

Odisha CM Congratulates Indian Men's Hockey Team On Achieving Historic Gold Medal At Asian Games

CM Naveen Patnaik Announces Rs 5 lakhs each for the players and support staff

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Congratulating the Indian Men's Hockey India for their historic Gold Medal at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today announced cash award of Rs 5 lakh each for players and support staff of the victorious team, in recognition of their stellar performance to win the coveted Gold and seal a berth for Paris Olympics 2024. They convincingly beat defending champions Japan 5-1 in the Final. Chief Minister spoke to the Indian team over



video call after the medal ceremony. The team was ecstatic to receive the personal congratulations from the Chief Minister. CM Naveen Patnaik said, "My heartiest congratulations to the victorious Indian Men's Hockey Team. Their

unwavering dedication and hard work have once again proven that Hockey is truly India's game, embodying our nation's unyielding spirit. In Odisha, where Hockey holds a special place in our hearts, this historic day will forever be etched in our

memories as a momentous triumph for our beloved sport and our nation. I wish the Indian Team the very best as they prepare for the Paris Olympic Games next year." Secretary to CM (5T) V K Pandian congratulated the Indian team and said

that they played like champions throughout the tournament and deserved the Gold medal. Secretary Sports Vineel Krishna was also present on the occasion and congratulated the Indian team.

India's triumph ends a nine-year-long wait to finish on the top at the prestigious quadrennial event. In 2014, India had beaten nemesis Pakistan to win Gold.

Odisha is the sponsor for the Indian hockey teams since 2018 and has been supporting the teams through major tournaments including Two World Cups.

"I Consider INDIA Bloc A Real Challenge Because...": Union Minister

New Delhi(KCN): The opposition INDIA bloc is a "real challenge", Union Minister and senior BJP leader Dharmendra Pradhan said on Friday, adding he has requested his party to allow him to contest the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from his home state Odisha.

In an interview with PTI, Pradhan, who is a Rajya Sabha member, said the BJP's agenda is to ensure that Prime Minister Narendra Modi gets to serve the nation for a third term.

"I consider it (INDIA bloc) as a real challenge because the BJP and the NDA do not take any election seriously. From ground workers to top leaders, everybody takes each election very seriously and the prime minister leads us from the front," he said.

On his wish to fight the Lok Sabha elections, he said, "I have already informed the party about my wish and have

requested it to give me a chance. The BJP's agenda is to ensure that Prime Minister Narendra Modi gets to serve the nation for a third term.

Mr Pradhan attacked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his demand for a nationwide caste census, saying he and his "family party" should share details of the work they did for the OBCs and weaker sections in the last 75 years.



State Cooperative Bank, OAIC Pay Dividends To Odisha Govt



Bhubaneswar(KCN): State Cooperative Bank under the Cooperation Department and Odisha Agriculture Industries Corporation Limited under the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment have paid dividends to the state government. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik received the cheques at Naveen Niwas on Friday. On behalf of the State Cooperative Bank, a cheque of Rs 9.75 crore

for the financial year 2021-22 and 2022-23 was presented to the chief minister by the departmental minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary of the Cooperation Department Mr Arvind Agarwal and the Chairman of State Cooperative Bank Mr T. Prasad Rao Dora were present.

Similarly, the Odisha Agricultural Industry Corporation paid Rs 5.62

crore for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years. It is worth noting that the Odisha Agriculture Industry Corporation has been paying its dividends to the state government since 2015-16.

Debasish Mohanty, Chairman of OAIC presented the cheque to the Chief Minister. The Director of Agriculture and Managing Director of the Corporation Mr Premchand Chowdhury and other officials were present.

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Withdrawal Of Monsoon From Odisha In Next 2-3 Days: IMD

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Conditions are favourable for the withdrawal of southwest monsoon from several parts of the country including Odisha, informed the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Friday. As per the IMD, the southwest monsoon is likely to withdraw from the remaining parts of East Uttar Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh; some parts of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana; and some more parts of Maharashtra and Central Arabian Sea during the next 2-3 days. Today, the southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the remaining parts of Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh-Gilgit-Baltistan-Muzaffarabad, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Uttar Pradesh, West Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

5T Secretary Visits Puri; Makes On-Field Iconic Parikrama Project Review At Wee Hours

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Secretary to CM (5T) VK Pandian today visited Puri Jagannath Temple early in the morning and reviewed Shri Jagannath Parikrama Prakalpa. He made field visits to different project sites at crack of the dawn from 4 AM and continued his on-field review till 7 AM. During the review, Secretary (5T) directed officials and agencies to complete iconic Parikrama Project by December-2023

Cyclone Preparation Starts In Odisha

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha government has already started preparations to tackle any cyclone-like situation in the coming days, specifically October. Keeping the cyclone in view, a preparatory meeting under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena was convened at Lok Seva Bhawan in Bhubaneswar on Thursday.

Laying emphasis on cooperation and coordination, the Chief



Secretary directed all the concerned departments to keep their powder dry and ensure all the arrangements are in place. The meeting was attended by the secretaries of as many as 12 departments.

Odisha Demands Chopper



New Delhi(KCN): The State Government has demanded a dedicated helicopter from Centre for movement of security forces during anti-Maoist operations and to respond to exigencies in the context of LWE conflict," Shri Arukha said.

The Minister also sought urgent attention of the Centre for early installation of mobile towers under different Mobile Connectivity Schemes.

Shri Arukha in his speech expressed that Left Wing Extremism is a grave internal security challenge to the nation. Under the strong leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Odisha has achieved significant success in combating Left Wing Extremism menace, he said.

Well calibrated security response backed by focused developmental interventions and

people-centric policies of the government have brought about remarkable transformation in the situation in most of the affected areas. The areas of influence of CPI

(Maoist) have shrunk from a high of twenty-one districts to limited pockets of ten districts, intensity of violence has declined and mass support base and recruitment of local cadres to the outfit have

dwindled, he pointed out. "It is a matter of great satisfaction that the areas, which have been cleared up of extremism, have witnessed significant transformation in the life and livelihood of the people living in this area, the Minister said.

more than 7000 smart phones have been distributed to the students of the area to facilitate study. For better health care, the ambulance fleet and paramedics have been expanded and boat ambulances and water ambulances have been introduced.

In some pockets in Kandhamal district, medicines are being distributed through drones. Under Mukhyamantri Bayu Yojana, super specialist doctors are deputed to different areas for providing improved health care to the people. Also, initiatives for skill development and women empowerment have paid rich dividends, he stated, adding, women are provided with soft loans to set up enterprises. These steps have significantly weakened the support towards CPI

(Maoist) outfits.

"The State of Odisha reiterates its stand to pursue the strategy of pro-active security response and holistic development of tribal areas to address this problem in a meaningful manner," he committed.

The State Government will continue to work in close coordination with the Central Agencies and neighbouring States to eliminate this menace, Shri Arukha expressed.

Union Home Minister Shri Shah expressed satisfaction over the measures taken by Odisha Government to curb Naxal menace.

He assured that all assistance will be provided to the State and all-out efforts will be undertaken by the Government to root out left wing extremism from the country in the coming years.

20 Researchers from KIIT Featured in Stanford University's List of World's 2% Top Scientists

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): KIIT-DU once again proved that it is home to some of the best minds in the field of science and technology. Stanford University's latest published database about the 'World's Top 2% Scientist' features 20 names from KIIT and its constituent units.

The list represents the top two percent of the most-cited scientists in various disciplines and highlights their achievements. The ten

names from KIIT include Padma Awardee Dr. Subrat Kumar Acharya; Dr. Yogesh Chawla and Eminent Gastroenterologist Dr. Anil C Anand from the School of Medicine also features in the list that was updated recently. The other names in the famed list include Suresh Chandra Satapathy, Siddharth Swarup Rautaray, Sushruti Mishra, Tarasankar Pal, Swarup Kumar Nayak,



Purna Chandra University. The faculty members are from various scientific fields and we are proud of their achievements. My heartiest congratulations to them all" said the Founder of KIIT & KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta. The list is considered the most prestigious worldwide, comprising more than 1.85 lakh researchers from more than 8 million scientists covering 22 scientific fields and 176 subfields.

THE MAHATMA CREATIVE LITERARY FESTIVAL CELEBRATED.



Cuttack(KCN): The Mahatma Insightful Creative Literary Festival has been organized at Biren Mitra Women's College on behalf of Kaivalya Sahitya Sansad. Pediatrician Prof. Niranjan Parida attended as the Chief Guest on the occasion. He expressed that there can be administrative reforms in the ideals of Mahatma

Gandhi. As the keynote speaker, Reader Jhanshi Mishra commented that Mahatma was the best social reformer in the world. Pandit Nilakantha Raut presided over the programme. As distinguished and honored guest Dr. Aditya Pratap Dhal, Editor Utkala Sahitya Samaj, Essayist Meera Beura, Poet Sucheta Nand, Senior Columnists

change. The Poets recited poems related to Mahatma. The founder and Editor of the Kaivalya Sahitya Sansad Dr. Sangram Keshori Samantray read the editorial. More than a hundred students were awarded the Mahatma Jyoti Pratibha Award and more than fifty literary creators were awarded the Mahatma Jyoti Saraswat Award. In this programme, the pictures of Mahatma Gandhi drawn by the students were displayed. More than 100 students participated in this art exhibition. Sasmita Patnaik, Itishree Pati, Jan Ranjan Pradhan, Namita Mohanty, Jhumuri Sahu, Loknath Sethi, and Rajat Kumar Barik stayed and assisted programme till end.

IRB constable passes away

SUBARNAPUR (KCN): Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) constable Sachin Kumar Sahu passed away at the age of 34. After this news was broadcast, the shadow of mourning was played across the town along with Sonepur Majhipada. Sachin has been undergoing treatment for jaundice in Burla Medical and Cuttack SCB Medical College for 20 days and passed away this morning. Mr. Sahu joined the Indian Reserve Battalion in Rourkela from 2009 and is now stationed in Deogarh district serving the country and motherland. Today, a



mournful atmosphere was created when Sachin's body arrived at Sonepur Majhipada resident. Members of Ramadhun Club and more than 500 people from the town paid their last respects to Sachin's body and took it to the

Rameshwar Cemetery Ghat in a huge procession. It has been reported that Sachin has a two-year-old daughter. Today, when Sachin's last rites were performed at Rameshwar Smashan Ghat, father Pradeep

The poor are not getting houses in the PMAY Scheme

SUBARNAPUR (KCN): Government is providing houses under the housing scheme in, but many people are accused of not getting houses. In Malpada village under Ghantapada Panchayat, Kantamal block of Boudh district. Beneficiaries who are deprived of shelter are living in broken huts. Some such scenes can be seen in Malpada village. Gokula Rana living in this village was ordered by the administration to house them in 2020/2021. When the wall was raised after taking loan due to administrative error He has complained that he



has not received money for the house for three years, but his money has gone to someone else's account, and the house is lying in ruins.



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Varun Tej, Manushi Chhillar-Starrer Air Force Action Film Makers Drop Big Update



The suspense will soon be over as the title for India's biggest Air Force action film will be unveiled tomorrow. The Hindi-Telugu film, also stars Manushi Chhillar as a radar officer. VT 13, inspired by true events, will take us through the biggest and the most deadly attacks witnessed by India and the victory of our Indian Air Force over their enemies by demonstrating strong courage to protect their country.

The highly anticipated film is produced by Sony Pictures International Productions and Sandeep Mudda from Renaissance Pictures, co-produced by Nandakumar Abbineni and God Bless Entertainment and is written by Shakti Pratap Singh Hada, Aamir Khan and Siddharth Raj Kumar.

Shah Rukh Khan's Jawan Becomes First Film To Cross USD 16 Million At Box Office In UAE



It's almost a month since Shah Rukh Khan's action-entertainer 'Jawan' has been released but its craze among the audience doesn't seem to settle down at any cost. One after the other, the film is creating new records at the Box Office not just in India but also across the world. Having set its strong feet in different parts of the world, 'Jawan' has now made a distinctive mark in the UAE market as well, as the film has emerged as the #1 Indian film in the Middle East with its phenomenal collection figures.

Talking about the same, Nelson D'Souza, Vice President International Distribution, said, 'Jawan' has been received

exceptionally well in international markets and continues to perform exceptionally well, becoming the first Indian film to cross USD 16 Million in the Middle East and emerging as the #1 Indian Film while raking in an outstanding 44.43 million in overseas till date. There is nothing quite like this we have seen before and we are now looking forward to even more exciting times ahead with Dunki! - Nelson D'Souza, Vice President, International Distribution

'Jawan' is spreading its magic in the UAE market.

The film has become the first film to cross the whooping collection of USD 16 Million and has made it the #1 Indian film in the Middle East. Well, among many, this is indeed yet another example of its success and the unprecedented love that the film is receiving from the audience. Well, as we see, Jawan is constantly on the rise, it would be interesting to see how the film will create more records in the future. 'Jawan' is a Red Chillies Entertainment presentation directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan, and co-produced by Gaurav Verma. The film was released worldwide in theaters on September 7th, 2023, in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu.

Prime Video's Maitri: Female First Collective Hosts Its First Session In Chennai



Prime Video released the latest session of 'Maitri: Female First Collective', hosting its maiden discussion in Chennai. Launched last year, the collective is an endeavour to create a safe space where women from the Indian media and entertainment industry can come together to discuss their experiences, challenges and successes, and offer their perspective on bringing about a positive shift.

The session featured 8 eminent women from India's various entertainment industries, ranging from award-winning prolific actors who have worked across languages like Malavika Mohanan, Aishwarya Rajesh and Madhoo, to women who have left an indelible mark behind the camera, like creator, writer, showrunner & producer Reshma Ghatala, writer & director Swathi

Raghuraaman, and cinematographer Yamini Yagnamurthy, in addition to Aparna Purohit, creator - Maitri & head of India Originals, Prime Video, and Smriti Kiran, creator and curator of Maitri & founder, Polka Dots LightBox. Sharing personal anecdotes, the participants discussed upon the true essence of feminism and empowerment, what gender-equality really means for the trailblazers gathered in the room. An interesting insight that was shared by all was

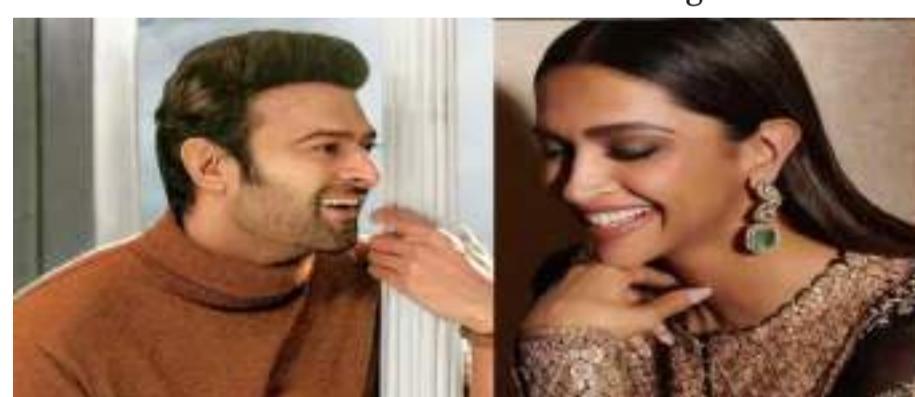
ageism, and much more. Surprisingly, the women noted how the issues were similar irrespective of whether they worked in front of the camera or behind it, or whether they worked in production or corporate roles. The core discussion also touched upon the true essence of feminism and empowerment, what gender-equality really means for the trailblazers gathered in the room. An interesting insight that was shared by all was

that true equality can be achieved when the industry stops tagging a particular role, a narrative or a job as woman-oriented or male-oriented. The group as a whole agreed that age-old conditioning often restricts the personal and professional growth potential of women, and can be changed only if it is internalized in one's home and social environment. The interaction also highlighted the critical role that streaming was

playing in improving female representation, creating new opportunities for actors, regardless of their age, body size, or skin colour, and for creators to tell all kinds of unique stories.

Speaking about the need to have such conversations frequently, Smriti Kiran, creator & curator of Maitri and founder, Polka Dots LightBox said, "There is an undeniable need for spaces where women can voice their stories without any fear. Creating an environment that allows women to share their experiences without judgement is the first step in enabling any change, whether it is in the industry or society. This is precisely why we have to keep the conversation going relentlessly. Thrilled that Maitri is in Chennai today, tomorrow it will be in another part of India. We will continue to connect women across sections and states through conversation and collaboration."

Prabhas, Deepika Padukone's Project K To Create History, To Be First Indian Film To Debut At San Diego Comic-Con

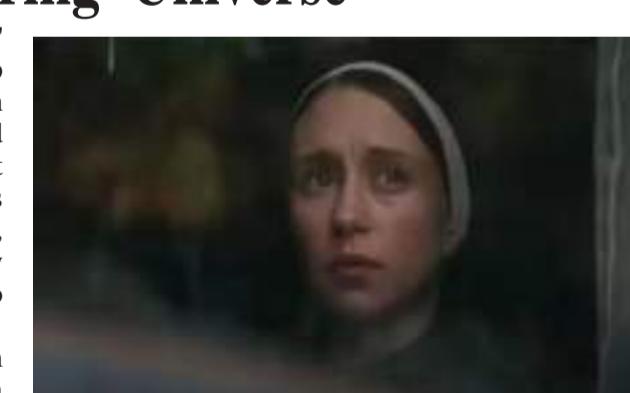


There's good news for Bollywood lovers who have been waiting for a long time to get an update on Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Kamal Haasan and Prabhas-starrer 'Project K'. According to Variety, The hugely-anticipated Indian big-budget sci-fi film will unveil exclusive footage in the presence of talent at the San Diego Comic-Con (SDCC). Kicking off the SDCC celebration, Vyjayanthi Movies will offer fans a look at the film as part of an opening night party on July 19. On July 20, the film's

team will host a panel titled "This is Project K: First Glimpse of India's Mytho-Sci-fi Epic" with Deepika, Prabhas and Haasan during which the film's full title, teaser trailer and release date will be revealed. Variety reported. Interestingly, the stars will also feature in a performance on SDCC's largest stage. "This exclusive event will transport guests into India's most ambitious cinematic universe yet with their captivating storytelling, futuristic setting, and 'Spice Punk' aesthetic inspired by the film," the producers said

in a statement. Director Ashwin also expressed excitement. He said, "We are thrilled to present 'Project K's' debut at San Diego Comic-Con. India's storytelling tradition has ancient roots, with its epics serving as the origins for many civilizations worldwide. A world as big as this needs a platform as big to introduce it to the people. Comic-Con felt like the perfect place, where the honesty and enthusiasm needed for 'Project K' will be found."

The Nun 2 Trailer Teases Returns Of 'The Conjuring' Universe



The makers of 'The Nun' are all set to come up with the film's sequel. On Thursday, they unveiled the film's trailer and it has definitely left fans excited. The sequel, which is headlined by Taissa Farmiga, is set to be out on September 8. As per Variety, the film begins in 1956 after a priest is viciously murdered in France. According to the film's official logline, 'The Nun 2' follows Sister Irene (Farmiga) as she once again comes face to face with the demon Valak. Farmiga returns alongside Bonnie Aarons and Jonas Bloquet who will reprise their roles as Valak and Maurice "Frenchie," respectively. "The Nun 2" will introduce new additions to the "Conjuring" universe, including Katelyn Rose Downey as Sophie, Anna Popplewell as Marcella and Storm Reid as an

unknown new character. The USD 2 billion franchise began in 2013, with the original "The Conjuring" film, starring Patrick Wilson and Taissa Farmiga's older sister, Vera Farmiga. The original film was inspired by paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren's nonfiction book, "The Amityville Horror." "The Conjuring's" first spinoff, "Annabelle" premiered in 2014. Soon after, "The Conjuring 2" was released in 2016, "Annabelle: Creation" in 2017 and then the second

spinoff, "The Nun" in 2018. Since "The Nun," the "Conjuring" universe has released "The Curse of La Llorona," "Annabelle Comes Home" and "The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It." Directed by "The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It's" Michael Chaves, "The Nun 2" was written by "M 3 G A N" screenwriter Akela Cooper and "Fear the Walking Dead" screenwriters Ian Goldberg and Richard Naing.

Determined exertions made Madhya Pradesh a surplus state in power sector



The state government of Madhya Pradesh is determined to ensure smooth power supply in the state. Due to the exertions made in the last years to increase the power availability, the state of Madhya Pradesh has become a surplus state in the power sector. As a result of the exertions made in the last years to increase the availability of electricity, the state of Madhya Pradesh has become fully self-sufficient in the field of electricity. At present, the available power capacity of the state is 22 thousand 730 megawatts. In the Madhya Pradesh, power is being supplied for 24 hours to all non-agricultural consumers including industrial, commercial and to agricultural consumers for about 10 hours.

During the year 2022-23, the transmission companies has

completed the works of 239 circuit KM transmission lines and 3091 MVA capacity ultra-high pressure sub-station, which include 6 new ultra-high pressure substations. Along with this, 371 km 33 KV line, 834 km 11 KV line, 31 new 33 KV sub-stations, 85 power transformers and 2405 distribution transformers has been set up in various schemes by the distribution companies. Smooth utilisation of new and renewable energy sources has been ensured by completing the construction work of 12 ultra-high pressure sub-stations and 46 ultra-high-pressure lines in the Green Energy Corridor in the Roadmap-2023 of self-reliant Madhya Pradesh.

In the first phase, in-house testing laboratories have been set up at Jabalpur, Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain and Gwalior to improve the quality of transformers, meters, cables etc. used in distribution infrastructure. In the second phase, the process of setting up laboratories in Satna, Chhindwara, Sagar

Guna and Barwah has been started. This year, the use of latest drone technology was started in the work of top patrolling of transmission lines of the state, which will save human resources and the work of maintenance of lines will be quick and accurate. Reduction in specific oil consumption and heat rate in power generation - Power generation cost has the biggest impact on consumer electricity tariff. In the financial year 2019-20, the tripping in the units of the generating company's thermal power houses was very high, due to which the generation rate was high due to increase in oil consumption. By reviewing its monthly, the number of tripping has been reduced by 25 percent in the last two years. Apart from this, due to the continuous review of the quality of coal, a decrease of 0.65 percent has been reflected in the heat rate in the last two years. Due to this, a saving of Rs. 75 crores have been possible in the last two years. The state government has not purchased expensive foreign coal in thermal

power projects so that there is no increase in electricity rates. Customer Satisfaction exertions - Tripping has been reduced by 18 percent on ultra-high-pressure feeders and 6 percent on high tension feeders. Due to this, it has become possible to supply 14 percent more electricity to the consumers. Pole-based consumer indexing work has been started in the state, especially in urban areas, to solve the problem of false billing. Interaction with public - Feedback is being taken on the actual situation of power supply by discussing with 10 consumers every day in all distribution centres of the state. In this so far 25 lakh 94 thousand 404 consumers have been interacted with, in which the percentage of satisfaction is 98.

In the adverse circumstances of Corona, a relief of about Rs. 1000 crore has been provided to all categories of electricity consumers. Bills worth Rs. 5334 crores have been waived off for 88 lakhs low-income consumers.

Reduction in AT and C

Prof. Sunil Goyal

losses of distribution companies -Aggregate Technical & Commercial losses (AT and C losses) of the state, which were 31.4% in the financial year 2019-20, reduced to 20.3% in the financial year 2021-22 due to the continuous exertions of the power distribution companies of the state and the support of the state government. This is less than the target of 33.84% set by the Government of India for the financial year 2021-22. Proposed new schemes -Establishment of a new unit of 660-megawatt capacity is proposed by Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company at Amarkantak Thermal Power Station at a cost of Rs 4666 crore. In the smart meter scheme, about 23 lakh smart meters are proposed to be installed by the three distribution companies in the first phase. Under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Power, Government of India, the works of the three distribution companies of the state have been approved, the total cost of which

is Rs. 24 thousand 170 crores. The plan includes prepaid smart metering and system metering, works proposed for reduction of distribution losses and system strengthening and modernization. Ease of Doing Business -For high tension connections, the system of approval of connection on online payment has been implemented by receiving online applications. The number of documents required for power connection to industries has been reduced. Chartered electrical safety engineers have been authorised to assist the consumers by implementing the system of self-certification by the consumer, doing away with the requirement of charging permission for new electrical connections up to 33 KV and periodic inspection of existing installations up to 33 KV by the electrical inspectors. Charging permission from the electrical inspector for 132 KV and above power connections has been brought under the Public Service Guarantee Act. Various

complaints received from newspapers, Twitter, Facebook and other social media. Top targets in Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh -2023 :The construction of substations and lines under the Green Energy Corridor has been completed. To ensure grid stability for utilisation of renewable energy while fulfilling RPO obligations, construction of 12 ultra-high tension substations and 46 related transmission lines has been completed in stipulated time. Priority to local manufacturing in material procurement - In order to encourage the local manufacturers of the state, it was decided that in the future, a minimum of 10 percent of the total material purchased should be purchased from local manufacturers.

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Mangroves: Nature's Coastal Guardians Thrive Despite Challenge

Prasar Khuntia



In the coastal regions of the world, there exists a remarkable force of nature, often overlooked but undeniably crucial - the mangroves. These resilient trees, gracing the harsh coastal landscapes with their unique beauty and unparalleled resilience, have long played the role of nature's unsung heroes.

Mangroves, far more than just trees, act as the guardians of our coastlines. Thriving in the most challenging environments, these hardy plants take root in salty sediments, often submerged beneath the water's surface. They belong to diverse plant families, including Rhizophoraceae, Acanthaceae, Lythraceae, Combretaceae, and Arecaceae.

The world's total mangrove cover spans a significant 150,000 square kilometers. Asia boasts the largest share

of these invaluable ecosystems, and within Asia, South Asia contributes a substantial 6.8% of the global mangrove cover. India, a prominent guardian, accounts for 45.8% of the total mangrove cover in South Asia.

According to the India State of Forest Report 2019, India's mangrove

nation's rich biodiversity. Created by the convergence of the Brahmani and Baitarani river deltas, it holds significance as one of India's most significant Ramsar wetlands. The Godavari-Krishna mangroves, stretching from Odisha to Tamil Nadu, bear witness to India's coastal diversity,

roots feature tiny pores that allow oxygen to enter underground tissues, ensuring their survival in oxygen-deprived soils. Beyond their adaptations, mangroves play a vital role in ecological stabilization. They act as nature's soil builders, filtering pollutants and enriching

tapestry of the mangrove ecosystem teems with life, providing sanctuary and sustenance to a diverse array of creatures, including birds, fish, invertebrates, mammals, and plants. These unique habitats underscore their vital role in preserving biodiversity.

Despite their importance, mangroves face

management. Organizations like the International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (ISME) and initiatives like the Blue Carbon Initiative work tirelessly towards sustainable mangrove conservation. International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, celebrated on July 26,



cover encompasses 4,975 square kilometers, a mere 0.15% of the country's expansive land. Leading the way in mangrove preservation is West Bengal, closely followed by Gujarat and the Andaman Nicobar Islands. The Sundarbans in West Bengal, the largest mangrove forest globally, stands as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, home to iconic species such as the Royal Bengal tiger, Gangetic dolphins, and Estuarine crocodiles. Bhitarkanika in Odisha, the second-largest mangrove forest in India, is a testament to the

land. Yet, their significance transcends these functions. When nature unleashes its fury in the form of cyclones, mangroves emerge as a formidable shield. Their dense root networks absorb the relentless force of cyclones, providing a crucial defense against devastation for coastal communities. Mangroves contribute to land accretion, stabilize mud banks, and mitigate the impact of strong winds, tides, and waves. Their intricate root systems serve as the blueprint for coastal resilience. The rich

unprecedented threats. Commercial activities, such as aquaculture, coastal development, and industrialization, encroach upon their habitats. Shrimp farming alone has contributed significantly to mangrove loss. Additionally, temperature fluctuations, soil challenges, and human interventions further endanger their existence. Efforts to conserve mangroves are paramount. UNESCO has recognized several sites as Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites to enhance knowledge and

raises awareness. Mangroves are more than picturesque coastal trees; they are lifelines for the environment and coastal communities. Recognizing their ecological significance and preserving these coastal guardians is not just a responsibility but a commitment to safeguarding our coastal populations and the rich tapestry of biodiversity they support. In mangroves, nature offers a resilient solution to the challenges posed by a changing world, one rooted in the beauty and resilience of the coast.

The author is a journalist and columnist

Letter To Editor

Sir

The Nobel Prize 2023 in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded to Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman for their discoveries that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against Covid-19. They deserve the Nobel and the complete acknowledgement of the whole world as these two became true messiahs of mankind. At a time when the whole world shockingly froze to the onslaught of a deadly virus killing millions of people around the globe it was the great work of these two scientists that finally led to the developing of a vaccine that could control the virus and the rest is unforgettable history. Even though the virus that caused the deadly pandemic has not been completely eradicated the discovery made by the scientists is a kind of panacea that gives hope to mankind and an initiative to more discoveries that can completely put an end to such deadly viruses.

M Pradyu Kannur

Geeth Thalikavu Kannur 670001.

India is moving ahead with FTA negotiations with large no.of nations to boost Export : MOS Anupriya Patel

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): India is moving ahead with Free Trade Agreements (FTA) negotiations with large no.of nations to scale up Export to new heights said Minister of State Smt. Anupriya Patel , Ministry of Commerce, Government of India while addressing a large gathering of exporters in Export Excellence award ceremony organised by The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) in Kolkata on 5th October 2023.

MOS Smt. Anupriya Patel highlighted Mortex (India) being granted Five Star Export House status for their export of Ferro Alloys globally in her address and Congratulated Mortex India which is functioning under astute and dynamic leadership of Shri Mahesh Kayal. Mortex India have successfully established itself as a major name in the field of Ferro Alloys, with a market presence in six continents of the world.

MOS Patel congratulated all other awardees who were honoured by FIEO. Smt. Anupriya Patel, said, "Overall exports were of \$776 billion in goods and services together and the Eastern Region made a contribution of \$29 billion. I feel that this clearly reflects the potential of the eastern region. There are immense opportunities

ahead of us. Today, we are going through an era where India is emerging as a global power. It is trying to be the third largest economy by 2030 and exporters have a massive role to play in this effort. We have to move fast as we aim to become a US \$ 5 Trillion economy in the next few years and achieve a developed country status before 2047. We need to supplement local and traditional products which are in abundance in the Eastern and North East Region."

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), celebrated the exception of exporters from Eastern and North Eastern India at the 7th & 8th FIEO Eastern Region Export Excellence Awards recognising and encouraging excellence in exports.

The Export Excellence Award ceremony was attended by Smt. Anupriya Patel who was

Chief Guest, Ms Rowan Ainsworth, Consul General of Australia in Kolkata was Guest of Honour, Dr. A Sakthivel, President, FIEO, Shri. Yogesh Gupta, Regional Chairman, FIEO ER and Mr. Israr Ahmed, Vice-President, FIEO, distinguished officials from both Central and State governments, as well as Consul Generals, and leading exporters, representatives of

International Trade bodies . The Export Excellence Awards were presented in various categories, including One/Two/Three/Four/Five Star Export House, Multi Product Groups (Non-Export Houses), and women entrepreneurs, honouring their remarkable contributions to India's export performance. These awards serve as a testament to the outstanding efforts and dedication of exporters in this region. FIEO's mission is to foster a conducive environment for export growth and facilitating India's global trade ambitions. The 7th & 8th FIEO Eastern Region Export Excellence Awards have not only recognised exporters from Eastern and North Eastern India but inspired exporters to reach even greater heights in international trade.

Ms Rowan Ainsworth

said, "Indian and Australian relationship is thriving. Trade forms a very important part of that relationship, especially with ECTA (Economic Cooperation Trade Agreement). It provides great trade opportunities for both countries, but it is also strategically important. It provides the nations with secure supply chains, supports economic resilience

post Covid and valuing



each other as trusted partners. Trade in accordance with international laws is driving innovation. It promises opportunities of prosperities.

Dr. A Sakthivel,

President, FIEO, said, "..... welcome all the award winners and congratulate them for their outstanding efforts shown during the turbulent period in global trade. They have

made the country proud through sheer dint of their hard work backed by meticulous planning.... The exception of achievement by our Award Winners clearly

shows that when going gets tough, the tough gets going. Smt. Anupriya Patel's tenure as the MoS Commerce saw a remarkable growth of over 55% in the country's exports in 2 years, taking aggregate exports to US\$ 776 Bn in 2022-23. Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, our exporters have risen up to the challenge and exhibited remarkable export performance. Recently signed FTAs with the UAE and Australia are expected to give a significant boost to exports to both countries and bilateral trade. Additionally, we are currently in the process of finalizing FTAs with the UK, EU and Israel with hopes of signing them within a year or so. Under the able leadership, Commerce Ministry put its mark on the G20 trade Ministerial meeting concluded in Jaipur championing the cause of MSMEs, pushing digitization of trade processes, inclusion of India in the resilient value chain."

Shri. Yogesh Gupta, Regional Chairman, FIEO Eastern Region, said, ".....we are

confident to achieve the milestone of US\$ 2 Trillion exports much before 2030."

Mr. Israr Ahmed, Vice-President, FIEO, said, "

..... FIEO Eastern Region collaborates closely with various state governments to identify export potential and offers support. We recognize the importance of global market access, technology-driven sectors, and sustainability in our long-term export strategy. Environmental and labor factors will play a crucial role in global trade, necessitating proactive measures. We aim to reach a \$2 trillion export target by 2030 and set an example for developing economies."

Export market is very dynamic and evolving and dependent on evolving geopolitical - economic - climate changes related issues .

FIEO is an ISO certified apex body of Indian export promotion organisations, jointly established by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, and private trade and industry in 1965. FIEO plays a crucial role in facilitating international trade for India by bridging the gap between the international trade community and various governments and industry stakeholders. FIEO is promoting exports in alignment with the vision of the Prime Minister and India's Foreign Trade Policy .

NIT Warangal to celebrate its 65th Foundation Day on 10th October 2023

Dr. Komal Kapoor, Chairman and Chief Executive of Nuclear Fuel Complex to be the chief guest

Warangal (KCN): National Institute of Technology Warangal will be celebrating its 65th Institute Foundation Day on 10th October 2023. National Institute of Technology, Warangal, formerly

known as Regional Engineering College, was established in 1959. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation stone for this institute on October 10, 1959, the first in the chain of 31 NITs



(formerly known as RECs) in the country. Dr. Komal Kapoor, Chairman and Chief Executive, Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr Kapoor was

instrumental in manufacture and supply of a variety of seamless tubes for the strategic applications of department of atomic energy and of the departments of space and defence.

Vice President Turns Poet To Counter Ashok Gehlot's Objections To Visits



Laxmangarh (Rajasthan): After Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot questioned Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar over his frequent visits to the poll-bound state, the latter said that it is not right to drag a person holding a constitutional post unnecessarily into politics.

the Rajasthan chief minister, Mr Dhankhar said that there must be respect for constitutional positions. "Some people are saying why are you coming here again and again... I do not expect, people in authority to make statements in light of constitutional positions. This is not good for democracy. There must be respect

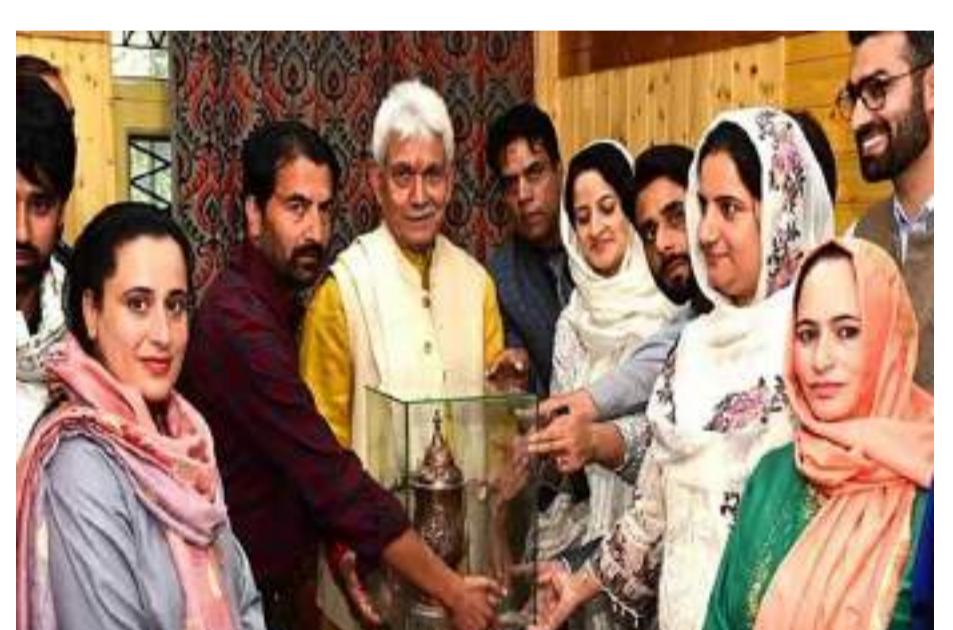
for constitutional positions and all of us in togetherness, hand in hand, in collaboration and coordination with a consensual approach, have to serve the people at large..." the Vice President said while addressing the students and faculty members of Mody University of Science and Technology in Laxmangarh.

nishan kyo hai apne ghar aane me, Kya jumla hai? Pata hi nahi!" The poem refers to someone having a problem with him going to their home. Addressing a programme in Jaipur, Mr Gehlot had said in September, "The Vice President is doing up-down (between Delhi and Rajasthan). Whether it is the Governor or the Vice President, we respect them... but elections are here." "Politicians should come but please do not send the Vice President, it is a Constitutional post. We respect the President and the Vice President. Yesterday the Vice President came and visited five districts. Is there any logic? It is election season. If you come now it will send all kinds of messages which is not good for democracy," he had said later.

Kupwara, Jk (Aasif Malik): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha as per Media said while talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function held in Kupwara. LG said the Kupwara district has achieved milestones in last three years and the common man here is living a peaceful life. He said the district has witnessed huge infrastructural transformation in last few years including road connectivity, power supply, tourism augmentation etc.

"As per census 2001 all villages of the district have been connected to district headquarters while as according to census 2011 eight villages who are yet to be connected will also be addressed in coming times," LG Sinha said.

"Much has been done on power distribution and transmission part while as tourism in the district is rapidly increasing. Overall I can say 70 percent work has been done on infrastructural level. The district is scripting new era of development," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha held.



India in space: A journey beyond Earth

Saikat Kumar Basu

Kolkata: Like previous years, this year too; Barisha Purbapara High School (Behala, Kolkata) has organized an outstanding science exhibition at the Atal Innovation Centre (ATC). The Atal Community Innovation Centers have been established across India to encourage and support the spirit of innovation, entrepreneurship and ingenuity in the undeserved/unerved regions of India by providing enabling infrastructure and facilitating environment

for innovation. The programme was organized by Barisha Girls Uccha Balika Vidyalaya, Baidyapara High School, Vivekananda Girls High School and West Barisha Kamala Bidyamandir. Models of Pragyan Rover, Vikram Lander, Chandrayan 3 models were displayed designed by the participating students. The intricate mechanism, functioning, designs, robotics and AI aspects of the displayed models were very elegantly described by the

participating students. Barisha Vivekananda High School made the model of Vikram lander. Baidyapara High School displayed their intricate Chandrayan 3 model.

They were awarded the third prize for their unique model design and excellent demonstrations. The second prize went to Barisha Uccha Balika Vidyalay for their outstanding model of Vikram Lander and Chandrayan 3. The Barisha Purbo Para High School clinched the first place in

innovative model design for their monumental rocket designs for Pragyan River, Vikram Lander and Chandrayan 3 models designed and described in the public competition.

The program was well attended by students and teachers from the locality. Patents and guardians of the participating school graced the occasion through their wide participation and encouragement to the students. The science exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Subhobroto Roy Chowdhury, the General Secretary of the Science Association of Bengal (SAB), Kolkata. The prizes and awards were handed by Dr. Roy Chowdhury, the Guest of Honour and the President. The headmaster of the organizing school, Mr. Manas Kumar Pati did an excellent job in organizing and facilitating the program which ended with a grand success and inspiration for students to do kore in the not so distant future.



OAVs Get Smart Classes



Bhubaneswar(KCN): As part of its 5T initiative, the State Government has decided to set up smart classrooms in all Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas (OAVs) to enhance the quality of education as par with the private English medium schools. Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS) under Department of School & Mass Education is going to implement 2250 smart classrooms for enhancing the teaching learning process. The focus is on enhanced interactivity in a

classroom using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) on multimedia-based content resources platform known as Smart Classrooms that encourage opportunities for teaching and learning by integrating technology solutions to enable educators to develop and share content in real-time/off-line, and empower student to play an active role in learning, sources said. Similarly, the State Government has also

decided to implement the CCTV surveillance system at 199 schools of Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS) soon. To enhance the safety and security of the students, the Department has decided to provide CCTV surveillance in the schools, sources said.

In June this year, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had inaugurated 13 academic and 28 hostel buildings and laid foundation for 276 hostels of OAV Sangathan. He had said that Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas (OAVs)

would transform into centres of excellence (CoEs) in the coming days.

Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS), a society under Society Registration Act 1860 of Odisha, under the Vidyalaya and Mass Education Department of Government of Odisha, was established on September 19, 2015. This ambitious project of the Government of Odisha, aims to establish English Medium Vidyalayas with CBSE affiliation and with state of art building with all amenities at each of the 314 blocks of the State.

Atmosphere Announces India Entry

New Delhi(KCN): Atmosphere Core, an acclaimed hospitality company, kicks off its spectacular India entry, aiming at heralding a paradigm shift in the Indian hospitality landscape through unique and unforgettable experiences.

Leveraging on its award-winning resort experiences in the Maldives, the company looks at delivering on the values of Anticipating, Crafting, and Elevating the guest journey at the distinctive new properties coming up in India.

Following a successful journey in the Maldives, of launching 3 brands and 8 resorts within 10 years, Atmosphere Core unveiled an aggressive plan of 25 in 2025 for India.

Making headway with the announcement of 8 remarkable hotels and resorts within two brands, which include OZEN MANSION KOLKATA, OZEN PRIVADO GOA, OZEN NANDI HILLS BANGALORE, SADAR MANZIL HERITAGE BY



ATMOSPHERE BHOPOAL, STILLWOOD RETREAT A SIGNATURE ATMOSPHERE COORG, VARSA ELEMENTS OF NATURE BY ATMOSPHERE KANNUR, ATMOSPHERE BHUBANESWAR and ATMOSPHERE LAKE VIEW KOLKATA. These properties embody Atmosphere Core's commitment to creative storytelling and curating exceptional guest experiences. "Atmosphere Core has always stood for redefining hospitality experiences, and today, we're taking this legacy to India," said Salil Panigrahi, Managing

Director of Atmosphere Core. "Our commitment to organic growth, sustainable development, and distinctive brand experiences has transformed the Maldives, and we are thrilled to bring this transformation to India." The grand unveiling took place in New Delhi, where Atmosphere Hospitality Private Limited's visionary Chairman, Dipti Ranjan Patnaik, expressed his dedication to establishing Atmosphere as a prominent hotel brand in India, with a focus on delivering 'Joy of Giving' to guests. "India's rich cultural tapestry and diverse landscapes offer immense potential for

extraordinary hospitality," Shri Patnaik emphasized. "With our commitment to sustainability and the 'Joy of Giving,' we aim to create a hospitality legacy in India."

Souvagya Mohapatra, Managing Director of Atmosphere Core - India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, & Bhutan, highlighted the company's expansion plans in South Asia, echoing the ethos of giving joyfully from the heart and soul, and refining and elevating the individual experiences crafted for guests. Under Mr. Salil Panigrahi's leadership, Atmosphere Core has forged new standards for hospitality in the Maldives, and this legacy is set to continue in India.

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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times in a year. By expanding of our test center

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is

the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusive commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth.

To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers - Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO - which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples - Bhubaneswar - celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' - The Journey of a Young Woman - the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take Pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves - truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

our Prime Minister to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 3I's - types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S - Start early- Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

MCL to provide 50 e-rickshaws to divyang in Sambalpur



Sambalpur (KCN):

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) will provide financial assistance to the District Administration in this regard, MCL will provide financial assistance to the District Administration, Sambalpur for procurement of 50 E-Rickshaw to be allotted to 'divyang' people of Odisha, under its CSR project "Saksham" which offers livelihood opportunities to the needy.

As per memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed on Thursday with the Sambalpur

Administration in this regard, MCL will provide financial assistance to the District Administration in this regard, MCL will provide financial assistance to the District Administration, Sambalpur for encouraging electric transport.

On behalf of MCL, the MoU was signed by Shri Rajanikanta Panigrahi, General Manager (CSR) while Shri Madanjit Hota, District Social Security Officer (DSSO), Sambalpur signed on behalf of the district administration.

realme launches the Stylish realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and the revolutionary realme Buds Wireless 3

Bhubaneswar (KCN) :

realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled its latest offerings today, the realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and realme Buds Wireless 3. These newest additions to realme's legacy of innovation are crafted to provide users with an unrivaled experience.

The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G introduces two standout smartphones: the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G and the realmenarzo 60 5G, accompanied by the cutting-edge realme Buds Wireless 3 for an immersive audio experience.

The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G is the first and only smartphone in the segment to come with 1TB storage. The realmenarzo 60 5G comes in two stunning colors: Mars Orange, Cosmic Black and two storage variants: The 8GB + 128GB is priced at INR 17999 and the 8GB + 256GB is priced at INR 19999.

Buyers can avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on Amazon.in and realme.com. Users can also avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No

Cost EMI on first sale on Amazon.in and realme.com. For realmenarzo 60 5G, buyers can avail a coupon of INR 1000* and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on realme.com and Amazon.in. Users can also avail coupons worth INR 1000 and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months on first sale on Amazon.in and realme.com.

Introducing the realme Buds Wireless 3, designed to elevate your audio experience with a 13.6 mm Dynamic Bass driver. Enjoy uninterrupted music with its 40-hour long battery life. Immerse yourself in crystal-clear sound with active noise cancellation. Indulge in a captivating audio journey with the 360-degree spatial audio effect. The realme Buds Wireless 3 comes in three stunning colors: Bass Yellow, Vitality White and Pure Black and is priced at INR 1799. Users can avail a special first sale day offer on realme Buds Wireless 3 on 12th July, 12 noon onwards. The realme Buds Wireless 3 will be available on realme.com, amazon.in, flipkart.in and offline stores near you.

Buyers can avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on Amazon.in and realme.com. Users can also avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's

State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman, SCET&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCET&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS).

Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana. Commending the development, Chairman, SCET&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

Simons' plan for reducing runs to rupees relies on preparation

New Delhi: Sachin Tendulkar isn't among the people you expect to see at a bus stop in downtown Mumbai. But there he was on Thursday (October 5), smiling brightly from the sidelines of the vast tangle of anything on wheels and anyone on foot that starts before dawn and continues long after dusk on the streets of one of the world's most bustling cities. A younger, leaner, more carefully coiffed Tendulkar, that is, who beamed into a hot and humid afternoon from a poster stuck to the wall of the bus shelter. Whatever he was advertising mattered less than the message the sight of him conveyed:

you're in India, where cricket's preferred currency isn't the rupee but runs. Near the airport a giant billboard starring an impossibly suave Virat Kohli suggested much the same: here, of all places, bat properly if you want to stay in the game.

If two of cricket's finest batters say so who could possibly argue? The point was proved by England's flaccid batting in the opening match of the men's World Cup in Ahmedabad on Thursday - and, more forcefully, by the Kiwis' furious response at the crease.

But what if you're the person responsible for turning opponents' runs into rupees? In South Africa's dressingroom

that buck stops with Eric Simons, their bowling coach, who told a press conference in Delhi, where his charges begin their campaign against Sri Lanka on Saturday, "I think we're going to see a high-scoring tournament and good pitches. You're going to need every cog in your machine working well when it comes to bowling."

And if some of the key cogs are in for repairs? South Africa's challenge, and by extension Simons', is how to get the machine to deliver the kind of performance it might have been capable of had Anrich Nortje and Sisanda Magala not been forced out of the tournament with back and knee problems. Magala's 19.07 is South

Africa's lowest average for ODIs in 2023 and he has the best strike rate, 18.00. But on this bombastic stage the loss of Nortje's aggression, which bristles as blatantly as his cartoon moustache, seems the bigger blow.

"One of things Anrich brings is intimidation. I've sat in I don't know how

many meetings, and the more the opposition talks about certain batters or bowlers, the more you're in their heads and ahead of them in the game. Someone like Anrich would have been spoken about."

In Nortje's absence should the more silky, less spiky Kagiso Rabada, who matches Nortje for presence

and is more seasoned than the other quicks in the squad, get to work on his own moustache? "He's one of our key members," Simons said. "He has a lot of experience and he's someone the opposition respects. Getting him bowling at his best is not just important for him but for us as well."

Nudging Rabada to that

point will be a significant subplot in South Africa's bid for glory. From his Test debut in November 2015 only Stuart Broad has taken more wickets among fast bowlers in the format - nine more, and Broad sent down 756.1 more overs than Rabada. Trent Boult is the only ODI pace bowling wicket-taker ahead of Rabada during the South African's career. Measured

from Rabada's first ODI in July 2015, Boult has claimed eight more wickets. But he has bowled 69.4 fewer overs than Rabada. It will seem an overly subtle, nit-picky distinction but it serves to parse Rabada the supreme Test bowler from his slightly more mortal ODI self. He has played in only one ODI World Cup in 2019, when South Africa crashed to their worst performance in the tournament by losing five of their eight completed games. So Rabada's ordinary return in the event of 11 wickets from 78 overs at 36.09 must be seen in that context. It doesn't define him.

"Kagiso wants to be the

"Labuschagne pretty much a lock-in in the top-four" - McDonald

New Delhi: Marnus Labuschagne came in as a last-minute replacement during Australia's ODI series against South Africa, subbing in for Cameron Green in the first ODI as a concussion substitute. Nevertheless, his performances since then have been such that Labuschagne, who was not part of the preliminary squad for the World Cup, will now find his name among the first entries in the Australia XI during the competition in India. Labuschagne scored 80 not out and 124 in the two wins Australia managed in South Africa before losing three on the trot, while he also found form in India in the Rajkot ODI, which his side won after losing the first two matches. Speaking about Labuschagne's role in the scheme of things for the World Cup, head coach Andrew McDonald said he is "pretty much a lock



in" among the Australian top four. "It's been a really good return after being dropped and not included in that South African squad. We were pretty clear on the way that we felt Marnus needed to play to fit into the team. He went away and worked on that," said McDonald. "I think he may have elaborated on that several days ago where he's gone away. He's had a think about it, he's come back, and he's come back a different player. There's no doubt

about that. McDonald further elaborated on why Labuschagne was left out earlier, and credited him with extremely good work ethic, which helped him force his way back into the side, with a helping hand from serendipitous fate. "We saw in the practice game against Pakistan, the early intent, the scoring options, you know, his innings are starting with great intent. And we love seeing that and we always knew he was capable of that but

over an extended period of time, prior to his dropping, he wasn't doing that. "He was getting that information. And as I said full credit to him. He's gone away and worked on his game and it's a great story. If you're looking for whether he's a certain starter; if he's not in your team, I don't know who else you're gonna put in there. So I think he's pretty much a lock-in in that top four and how we structure up is the final question that we need to answer."

Australia, meanwhile, have a concern in the form of Marcus Stoinis's availability for the opening game, with the all-rounder nursing a hamstring complaint. Adam Zampa, meanwhile, is good to go, said McDonald, after the legspinner had pulled up sore earlier. "Zampa is not as big of a concern. His is more workload management. He did pull up sore from

the second game in the ODI series, but nothing significant. Marcus Stoinis, a little bit different. He's got a slight hamstring complaint at this stage. So that's why he missed the practice games and he'll be touch and go for the first game against India. We've got the main session today and then got another hit out tomorrow. He'll go through his work there and we'll see whether he's available for selection for game one, but at the moment he wasn't fit and available for those practice games.

About Marcus Stoinis's injury status, McDonald said: "That happened, after the Mohali game - he pulled up a little bit sore. And then further investigation led to that being a slight hamstring (strain). And then he's just rehabbing. As I said, he'll be touch and go for game one. He certainly hasn't been ruled out, but we weren't prepared to risk in those practice games.

New Delhi: Shubman Gill is down and could be out for a few days, if not longer. A team official said he is under the weather. Whether he will be able to play India's first game, against Australia, on October 8 is still not decided.

Reports emerged on

Friday (October 6) that the opener is suffering from dengue but the exact nature of Gill's health concern could not exactly be confirmed. A team official had this to say to Cricbuzz: "He's under the weather, the medical team is closely monitoring him. We are hoping he gets better soon."

In a rich vein of form, Gill had been rested for the third and final game of the recently-concluded bilateral ODI series against Australia, having scored 74 and 104 in the first-two matches. Both of India's official World Cup

warm-up games were later washed out, but Gill did travel with the team. Understandably, Gill (24) could not participate in the Indian team's nets on Thursday and this has given credence speculation over the opening partner for skipper Rohit Sharma in the game against Australia. One of Ishan Kishan and KL Rahul could be given the responsibility.

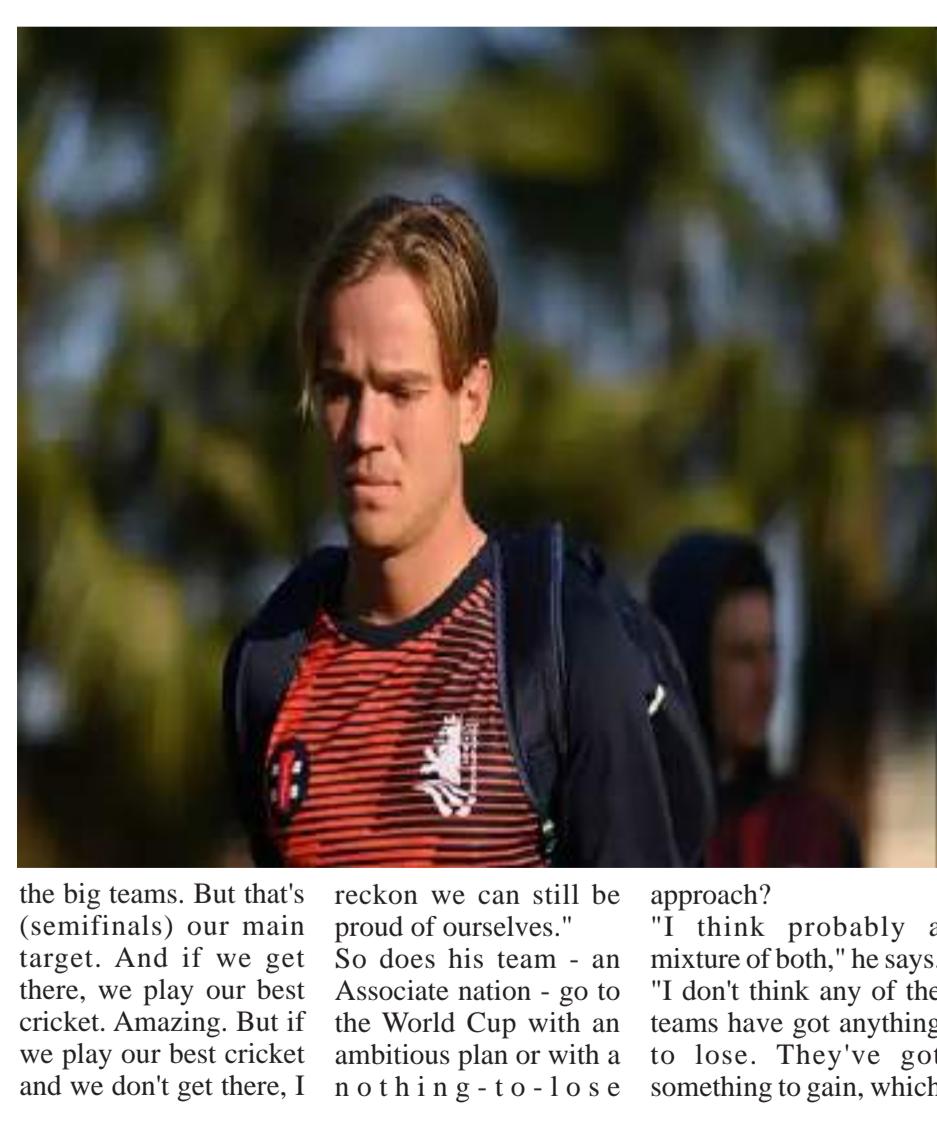
We want to make the semifinals - Bas de Leede

New Delhi: "We want to make the semifinals," Bas de Leede announced on Thursday, a day ahead of their opening World Cup encounter against Pakistan, in Hyderabad. It's a fair proclamation even if slightly ambitious for a team that has made it to the tournament through the qualifier route. But it's not just that. What makes the challenge more daunting is that after having finished as the second best side in the qualifier four months ago, they've not had a single international assignment. The Netherlands men's team has been in India for nearly a month now, trying to get some match practice more than just acquaint themselves with the conditions. Barring a couple of practice game against the Karnataka state team, there hasn't been much gametime for the team. Even the two warm-up games they were assigned got

washed out due to rain. With the majority of the players, including the head coach, playing or working in different countries for most parts of the year, it's rare that the entire team even assembles together for practice. Bas de Leede, on of the few full-time cricketers in the squad, admitted that there is a challenge but they are making the most of whatever opportunities they have been handed. "We obviously don't get to play together as a team very often because guys are spread out," de Leede said. "But I think the learnings we can take from Karnataka was, first of all, it was nice to play together as a team and try and adapt to Indian conditions. Obviously, it's one thing training in Indian conditions, but then another thing going out and playing and seeing what it's like in a game, so I think for us it was a

nice introduction to Indian conditions and trying to find out what works for us as a team. "And then you know lack of game time. It was a shame that the warm-up games got rained off. But I think in the nets, we try and replicate game scenarios and try and be as competitive as we can when bowling to each other, when facing each other. So that's probably the one way we've tried to make up for the lack of games."

To make it to the top four through in the most challenging format where each team plays the other once, would require more than an upset. However, de Leede is sure that it won't be a disappointment for the team even if they fail to reach the top four after having given their best performance. "If we want to get there, we've got to win four or five games. So, we'd have to take down one of



the big teams. But that's (semifinals) our main target. And if we get there, we play our best cricket. Amazing. But if we play our best cricket and we don't get there, I

reckon we can still be proud of ourselves."

So does his team - an Associate nation - go to the World Cup with an ambitious plan or with a nothing-to-lose approach?

"I think probably a mixture of both," he says. "I don't think any of the teams have got anything to lose. They've got something to gain, which

is winning the World Cup. I think for us, obviously it's special being back for the first time since 2011, but we've set our goal high which is making the semifinal and I don't think if we don't make it, we're a failure or anything like that. I think if we don't make it, but we have played our best cricket, we can still be proud of ourselves. But by setting the goal to make the semi-final, I think we can probably do more than what people expect from us. So yeah, I think it's a mixture of having nothing to lose, but also trying to perform at our best again after 12 years."

Their challenge kickstarts against Pakistan on Friday at a venue where their opposition has already the experience of playing two warm-up games (even though they were defeated in both).