

Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantaray Elected President of IFSMN



New Delhi (KCN Bureau):The Indian federation of Small and Medium Newspaper successfully convened its general meeting as per the pre-scheduled programme at the Jagannath Temple Auditorium, Hauz Khas, New Delhi. The meeting was held under the supervision of the organization's Chief Election Officer overseeing the election process for the 2025–2027 term in accordance with the federation's constitution. In a significant development, Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantaray was unanimously elected as the National President. He was entrusted with the authority to empower nominate individuals and to spearhead the future expansion of the organization. Following the election, the newly elected National President made key appointments- B.S. Deshpande as National General Secretary, Virendra Kumar Saini as National Treasurer, Surendra Verma, Shankar Kodala, CHM Malikarjun and Mrs. Candy Mishra as National Vice Presidents, Mrs. Sunita Upadhyay, Dheeraj Kumar, Narendra Babu, Radhashyam Panda and Mrs. Shivani Jalota as Deputy General Secretaries, Aman Narayan Swami, Uday Simha and AL Vasavagouda were appointed as National Executive Members. Additionally, Santosh Kumar yadu was named Coordinator for



Chhattisgarh while Bhanupratap Nayak took charge as Coordinator for Odisha. Navneet Rawat was appointed as the National Media Incharge. The election saw participation from a wide array of

representatives across various states including distinguished personalities such as Satyanarayan Chaturvedi, Bhanupratap Nayak, Shivshankar, Pushpak Mitrovani, AK Basu, Mrs. Nirbharti, Bandya Karwatak, Alok Kumar, Tahir Ahmed and Priyabati Nayak. The electoral proceedings were conducted under the careful supervision of Mehtab Khan Chand, National Convenor Convenor & Satyanarayan chaturvedi ,National coordinator

To celebrate the occasion, all newly elected officials were honoured with garlands, bouquets and election certificates amidst a spirit of unity and enthusiasm. The meeting concluded with a solemn two-minute silence, paying tribute to the souls lost in the tragic incident at Pahalgam. Heartfelt prayers were offered for the departed.

CM Majhi Reviews 'Jadu Pedi' Kits To Boost Early Childhood Learning



Bhubaneswar(KCN):In a significant move to enhance early education through play and joyful learning, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Chara Majhi on Tuesday reviewed the innovative 'Jadu Padi' (Magic Box) learning kits, designed for students of Shishu Vatika, Class 1, and Class 2. These kits have been developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. During a review meeting at Lok Seva Bhawan, the Chief Minister expressed satisfaction after examining the kits. "These learning toys will help young children learn through play, using materials familiar to their surroundings. This will make learning more engaging and enjoyable for them," he said. The initiative is being implemented by the

School and Mass Education Department. Commissioner-cum-Secretary Shalini Pandit briefed the Chief Minister on the contents and educational value of the kits. Each kit costs around Rs 20,000, and the State Government plans to distribute them to 45,000 schools across Odisha. The total project cost stands at Rs 90 crore. The programme aims to develop foundational skills in children by sparking curiosity and making the learning experience more joyful and interactive. The play-based learning programme, developed by the NCERT, targets children aged 3 to 8 years. It focusses on fostering cognitive growth, emotional well-being, and foundational skills in language and mathematics. In February 2023, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched the kits as a

tool for foundational-stage teaching and learning, promoting the motto ‘Learning through Play.’

Jadu Padi is a versatile and engaging resource that supports experiential learning, contributing to the holistic development of children — cognitively, socially, emotionally, and physically. According to the National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) 2022, children learn best through play — talking, listening, using toys, painting, drawing, singing, dancing, and physical activities like running and jumping. The kits include playbooks, toys, puzzles, posters, flashcards, storybooks, and worksheets, all reflecting local culture, languages, and social contexts. Available in 13 Indian languages, the kits are designed to meet the diverse learning needs of children.

PM Modi's Emergency War Room Meet In Progress, Decisive Strike On Terror Looms

New Delhi(KCN): In what is being seen as a potential turning point in India's war against cross-border terrorism, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is holding a high-level security meeting with the country's top defence brass, fuelling intense speculation about imminent, decisive action against Pakistan-based terror networks. The emergency meeting is being attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and the Chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Sources close to the developments described the gathering as



“extraordinary in urgency and nature”, coming just days after the brutal Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 innocent lives, most of them tourists. According to sources, the agenda of the meeting is to review actionable intelligence and explore a range of military and strategic

options aimed at dismantling terrorist infrastructure across the border. Pakistan-based outfits like Lashkar-e-Taiba, believed to be behind the Pahalgam carnage, are under intense scrutiny. After the Pahalgam terror attack, military forces of the country

have been put on heightened alert, with specific units along the Line of Control and international border in operational readiness mode. Surveillance drones, satellite imagery, and electronic intercepts have been intensively monitoring terror launchpads across PoK.

This high-level huddle follows a series of strong steps already taken by the Centre, including the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty and the expulsion order for Pakistani nationals with short-term visas.

The Prime Minister had earlier vowed to pursue every terrorist and their backers “to the ends of the earth”. Tuesday’s meeting is being viewed as the beginning of that pledge materialising into action. While official word remains guarded, the mood in Delhi is unmistakably tense and resolute. The nation now waits, as the crosshairs lock on the perpetrators of the Pahalgam bloodbath. A thunderous response may just be a heartbeat away.

ED Attaches Rs 1,428 Cr Assets Of Goldenland Group Over Illegal Deposit Schemes

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a crackdown against illegal deposit schemes, the ED's Bhubaneswar Zonal Office attached assets worth Rs 1,428 crore of Goldenland Group of Companies for duping thousands of investors by promising high returns, an official said on Tuesday.

The company and its affiliates illegally and fraudulently raised huge amounts of money from thousands of investors in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh under the garb of investment in real estate development.

The firm floated illegal financial businesses of

lump sum deposits and diverted funds to other companies, said the ED. The seizure of assets, which include bank balances amounting to Rs 15.06 crore and properties measuring 1,000 acres in various districts of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, was carried out on Tuesday under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The present market value of immovable assets attached, which also includes constructed buildings and structures.

is to the tune of Rs 1,413 crore, said the ED. The ED initiated the investigation based on an



FIR registered by the CBI, Kolkata, under various sections of the IPC, 1860, against Goldenland Group of Companies and others. The probe revealed that

suspect persons, entities and companies associated with Golden Land Developers Limited and GLP Developers Limited floated deposit schemes without any statutory nod and approval from regulatory authorities such as the RBI, SEBI and ROC. Earlier, the ED had carried out search operations against promoters/directors and owners of these companies at various locations in Odisha, Punjab, Chandigarh and Delhi on February 8, 2024, resulting in the seizure of cash and

vehicles. On Monday, in a separate case, the agency conducted searches at five locations in Hyderabad in connection with an ongoing investigation into alienation of government land for personal gains. The ED initiated the investigation based on an FIR registered by Telangana Police against private persons and government officials for the alleged illegal sale of government land involving forged documents and manipulation of revenue records.

Odisha Govt-Gates Foundation Forge Landmark Partnership For Promoting Inclusive Agriculture Transformation

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a landmark development for promoting Inclusive Agriculture Transformation in Odisha, the Government of Odisha and the Gates Foundation today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on areas that will drive growth, such as AI-enabled use cases, precision agriculture, climate-smart innovations, and enhancing the productivity of dairy and fisheries. The MoU sets the stage for a multi-year collaboration focused on technical support, research, and on-ground implementation of climate-smart agriculture practices in Odisha. This strategic partnership, anchored by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment (DAFE) and the Fisheries & Animal Resources

Development Department (FARDD), will drive science-based, ground-level interventions to promote Climate Smart Agriculture. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Deputy Chief Minister of Odisha emphasised the signing of MoU with the Gates Foundation marks a significant leap toward future-ready agriculture in Odisha. It reaffirms our Government's commitment to invest in knowledge, innovation, and partnerships that benefit farmers across the state. Alkesh Wadhvani, Director, Poverty Alleviation, Gates Foundation said that we are happy to get into the collaboration with Odisha government especially, with the agriculture & allied sectors. The MoU reinforces our continued collaboration and shared commitment to a resilient and inclusive future for



Odisha's farmers. The newly launched alliance will serve as a catalyst that will bring together the best of innovation and farmer adoption at scale – placing Odisha at the forefront of sustainable agricultural growth. Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment (DAFE), Fisheries & Animal Resources Development Department (FARDD) and the Gates Foundation also launched the Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance Odisha. It will serve as a collaborative

platform bringing together Government agencies, research institutions, start-ups, civil societies, NGOs, farmer institutions, and the private sectors to accelerate Climate Smart technology and strategy adoption and innovation. The event marked the release of a Scoping Report Series on "Data-Driven Prioritisation of Districts for Climate-Smart Agriculture in Odisha" by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP). The report

series present a district-level assessment of climate risks, resource use patterns, and emissions from agriculture—providing a blueprint for developing District-Level Climate Action Plans and piloting CSA practices tailored to local conditions.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) titled "Transforming Fallow Lands—An Impact Evaluation of the Comprehensive Rice Fallow Management Program in Odisha (CRFM)" was released. The IFPRI report evaluates the impact of the Comprehensive Rice Fallow Management (CRFM) Program in Odisha, focusing on the conversion of fallow lands and its effects on acreage and yields of pulses and oilseeds. The study provides strong evidence of increased land utilization and productivity, demonstrating how integrated data systems can effectively guide inclusive, data-driven

agricultural planning and policy. Further, the Department released Odisha Agriculture Statistics 2023-24, which is the mirror of agricultural activities in the State. Statistical information are crucial input for policy planning. Suresh Kumar Vashishth, Principal Secretary, Fisheries & Animal Resources Development Department stressed that the MoU will strengthen the fisheries and animal resources sectors through the inclusion of scientific and data-driven tools to refine the policies. Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee, Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment reiterated

that this is a unique convergence of science, policy, and partnership and this MoU will build a long partnership leveraging the international best practices to be replicated in our ecosystem with the help of a digitised platform. The partnership between DAFE, FARDD and the Gates Foundation will strengthen the digital ecosystem, expand digital services for farmers, improve export and market linkages, promote crop diversification, support agri-tech use, and advance livestock development, with attention to gender and building resilience.

Bhadrak Youth Held For Blackmailing Ex-Girlfriend With Morphed Obscene Photos

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissionerate has arrested a youth from Bhadrak on charges of blackmailing his ex-girlfriend by using morphed obscene photographs. The accused allegedly circulated the edited images on various social media platforms and demanded ₹10 lakh from her. The accused has been identified as Sumit Kumar Das, a resident of Bhadrak district. According to reports, Sumit and the victim had been in a relationship for four years. However, the relationship ended after



the victim accused him of harassment and emotional abuse towards her and her family. In retaliation to the breakup, Sumit allegedly morphed her private photographs into obscene images. He then used these manipulated photos to blackmail the girl, demanding ₹10 lakh. Later, he shared these

images across multiple social media platforms, causing significant distress to the victim. The victim, upon discovering that her morphed images had been shared online, filed a formal complaint at the Cyber Police Station in Bhubaneswar on April 10, 2025. In her complaint, she requested

immediate action against the accused. The police took swift action and tracked the accused to Bhadrak, where he was arrested. He was forwarded to court on Monday night. "Upon receiving the complaint, we initiated immediate action. The accused had edited the victim's photographs in an obscene manner and shared them widely on social media. He also demanded money. We have arrested the accused and are in the process of deleting the associated social media accounts and content," said Bhubaneswar DCP Jagmohan Meena while addressing a press briefing on Tuesday.

Health Minister Mahaling Warns Pvt Hospitals Against Negligence Under Ayushman Bharat

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha Health Minister Dr. Mukesh Mahaling has warned private hospitals against negligence in providing healthcare services under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. He emphasized that strong action will be taken against hospitals found negligent in treating patients. The minister's

remarks come after a meeting with private hospital representatives, where they raised concerns about software issues, package prices, and operational problems. Dr. Mahaling assured that the government is working to address these issues, including increasing package prices. Currently, around 5,000



patients are receiving treatment daily in private hospitals under the scheme. The government aims to ensure that no

beneficiary is left out and that healthcare services are provided without negligence. The state government is also planning to increase the Ayushman package to provide more benefits to the people. The discussion between the government and private hospitals aims to resolve the issues and improve healthcare services in Odisha.

Odisha Congress Leader Urges CM Majhi To Convene Special Assembly Session On Pahalgam Terror Attack

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Leader of the Congress Legislative Party (CLP) in the Odisha Assembly Rama Chandra Kadam has urged Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi to convene a special session of the Assembly following the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. In a formal letter addressed to CM Majhi, Kadam expressed his deep concern over the tragic incident, which he described as having "shocked the nation to its core." Emphasizing the gravity



of the situation, Kadam called for an urgent session to enable lawmakers to offer their condolences, stand in solidarity with the bereaved families, and send a powerful message against

terrorism. "In this grave moment, we urge for a special session of the Legislative Assembly be convened at the earliest. This will allow all members to express their condolences, stand

in unity with the victims and their families, and demonstrate that our fight against terrorism knows no political divisions. We request your immediate consideration," Rama Chandra Kadam wrote.



MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

2025-2026

ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com



Find us on
facebook.com/maharishiplayschool



FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER
twitter.com/maharishiplayschool

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE



REAL ESTATE

SALE

Cawasik Bajaj n tiptop condition orsale
Contact: 2555326

PURCHASE

Required a Marshal/ Commander / Bolero in good condition. Contact :555763

SALE

Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale. Contact: 9861078308

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale. Contact :0674-2556733

Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/-. The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/-. For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis. Contact : 2555763



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and foreign trip opportunity. 838904001. Independent business work from home, training in Singapore. 838904287.



MATRIMONIAL

BRIDE WANTED

Wanted bride for Chandayat Boy, 37plus, Taste no bar, 0674-255763

GROOM WANTED

Wanted Groom any service / business family or a Brahmin Girl. Contact 2555226

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamando. Contact : 9238691168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBS R contact : 9437002509

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Storied North/East facing building at Puri. Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (16,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9861079437 For Luxury Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagacity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219

WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/ Attendant/ Aya

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.

Please Contact- 8338870595

President Droupadi Murmu presents Padma Bhushan Award to actor Ajith Kumar

President Droupadi Murmu Monday presented the prestigious Padma Bhushan Award to actor Ajith Kumar at the Rashtrapati Bhavan for his contributions in the field of cinema and sports. The actor, who looked smart in a formal outfit, bowed with folded hands to all sections of the audience and the president before collecting his award from the president.

Ajith, along with his family, arrived at Delhi on Sunday night to be present for the awards presentation ceremony Monday.

It may be recalled that soon after news broke out in January this year that Ajith Kumar was to be conferred with the Padma Bhushan award, Ajith, through his publicist, expressed happiness and gratitude.

His statement, which his publicist put out on X then, read, "I am deeply humbled and honoured to receive the esteemed

Padma Award by the President of India. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu and the Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for this prestigious honour. It is a privilege to be recognized at such a level and I am truly grateful for this generous acknowledgement of my contributions to our nation."

Stating that he was mindful of the fact that the recognition was not just a personal accolade but a testament to the collective efforts and support of many, Ajith had expressed his gratitude to a number of people, beginning with his colleagues in the film industry.

The actor said, "I would like to express my sincere thanks to the members of the film industry, including my distinguished seniors, various peers, and untold others. Your inspiration,



collaboration, and support have been instrumental in my journey, including the pursuit of my passion in other areas as well."

The actor then thanked those in his rifle and racing fraternity for their support. "I am also grateful for the kind support, over the years, of the motor racing fraternity and the sports pistol and rifle shooting community. I thank the

Madras Motor Sports Club (MMSC), the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI), the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT), the National Rifle Association of India, and the Chennai Rifle Club for their encouragement of sports and the community of sportspersons," Ajith had said.

Moving on, the actor thanked his family and

friends. He wrote, "To my family and friends: Your love and support have been both a refuge and source of strength. Thank you! I wish my late father had lived to see this day. Yet, I like to think he would be proud that his spirit and legacy live on in all that I do. I want to thank my mother for her unconditional love and the sacrifices that enabled me to become all that I could be."

Stating that his wife Shalini's partnership had been a joy and a cornerstone of his success, Ajith wrote, "To Shalini, my wife and companion of nearly 25 wonderful years: Your partnership has been a joy and cornerstone of my success. And to my children, Anoushka and Aadvik: You are my pride and the light of my life, motivating me to set an example for how to do well and live right." Finally, he expressed his gratitude to his fans, supporters and well-wishers. "Lastly, to all my fans, supporters, and well-wishers: Your unwavering love and support have fueled my passion and dedication. This award is as much yours as it is mine. Thank you all for this incredible honour and for being part of this journey. I am committed to continuing to serve with integrity and passion and wish you all just as well on your own journeys. With utmost gratitude, Ajith Kumar"

India's Got Latent remarks row: SC orders return of passport to Ranveer Allahbadia

The Supreme Court Monday allowed the return of passport to podcaster Ranveer Allahbadia to enable him travel abroad over work. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh relaxed the condition after Assam and Maharashtra governments said the investigation against him was complete.

The bench asked Allahbadia to approach the Maharashtra cyber police bureau for the return of his passport. The top court also told senior advocate Abhinav Chandrachud, appearing for Allahbadia, it would consider his prayer for clubbing the FIRs against his client and bring it in one place on the next hearing.



On February 18, the top court protected Allahbadia from arrest in multiple FIRs filed over his comments during a YouTube show and directed him to deposit his passport with the investigating officer of Police Station Nodal Cyber Police, Thane. The top court March 3

allowed Allahbadia to resume his podcast "The Ranveer Show" subject to maintaining "morality and decency" and making it suitable for viewers of all ages. Allahbadia, popularly known as BeerBiceps, was booked for his comments on parents and sex on comic Samay

Raina's YouTube show "India's Got Latent". The apex court had initially restrained Allahbadia from airing any programme of his podcast which had a direct or an indirect bearing on the merits of the sub-judice cases he was involved in. On February 18, the top court granted interim protection from arrest to Allahbadia while calling his comments "vulgar" and saying he had "dirty mind" which put the society to shame. Aside from Allahbadia and Raina, others named in the case in Assam are comics Ashish Chanchlani, Jaspreet Singh and Apoorva Makhija.

Salman Khan postpones his UK tour in light of tragic Pahalgam attack

Superstar Salman Khan Monday morning announced that he has postponed his Bollywood Big One Tour, which was scheduled for May 4-5 in the UK, in light of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir. Salman took to Instagram, where he shared the poster of the tour featuring personalities such as Sara Ali Khan, Tiger Shroff, Varun Dhawan, Madhuri Dixit Nene, Kriti Sanon, Disha Patani, Sunil Grover and Maniesh Paul along with the "Dabangg star".

For the caption, Salman wrote: "In light of the recent tragic events in Kashmir, and with profound sadness, we have taken the difficult decision to request the promoters to postpone The Bollywood Big One shows, originally scheduled for May 4th and 5th in Manchester and London." He mentioned that he



understands "how much our fans were looking forward to these performances, we feel it is only right to pause during this time of grief." "We sincerely apologise for any disappointment or inconvenience this may cause and deeply appreciate your understanding and support. New dates for the shows will be announced shortly," the caption concluded. April 22, a deadly terror attack on the tourists claimed around 26 lives in the Baisaran Valley of the Indian-administered

Jammu and Kashmir region. The terrorists reportedly segregated the tourists based on their faith and shot them dead after finding out their religion. The terrorist outfit, The Resistance Front (TRF) has claimed responsibility for the attack. TRF is an offshoot of the Pakistan-based terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba and came into existence following the historic abrogation of Article 370 in the valley. Several personalities including Arijit Singh and Shreya Ghoshal have

cancelled their concert in light of the Pahalgam attack. Taking to social media April 25, Shreya shared a note on her stories: "In light of the recent and tragic events, the organisers along with the artist have collectively made the decision to cancel the upcoming show scheduled to happen in Surat this Saturday, April 26th," the organizers wrote. Shreya further assured the attendees that they would be given a full refund for the tickets. This refund would shortly be reflected in the original source of their payment. The note said, "All ticket holders will receive full refunds, and the amount will be refunded back to your original mode of payment. For any queries write to events@district.in. Thank you for your understanding." Arijit Singh had also called off his upcoming concert in Chennai after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Aamir Khan clarifies after his AI-generated poster as Guru Nanak goes viral



Aamir Khan's team recently clarified the AI-generated poster that falsely depicted the actor as Guru Nanak Dev. A fake YouTube channel circulated the content, sparking outrage. Aamir Khan's team strongly denied the actor's involvement in the viral AI-generated poster that falsely depicted the actor as Guru Nanak Dev. The matter became a point of online chatter after a fake YouTube channel impersonating a popular music company circulated the fabricated content, sparking outrage. As per Bhaskar English, Pritpal Singh Baliawal filed a complaint with the SGPC (Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee), calling it a "deliberate conspiracy to provoke the Sikh community and disturb religious harmony." An official statement from Aamir Khan's spokesperson clarified, "The poster showing Aamir Khan as Guru Nanak is completely fake and AI-generated. Aamir Khan has no connection to any such project. He holds the highest respect for Guru Nanak and would never be part of anything disrespectful. Please don't fall for fake news." As per reports, Pritpal Singh Baliawal urged the Punjab Police, Cyber Cell, and national security agencies to trace the IP and MAC addresses of those behind the incident, demanding swift arrests and criminal action. He also called upon Aamir Khan Productions to "immediately publicly condemn this fraud" and clarify their non-involvement. Meanwhile, on the work front, Aamir Khan was last seen in 'Laal Singh Chaddha'. He is currently gearing up for 'Sitaare Jameen Par', which is set to release on June 20.

Overview of Indus Waters Treaty

Pradeep Kumar Panda



The Indus Water Treaty (IWT) is a water-distribution treaty between India and Pakistan, arranged and negotiated by the World Bank, to use the water available in the Indus River and its tributaries. It was signed in Karachi on 19 September 1960 by then Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and then Pakistani President Ayub Khan. On 23 April 2025, the Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri announced a suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan following the 2025 Pahalgam attack. The Treaty gives India control over the waters of the three 'Eastern Rivers'- the Beas, Ravi and Sutlej, -which have a total mean annual flow of 41 billion cubic metres. Control over the three 'Western Rivers'- the Indus, Chenab and Jhelum- which have a total mean annual flow of 99 billion cubic metres, was given to Pakistan. India received control of 30% of the total water carried by the rivers, while Pakistan received 70%. The treaty allows India to use the water of Western Rivers for limited irrigation use and unlimited non-

consumptive uses such as power generation, navigation, floating of property, fish culture, etc. It lays down detailed regulations for India in building projects over the Western Rivers. The preamble of the treaty recognises the rights and obligations of each country for the optimum water use from the Indus System of Rivers in a spirit of goodwill, friendship and cooperation. Though the treaty is not directly related to national security, Pakistan, being located downstream of India, fears that India could potentially cause floods or droughts in Pakistan, especially during a potential conflict. During the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947-1948, control over the river system's water rights were the focus of an Indo-Pakistani water dispute. Since the ratification of the treaty in 1960, most disputes have been settled via the legal framework provided by the treaty, despite several military conflicts having occurred between the two countries. The Indus Waters Treaty is considered one of the most successful water sharing endeavors in the world today, even though analysts acknowledge the need to update certain technical specifications and expand the scope of the

agreement to address climate change. Pakistan raised concerns with World Bank regarding India's new dam project on the Chenab River, saying that

the three assigned rivers. In the aftermath of the 2016 Uri attack, India threatened to revoke the Indus Waters Treaty. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi

meeting of the IWT Commissioners has become irregular after the 2019 Pulwama attack and the last meeting took place in May 2022 indicating IWT purpose of mutual cooperation is

with the treaty by the Indian Central Water Commission, with the project information passed over to Pakistan. In 2003, J&K state assembly passed a

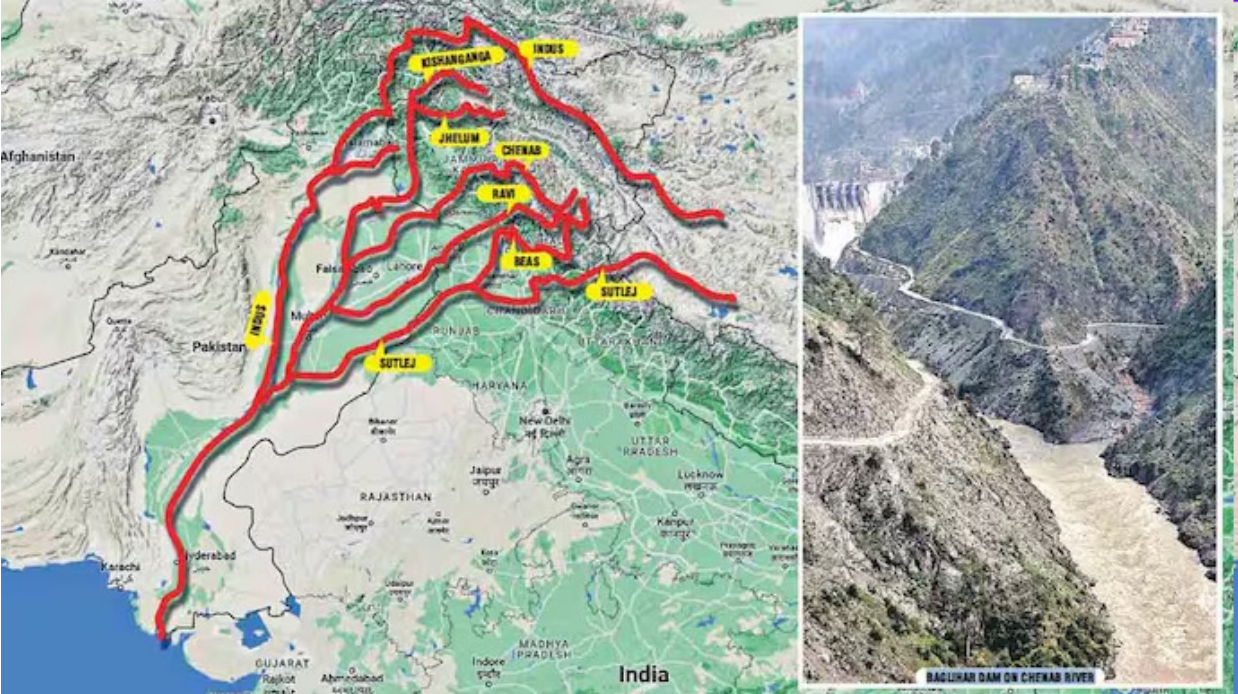
declare the treaty as unconstitutional.

In 2023, India officially notified Pakistan to renegotiate the treaty, alleging that it was repeatedly indulging in actions that are against the spirit and objective of the treaty. Pakistan has responded to the notice issued by India stating Pakistan can not take risk of abrogating IWT being a lower riparian party and expressed its desire to adhere to the procedures stipulated in the IWT.

India has not appointed the two judges of the Court of Arbitration (CoA) jury from its side as it had considered simultaneous proceedings of CoA and NE as a violation of the IWT agreement and customary international law. The Court decided that it would consider India's objection and decide the competence of the Court as a preliminary matter in an expedited proceeding by the end of June 2023. CoA announced its partial verdict on 6 July 2023 stating that constitution of CoA on the changed request of Pakistan is valid under the provisions of IWT and it would only take up the disputes which are not in the domain of the neutral expert to avoid simultaneous proceedings on same matters by both CoA and neutral expert. In

January 2025, NE delivered an initial verdict stating that NE is fully competent per terms of IWT to adjudicate the differences raised by India. The award of the ongoing Neutral Expert (NE) is expected by the end of 2026. In January, 2025, Jammu and Kashmir State initiated planning activities of Kishanganga II (40 MW) project. In September 2024, India formally sought review of the Treaty and at the same time Pakistan reaffirmed the importance of the agreement and requested that India would continue to comply with the provisions of the Treaty. On March 1, 2025, India officially stopped the flow of Ravi River water into Pakistan after 45 years of delays, marking a significant shift in the region's water dynamics. On 23 April 2025, following a targeted terrorist attack in Baisaran Valley of Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, the Government of India in a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security declared the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan citing national security concerns.

Economist,
Bhubaneswar



it is not in conformity with the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) and argued that India could use these reservoirs to create artificial water shortage or flooding in Pakistan. In 2019, in the aftermath of the Pulwama attack, the Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said that all water flowing from India will be diverted to Indian states to punish Pakistan for an alleged connection to the attack, something which the Pakistani Government denied and condemned. Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti Rattan Lal Kataria said that "every effort is made" to stop the flow of water downstream from

declared, "blood and water cannot flow together." So far, such threats have not materialized. However, India decided to restart the Tulbul Project on the Jhelum River in the Kashmir Valley, which was previously suspended in response to Pakistan's objections. Political analyst Hasan Askari Rizvi in Lahore said that any change to the water supply of Pakistan would have a "devastating impact". India stated in February 2020 that it wants to follow the IWT in letter and spirit. The mandatory annual

lost except its arbitration part. India is undertaking three projects to utilize its full share of the Eastern Rivers, (a) Shahpurkandi dam project on the Ravi River which was completed in 2024 (b) Makaura Pattan Barrage across Ravi River under the second Ravi-Beas link in Punjab and (c) the Ujh Dam project on Ujh River in Jammu and Kashmir. This water will be used by Punjab along with northern hill states. In 2021, many small hydroelectric projects totalling to 144 MW in Indus basin had been certified as compliant

unanimous resolution for the abrogation of the treaty, and again in June 2016, the Jammu and Kashmir assembly demanded revision of the Indus Water Treaty. The growth in irrigated land and hydropower development is not satisfactory due to the restrictions imposed by the IWT in Jammu and Kashmir. The legislators feel that the treaty trampled upon the rights of the people and treats the state of Jammu and Kashmir as a non-entity. A public interest petition has been pending since 2016 in the Supreme Court of India seeking to

Exploring the connection between spirituality and mental well-being

By: Surjit Singh Flora



The term "Psyche" serves as the foundational element for both psychology and psychiatry. The term "psyche" refers to the concepts of soul, mind, or spirit. Spiritual activities may improve mental, emotional, and physical health and boost success. A growing body of research links spirituality to mental wellness. Some may benefit from this link. Religious people had lower incidences of despair, anxiety, and drug addiction, according to research.

Spiritual or religious people are like this. According to some research, having spiritual or religious beliefs may give one's life meaning and purpose, which may avoid mental health concerns. There are many different factors that contribute to the development of a psychologically healthy and stable person, and spirituality is one of those factors. In the field of psychotherapy, spirituality plays a vital and increasingly recognized role, and it brings a variety of distinctive contributions to the therapeutic process. Spirituality may be defined as an individual's or a person's desire for meaning, purpose, and connection to

something larger. This search is not necessarily associated with a particular religious or divine hierarchy. Therefore, it is a fluid process that is directed by internal experience, intuition, and self-discovery. There are no predetermined rules or rituals that are necessary, which encourages personal inquiry among individuals. It is from the inside out that spirituality operates, with our inner experiences and beliefs influencing the acts that we do on the outside. Personal development, inner serenity, and self-realization are the driving forces behind spirituality, which may also incorporate a belief in a higher power, universal energy, or just a feeling of oneness. When it

comes to mental health therapies, including spirituality is known to provide a number of well-known advantages. Not only does it enable therapists to address their clients' psychiatric concerns, but it also enables them to see their clients as complete individuals in terms of their mind, body, heart, and soul. This acknowledges the fact that the bulk of people's problems and their progress toward recovery are profoundly rooted in their need for meaning, purpose, and connection that extends beyond oneself. A significant number of individuals seek therapy in an effort to find meaning, purpose, or forgiveness. They do this by bringing spiritual worries or

existential suffering to the table, which may be a prelude to their underlying troubles. In order to find a solution to problems such as anxiety, sadness, and mourning, it may be necessary to address these conditions. An individual may acquire effective coping techniques via the use of spiritual practices and belief systems, which can assist them in dealing with traumatic experiences, loss, and transitions in their lives. There are spiritual options that may bring hope, acceptance, and resilience. Some examples of these tools are prayer, meditation, and support communities. For the purpose of facilitating recovery from alcohol, other substances or

abuse, and trauma, recovery groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and other forgiveness or meaning-based treatments actively incorporate spiritual themes. The individual's personal choices and views serve as the guiding principle for the complementary inclusion of spirituality into psychotherapy interventions. Counsellors are strongly encouraged to inquire about and respect the spiritual origins of their clients, and to use these histories as a source of strength in their therapeutic work. Spirituality may be coupled with mindfulness, existential psychotherapy, narrative therapy, and spiritually sensitive

cognitive behavioural treatments, according to study. These methods help customers address spiritual difficulties, reframe pain, and find peace. As a result of the recognition that spirituality is an essential cultural factor, therapists are encouraged to gain competency in handling spiritual and religious difficulties. This acknowledges the influence that these topics have on mental health and respects the many opinions that people have about the world. The practice of mindfulness, which assists in the management of stress and the improvement of emotional regulation, is one of the effective spirituality-based

strategies. It is possible for a person to increase their positive and create resilience via the practice of appreciation, and artistic expression may aid in the processing of emotions and the discovery of meaning. The practice of spiritual precepts such as forgiveness and compassion may help lessen negative emotions and lead to healthier relationships. On the other hand, interactions with nature and community can help increase connectivity, reduce anxiety, and assist in the processing of emotions.

Author is a veteran journalist and freelance writer based in Brampton, Canada 647-829-9397

President of India Confers Padma Shri 4 from West Bengal Receives Padma Shri

Kolkata, (KCN):The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu conferred Padma Shri Awards to four renowned personalities from West Bengal individuals from West Bengal for the year 2025 for their contribution in the field of Art, Art and Social Work respectively during in New Delhi today at the Civil Investiture Ceremony-I held in Ganatantra Mandap of the Rashtrapati Bhawan. The awardees included Shri Gokul Chandra Das (Dhak); Shri Vinayak Lohani (Social Service); Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar (Sarod) and Shri Arijit Aditi Surinder Singh (playback singing) for their exceptional

contributions in the fields of Art and Social work. These awardees have been pivotal in their respective domains. Shri Gokul Chandra das is the protagonist and the chief mentor of Maslandapur motilal dhaki.com and is widely recognised across India and other countries of the world for his active role in pioneering the global presence of Dhak. Pandit Tejendra Narayan Majumdar is one of the foremost icons of Sarod who is globally revered as one of the finest contemporary maestros propagating Indian Classical Music in concerts and festivals across the globe. He is also an extremely

popular music composer who has been composing scores in numerous movies, documentaries, theatres, dance dramas, non-film audio albums and television commercials for the last five decades. Shri Vinayak Lohani is the Founder and President of Parivaar (parivaar.org), a h u m a n i t a r i a n organisation established in 2003 with its chief institutions and projects based in West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Shri Arijit Aditi Surinder Singh is one of the most celebrated playback singers in the Indian music industry. Known

for his soulful voice and versatility, he has become a household name, captivating audiences with his renditions in Bollywood films and independent music. His journey from a small-town boy to a musical sensation is a testament to his talent, dedication, and passion for music. Padma Awards - one of the highest civilian Awards of the country, are conferred in three categories, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. The Awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities, viz.- art, social work, public affairs, science and

engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc. 'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field. The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year. These awards are conferred by the President of India at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March/ April every year.



PM attends YUGM Innovation Conclave at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi

Justice BR Gavai Appointed As Next Chief Justice Of India

New Delhi(KCN): The Centre on Tuesday cleared the appointment of Supreme Court judge, Justice B.R. Gavai, as the next Chief Justice of India (CJI). "In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, Judge of the Supreme Court, to be the Chief Justice of India with effect from 14th May, 2025," said a notification issued by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice. Incumbent CJI Sanjiv Khanna is due to retire on May 13 on attainment of the age of



65 years. He had recommended Justice Gavai as his successor earlier this month. Justice Gavai, in line to be the 52nd CJI, will have a tenure of over 6 months, and he will demit office on November 23, 2025. Justice Gavai was elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court on May 29, 2019. Appointed as Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court in

November 2003, he became a permanent Judge in November 2005. Before elevation to the Bench, he practised in constitutional law and administrative law, and acted as Standing Counsel for Municipal Corporation of Nagpur, Amravati Municipal Corporation, and Amravati University. He was appointed as Assistant Government Pleader and Additional Public Prosecutor in the Bombay High Court, Nagpur Bench in August 1992 and served till July 1993. He was appointed as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor for the Nagpur Bench on January 17, 2000.

"Veeranganas" felicitated by BSF Wives Welfare Association (BWVA)



Kolkata(PARTHA ROY): Border Security Force (BSF) Eastern Command organized a Felicitation Program for Veeranganas under the aegis of BSF Wives Welfare Association

(BWVA), SDG (Eastern Command) on 27th April 2025 in Kolkata . Veeranganas - the brave wives of BSF martyrs were honoured by Dr Prema Gandhi, Head,

BWVA. Veeranganas were presented with a shawl and gifts. 11 children of the Veeranganas were presented with laptops by Sh Ravi Gandhi, ADG (EC).

Smt. Smita Chatterji is new Chairperson of CII - IWN West Bengal

Kolkata(PARTHA ROY):Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) appointed Smt. Smita Chatterji, Founder and CEO of Centreax Group, as Chairperson of the Indian Women Network (IWN) - West Bengal Chapter for the 2025-26 term. In a parallel development, Smt. Chatterji has also been elected as a member of the CII West Bengal State Council for 2025-26. A pioneering first-generation entrepreneur, Smt. Chatterji leads the Centreax Group—comprising Centreax



Technologies and Centreax Textiles. Her ventures introduced India's first end-to-end sustainability solution for the tea industry. Smt. Chatterji is expected to work on convergence across technology, gender parity and sustainable industrial policy in West Bengal.

Smt. Chatterji has been recognised by Indian Chemical Council for her work in industrial safety and best practices. She has served as an interlocutor at major policy forums, including the Make in Odisha Conclave 2025, where she championed entrepreneurship-led policy changes that culminated in the state government announcing a women-exclusive industrial park and a dedicated entrepreneur support cell at IPICOL. IWN is involved in nurturing the potential of women.

Kolkata(PARTHA ROY): Bharat 's Education scape is continuously changing and evolving with new Technologies , new methods of pedagogy, evolving family dynamics and systems over last seven and half decades.

Kolkata 's oldest Hindi newspaper , " Dainik Vishwamitra " and iconic Hindustan Club organised an exclusive panel discussion on " Modern Education and Traditional Values " on 26th April 2025 at Hindustan Club premises in Kolkata. Shri Rishabh C Kothari President of Hindustan Club while welcoming the august gathering highlighted importance of positive human values and need to preserve and promote positive traditional human values through budding and future generations to create healthy sustainable society. Shri Kothari also indicated importance of meditation in healthy p e r s o n a l i t y development. Shri R. P. Pasari Senior President Aditya Birla Group and Chairman & Trustee of Gyan Bharati in his address classified the values in to two types : basic values and socio-cultural values. Basic values are - honesty , integrity, empathy, sincerity and such in born values while social cultural values are respect to



elders , discipline, community welfare, religious values and so forth. Shri Pasari emphasized changed social structure and education systems are irreversible as joint family system has moved to nuclear family system. Shri Pasari stressed family systems played & play very important role in education and development of any child and his /her mental conditioning and development and influence actions and activities in adult life including interactions with society at large. Shri Pasari also mentioned Government policy on education in the past has played a role in education and personality development of children. Shri Pasari mentioned New Education Policy (NEP 2020) provide scope and opportunity to imbibe traditional Bharatiya values to children as well as holistic development of children and youth. It provides opportunities to children and youths to connect to their rich cultural and religious

heritage and to their roots. There is need to inculcate pride amongst children about their positive cultural heritage. Shri Pradip K Agarwal CEO of Heritage group of Institutions emphasized Indian Knowledge System is going to change education and learning systems. He highlighted Yoga has become full time academic subject of study from school level to higher Doctoral level study. He stressed education has shifted from bookish knowledge to practical experience oriented study. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision will be released if traditional value based education is adopted in India 's journey to Viksit Bharat @2047 across Bharat. Shri Sarad Kedia Trustee and Secretary Gyan Bharati mentioned teaching methodology has changed and evolving continuously. He said there is need to create synergy between traditional values and modern education.

Shri M. K. Singh CEO M. P. Birla Foundation Higher Secondary School mentioned parents have important role to play in any child 's development specifically mother 's role is very important. Prof Dr Soma Bandopadhyay Vice Chancellor in her address referred to Swami Vivekananda and emphasized education facilitate development of natural talent and inner qualities of a child. Prof. B a n d o p a d h y a y suggested courses on " Moral Education" should be started. She emphasized yoga, meditation should be taught to all youngsters. She said family and school should teach indigenous Bharatiya values including compassion, empathy. Shri Vinod Agarwal motivational speaker and Secretary General of Shikshayatan Foundation emphasized importance of incorporation of traditional values in modern pedagogy for holistic development of youngsters. Shri Agarwal

emphasized values like empathy, honesty, integrity play important role in holistic personality development of youngsters as well as help them to handle challenges as adults. Shri Vinod Agarwal emphasized inculcation of traditional values as a part of academic curriculum is critically important to build physically & mentally healthy future citizens of Bharat. Dr. Prem Shankar Tripathi noted author emphasized students should be taught Ramcharit Manas ,Gita and other epics of Bharat from early stages in school. Dr. Tripathi said synergy of modern education and traditional education is needed in academic curriculum to build quality future citizens of Bharat. Dr. Tripathi appreciated and acknowledged role of The Agarwalla family Owners of Dainik Vishwamitra and Shri Pradeep Shukla Editor in Charge of Dainik Vishwamitra for their immense efforts to improve quality of life of all sections of society including preserving and promoting Bharatiya culture and heritage over many decades. Leading from the front , Shri Pradeep Shukla Editor in Charge of Dainik Vishwamitra is enriching Hindi journalism scape to new heights of excellence in Kolkata and Eastern India.

3 NSCN Militants Killed In Assam Encounter, Arms Recovered

Guwahati(KCN): Three militants of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) were killed during an encounter with the security forces in Assam's mountainous Dima Hasao district on Tuesday, officials said. An Assam Police spokesman said that the encounter came after secret information that some armed cadres, who had given an extortion notice to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials and engineers in Dima Hasao district, were

hiding in areas under the Haflong police station. Accordingly, a search operation was launched by Assam Police's Special Units and Assam Rifles on Saturday evening. "Almost after 60 hours of search, on Monday, the search parties came across an armed group in the area between N Kubin-Hera Kilo. The armed militants fired on the security forces, who retaliated, and there was a heavy exchange of fire," the spokesman said. Subsequently, an

extensive search of the area led to the discovery of three dead bodies of militants, belonging to the NSCN. However, the faction of the NSCN they belonged to is yet to be known. Two AK series rifles and a pistol were recovered from the forested areas, and a search operation is still underway. Tuesday's incident occurred within three days after three militants of the NSCN-K-YA faction were killed on April 27 during a fierce gun battle between the security forces and the

extremists in Arunachal Pradesh's Longding district. Defence spokesman Lt Col Amit Shukla had said that two construction workers were kidnapped on April 25 from Pangchao areas in Longding district. Based on specific information, troops of the Indian Army and the Assam Rifles launched a joint massive operation in the Pangchao areas on Sunday. "Wherein the contact was established and in the ensuing firefight, three cadres of NSCN-KY-A group were neutralised," he

said. One construction worker was rescued in the operation, and four automatic weapons, ammunition and other war-like materials were also recovered from the areas. Meanwhile, the Army and Assam Rifles, in coordination with the Assam Police, earlier apprehended a wanted top cadre of the NSCN-KYA from Assam's Charaideo district. The NSCN-K-YA has earlier served an extortion notice of Rs 20 lakh to the public sector oil major Oil India Limited (OIL).

Kendrapara chases a 'pipe' dream

Kendrapara(KCN): The Central government has identified Kendrapara district as the state's only water-stressed district and included it in the Jal Shakti Abhiyan for groundwater recharge initiatives. However, locals allege that they have seen little improvement as the government's mission to ensure a piped water supply to every household by 2024 has fallen flat in this coastal district. With mercury soaring, an exacerbating drinking water crisis gives burning evidence of the mission's failure. Moreover, seven rivers under the Mahanadi, Brahmani and Baitarani systems have dried up, leaving the district's residents without access to potable water. To top it all off, over 10,000 tube wells are throwing saline water. The above factors

are indicative of the severity of the drinking water crisis plaguing the residents of this coastal district. Complaints of water shortage are rising during public grievance camps with people often resorting to agitations in various areas due to lack of piped water supply. According to the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) department, Kendrapara district has 17,238 tube wells, 331 drinking water projects and 181 overhead tanks intended to supply drinking water to villagers. Yet, residents say they are not getting the intended benefits with most of the tube wells discharging saline water. Social activists Pratap Padhi, Bibhuti Bhusan Rout, Pratap Ranjan Tripathy, Debashis Samal and Prakash Chandra Das pointed out



that despite the presence of seven rivers, Kendrapara faces a serious drinking water crisis. Due to its coastal location, groundwater in the district has turned saline. Overhead tanks are often dry, and digging

a single tube well now costs at least Rs3 lakh, which is a gamble as it might spew salty water in the end. Additionally, industries and agricultural activities under the Mahanadi, Brahmani and Baitarani river systems

are drawing excessive amounts of water. To make it worse, presence of barrages upstream reduces the water flow, further diminishing groundwater recharge potential. Reports from both state and Central Water Resource departments

indicate that groundwater in areas like Garadpur block is no longer suitable for drinking. Similarly, absence of canal in Aul, Mahakalapara, Rajnagar and Rajkanika blocks in the district makes groundwater recharge even more difficult.

Proximity to the sea has also worsened the water salinity, especially in Mahakalapara block. In 2019, Kendrapara was the only district in the state selected in the Jal Shakti Abhiyan to boost groundwater recharge. The campaign focused on installing shocking pipe fittings in tube wells, afforestation, rainwater harvesting, and the revival of water sources. However, due to administrative negligence, the campaign failed to achieve its objectives, and groundwater recharge could not be realised. Meanwhile, the district also fell short of its target to supply drinking water through pipelines to 2,91,160 families by March 2025. So far, only about 33,000 families have benefited from the initiative. Several mega water supply projects have been launched across

the district to improve piped water access, but many started without conducting proper land and environmental assessments. The drinking water project under construction at Manikunda under Marshaghai block has been halted following a National Green Tribunal (NGT) case. Officials and political leaders have acknowledged that the lack of coordination between the administration and public representatives has contributed to these issues. When contacted, Additional District Magistrate Nilu Mahapatra said a meeting on drinking water supply had been held recently. He added that various projects are underway to ensure piped drinking water reaches every household in rural areas soon.

Shalachua's struggle for connectivity



Anandapur(KCN): In the remote village of Shalachua, nestled on the edge of Keonjhar's Anandapur block and abutting Mayurbhanj district, residents are stuck in a time warp. While India rapidly expands its 5G network and works on cutting-edge telecommunication advancements, villagers here climb trees to catch a fleeting mobile signal, a stark reminder of the digital divide plaguing rural areas. Surrounded by dense forests and hills, Shalachua, largely home to tribal communities, has no mobile towers in or

near the village. The absence of basic network access forces locals to scale tall trees, hoping to connect to a weak and unreliable signal. Even then, success is not guaranteed. "It's frustrating," said Durlabh Nayak, a local resident. "We climb, but the network is rarely there." The lack of connectivity disrupts daily life. From accessing government schemes to contacting emergency services, residents face constant hurdles. Surrounded by wildlife, the village grapples with the fear

of animal attacks, and without reliable communication, reaching the Forest department or medical help during crises is nearly impossible. Students too suffer, unable to access online resources or communicate effectively for their studies. At night, the village falls into what locals call a "mobile blackout," leaving them completely cut off. Despite the telecom boom in urban centres and along highways, remote rural pockets like Shalachua remain overlooked by companies competing to

expand services. Villagers, including Kshirod Nayak, Muna Nayak, Rabindra Nayak, Kabindra Nayak, and Ballabh Nayak, demanded action. They've called on the administration to install a mobile tower to bring basic communication services and bridge the gap to government programmes. For now, Shalachua's residents continue their precarious climbs, chasing signals in the treetops, hoping for a future where connectivity is no longer a distant dream.

Massive fire breaks out at Paradip refinery pipe yard

Paradip(KCN): Panic gripped residents after a massive fire broke out Monday afternoon at the entry point of the IOCL refinery at Paradip in Jagatsinghpur district. The blaze started in a stack of plastic-coated pipes belonging to a private consultancy firm Techno Mount, which works within the refinery premises. These pipes were intended for underground installation. The fire erupted near the Dochhaki area, close to the Goa Carbon



Company, where hundreds of pipes were stored together. Flames quickly engulfed the area, and dark billowing smoke was visible from up to a distance of two kilometres. The fire created a thick blanket of smoke that spread across the area. Upon receiving alerts, fire tenders from the

refinery, Kujang, and various private companies rushed to the scene and worked to contain the blaze. According to the latest reports, the fire was brought under control by 7pm. Following the incident, the refinery's executive director, along with departmental heads,

visited the site for an inspection. RK Sahu, an officer from Indian Oil Corporation Limited's (IOCL) pipeline division, stated that the affected area was the refinery's dumping yard, where over a thousand iron and rubber-coated pipes had been stored. He added that while the cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, the pipes were old and had been placed there after being replaced from undersea and underground pipelines.



2025-26



ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

Find the Difference

- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
Baghra Road, Baripada
For details
Contact :
Call-9438102188, 06792-255227
Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon
E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com

 **Find us on**
Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada

Capri Global Appoints Coaching Beyond as Consultant for UAE ILT20 League

Mumbai: Capri Global has announced an association with Coaching Beyond, a premier cricket coaching institute, as a consultant for the franchise team of the UAE ILT20 League. The institution will assist Capri Global in appointment of coaching staff and matters related to cricket operations. R Sridhar, former fielding coach of the Indian Cricket Team and one of the founding members of Coaching Beyond, will be the Director of Cricket for Capri Global during the UAE ILT20 League. Capri Global intends to strengthen the cricket ecosystem on the global platform by engaging the right sporting talent and nurturing them. The company aims to play a vital role as an enabler by empowering deserving talent to showcase their sporting strength to the globe. Speaking on the association, Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Director, Capri Global, said, "Capri Global aims to reinforce the visibility and

popularity of sports nationally and globally and popularize homegrown sports to create opportunities for aspiring talent. We are pleased to associate with Coaching Beyond, a brainchild of sports stalwarts who will assist us in evaluating the deserving talent and offer state-of-the-art sports training infrastructure, world-class technology, and training to sportspeople. Mr. Sridhar's experience as a player and coach is almost unrivaled and his strategic insights, coaching approach, and collaborative style will be invaluable for our franchise team. We see great synergy coming through this alliance, including a host of exciting moments that are set to elevate the cricketing experience for the Indian audience on the global platform."

Coaching Beyond is a premier cricket coaching institute in India that provides performance-driven cricket coaching,

training, and education to individuals, teams, and coaches from the grassroots to various experience levels. It has recently launched its first high-performance cricket academy in Hyderabad and is on track to launch its second project in Chennai by August.

R Sridhar, Co-Founder of Coaching Beyond, said, "We are delighted to announce our partnership with Capri Global for the upcoming UAE ILT20 League. It is an exciting opportunity to work and do justice to the enormous cricketing talent and add value to the international platform. With a focused team effort, inclusive vision, and holistic approach, we can achieve consistent success during the tournament. We are confident that the League will be a grand success and are looking forward to a successful season".

An exhibition of Innovation in Technologies organised by IEM held in Kolkata



Kolkata: An Exhibition of Innovation of Technologies by young minds and budding Techno-entrepreneurs titled "Innovación 2025" organised by IEM group at its Salt Lake campus in Kolkata. The Exhibition was organised to showcase various innovation in Technologies initiated by young minds to develop wide range of utility products to find solutions to various problems faced by people in every day life. The exhibition was organized in collaboration with SMART Society, USA, and the Rotary Club of Salt Lake Silicon Valley. The exhibition was graced by industry experts and academic leaders, including Manjit Nayak, Director, STPI Kolkata & Eastern India; Abhijit Pal, Vice President, Tech Mahindra; Indranil Mitra, Partner, Data & Analytics, PwC; Sanjay Kumar Das, Joint Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal; Sankar Ghosh, Technology Solutions Lead, Accenture; Prof. Banani Chakrabarti, President, IEM-UEM Group; Prof. Sangamitra Chakrabarti, Director, IEM-UEM Group. Prof. Banani

Chakrabarti, President, IEM-UEM Group, remarked, "Innovación 2025 is a testament to our commitment in promoting young innovators. We take pride in providing a platform that transforms ideas into impactful solutions." Speaking to media, Prof. Sangamitra Chakravarti Director, stressed need to train young students on Coding to empower young minds with knowledge and skills to make them future ready as well as to work on innovation of new and evolving Technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its wide range of applications to improve quality of every day life. Prof. Prabir Kumar Das, HOD, Basic Science and Humanities & Faculty Head, Innovación 2025 mentioned the Exhibition provide platform to young students to showcase their talents as well as innovative ideas to peer groups and others. A visionary leader and pioneer educationist Prof. Satyajit Chakrabarti, founder & Chancellor of The Institute of Engineering & Management (IEM)

and the University of Engineering & Management (UEM), Kolkata, and in other cities started "Innovación" platform to encourage students to indulge in innovation in Technologies more than a decade ago. IEM and UEM institutions empowering students with cutting edge tools of Information Technologies to facilitate tech-lead innovation. The exhibition featured fusion of robotics, AI, gaming, and innovation. Some of the innovative projects showcased Desalination of sea water to Drinking water, AI-Powered Smart Helmet, Agricultural Drone and many more. More than 100 projects showcased by students. Large no. girls students participated to showcase their innovative projects. Seeds of Innovations sowed by late Prof. Satyajit Chakrabarti (July 12, 1947 - December 19, 2024) decades ago, are improving quality of life of millions in different sectors across the planet Earth as well as promoting "Ease of Living" in all continents.

Kakatiya University to conduct TG EdCET -2025 on June 1

Warangal, March 9 (KCN): The Telangana Education Common Entrance Test (TG EdCET)-2025 will be conducted on June 1 in two sessions through Computer Based Test (CBT) by the Kakatiya University, Warangal for admission into B.Ed. (Two Year) regular course in the colleges of Education in the Telangana State for the academic year 2025-26.

Chairman of the TG EdCET-2025 and Vice Chancellor of Kakatiya University Prof K Pratap Reddy and EdCET-2025 Convener Prof B Venkatram Reddy along with Registrar Prof V R a m a c h a n d r a m, Principal of the University College of Education Prof T Manohar and Dean, Faculty of Arts Prof N Rammath Kishan released the notification



on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof K Pratap Reddy said that eligible candidates who wish to apply for TG EdCET-2025 may submit their

applications through online mode only from March 12 without late fee. With late fee, the candidates can apply till May 24, the Vice Chancellor added. The

detailed information regarding the eligibility, syllabus and model paper, important instructions, procedure for online submission of application forms, pattern of online examination, the list of regional online test centres and Mock Tests are available on the website <https://edcet.tgche.ac.in.>, said Convener Prof Venkatram Reddy.

Manipal Foundation, SLS Trust collaborate to sponsor tribal students' professional education

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Manipal Foundation and SLS Trust have signed an MoU to launch "Aspire and Achieve Scholarship Program" for tribal students from Mayurbhanj, Odisha, for professional courses. It will empower tribal students by providing access to BSc courses in Allied Health, BBA and BCA. 20 first-generation learners from lower economic backgrounds will be awarded the scholarship.

Manipal Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Manipal Education and Medical Group. The scholarships reaffirms the group's mission to uplift disadvantaged students through equitable access to education. The SLS Trust works with schedule caste, scheduled tribe, other backward caste and minority communities in Mayurbhanj and other areas. It would select deserving students through its centres of learning in remote areas catering the under



privileged sections of society.

Mr Harinarayan Sharma, CEO Manipal Foundation said, "The Manipal Foundation is committed to empowering our society through holistic and sustained initiatives. Our scholarships are focused on transforming the society by uplifting disadvantaged students through equitable access to quality education. This

scholarship would enable students to break the cycle of poverty, and support their families and communities upon graduation."

Ms Itishree Murmu, Chairman of SLS Trust said, "We believe in empowering students by cultivating curiosity and instilling core values through education. This scholarship resonates with our mission to educate and train the youth from the region through quality higher education so they could contribute to the

region's development." Mr Subodh Kumar, Development Coordinator SLS Trust, said "We are full of gratitude for this collaboration with the Manipal Foundation. This will transform lives of not just these 20 students and their families but these students will become role models for the youth in these areas." The Allied Health programme includes BSc in clinical

psychology, cardiovascular technology, medical imaging technology, renal replacement therapy and dialysis technology and optometry. These courses will be taught at the Manipal TATA Medical College (MTMC), a constituent of Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE). The BBA and BCA programs will be delivered at the Sikkim Manipal University (SMU).

India to see largest increase in energy demand worldwide over the next 20 years, says Infomerics

New Delhi.: India faces the twin dilemma of co-existence of shortage and abundance in several parts of its energy system. While the provision of electricity has increased significantly over the years, weak institutions and utility governance hamper the power sector's financial performance with issues of accountability, operational efficiency, customer service, and transmission to state-level transmission institutions. The sector takes a huge and grossly unacceptable hit due to extensive losses, leakages and pilferages, and the cost recovery

from tariffs. These are some major findings of a report titled Power Sector in India: New Emerging Opportunities and Challenges released by Infomerics Valuation and Rating Pvt Ltd., the well-known SEBI-registered and RBI-accredited financial services credit rating company. The report explores the opportunities and challenges ahead for India as it seeks to ensure reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for a growing population. During FY20 and FY19, the growth of electricity generation was lower than in the previous financial years because

of the impact of COVID-19. The report quotes the International Energy Agency (IEA) stating that during FY21 recovery in electricity demand from the COVID-19 pandemic was faster and stronger in India than in EU countries. India is the third-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of electricity in the world. With the increasing population, electricity demand is rising at a fast clip and India has improved its power generation capacity over the years. India has added more than 500 billion units until FY22 from FY10.

Blue Dart signs the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Now Pledge

Bhubaneswar: Blue Dart, South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation & distribution company and a part of the Deutsche Post DHL (DPDHL) Group has signed the 'Climate Neutral Now' (CNN) pledge by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The pledge highlights the organisation's commitment

to ambitious CO2 reduction targets. Deutsche Post DHL Group has adopted a package of measures worth up to ₹7 billion to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the Paris Climate Agreement, primarily to expand the use of sustainable technologies and fuels in its fleets and buildings. Its long term goal is to reduce GHG emissions to net zero by

2050. The Climate Neutral Now Initiative encourages and supports interested stakeholders to act now in order to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050 as enshrined in the Paris Agreement. The initiative is a tool to promote voluntary action on climate change. Blue Dart has already invested extensively in remaining a Sustainable Provider of Choice by being the first

in the industry to set quantified carbon-reduction targets. The organisation, as a part of the Deutsche Post DHL Group aimed to increase their CO2 efficiency by 10% by the year 2012 and 30% by the year 2020. Against the 30% target, Blue Dart achieved a 34% CO2 efficiency in 2021. Pablo Ciano, EVP Corporate Development, DPDHL Group says, "As a Group, we have

developed a Sustainability Roadmap that supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We are constantly working towards introducing innovative green logistics solutions that improve our carbon footprint. I am delighted to share that representing the DHL eCommerce Solutions Division in India, Blue Dart has been delivering high on its sustainability initiatives.

