

JANUARY 9-15, 2022

SUNDAY POST

HERE . NOW

National Youth Day special

Making a difference

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COVER STORY



Popular singer Simran Das, a student of Utkal Sangeeta Mahavidyalaya, who rose to fame with songs like 'Hrudaya Deichu Bhangi', 'Tu Kali Kandibu', 'Abhaya Dayini Maa' and 'Hruda Chandan', loves to practice Odissi dance on holidays



With mother



With singer Kuldeep Patnaik



With singer Aseema Panda

Voice Training
I wake up early and do riyaz for at least two hours every day. On Sundays, I put in a couple of extra hours to improve my voice range and make it sustainable.

Recreating Old Magic
Often I try to recreate the unforgettable numbers of legends like Lata Mangeshkar, Shreya Ghoshal and Arijit when I am free and put them in my social media handles. Besides, I also sing a few original compositions for my own YouTube channel.

Studies Priority
I routinely revise the class works in the evening which helps me appear my papers with confidence. Sometimes, I also read novels to get relief from the stress of studying and rejuvenate myself.

Mama's Daughter
I don't get much time to spend with my family as I live in a hostel in Bhubaneswar. When I am at home, I help my mother with household chores. And my Sundays are incomplete without having my mom's veg biryani.

Avid Traveller
Often I travel to Puri at my leisure and spend quality time with family at the Golden Beach.

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

WhatsApp This Week

Only on Sunday POST!

Send in your most interesting WhatsApp messages and memes received to: features.orissapost@gmail.com And we will publish the best ones

THE BEST MEMES OF THIS ISSUE

- Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.
- Light travels faster than sound, which is why some people appear bright before they open their mouth.
- I went to see the doctor about my short-term memory problems – the first thing he did was make me pay in advance.
- If money doesn't grow on trees, how come banks have branches?



A REVELATION

Dear Sir, The interview of gifted actress Divya Dutta, appeared in the last issue of Sunday Post, was quite a revelation. She had created a strong fan base with her performances in *Train to Pakistan*, *Veer Zaara*, *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* and several other films. But not many people were aware about her writing skills. It was good to know that the actress came all the way to Bhubaneswar to receive Kalinga Literary Award. Since, she has got an award for her book *The Stars In My Sky*, I am looking forward to add it to my collection. It was also interesting to learn that Divya was invited to her school as a guest recently where she was summoned by the principal years ago for announcing in classroom that her aim in life was to become an actor. I would also like to offer my best wishes to the actress for her upcoming movies *Dhakaad* and *Sharmaji Ki Beti*.

ARADHYA MISHRA, BHADRAK

LETTERS



A WORD FOR READERS

Sunday POST is serving a platter of delectable fare every week, or so we hope. We want readers to interact with us. Please send in your opinions, queries, comments and contributions to features.orissapost@gmail.com B-15, Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar - 751010, Orissa. Phone (0674) 2549982, 2549948

National Youth Day special

Making a difference

The biggest challenge the youths facing today is climate change. At these difficult times, a few young innovators have geared up to limit its impact and are trying their best to reduce the carbon footprints

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life - think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success.

This immortal quote made over a century ago by none other than Swami Vivekananda is more relevant now than before, especially for the youths who are the driving force of tomorrow.

The biggest challenge the youths are facing today is climate

Climate Change Indicator

A four-member team from Young Tinker Academy from Bhubaneswar has made a satellite to use as a climate change indicator for calculating atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gasses like CO2 (carbon dioxide) and CH4 (Methane). They launched it last December. The team members - Rishikesh Amit Nayak, Sujal Mohanty, Venkat Raman Patnaik and Sai Akshara Vemuri - are now gearing up to launch the satellite in the Stratosphere (10-30km) with better sets of sensors and better telecommunication tools.

Team leader Rishikesh, on this unique project, says, "On December 18, 2021 the CubeSAT was tested in a range of two kilometers to check the telecommunication and sensor data. We are all set to launch it in the stratosphere (10-30km) with better sets of sensors and better telecommunication tools. Online hands-on learning academy Young Tinker Academy made our dream come true by guiding us to come up with the satellite."

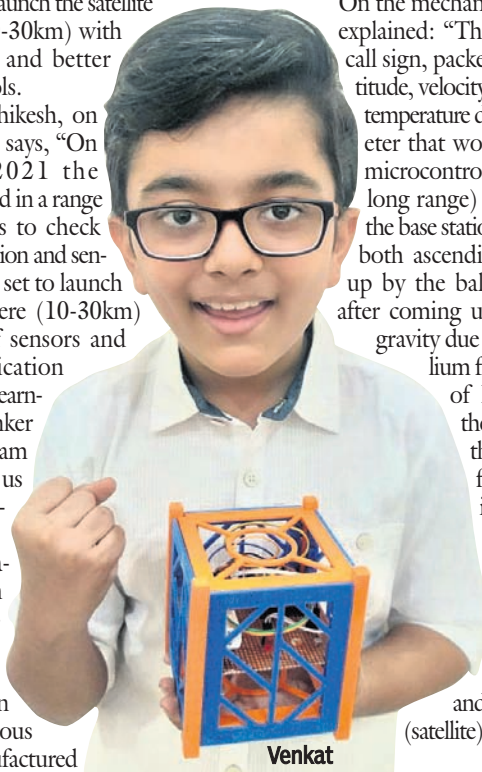
Giving more information about the function of the climate change indicator, he adds, "At present, global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and certain manufactured

greenhouse gases have all risen significantly over the last few hundred years. This indicator can measure the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. It focuses on the main greenhouse gases produced by human activities."

On the mechanism of the satellite, he explained: "The telemetry contained call sign, packet number, latitude, altitude, velocity, heading, GPS timing, temperature data, gas sensors, barometer that would be processed by a microcontroller and LORA (from long range) will be transmitted to the base station throughout its flight, both ascending while being lifted up by the balloon and descending after coming under the influence of gravity due to explosion of the helium filled balloon at a height of 10,000 metres above the ground level. Further, the data will be recorded from the sensors and images captured by the camera would be stored in an in-built storage provision in the satellite. The signals received at the base station would help track and landing of the payload (satellite) for retrieving the same.



Rishikesh and Venkat showcasing the CubeSat



Venkat

change. By putting this message of Swamiji into practice during these challenging times, they can become the change-makers of tomorrow and make a difference.

Ahead of National Youth Day January 12, Sunday POST caught up with some of such young minds who, with their innovations, have geared up to limit climate change and reduce carbon footprints.



Students and teachers present during the launch of sand cleaning tool in the presence of district officials of Ganjam

The payload with a parachute, attached to the helium filled balloon will be released into the atmosphere by February. The team is further gearing up to launch the CubeSAT in the Orbit with a better telecommunication service by the end of 2022.”

The project took about a month to complete, says Venkat Raman, the other team member who rose to limelight for clearing the Microsoft Technology Associate Examination in Java, Javascript, Python, HTML, CSS and database administration fundamentals at the age of eight.

Beach Cleaning Tool

A group of students of Berhampur ITI College developed a tool to help clean the sea beaches and stop plastic pollution which is a major contributor to carbon footprint. The tool was launched January 4 by the Ganjam district collector Vijay Amruta Kulange. He highly appreciated the efforts of the students for coming up with an innovative idea to reduce carbon footprints.

Instructor at Berhampur ITI Arun Kumar Patro says, “It was the brainchild of our principal. Five students joined me and teacher Bichitranda Pariadhi to develop the project. Rs 4,000 was spent to make the tool. The cleaner tool is lightweight and easy to handle and cleans up to 1,000 sq ft of the beach in an hour. Apart from promoting tourism, the tool is helpful to end plastic pollution resulting in reducing carbon footprints. The tool has two models. One model separates dead conch shells from sand while it helps separating plastic



A student demonstrating sand cleaning tool



Stage set for the launch of the tool

bottles. Meanwhile, our institute has been asked to come up with 20 more such sand cleaning devices.”

Saroj Kumar Behera, a member of the team, says, “The sand cleaning tool is a kind of raking or sifting device over the beach to remove litter and other foreign matter. It is a manually self-pulled vehicle on wheels or pulled by a quad-bike or tractor. I became a part of the project because I am very much concerned about growing plastic pollution. Needless to say that plastics have become essential components of packaging because they are durable, light-weight, and cheap. But though they offer numerous benefits, plastics originate as fossil fuels and emit greenhouse gases from cradle to grave. Despite knowing the adverse effects of plastic, people keep on using plastic thereby polluting the beach and aquatic ecosystem. Thus, I got into the project when I heard about it.” Another team member Jagan Behera says, “Plastic pollution and climate change are linked in many

ways. According to researchers, plastic production and disposal resulted in 850 million tons

of greenhouse gas

emissions in 2019 and may be responsible for up to 2.8 billion tons by 2050. Our device would certainly help combat both climate change and plastic pollution issues. I always wanted to do something for Mother Earth. It’s an honour for me to be part of the team and do my bit for the society.”



Fight against plastic pollution

Meet 22-years old **Rahul Maharana** who is on a mission to clean beaches to end plastic pollution. “Exhaust from vehicles, airplanes, and factories put carbon dioxide into our air and it causes the earth to trap more heat. The ocean absorbs about one-quarter of the CO2 that humans create when we burn fossil fuels. In this way, beaches are persistent sources of greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to climatic warming.

Concerned over the impact of carbon footprints, I decided to clean beaches to help reduce carbon emissions.”, says Rahul who works as a security guard in Bhubaneswar and has undertaken beach cleaning initiatives on more than 70 occasions.



Rahul at work to protect Olive Ridleys

Earlier Rahul used to bury plastics collected from the beach. He brings back as many as 15 bags of plastic on each visit to the beach. He collected at least 500 bags of plastics so far. “Earlier I used to bury those waste. Soumya bhai introduced me to local civic administration at Konark for disposal of the same. However, I have preserved a few bottles that I believed to have washed ashore on the Astranga beach from Japan or Indonesia.”

For the last four years Rahul has been cleaning beaches all alone. “I was perturbed by the sight of plastics littered on Astarang beach and decided to launch my beach cleaning mission in 2018. Though Soumya bhai was into the activity, I was not able to join him as I remained busy in my studies. I started doing it in my free time. Beaches at Odisha have not been polluted so much compared to beaches at Maharashtra. It is a collective responsibility to protect our beaches before it is too late.

How did it all happen? To this query, Rahul says, “I used to attend awareness programmes on beach cleaning drives organised at Nimapara College when I was pursuing Plus II there. These programmes literally made me learn about the menace of plastic pollution. Also, I was inspired by Soumya Ranjan Biswal of our locality who is into protecting wildlife and Olive Ridley turtles. From him, I learnt about the threat plastic poses to the endangered Olive Ridley turtles during their nesting season. Thus, I decided to work on reducing plastic pollution on the beaches and looking after Olive Ridley turtles during their nesting. I will make sure to clean the Rushikulya beach.”



Rahul collecting plastic garbage from a beach



A vigilant Rahul on a beach



'Hurdles not new to creative minds'

Eminent poet Dr Hrushikesh Mallick, who recently has been named as a recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award, says decline in moral values has always disturbed him and his reactions to those anomalies in the society have reflected in his poems

■ Did you expect the award for this particular book?

■ *Sarijaithiba Opera* meets all the standards of an award winning creation. I had this conviction from the beginning. My publisher was even more confident than me. However, I took him lightly.

■ Apart from poems, your literary criticisms, columns and works for children are also quite popular among the readers. What do you enjoy writing the most?

■ Be it literary criticisms, columns in newspapers or children's literature, I get completely involved in each of them. Always, I remain conscious of what I am writing about. I adopt different styles of writing for different sections of literature. Therefore, I would say I am pretty comfortable in each segment and enjoy all of them.

■ You are heading Odisha Sahitya Akademi as well as in-charge of the literary supplement of Dharitri. How do you manage to get time to write after discharging these major responsibilities? When do you write actually?

■ Proper time management is a skill that all serious authors need to master. If managed well, a writer can perform multiple tasks which has happened in my case. I have enough time for creative work despite my multiple engagements. I write every day if there is an urge for it. Often, an article or a poem picks its own time to be transformed onto the paper.

■ In the current climate of bans, trolls, and censorship how should writers insulate themselves and focus on writing?

■ Hurdles are not new to creative minds. They face such obstacles, criticism, and censorship (both written and unwritten) in all ages. A writer has to ignore them, concentrate on the task at hand and leap over. For that he or she has to create his or her own path. Things are bound to happen around the writer but he/she has to remain unaffected. Water droplets on a lotus leaf illustrate this distancing attitude and this is quite possible.

■ Finally, what would be your message to the young aspiring writers?

■ On this, I would like to recall an interesting anecdote involving the great poet Sachi Routray, an idol for many from our generation. I was fortunate to be very close to him. So much so that he used to write frequently to me. This made me a little complacent and one day, I went to him with some of my poems and requested him to make the required corrections. It is still vivid in my memory how he responded to my request. 'Poems are not like Mathematics which can be corrected. Recite them again and again and you would realise where you have gone wrong,' he said to me. Apart from this, young litterateurs need to express their experience in their own style and language. Because, there is a risk of going artificial, if your version is borrowed or indirect. One also needs to read a lot and write less to add quality to the work.

Know The Author

Born October 12, 1954 at Banitia, Bhadrak, Dr Hrushikesh Mallick has more than 40 books to his credit. The genres include poem, short story, essay, literary criticism and children's literature. The retired government college teacher of Odia language and literature also writes newspaper columns and has been editing Dharitri's literary supplement Sahityayana for the past several years. Presently placed as the President of Odisha Sahitya Akademi, Mallick has been honoured with a number of state-level awards like Odisha Sahitya Akademi Award, Dharitri Poetry Award, Jhankara Vishub Award, Sachi Routray Poetry Award, Bhanuji Rao Memorial Award and Sarala Puraskar. *Dhanasaunta Jhia*, *Ujuda Khetara Geeta*, *Basusena*, *Jeje Dekhinathiba Bharata* and *Sarijaithiba Opera* are among his notable works that fetched him several awards at state and national levels.

burning silk cotton flowers in the summer sun of my village. My aunt's lullaby and fables have also played a part in my growth as a poet.

■ How did this anthology *Sarijaithiba Opera* come into existence?

■ All 45 poems of this book have their distinct plots. We have to pick one of them to put it on the cover of the book. However, I believe that the titles of many poems of this anthology deserve to become the heading of the book. I was in great pain to leave out the other titles that couldn't make it to the cover.

■ Do you think this is the best creation of the literary journey you have made so far?

■ No, not at all. My other poetry books also fiercely compete with this award winning work. At times, recognition and awards increase the stature of certain books which is beyond the control of a poet.

BIJAY MANDAL, OP

After being honoured with several prestigious literary awards including the recent Sahitya Akademi Award for his outstanding contributions to Odia literature, noted poet Dr Hrushikesh Mallick says his best is yet to come. Mallick, a trendsetter in Odia poetry writing, says he is happy that his works are liked by the readers and critics but he never writes with an objective to get awards. Be it his state Sahitya Akademi award winning anthology *Dhanasaunta Jhia* or *Jeje Dekhinathiba Bharata* for which he was honoured with prestigious Sarala Puraskar, all his poems have left a lasting impression on the readers. The incumbent President of Odisha Sahitya Akademi, who has authored more than 40 books including 11 on poetry and 10 on literary criticism, took some time off from his schedule to talk to **Sunday POST** on a host of topics.

Excerpts:

■ Congratulations on being selected for Akademi honour. First, tell us briefly about *Sarijaithiba Opera* which has been nominated for the award.

■ Thank you. The anthology was first published in 2019. Like all my other poetry books, the poems of *Sarijaithiba Opera* are also about what I have experienced in life. In my poems, many events and characters that I have come across in life have shared their joys and sorrows in their own language and gone back to the unknown kingdom where they came from. Decline in moral values has always disturbed me and my reactions to those anomalies of life have been reflected in the poems of *Sarijaithiba Opera*. However, my reactions are not malicious in nature since they are apolitical.

■ What inspired you to write poems?

■ I got motivation from the environment. I have picked up the thread of poems from the seeds of creativity that were hidden in the deserted mango orchard, cloudy sky, the

Sara, Janhvi bond over Covid

Actors Sara Ali Khan and Janhvi Kapoor are often pitted against each other. However, in real life, the young divas share a great bond. Spilling some beans on the same, Sara told a news portal that they are both ambitious young girls who have lost 18 months of their life to COVID. According to her, they bond over that. Although they are different people, Sara believes that they

are both comfortable in their own skin. Earlier, Sara had opened up about whether or not the cut-throat competition and comparisons bother her. She had said, "Comparison and competition is part and parcel of our profession. I don't get bothered; there's space for everybody here, and both of us are confident and secure in our respective places." Elaborating further, she had

added, "Whether it's me and Janhvi or me and Ananya Panday, we do have more in common with each other than we do with other people. We are young debutantes trying to make it big in a world we have only dreamed about." On the work front, she is currently shooting in Indore with Vicky Kaushal for their upcoming film.

AGENCIES



Anushka returns with Jhulan Goswami biopic

Anushka Sharma shared the first look teaser of *Chakda Xpress*, a biopic on the former captain of national women's cricket team Jhulan Goswami. The film will mark Anushka's return to acting after a break of three years. "It is a really special film because it is essentially a story of tremendous sacrifice," she wrote while sharing the teaser of the Netflix movie on Instagram. It shows her leading her team to a cricket field, wearing jerseys with slips of their own names slapped on the male cricketers' names, as she makes a promise - "Today, you see us. Tomorrow, you'll remember our names."



Talking about the film, Anushka wrote in her post: "*Chakda Xpress* is inspired by the life and times of former Indian captain Jhulan Goswami and it will be an eye-opener into the world of women's cricket. At a time when Jhulan decided to become a cricketer and make her country proud on the global stage, it was very tough for women to even think of playing the sport.

This film is a dramatic retelling of several instances that shaped her life and also women's cricket." AGENCIES



Rajkummar to play visually impaired industrialist

Rajkummar Rao is all set to bring the inspiring story of Srikanth Bolla, a visually impaired industrialist, to the big screen. The film, tentatively titled *Srikanth Bolla*, has been written by Sumit Purohit and Jagdeep Sidhu, and will be helmed by Tushar Hiranandani, who earlier directed *Saand Ki Aankh*.

Talking about his character, Rajkummar Rao said, "Srikanth Bolla is an inspiration! It's indeed a privilege to play such an inspiring persona who has been through a lot of hardships and despite that has risen like a phoenix! I am really looking forward to playing Srikanth."

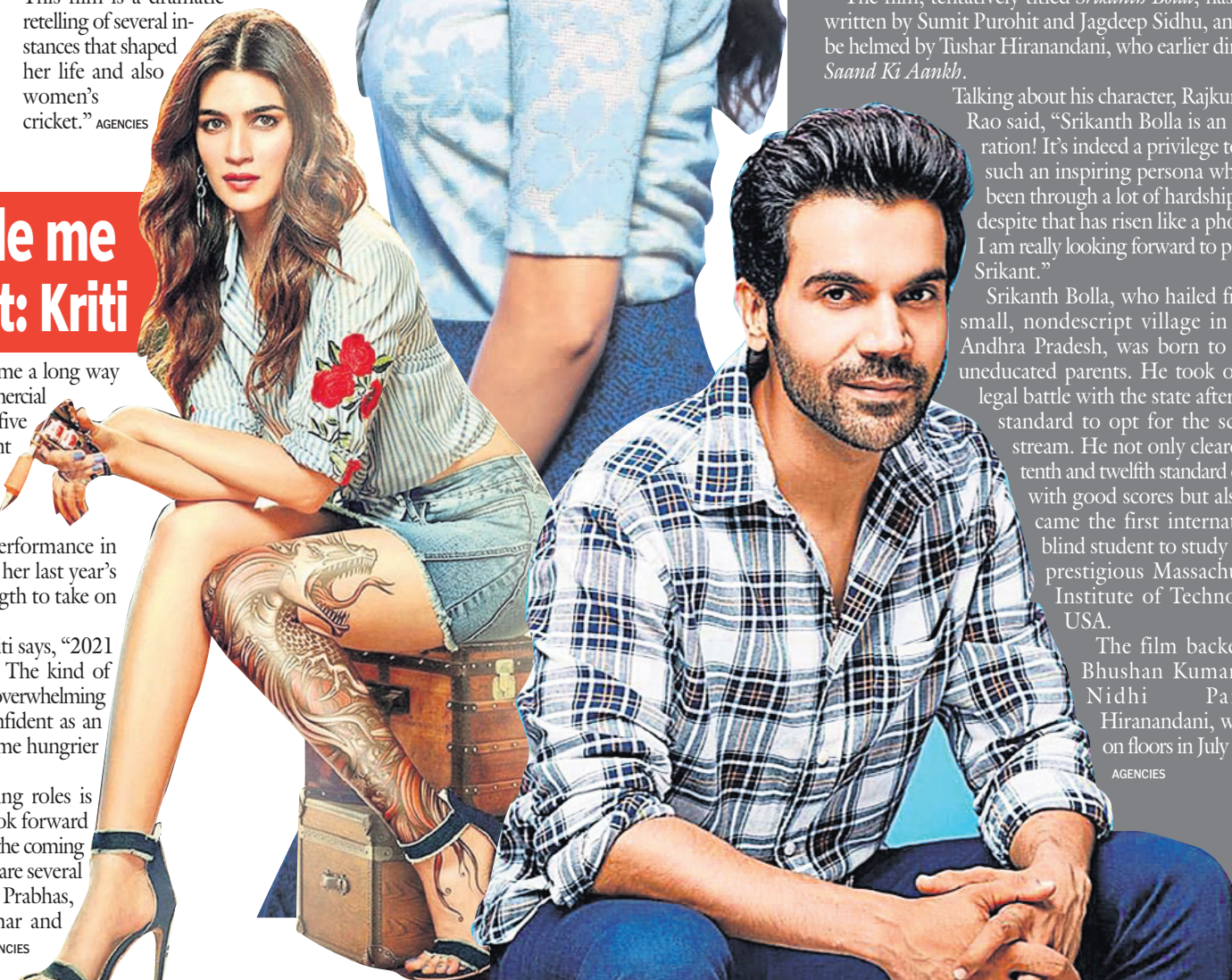
Srikanth Bolla, who hailed from a small, nondescript village in rural Andhra Pradesh, was born to poor, uneducated parents. He took on the legal battle with the state after 10th standard to opt for the science stream. He not only cleared his tenth and twelfth standard exams with good scores but also became the first international blind student to study at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

The film backed by Bhushan Kumar and Nidhi Parmar Hiranandani, will go on floors in July 2022. AGENCIES

Mimi has made me more confident: Kriti

Actress Kriti Sanon has indeed come a long way with rich content-driven and commercial films. This year, she will be seen in five films all of which belong to different genres thereby allowing her to push the boundaries with her work. The actress clearly outshone all in the last year with her outstanding performance in her sole lead film, *Mimi*. She credits her last year's release *Mimi* for giving her the strength to take on more risks. Reflecting on the year gone by, Kriti says, "2021 was an amazing year professionally. The kind of love that *Mimi* got has been extremely overwhelming and has not only made me more confident as an actor to take risks but has also made me hungrier to push the envelope further". The hunger for playing challenging roles is not over for Kriti and so she does look forward to having more experimenting roles in the coming year. Next on the cards for the actress are several big-ticket releases like *Adipurush* with Prabhas, *Bachchan Pandey* with Akshay Kumar and *Ganapath* with Tiger Shroff.

AGENCIES





Farm to Fashion

With minimal investment and use of locally available bamboo species, women in rural areas can comfortably earn up to ₹20,000/- a month by working from their home, claims Bhubaneswar-based jewellery designer Priyadarshini Das



RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

Bamboo is widely used for making furniture and handicrafts. But in recent times, bamboo-based eco-friendly jewellery has become the latest fad among fashionistas. Bhubaneswar-based homemaker Priyadarshini Das launched a bamboo-based sustainable jewellery range during the lockdown period keeping the growing demand in mind. She also has been imparting training to the women in Rayagada district to make them financially independent.

Using modern techniques, Priyadarshini has crafted different types and sizes of bangles, hair clips, earrings, studs and necklaces. She applies Pattachitra art on her products to add zing to the ornaments.

Inspired by the concept of Farm to Fashion propounded by Professor Binaya Bhusan Jena of NIFT, Priyadarshini also developed a unique chemical free eco-friendly processing of bamboo with the application of neem, karanja and turmeric available in her kitchen. Besides, she started experimenting with

making beads from bale, neem and basil plants with bamboo as a base material. She uses basic machine tools and materials to make all these fabulous products.

Priyadarshini also experimented on dyeing of



Priyadarshini Das

bamboo and wooden beads using different natural dyes collected and sourced locally. During the pandemic, she did the maximum to create a new genre of sustainable jewellery using bamboo and other local natural materials. Unlike

other entrepreneurs, her objective is to create employment opportunities for the rural youth, particularly girls through skilling in sustainable

bamboo-based jewellery. Last year in April, she designed a project for 25 Kondh Tribal girls of Badachandeli village of Rayagada district through a project from SPARSH Social Foundation, an initiative of JK Papers Ltd, Rayagada. These girls are doing good business and have bagged many projects from the Government and private agencies.

About her work, Priyadarshini says, "I am extremely worried about issues like climate change, unemployment of youth, and migration of people in search of livelihood. My concern for these issues and love for bamboo have been at the core for this new initiative of

eco-friendly bamboo-based jewellery. With almost zero investment and using locally available bamboo and other raw materials anyone, women in rural pockets in particular, can comfortably earn up to Rs 20,000/- a month working from their home. Odisha has got around 10 different varieties of bamboo, out of which 3-4 varieties are suitable for making jewellery. When most of the artisans make sliver-based bamboo jewellery, my focus is solid bamboo jewellery."

Earlier, Priyadarshini also created a series of bamboo-based rakhis which were widely appreciated by the customers.



Pinky



PHOTO: KUMAR SHARAT, OP