

## Indian Air Force@92

**New Delhi:** The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has conveyed his best wishes to air warriors and their families on the occasion of Air Force Day. The Prime Minister posted on X:

“Best wishes to all air warriors and their families on Air Force Day. India is proud of the valour, commitment and dedication of the Indian Air Force. Their great service and sacrifice ensure our skies are safe.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan has extended greetings and felicitation to all air warriors, veterans and their families on the 92nd Indian Air Force (IAF) Day on October



08, 2023.

This momentous occasion marks nearly a century of unwavering dedication and unparalleled service of the IAF to the nation. As we celebrate this milestone, we also pay homage to the bravehearts who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. Their courage, valour and dedication continue

to inspire generations of Indians.

The IAF has played an important role in all wars fought by the country, undertaken punitive air strikes, extricated the Indian diaspora from conflict zones and provided relief through Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) missions within and beyond the borders. The IAF has a rich

history of regular and successful engagements in international air exercises with friendly countries. It has adequately demonstrated interoperability with global Air Forces, thereby credibly establishing its capability to operate effectively in our immediate neighbourhood and also in our extended

environment.

The Indian Air Force has encouraged capability development through indigenous defence production under ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’. An appreciable effort has been put in towards capacity enhancement of force multipliers in the form of Electronic Warfare, harnessing Space and Cyber capabilities to fight tomorrow’s war, Artificial Intelligence-based Decision Tools and systems incorporating the latest technology like Swarm Unmanned Munition Systems, an outcome of successful Mehar Baba Drone competition conceptualised by the IAF.

## Odisha Private Bus Owners' Association Calls For Indefinite Strike From Oct 10

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):**

The Odisha Private Bus Owners' Association has called for an indefinite state-wide strike from October 10 in protest against the State government's Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI) scheme. On September 27, the association announced to launch an indefinite strike if the State government failed to fulfill their genuine demands.

However, during a meeting of the Private Bus Owners' Association today, the members alleged that neither the government held any discussion with them in this regard nor fulfilled their demands, which is



why they have decided to go on strike.

As per the decision, the private buses will remain off the roads from October 10 till the fulfillment of their demands. The association also has threatened to stop plying of vehicles engaged in schools, colleges and tourism.

Notably, the Odisha

government introduced the LAccMI scheme to run buses from panchayats to blocks, blocks to district headquarters, and from districts to the state capital. However, the bus owners alleged that the LAccMI scheme would affect the income of over 8,000 private bus owners and 14,000 employees and their families

## 50 Lakh For Deep Grace

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today announced a cash award of Rs. 50 lakh for Odia hockey star Deep Grace Ekka for her role in securing India's Bronze Medal at the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022.

The Chief Minister expressed his heartfelt congratulations to Deep Grace Ekka and acknowledged her remarkable performance. Calling her a role model for the youth of the State, the Chief Minister said, “Deep Grace Ekka has become a symbol of hope and pride for aspiring athletes in the country. Deep has proved her tenacity with some a s t o u n d i n g performances and I am sure that she will continue to make India proud and showcase the



spirit of perseverance and excellence that she has been displaying. The 28-year-old, who hails from Lulkidihi village in Sundargarh district, made her international debut in 2011 during the Four-Nation Tournament in Argentina and since then, she has been an integral part of the national team. In May 2023, she completed 250 International Caps. She was part of the Indian team that took

part in Rio Olympic Games — Indian eves' first appearance since 1980 and Tokyo Olympics 2020.

She was also an integral part of the team that won the Bronze Medal at the Women's Asia Cup 2013, Gold at 2016 Asian Champions Trophy, Gold in the Asia Cup in 2017, Silver at the Asian Champions Trophy in 2018, Silver in 18th Asian Games Jakarta-Palembang and the Bronze in

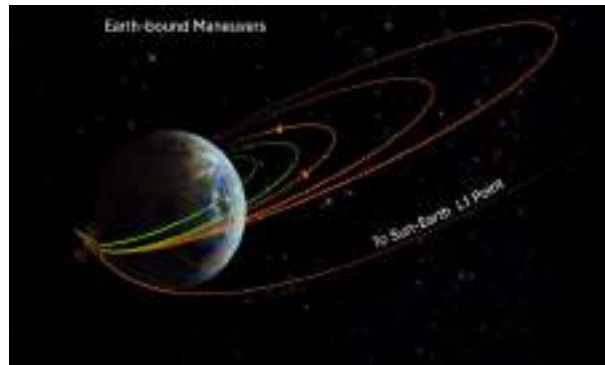
Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. The ace defender also played a key role in India's Gold Medal win at the inaugural FIH Women's Nations Cup in Spain in 2022.

Yesterday, the CM had announced a cash award of Rs. 1.5 crores for defender-drag flicker Amit Rohidas for his significant role in India's historic Gold Medal triumph at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou. Notably, the State Government has been sponsoring both Men's and Women's Hockey Teams of India since 2018. The State Government has been providing all necessary support for the promotion and development of hockey.

**Landslide triggered by heavy rains buries alive 4 of family in Meghalaya**

**New Delhi:** Four members of a family, including two minors, were buried alive after a huge landslide, following incessant rains, hit their house at Pynthor Langtein village in Meghalaya's West Jaintia Hills district early on Sunday, officials said. A police official in Shillong said that the massive mudslides covered the house when the victims were asleep. The villagers witnessed the accident early in the morning and immediately launched a rescue operation, but could not save any of the family members. The victims were identified as Biangki Phawa, 29, his wife Pynjanai Ryngkhlem, 25, and their children, Eddyf Ryngkhlem, 5, and Iwadaro Ryngkhlem, 3.

## Aditya-L1 On Its Way To Sun-Earth L1; ISRO Performs Trajectory Correction Manoeuvre



**New Delhi, (KCN):** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has performed a trajectory correction manoeuvre (TCM) on the Aditya-L1 spacecraft which is headed to the Lagrangian 1 (L1) point.

“The spacecraft is healthy and on its way to Sun-Earth L1. A Trajectory Correction Manoeuvre (TCM), originally provisioned,

was performed on October 6, 2023, for about 16 seconds,” the ISRO said.

The space agency added that the TCM was performed to correct the trajectory evaluated after tracking the Trans-Lagrangian Point 1 Insertion (TL1I) manoeuvre performed on September 19, 2023. “It was needed to correct the trajectory evaluated

after tracking the Trans-Lagrangian Point 1 Insertion (TL1I) manoeuvre performed on September 19, 2023. TCM ensures that the spacecraft is on its intended path towards the Halo orbit insertion around L1,” ISRO said.

“On September 19, ISRO carried out the TL1I manoeuvre to send it towards L1. As Aditya-L1 continues to move ahead, the magnetometer will be turned on again within a few days,” ISRO further added.

India's first solar observatory mission, Aditya-L1, was launched on September 2 by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

## Centre To Provide Funds To Registrar Of Cooperatives Of All States, UTs For Computerisation

**New Delhi(KCN):** The Government of India has taken several steps to strengthen all the cooperative societies of the country. In this regard, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah has taken an important decision to computerize and empower the registrars of all 28 states and 8 union territories, and 1,851 Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) operating in 13 states.

On the lines of computerization scheme of all Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) in the country, a centrally sponsored scheme has been approved for computerization of 1,851 units of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) of 13 states through a national unified software and computerization of



offices of Registrar of Cooperatives of all States/Union Territories similar to Central Registrar.

A Central Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) will be established for this scheme, which will work towards the s u c c e s s f u l implementation of the scheme. The total estimated expenditure for this scheme will be Rs. 225.09 crore.

The implementation of this scheme will not only enable people to quickly access services provided by the C o o p e r a t i v e Departments of the states and the offices of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) but will also bring transparency and uniformity in the functioning of these offices, which will make them more efficient and save the time.

## KIIT International MUN Concludes

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN):** The 11th Edition of KIIT International Model United Nations (MUN) concluded today at KIIT University with more than 1,300 delegates from across India and abroad. This is the biggest MUN in Asia. The theme for this 11th Edition of KIIT-MUN was “Engage to Empower”, which sought to promote deliberation and discourse among the youth to facilitate empowerment and growth that would pave the way to a beautiful future world order.

The event was inaugurated on October 6 in which Chief Guest of the occasion was Mr. Komla A. Jervis Zogbema, Director, Department of Scholarships and Internships, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Togo. Mr. Yawa Edem Akpemado,



Charge d' Affairs Embassy of Togo in New Delhi, was the Guest of Honour.

In his speech in French Zogbema said “In the post-colonial era African nations are in a transition towards economic upliftment and education as a major sector has a lot to contribute.” Praising India's stellar role in the G20 leadership, Zogbema also called for

an overhaul in the UN structure as it was conceptualized during the post-World War – II era. He also wanted a close association with India to excel in the human development sector.

Founder of KIIT-KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta reiterated that the biggest MUN of the Asian sub-continent is being held at a beautiful campus

which has translated the theme “Engage to Empower” in action as in Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS). He also hoped that the entire MUN assembly would deal with all the world's major issues and debate for their solution. The KIIT-MUN had 35 Executive Board (EB) members and International EBs were

from Indonesia and B a n g l a d e s h . International student delegates from Nigeria, Somalia, Bangladesh, Syria, Ethiopia, Togo, etc participated in the KIIT-MUN. Since its inception in 2013, KIIT-MUN has grown exponentially and has been a haven for future diplomats and leaders who seek to make a difference by taking up discussions on poverty, hunger, climate change, food security, and refugee crisis across the world.

KIIT-DU VC Prof Saranjit Singh, Registrar Prof Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty, Director General International Relations Debraj Pradhan, Additional Registrar Dr. Shyam Sundar Behura and Secretary General of KIIT International MUN, 2023 Kshitij Singh were present.



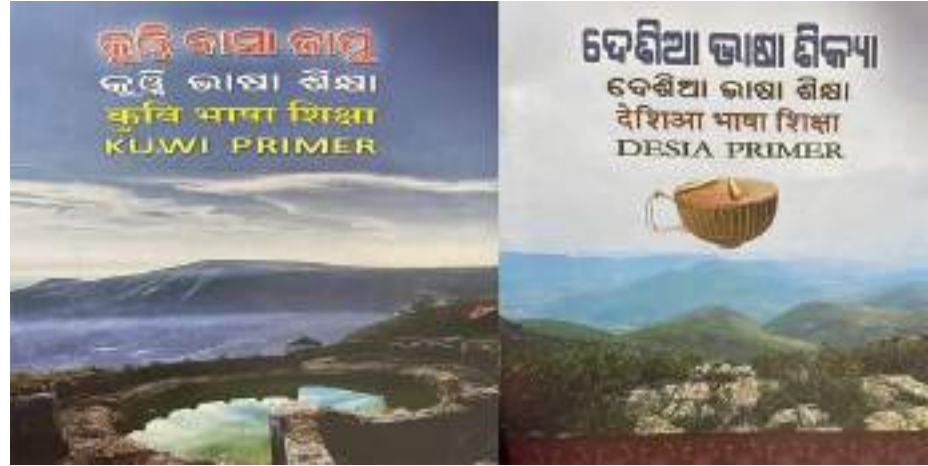
# Semiliguda BJD Jan sampark Yatra held

**Pattangi:(KCN)** : Semiliguda block BJD Jan sampark Yatra started from Gangama Temple and walked through Damonodi Street from Bejaput, Mathalput, Anglabadi Colony.

In the said Yatra under the supervision of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik, various welfare programmes in the field of education, health, agriculture, drinking water, roads, women empowerment of the government has been highlighted in this Jan sampark



# Central University of Odisha to Empower Local Language (Kuwi & Desia) Education in Historic Training Program



**Koraput,(KCN):**The Central University of Odisha (CUO), under the visionary leadership of Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in collaboration with RIE (Regional Institute of Education), NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training), Bhubaneswar is organizing a transformative Training Programme focused on Kuwi and Desia Languages for School Teachers. This pivotal event is scheduled to take place from October 9th to October 11th, 2023, within the campus of Central University of Odisha in Sunabeda.

This remarkable effort builds upon the earlier directive from the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, resulting in the development and release of a Kuwi and Desia Primer in Bhubaneswar. It is a significant step towards preserving and promoting these indigenous languages and cultures within the educational landscape. Distinguished figures in the field of education will grace the occasion with their presence. Prof. P.C. Agarwal, Principal of RIE, NCERT, Bhubaneswar; Prof. N.C. Panda, Dean of the School of Languages and Registrar I/c; Dr.

Rasmirekha Sethy, Coordinator of the Kui and Desia Language Training Programme at RIE, NCERT, Bhubaneswar; Dr. Kapila Khemundu, Local Coordinator of the Kui and Desia Language Training Programme at CUO, Koraput; and Dr. Rudrani Mohanty, Co-Coordinator of the training program, will play pivotal roles. The program will also receive valuable support from esteemed Educational Resource Persons (ERPs) including Dr. Mahendra Kumar Mishra, Advisor for MLE (Multilingual Education), Shri Siba Sankar Pattanayak, Dr. Rajendra Padhy, Shri

Trinath Khora, and Shri Suresh Khora, who will actively participate and facilitate the smooth execution of the training. A significant highlight of this initiative is the participation of 60 dedicated teachers proficient in Kuwi and Desia Languages, currently teaching at the primary level in various schools across the Koraput district. This three-day training program aims to equip these educators with invaluable skills to enhance the local language education experience for their students. This historic endeavor is rooted in the recognition of the vital role local languages play in the education of primary school children, a principle firmly enshrined in the National Education Policy of 2020. Notably, this marks the first-ever program of its kind, poised to empower elementary schoolchildren in the Desia and Kuwi-speaking regions of the Koraput district.

# Cyber Security Awareness Marathon held at Subarnapur

**SUBARNAPUR,(KCN):** Today at 7 am, Subarnapur District Police organized Cyber Security Awareness Marathon from Sonapur Kunja Chhak to Biramitra Singh Deo Chhak . An awareness meeting was held there. Supdt. Of Police Mr.Amaresh Panda was the chief guest and launched the marathon. In the awareness meeting Supdt. of Police Sri Panda along with Additional Supdt. Of Police Hemant Kumar Padhi, Birendra Naik, State Bank Chief Manager Santosh Sahu, Police RI Kanhu Charan Marandi, Sonapur IIC Padmasini Meher, Swachha Bharat Vice President Indu Mati Purohit, Advocate Pradeep Purohit, Yashoda Devi Nursing School Teacher Sangita Rani



Das, Constable Association President Kumud Ranjan Meher, Kosala High School Head Master Parmananda Naik, Infinity Club Manager Santosh Sahu, Police RI Kanhu Charan Marandi, Sonapur IIC Padmasini Meher, Swachha Bharat Vice President Indu Mati Purohit, Advocate Pradeep Purohit, Yashoda Devi Nursing School Teacher Sangita Rani

awarded the junior category and senior category contestants of the marathon. Manoj Panda organized the marathon and the program. RI Mr. Marandi, Saroj Behera, IIC Mrs. Meher, ASI Ekadasia Pardhan, Mr. Bishi, Mr. Mahapatra, Journalist Manoranjan Tripathy , under the supervision of Additional Supdt. Of Police Mr. Padhi,

while coordinating contributed significantly in the senior category of the marathon. Dibya Shankar Meher, 1st, Mahendra Thapa, 2nd, and Girish Padhan were awarded by Supdt. Of Police as the 3rd winners, while in the junior category, Sachin Jhankar , Pratik Ranjan Acharya, and Om Prakash Barik of Pragya Bharati School were awarded.

# Cyber Safety Awareness Campaign Starts In Udala With Cyclothon

Yatra Pattangi MLA, Pritam Padhi, former MLA Prafull Kumar Pang, BJD District President, Jin Hikka, Pattangi Block District Council, Loichan Khara, S DC Vice Chairperson, Lakshmi Hantal, Semiliguda, Block President Chairperson, Lily Antabiria, Vice President Shiva Bangari, BJD Youth Worker, Sunam Hantal, were present more than 500 prominent BJD workers from Nandpur, Pattangi, Semiliguda, Mathalput, Uchhal participated in this walk.

**Udala(KCN):** With the primary objective of enhancing awareness and educating the public about the multifaceted aspects of cybercrime, Odisha Police has launched the Cyber Safety Campaign 2023. In order to make it wide and broad, every district is organizing a Cyber Safety Campaign programme. In this series, Mayurbhanj's Kaptipada Sub-Division has inaugurated with a Curtain Raiser Event-cum-cyclothon which was held in its sub-divisional headquarters

Udala on Sunday morning. The awareness event by various school & college students saw the esteemed presence of Udala MLA Bhaskar Chandra Madhei, Udala Ex-MLA Shrinath Soren, Udala NAC Chairperson, Pramila Panda, Vice Chairperson Lily Bhola, Udala Journalists Bhanja Kalakar Group and others. The rally was flagged off by the guests at Udala Police station in the morning at 8 AM and awareness messages by the students and Police personnel including IIC, Udala PS Sri Banamali

Barik were displayed on bi-cycles. Later, they disseminated awareness messages through audio, visual, and printed copies in local languages/dialects. On the occasion, Cyber safety advisory Brochures were also launched which provide informative brochures providing practical tips and guidelines on how to stay safe online. In this regard, the event coordinator and Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Sri Sarthak Ray said, "Prevention is Better than Cure and Cyber Safety for All.



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## Kareena Kapoor Drops BTS From Rohit Shetty's 'Singham Returns,' Ranveer Singh Reacts

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan on Saturday began shooting for director Rohit Shetty's upcoming action film 'Singham Again'.

Taking to Instagram, Kareena shared a picture from the film's set and captioned it, "Do I need to say who I am shooting for? P.S. He is one of my most favourite directors. This is my fourth film with him...and of course not the last ...Ready Steady Go... @itsrohitshetty."

In the blue tinted picture, Kareena could be seen facing her back at the camera facing a car turning topsy-turvy.

'Singham Again' marks Rohit and Kareena's fourth collaboration after 'Golmaal Returns', 'Golmaal 3' and 'Singham Returns'. Soon after Bebo shared the picture, her fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons.

Actor Ranveer Singh commented, "this is my fourth film with him too! And my first with YOU!" "OMG THIS IS GOING TO BE EPIC!!!!", a fan wrote.

Helmed by Rohit Shetty 'Singham Again' also stars Ajay Devgn and Deepika Padukone in the lead roles. The film is all



set to hit the theatres on Independence Day 2024 and will face big clash with Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa 2'.

'Singham' was released in the year 2011, and starred Kajal Aggarwal and Prakash Raj in the

lead roles, followed by 'Singham Returns' in 2014, and both projects were declared box office hits.

Actors Ranveer Singh and Akshay Kumar will also be seen in a special appearance role in the

film reprising their roles Simmba and Sooryavanshi.

Meanwhile, Kareena was recently seen in the thriller film 'Jaane Jaan' which streamed on the OTT platform Netflix. Helmed by

Sujoy Ghosh the film also starred Jaideep Ahlawat and Vijay Varma in the lead roles. She will also be seen in director Hansal Mehta's next film. Talking about Rohit's work front, he will be soon making his OTT debut with the upcoming series 'Indian Police Force' which stars Sidharth Malhotra, Shilpa Shetty and Vivek Oberoi in the lead roles.

The series will stream on the OTT platform Amazon Prime Video. However, the official release date is still awaited.

## Tejas Trailer: Kangana Ranaut's Next Promises Exhilarating Action And Adventure



The teaser of Tejas, featuring Kangana Ranaut, offered a brief glimpse of the thrilling action and adventure that awaits on the big screen. This has left the nation eager for more. Building on the audience's excitement, the makers announced

that the trailer will be released on October 8th, 2023, coinciding with Air Force Day. And now, the day has arrived, along with the highly anticipated trailer!

The makers unveiled the trailer today on Air Force Day showcasing

Kangana Ranaut as the intense, fierce, and powerful Air Force Pilot Tejas Gill. Opening with high-level aerial scenes and featuring the captivating dialogue *#BarkChakChakChak*, the trailer instantly grabs attention. With a

well-executed background music score and stunning visual effects, the trailer is a visual spectacle evoking a sense of patriotism with its impactful dialogues. Kangana commands the screen with her portrayal of a heroic Air Force mission, displaying a truly fierce and courageous character successfully igniting excitement for the film, which is set to release on October 27th, 2023.

Produced by RSVP, Tejas stars Kangana Ranaut in the titular Role. Written and Directed By Sarvesh Mewara and Produced by Ronnie Screwvala, the film is scheduled to release in Theatres on October 27th, 2023.

## Heroes To Family: Here's How Paul Rudd's 'Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania' Explores Family Dynamics

Disney+ Hotstar is streaming Marvel Studios' 'Ant-Man and The Wasp: Quantumania' in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam. Directed by Peyton Reed and featuring a lead cast including Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly, Jonathan Majors, Kathryn Newton, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Michael Douglas, the film is a suspenseful yet emotional rollercoaster that unravels the complex journey of the Quantum Realm.

However, at the center of

this sci-fi extravaganza, with its exhilarating twists and turns, lies the power of family relationships and here's what you can learn from beloved heroes in 'Ant-Man and The Wasp: Quantumania': Amidst all the adventure and surprises, there lies a heartfelt exploration of the ever-evolving bond between Paul Rudd's character Scott Lang, a.k.a. Ant-Man, and his daughter Cassie played by Kathryn Newton. More than anything, Scott yearns to make up for lost

time with his now 18-year-old daughter, who remains a cornerstone of his life. The generational divide between this father and daughter adds a delightful layer of depth to their interactions. However, as Cassie enters adulthood, their relationship takes on new dimensions.

There is a lot of grounding and depth in the bond between Michael Douglas's character Hank Pym, and his beloved wife, Janet Van Dyne played

by Michelle Pfeiffer, who has miraculously returned from the Quantum Realm after decades. They share an equitable relationship where their relationship extends to marriage and careers and both are happy to be together and live life as and when it happens. Hank and Janet's love story stands as an ode to the enduring power of love, from their capacity to overcome difficulties to their steadfast dedication toward the common goal.

## Malayalam Blockbuster '2018' To Release In Hindi



Producer Anand Pandit is all set to bring the Hindi version of the Malayalam blockbuster '2018' to the audience. Directed by Jude Anthony Joseph, this gripping tale based on actual events during the 2018 Kerala floods, features superstar Tovino Thomas along with Kunchacko Boban and Asif Ali. The film will be released in theatres nationwide on May 26, 2023.

"2018 is the highest-grossing film in the history of Malayalam cinema and has an IMDb rating of 8.9/10. It has earned over Rs 135 crores in just 13 days but most importantly, it is a story about human resilience and powerfully depicts how important it is to come together and help each other in a crisis. I am presenting it in Hindi because I don't want cinephiles across India to miss out on a chance to watch a film as exceptional as this," said Anand Pandit.

Set against the backdrop of the catastrophic 2018 Kerala floods, this story digs deep into the lives of individuals from different backgrounds who rally around each other and join hands to survive a devastating calamity together. The film portrays the collaborative efforts of these brave hearts as they navigate through the floods and display relentless hope in the face of adversity.

Anand Pandit added, "A film like '2018' belongs to all of us because, at some level, it is the story of all of us. I have no doubt that it will leave a lasting impact on the audience."

'2018' is produced by Venu Kunnappilly, CK Padma Kumar and Anto Joseph.

## Jawan Movie Release: Actress Keerthy Suresh Pens Heartfelt Note For Atlee, Shah Rukh Khan

As the much-awaited actioner 'Jawan' releases worldwide today, Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan is surely going to take the audience for a ride. Moreover, the highly anticipated project marks the Hindi cinema debut of the renowned Tamil filmmaker Atlee. With a sneak peak into the movie with its songs and trailer, Bollywood has high hopes from the young director. Vouching for the talented actor and his team, the popular actress Keerthy Suresh took to her Instagram handle and gave a massive positive shout



out. Dropping a few outdoor pictures, Keerthy wrote, "Tomorrow is a very special day because the world is going to witness

your magic machi! @atlee47." She further wrote, "My excitement is at its peak for all you nanbas @anirudhofficial @priyaatlee

@dop\_gkvishnu It is going to be a treat to watch King Khan @iamsrk in this new avatar! We all are waiting to be blown away by your

performance sir! Wishing you guys the best and sending all my love to team #Jawan READY CHIEF!!!! @nayanthara @actorvijaysethupathi

@deepikapadukone @redchilliesent."

'Jawan' is helmed by Atlee. The film stars SRK alongside Nayanthara and Vijay Sethupathi in the lead roles. Apparently, SRK has a double role in the film, which also has a cameo by Deepika Padukone. It will be released in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu languages. As per trade analyst Taran Adarsh, the film has already amassed an impressive Rs 51.17 crore in worldwide advance bookings, and it has managed to surpass the opening day record of Pathaan in India.



# Maintenance of Books of account for whom -Part 2

(Contd from 2 nd Oct 2023)

13. For how many years the books of account are required to be preserved: As per Rule 6F(5), the books of account and other documents are to be kept for at least 6 years (w.e.f. 4.2.2002) from the end of the relevant assessment year after the amendment vide Notification No.21/2002 - F. No. - 142/3/2002 - TPL. Prior to this the books of account and other documents were to be kept for at least 8 years from the end of the relevant asst. year. The cash book and ledger, however, were required to be preserved for 16 years. But w.e.f. 4.2.2002 these are also required to be kept only for 6 years from the end of the relevant asst. year. That means now, i.e. after 31st March, 2013, one needs to keep accounts for years ended 31.3.2007 and onwards and not for earlier years. However going by the time limit for reopening of assessments, i.e. within 6 years from the end of assessment year, the department may reopen the assessment for asst. year 2007-08 if we consider the reopening during FY 2013-14 and the income which has escaped

assessment amounts to Rs.1 Lakh or more for that year. However in case the income relates to any asset (including financial interest in any entity) located outside India, chargeable to tax has escaped assessment, then assessment can be re-opened within 16 years from the end of assessment year. Where the assessment in relation to any asst. year has been reopened u/s 147 within the time limit u/s 149, in such case all the books of account and other documents shall continue to be kept till the assessment so reopened has been completed. It is advisable to retain books of account and relevant documents for those years also, for which any appeal or other proceeding is pending. 14. Assessee maintains records of bank transactions, sundry debtors, creditors, investments and withdrawals and draws Balance Sheet. He declares income by comparing assets over those in the last year. In such circumstances whether such assessee can be penalised for non-maintenance of books of account: Similar facts came before the Delhi Bench of ITAT in the

case of Smt. Rajani v. ITO 91 TTJ (Del.) 23 wherein it has been held that when the assessee is maintaining record of bank transactions, sundry debtors and creditors, investments and withdrawals from which Balance Sheet is drawn and is declaring income by comparing those in last year and no form of keeping/ maintaining accounts having been prescribed for persons engaged in business, penalty u/s 271A could not be sustained. 15. Can bank statement or bank passbook be treated as books of account maintained by the assessee: Section 2(12A) defines books of account as under: “books or books of account” includes ledgers, day-books, cash books, account-books and other books, whether kept in the written form or as print-outs of data stored in a floppy, disc, tape or any other form of electro-magnetic data storage device. In view of the definition, it has been held that the pass book or the bank statement supplied by the bank to the assessee cannot be regarded as the books of account maintained by the

assessee or under his instructions. The relationship between the bank and account holder is that of debtor and creditor, the bank is not the trustee of the accountholder, as such the accounts maintained by the bank cannot be said to be maintained by the accountholder - CIT, Poona v. Bhaichand H. Gandhi 141 ITR 67 (Bom.), Mehul V. Vyasa v. ITO [2017] 80 taxmann.com 311 (Mumbai - Trib.), Smt. Manasi Mahendra Pitkar v. ITO [2016] 73 taxmann.com 68 (Mumbai - Trib.)/[2016] 160 ITD 605 (Mumbai - Trib.), Smt. Madhu Raitani v. Asstt. CIT [2011] 10 taxmann.com 206/45 SOT 231 (Gau.) (TM), ITO v. Kamal Kumar Mishra [2013] 33 taxmann.com 610/143 ITD 686 (Luck. - Trib.), Smt. Ramilaben B. Patel v. ITO [2018] 100 taxmann.com 325 (Ahmedabad - Trib.), Amitabh Bansal v. ITO [2019] 102 taxmann.com 229 (Delhi - Trib.). Similarly, the accounts maintained by a firm cannot be said to be the books of account of the partner - Smt. Shanta Devi v. CIT [1998] 171 ITR 532 (P&H). 16. Assessee, a medical professional carrying out

x-ray and pathology tests maintains books of account as required u/s 44AA read with rule 6F. Can A.O. reject the books on the ground that the assessee has not maintained any account to co-relate total number of films consumed with total receipts: On similar facts the Allahabad High Court in the case of CIT v. Rajni Kant Dave [2006] 281 ITR 6 (All.) held that once the Board in respect of a particular profession has prescribed maintenance of certain books of account vide rule 6F, it is not open to the A.O. to desire some other books to be maintained over and above the prescribed books. Therefore, provisions of section 145(1) are not to be invoked in the given case. 17. Consequence for failure to maintain books of account: Failure to maintain books of account and other documents or to retain them as required u/s 44AA attracts penalty of Rs. 25,000 (w.e.f. 1.6.2001) u/s 271A. The penalty can be imposed by the A.O. or CIT (Appeal). 18. In what circumstances penalty u/s 271A for non-maintenance of Books of Account can be waived on the basis of

reasonable cause: In the following circumstances, the penalty was waived on the basis of reasonable cause: (a) Where the assessee is running poultry farm in a remote village, lack of knowledge and lack of manpower has been held to the reasonable cause - C.T. Chacko v. ITO 20 ITR (Trib) 125 (Coch). (b) Where assessee is running a poultry farm and has maintained cash book, ledger and purchase vouchers but has not maintained stock register, penalty was deleted on the ground that stock register has not been specifically required to be maintained - Sujan Singh v. A.O. [2008] 307 ITR (AT) 172 (Amrit). (c) Since no specific books are prescribed u/s 271A, no penalty u/s 271A is eligible in case of civil contractors - ACIT v. Aggarwal Construction Company [2007] 107 TTJ (Chd.) TM 626. (d) Where assessee is maintaining record of bank transactions, Sundry debtors and creditors, investments and withdrawals from which balance sheet is drawn and is declaring income by comparing increase of assets over those is last year and no

form of keeping / maintaining accounts having been prescribed for person engaged in business, penalty u/s 271A cannot be levied - Smt. Rajni v. ITO [2004] 91 TTJ (Del.) 26. 19. Whether penalty u/s 271A can be levied before completion of assessment: Without completing the assessment, A.O. cannot come to the conclusion the he was unable to compute the income because of non-maintenance of books of accounts u/s 44AA - C.H. Aboobacker Haji v. ITO [2007] 109 TTJ 408 (Coch). 20. Where should the books of account be maintained or kept: The current year's books of account should be maintained and kept at the principal place of business or profession as per Rule 6F(3). There is no specific rule as to where the books of account of earlier years should be kept. However, in case a person carries on the profession in more than one place and he keeps and maintains separate books of account for each place, then he may keep the same at the respective places. 21. Method of accounting: W.e.f. asst.

year 1997-98, income chargeable under the head “Profits and gains of business or profession” or “Income from other sources” shall be computed only in accordance with either the cash or the mercantile system of accounting regularly employed by an assessee. That means, the hybrid system, even if regularly followed in earlier years, will not be permitted w.e.f. asst. year 1997- 98. However, the Central Government is empowered to specify, by notification in the Official Gazette, the accounting standards which every assessee will have to follow in computing his income under the head “Profits and gains of business or profession” or “Income from other sources”. In exercise of its power Central Government has specified the accounting standard for the assessee following mercantile system of accounting vide Notification No.S.O. 69(E) dated 25.1.96 [218 ITR (St.) 1].

(Narayan Jain is National Deputy President of AITP. Mr. Jain and Mr Dilip Loyalka are authors of the books “How to Handle Income Tax Problems” and “Income Tax Pleading & Practice”).

# Post Card: Still a poor man’s best medium for communication

(Drastic decrease in unregistered personal handwritten letters is a serious concern for the Posts while celebrating National Postal Week)



Normally, I open my office at about 9.15 A M to enable my staff members to maintain the working hours from 09.30 AM to 5.30 PM. But just before the normal business hour, when the MTS opens the public entrance of the office, I have been marking a peculiar incident for last five months since my joining here in this Post Office. As soon as the gate is opened, a man about 55 years of age wearing dirty pant / shirt, having unshaven beard on the face and uncombed grey hairs on the head rushes into the public area. First of all, he goes to the water filter and takes a glass of water and then comes to the Stamp Counter. He then asks for one or two Post Cards or Inland Letter Cards as per his requirement. On receipt from the counter, he then goes to the public writing desk and starts writing letters in the same Post Card(s) / Inland Letter Card(s). Within 15 to 20 minutes, he finishes the job and leaves the post office putting the letters in the outside letter boxes in a hurry. Hardly, there will a day

when he has not attended the Post Office. Witnessing this regular event, I couldn’t suppress my curiosity. To satisfy my inquisitiveness, I requested him one day come to my chamber. When he attended, briefly conveying my observations for last 5 months, I asked him “Due to rapid growth of Information Technology, when we witness people to hardly purchase Post Cards / Inland Letter Cards etc. now a day on one hand and when people want instant communication and response from other side through mobile, internet and different social media on the other, I am surprised that you are writing and posting two / three letters regularly. Are you writing to your family members or anybody else?” “No Sir”, he replied, “I have no family. I am a bachelor and belong to the district of Mayurbhanj. Due to continuous torture of my step mother, I could not complete my B Sc and left my village at the age of 21 and started working in a private Aluminium factory here in Bhubaneswar. I also completed my C T course privately. But could not get any Govt. job. While working in the factory, I met a major road accident with serious injury in my right leg and partially lost my hearing capacity. The factory owner fired me out. Since then I wandered here and there in search of a job. A small hotel owner

engaged me in cleaning utensils in his hotel and since then I am working and staying there. Now I am 57.” Swiftly telling me at a stretch, he showed me his right leg which has been bent below the knee and causing difficulty in normal walking. Expressing grief, I enquired, “To whom then you are writing letters regularly?” “Earlier when I had money with me, I was writing to the Presidents and Prime Ministers of various countries of the world. Since my income has been very low and now I am unable to afford the cost of postage to foreign countries, presently I am writing to the professors, vice-chancellors and other high dignitaries of different universities”, he replied very normally. I became more curious to know the contents of his writings. With every politeness, I just asked, “If you don’t take it otherwise, may I know the theme of your writings to such high dignitaries?” He was worried, I marked and in a hurry to leave the post office. I told, “If you have any objection or if you don’t want to share, then you may not discuss.” “That is not the issue, Sir”, he replied. “I have come here finishing all the morning works in the hotel. My work will again start from 10AM. If I will be late, my owner may drive me away from the job”. Immediately, I changed the topic and requested him to attend his job. “We may talk on some other day”, I told. “No Sir”, since you have

## Bruhaspati Samal

asked me with so much anxiety, “I will tell”, he emotionally told me. “I have also gone to other post offices. But many people treat me as a mad. Some have even handed over me to police and ordered me not to enter their premises. Nobody has ever tried to understand me”. I marked drops of tears in his eyes. I



also became sentimental. Tightly holding his palms, I requested him to continue. He started, “While I was a student in MPC College, Baripada in the district of Mayurbhanj during 1983, I became associated with the Hindu spiritual movement of Brahma Kumaries which teaches a form of meditation that focuses on identity as souls, as opposed to bodies. I was greatly inspired by their teachings to transcend labels associated with the body, such as race, nationality, religion and gender which aspire to establish a global culture based on what it calls Soul-consciousness. Sir, I had an ambition to be a teacher and to educate people of the world for bringing spiritual consciousness. But

unfortunately, I am now working in a road side hotel from dawn to dusk to feed my belly.” In a sensitive mood he continued, “Finding no other alternative to share my knowledge what I have gained from the Brahma Kumaries, I took the shelter of your post cards and inland letter cards, Sir.”

Gladly he said, “The post card is my best friend now. It is the poor man’s best medium of communication. I use the same for sharing the ethics of Brahma Kumaries to achieve the goal of establishing a new world characterized by honesty, sincerity and goodwill. When I write on the post card, I feel as if I am in a class room and writing on a black board. When I drop a post card in your letter box, I feel that I educate one person of the world. At a cost of Re.0.50 only, I share my knowledge to aware the people on spiritual consciousness from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. Only for your Department, I have been able to write continuously as such since 1983.

Being depressed, he told, “When I have to write more, I hardly depend on an Inland Letter Card. But it is too difficult now on my part to sacrifice Rs.2.50/- . So I use postcards often. I am in search of Meghdoot Post Cards which will cost me less. Kind request to arrange for me Sir”. I was about to ask him if he has received any response against such letters posted to numerous people of the world, he left my office in a hurry. I just looked at him. When we are dreaming of a digital India and now to digitize India Post turning our back to the handwritten letters, such customers still remind us about the importance of such letters may be in a Post Card. Really he was a mad, a mad for letters, a mad for sharing knowledge, a mad for bringing spiritual consciousness among the people and a mad for establishing a new world full of peace through postcards. It compelled me to remind the statement of Lord Dalhousie, the father of India Post in his Minute dated 30th December, 1851. “It makes the Post Office what under any other system it never can be the unrestricted means of diffusing knowledge, extending commerce and promoting in every way the social and intellectual improvement of the people.” The entire world celebrates the World Post Day on 9th October every year to mark the anniversary of the Universal Postal Union's (UPU) creation in 1874 (9th

October, 1874) with a purpose to bring awareness to the Post's role in the everyday lives of people and businesses as well as its contribution to global social and economic development. The World Post Day 2023 is being celebrated under the theme “Together for Trust: Collaborating for a Safe and Connected Future” which resonates with the unity and strength of global postal network. A trustworthy and impactful postal system can be possible when the countless post offices worldwide will function with creativity, wisdom and unity. In a world where connections are paramount, the shared progress by embracing collaboration and unity can strengthen the bonds of trust. At this moment, India Post celebrates National Postal Week starting from 9th October every year by organizing its own national activities from the introduction or promotion of new postal products and services to the organization of open days at post offices, mail centres and postal departments. Apart from celebrating World Post Day on 9th October, this year 10th October will be celebrated as Vitiya Sashaktikaran Diwas, 11th October as Philateli Day, 12th October as Mails and Parcels Day and 13th October as Antodaya Diwas. India Post, the largest postal network in the world having 159251 post offices is still providing cheap and efficient postal services to the poor nationals from Kashmir to

Kanyakumari despite all challenges through a postcard @ Re.0.50, an inland-letter-card @ Rs.2.50 and an envelope @ Rs.5/- only. Due to advancement of Information and Communication Technology and larger use of eMail and social media like facebook, twitter, instagram, WhatsApp etc., the quantum of handwritten ordinary letters through postcards, inland-letter-cards and envelopes which are the body and soul of the Posts has been reduced drastically. Illustratively, during last 30 year, the quantum of unregistered mails has been reduced from 3123 crores in 1991-92 to 388.29 crores (12.43%) in 2021-22 which is a serious concern for India Post. During celebration of National Postal Week, priority may be given to motivate the members public towards handwritten letters which carry the love, emotion, agony, ecstasy from person to person and help the Posts to stay relevant as a trustworthy and impactful organization. (Based on a fact happened with this writer while working as a Postmaster)

**General Secretary Confederation of Central Govt. Employees and Workers Odisha State CoC, Bhubaneswar, Mobile: 9437022669**  
eMail: bsamalbbsr@gmail.com  
Normally, I open my office at about 9.15 A





The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar playing traditional musical instruments at the Krishi Vikas Mela organized at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University in Hisar, Haryana

## 18,000 Indians Stuck As Gun Battles Rage In Israeli Towns, On Highways

**New Delhi:** Israel is battling the worst escalation in its conflict with Palestinian group Hamas which has claimed nearly 1,000 lives and women thousands more on each side. Hamas launched its massive surprise attack on Israel with a barrage of rockets and a large-scale ground assault on Saturday. Thousands of Israeli forces were deployed to battle Hamas fighters in the south and the air force again pounded targets in the Gaza Strip. As gun battles are raging in towns and on highways, nearly 18,000 citizens are stuck in Israel. The majority of them are caregivers, IT professionals and

students.

There are many agencies in Israel which hire caregivers from India for the elderly population there. There are about 85,000 Jews of Indian-origin in Israel. NDTV also spoke to two Indian students who are currently in the Israeli city of Bersheva. They said the situation currently is "very unpredictable". "We are one hour away from the Gaza Strip. Right now, there are no attacks here but we have been hearing about other students in the southern part of Israel which is under attack," Shweta, an Indian student in the city of Bersheva, told NDTV. "The situation is very



unpredictable. But the city is safer than the other parts of Israel as of now," said another student. Immigration of Indians to Israel started between 1950s-60s. In recent years, Jews from Mizoram, Manipur have migrated to Israel. The Indian embassy at Jerusalem and the Representative Office of India in Palestine on

Saturday issued advisories asking Indian nationals in respective countries to "remain vigilant" and "directly contact the Office" in case of emergency as a full-fledged war broke out between the ruling Hamas group in the Gaza Strip and Israel. Gunmen from the Hamas rampaged through Israeli towns on Saturday,

killing and escaping with dozens of hostages in by far the deadliest day of violence in Israel since the Yom Kippur war 50 years ago.

Listen to the latest songs, only on JioSaavn.com Bodies of Israeli civilians were strewn across the streets of Sderot in southern Israel, near Gaza, surrounded by broken glass, reported news agency Reuters. The escalation comes against a backdrop of surging violence between Israel and Palestinian terrorists in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, where a Palestinian authority exercises limited self-rule, opposed by Hamas that wants Israel destroyed.

## Mundra Port Celebrates 25 Years Of Stellar Operations, Unparalleled Growth

**New Delhi:** Commemorating a landmark journey, Mundra Port celebrated 25 years of path-breaking operations, highlighting its expansion and evolution as one of the largest ports globally. Since berthing its first ship, MT Alpha on 7 October, 1998, the port has consistently demonstrated a visionary approach, unwavering ambition and impeccable execution, positioning itself as one of

the premier and technologically advanced ports on the global map. Commenting on the occasion, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani said, "Mundra, for me, is much more than just a port. It is the beachhead of a horizon of possibilities for the entire Adani Group." "25 years ago, when we started the journey, we dreamt of a beacon that would represent India's march forward. The

heartbeat of this commitment resonates not just in Mundra but throughout the nation and echoes in the confidence of every stakeholder who had the faith to sail on this journey with us," he said. "As we mark our silver jubilee, Mundra stands as a testament to the wonders that can unfurl when foresight, tenacity and a united community converge. Along with our employees and partners,

we did not merely construct a port; we sculpted an emblem of global excellence, transforming an entire region and crafting new blueprints. Our confidence has never been higher and Mundra will continue to trailblaze, setting benchmarks on the global canvas," Mr Adani said. Emerging as a crucial trade gateway, Mundra Port has grown into a

multimodal hub that drives trade and fortifies economic progression. From its modest inception, it has ascended to prominence and has contributed over ₹ 2.25 lakh crore to the state and national exchequer in the past 25 years, emphasising its central role in India's economic framework. Also, it has generated employment exceeding 7.5 crore man-days since inception.

## BJD's 'Public Relations Walk' Marches Forward in Astarang, Strengthening Community Connections

**Bhubaneswar ,(KCN):** Since Gandhi Jayanti, the 'public relations walk' initiated by Biju Janata Dal (BJD) President and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has been traversing every constituency in Odisha, striving to inform households about the state government's public welfare schemes and their potential benefits. In this context, today in Astaranga Block Zone No-1 of Kakatpur constituency, BJD youth leader, State BJD Secretary, and Puri District Council Vice Chairperson Swadhin Kumar Nayak

spearheaded the march, witnessing an impressive turnout of over a thousand dedicated party workers. The rally culminated at Pir Jahania Pitha, serving as an educational platform to acquaint residents with the state government's array of public welfare schemes. BJD leaders took the opportunity to underscore the party's commitment to social and environmental initiatives, showcasing their involvement in activities like blood donation drives and tree planting campaigns. Kakatpur



MLA and State Home Minister Tusharkanti Behera motivated the party workers, urging them to collaborate with grassroots-level individuals to bolster the Chief Minister's visionary initiatives. Notable personalities such as Kakatpur BJD Youth Leader Prafulla Kumar Behera, Block President Kedar Nath Biswal, Block Youth BJD President Prashant Naik, District Council Member Saraswati Swain, Banita Behera, Senior BJD Leader and Samiti Member Bimbahar Biswal, Panchanan Swain, Kunja Bihari

Pradhan, MP Representative Champak Barik, and minister's representative Bhimasen Swain actively participated in the march. The event drew spirited engagement from all party-elected panchayat representatives and fervent supporters. This relentless 'public relations walk' by the BJD continues to serve as a pivotal endeavor, bridging the gap between the government and the people of Odisha, by increasing awareness of welfare schemes and fostering community involvement in social and environmental initiatives.

## KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS RAJAT JAYANTI WOMEN CRICKET FRIENDLIES FROM 08 TO 12 OCTOBER 2023



**Srinagar(Aasif Malik ):**As part of Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav, Women Cricket Friendly matches are being organised by Indian Army alongwith Aseem Foundation, Pune from 08 to 12 October 2023 at Sopore, Chandigarh and Hajin. These matches are receiving overwhelming response across Kashmir. The first match was played between Aseem Eleven and Sopore Thunder Strikers at Subhana Stadium, Sopore. In a keenly contested match Aseem XI were put to bat first & they set up a target of 99 runs. Sopore Thunder Strikers emerged victorious by five wkts.

The sporting spirit and support displayed by the spectators is testimony to the rich culture and encouragement to women in sports across Kashmir. This unique endeavour has sent a strong signal of 'Women Empowerment' for women cricketers of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir who showcased their talent and standards to all. Players and locals hailed the efforts of the Indian Army and Aseem Foundation, Pune and urged them to organise similar tournaments in future as well, as such tournaments would encourage the local players and help them to compete at National level.

The Chief Guest for the event was Veer Nari Mrs Zarina Akhter w/o L/Nk (Late) Gh Mohd Khan, a Vir Chakra awardee of the Kargil War. Gh Mohd Khan made the supreme sacrifice during the Kargil War in 1999. For his valour and gallant action, Gh Mohd was awarded the Vir Chakra posthumously. The organisers, participating teams & spectators paid their heartfelt tribute to the bravehearts of the Kargil War. The event was attended by GOC Kilo Force, Government officials and large number of youth and locals from the adjoining areas.

## Indian Army organised Gujjar And Bakarwal mela at Chak Kigam Village Of North Kashmir Kupwara

**Kupwara Kashmir(Aasif Malik):** Gujjar & Bakarwal mela was an arrangement of cultural & sports activities performed by locals and school children. The mela commenced with a horse race followed by cultural performances from school students of various schools of the area.

During the event various fun filled activities and games were also organised. Locals were enthusiastically engaged in deriving knowledge from numerous stalls from horticulture and handicraft department which were on display during the mela. During mela medical camp and Agnipath scheme awareness info cell was also established. The mela was attended by various famous local dignitaries to include DDC, Govt officials and



important personalities from the Gujjar community. Mela witnessed a footfall of around 1150 locals. The mela left a lasting impression on large audience who witnessed

this one of the kind event. The school staff and locals applauded the opportunity given to the youth to hone their hidden talents in different games and cultural programmes.



# Bhetghat With BJD Show 175 CR For SDCs

**Balangir(KCN):** Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Balangir District Unit Organized a massive Nuakhai Bhetghat here on 7 October with huge participation making it a big show of unity.

Team BJD Balangir led by BJD Veteran Anang Udaya Singh Deo presented an impressive show, where former MP Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo and Young BJD Leader Aarkesh Narayan Singh Deo graced the occasion.

BJD District Observer and Former Minister Susanta Singh and other senior leaders including Chairperson of Balangir Municipality, Lika Sahu led the rally, which went across the town.

BJD Veteran Shri A U



Singh Deo elaborated the development process and thanked BJD Supremo and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for helping out the entire District of Balangir in scaling up the development to next level.

Former MP Kalikesh N Singh Deo lauded efforts

of the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for ensuring accelerated development of Balangir District.

Former Minister and BJD District Observer Shri Singh said that the Governing Party led Government has all along paid attention to Western Odisha in a big

way. Young BJD Leader Arkesh N Singh Deo cheered the youth and lauded their efforts to keep 'BJD Flag Flying High' in the district.

Shri Singh Deo said 'Nuakhai Bhetghat' has given an opportunity for all the leaders and workers of the Regional Political Party to get united and

raise the aspirations of the people of the State.

Nuakhai Bhetghat presented an impressive presence of Youth, Women and Men, where Speakers lauded the efforts of the State Government for accelerating development process under 5T Charter and Mo Sarkar.

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today approved an additional grant of Rs 175.5 crore for Special Development Council (SDC) constituted in nine different districts for the welfare of tribals. According to officials, the amount will be spent on preserving the language, art, culture, and heritage of Adivasis (tribals). This additional grant will be available along with the normal grant of Rs 175.5 crore for the current year. This was revealed by Secretary to CM, V K Pandian during a discussion with Chairpersons of the SDCs today. The SDC will receive a total grant of Rs 351 crore this year. With this



announcement, the chairpersons and members of the nine SDCs who were present during the discussion through video conferencing expressed their happiness and thanked the State Government for its continuous support.

Notably, the State Government has constituted Special Development Councils (SDCs) in the nine districts of Koraput, Malkangiri, Gajapati, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada, Keonjhar, Kandhamal, Sundargarh and Nabarangpur.

## Cycling For Clean Air



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Satyabrata Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Revenue & Disaster Management and Special Relief Commissioner has flagged off a Cycle Rally organized by State Pollution Control Board, Odisha on 9 September to celebrate the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. The largely attended Cycle Rally was organized in collaboration with the Centre for Environmental Studies (CES), Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department of Government of Odisha, to campaign for public participation towards improving air quality.

ACS FE&CC Shri Sahu said that Air pollution is a global issue, which leads to serious health effects to human beings. Realising this challenge,

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

Lalit Das, Director General Printing Stationary and Publication, Odisha graced the occasion. Top Cop, Shri Das is an avid cyclist and has been promoting the cause of cycling in the State and the subject is close to his heart.

In fact eminent author Irish Murdock, in his famous 1965 novel "The

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

Dr. Murugesan, who is also the Director Environment, said that to improve air quality in 131 non-attainment cities of India, Government of India has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and Government of Odisha is implementing various action plans, where people are involved through public outreach programs. He said that another project Mission LiFE, launched by Government of India also demands to adopt environment friendly lifestyle for better environmental conditions.

Outdoor cycling has been considered as a

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

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

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

## Defunct solar drinking water project irks residents

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

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

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

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

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

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

the head office in Bhubaneswar about the project. A team of officials will visit the village soon to repair it."

Erratic power failure is the main reason behind the non-functioning of pumps in many areas and to address the issue, the government had installed solar pumps for drinking water project in our village. But we are in deep trouble after the solar system became defunct, said Sangran Rout, a retired teacher of Chata village.



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## Vitesco Technologies aims to achieve 100% carbon neutral production by 2030

Pune :Vitesco Technologies a leading international manufacturer of modern drive technologies and electrification solutions recently celebrated the second anniversary of its Pune facility. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun, Senior Vice President of Operations at Vitesco Technologies, visited the facility to commemorate the occasion. The facility is spread across 20 acres and contains more than 17580 m<sup>2</sup> of manufacturing space, including over 900 employees.

The Pune plant, like all Vitesco Technologies facilities, serves its grid demand entirely through renewable energy sources. Furthermore, the site generates sustainable electricity. All new photovoltaic systems have been built

in the Talegaon facility, generating 03 GWh of electricity from solar energy. The installed capacity is currently 2.6 MW, with the company aiming to increase it to 3.6MW by the end of the year. The facility is also strongly driving automation, digitization, and Industry 4.0, with over 25 cobots and robots installed on the production lines and shopfloor. During his tour of the facility, Dr. Hans-Jürgen Braun Head of Operations at Vitesco Technologies said “We have a clear vision of the key characteristics of the plant of the future, which are sustainable, smart, and predictive. And our plant in Pune already embodies these qualities with highly automated production lines, state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 solutions and a strong

focus on sustainability. But what is most important for me is the highly motivated team, because I genuinely believe that people, not only technology, will shape the plant of the future. I am very impressed with India’s business competency and the employees’ enthusiasm to support us on this journey.

Dr. Braun further highlighted that “The carbon footprint must be dramatically decreased to combat climate change, which is one of the major issues of our time. We must take on responsibility for our environment. As a result, the plant of the future must be climate-neutral in operation. That is why I am proud that the plant in Pune has truly established itself as a driver of sustainability.

## Spice Money nearly doubles its nanopreneur (Adhikari) network hitting 1 million milestone in FY22

New Delhi: Spice Money, India’s leading rural fintech that is revolutionising the way Bharat banks, achieved the significant milestone of 1 million Adhikaris (nanopreneurs) in FY22, growing by nearly double over the last financial year. Spice Money’s strategy, to provide the first-of-its-kind zero investment model, continues to yield results and growth in Adhikaris. This network is spread across rural India covering more than 95% rural pincodes, 700+ districts serving a base of over 100 million consumers, through the Spice Money app and web portal.

In FY23 Spice Money aims to expand into other digital and financial services. The company will consolidate its ATM, banking and payments

business, while scaling its enterprise Cash Management Services (CMS) business. The company, additionally, will be introducing a financial products & services marketplace which will offer solutions such as insurance, credit etc. Considering the crucial role agriculture plays in the rural economy, Spice Money will also venture into digital solutions for the industry. With the country emerging from the pandemic, Spice Money will expand its travel tech platform, Travel Union, to offer a first-of-its-kind solution for all travel agents in semi-urban and rural India. Through its phygital super app, the company will disseminate multiple digital services including education, ecommerce

and healthcare to the masses. On this occasion, Dilip Modi, Founder, Spice Money said “FY22 has witnessed commendable growth, with Spice Money showcasing consistent double-digit growth over the past eight quarters.

We continue to remain bullish about rapid adoption of digital services in rural India, as we aim to foray into new business segments in FY23. Spice Money’s phygital super app will further help rural communities get essential services like basic banking, payment services, financial services, travel services and entrepreneur solutions along with healthcare and e-commerce at their doorstep, assisted by Spice Money’s 1 million+ Adhikaris.

## Sterlite Power wins orders worth INR 1600 crores

New Delhi: Sterlite Power, a leading power transmission developer and solutions provider, has secured multiple orders worth ~INR 1600 crores across its Solutions business in the domestic and international markets.

The company has secured orders from customers like Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), and West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL) in the MSI (Master System Integrator) segment. The orders are for the installation and supply of high-performance conductors and rectoring solutions for transmission projects. In the Products segment, Sterlite Power has acquired strategic maiden orders of EHV cables for state transmission utilities in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka and orders for overhead lines from large and reputed international

customers in North America and CIS regions.

Commenting on the order wins, Mr. Manish Agarwal, CEO – India Transmission Business, Sterlite Power, said, “We are happy to win these new orders across our Solutions business which significantly adds to our robust orderbook. Our integrated model provides us with a strategic advantage in delivering complex projects successfully while also diversifying our revenue base.”

As part of its Solutions business unit, the company manufactures and sells a diversified portfolio of products, covering high performance conductors, OPGW and EHV power cables, to international customers, including central and state electricity transmission companies, transmission developers and engineering, procurement, and construction (“EPC”) contractors. Further, its MSI sub-unit is a provider of specialty contracting services, delivering bespoke solutions for the upgrade, uprate and fiberization of brownfield transmission infrastructure projects. In addition, the company also offers underground EHV turnkey services including cable laying and substation development.

Under its infrastructure business segment, where the company bids to develop transmission projects, it has recently won inter-state transmission system projects in J&K as well as north-east India which will play a pivotal role in connecting clean and green power to the national grid. The Kishtwar transmission project is based in Jammu & Kashmir and comprises a 400/132kV GIS substation at Kishtwar and 400 kV Kishenpur - Dulhasti LILO (Line in Line out) transmission line.

# Aakash+BYJU’S launches Aakash AudiPREP

New Delhi: Upholding its reputation of leveraging cutting-edge technologies and innovation to deliver the best, Aakash + BYJU’S, India’s leader in test preparatory services, has introduced the Aakash AudiPREP -- India’s first comprehensive audiobook for NEET aspirants.

Aakash AudiPREP is an innovative web and app-based audiobook containing podcasts of scientifically designed study materials designed by experts. The audiobook lends detailed insight into Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology curriculum which will be incredibly useful for Class XI and XII students to crack the medical entrance

examination.

Riding on digital transformation, AudiPREP aims to provide efficient and effective learning through a multi-sensory learning approach. The audiobook makes the process of revision of lessons anytime and where more convenient. The audiobook also encompasses a special feature called spaced repetition that assists students in grasping and retaining dry subjects easily. It is an effective and efficient tool for better time utilization. The audiobook offers some exciting features such as high-quality audio content with proper modulation and clear pronunciation curated by Aakash

experts and a compilation of subject-wise previous year questionnaires called NEETY GRITTY. It also offers powerful mnemonics, elaborative explanations of diagrams, tables and flow charts to improve the retention power of the students.

The audiobook also entails a Content Builder feature which covers relevant NEET concepts even beyond the NCERT syllabus and has interactive quick quizzes for self-assessment aiding in practising and preparing in a fun way. AudiPREP also provides a quick recap at the end of each chapter for rapid revision and cluster of important formulae making complex

concepts engaging and easier to understand.

Commenting on the launch of AudiPREP, Mr Aakash Chaudhry, Managing Director, Aakash+BYJU’S, said, “We are a forward-looking organization and to honour our student’s first approach, we are constantly innovating to bring in the best technologies that provide a conducive learning environment. We are a pioneer of many educational trends in the industry. AudiPREP is yet another path-breaking tool giving NEET aspirants the extra edge. The comprehensive audiobooks offer high-quality study materials curated by experienced teachers and engage

students by appealing to their multisensory learning.”

AudiPREP is a portable audiobook solution enabling the best utilization of time. One can listen and learn anytime, anywhere at their convenience. The tool also facilitates spaced repetition which is scientifically proven to improve long term memory recall. The audiobook also capacitates multisensory learning by encompassing visual sense through printed study material, hearing through audio recordings while arousing the sense of touch through writing my underlining the keywords and taking running notes.

## Lifestyle announces launch of Miss Raja Season 2 contest to celebrate Raja Parba in Odisha

Bhubaneswar :

Lifestyle, India’s leading fashion destination, announces its second season of Lifestyle Miss Raja in Bhubaneswar, to celebrate the occasion of Raja Parba. The #LifestyleMissRaja2022 contest aims to showcase the passion and unique fashion sensibilities of the city’s young women. The three-day festival in Odisha, which is a celebration of womanhood, will be commemorated by Lifestyle through its 2nd season of Miss Raja Parba contest. Popular Ollywood actress Bhoomika Dash announced the contest on 27th May on her social

media. #LifestyleMissRaja2022

welcomes young women from Bhubaneswar to participate in the contest by uploading their most stylist picture on Instagram using the hashtag and tagging @LifestyleStores. The entries would be evaluated basis the stylish look created, and the number of likes garnered on the post. 10 pre-finalists will be announced on the 9th of June and invited for a stylish makeover in Lifestyle’s newest trends by an industry expert and photographed professionally. These images will be further posted by the pre-finalists on their Instagram page for a voting round. The

contest will culminate on the 15th of June with the announcement of the winner with the highest votes. The grand finale will be conducted at the Lifestyle store in Esplanade One Mall and will have none other than the popular actress Bhoomika Dash announce the Lifestyle Miss Parba of 2022 and hand over voucher worth Rs. 50,000. The contest is being aggressively promoted through different online and offline avenues.

All the young fashionistas of Bhubaneswar who aspire to be successful models, #LifestyleMissRaja2022 provides a perfect platform to be recognized

for one’s great fashion sense.

Announcing the contest, celebrity Bhoomika Dash said, “I feel glad to be associated with Lifestyle for the 2nd season of #LifestyleMissRaja2022 contest. This is a great way for the brand to connect with the young women of Bhubaneswar. Lifestyle is best known for its latest and trendy fashion collection across all categories with an affordable price range. Do visit the Lifestyle store at Esplanade mall for your Raja Parba shopping!”

Rohini Haldea, Assistant Vice President - Marketing, Lifestyle said,

“Celebrating the Raja Parba Fest in Bhubaneswar has been a great experience for us. The passion and enthusiasm of the participants truly fuel the energy of the contest. Lifestyle, with its trendy festive collection and #LifestyleMissRaja2022, proudly celebrates the festival with the young women of Bhubaneswar as a true ode to womanhood.”

Lifestyle offers a great range of ethnic wear with vibrant colours and modern silhouettes that perfectly capture the vibe of the festive season.

## EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAIT SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

**Singapore:** Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a S\$50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the Airline’s main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around

1,150 customers within their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The Airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said:

“Extensive customer engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy thoughtfully curated product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey.

“Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA’s premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport’s anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore’s future as a pre-eminent global air hub.”

## WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

**Barcelona:** Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education.

As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC’s goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge

production, policy dialogue, exchange, and networking.

Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called “Universities’ Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective”. Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations’ list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit.

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,



# Fearlessness stands out in South Africa's batting machinery

**New Delhi:** Bishan Singh Bedi has given cricket so much, and still his gifts keep coming. On Saturday the stand that bears his name and curves along the western boundary at the ground formerly known as the Kotla bequeathed a generous pool of shade that spread and deepened as the sun sank behind it. The spectators gathered there would have been relieved to escape the sharp end of the 38-degree heat. But they still had to breathe air rated, forebodingly, as "very unhealthy". It stained the sky the colour of a bedraggled dish towel, which had holes ripped into it by Delhi's famous swooping and swirling black kites. Not that Sri Lanka had time or opportunity for bird-watching, even though they spent much of the afternoon looking upward. They did so in search of the ball that South Africa's batters

had sent booming boundaryward. The Lankans couldn't hide from the heat, and their increasingly heaving gasps as they chased leather meant they took in more of the dirty air than anyone else. Except, perhaps, for Quinton de Kock, Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram, who spent an accumulated 405 minutes - verging on seven hours - batting in the soupy stickiness. They scored 100, 108 and 106 to propel South Africa to 428/5, the highest total in all 440 games played in men's World Cup history. How long did Markram think that would be the benchmark? "The way batters are playing nowadays you wouldn't be surprised if that record is broken in this competition," he said, a startling admission for someone whose ton had come off 49 balls. That made it the fastest



of all the 201 centuries in the tournament's annals, while the 204 De Kock and Van der Dussen shared off 174 is South Africa's biggest stand for any wicket in their 81 ODIs against the Lankans. How much of the way the South Africans batted was plotted and how much is what happens when a team's innings grows wings bigger and stronger than a black

kite's? "You do a lot of planning before the game," Markram said. "It's natural for teams to speculate about conditions, especially for South Africans coming over to India. You're not always 100% sure how it's going to play. "Then you get out there and the wicket starts playing really well. It's initially a big sigh of relief, and secondly your

instinct takes over and it becomes a see-ball, hit-ball mentality. Marrying the two of them is crucial." Markram, one of the more demure players in the game, let loose a mighty yawp when he reached his century. De Kock and Van der Dussen, too, didn't try to stave off animated celebrations. They gave rise to images of three bottles of freshly

uncorked champagne. "It's quite strange; you almost get this thing that takes over your body at certain moments," Markram said. "There's a lot of passion in this team to give our absolute all at this World Cup and see how far it can get us. "We've been known to start slowly so we put a lot of emphasis on today's game, to start well and play the same cricket we've been playing to manage to sneak into this competition. All of those emotions mixed up and building up comes out." In fact South Africa have won six of their eight opening matches at a World Cup. But the two they lost became attached to memories they would prefer not to have: at home in 2003, when they crashed out of the tournament in the pool stage, and in England in 2019, when they slumped to their worst performance in the

event by losing five of their completed eight matches. So Saturday's success meant more, to the players, than just one win. Similarly, with South Africa building a wall of runs and records it wasn't a day for picking out particular strokes. But De Kock's sweetly timed off-side dab in the 31st to a wide delivery from Matheesha Pathirana, sending it scooting away for four, stood out. As did David Miller hitting Kasun Rajitha into the stratosphere for a straight six to end the 49th, which had Tabraiz Shamsi in the dugout covering his mouth with his hand in empathy. And to think so brutal an onslaught had begun placidly, with De Kock and Van der Dussen needing until midway through the 18th to bring up the hundred. The Lankans had put some back into their new-ball effort and occasional

deliveries skidded on, which was how Temba Bavuma was trapped in front by Dilshan Madushanka in the third. But the effects of the sun, the air, the flattening pitch and the small, fast outfield mounted, and the South Africans escaped the leash in the 23rd. With De Kock hitting Dhananjaya de Silva for four through the covers and six over long-on, the over went for a dozen runs and took South Africa's runrate for the innings into double figures. They never looked back. Even Bedi might have struggled to reel them in. That Sri Lanka fielded judiciously told its own story. How many more runs would they have haemorrhaged had they been sloppy? The crowd of 15,496 would have swelled the stands and grass banks in most of South Africa's major grounds, but in Delhi they amounted to little more than a third of capacity.

## Mehidy wants to replicate U19 success on biggest stage

**New Delhi:** Bangladesh's Mehidy Hasan said on Saturday that he dreams of replicating his 2016 Under-19 World Cup performance on the big stage. Mehidy came into the spotlight by grabbing the Player-of-the-Tournament award in the biggest age-level global event, making 242 runs and picking 12 wickets. However, with time, he became the leading off-spinner of his country. His potential with the bat took a back seat, but lately he has developed his batting to such an extent that he can surely be considered a full-fledged all-rounder. He looks set to make a mark, leading both with bat and ball with an all-round performance against the Afghans in their tournament opener in Dharamsala. "If I can perform all-round in a big tournament, it will be a huge achievement for me



and for the team as well. I certainly have that dream of translating the performance of the 2016 Under-19 World Cup," Mehidy told reporters at the post-match. Mehidy, who was recently promoted to number three after making two fifties in the warm-ups against Sri Lanka and England, added that he has been preparing mentally since the India series to score runs regularly. "I am scoring runs from

the India series because I have worked really hard on my batting. I was thinking about how I can bat well because if I can, the team will benefit, and I prepared mentally for that. The team supported me a lot and played me in different positions, and that is a big thing for me," said Mehidy. "Adapting is the key, and not only me. If you want to achieve something, you need to adapt. I always batted at eight, and there you cannot

always score runs because you have fewer balls to face. But I prepared mentally in such a way that if I get an opportunity, I could give my hundred percent and am always thinking about what to do," he said. "In different positions, the situation is different, and what I feel is that because I have been given an opportunity, I should seize it. It is better to bat anywhere up in the order than to come down and bat at eight because I believe that I can bat. Certainly, there are problems, but I don't take that to my head. I have to perform for the team at any position because at the end of the day, we play for our team, and today everyone in Bangladesh is happy because we won the game. Mehidy revealed that skipper Shakib al Hasan's advice during the drinks break helped him get his bowling back on track. "I didn't bowl well in the

first over and gave away nine runs, and at that point, I was a bit nervous. Shakib bhai told me not to bowl with a negative mindset; that I have to have a positive mind. In this kind of big tournament, you have to have a positive mindset, and there is no problem if I leak runs, but the batters need to charge me and try to score runs. These little things help a lot," he said. Shoriful Islam echoed Mehidy's sentiment on replicating U19 success on the biggest stage but reminded of what's different in senior men's cricket. "That was U-19s... now it is the ODI World Cup, the main World Cup. The difference is that there are world-class batsmen here. The U-19s also has good batsmen, but not like this. Every batsman here is very good; they charge at the ball when the bowler doesn't bowl the correct length here."

**New Delhi:** The condition of the outfield at the HPCA stadium in Dharamsala was once again called into question in what was its first game of the 2023 World Cup. The outfield had looked patchy and devoid of enough grass cover even on the eve of the game, and nearly led to an injury in Saturday's fixture. Afghanistan's Mujeeb-Ur-Rahman attempted a dive at deep backward square leg but ended up jamming his knee into the hard ground and fell awkwardly as some of the mud kicked up on impact. A member of the Afghanistan team management told Cricbuzz that in the current condition, the venue isn't ready for international cricket. "Yeah, it is sad to see. It is a beautiful place to play cricket...it [outfield] is not ready for international cricket. Not okay. Right now it is not

good for international cricket. Maybe it is because of rain... but yeah it is not ready now," he said. "The curator says lots of rain happened but if it continues like this, someone will get injured on the ground. No one wants to dive or slide and in cricket you should be able to do that," he added. This isn't the first time the outfield has been under the scanner. Earlier this year, the third Test between India and Australia was shifted out owing to the 'lack of grass density' in the outfield. In mid-September, there was reported to have been a fungus infestation on the outfield that had to be sorted out quickly. Afghanistan head coach Jonathan Trott revealed that the conditions were such that players were unsure of whether they could dive, and that Mujeeb was lucky to get away without a serious

injury. "If you've got players unsure of whether they can dive...", Trott said in the post-match press conference. "We see the product of cricket all around the world where players are taught and encouraged to improve their fielding. Then when you've got players worried about getting injured... we're lucky Mujeeb hasn't got a serious knee injury towards the end." "Yes he probably shouldn't have dived with his knee but I think it was Devon Conway earlier from New Zealand... It's something for them [organisers] to look at. I'm definitely not putting any blame on that, but that's something to keep an eye on for the future," he said. In just two more days' time, the next game at this venue - between Bangladesh and England - will take place while India will play New Zealand here on October 22.

## Shakeel finds opportunity amidst adversity

**New Delhi:** There'll probably be better days in Saud Shakeel's career when he doesn't have to find ways to 'fit in'. He would hope his knock in Pakistan's World Cup opener against Netherlands - a 52-ball 68 - would be the start of that. Despite an 81-run win to kickstart their World Cup campaign on Friday, it was a far-from-perfect show for Pakistan, especially with the bat. They were restricted to 286, which Mohammad Rizwan claims the team was confident was going to be a winning total. However, given the scores around the range of 350 being

notched up at the same venue over the two warm-up matches in the last week, it was well below par and one that made their opponents feel quite happy with their bowling performance. Shakeel walked out to bat when Pakistan were in dire straits. Fakhar Zaman had yet again fallen to the full, swinging delivery - this time chipping the ball back to the bowler. I m a m - u l - H a q registered another low score, while Babar Azam pulled Colin A c k e r m a n n ' s innocuous delivery straight to the mid wicket fielder, reducing the side to 38 for 3 in the 10th over.

For Shakeel, batting at No.5, the opportunity presented itself - to make an impression when the team was in trouble, with ample overs to play. Despite a nervy start, he led that. I took a chance. I was trying to stay positive and kept attacking the bowlers I had targeted," Shakeel said about his knock. In the recently concluded Asia Cup, he was used primarily as a back-up for Agha Salman, who offered additional bowling skills. However, he made a strong impression with a classy 53-ball 75 in Pakistan's first World Cup warm-up clash against New Zealand.

Rizwan bhai's role was to go long but my plan was simple. I had focused on a few bowlers of the Netherlands. If I had to hit from above, I would take a chance. I did that. I took a chance. I was trying to stay positive and kept attacking the bowlers I had targeted," Shakeel said about his knock. In the recently concluded Asia Cup, he was used primarily as a back-up for Agha Salman, who offered additional bowling skills. However, he made a strong impression with a classy 53-ball 75 in Pakistan's first World Cup warm-up clash against New Zealand.



With Pakistan fielding five frontline bowlers already in the XI and the additional part-time option of Iftikhar Ahmed to use, they opted to go for Shakeel

ahead of Salman even though the former didn't get a chance to play the second warm-up. However, he admits, "I knew sometime back

that I would play this match. I played a warm-up match and I had good batting there." A free-flowing left-hander, the 28-year-old southpaw's limited overs career has not really taken off. Having made his debut more than two years ago, he had managed to feature in only six ODIs before the World Cup. His selection in the 50-over side itself had come at the back of his impressive form in Test cricket, as a means to fix the middle order woes. But a switch in format necessitated a bit of batting evolution.

"I think it [Test cricket] is the most difficult format, you know that. So, when you perform well there, you gain a lot of confidence," Shakeel said after his match-winning performance on Friday. "I think I performed very well in the Test matches, so my confidence level was very high. "But at the same time, I was focusing a lot on my white-ball cricket. I was focusing a lot on my game. I could see that my numbers for playing for Pakistan were 5-6 (batting order). Babar Azam plays at 3 and Rizwan plays at 4. I tried to develop my game and worked hard for it.