicial review. This satisfaction was not to be judged by taking note of subsequent events and explanations which might be furnished.

5. Mere possession of assets is not enough, the belief must be that the assets are wholly or partly undisclosed:

a) In *CIT v. Vindhya Metal Corporation* 224 ITR 614 (SC), it was held that mere possession of large amount without anything more could not be said to constitute information which could be treated as sufficient by a reasonable person leading to an inference that it was income which would not have been

disclosed by the person in possession, so as to justify issuance of authorisation for requisitioning such amount.

b) As decided by the Allahabad High Court in the case of *Ganga Prasad Maheshwari & others v. CIT* [1983] 139 ITR 1043, 1050-53, that the mere fact that the warrant of authorisation has been issued does not amount to having reason to believe that the person, against whom it was issued, was in possession of assets which represented his undisclosed income. Therefore, where the authorising authority issues warrant of authorisation without there being any reason to believe that the asset which was in possession of a person represented wholly or partly his undisclosed income, his action is to be held to be without jurisdiction.

c) In the case of *Tej Bahadur Dube v. CIT* [1985] 152 ITR 476 (AP), the assessee left a certain amount, which was not accounted for or disclosed in any records, with the manager of a bank for a specified purpose of buying Special Bearer Bonds 1991. The same was seized by the Department. It was held by the Supreme Court in

Tej Bahadur Dube v. CIT, Afzalumissa Begum v. UOI [1992] 195 ITR 612 (SC) that the seizure was justified. In respect of such amount the assessee was not entitled to immunity or exemption u/s 3 of the Special Bearer Bonds (Immunities and Exemption) Act, 1981.

6. Filing of returns or completion of assessments do not preclude search: The fact that returns were being filed and assessments were being made cannot, by itself, preclude the department from ordering a search and seizure, if reliable information reaches the concerned authorities regarding large undisclosed income of the assessee - *Jain & Jain v. Union of India* [1982] 134 ITR 655, 666 (Bom) relying on *Pooran Mal v. Director of Inspection* [1974] 93 ITR 505, 520-21 (SC); *Kalpana Bazar v. CIT* [1990] 186 ITR 617, 620 (Ker).

7. The requisite belief to be formed by the Authorising Authority only: Section 132(1) enjoins that before a warrant of authorisation can be issued, the authorising authority must have reason to believe the

Adv. Narayan Jain and CA Dilip Loyalka

existence of any of the factors mentioned in clauses (a), (b) and (c) of section 132(1) and that reason to believe must be in consequence of information in his possession. The opinion must be formed by the authorising authority. The authority may, however, do so from the information supplied by the sub-ordinate authority. But the authorising authority cannot delegate the function of the formation of the opinion or belief to his subordinate authority as also pronounced in the case of *Dwarka Prasad Agarwalla v. Director of Inspection* [1982] 137 ITR 456, 467-8 (Cal). In the above case, the Assistant Director of Inspection recorded the reasons and the Director of Inspection, one of the authorizing authorities u/s 132(1), issued the warrants of authorisation on the basis of these reasons. It was held that the formation of the belief could not, on those facts, be said to be one by the authorising authority himself. The searches conducted on the basis of such warrants were not valid.

8. Deeming provisions of section

[1969] 74 ITR 836, 843 (SC); *Kalpana Bazar v. CIT* [1990] 186 ITR 617, 620 (Ker)]. If challenged, it is the duty of the authorising officer to show to the Court that he had *prima facie* "reason to believe" so as to bring the matter within the four corners of section 132(1). He has to show facts which *prima facie* will convince the Court that a reasonable man could, under the circumstances, form a belief which will impel him to take action under the law. The Court will not go into the sufficiency or adequacy of such reasons. Similar view has been expressed in the case of *Ajay Kumar Singh v. Director General of Investigation, Bihar* [2021] 124 taxmann.com 518 (Patna).

b) If the Commissioner fails to disclose even a *prima facie* case or if the action is maliciously taken or power under the section is exercised for a collateral purpose, it is liable to be struck down by the Court. For example: mere possession of money is not sufficient material to form a belief that the same has not been and would not be disclosed by the assessee, when it

appears in his books of account - *Ajit Jain v. UOI & Sons* 159 CTR (Del.) 204, affirmed by the Supreme Court in 260 ITR 80 (SC).

10. The competent authority must have information in its possession-

a) For taking action u/s 132 there are conditions precedent. Firstly, the competent authority must have information in its possession. Secondly, on the basis of the said information, it must have reason to believe that the conditions as stipulated in sub-clause (a), (b) and (c) of section 132(1) exist. It is only then that it can authorise the search of the premises and seizure of the documents. Section 132 impinges upon the privacy of a citizen. It even carries a social stigma. To a sensitive man, the consequences can be serious.

b) However, where reasons to believe exist, the Court cannot examine the adequacy or sufficiency of the reasons - *Doctors X-Ray and Pathology Institute P. Ltd. v. DIT* [2009] 318 ITR 125 (All.).

(Contd.)

(Authors of the book "How to Handle Income Tax Problems". They are Life members of AIFTP and DTPA)

Exploring the Dynamic Landscape of the Travel Market in India

Prof (Dr.) S N Tripathy



The travel market in India is a dynamic and rapidly evolving industry that plays a pivotal role in the country's economy. With a diverse landscape, rich cultural heritage, and a burgeoning middle class with disposable income, India has emerged as one of the fastest-growing travel markets in the world. One of the key drivers of the travel market in India is domestic tourism. Indians are increasingly exploring their own country, leading to a surge in demand for accommodation, transportation, and experiences within India. Additionally, international tourism has been on the rise, with travelers from around the globe drawn to India's historical landmarks, natural beauty, and vibrant culture.

The emergence of online travel agencies (OTAs) and travel apps has revolutionized how Indians plan and book their trips. This

digital transformation has made travel more accessible, convenient, and affordable for a larger segment of the population. Further, government initiatives such as "Incredible India" campaigns and the promotion of sustainable and responsible tourism have boosted the industry. However, challenges like infrastructure development, safety concerns, and regulatory issues persist.

The Indian travel market has experienced remarkable growth over recent years, attracting travelers from various segments, including business, leisure, and medical tourism. India has established itself as a prominent player in the global travel industry, and its potential is evident in the projected total addressable travel market of US\$ 40 billion by 2020. The tourism and hospitality sector in India has emerged as a key driver of growth within the services sector, holding immense promise due to the nation's rich cultural and historical heritage, diverse ecological landscapes, and natural

beauty spread throughout the country. Tourism not only contributes significantly to foreign exchange earnings but also serves as a substantial employment generator. Foreign tourist arrivals in India reached 80.16 lakh in 2015, reflecting a growth rate of 4.4 percent. Government initiatives, such as the E-Tourist Visa facility, have played a pivotal role in boosting international tourism. This facility, extended to citizens of 150 countries, witnessed a staggering growth of 1040.4 percent, with 4,45,300 tourists arriving on e-Tourist Visas in 2015 compared to 39,046 in 2014. Domestically, India ranks among the fastest-growing air travel markets globally.

Besides government initiatives, the private sector and global travel giants, along with homegrown start-ups, have been instrumental in shaping the Indian travel market. The online travel sector is poised for significant growth, expected to account for 40-50 percent of total transactions by 2020, up from the current 12 percent. Tier-II and Tier-III cities also decentralizes employment opportunities,

drivers of this growth, promising continued expansion in the online travel market. India is also emerging as a preferred destination for medical value travel (MVT), owing to the high-quality healthcare services offered by world-class hospitals across the country. As the global MVT market is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 17.9 percent to reach US\$ 32.5 billion by 2019, India is projected to record a remarkable CAGR of 30 percent, reaching US\$ 10.6 billion during the same period. This growth positions India to capture nearly one-third of the global MVT market.

The travel market in India holds immense promise for employment generation. As the industry continues to expand and diversify, it creates a wide array of job opportunities across various sectors. These include hospitality, transportation, tour guiding, travel agencies, event management, and more. The growth of tourism in Tier-II and Tier-III cities also decentralizes employment opportunities,

benefiting local communities. Additionally, the rise of digital platforms and online travel agencies fuels demand for tech-savvy professionals, further enhancing employment prospects.

With India's rich cultural heritage and diverse landscapes attracting a growing number of travelers, the travel market is not only a source of economic growth but also a significant contributor to job creation.

Digital Transformation: Continue to advance digital platforms and mobile apps to streamline travel planning and booking processes, providing travelers with real-time information and seamless experiences.

Promotional Campaigns: Invest in marketing campaigns both domestically and internationally to showcase India's diverse attractions and cultural experiences. Highlight unique festivals, events, and culinary offerings.

Safety Measures: Enhance safety and security measures for travelers, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment.

Government Support: Collaborate with the government to create favorable policies, incentives, and regulatory frameworks to encourage investment and entrepreneurship in the travel industry.

Private Sector: Foster partnerships with private sector companies, airlines, hotels, and travel agencies to create innovative packages and offers that attract tourists.

Research and Data Analysis: Gather data on traveler preferences and behavior to tailor marketing strategies and improve infrastructure planning. By implementing these strategies, India can harness its immense potential as a travel destination and create a thriving, sustainable travel market that benefits both the economy and the global tourism community.

To sum up, the Indian travel market stands at the threshold of a promising future. As it continues to expand and diversify, driven by improving infrastructure, proactive government initiatives, and the dynamic contributions of the private sector, India's travel and tourism industry is poised for sustained growth. This industry is not only a vital economic contributor but also a cultural ambassador, showcasing the nation's rich heritage and natural beauty to the world. With travelers, both domestic and international, increasingly drawn to India's myriad offerings, the travel market here is set to flourish, unlocking new horizons for businesses, and creating unforgettable experiences for globetrotters. India's journey in the world of travel is just beginning, and the future looks brighter than ever, promising prosperity, employment opportunities, and the continued exploration of the nation's unparalleled diversity.

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

Pune based NGO Spread Happiness Foundation and Ravet Women's Club, Unite for a Transformative Event Empower Her at Dehu Road MB Camp



PUNE: Today, the "Empower Her: Menstrual Health & Hygiene Camp" brought a ray of hope and empowerment to over 200 women in Bikash Nagar, a bustling slum community housing more than 1500 migrant families from diverse states, including Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, and more. Most residents in this vibrant neighborhood face financial disadvantages. The camp was jointly organized by the leading Pune-based NGO, Spread Happiness Foundation, and the

dedicated members of the Ravet Women's Club, with model Nirupama Mohanty, Founder of Ravet Women's Club and Mr. Soumya Ranjan Mohapatro, the Founder and Chairman of Spread Happiness Foundation, leading the event.

Bikash Nagar has long been a testament to the resilience of migrant families seeking a better life. However, the challenges faced by these families are immense, especially for the women who are often overlooked in discussions about their well-being.

The "Empower Her" camp was a resounding affirmation of their significance. The event featured an enlightening session on menstrual hygiene led by Dr. Shital Chavan, a respected expert in the field. Dr. Chavan provided the women with vital information, empowering them to take control of their reproductive health and hygiene.

Acknowledging the practical difficulties that many of these women face, the organizers distributed sanitary pads to all attendees. This simple yet significant act, led

by members of the Spread Happiness Foundation and the dedicated women of Ravet Women's Club, aimed to alleviate a burden that these women often face.

Mr. Soumya Ranjan Mohapatro, the Founder and Chairman of the Spread Happiness Foundation, utilized the platform to raise awareness about various government schemes and resources available to these women. He emphasized the importance of making use of government initiatives, such as health cards provided by the Central Government and insurance schemes for migrant laborers initiated by the Prime Minister. These initiatives are designed to provide financial security and healthcare access for those in need.

The "Empower Her" camp was a compelling illustration of the power of community collaboration and individual dedication. Pranati Sabat, Deep Mohanty from Spread happiness foundation and Prachi Pragya, Sangita Tai and Rekha Goel from Ravet

Women's Club all associated with the Spread Happiness Foundation, joined forces with Mr. Soumya Ranjan Mohapatro to ensure the success of the event. Their unwavering commitment and collective effort have left an enduring impact on the women of Bikash Nagar.

The "Empower Her: Menstrual Health & Hygiene Camp," jointly organized by the Ravet Women's Club and the Spread Happiness Foundation, signifies the potential for positive change when individuals and organizations unite for a common cause. By addressing menstrual health and hygiene and spreading awareness about government initiatives, this event has not only empowered the women of Bikash Nagar but has also sown the seeds for a brighter, healthier, and more equitable future.



Hyderabad, Oct 22 (KCN):

"Truth alone Triumphs" is our National credo and while celebrating the festival, we have to collectively endeavour to fight all the evils including disease spreading viruses, environmental hazards and to create greener and healthier neighborhoods," said Governor Dr Tamilisai Sounderarajan. Extending warm and cordial greetings to the people of Telangana on the eve of Vijaya Dashami, the Governor said that the Navaratri

festivals renews the people with the spirit of joy and jubilation. Stating that the main theme of the festival is the triumph of good over evil has an everlasting relevance, the Governor prayed that the Divine Mother may shower her choicest blessings on the occasion of happy and festive celebrations of Dasara. Earlier, the Governor performed the Ayudha Puja to the weapons of the security personnel and Vahana Puja to all the vehicles of the Raj Bhavan. Senior officers and other members of the staff joined the Governor in performing the special Ayudha Puja and Vahana Puja organized near the temple inside the Raj Bhavan complex. The Governor personally conveyed wishes to all the officers and the staff members. Secretary to the Governor K. Surendra Mohan and other senior officials and staff members took part in the puja.

23rd October Death Ceremony Thinker and Left Activist Bhagabati Panigrahi



Dr. Arundhati Devi
socialistic principles. He was the founder of Nabayuga Sahitya Sansad at Cuttack with the collaboration of Ananta Pattnaik and others in November 1935 and it became the most famous radical organization to foster modern ideas in Odisha. He edited Odia monthly entitled Adhunika from 1936 May for the spread of progressive and radical ideas. After one year Adhunika merged into the fortnightly Pragati. His Nabayuga Sahitya Sansad became the most progressive center to stimulate considerable interest in radical literature and left ideas among the youth. In December 1936 Jawaharlal Nehru visited Cuttack and addressed the Sansad and his association with the organization undoubtedly attracted and stimulated considerable interest in it.

When he was a student of Puri Zilla school he came in contact with ex-detainee Satyendranath Guha of Bengal and imbibed his revolutionary ideas. He in 1934 was suspected of being a member of a revolutionary organization in Khurda. Subsequently, he became interested in the Youth League organization. He was also associated with Acharya Narendra Deb and subscribed to his

and Socialist meetings. His socialist views were also expounded in the weekly Krushak which was also edited by him in collaboration with other young socialist activists of Odisha. Bhagabati took the opportunity of associating with Rajkumar Singha of the Kakory conspiracy case while the latter visited Cuttack early in 1938. He also kept in touch with noted Bombay and Calcutta Communists. He had also actively participated in the States Agitation and led a batch of volunteers of Dhenkanal State to offer Satyagraha in 1938-39.

The Sepoy mutiny was staged by the capitalists and therefore it was a failure. In the nationalist movement for the independence of the country, the peasants and workers should fight for their own cause. It was quite likely that they should have to die at the point of the bayonet as was the case in Dhenkanal, Gangpur and Ranpur, but they should remember that such sacrifices naturally would give an impetus to those who were left behind. As this was the last struggle all young and healthy men should take part in it. In the concluding part of his address, he exhorted the audience to unite and form Kisan Sanghas in every village. This

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Center Transforms Disability Rights

New Delhi: Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in India has embarked on a transformative journey. In its relentless pursuit of a more inclusive society, DEPwD has forged significant partnerships and implemented innovative initiatives to bring about lasting change.

From a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Council of Architecture to the release of anonymous data through the

Unique Disability ID (UDID) portal for research purposes, and the launch of the PM Daksh Portal, designed to empower persons with disabilities in their pursuit of skill development and employment opportunities. Additionally, this essay explores the compilation of pivotal disability rights judgments by Indian courts into a comprehensive booklet and sheds light on the advent of a cutting-edge online case monitoring portal by the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. MoS,

Kumari Pratima Bhoumik, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, will launch the five initiatives of DEPwD mentioned below at DAIC. These initiatives collectively reflect DEPwD's commitment to fostering inclusivity, advancing disability rights, and harnessing technology to improve the lives of persons with disabilities in India. DEPwD's five initiatives encompass a range of groundbreaking actions, such as MOU with Council of Architecture: The

department collaborates with the Council of Architecture (COA) to mandate universal accessibility

courses in Bachelor of Architecture programs. This partnership extends to developing a certified



course for architects and civil engineers to conduct accessibility audits in built environments, ensuring compliance with accessibility standards.

Secondly Releasing of Anonymous Data of UDID: DEPwD's release of anonymous data through the UDID portal for research purposes facilitates data-driven decision-making in the disability sector, offering insights at various levels to enhance understanding and inform targeted interventions.

Thirdly, PM Daksh Portal: The department

introduces the PM Daksh Portal as a comprehensive digital platform for Persons with Disabilities seeking training and employment opportunities.

Lastly Online Case Monitoring Portal by CCPD: The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities adopts a cutting-edge application for handling grievances filed by persons with disabilities, making the entire process paperless and efficient, featuring seamless online complaint filing, automated reminders, and simplified hearing scheduling.

Cycling For Clean Air



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Satyabrata Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Revenue & Disaster Management and Special Relief Commissioner has flagged off a Cycle Rally organized by State Pollution Control Board, Odisha on 9 September to celebrate the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. The largely attended Cycle Rally was organized in collaboration with the Centre for Environmental Studies (CES), Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department of Government of Odisha, to campaign for public participation towards improving air quality. ACS FE&CC Shri Sahu said that Air pollution is a global issue, which leads to serious health effects to human beings. Realising this challenge,

the United Nations General Assembly has declared 7 September as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. The theme of 2023 is "Together for Clean air". ACS Shri Sahu also highlighted the importance of International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies (Theme – Together for Clean Air), and role of individuals in improving the air quality. K Murugesan, Member Secretary OSPCB, Director Environment and Director CES organized the massive show.

Lalit Das, Director General Printing Stationary and Publication, Odisha graced the occasion. Top Cop, Shri Das is an avid cyclist and has been promoting the cause of cycling in the State and the subject is close to his heart. In fact eminent author Irish Murdock, in his famous 1965 novel "The

Red And The Green" says, "The bicycle is the most civilized conveyance. Other forms of transport grow daily more nightmarish. Only the bicycle remains pure in heart."

Dr. Murugesan, who is also the Director Environment, said that to improve air quality in 131 non-attainment cities of India, Government of India has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and Government of Odisha is implementing various action plans, where people are involved through public outreach programs.

He said that another project Mission LiFE, launched by Government of India also demands to adopt environment friendly lifestyle for better environmental conditions.

Outdoor cycling has been considered as a

cleaner way of commuting and it also reduces air pollution apart from leading to resource conservation.

For this year's celebration, SPCB, Odisha therefore decided to conduct the bicycle rally to raise awareness among people to adopt cycling as an alternate way of commuting in the cities, said Dr. Murugesan. The rally covered about 5 Kilometre distance starting from Forest Park and ending at the Head Office of State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) at Nilakantha Nagar, via Airport Square, Siripur Square, and Paika Nagar. About 200 cyclists and officials participated in the event.

During the cycling, sensitizing slogans on air pollution control were displayed using banners and placards, for information of public. The Awareness event ended at the Head office of SPCB.

Defunct solar drinking water project irks residents

KENDRAPARA: A solar drinking water supply scheme, powered by a 10 horsepower (HP) pump at Chata gram panchayat in Derabishi block of Kendrapara district has been lying defunct for the last three years much to the disappointment of villagers.

The drinking water project was inaugurated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on March 5, 2016. The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) department had

spent ₹1.20 crore to construct the project which is powered by solar energy. The 10 HP solar pump helped lift water up to a height of 29 metre. It took two-and-a-half hours to fill an overhead water tank with a capacity of one lakh litre.

The solar water pump project pumped water from the borewell to the overhead tank. The water was then supplied from the tank to houses. The solar pump works automatically and is

activated by a sensor whenever the water level in the overhead tank depletes. However it became defunct three years back due to some technical snag.

Owing to negligence of officials, it is yet to be repaired as a result of which large number of residents of Chatara, Chakoda, Chata and other villagers are facing problems, alleged sarpanch of Chata Mamata Rout. Assistant engineer of RWSS department Bibhudata Das said, "We have written to



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50 FAMILIES OF KUPWARA EMPOWERED WITH SUPPORT OF INDIAN ARMY



K u p w a r a Kashmir (Asif Malik) : Indian Army, TYCIA Foundation and SIDBI in joint collaboration have initiated Project Jazba which is aimed at holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir's local communities, promoting sustainable tourism, boost the economic growth, cultural preservation and empowerment of families across the region.

The collaborative efforts of the Indian Army and other stakeholders have culminated in a project designed to uplift 50 families by providing them sustainable livelihood opportunities mainly in the tourism sector. Under Project Jazba each beneficiary has been provided with a support of upto Rs 40,000/- by SIDBI aimed at uplifting the marginalised sections of society and establish a means of livelihood.

Of the 50 families, nine families have been facilitated with fully furnished homestays. These comfortable and culturally authentic accommodations will offer tourists a chance to experience the local way of life up close. The

families will receive training in hospitality and customer service to ensure a pleasant stay for visitors. One family has been earmarked and trained for community kitchen to cater for the requirements of guests staying in these accn. This family will be trained in various delicacies retaining the flavor of Kashmir. Three families have been supported in establishing roadside cafeterias. These cafeterias will serve local and traditional cuisine, allowing travelers to indulge in authentic flavors while taking a break during their journeys. In addition, four families have been equipped with horses, enabling them to offer guided horseback tours to tourists. These tours provide a unique opportunity for visitors to explore the picturesque landscapes of Kashmir while enjoying a traditional mode of transportation. One family has received support to setup a beauty parlor, catering to the grooming and beauty needs of tourists. Also, two families have been empowered to run petty shops, offering local products and souvenirs. Six

families have been provided with musical equipment, allowing them to perform traditional music and cultural performances for tourists. Four of them have been equipped with All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) which would be utilised to conduct guided tours across challenging terrain offering tourists an adrenaline-pumping experience. Provision of cows & sheep to five families will assist them in Dairy & Wool production and thereby earn livelihood. Three households have been facilitated with kids play station to entertain and engage the children by enhancing the overall family tourism experience while one family has been provided with a zorbing ball, where visitors can roll down slopes while enclosed in a giant inflatable ball. This project reaffirms commitment of Indian Army to uplift local communities by offering sustainable livelihood opportunities and promoting the cultural and natural heritage of the region. All the locals heaped praise on the efforts of Indian Army in facilitating them earn their livelihood thereby contributing towards nation building.

IIT Delhi Student Wins Coveted TCS CodeVita Season 10

MUMBAI: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), announced the winners of Season 10 of its flagship global coding contest, TCS CodeVita, at a virtual grand finale. CodeVita, holder of the Guinness World Records™ title as the world's largest computer programming competition, has been inspiring students across the world to build and test their coding expertise for the past 10 years. The contest promotes programming as a sport and encourages participants to pit their skills against each other and solve intriguing real-life challenges.

The winner claimed the grand prize of \$10,000, while the first and the second runners-up were awarded \$7,000 and \$3,000 respectively. In a first, the third runner up, Michal Stanik from Czech Republic, was also recognized by TCS with a prize of \$1,000. Moreover, all four winners earned an internship opportunity with TCS' Research & Innovation organization. Registration for Season 11 of TCS CodeVita will commence soon. "Season 10 of CodeVita has been remarkable in harnessing the passion for coding among the youth. We were thrilled to see how the four finalists

solved all the 10 problems, which has never happened before. I am happy to see CodeVita is encouraging youngsters to write good code and apply it to solve challenging problems," said K Ananth Krishnan, Chief Technology Officer, TCS. Winner Kalash Guptasaid, "Thank you so much. It's unbelievable! When I started with the contest, I never thought I would even be in the top 3 but this is a very humbling experience. I'm very excited about the prize money. Initially I was not confident, as I took longer than I expected to solve the first problem.

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 gel 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.

Bollywood star Janhvi Kapoor inaugurates Kalyan Jewellers' new showroom at Master Canteen in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar, (KCN):

Kalyan Jewellers, one of India's most trusted and leading jewellery brands, today launched its new showroom at Master Canteen in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The showroom was inaugurated by Bollywood star Janhvi Kapoor in presence of Kalyan Jewellers' CEO - Mr. Sanjay Raghuraman. This is the company's fifth showroom in Bhubaneswar. As we embark on this next phase of our growth journey, consistently expanding our geographical footprint in the region, we are committed to continue offering best-in-class shopping experience to our customers while staying true to the company's core values of trust and transparency in times to come."

Celebrating the launch, Kalyan Jewellers is offering 0% making charges on half the purchase value for customers shopping for a minimum of Rs. 1 lakh. This limited period offer is valid on the first two days of the launch i.e. 24th September and 25th September. Additionally, the "Kalyan Special Gold Board Rate", which is the lowest in the market and standardized across all company showrooms, will apply, ensuring a seamless and service-

KiiT International School becomes the only school from Odisha to win at ToyCathon

Bhubaneswar:

The revered founder of KiiT International School, Shri Achyuta Samanta, has always inspired and encouraged the youth to think outside the box. This motivation has led to an immense achievement for the school. A game, 'Untold Stories', designed by Shree Roy, a 10th Grade student of KiiT International School, has been selected as one of the top 7 winning games at ToyCathon, an inter-ministerial initiative of GOI, in association with AICTE.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mona Lisa Bal, Chairperson, KiiT International School said, "This is an extremely proud moment for KiiT International School family. I congratulate Shree for her endeavours. This is an accomplishment not just for her but the entire school. We always nurture our students to think beyond their textbooks and take interest in activities outside their classroom. I am glad that this morale-boosting has steered us to achieve this great honour. I firmly believe that these leaders of tomorrow can drive us towards a better tomorrow with proper education and guidance."

Shree's game 'Untold Stories' is a multiplayer game where one must answer questions about India's heritage to move on to the next level. With this game, Shree intended to revive the art and culture of India. With modernization and technology, most youngsters are glued to their smartphones and the internet. Shree designed this

game with the help of the school's research wing, Inspiron, in a pursuit to move them away from this exposure while enhancing their knowledge on India's art, history, and culture. From over 14 lakh online entries, 200 games were chosen for the physical edition of ToyCathon. Untold stories was the only winner from Odisha among the top 7 felicitated games.

Under the 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' initiated by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, ToyCathon is conceived to challenge India's innovative minds to conceptualize novel Toy and Games based on Bharatiya civilization, history, culture, mythology and ethos.

'We are concerned with our batting' - Shakib

Dhaka: Bangladesh ODI skipper Shakib Al Hasan said on Saturday (September 9) that their performances in the ongoing Asia Cup is a reality check for them ahead of the forthcoming World Cup, scheduled in India from October 5 to November 19.

Bangladesh are on the brink of elimination after they suffered a 21-run defeat to Sri Lanka in their second Super Four match at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Saturday. Bangladesh needed nothing but a win to stay alive in the tournament after losing their opening Super Four encounter to Pakistan by seven wickets but failed to do so after their batting unit came up with another dismal performance.

"Our batting is going downwards for the last six months (in ODIs) since the series against

England and later Afghanistan, now in this tournament and we need to work on it," Shakib told reporters after the game against Sri Lanka. "We are concerned with our batting and we need to see those areas and work on it so that we can rectify those areas. This tournament before the World Cup will be hugely beneficial because we need to have a reality check," he said. "We always play well in bilateral series and you cannot say we are a bad team but our big test is taken in this kind of tournament where we don't perform extraordinarily. We won three matches in 2007, 2011, 2015 and 2019 World Cup so people can say a lot of things but when we have a reality check usually we fail. It is good that the tournament was played before the World Cup



and everyone will think how we can solve this problem and only after that can we do better," Shakib said. "We don't have history because we have not succeeded (in big tournaments) though we played two or three finals in Asia Cup and if we could win it would have been better but we are

always a promising side," he added. Bangladesh will now play their last game against India at the same venue on September 15 and although they still have an outside chance of qualifying for the final, it all depends on the results of the other teams.

Shakib insisted things

could have been different if their top four performed in the middle against Sri Lanka in their do-or-die game after restricting the islanders to 257-9 in 50 overs. "In a tricky wicket like this, if the top four could make a big partnership in that case the dressing room would have been calm and the confidence

would be high. Because we lost four quick wickets we have to change our game. Though there was a big partnership, we needed more partnership. Hridoy had to play a match winning knock. We had to bat very well to chase 260 runs because on this wicket we can chase 230 to 240 but 260 runs was a bit too much. Whoever batted it (wicket) was better than day time but we could not seize the opportunity and we gave away 20 runs more," said Shakib adding that fielding first was the right call.

"I thought the bowlers would have some benefit at the start and there was a chance of rain. It was a good toss to win and the decision to bowl first was right and I feel they would have done the same."

Bangladesh tried Mehedy Hasan as an opener in the

tournament but apart from his match winning knock against Afghanistan it hardly paid dividends but Shakib backed his decision while also pointing out that the other opener Mohammad Naim has been getting starts. "Naim played in four matches and got the start in every game and what I feel is that if someone can score 20 runs he can score 80 runs or 100 runs. He is getting out after getting a start so he needs to work on mental aspects rather than skill," he said.

"Mehedy Miraz is a solid batsman and he has to take responsibility. He has good technique and we can use him (at the top) against some team and the century he scored (against Afghanistan) is not a fluke but at the same time if he bats at seven

it brings depth as well," he said.

Shakib added that they will see some more cricketers in the upcoming three match ODIs against New Zealand as he wants his players to be fresh during the World Cup where there will be a lot of travelling involved.

"There are three matches against New Zealand and we want to try a couple of things and everyone has a chance. The cricketers who are confirmed in the World Cup might be rested because there are practice matches and travelling (in the World Cup) and if someone is injured we will be in trouble because we don't have big bench strength. It is very important that everyone remains fit. Ebadat is not there and I hope the other four pace bowlers remain fit."

Hampshire sanctioned with points deduction for 'below average' pitch

New Delhi: A Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) Panel has sanctioned Hampshire County for failing to comply with the board's pitch regulations. The CDC upheld ECB's charge pertaining to the pitch used for the County Championship clash against Essex at the Ageas Bowl between July 25-27 which was rated 'Below Average' by the Match Referee. As per the sanctions, Hampshire will be immediately deducted three points from their 2023 County Championship tally.

The CDC has also imposed a fine of GBP 5000 as well as a 20-point deduction for the 2024 County Championship season

suspended until the last day of that season. These suspended points will be deducted if the club commits any further breach of the Pitch Regulations in relation to the County Championship on or before that date. Hampshire was charged under Regulation 8.1 of ECB's Pitch Regulations, which requires each County to actively seek to prepare the best quality cricket pitch it can for the match it hosts. In this particular fixture against Essex, the visitors bowled Hampshire out for 120 in the first innings courtesy a Jamie Porter five-wicket haul before folding for 169 themselves. Batting continued to be difficult

in the game with Hampshire managing only 131 in the second innings before Essex completed a six-wicket win. This is not the first violation of pitch regulations leading to points deduction. Somerset were docked 12 points for preparing a 'poor pitch' in the title decider fixture in 2019, a penalty that was subsequently deferred to the 2021 season owing to the pandemic.

The CDC Panel will release a fully reasoned decision in due course, after which the parties will have 14 days within which to lodge any appeal. Hampshire currently sit third in the Division One standings with 140 points, behind Surrey (183) and Essex (166).

According to information obtained by Cricbuzz, the men's team, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad and coached by VVS Laxman, will undergo a nearly two-week camp in Bengaluru from September 12 to 24. The Asian Games will take place in Hangzhou, China, from September 23 to October 8.

According to information obtained by Cricbuzz, the men's team, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad and coached by VVS Laxman, will undergo a nearly two-week camp in Bengaluru from September 12 to 24. Meanwhile, the women's team will have a shorter camp lasting only four

days, from September 13 to 16. A source familiar with the situation stated, "This camp will be valuable for many players who will be gaining experience in a multi-sport competition like the Asian Games." The shorter duration of the camp for the women's team, captained by

Harmanpreet Kaur, is due to their early schedule as they are set to depart for China on September 17. Hrishikesh Kanitkar will oversee the women's camp.

The men's cricket competition will take place from September 26 to October 8 and the women's matches will be

women's cricket was a medal event, there were challenges for the few extra individuals who traveled there. They had to be accommodated in private hotels, and it was still difficult for them to interact with the players due to restricted access. Men's Squad: Ruturaj Gaikwad (Captain), Yashavali Jaiswal, Rahul Tripathi, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Washington Sundar, Shahbaz Ahmed, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Mukesh Kumar, Shivam Mavi, Shivam Dube, Prabhjot Singh (wk). Standbys: Yash Thakur, Sai Kishore, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Hooda, Sai Sudharsan.

Asiad-bound Indian sides to have camps in Bengaluru

New Delhi: The Asian Games-bound Indian cricket teams are scheduled to have training camps in Bengaluru starting next week. Owing to the differing schedules for the men's and women's teams, the duration of these camps will vary.

The Asian Games will take place in Hangzhou, China, from September 23 to October 8. According to information obtained by Cricbuzz, the men's team, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad and coached by VVS Laxman, will undergo a nearly two-week camp in Bengaluru from September 12 to 24. Meanwhile, the women's team will have a shorter camp lasting only four

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Samantray, Olympian Anuradha Biswal, veteran footballer and coach of Odisha Women Football Team Shradhanjalai

Mohanty, KIIT-KISS Founder Dr Achyuta Samanta, Vice-Chancellor KIIT-DU Prof Saranjit Singh and Director General Sports

KIIT-KISS Dr Gaganendu Dash felicitated the sportspersons. Speaking on the occasion Dr Samanta

said "the sports scenario in Odisha has completely changed under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. Following in the footsteps of Odisha Government, KIIT and KISS always reach out in case of any issues with the sportspersons

and help them. KIIT & KISS have produced 15 Olympians and more than 5 thousand sports persons from state level to international level, he added.

There are 14 students of KIIT Deemed-to-be-University represented India in the recently concluded Asian Games, 2023 at Hangzhou, China, and four of them won medals. Similarly, 18 students from three Universities of Odisha, including 14 students from KIIT, participated in the World University Games, 2023 in Chengdu, China, and two KIIT students won the bronze medals informed Dr Gaganendu Dash. Vice-Chancellor Prof Saranjit Singh also called for more use of technology in sports coaching and enabling the aspirants to have better results.