

Metro Rail Stone On 1 Jan3

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Foundation stone for the much hyped Metro Rail Project to be laid on New Year day.

Chairman 5T & Nabina Odisha V K Pandian along with senior officials reviewed the work of the proposed Metro Rail Project early this morning.

The mass public transport project will connect the twin city of Bhubaneswar & Cuttack. The Phase I of the Metro Rail project will connect Bhubaneswar Airport with Trisulia Square, via Chandrasekharpur, Jaydev Vihar, Vani Vihar, Master Canteen and Rajmahal Square. Shri Pandian discussed and facilitated decisions for timely commencement of the construction of Metro Rail project.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had announced the project on Odisha Dibas on 1st April 2023 for which the Detailed Project Report has been approved by the Government.

A Master Plan for extending the Metro Rail



service to other areas of Bhubaneswar and to Khordha, Puri and Cuttack towns is being developed through Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. Trisulia is going to emerge as a major traffic hub to serve Bhubaneswar and Cuttack cities as well as emerge as gateway to the Twin city from Banki and Athgarh side. The Central Depot of the Metro Rail project will be located near Trisulia Square where the Command & Control Centre as well as the maintenance and stabling facilities for the Metro trains will be constructed. A New Bus Stand is being constructed at Trisulia Square, which will be

further expanded and integrated with the metro station. Chairman 5T and Nabina Odisha expressed satisfaction on the progress made by various departments and agencies and directed officials to complete the preparatory work in time ahead of the foundation stone for the project to be laid by the Chief Minister on January 1, 2024.

He instructed that the works must be monitored very closely, observing principles of 5T to ensure timely completion of the project within a four years schedule. He also asked officials to ensure that the project realizes the vision of the Chief Minister of a world class urban transport

system for the aspirational Odisha. Shri Pandian advised that the metro system should leverage the latest technologies and most advanced equipment to provide an efficient mobility solution to passengers. He asked officials to ensure that other modes of transport are aligned with metro rail stoppages for the seamless movement of passengers. He also advised officials to ensure that the project planning should be done in such a way so that it has enough room for long term future expansions. Meanwhile, Shri Pandian made a surprise visit to the newly constructed Cuttack

Netaji Bus Terminal (CNBT) to get feedback from people and see the cleanliness at the state of the art terminal. He interacted with passengers, vendors, service providers, bus operators and other staff members. He asked officials to further strengthen the integrated information management system which will enhance the passenger experience and hassle free movement of passengers. The officials also visited the transformed Taladanda Canal. He advised that the visual aesthetics along the canal should be maintained so it continues to be a recreational hub for the people of Cuttack city. 5T Chief was accompanied by Anu Garg, Development Commissioner, Manoj Kumar Mishra, Principal Secretary, E&IT Department, senior officials of Cuttack District Administration, Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Corporation and Works Department.

Holy Month Of Kartika Begins; Thousands Of Devotees Gather In Puri

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The month of Kartika is considered to be the most auspicious time in the Odia calendar. Starting on Kumar Purnima and culminating on Kartika Purnima, this month (also known as the month of Damodar i.e., Krishna) is that time of the year when a few distinct annual rituals are observed, quintessential of the Odia culture. The Holy month of



Kartika has started from today that is October 29. The Habishyalis will observe the month of Kartik Brata starting today. The district

administration has prepared accommodation, food and health and safety arrangements for more

than 3 thousand devotees in 5 Habishyal centers in Puri. Various voluntary organizations of Puri have also joined offering their services and support. Apart from security personnel, 2 additional SPs, 7 DSPs, 10 inspectors, 44 SIs and ASIs, 70 constables and 18 platoon forces have been deployed to maintain law and order during this month. Arrangements have been

made by the administration for the darshan of Lord Jagannath, distribution of Maha Prasad, listening to Kartik Mahatma and performing Bhajan Kirtan in the temple. More than 3 thousand Habishyalis will benefit from the government's scheme. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will inaugurate Habishyalis Sibira virtually via video conferencing today.



in the accident.

"The Chief Minister advised to send as many ambulances as possible from the nearby districts of Visakhapatnam and Anakapalli and make all kinds of arrangements to provide medical treatment in the nearby hospitals. The details regarding the incident should be reported to him from time to time," it added.

7 Dead As Express Train Collides With Stationary Passenger Train In Andhra

New Delhi(KCN): At least 7 people were killed on Sunday when an Express Train rammed a stationary passenger train in Andhra Pradesh, months after the horrific three-train collision in Odisha that killed over 280. The passenger train was going from Visakhapatnam to Rayagada. It stopped due to a break in overhead cable. The incoming train, Palasa Express, is said to have run into the stationary train derailing three coaches. Pictures from the site showed the derailed coaches and people crowding around. Andhra Chief Minister Jagan Reddy has condoled the loss of lives

Minimum temp drops to 13°C in Phulbani; IMD predicts rain in some Odisha districts from Nov 1

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

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Inaugural Astaranga Beach Festival Committee Formed, Set to Shine on Kartika Purnima

Bhubaneswar (KCN): In a momentous development, the first-ever Astaranga Beach Festival took a significant step forward as a committee was formed during a meeting held in anticipation of Kartika Purnima. The festival, poised to become a grand cultural celebration, is scheduled to span two exhilarating days on November 27th and 28th.

Mr. Tushar Kant Behera, the esteemed

Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs in the state, was appointed as the Chairman of the Committee, while the Puri District Council Vice-Chairperson, Swadhin Kumar Nayak, assumed the role of Secretary. These prominent figures, along with other dedicated committee members, will ensure the seamless execution of this upcoming festivity.

The meeting was convened with a singular aim: to

guarantee the resounding success of the Astaranga Beach Festival. Eager to contribute their insights and ideas, a diverse array of participants graced the occasion. Local



Youth Fest From DEC



Bhubaneswar (KCN): Odisha Government has decided to organize Youth Festivals in all 30 districts of the State during December 2023 to January 2024.

According to official sources, the Department of Sports and Youth Services (DSYS) is going to organise the festivals in all districts with an objective to engage the youth and provide a platform to showcase their talents. Various cultural and other programmes will be conducted at the district level where the local youths can showcase their talents. The festival will be conducted for either for one or two days, as per the geographic size and youth population of the

district. All the 30 districts have been divided into six different clusters. Angul, Dhenkanal, Kandhamal, Nayagarh and Boudh districts have been put under Cluster-I while Bargarh, Deogarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, and Sundargarh districts in Cluster-II, and Cluster III (Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Khordha, and Puri). Similarly, Cluster IV districts are—Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar; Cluster V (Gajapati, Ganjam, Rayagada, Koraput, and Malkangiri) and Cluster VI (Balangir, Kalahandi, Subarnapuri, Nabarangpur, and Nuapada).

Various competitions will be conducted in arts, sports and games to test the skills and talents of the young people of the district, sources said. The Government has also planned to distribute specially designed T-Shirts to 5 lakh youths during the festivals. In March, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India organised a similar event—Yuva Utsava-India@2047. The programs in the first phase are being hosted by schools and colleges of the districts, with broad based participants/footfall from neighboring educational institutions apart from the Youth Volunteers and Members of Youth Club affiliated with NYKS. The winners of the District Level participated at the State level Yuva Utsav held during August to September 2023 at State Capitals. The winners of all the State level programs have participated at the National Level Yuva Utsav held this month at Delhi.

As a part of Yuva Utsava, various Ministries, Departments/Agencies of State Governments and PSUs showcased their achievements and innovations to the youth of the country. So, it was expected that the State Government may also try to reach out to the youths through this youth festival.

Honor For Athletes



Bhubaneswar (KCN): Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Tusharkanti Behera today felicitated 20 athletes from the State with cash awards in a ceremony at the Kalinga Sports Complex in Bhubaneswar.

The athletes, from the disciplines of Karate, Badminton and Yachting (Sailing) were recognized for their outstanding efforts in various National Championships, with a combined total of 22 medals.

Present at the occasion to congratulate and felicitate the athletes were Sports Minister Shri Behera, Sports Director Siddhartha Das and other officials of the Sports & Youth Services Department. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Behera congratulated the athletes and praised their dedication. "Today we celebrate the spirit of excellence and determination exemplified by our

young athletes from Odisha. Their outstanding achievements in Karate, Badminton, and Yachting have not only brought glory to our state but will also inspire many more," he said.

"I commend their dedication and passion, and I firmly believe this is just a step towards a future filled with even greater accomplishments. Let this recognition serve as a testament to their hard

community representatives, intellectuals, social workers, and media professionals united to share their valuable perspectives.

The esteemed attendees included Sarapanch Kshirod Kanda, PS Member Bimbadhar Bishwal, renowned educationist Swapneswar Sahu, Pramod Nayak, Block BJD President Kedarnath Bishwal, MP's representative Champak Barik, Minister's representative

Bhimasen Swain, social activist Hulash Nayak, journalist Dhusasan Nayak and the illustrious social worker Sovakar Behera.

The meeting's objective was clear: to shape the Astaranga Beach Festival into a resounding success and an emblem of unity, reflecting the rich art and culture of Odisha. As the festival approaches, all eyes are on this cultural extravaganza, set to make waves on the stunning shores of Astaranga.



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Kindness & Karma : Part of Our Life

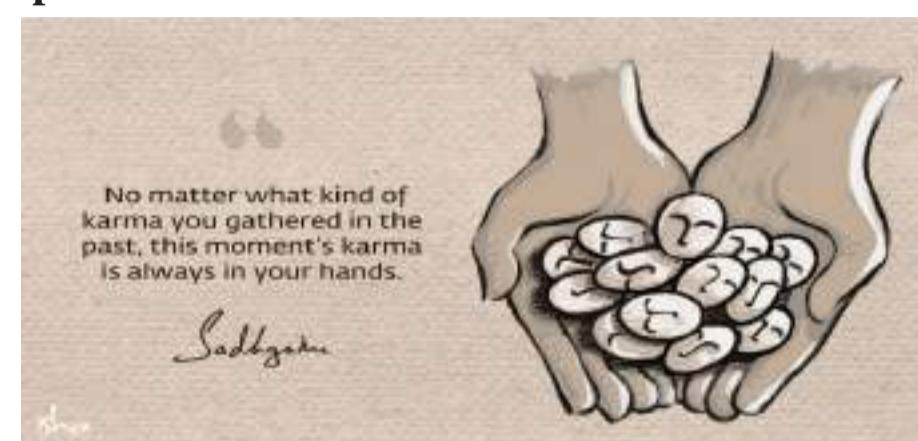


Bipin Bihari Rout

become an integral part of our Karma. At times, we think they are unimportant and we forget those efforts.

Keep in mind whatever you have done till now and whatever you have thought, all of them become a part of your life. You cannot do away with them. Each Karma, thought, and emotions stay connected to your whole life. Whatever you have thought, all good or bad, or any sentiment that you have to help someone, all stay with you. You might have failed in your efforts, but you wanted to help someone. That's enough.

Human beings receive the fruits of Karma according to their sentiments and thoughts. All Karma, thoughts and sentiments start getting connected with you as you go on with your life. You forget them in the course of time, that's a different matter. Even what you have done in your past births, what mistakes you have committed,



what you went through you forget them eventually but always remember, God doesn't forget anything.

With the passage of time, all your past actions start getting attached to you. They never go away. God says whatever you have done in your past births; you might have travelled on the path of wise actions, or you might have helped someone, whatever you would have done, you receive their outcomes in your current birth. Sometimes, you may receive the result unexpectedly.

Sometimes a person receives superb results without any big effort and he thinks how I received such a

sweet fruit. He forgets Karma is seldom linked with the current birth only. We are a part of a link of countless births. And all the fruits are the results of our Karma in all those incarnations. So, whatever we have done in an instant and whatever we have achieved is linked to various previous births.

A human being is not a separate entity. And so, any instant thought or any random act of kindness could be a thought or act of transformation that can change the whole life.

Moreover, for general well-being as well, random acts of kindness work in a wonderful way. They enhance our bonding with friends, relatives and strangers; add to

our experience of positive emotions, increase self-esteem, bring positive change in mood, relax our soul and most importantly, reduce stress.

Needless to say, you should never give a miss to any opportunity of showing your kindness. An act of kindness can be as simple as smiling at a child who is crying, listening to someone attentively, complimenting someone, or saying 'thanks' to someone with a smile and also helping someone in a big way to come out of a life's predicament. So, be kind always. Each act of kindness really matters!

Srivihar Colony, Cuttack, Mob. : 9437666453

Kindness is not an ordinary virtue. It's like a superpower that anyone can practice every day. Kindness is a strength that significantly impacts life. But it is also a fact that kindness isn't a skill that comes naturally to human beings. The virtue, however, can be learned and inculcated in the personality in order to live a fulfilling and better life.

Nevertheless, in day-to-day life, many people ignore random acts of kindness. They think nothing will change in the world if today I remain unkind. Understand that not a single act of kindness is worthless. In the Bhagavad Gita, Lord Krishna says all of us are a collection of our deeds. Whatever we have tried in our lives- no matter how little the effort is- all of them

Let Nature be Your Teacher



Jasaswini Pattanayak

changing times! Discipline consists in the strict observance of rules and regulations and directions. It is only when discipline is observed that any act or duty can yield the desired result. At present production of food, building homes, and manufacturing cloth and other materials are at their peak. Modern society is in dire need of tolerance, humility, brotherhood and compassion!

A life without discipline is a ship without a rudder. It loses its direction and drifts into unknown waters. Discipline is the need of the hour to combat the flood of hate and derision and when those shy away on whom you have placed your trust. One without a disciplined mind is a wild elephant in a rut. It is not as if discipline can be inculcated all of a sudden. It has to be reported! Veneration and love for the teacher is missing very badly. Even in

practiced regularly. Discipline is absolutely essential for success in every field of activity whether it is economic, social, educational or material and mundane. Discipline is all the more important for success in the spiritual field! "The sages have discovered the disciplines that will keep you unaffected by defeat or victory, loss or gain. Learn them, establish yourself in unruffled peace."

Says Bhagawan Sri Sri Satya Sai Baba. Unfortunately discipline is significantly absent in almost every walk of life. There is much cause for concern in the educational field. Students have no respect for the teachers. Malpractices in examinations have become common! A few violent attacks on teachers are also reported! Veneration and love for the teacher is missing very badly. Even in

society there is no regard for discipline! Fraud, cheating, robbery, murder, lust and rape have become too common to be wondered at! Society has become one of loose morals mainly because of lack of discipline!

There is discipline in creation. As William Wordsmith said, "Let Nature be your teacher" we can learn lessons from Nature that is the best example for strict discipline. The sun rises and sets regularly in the morning and evening. The sea beats its waves continuously against the shore but never crosses it. Seasons change regularly and smoothly. Is this not discipline? Who is controlling all activities of Nature? It is because of the strict discipline exhibited by Nature man is able to live happily and peacefully. Imagine what will happen if the sea or ocean crosses the shores.

Discipline must start from the early years



Pradeep Kumar Rout

elsewhere, life has become intolerable. Some persons hold positions of authority in business, in administration or in other institutions. Here also discipline is essential, dust because one holds an office, he cannot behave as he likes. He cannot be free with his tongue. In his words and his writings he should observe restraint. In the use of words, whether in speech or writing, care should be observed regarding their future implications. Your discipline will protect you in whatever you do. Even in a simple matter like walking on the road, many do not observe the rules. They choose to walk on the middle of the road instead of using the pavement. Jaywalking on the road is not only harmful to oneself but is a hindrance to others. Your motto in life should be: Help ever; hurt never. Discipline must start from the early years, But it is needed not only by students but by elders and all persons in authority.

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Unfortunately, such an approach is present in almost all top notch school

Today it is because people do not observe the rules, whether in sports or

for sensual pleasure. Society can never progress if each one cares for his own pleasures! Lack of discipline has led to this state of affairs and man's greed has reached to such an extent that he wants to possess everything including God! He says "My God, not yours! "Your God, not mine!"

Desires destroy discipline! There is no end for the desires that man has. Every desire fulfilled leads to fresh and more desires rooting out the edifice of discipline. Therefore one should have a ceiling on desires to maintain discipline. Lot of money is wasted on needless things. Money is also being misused for selfish reasons. That should be avoided. The lure of money is irresistible for man and he is ready to do anything for it. Too much of money is dangerous. There should be discipline in using it for good purposes. Discipline is of paramount importance in managing time. We know the proverb: "Time and tide waits for no man." If we kill time, time kills us!

Desires Destroy Discipline

Prof. Dr. Jyotiranjan Champatiray



Man by nature is undisciplined. He wants no inhibitions. He wants to drink life to the Lees. He prefers to move with a gay abandon. That is why he resists discipline. This attitude is detrimental to man and his future. Discipline and other regulations are laid down for the good of man. Regulations are the very essence of creation as explained earlier. Wind and fire respect their limits. There is discipline, unnoticed, in our body! Our body temperature is kept normal without our effort! Otherwise we will be unhealthy! Our cardiac muscles are involuntary and the heart has to maintain the number of beats per minutes to allow us to live! Is this not discipline? Why discipline? It is discipline that helps you to put up with dis appointments. Life is one of ups and downs. There is no rose without thorns but man wants a rose without thorns! Life cannot be

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Income Tax search in what circumstances- Part 3

(Contd from 23 Oct 2023)

11. Present practice for deciding the cases for conducting search: As per the present practice, the searches are to be conducted keeping in view the recent CBDT Instruction No. 7/2003, dated 30.07.2003, the contents of which are summarised hereunder -

"1. With a view to focus on high revenue yielding cases and to make the optimum use of manpower, the Board has decided that officers deployed in the Investigation Wing should restructure their activities. They should henceforth strictly adhere to the following guidelines: (i) Searches should be carried out only in cases where there is credible evidence to indicate substantial unaccounted income/assets in relation to tax normally paid by the assessee or where expected concealment is more than Rs. 1 crore;

(ii) Search operation will also be mounted when there is evidence of hidden unaccounted assets arising out of a conspiracy to cause public harm, terrorism, smuggling, narcotics, fraud, gangsterism, fake currency, fake stamp papers and such other manifestations;

(iii) Tax payers

who are professionals of excellence should not be searched without there being compelling evidence and confirmation of substantial tax evasion.

2. Henceforth, search operations shall be authorized only by the concerned DGIT (Inv.), who will be accountable for the action initiated by the officers working under him. He should also ensure that all the work relating to search & seizure, like post-search inquiries, preparation of appraisal report and handing over of seized books of account etc., should be completed by the Investigation Wing within a period of 60 days from the date on which the last of the authorizations for search was executed.

3. DGsIT (Inv.) are requested to ensure that officers of competence and proven integrity are taken in the Investigation Wing. The officers posted in the Investigation Wing will be trained at NADT in a special course for which arrangements will be separately made...."

12. It may be mentioned that the Task Force on Direct Taxes chaired by Dr. Vijay Kelkar had stated in para 3.25 of its final report as follows -

" 3.25 Search and seizure has a limited role, in the Income tax

proceedings. Search and seizure is not a substitute for investigation. It is only a tool for investigation. It is not an end in itself. Search and seizure cannot be a way of life for any civilised society. Search and seizure should be used in rarest of rare cases, when it is a must and where alternative measures of investigation have failed. And once it is used, it should have its full impact as a deterrent. The tax evader should suffer the penal consequences of interest, penalty and prosecution in respect of the concealed income detected as a result of the search."

13. Furnishing of the reasons recorded for initiating search or requisition of books of account and other documents u/s 132A to assessee: As per explanation inserted in sec. 132(1) amended by the Finance Act, 2017 with retrospective effect from asst. year 1962-63 and similar explanations inserted in sec. 132(1A) and sec. 132A (w.e.f. 1.10.1975), the reason to believe, as recorded by the income-tax authority for initiating search proceedings or requisition of books of account, shall not be disclosed to any person or any authority or the Appellate Tribunal. In this connection the

Adv. Narayan Jain and CA Dilip Loyalka

decision of the Supreme Court in the case of DGIT (Inv.) v. S p a c e w o o d Furnishers Pvt. Ltd. [2015] 374 ITR 0595 (SC) may be referred to, wherein the apex court held that reasons recorded prior to authorizing search need not to be disclosed or communicated to the person against whom the warrant of authorization is issued. No right is conferred on taxpayer of inspection of documents or to a communication of the reasons for the belief at the stage of issuing of the authorization.

The Supreme Court observed: "Any such view would be counterproductive of the entire exercise contemplated by Section 132 of the Act" and material may be disclosed only at the stage of commencement of the assessment after search is completed. Further, the amendment has nullified the decision of ITAT Jodhpur Bench in the case of Shri Parma Ram Bhakar [TS-515-ITAT-2013(JODH)], wherein it was held that search conducted without recording reasons to believe is invalid and quashed the assessment framed in pursuance of invalid search.

It has been held by

Apex Court in the case of Ess Dee Aluminium Ltd. and Etc. [TS-625-SC-2016], that "if the assessment order which is based on the search operations is under challenge, the validity of the search proceedings can also be gone into by the CIT (Appeals).

14. Whether non-production of information, records and documents by a s s e s s e e despite constant direction of revenue can be a reason for invoking provisions of sec. 132: It has been held that where assessee fails to produce information, records or documents despite constant direction of the revenue, it shall form the reasons to believe for the purpose of initiating a search u/s 132 - Aditya Narayan Mahasupakar v. CCIT [2017] 79 taxmann.com 111 (Orissa).

15. Whether information from CBI that a particular person possesses money and according to CBI the money is undisclosed, constitute information for the purpose of search u/s 132: For a valid search there should be information which provides reason for believing that the person concerned is in possession of money or other assets representing, either wholly or partly

income which has not been disclosed by such person and in the absence of such information search cannot be validity authorised.

Mere intimation by CBI that money was found in the possession of a person, which according to CBI was undisclosed, without something more did not constitute "information" within the meaning of section 132, on the basis of which a search warrant could be issued, and the search conducted on the basis of such information and the block assessment made pursuant to such search was not valid - UOI v. Ajit Jain & Another [2003] 260 ITR 80(SC): 129 Taxman 74 (SC) : 181 CTR (SC) 22.

16. Whether information that documents, papers, undisclosed cash, jewellery and other assets were likely to be found at the residence of the assessee can at best be a "reason to suspect" but does not form any "reason to believe". Therefore no valid search warrant under such circumstances can be initiated - S p a c e w o o d Furnishers (P) Ltd. & Others v. DGIT (Inv.) & Others [2012] 340 ITR 393 (Bom); Madhu Gupta v. DIT (Inv.) [2013] 350 ITR 598 (Del).

17. Whether a single Search warrant can be issued for search against a group of persons or for two or more individuals: There is no bar in authorizing search of a group of concerns by a single warrant issued u/s 132 - Jose Cyriac v. CIT [2012] 20 taxmann.com 738 (Kerala), Embassy Classic (P.) Ltd. v. ACIT [2012] 20 taxmann.com 291 (Bangalore).

18. Where search warrant is issued in

have, in consequence of information, reason to believe that the statutory conditions for exercise of the power to order search exist. The condition precedent for search and seizure is "reason to believe" u/s 132 of the Act which cannot be equated with "reason to suspect". The information that documents, papers undisclosed cash, jewellery and other assets were likely to be found at the residence of the assessee can at best be a "reason to suspect" but does not form any "reason to believe". Therefore no valid search warrant under such circumstances can be initiated - S p a c e w o o d Furnishers (P) Ltd. & Others v. DGIT (Inv.) & Others [2012] 340 ITR 393 (Bom); Madhu Gupta v. DIT (Inv.) [2013] 350 ITR 598 (Del).

19. Whether multiple premises of a person can be searched on a single search warrant: Separate search warrant for separate premises is required. Since, the address of the place to be searched is required to be mentioned on the search warrant therefore no search can be conducted on the premises whose address is not mentioned in the search warrant.

(Contd.)

(Narayan Jain and Dilip Loyalka are authors of the book "How to Handle Income Tax Problems". They are Life members of AIFTP and DTPA)

Man : Success or a Failure

Soura Chandra Mohapatra



sometimes over a hundred feet tall. Man, also initially a seed, has likewise great potential and when he grows up, he becomes like a giant; a superman. When he is born, he already possesses all the great human qualities, but all these are in terms not of actuality but of potential. It is for man himself to turn this potential into actuality.

But there is a difference here. A seed grows automatically, following the law of nature. Man, however, is required to develop his personality by his own efforts. This requires conscious planning. Man should, accordingly, discover himself and

plan for his development

We live in a world where we face different situations, both negative and positive, wanted and unwanted. All these are like food for human beings, food for our growth. We must extract nourishment for our development from all things and situations, including negative and unwanted ones, for we can learn much from these, too.

In this world, this is the course taken by human development and, to further it, man must take food from everything. When he is angry and controls his anger, he is training himself in the art of turning negativity into

positivity. When he faces a crisis situation and manages to keep his patience, he is building up his capacity for positive planning. If he faces a violent situation and refrains from reacting, he is shaping his personality in such a way that he can maintain his peace of

mind, no matter in what condition he finds himself.

This gives a person the ability to conserve his energies, so that he may devote himself entirely to constructive work. When one faces a provocative situation and maintains his balance, he is building up his self-

control and thus creating a mindset that will enable him to effectively manage the periodic crises besetting almost everyone in this life. It is as if he has enrolled himself in a course of intellectual improvement.

All situations, both good and untoward, are like intellectual food. If

you try to face these situations with a positive attitude, you will be helping yourself grow. You will be enhancing your creativity. You will be developing your personality along positive lines. One who adopts this course will surely emerge, sooner or later, as a well-developed

personality, standing tall, like a full-grown tree.

Every person is born into this world with tremendous potential, but he or she has to work hard to unfold it. This potential is bestowed on everyone by nature, but its unfolding is a task which each and every individual has to perform for himself. Nature never discriminates against anyone with regard to the blessings that it showers on one and all: in the last analysis, it is left to man himself to become a success or a failure.

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Moscow Durga Puja catalyzing inter-cultural & civilizational understanding in India-Russia Friendship

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): In Russian capital Moscow, Durga Puja was organised by members of Indian diaspora and Indophile Russians in collaboration with Ramakrishna Society Vedanta Centre Moscow, with great fervour and dedication following traditional puja rituals and custom from 20th-24th October 2023 at 19A, Kuusinena Street, Moscow, Russia.

Moscow Durga Puja Committee also organised Mahalakshmi Puja on 28th October 2023 on auspicious Sharad or Kojagari Purnima following Hindu puja tradition. Durga Puja was started by a group of resourceful expatriate

Bengali Hindu & Indian Durga Puja and Cultural enthusiasts in Moscow in 1990. The organisers celebrated 35th year of Durga Puja this year as mentioned by Shri Joy Dasgupta who is one of the Founder-member of the organising committee of Durga Puja in Moscow.

Inaugural Durga Puja in Moscow was successfully organised in 1990 and was an integral part of Moscow Durga Puja. Russians from various walks of life participating in Durga Puja have deep appreciation for the plethora of vibrant Indian Hindu traditions and customs.

Participation of large no. of Russians who

founder of the Moscow Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre.

From humble beginning, over the years, the festivities have widened in reach, and culminated into true melting pot of cultures. Russian friends of Indian diaspora, including Russian academics, Orientalists, and Indophiles, are an integral part of Moscow Durga Puja.

Swami Jyotirupanada Maharaj of Ramakrishna Mission in Russia is President of Moscow Durga Puja Committee. All Puja rituals are performed under the guidance of Swami Jis of Ramakrishna Mission - namely, Swami Jyotirupanada Ji, Swami Atmalokananda Ji and Swami

generally follow different faith create as well as widen inter-faith and inter-civilizational understanding.

Moscow Durga Puja Committee take care to perform the Durga Puja on the traditional dates

as per the Bengali lunar calendar. The Celebration is a week-long programme conducted by Swami Jyotirupanada. Swami Jyotirupanada Maharaj of Ramakrishna Mission in Russia is President of Moscow Durga Puja Committee.

All Puja rituals are performed under the guidance of Swami Jis of Ramakrishna Mission - namely, Swami Jyotirupanada Ji, Swami Atmalokananda Ji and Swami

Shubhavratananda Ji. Pushpanjali were offered, Aarati were performed following tradition.

Bhog and Prasad were served to participants. Durga puja is not only a spiritual and religious occasion, but it's also a place for social and cultural interactions.

Despite the global pandemic challenges and its after effects Moscow Durga Puja Committee organised festivities i.e. Sharad Utsav Durga Puja modestly and successfully in previous years during challenging time. Moscow Durga Puja celebration was interspersed with various cultural

activities, involving song, dance, and other art forms. Russians artists also participated in various song and dance performance. Cultural events including quiz contest were organised with special focus on children.

The Puja Committee released their annual festive magazine "Aaratrika," on the occasion of Durga Puja. Moscow Durga Puja over the years is occasion of celebration of the spirit of solidarity, vigour, cooperation of Indian diaspora in Russia as well as opportunity to present various facets of rich culture and tradition of Hindu faith and civilization to local Russian community.



@Photo Courtesy: Moscow Durga Puja Committee

PALLAVI CHATTERJEE'S ANCESTRAL LAKSHMI PUJA IN THE EYES OF BOBBY CHAKRABORTY

Kolkata (KCN): Celebrated senior actress Pallavi Chatterjee has been celebrating their ancestral Lakshmi Puja for decades now, which has now become the talk of the town too.

Let us have a first hand account of this very famous Puja through the eyes of actor/activist/teacher of method acting Bobby Chakraborty, who has been a regular, in the illustrious guest list for years too.

Here's what Bobby said: "I know Pallavi Di or my dearest Maku Di for exactly 21 years, since I auditioned for the Hindi daily soap 'Saheb Biwaur Ghulam' which she and Bumba Da (Prosenjit Chatterjee) we're producing under the banner of 'Golden Moments' for 'Sahara Manoranjan' Channel. I got to play an interesting character in this national serial, very early on in my career, along with the likes of Raveena Tandon, Ayub Khan,



Rupa Ganguly etc. and I thank Maku Di and Bumba Da for that. Later on I have worked with them as my co-actors too, but beyond the professional arena, I have developed a deep bond by heart, with Maku Di. I feel that among all in the industry who are the real well-wishers of mine, she would definitely top the list. I have always been touched by her warmth and affection as a producer, as my co-actor and as my elder sister

too. Maku Di's Lakshmi Puja is an event I haven't missed for the last 20 years, if I am in town. Even if there are guests in my own house on this day, I sneak out of my residence to be at her Puja for sure. Maku Di has been single handedly organising this Puja, exactly the same way, her mother, Late Ratna Chatterjee would execute it. Her mother was everything for her as she says. That's the reason you would see the

photo of respected Ratna Aunty, beside the singhasan of Ma Lakshmi. The planning, the shopping, the arrangements, the invitation, the execution are all done by Maku Di, with the greatest of care and finesse. As you enter her home on this special day, especially if you have arrived while the Puja and Aarti is on, you are bound to be transported to a divine universe. I personally become

awestruck with the magical atmosphere, where all you can do is but surrender to Ma Lakshmi and ask for her blessings. After the Puja is over, Maku Di attends to each and every guest, whom she calls her 'family members', with a lot of love and concern. She makes it a point that no one leaves without having the tastiest Bhog-Prasad, gastronomically arranged on the terrace. It's a regular event in my calendar, where a small reunion of sort happens between all my colleagues from the entertainment industry too, which always leads to a heart-to-heart adda and a whole lot of fun. I pray to Ma Lakshmi that She blesses Maku Di with the best of health, wealth and prosperity forever. She is special...she is someone very near to my heart and I really feel at home with her"

"Annual Day" celebration of C.R.P.F. Public School, Rohini

Rohini (KCN): The "Annual Day" celebration of C.R.P.F. Public School, Rohini was a grand event filled with enthusiasm and excitement. The Chief Guest, Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosen, IPS, Director-General C.R.P.F. was welcomed with enthused school band. The event started with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp accompanied by a soulful shloka recital, invoking blessings for a successful day ahead.

One of the highlights of the event was the glimpse of the "Annual Exhibition", where students displayed their creative and intellectual prowess through various projects and artworks. It was a true testament to the talent and hard work of our students.

The choir performance titled "Aahvan" was a melodious treat for the audience. The harmonious voices of the students resonated in the environment, filling it



with joy and delight. The orchestra, consisting of talented musicians, presented "New Horizons, New Rays", showcasing their skills and dedication. The band display titled "Euphony of Beats" left the audience mesmerized. The rhythmic beats and synchronized movements by the band members created an atmosphere of energy and excitement.

The School Principal, Mrs. Nidhi Chaudhary, delivered a warm welcome and presented an enlightening report highlighting the achievements and progress of the school. The accomplishments of both students and teachers were applauded and recognized.

The performance titled "Euphoria of Gratitude" was a beautiful prayer dance by students of pre-primary department expressing gratitude and appreciation towards the highest power. The graceful movements and serene ambience captivated everyone present.

Kolkata (KCN): The West Bengal State Under 13 Chess Tournament, held from October 27th to October 29th, 2023, was a remarkable event that brought together young chess enthusiasts from across the state.

This exciting tournament took place at the prestigious Heritage Auditorium, thanks to the support and partnership of the Heritage Group of Institutions. With 306 participants showcasing their skills and passion for the game, the event was a resounding success.

The Heritage Group of Institutions served as the venue partner for the West Bengal State Under 13 Chess Tournament.

Their collaboration and support were instrumental in ensuring the smooth and efficient organization of the event. The Heritage Auditorium, renowned for its state-of-the-art facilities, proved to be an ideal setting for the tournament.

The prize distribution ceremony, a pivotal moment of the tournament, was graced by Mr. Pradip Agarwal, the CEO of the Heritage Group of Institutions. In his capacity as the representative of the institution, Mr. Agarwal felicitated key figures involved in the tournament,

including:

- 2. Niladri Banerjee: Second Place
- 3. Oishik Mondal: Third Place
- 4. Arhashirsha Biswas: Fourth Place
- 5. Baniik Hrishikesh Kumar: Fifth Place

These young chess enthusiasts displayed exceptional talent and sportsmanship throughout the tournament, making the competition fierce and exciting.

The West Bengal State Under 13 Chess Tournament in 2023, hosted by the Heritage Group of Institutions / Kalyan Bharati Trust, was a resounding success, thanks to the participation and dedication of 306 young chess players. The event not only provided a platform for these aspiring chess champions to showcase their skills but also recognized and celebrated their achievements. With the support of the Heritage Group of Institutions, this tournament proved to be a significant step in promoting chess at the grassroots level in West Bengal. It is a testament to the potential and talent that exists in the state's young chess community, and it will undoubtedly inspire future generations of chess players to excel in the game.

The main prize list for girls included:

- 1. Maitreyi Mondal: First Place
- 2. Kathakali Dey: Second Place
- 3. Srinika Guin: Third Place
- 4. Aryahi Bhattacharya: Fourth Place
- 5. Ananya Samanta: Fifth Place

These young chess prodigies exhibited remarkable talent and determination in their games.

In the Open category, young chess masters showcased their strategic and tactical skills. The main prize list for the open category comprised:

- 1. Sagnik Dutta: First Place

key figures involved in the tournament,

Sans motorable roads, going gets tough for Mayurbhanj villagers

BARIPADA(KCN): Even after 77 years of Independence, the villages within the Kalamgadia and Ramchandrapur gram panchayats (GPs) in Kaptipada subdivision of Mayurbhanj district, bordering Mayurbhanj-Balasore districts, are deprived of motorable roads affecting their communication between Mayurbhanj and Balasore districts. They have been demanding a 5-km motorable road from Ramchandrapur to Kupari in Balasore district since long. While these villages receive government

benefits from Mayurbhanj district, they heavily rely on Kupari, Agarpada, Soro, Kaspa, Kainthagaadi, Patrakhunta, Kobar, and Kalakanta in both Balasore and Bhadrak districts for jobs, medical services, marketing facilities and education. However, with the onset of the rains, their mobility becomes severely hindered due to the lack of a motorable road. While a narrow mormur road connects these villages to towns in Balasore, the motorable roads extend only into Bhadrak district. However, in absence of roads, even



ambulances fail to reach the needy. Members of Sarat Bikash Manch, a social outfit, Rimil Singh Gamay, Goipai Dumbi Singh Baipai, Dularam Singh Banara, Ladura Haiburu said they have submitted numerous memorandums to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik through collectors of both Mayurbhanj and Balasore districts, urging construction of a motorable. However, their pleas have remained unheard. Even during medical emergency, the villagers depend on Kupari and the Balasore district headquarters hospital, both of which are within 10 to 15 km distance. But the Kaptipada sub-divisional hospital in Mayurbhanj district is situated over 25 km away from their villages, making their commute challenging. The villagers have also apprised their grievance through memoranda to minister Basanti Hembrom, minister of Women and Child Development, Mission Shakti, and MoSarkar 5T on August 31, urging allocation of funds for motorable road from Ramchandrapur in Mayurbhanj district to Kupari in Balasore district.

Advise On Timely Spending

Bhubaneswar: Ace Financial Analyst, Rajib Sekhar Sahoo said that the State Government in a major boost for infrastructure spending in its Annual Budget aiming to provide a 'strong impetus' for job creation and strengthen critical infrastructure system, has thrown a challenge for the system to perform in a timely manner.

Shri Sahoo was speaking to Media on huge infrastructure arrangement in Annual Budget of Odisha Government, which has allocated Rs.51000 Crore from Infrastructure Development. On the line of Union Government Budget for 2023-24, which allocated Rs.10 Lakh Crore for Infrastructure Sector, the State Government has decided to pump in more



resources to improve its roads, schools, hospitals, water supply, irrigation, connectivity and other infrastructure, a major boost has been given for infrastructure sector. However, spending funds in a time bound manner is an issue as the State Administration has to spend in 12months time in 2023-24. Rigorous Monitoring and Continuous Review by the Senior Officials of the Development Departments is required, said Shri Sahoo, who has been auditing the financial dealings of the Central PSUs and State PSEs for long years. While the State

Government has identified crucial infrastructure projects for implementation in both Social and Development Sector, close monitoring is needed, said Shri Sahoo. Top Financial Consultant strongly feel that the State System has to take steps to further increase the pace of expenditure for revival of the economy and employment generation. While special emphasis has been given to increase CAPEX, Infrastructure and Social Sectors spending needs to be increased to achieve the desired results enshrined in the Annual Budget.. Shri Sahoo has advised that high impact new Capital Projects may also be worked out for funding in medium term, which will have impact on economy.

OSBC Pays Dividend To State



Bhubaneswar(KCN) : Odisha State Beverages Corporation (OSBC), a State owned Public Sector Undertaking paid its dividend to the State Government today. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra received the a cheque of Rs. Rs. 7,58,01,326.00 from the Principal Secretary Excise and Chairman OSBC S.K.

Lohani in Lokseba Bhawan. Development Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Jena and Principal Secretary Finance Ashok Kumar Meena were present on the occasion. Principal Secretary Mr.Lohani said, "As per the decisions of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation, we have

paid this amount to Government towards dividend for the year 2019-20". He added, "apart from this amount, the OSBC has also donated Rs.15 crore to the Chief Ministers' Relief Fund; and, Rs.1.43 crore to the Health & Family Welfare Department for purchase of the ambulances with advanced life support system and technology during the year". Managing Director OSBCL Saroj Kumar Sethi present on the occasion said, "OSBCC in its fight against ongoing pandemic of Covid-19 has distributed sanitizer and masks to the differently-abled persons and transgender communities during the current year".



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Marengo CIMS Hospital, Ahmedabad performs the first bloodless heart transplant in Asia

New Delhi(KCN): Marengo CIMS Hospital, part of the Marengo Asia Hospitals Group, has marked a significant advancement in heart transplants by performing the first bloodless heart transplant in Asia. This surgical team, procedure pioneers a protocol of goal-directed bleeding management leading to transfusion-free heart transplants. Dr Dhiren Shah, Director, Heart Transplant Program, Dr Dhaaval Naik, Heart Transplant Surgeon, Dr Niren Bhavsar, Cardiothoracic Anesthetist, and Dr Chintan Seth, Heart Transplant Anesthetist

and Intensivist at Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmedabad led the team to accomplish the outcomes successfully. The surgery was performed on a 52-year-old Indian patient, Mr Chandraprakash Garg, suffering from Ischemic Dilated Cardiomyopathy and end-stage heart failure. The donor was a 33-year-old who lost his life in a road traffic accident. Surgeries such as high-end heart transplants require a high amount of blood for transfusion as there is a significant amount of blood spillage during the surgical procedure. During high-end surgeries, blood transfusion can lead to potential risks and complications. Blood is also an organ and transfusion is considered to be an organ transplant in itself, to be completely monitored and controlled.

Marengo CIMS Hospital followed appropriate protocols to achieve this distinguished feat successfully. In these



surgical procedures, with extensive meticulous surgical techniques applied, following tailored protocols to reduce surgical blood loss to the point where transfusions become unnecessary. Bloodless heart transplant surgeries are remarkably intricate, requiring highly skilled medical professionals

therapy was discharged in just nine days, in stark contrast to the conventional heart transplant patient who typically requires 21 to 24 days at the hospital before discharge. With this clinical outcome, Marengo CIMS Hospital will be among the top 10 global institutes to perform absolute Zero blood transfusion in a highly complex heart transplant life-saving procedure.

Zero transfusion also ensures significant mitigation of short- and long-term complications along with reduced length of stay and overall improvement in clinical outcomes. Notably, the patient who underwent this highly innovative protocol

blood transfusions. For these patients, allowing no scope for heart transplants with this rarity, this therapy offers significant hope for heart transplantation. Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program, Marengo CIMS Hospital says, "A blood transfusion-free heart transplant represents a remarkable milestone in cardiac surgeries and showcases the significant strides made in surgical techniques and technology. We are setting up a Hemostasis Center of Excellence by adopting the bloodless heart transplant technique. The most crucial and clinically proven cornerstone of Patient Blood Management

(PBM) is Goal-directed bleeding Management (GDBM). With proven accomplishments in Australia, the US, and Europe, the adoption of GDBM ensures a reduction in blood transfusion by up to 90%, overall length of stay by 70%, complications like infections or kidney damage by 70% providing more efficiency to doctors and time for patient management with an overall improvement in patient outcomes."

Dr Niren Bhavsar, Cardiothoracic Anesthetist, Marengo CIMS Hospital says, "A cardiothoracic anesthetist has a critical role to play where the goal is to avoid the need for blood transfusion."

Vodafone Idea Foundation to Set up Robotic Labs in Schools

Bhubaneswar: Digital Skills are at the centre of the fourth industrial revolution and a prerequisite for future employment opportunities for today's children. With the objective of playing a role in building a future-ready talent force from the school level onwards, Vodafone Idea Foundation, the CSR arm of Vi, and Ericsson India have partnered to set up state-of-the-art Robotic Labs in ten schools across the country to provide new-age learning experiences to children from

underserved communities, preparing them to participate in future technological studies.

Digital Labs, an innovative education programme, is designed to hand-hold school-going children aged 11-14 years, through their first experience with the world of programming and new technologies. By creating an open atmosphere for learning, Digital Labs aim to instill courage in these students to embrace technology and imbibe a problem-solving approach.

The partnership is

aimed at improving the students' education and employment prospects across Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) by providing an exciting learning experience and develop skills such as teamwork, problem-solving skills, critical thinking.

Through this partnership, ten Digital Labs will be set up at Vodafone Idea Foundation schools in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Commenting on this initiative, P Balaji, Chief Regulatory and Corporate Affairs Officer - Vodafone Idea Limited, and Director - Vodafone Idea Foundation said, "Digital skills are a necessity for the holistic growth of the youth in the digital era. Exposing school-going children to coding and robotics helps spark creativity, stimulates critical thinking, imbues a collaborative mindset and opens up a world of opportunities. Using our technology-based tools, we have been working with

underprivileged children through various programmes aimed at giving them an opportunity to learn, grow and compete. Taking our 'Technology for Good' mission forward, we are happy to partner with Ericsson, to expose the young minds with higher-level skills and development, as well as encourage underserved groups to pursue advanced ICT education and enter science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields."

Funskool rolls out exclusive new range of toys for children this summer

Chennai: India's leading toy manufacturer, Funskool India Ltd is back with launching yet another blockbuster range of toys for children this summer. The wide range of new products are from a diverse range of categories such as board games, puzzles, Infants & pre-school, dough etc. This range will not only encourage the development of multiple skills: cognitive, physical,

social, and emotional but also help parents to fully engage their children. The product offerings include 3 in 1 Deluxe Play Gym and Mini Vehicles combo packs for Toddlers, traditional board games such as Goats and Tigers (better known as Aadu Puli Attam in Tamil), Mancala, 9 in 1 Super Games apart from other products in Handy Crafts, Fun Dough and Puzzles for young children.

India Poker Championship and India Online Poker Championship

Mumbai: SpartanPoker announced the dates for its leading poker championships. The India Poker Championship (IPC) is heading to Casino Vegas by Big Daddy, Nepal, and will be held from 17th - 22nd May 2022.

The 13th edition of the Indian Online Poker Championship (IOPC) will be held from 2nd - 19th June 2022. Indian poker enthusiasts will get to experience the best of both worlds this summer with a whopping combined Prize-Pool of 36.5 Crore GTD.

India Poker Championship, the five-day live event hosted in Casino Vegas by Big Daddy, Nepal, will include four high-octane tournaments with a combined prize pool of 3.5 Crore. The IPC May

'22 MegaStacks edition is also designed in a best-in-class live tournament structure with heavy buy-ins & deep stacks for a high-quality gaming experience.

The India Online Poker Championship, which follows immediately post IPC, would be the biggest ever online poker series in India with a massive prize pool of 33 Crore GTD! The 18-day-long virtual series will provide an online experience unlike any other gaming event in India.

Speaking on the launch, Mr. Amin Rozani, CEO of Spartan Poker Group said, "We are excited to host the India Poker Championship live this year and follow it up with our very successful

India Online Poker Championship that will be hosted on the Spartan Poker platform, along with other streaming partners like AIO Games, Blitzpoker, PokerHigh, and PokerDaddy. We know how incredible the level of play in these competitions can be! We aim to offer an even better experience for players & fans, and even more opportunities for skilled players to raise their games and win huge prizes."

At Spartan Poker, we provide a seamless and a fair gaming experience

to the Indian poker community, and we are driven to build Poker as a professional sport in India, along with all its inherent thrill, while also showcasing the country's untapped poker talent. Added Mr. Rozani.

Sudarshan Venkatesh elevated as Managing Director of TVS Motor Company

Chennai: TVS Motor Company, a reputed manufacturer of two-wheelers and three-wheelers globally, announced at its board meeting today the elevation of Sudarshan Venkatesh as Managing Director of the Company, effective today.

Sudarshan has been charting the future of one of India's leading two-wheeler manufacturer and has made it the most awarded two-wheeler company. He has played a pivotal role in the company's growth in India and key

international markets, including Asia, Africa, and more recently in Europe. Prof Sir Ralf Dieter Speth, Chairman, TVS Motor Company said, "Sudarshan has got a clear vision and brings with him both a tremendous passion for advanced technologies and sustainable growth, deep-seated in values. He thinks future-oriented, staying ahead of the emerging trends. Personal, smart mobility, including electrification, are two of his big areas of focus. He has also spearheaded the international growth of

Gifting ideas for Mother's Day

With Mother's Day just around the corner, we must appreciate the role she plays in our lives. While mothers deserve our love round-the-clock, it's all about going all-out on Mother's Day. From grandmothers to new moms, these super women play myriad roles in our lives. And they deserve much appreciation and a lot of CARE!

However, the plethora of choices tend to daunt a person while picking out the perfect gift for your mother. But worry not! If you are on the lookout for a gift that would be the perfect token of love - here's a gifting guide for Mother's Day that will tick all your check boxes for the 8th of May.

1. Clensta's Super Women Combo Pack for your Super Woman:

The super women that

our moms are, they hop

from one task to another

and make it look effortless and breezy without caring about the toll it takes on their mind, body and skin. This Mother's Day pamper your super-mom with Clensta's Super Women Combo Pack which comprises of a Face Moisturizer, a Sunscreen, a Face Serum and an Under-eye Cream. Laced with the goodness of magical Red Aloe Vera, this essential combo will help your mother in replenishing her natural glow and having the perfect skin she has always dreamt of.

The higher concentrations of

beneficial phytochemicals in Red Aloe Vera provide it a

22-times more powerful

anti-inflammatory effect.

High concentrations of

salicylic acid and

polysaccharides help

relax tight muscles and

provide a soothing effect.

Blue Dart reports record performance with positive Q4 and Year-End

Mumbai: Blue Dart Express Limited, South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation & Distribution Company, declared its Audited financial results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2022 at the Board Meeting held in Mumbai.

The company posted ₹ 1,354 million profit after tax (previous year ₹ 891 million profit) for the quarter ended March 31, 2022, and ₹ 3,764 million profit after tax (previous year ₹ 963 million profit) for the year ended March 31, 2022. Revenue from operations for the quarter ended March 31, 2022 stood at ₹ 11,659 million and ₹ 44,090 million for the year ended March 31, 2022.

WhatsApp rolls out emoji reactions, bigger groups

San Francisco: With an aim to make the messaging platform more user friendly, Meta-owned WhatsApp has announced that it is rolling out new features, including emoji reactions, bigger files and groups. The company said that it is slowly rolling out the ability to add up to 512 people to a group, which, till now, allowed to add only up to 256. "We are excited to share that emoji reactions are now available on the latest version of the app. Reactions are fun, fast, and they reduce overload in groups too. We will continue improving them by adding an even broader range of expressions in the future," the company said in a blogpost.

