



RICHA GOES GLOBAL
 Actor Richa Chadha is all set to foray into global cinema and has signed a project that will be helmed by a British director
LEISURE P2



BIDEN, XI MEET
 Biden, Xi hold first in-person meeting in Bali with both underscoring the need to prevent conflict
INTERNATIONAL P10



FRITZ BEAT NADAL
 Taylor Fritz opens his ATP Finals campaign in style as the American stuns 22-time Grand Slam winner Rafael Nadal
SPORTS P12

SHORT TAKES

Retail inflation falls to 6.77% in October

New Delhi: Retail inflation dropped to 6.77 per cent in October from 7.41 per cent in the preceding month, mainly due to easing prices in the food basket, though it remained above Reserve Bank's comfort level for the 10th month in a row, according to the government data released Monday. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation has remained above the 6 per cent target since January this year. Another set of data released earlier in the day revealed that the wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation dipped to a 19-month low of 8.39 per cent in October on easing prices of food, fuel and manufactured items. **P11**

Mamata apologises for minister's slur on Prez

Kolkata: Condemning ministerial colleague Akhil Giri's controversial remarks on President Droupadi Murmu, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Monday apologised for his comment on behalf of the TMC. Banerjee said she has immense respect for the President, and her party has cautioned Giri against making such derogatory remarks in the future. "We respect the President of India. She is a highly-respected lady. We condemn the statement made by minister of state Akhil Giri; what he said is wrong. The party has already condemned the statement and has also cautioned Akhil Giri," she said at a press conference. **P7**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



If we look from the point of view of molesters, rapists, rioters & murderers, achhe din are truly here

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	61624.15 ↓ 170.89
NIFTY	18329.15 ↓ 20.55
DOLLAR	81.23 ↓ ₹0.14
EURO	83.58 ↑ ₹0.27
GOLD	₹52,649 ↑ ₹315
SILVER	₹62,165 ↑ ₹594

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
MAX	30.0°C	29.4°C
MIN	17.1°C	17.0°C
Humidity	74%	70%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Mainly clear sky	



SNOWY SUMMIT: Tourists visit snow covered Nathatop after a fresh spell of snowfall, about 120 kms from Jammu, Monday **PTI PHOTO**

SHARATH TO RECEIVE KHEL RATNA, DEEP GRACE BAGS ARJUNA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Table tennis legend Achanta Sharath Kamal will receive the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, India's highest sporting honour, as the lone recipient this year from President Droupadi Murmu November 30 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here. Odisha hockey star Deep Grace Ekka is among the 25 sportspersons to receive Arjuna Awards.



Arjuna Award winners: Seema Punia (Athletics), Eldhose Paul (Athletics), Avinash Mukund Sable (Athletics), Lakshya Sen (Badminton), HS Prannoy (Badminton), Amit (Boxing), Nikhat Zareen (Boxing), Bhakti Pradip Kulkarni (Chess), R Praggnanandhaa (Chess), Deep Grace Ekka (Hockey), Shushila Devi (Judo), Sakshi Kumari (Kabaddi), Nayanoni Saikia (Lawn Bowl), Sagar Kailas Ovhalakar (Mallakhamb), Elavenil Valarivan (Shooting), Omprakash Mitharval (Shooting), Sreeja Akula (TT), Vikas Thakur (Weightlifting), Anshu (Wrestling), Sarita (Wrestling), Parveen (Wushu), Manasi Girish-chandra Joshi (Para Badminton), Tarun Dhillion (Para Badminton), Swapnil Sanjay Patil (Para Swimming), Jerlin Anika J (Deaf Badminton).

Forced religious conversion danger to nat'l security: SC

Terming it as a "very serious" issue, the top court says there is freedom of religion, but no freedom on forced conversion

PNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 14: Forced religious conversion may pose a danger to national security and impinge on religious freedom of citizens, the Supreme Court said Monday, and asked the Centre to step in and make sincere efforts to tackle the very serious issue.

The court warned a very difficult situation will emerge if proselytisation through deception, allurements and intimidation is not stopped. The issue with respect to the alleged conversion of religion, if it is found to be correct and true, is a very serious issue which may ultimately affect the security of the nation as well as the freedom of religion and conscience of the citizens. Therefore, it is better that the Union government may make their stand clear and file counter on what steps can be taken by Union and/or others to curb such forced conversion maybe by force, allurements or fraudulent means, a bench of Justices MR Shah and Hima Kohli said. The court asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to enumerate measures to curb the practice. "This is a very serious matter. Sincere efforts are to be made by

the Centre to stop forced conversions. Otherwise very difficult situation will come. Tell us what action do you propose... You have to step in," the bench observed. Mehta submitted before the top court that the issue was debated even in the Constituent Assembly. There were two Acts. One was by the Odisha government and other one by Madhya Pradesh dealing with regulation of any forcible conversion by deceit, falsehood or fraud, money. These issues came before this court for consideration and the top court upheld the validity, Mehta said. The solicitor general said forced religious conversions are rampant in tribal areas. Many a time the victims are not aware they are the subject matter of criminal offence and would say they are being helped, Mehta said. The top court observed there may be freedom of religion but there cannot be freedom of religion by forced conversion.



CHIT FUND SCAM
Odisha, CBI, ED asked to file response in 2 weeks

The Supreme Court Monday asked Odisha government, CBI and Enforcement Directorate to file their responses on a petition seeking probe in the multi-crore chit fund scam by November 25.

A two-judge bench of Justices MR Shah and Hima Kohli appointed advocate Gaurav Agrawal as amicus curiae in the case. The bench posted the matter for hearing December 1. Advocate Prashant Bhushan, counsel for petitioner Pinak Pani Mohanty, submitted in the court that the antecedents of the petitioner are very dubious and requested the apex court to appoint an amicus curiae in the case. "Antecedents of petitioner are very dubious. I didn't know about it when I took the case. I found it later. Please appoint an amicus curiae in the matter as the case in

very important. The petitioner may use this case as a weapon to blackmail," Bhushan submitted in the court. Additional solicitor general Aishwarya Bhati submitted that the Union government want to place a status report. On being asked about CBI's status report, ASG Bhati submitted that some aspects of the case are being investigated by CBI while some aspects by ED and sought time to file report. Significantly, the petition filed by Pinak Pani Mohanty stated that the chit fund scam that has hit the states of West Bengal, Tripura, Assam and Odisha involves collection of nearly ₹10,000 crore from the general public especially the weaker sections of the society. The petition further states that more than 25 lakh claims have so far been received by the Commissions of Enquiries set up in the states of Odisha and West Bengal which is indicative of the magnitude of scam in terms of number of citizens that have been defrauded by the ponzi companies. **Continued on P4**

PADAMPUR BYPOLL

BJD fields Barsha

BJP candidate Pradip Purohit returns from RO office without filing nomination

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Putting all speculations to rest, the ruling BJD Monday fielded Barsha Singh Bariha, daughter of late MLA Bijaya Ranjan Singh Bariha, as its candidate for the bypoll to the Padampur Assembly constituency in Bargarh district. "Barsha Singh Bariha, wife of Smruti Sourav Baliarsingh, is the Biju Janata Dal candidate for by-election to 01-Padampur Assembly constituency," BJD President and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said in an order. Sources said that BJD has picked up Barsha to get sympathy votes and also to woo the women voters of the constituency as Opposition BJP and Congress have nominated ex-MLAs and male candidates for the election. Besides, Barsha is a fresh and young face and also a law graduate. So, people may like her candidature, they said. The interesting thing is that Barsha is the daughter-in-law of BJP leader Ramakanta Baliarsingh.

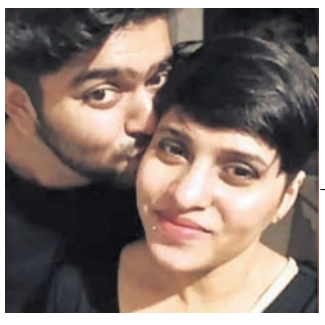


VOTING HOURS REDUCED

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has reduced the voting time for the Padampur bypoll scheduled to be held December 5. The voting will start at 7am and conclude at 4pm. Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Odisha, Sushil Kumar Lohani informed this to representatives of all political parties during an all-party meeting held here Monday. More than 2.5 lakh electorate will exercise their franchise in the bypoll.

Thanking the BJD supremo, Barsha said, "I will emphasise on women empowerment. I have learnt a lot from my father and will try to implement the same." Meanwhile, BJP candidate and ex-MLA Pradip Purohit, who went to the returning officer's office to file his nomination papers Monday, has returned without submitting his papers. While moving to the Padampur Sub-Collector's office, Purohit took part in a mega rally with Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Bargarh MP Suresh Pujari, Leader of Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra, Kalahandi MP Basant Panda and his supporters. **Contd on P4**

Man murders live-in partner, chops her body into 35 pieces, dumps across Delhi



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Mumbai, Nov 14: A 28-year-old man allegedly strangled his live-in partner and sawed her body into 35 pieces which he kept in a 300-litre fridge for almost three weeks at his residence in South Delhi's Mehrauli before dumping them across the city over several days, police said Monday. In a harrowing tale of betrayal and subterfuge, the accused, a trained chef, evaded detection for six months, continued to live in the house they shared and was only arrested early Saturday after details of the killing and its grisly aftermath came to light during his interrogation. Accused Aaftab Amin Poonawala told the police during the investigation that he killed Shraddha Walkar after a quarrel over marriage and the idea of chopping her body into pieces was inspired by 'Dexter', an American crime TV series. He not only bought the fridge to preserve the body parts but also stocked incense sticks and room fresheners to suppress the foul smell emanating from the corpse. Stepping out past midnight with body parts packed in poly bags, the accused meticulously planned which ones to dispose of first depending upon which part starts decomposing at the earliest, the police said. According to police officials, 13 body parts were found after the accused pinpointed the areas where he had thrown them, but only after their forensic examination, it can be confirmed if they belong to the victim. They are yet to find the murder weapon. For the next few weeks after the murder, Poonawala allegedly interacted with the woman's friends using her social media accounts so as to not arouse any suspicion. Walkar was not talking to her family as they had objected to their relationship. Moving on with his life as if nothing happened, the accused continued to live in the same place where they had shifted in May.

World population to hit 'eight billion' milestone today

In an editorial penned ahead of the momentous day, UN chief Guterres warns that as our human family grows larger, it is also growing more divided

AGENCIES

San Francisco, Nov 14: Today, November 15, is predicted to be the day that the global population hits eight billion, a milestone in human development. The United Nation's World Population Prospects 2022 report also says that India is on course to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023. This unprecedented growth is due to the gradual increase in human lifespan owing to improvements in public health, nutrition, personal hygiene and medicine. It is also the result of high and persistent levels of fertility in some

countries. Currently, the global population is growing at its slowest rate since 1950, having fallen under 1 per cent in 2020. The UN further says that while it took the global population 12 years to grow from 7 to 8 billion, it will take approximately 15 years—until 2037—for it to reach 9 billion, a sign that the overall growth rate of the global population is slowing. The population is



predicted to peak at around 10.4 billion in the 2080s and to remain there until 2100. "It is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another," said UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. A majority of the projected population growth up to 2050 will take place in eight countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Tanzania, according to the report. "The relationship between population growth and sustainable

development is complex and multidimensional," said Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. "Rapid population growth makes eradicating poverty, combating hunger and malnutrition, and increasing the coverage of health and education systems more difficult," he added. Global life expectancy at birth reached 72.8 years in 2019, an improvement of almost 9 years since 1990, said the report. By 2050, it is projected that global life expectancy will be 77.2 years. However, in 2021, the least-developed countries lagged behind the global average by 7 years.

It is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another
 ANTONIO GUTERRES | UN SECRETARY GENERAL

leisure



HARRY DOES GENDER REVEAL FOR PREGNANT FAN AT HIS CONCERT

Singer Harry Styles lent a pregnant fan a helping hand to do a gender reveal at his concert. The 28-year-old pop megastar was headlining a gig at the Kia Forum in LA and revealed to the 17,000-seat arena that mother-to-be Sidney will soon be giving birth to a baby girl.

'WAKANDA FOREVER' MINTS \$330 MN GLOBALLY ON OPENING WEEKEND

Marvel's 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever' lorded over the box office this weekend, earning \$180 million in North America providing a much-needed lift to beleaguered cinemas. With an opening weekend as rock-solid as this one, 'Wakanda Forever' is not very far from the 10th position in the Hollywood Top 10 grossers list for 2022.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
With your substantial inter-personal abilities, you will accomplish a great deal today, says Ganesh. Your power of expression will impress many people. Financial rewards are on the cards, but be cautious about minor accidents and illnesses.

TAURUS
Things will tend to get very difficult and complicated, says Ganesh. Be prepared for setbacks and challenges today. No matter how big the issue, your competence, your resourcefulness will see you through. Try to remain focused and alert. Be cautious and circumspect. Act coolly and sensibly.

GEMINI
There is a possibility of conflicts brewing at your home today. The demands made by your family members will increase and you may struggle to cope to meet them. This could make you ill-tempered. You will encounter large expenses in meeting these demands.

CANCER
A wondrous beginning of the day! A unique vibrations in romantic life. Ties with life partner will be cordial. Blissful moments of married life are indicated. Peace and happiness prevail in the family. The whole day will be blooming and jovial, says Ganesh.

LEO
A lot of people will sing your praises, however you will not be satisfied with whatever is occurring. The answers to some questions that have been bothering you will remain elusive. You may become emotional owing to feelings of personal loss.

VIRGO
Today finds you ambitious and meticulous. Actions will not speak - they'll roar! Your planning and scruples will set the pace at work. Expect pats on the back from your bosses and a round of cheers from your peers.

LIBRA
Ganesh says you shall pay more attention to your family and family issues. You will want to renovate and change the interior of your house or go in for purchasing new gadgets and décor for the home. You will spend time today with your family members. Ganesh says his best wishes are with you always.

SCORPIO
It's time to influence people and win their hearts whether it's your crush, love or your boss. You may be eager to express your feelings for them. At work, you are likely to work actively and kick start the projects in the pipeline. Ganesh, advises you to keep your eyes and ears open.

SAGITTARIUS
Time to open up that can of confetti at the workplace today. Success never smelled sweeter. But you may bleed on the purchase front, says Ganesh, as in your revelry, you may just unknowingly end up shelling an extra buck or two on ordinary items.

CAPRICORN
The hassle and bustle around you will not disturb you today. You've been holding your emotions in your heart and they have started suffocating you. Such an uncomfortable situation may hamper your logical reasoning power and make you feel trapped. But, this too shall pass. You will easily come out of the negative zone and move ahead on the path, foretells Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
Flash warning signals to your arch rivals as you will be in a mood to prove you metal and give them a run for their money. Doubts and inhibitions - all will vanish in the air and you will be determined to make your mark, feels Ganesh. While on your path to success you will win the hearts of one and many.

PISCES
There is a thick chance that your day will be profitable on the monetary front. Money may pour in from business or even through overseas investments. Your knack for good public relations and networking will work to your benefit and good deals will come from far and unexpected sources as well. Reap the benefits and make the most of your contacts, says Ganesh.



Kajol reveals her biggest nightmare

MUMBAI: Indian actress Kajol, whose trailer for next film 'Salaam Venky' looks like an emotional ride says, "It's the biggest nightmare of any parent to imagine her children in this state. One can't even imagine it for their enemy And that's exactly why I had said no to do this film. I heard the script because Revathy was making it but I was sure that I'll say no." She also shared her experience of working with Revathy: "I've worked with so many directors in my career and at some point, every di-

rector shouts on the set. It's not their fault but there's just so much pressure on them and so much is happening that their frustration comes out. A director either ends up shouting on the actors or the crew. But all through the shoot of 'Salaam Venky', from 9 am to 9pm, I've never heard Revathy ma'am talk in a loud voice. Her expression has never changed from 'shaant'".

Richa to star in Indo-British film

MUMBAI: Actor Richa Chadha who is all set to foray into global cinema has signed a project that will be helmed by a British director. Chadha, who is currently juggling the shoot of filmmaker SLB's web series, Heera Mandi, and her maiden production, Girls Will Be Girls, will play the lead in the Indo-British production. The shoot is scheduled to begin in January in London. "I'm excited to partner with creative brains from the UK, who want to tell different stories and look at the immigrant experience from a new lens. I've read the script and decided to go ahead with it.

The story is interesting and I really liked my character," says the Candy actor. The 35-year-old adds, "I have wanted to work outside of India, but I never pursued it actively till the opportunity presented itself and I could not say no. I'm happy to work in all languages and industries, not just in the West, but in India as well."



Janhvi names her 'dream directors'

MUMBAI: Actress Janhvi Kapoor starrer 'Mili' finally hit the big screens on November 4. While the reviews are still pouring in, final box office numbers are awaited. Directed by Mathukutty Xavier, the survival-thriller also stars Sunny Kaushal and Manoj Pahwa. The film seems to be a special one for the actress as it marks her first collaboration with her producer dad Boney Kapoor. While promoting her special survival drama, Janhvi shared the name of her dream directors she really wants to work with in future. When asked the name of dream director she really wants to work with, Janhvi said, "Karan [Johar] especially because - and I don't know if I'm allowed to say this - but just the energy I'm getting from 'Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani', I think it's going to be like people are going to be shook. It's going to be the most fun thing ever. And Sanjay [Leela Bhansali] sir of course. I've been stalking him like a maniac and Neeraj Ghaywan".



Cinema is a unifying force: Ranveer



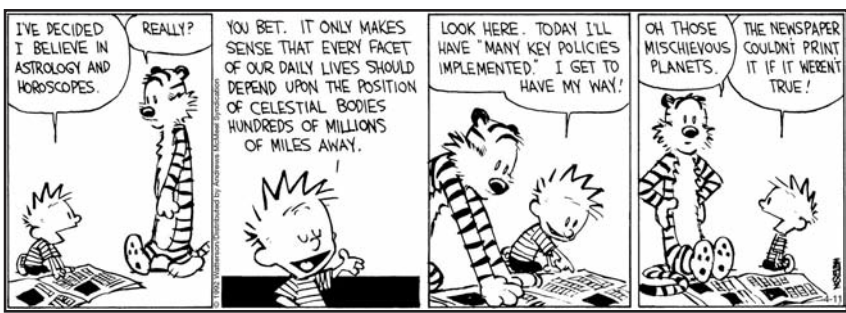
MUMBAI: Indian actor Ranveer Singh, who was honoured at the 2022 Marrakech International Film Festival, where he represented Indian cinema on global platform, is elated to receive so much love and recognition in Morocco. Ranveer shared pictures on receiving the Etoile d'or Award and captioned it: "Cinema is a unifying force! I feel immensely honoured that my work has transcended cultural and geographical boundaries, and has earned me such love and recognition in beautiful Morocco. I'm over-

whelmed with gratitude!" "Thank you to the Marrakech International Film Festival for bestowing me with the prestigious Etoile d'or Award! Proud to be an ambassador for my culture and represent Indian Cinema on the world stage! @marrakechfilmfestival". Marrakech has a long history of celebrating Indian cinema. The festival previously honored Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan and in 2012, it ran a special sidebar to mark 100 years of Indian cinema.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

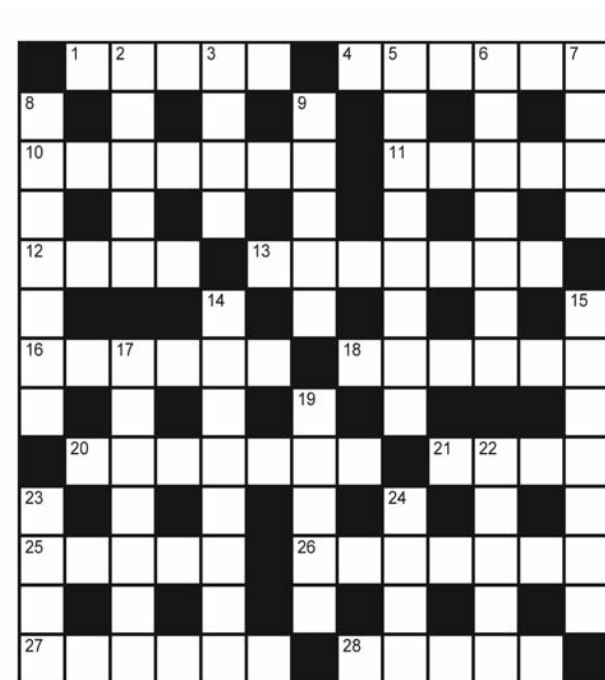


BREVITY



FUN post

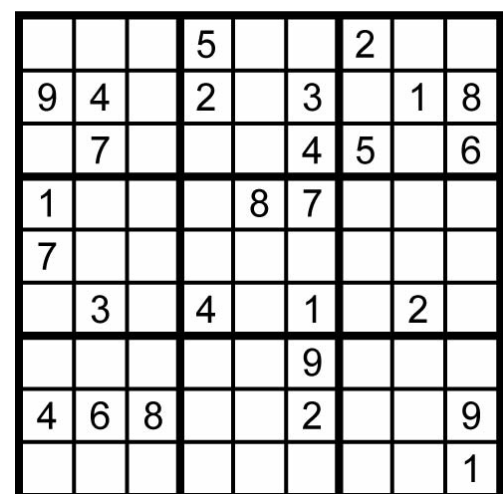
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Reef ring
 - 4 Wine order
 - 10 Reprimand
 - 11 Designer's concern
 - 12 River of Hades
 - 13 Various
 - 16 Stereo knob
 - 18 Misbehaves (4,2)
 - 20 Two-toed flightless bird
 - 21 Popeyed
 - 25 Wheeled vehicle
 - 26 Hard to pin down
 - 27 Former Spanish money
 - 28 Roars
 - Down**
 - 2 Cheap
 - 3 Praise
 - 5 Gallery
 - 6 Buttonholes
 - 7 Emerald Isle
 - 8 Storage places
 - 9 Jeans material
 - 14 Orchestra member
 - 15 Orbital extremes
 - 17 Flags
 - 19 Santa's reindeer, e.g.
 - 22 Hibachi
 - 23 Trade
 - 24 Camera setting

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

GATE GASPEDAL
LEO B L E A
OMNIBUS ASSET
A E J E S T E
MOTHER NATURE
I C T E O M
NICETY ARGYLE
G L L C C N
PIPE CLEANERS
A N S I S A W
VEINS COTERIE
E C O H S T A
RESENTED THOR

SUDOKU

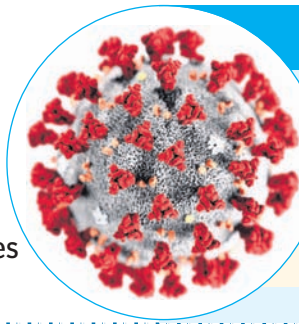
5	1	9	4	2	7	3	8	6
7	2	3	8	5	6	9	4	1
8	6	4	3	9	1	5	2	7
3	5	7	2	1	4	8	6	9
6	9	8	7	3	5	4	1	2
2	4	1	9	6	8	7	5	3
1	7	2	5	4	3	6	9	8
9	8	5	6	7	2	1	3	4
4	3	6	1	8	9	2	7	5

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



SOULFUL STRINGS

Akarai sisters, S Subhalakshmi and S Sornalatha play Carnatic Violin at the Rajarani Music Festival on the temple premises in Bhubaneswar, Monday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	64,04,45,333	62,01,28,555	66,15,759
India	4,46,66,924	4,41,26,924	5,30,532
Odisha	13,36,304	13,26,915	9,204

Resume work or lose licence, lawyers told

The apex court puts all the bar associations concerned and their office bearers on notice and says that non-compliance of the court's order will invite contempt of court proceedings



mon people. The conduct of many associations and lawyers (in Odisha) has been far from satisfactory. We will not countenance this," the apex court said.

A two-judge bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Abhay S Oka refused the request of Central Action Committee of All Bar Associations of Western Odisha to put the suspension order of office bearers of five bar associations in abeyance and grant it time to respond on the issue. The bench said that even if it has to suspend 100-300 advocates, it will do so. "We won't tolerate this. We will take away your source of income if you continue the strike. The litigants

are suffering because of these agitations. This is completely unacceptable," Justice Kaul said.

The apex court put all concerned bar associations and their office bearers on notice and held that non-compliance of the court's order will invite contempt of court proceedings. "We expect full working by all bar associations by day after tomorrow, failing which, the Bar Council of India (BCI) is expected to take action for suspension and cancellation of the licences of lawyers," the court said.

During the hearing, the bench was apprised about an order passed by the BCI Sunday suspending the presidents, vice presidents, secre-

taries and members of executive committees of five bar associations in the state for encouraging the abstention of work. The BCI suspended the office bearers of Sambalpur District Bar Association, Baramba Bar Association in Cuttack district, Tangi Bar Association in Khurda district, Talcher Bar Association and Pallahara Bar Association in Angul.

The bench said that while it appreciates the steps taken by the chairman of BCI in pursuance of the duties he has, further action would be required by the BCI if they do not fall in line. The Bar Council of Odisha chairman and advocate general Ashok Parija informed that 20 associations have been agitating.

Significantly, the apex court order came on an application filed by the Registrar General of Orissa HC through advocate Sib Sankar Mishra stating that members of the bar associations of several districts have abstained regular court proceedings for seeking establishment of permanent bench of Orissa HC in western Odisha and for several other reasons.

Oppn readies Archana ammo to corner govt in Assembly

PNN/AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Narasingha Mishra Monday said the party would raise the Archana Nag blackmailing case in the Winter Session of the state Assembly and sought a reply from Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on the arrest of an accused by Enforcement Directorate (ED) while Odisha Police failed to nab him.

The ED is reported to have informed the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on black money of having traced financial transactions amounting to ₹20 crore in the woman blackmailer case, Mishra told reporters.

He said that the ED also arrested an accused allegedly let off by Odisha police.

"It proves that Odisha Police is shielding those involved in the racket. Someone who was spared by the police has now been arrested by the ED immediately after it began a probe in the case," Mishra said.

The CLP leader was apparently referring to the arrest of Khageswar Patra, a business partner of Archana and her husband Jagabandhu Chand. The ED must not have arrested the accused without having sufficient evidence, he said.

"Therefore, I demand a reply from the Chief Minister as to how the state police spared people involved in the racket," Mishra said alleging that many ruling party leaders were linked to the woman who allegedly blackmailed rich and influential persons.

Referring to the hit fund case, the CLP leader said that most of



Making a veiled remark on Khageswar Patra's arrest, Congress leader Narasingha Mishra said Odisha Police was shielding those involved in the racket

BJP demanded a CBI probe into the incident by stating that Odisha Police was not competent to probe into the case where ruling party leaders were involved

ED seizes incriminating papers, digital proof

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Monday said it has seized 'incriminating documents, digital evidence and mobile phones during recent searches carried out in connection with Archana Nag money-laundering and alleged 'sextortion' case. The action was undertaken against prime accused Nag, her husband Jagabandhu Chand, his alleged aide Khageswar Patra and Sharadhanjali Behera, an associate of Nag, November 10. A total of seven premises in the state were searched, the ED said in a statement. Meanwhile, ED sleuths Sunday grilled the lady blackmailer's father, Surendra Nag, at its office in Nayapalli here. The sleuths tried to ascertain the details as to how Surendra managed to construct the three-storey building on a government property at Kesinga in Kalahandi. The sleuths also asked him as to how much money he received from Archana during the last five years, details of the persons having links with Archana and when she came in contact with Jagabandhu.

those involved in the woman blackmailer case are also involved in the hit fund case. While BJD is the ruling party in Odisha, BJP is in power at the Centre and both are like two sides of the same coin.

"Who will catch the culprit? However, there is a silver lining. The SIT on black money took cognizance of the case and directed the Income Tax department to investigate," he said.

Meanwhile, BJP chief whip

in Odisha Assembly, Mohan Majhi said his party would intensify Archana Nag issue in Assembly.

Majhi said the BJP activists across the state have agitated demanding action against those involved in the case.

The party demands a CBI probe into the incident as the Odisha Police was not competent to probe into the case where ruling party leaders were involved, he said.

5T Secy visits Sikhar Chandi temple, reviews devt works



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: In deference to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's instructions, Secretary to Chief Minister (5T) VK Pandian, visited Sikhar Chandi temple near Patia here and reviewed development of the shrine and peripheral renovation works including amenities for tourists and pilgrims and beautification of the Sikhar Chandi hill region.

The overall plan being executed by Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) will enhance the recreational facilities and amusement for the visitors. Pandian instructed the officials to make infrastructure, adventure sports, tracking and viewpoint development in the hill. He also instructed the officials to plan for community infrastructure development at foothills plain area of IDCO.

The 5T Secretary later visited the sites of town planning scheme undertaken by BDA near Gothapatna and reviewed updated status of the project along with the development of the Ring Road under Town Planning Scheme. Out of the total 45 schemes planned, BDA has

The overall plan being executed by Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) will enhance the recreational facilities and amusement for the visitors

The 5T Secretary instructed the officials to make infrastructure, adventure sports, tracking and viewpoint development in the hill

completed four such schemes along with the Ring Road. Pandian instructed the officials to make speedy progress on road, water, electricity and other related development works. He also instructed the BDA officials to make the project successful with the help of feedback from land owners.

Also present during the visit were Sanjay Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary, Rural Development department, R Vineel Krishna, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Sports & Youth Services department and Special Secretary CMO, Balwant Singh, Vice-Chairman, BDA, Vijay Amruta Kulange, Commissioner, BMC, K Sudarshan Chakravarty Khurda Collector and other senior officers of various departments.

KISS OPENS CAMPUS IN DHAKA

Bhubaneswar: The first overseas campus of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS, Bhubaneswar) has recently been inaugurated in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The new campus, known as Daffodil Institute of Social Sciences (DISS), was inaugurated by the founder of KIIT-KISS University and Lok Sabha MP Achyuta Samanta Sunday. The residential campus has been modelled after KISS and has been set up with technical support. It will be a constituent of the Daffodil International University (DIU), the largest university in Bangladesh. The idea of setting up a campus for the tribal students in Bangladesh took shape during the visit of the founder of DIU Mohammad Sabur Khan to the KISS campus. Samanta has a long-standing association with DIU. He was elated by Khan's proposal to set up a 'replica' of KISS in Bangladesh and committed his support to the new campus. Inspired by the KISS campus, Khan expressed his keen desire to set up a residential school for poor children in Bangladesh.

Publish ASO merit list with marks: HC

AGENCEIS

Cuttack, Nov 14: The Orissa High Court Monday directed the Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) to publish the final merit list of the selected candidates along with the marks they have secured and the cut-off marks for the Assistant Section Officer (ASO) posts.

The written examination for the ASO posts was conducted by OPSC August 27 this year and the results were published November 7.

Refusing to entertain a batch of writ petitions in this connection, a bench of Justice AK Mohapatra directed the commission to publish the results of the recruitment examinations as per the government recruitment policy of 2016.

At least 20 unsuccessful aspirants alleging irregularities in evaluations had approached the High Court seeking judicial intervention.

The OPSC had come out with a corrigendum in February this year announcing that the merit list of ASO aspirants will contain only the roll numbers of selected candidates along with their caste and gender.

Marks secured by the selected candidates will not be reflected in the merit list.

Counsels of the petitioners argued their cases pointing out several anomalies in the corrigendum which was not per the recruitment policy of 2016. They also mentioned that transparency was not maintained in the entire process of selection and meritorious students did not find their names in the provisional list published November 7.

SC notice to all High Courts on setting up of 'Gram Nyayalayas'



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 14: The Supreme Court Monday sought replies from all High Courts including Orissa on a plea for Centre and all states to take steps to set up 'Gram Nyayalayas' under the supervision of the apex court.

Advocate Prashant Bhusan, representing the petitioner, NGO National Federation of Societies for Fast Justice and others, submitted before a bench headed by Justice SA Nazeer that despite a direction from the top court in 2020,

many states have yet not taken any action. He added that these 'Gram Nyayalayas' should be such that people may be able to articulate their grievances without requiring a lawyer.

In 2008, the Parliament passed an Act for setting up of 'Gram Nyayalayas' at the grassroots level for providing access to justice to citizens at the doorstep.

The bench, also comprising Justice V

Ramasubramanian, said the high courts should be made parties to the case as they are the supervisory authority. After hearing arguments, the bench issued notice to the Registrar General of all high courts and made them parties to the case, and scheduled the matter for further hearing December 5.

In 2020, the top court had directed the state governments, which are yet to come out with notifications for establishing 'Gram Nyayalayas', to do so. It had also asked the high courts to expedite the process of consultation with state governments.

The plea contended that sections in the Act provide that the state government in consultation with the high court will appoint a 'Nyayadhikari' for each 'Gram Nyayalaya'.

Despite a direction from the apex court in 2020, many states have not yet taken any action on establishment of 'Gram Nyayalayas'

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BJD-BJP slugfest over delay in crop insurance payment



The delay in the payment of crop insurance claims will impact farmers' livelihood across the state, particularly in Bargarh

DEBESH ACHARYA | BJD MLA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Ahead of the December 5 by-election in drought-prone Padampur assembly constituency in Odisha's Bargarh district, a slugfest has erupted between the ruling BJD and the opposition BJP over the delay in payment of crop insurance money to farmers.

Growers have not received crop insurance dues even after four months of the harvest of Kharif crops, a legislator of the ruling party claimed.

However, BJP state general secretary Priothivraj Harichandan blamed the Odisha government for the distress of the cultivators, saying they were being inconvenienced as the state government did not meet the requisite formalities for timely payment of crop insurance claims.

"The delay in the payment of

affected farmers get their claim at the proper time? Acharya asked.

The PMFBY, launched in 2016, aims to provide financial aid to growers in case of crop loss or damage. The risks covered in the scheme include damage to the standing crop due to non-preventable risks like drought and flood, along with post-harvest losses.

Odisha's Cooperation minister Atanu S Nayak recently met Union Agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar in New Delhi and drew his attention to the miseries of farmers who were unable to go for the next crop due to non-payment of the insurance amount.

The minister alleged that instead of coming to the rescue of farmers, the opposition BJP is trying to blame it on the state's BJD government.

Meanwhile, BJP state general secretary Priothivraj Harichandan said, "The farmers could not avail the benefit of crop insurance as the state government did not meet the formalities required for timely payment of crop insurance.

Pointing out that the Centre has already issued an amended guideline for the smooth payment of crop insurance, Harichandan said as per the provision, the state-level technical advisory committee should resolve the issues between the farmers and insurance companies.

crop insurance claims will impact farmers' livelihood across the state, particularly in Bargarh," BJD MLA Debesh Acharya said.

The BJD MLA from Bargarh pointed out that though Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had taken up the issue with the Centre several times in the past, it yielded no result. Lakhs of farmers from western Odisha districts are suffering due to delays in the settlement of their crop insurance claims, he claimed.

Since the insurance is named Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), is it not the Centre's responsibility to ensure that the af-



SURAVI BEGINS: School and Mass Education minister Samir Ranjan Dash inaugurating state level children's festival 'Suravi 2022' at Government Boys High School, Unit-IX in Bhubaneswar, Monday

Engineer in Vig net over DA charges

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: The officials of state vigilance Monday carried out simultaneous searches at different locations related to a senior engineer of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS), Udala Sub-division in Mayurbhanj over the allegations of amassing disproportionate assets. The accused officer, Rabinarayan Panda, who hails from Kendrapada, works as the Assistant Executive Engineer at the RWS&S office in Udala.

The anti corruption officials conducted the raids at eight different placers in Bhubaneswar,



Kendrapada and Udala, Mayurbhanj on the strength of search warrants issued by the Special Judge, Vigilance, Bhubaneswar here Monday. The teams involved in the raids were led by one Additional SP, eight Deputy SPs, five Inspectors,

one Sub-inspector, 11 Assistant SIs and other staff.

The sleuths have been carrying out searches at the three-storied building at Kharvel Complex, in Aiginia area under Khandagiri police limits, two BHK Flat in the

fourth floor at the 'Tower Blue Hill' Apartment in Patrapara area, M/s SPS construction and consultancy at Khandagiri shopping plaza, Triveni Autotech Private Limited at Nayapalli here, his native house at Danpur and relative's house at Kansara in Kendrapara, at the office chamber and official residence at Udala, in Mayurbhanj.

The sleuths have reportedly recovered ₹25 lakh in cash from the house of the father-in-law of Panda's son, Soumit Panda at Nayapalli here. Soumit and his wife, Sagarika Swain often stay at his father-in-law's house, told Vigilance official.

Continued from P1 Padampur bypoll...

Purohit along with the senior BJP leaders met agitating farmers on the premises of the office of returning officer, Padampur while going to file the nomination this afternoon. The farmers requested the BJP leaders not to file nominations until their demands for release of claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), input subsidy and others have been met. On the request of the farmers, the BJP leaders have decided to go back without filing the papers. "In support of the demand of farmers' association, we have not filed nomination today. We have discussed with the farmers that if somebody else files the nomination, we will also file the papers," Mishra said. The farmers have requested all the political parties not to take part in the by-election until their demands are fulfilled. On the other hand, the ruling BJD has already backed the demand for the district status to Padampur sub-division. A local outfit named as Padampur Proposed District Central Action Committee staged a demonstration Monday outside the office of sub-collector to press for their demand. Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari and Bhatti MLA Sushant Singh met the agitating locals and held a discussion on their demands. Sunday, the BJD announced that they are backing the demand for formation of a separate district. However, the agitating leaders demand that the Chief Minister should make an announcement on formation of Padampur district. It seems that the Padampur by-election will be fought on local issues so the two major political parties BJD and BJP have stood with two important local demands to woo the voters. However, the Congress seems to have remained behind in the race. Congress party has nominated ex-MLA Satya Bhushan Sahu for the by-election scheduled for December 5.

SC asks Odisha...

The petition also stated that CBI has not filed final report regarding investigation qua 44 companies as directed by the apex court in 2014. The petitioner pleaded the court to constitute a single commission/standing committee under a sitting Judge of High Court/Supreme Court to secure the seized hard cash money and property of investors by CBI, ED, State of Finance of Odisha, CB of Odisha, OPID special Court, SEBI, others State and Central Agency and pay off the money to the investors in appropriate manner. The petitioner also prayed SC to direct the CBI and ED to submit final report qua investigation of 44 companies and also sought direction to the CBI to investigate four Sahara Group Credit Cooperative Societies namely - Sahara Credit Cooperative Societies Ltd, Humara India Credit Cooperative Society Ltd, Sahariyan multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd and Star Multipurpose Cooperative Societies Ltd.

City celebrates Children's Day with fervour



BJEM School



Loyola School

To commemorate the 133rd birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru, the National Children's Day was celebrated in BJEM School, Bhubaneswar with lots of joy and enthusiasm.

The celebration started with a rich floral tribute to the portrait of Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India to acknowledge his great contributions to the nation. The day was a fun-filled one for students as various activities and events were organized and performed by the students.

'Fete' was the centre of all attraction as the students from Class VIII to XII assembled in the school premises to enjoy eating various eatables and delicacies at the food stalls and playing endless fun games at the games corners made by the students. Gracing the occasion as the chief guest, Raghunath Mishra, Chairman, wished all the students a bright future and advised them to follow the great ideals of Nehru to rediscover their potentials. Sandhya Jena, Principal, highlighted Nehru's biographical accounts and en-

couraged the children to honour the teacher-student rapport for achievements in every walk of life.

Loyola School

Loyola School Bhubaneswar celebrated the Children's Day, birthday of Pandit Nehru, with fun, fervour and enthusiasm Monday. The teachers and staff expressed their love for the students through a beautifully curated programme.

The programme started with the lighting of the lamp by Fr. Rector Augustine Ezhakunnel SJ, Principal Fr. Victor Misquith SJ, Sr. Esther Toppo, Vice Principal (Junior section), Nandita Pattanayak, Vice

Principal (Senior section) and Fr. George Thana SJ.

There were three mesmerizing and scintillating dance performances by the teachers to the rhythm of latest Bollywood numbers. The students, cheering for their teachers as they performed, were an overwhelming sight. The support staff too showed their love for the children with an Adivasi Jethwari dance performance.

SAI International School

SAI International school students celebrated children day with 21 orphan children of Asha Kiran Orphanage. On this occasion, a spe-



SAI International School



CCWD

cial programme was organised by the school in which special gifts were given to the children.

Sai International School principal Nilakantha Panigrahi said to the children that they are the future of the nation and they must be self dependent in life and that can be achieved with proper education.

CCWD

Centre for Child and Women Development (CCWD), a child rights organisation working across the state, in collaboration with ActionAid Association, organised a day-long activity on the occasion of Children's Day here at the Rotary Club.

Attending as the chief guest noted novelist Sarat Kumar Nayak said that everyone should respect the rights of the children and we need to create an environment that's children friendly to ensure their wellbeing.

Several child club leaders attended as guests. Children from different slum pocket enthralled the audience with song and dance performances.

FESTIVAL 'ANJALI' KICKS OFF

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Swabhimana, a nonprofit cross disability organization, advocating for and serving persons with disabilities in Odisha, India and South Asia is organising a four-day festival titled Anjali, Monday. The first-of-its-kind festival aims at joyful learning and broadening and enriching the lives of children.

The organization is kicking off a campaign in India to celebrate November as "National Child Awareness Month - Say yes to all children." Celebration of 20 years journey in inclusion and joyful learning will be held for 30 days across the world that include seven countries namely US, Canada, Bhutan, South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria and Bangladesh. On this occasion, the

mascot, Johnny will also be unveiled globally. The celebrations will continue till November 18.

During this occasion, awareness will also be raised on the challenges faced by the children and talent of children with disabilities. Anjali's purpose is to inspire and lead community-wide collaborations for inclusion and access.

ANJALI that started with 77 children in Bhubaneswar grew bold and vast, touching lives of children in all 30 districts of Odisha, 27 states/UTs of India and 15 countries of the World.

ANJALI is India's first and only international children and youth festival which aims to bridge gaps for making the society more inclusive and restore fun-filled childhood by showcasing the potential of children with disabilities to mainstream society.

Govt committed to promote healthy lifestyle: CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: On the occasion of World Diabetes Day, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday reaffirmed the government's commitment to promote healthy lifestyle and work towards prevention, diagnosis and management of diabetes.

In his Twitter account he said "Diabetes has emerged as one of the most challenging health concerns across the world. On World Diabetes Day, I reaffirm our government's commitment to spread awareness on the health risks, promote healthy lifestyle and work towards better prevention, diagnosis and management of the condition."



In Odisha during Covid crisis, diabetes emerged as the most prominent underlying condition among those dying of the viral infection in the state, health department figures show.

Keep aside Covid, diabetes has assumed epidemic proportions in Odisha with long-term impact on health and

well-being of the population.

According to the Registrar General of India (RGI) annual report, Odisha ranked among top-ten states in country that record high mortalities owing to diabetes. The state records at least 6 medically registered deaths due to diabetes every 24 hours. The report has analysed the MCCDs across the states for the year 2017.

As per the data available under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), Sambalpur district has reported the maximum cases of high sugar level. But Khurda district tops the state with high diabetes cases. Sources informed that Khurda district has the maximum

rural populace affected by diabetes in the state followed by Sambalpur and Kandhamal. Cuttack also figured in the high-burden list, revealed the data. Though proportionately more males are affected by diabetes than females, Keonjhar and Jharsuguda are two exceptions noticed in the state, data revealed. About half-a-dozen districts in state have diabetes affected population more than the state average, sources informed.

Diabetes mellitus is arguably one of the "biggest known killers of humankind" and this menace can only be addressed through right education and through "access to diabetes education", which is the theme for this year's World Diabetes Day, say healthcare professionals.

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To love is not to possess, but to give oneself.

THE MOTHER



Blue Wave

The political outlook of the US now looks considerably different from what it was just a week ago before the midterm elections were held. Going by past records, pollsters were then predicting a rout of the Democrats and a surge of the red wave, meaning a near-certain return of Trumpism or the Right-wing politics of the Republicans. The voters however have spoken their mind differently. They have not given a decisive mandate either to the Democrats or the Republicans. But, they have stopped the red wave and dashed the ambitions of former President Donald Trump and his rabid followers to take control of the House and the Senate and cripple Joe Biden's presidency.

Now, in a seemingly historic turn of events, the Democrats are feeling more secure about where they stand, while Republicans struggle to regain their balance. The Democrats have retained control of the Senate, after winning a close race in the state of Nevada. The tally shows the Democrats have bagged 50 seats and the Republicans 49. Even if the latter wins the last remaining seat, there would be a tie in which case Vice President Kamala Harris would put her casting vote to help the Democrats pass whatever legislations they seek to enact. Even in the House the Republicans may marginally go ahead of the Democrats as most of the candidates Trump publicly endorsed have lost. Midterm elections in the US have traditionally gone against the ruling dispensation since 1980. But, the outcome this year has become stunning, indeed, with the Democrats reversing the historical trend.

The question that is uppermost in the minds of the people is how the impossible has been made possible by Joe Biden who is considered old and ineffective. Some Trump loyalists also claimed he was suffering from dementia and yet this success has bewildered most American political analysts. A combination of factors could be responsible for the late surge of the blue wave, for the Democrats' better than expected performance. But, two factors may have primarily influenced the outcome – the threat to democracy that a return of the Republicans was perceived to pose and the recent Supreme Court ruling overturning the Roe Vs Wade verdict that had accorded constitutional right to abortion half a century ago.

During the run-up to the midterms President Biden made the threat to democracy issue under the Republicans headed by Trump as the main electoral plank for the Democrats. But, the issue of abortion rendered illegal by the Supreme Court ruling seems to have become the single major factor for the defeat of Republican candidates as women voters rallied behind the Democrats who supported the right to abortion. In fact, Biden had predicted American women would revolt and things seem to have happened as predicted by him. This caused a setback to the Republican's hope of a 'red wave' which, they felt, was fuelled by widespread economic distress. The Democrats defied historical expectations for defeat of the party in power in the first major election of the post-Roe era. It is not without reason that a jubilant Biden told a crowd of supporters at the Howard Theatre in Washington: "Women in America made their voices heard, man."

As a clear picture of the results emerges, it becomes evident that abortion proved a defining issue. Fury over the loss of federal abortion protections galvanised women and young people who gifted unexpected victories to the Democrats in the hope of new protections for reproductive rights. It is foolhardy for the Republicans to hope for a favourable outcome in midterm polls when the country's nearly half of the people have their body autonomy put under threat. This is the main reason for young people and women showing up to exercise their franchise. In fact, newly registered women comprised more than two-thirds of the fresh voters.

Exit polls conducted by news networks by Edison Research showed that abortion was the top issue for many Americans, especially people under the age of 30. About 60% of voters said they were dissatisfied or angry with the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe. In every state where an abortion-related measure was on the ballot, voters chose either to enshrine protections or reject new limits. And it was a decisive issue in battleground states like Michigan and Pennsylvania, where the future of abortion access was at risk.

American voters, especially women, many of whom were in the forefront of the 'Me Too' movement against sexual abuses, have once again proved that they will revolt when there is denial of women's biological freedom. These elections, once again, proved the US to be an extremely mature and aware democracy.



Ajit Ranade

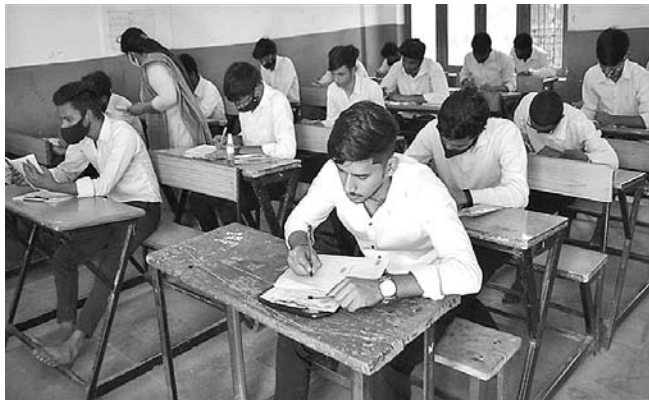
THE WORD 'QUOTAS' HAS RADIOACTIVE RESONANCE IN INDIAN POLITY, AND THERE IS AN IMPRESSION THAT THE AMENDMENT WAS PASSED TO BENEFIT A VOTE BANK OF UPPER-CASTE VOTERS

Nearly four years ago, in January 2019 the Parliament passed the 103rd Constitutional amendment carving out a new category of reserved quota for government jobs and for admission to educational institutions. This was a new 10% quota for those persons from the economically weaker section (EWS). Upon its passage, there were a slew of petitions challenging the constitutionality of this amendment. The fact is that this rather momentous amendment was passed in Parliament without much debate because the BJP which is the ruling party has an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha. One of the few objections against the amendment was made in a spirited speech by Kanimozhi, MP from Tamil Nadu. But largely the amendment passed without much discussion. The Supreme Court this past week in its verdict upheld the constitutionality of the EWS quota and all petitions challenging it were dismissed. The verdict of the five-member bench was unanimous in affirming that the economic criteria can be used as a basis for reservation (something that the petitioners had challenged). The bench was also unanimous in its implied conclusion that because of this new category, now the aggregate total share of constitutionally mandated reservation (SCs, STs, OBCs, and now EWS) would exceed 50%, and this was not per se against the Constitution. This too had been one of the contentions of the petitioners. The only issue on which the bench was split 3:2 was whether the SC, ST and OBC groups could be excluded from the newly created category of EWS. The majority view is that their exclusion was ok.

This amendment and the stamp of validity on it provided by the highest court in the country have many consequences, some of which will be discussed below. Has the judgement dealt a blow to the doctrine of protecting the basic structure of the Constitution (something that followed from the landmark 1973 case in the Supreme Court)? This famous judgement

FOCUS EWS QUOTA

IMPLEMENTATION WOES



Only about 5% of the population pays income tax. So where can we get authentic income data, based on which this EWS policy is going to be implemented?

did not define explicitly what is meant by the basic structure. It also did not prohibit the power of the Parliament to pass amendments to the Constitution. But it did say that you cannot pass amendments of such extreme nature, that they distort the very basic principles of our Constitution. Parliament is supreme, but the spirit of the Constitution is more supreme. By creating a new category based on economic criteria, to whom special treatment will be accorded (reservation), have we violated the right to equality (Article 14)? Or by excluding SC, ST and OBC groups from this new category, have we breached the principle of non-discrimination (Article 14 and 15)? These are questions for scholars of jurisprudence to explore. Much has already been written and more will follow. One rather penetrating analysis is by Ayan Gupta which can be read at the blog indconlawphil.wordpress.com. So, it is quite possible that in the days to come a review of the decision of the apex court may be undertaken by a larger bench.

But for now, let us examine other aspects of the amendment and the judgement. Firstly, it is clear that the amendment itself was politically motivated. The word 'quotas' has radioactive resonance in Indian polity, and there

is an impression that the amendment was passed to benefit a vote bank of upper-caste voters. But now even Muslims and Christians have also become eligible for EWS quota. Secondly, the quotas in our Constitution were meant to correct longstanding and historical injustice based on caste. They are meant to help those who have suffered from social backwardness for generations.

How can economic backwardness be put in the same category as social backwardness stemming from historical injustice and social backwardness? A person's economic status is fluid, and can change with effort or luck or both. Even a person's religion can be a matter of choice. But caste is an unchangeable marker from birth. So, overcoming caste-based discrimination is not in the same league as economic deprivation.

Thirdly, the cutoff decided for eligibility for the EWS quota is an annual income of ₹8 lakh, which seems like a very generous threshold. It is far above the poverty line. By one estimate, more than 95% of the households in India will fall under this limit. So, is it a remedy to give quota-based opportunities to the poor, or is it meant for everybody? Fourthly, if indeed the EWS quota is meant to help those from poor households

then let us look at the profile of those below the poverty line. As per the government's Sinho Commission, nearly 82% of the people below the poverty line comprised of SCs, STs and OBCs. Poverty and social backwardness have a high correlation. But those very categories have been denied opportunities in the EWS quota. It is on this point that there was dissent by two of the judges as a matter of constitutional principle.

But even from a pragmatic view about poverty, does this not seem questionable as a policy designed to help the poor? It is like saying that we will launch an anti-poverty programme, but those people from rural areas, and from agriculture will be excluded since they are covered by other subsidies. Fifth, the status of economic backwardness is fluid. It should be addressed by affirmative action and not quotas. For instance, providing education loans to students from poor households is better than a quota system for the poor. Sixth, one implication is the scramble for income certificates that this EWS policy will unleash. In an economy where 92% people work either in the unorganised, unregistered or informal sector, getting authentic income data is notoriously difficult. Only about 5% of the population pays income tax. So where can we get authentic income data, based on which this EWS policy is going to be implemented? Are we opening the gates for more corruption, rent seeking or fake certificates, and more litigation?

Lastly it is clear, that the EWS reservation has great political resonance because of the scarcity of well-paying, stable and high-quality jobs. Most of the jobs are going to be created in the private sector anyway, wherein these quotas don't apply. Hence the surest way ahead to correct for social or economic injustice is high, sustained, inclusive growth of the economy, jobs and livelihoods. That as always is the real core agenda.

The writer is a noted economist. @THE BILLION PRESS

WISDOM CORNER

- “The season of failure is the best time for sowing the seeds of success.” **PARAMAHANSA YOGANANDA**
- “Faith is an oasis in the heart which will never be reached by the caravan of thinking.” **KAHLIL GIBRAN**
- “Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.” **DALAI LAMA**

WORDSWORTH

Corpus

Oxford Dictionaries have been making proud announcements recently about their research resource, the Oxford English Corpus (OEC). A corpus is a collection of written material in machine-readable form that has been put together for linguistic research. The word is the Latin for body and it is the source of several other English words, such as corpse, corporeal, corpulent, corpuscle, corps, and corporal. Corporate, of a business or firm, has the same origin, so body corporate is etymologically speaking a tautology. Crime writers are fond of corpus delicti, for the facts and circumstances surrounding a crime (literally, it means “body of offence”). And there are many medical terms for bits of the body that include it, such as corpus callosum and corpus luteum. English writers have been using corpus for a body of writing since the early eighteenth century (the first known usage was in Chambers Cyclopaedia in 1727); linguists only started to use it in this specialised sense in the 1950s. The OEC began in 2000 and by April this year had grown to contain more than a billion (a thousand million) words – not all different, of course: the humble word alone appears about 50 million times. It represents every type of English, from literary novels, specialist journals, newspapers and magazines to the text of Hansard and the contents of chatrooms, e-mails, and weblogs. All the material has been trawled from the World Wide Web using a custom-built web crawler (similar to those that search engines like Google use to index the Web), so there are probably some World Wide Words pages in it somewhere. The OEC also includes every regional variety of the language, not only the major ones of the UK and US that make up about 80% of the total, but also material from the Caribbean, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, and South Africa. One of its more valuable features is that researchers can discover which words most often appear together, for which the dictionary makers' term is collocation. When, for example, the corpus is examined for verbs which are most often used with man or boy but not woman or girl, they discover that men assault, hijack, crouch, kidnap, rob, grin, shoot, dig, stagger, leap, invent, or brandish. But they don't consent, faint, sob, cohabit, undress, clutch, scorn, or gossip because, according to the corpus, that's what women do. Eccentric usually appears with words like endearingly, old, and millionaire, suggesting that only elderly, wealthy people can be eccentric, the rest of us just being plain crazy. The word vivacious most often appears with beautiful, young, blonde, outgoing, and intelligent and the corpus evidence makes clear that women may be vivacious but men may not. Evidence like this helps to tie down what we really mean by words; for example, vivacious is now defined in the Oxford Dictionary of English as “(especially of a woman) attractively lively and animated”.

SPECTRUM HEALTHCARE

A child killer meets its match



Keith Klugman

RSV, A DANGEROUS INFECTION THAT KILLS MORE THAN 100,000 YOUNG CHILDREN EACH YEAR, HAS RETURNED WITH A VENGEANCE

Like many others, I spent much of the last few years in isolation to avoid getting sick. And now we are learning that this widespread disappearing act produced some unexpected side effects. In particular, infections from once-common illnesses – like influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) – plummeted.

But now, as much of the world has returned to its normal pre-pandemic rhythms, that brief respite is over. RSV, a dangerous infection that kills more than 100,000 young children each year, has returned with vengeance. Several countries, including South Africa and Australia, have recorded major RSV outbreaks, and hospitals in the United States are filled with babies who are struggling to breathe.

The alarming uptick in RSV cases bodes ill for the winter months in the northern hemisphere, especially with an expected bad flu season. Yet while RSV can result in serious illness, like pneumonia, for very young children everywhere, it is rarely fatal in high-income countries like the US. Over 97% of deaths due to RSV occur in low- and middle-income countries – a glaring disparity that has made the disease one of the leading killers

of newborns and young children in these countries.

Fortunately, new technological developments on the horizon may soon mitigate the threat posed by RSV. Promising advances in maternal immunisation – vaccinating pregnant women to confer life-saving protection on their babies – have the potential to save thousands of lives each year, and an effective RSV vaccine is finally in sight. Maternal immunisation has been safely and effectively used for decades to protect newborns from other infectious diseases, including whooping cough and tetanus. If approved, this would be the first vaccine ever to protect children against RSV.

Although most RSV infections are mild, the virus can be much more severe in the youngest patients and can lead to pneumonia, which kills more children than any other infectious disease. Moreover, there are no drugs to treat RSV. For severe cases, medical oxygen is administered in a hospital to help babies breathe until the infection clears. But that, of course, assumes that they can get to a hospital with oxygen. For infants in parts of lower-income countries where hospital care or oxygen is out

of reach, this common childhood illness can quickly become deadly. It is in these settings that an RSV vaccine has the greatest potential to save lives and spare families from crushing grief.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has supported efforts to advance the field of maternal immunisation for 15 years, funding research and development for maternal vaccines against influenza, whooping cough, other newborn bloodstream infections, and RSV and Group B Streptococcus (GBS). Our most recent investment in maternal RSV vaccines is focused on improving affordability and access for lower-income countries. This is crucial for giving infants in these countries the best chance at life.

While the vaccine is still in development, I am hopeful that, if it is successful and gains regulatory approval, it will start to be rolled out – through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance – in low- and middle-income countries as early as 2024. Quick and equitable access to this lifesaving vaccine in countries where RSV remains a major killer will have a real impact on reducing childhood illness and death around the world.

Yes, a successful rollout also de-

pends on whether a vaccine is acceptable and taken up by local communities. But as matters stand, I am optimistic that it will be. Research has shown that pregnant mothers are more likely to receive a vaccine to protect their babies before birth than they are to protect themselves. Moreover, studies have found that if you can protect against RSV in the first few months of life, you can likely protect against other future respiratory infections, including pneumonia.

RSV is not a new problem. Paediatricians and many parents have long dreaded this illness, and for good reason. But we are on the cusp of finally developing and deploying the tools we need to protect infants when – and where – they are most vulnerable. We should all continue working toward a future where children – regardless of where they are born – can grow up to live full, healthy lives, safe from the dangers of RSV and childhood pneumonia. By ensuring equal access to these lifesaving vaccines, we can make that future a reality.

The writer is Director of the Pneumonia programme at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. @PROJECT SYNDICATE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

OrissaPOST
B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Coal's here to stay

Sir, This refers to “India’s coal dependence on rise,” Orissa POST, Nov 14. Contrary to the COP26’s outcome in Glasgow to phase down coal, the world has seen phase up of the black diamond this year. The large disruption of conventional energy supplies by the Ukraine war drove many countries to resort to coal-fired power plants, while mining of coal has also increased substantially. However, India made it clear that participating countries must acknowledge that all fossil fuels – coal, oil and gas (and not just coal) – contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and that the 2015 Paris Agreement requires phasing down of all fossil fuels. The developed nations have pushed for a harder line on coal, which developing countries depend on. Going forward, India has always been clear that while it will expand its renewable energy portfolio, coal is going to be the mainstay of the energy sector for some years. Besides, coal is the lifeline of the local communities of coal-bearing areas. Therefore, any energy transition also has to be equitable and smooth. Also, the selective singling out of sources of emissions, for either labelling them more harmful, or labelling them “green and sustainable” even when they are sources of greenhouse gases, has no basis in the best available science. But, like it did in COP26 in Glasgow, India must stand its ground on coal and push for more immediate needs of the developing world: Climate finance and green tech at affordable costs from rich nations. The Global North can't impose its agenda on everyone else. **N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE**

Disappointing verdict

Sir, The Supreme Court's majority based verdict, upholding the validity of the 103rd Constitutional amendment which provides 10% reservation for the economically weaker sections (EWS) is utterly disappointing and contains in it potential seeds of inciting animosity amongst the oppressed millions of our country. The provision of reservation in jobs and education for SCs and STs was made in the Constitution to address a deep social issue. It was intended to uplift Dalits, tribals and other backward classes of people who were oppressed for centuries by the so called upper classes and subsequently neglected by the British rulers, ostensibly to overcome their economic, political, social backwardness and to help them to acquire due representation in all walks of life at par with other sections of the people. Incapable of giving education and jobs to all, political parties in Independent India have been using the policy of reservation as a ploy to divide oppressed people. **Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR**

national

of the day uote

Our democratic set-up is under threat, the rights of workers are denied. There are even attempts to privatise the defence of our nation. The shares of PSUs are sold in the name of national monetisation pipeline

PINARAYI VIJAYAN | KERALA CHIEF MINISTER

A penny saved is a penny earned, and this applies fully to resources too. You are aware that for a country's combat readiness, not only availability of optimal resources is required, but swift and transparent decision-making is also needed

RAJNATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER

Our identity and our existence is at stake. It is not about Article 370 and 35A, it is about the issue of Jammu and Kashmir. Our goal posts are changing. They think the people will forget the basic issue and talk about Article 370

MEHBOOBA MUFTI | PDP PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Pollution curbs lifted in Capital

New Delhi: The Commission for Air Quality Management Monday directed authorities to revoke the curbs enforced in Delhi-NCR under stage three of the Graded Response Action Plan with immediate effect. This means construction and demolition activities can resume in the region. However, user agencies need to strictly follow dust control norms. The CAQM noted that Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) Monday (294) was about 100 points below the threshold for invoking GRAP stage 3 actions.

Man dies after bike hits pothole

Mandya (K'taka): A retired soldier died here after he fell off his bike which went over a pothole and he came under the wheels of a truck coming behind him, police said Monday. According to the police, Kumar (38) was formerly in the army and was currently undergoing police-training. Condemning the death, former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy said the potholes in the State are claiming lives. In a series of tweets, he said when he was the chief minister he had sanctioned Rs 50 crore for the Mandya Town Municipal Council.

Over 5 lakh people had missed TB diagnosis in '20 due to Covid: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Over five lakh people in India are estimated to have had a missed or delayed tuberculosis diagnosis in 2020 due to the disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, according to a study.

The study, published in the journal BMC Medicine, shows that children may be disproportionately affected in over half of countries analysed, those aged 65 or over in more than two thirds of countries, with sex being a risk factor in almost half of countries.

The team, including researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK, noted that vulnerable populations in high-burden countries worldwide must be prioritised in efforts to reduce the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on tuberculosis (TB) care. For India, they found that 30,454 children (less than 15 years old), 425,326 (over 4.2 lakh) adults aged 15-64 years, and 52,970 people above 65 years of age had a missed or delayed diagnosis. This included 309,477 (over 3 lakh) men and 170,514 (over 1.7 lakh) women above

Goa IPS officer beats cancer, completes Ironman triathlon race

NIDHIN VALSAN, 36, CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE (CRIME BRANCH) AND HANDLING THE SENSITIVE LAND GRAB CASES IN GOA, DID NOT WIN THE TRIATHLON, BUT HE STOLE THE HEARTS OF THE AUDIENCE WITH HIS EXEMPLARY DISPLAY OF STRENGTH AND WILL POWER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 14: Setting an example of grit and determination, an Indian Police Service Officer (IPS) from Goa has fought cancer and beaten the odds against him to successfully complete the difficult Ironman triathlon race.

Nidhin Valsan, 36, currently serving as the superintendent of police (crime branch) and handling the sensitive land grab cases in Goa, did not win the triathlon, but he stole the hearts of the audience with his exemplary display of strength and will power.

"I thought if I am able to do this, I will be able to show the world what one can achieve and hopefully show to everyone that cancer is not an impossible disease to fight,"

GAURAV DWIVEDI NEW PRASAR BHARATI CEO

The President Monday appointed Gaurav Dwivedi, a 1995-batch IAS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Prasar Bharti. The appointment came after due recommendation by the Selection Committee. Dwivedi will be the CEO for a period of five years from his assumption of charge



PARAGON OF DETERMINATION



Valsan told reporters after finishing the Ironman 70.3 race in Panaji Sunday while competing with more than 1,400 other participants.

The 2012 batch IPS officer completed the race in 8 hours, 3 minutes and 53 seconds, within the stipulated time, the organisers said. Valsan said he was last year diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer that generally develops in the lymphatic system.

The police officer said he did not give up and fought against the disease and was declared "all-clear" in February this year. "I am fine now," he said. Valsan said this was the first time he participated in the Ironman race.

In 2014, he had participated in a half-marathon in Delhi, he added. There were a total of 1,450 participants in the Ironman triathlon, which included 1.9 km of open sea swimming, 90 km of cycling and 21 km of run.

Nihal Baig, an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, won the race, while defending champion Bisworjit Saikhom of the Indian Army stood second, as per the results declared by the organisers.

PRESIDENT REMARK ROW

Mamata breaks her silence, apologises

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 14: Condemning ministerial colleague Akhil Giri's controversial remarks on President Droupadi Murmu, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Monday apologised for his comment on behalf of the TMC.

Banerjee said she has immense respect for the President, and her party has cautioned Giri against making such derogatory remarks in the future.

"We respect the President of India. She is a highly respected lady. We condemn the statement made by minister of state Akhil Giri; what he said is wrong. The party has already condemned the statement and also cautioned Akhil Giri," the CM said at a press conference at the state secretariat.

Banerjee said the party "does not support" Giri's opinion and will take stringent action against him if he repeats such mistakes.

"I personally respect President Droupadi Murmu. She is a very nice lady, and I like her a lot. I apologize for Akhil Giri's statement; I apologize on behalf of my party. We have great regard for the President, and making such comments is not



The President is an extremely nice lady. I strongly condemn what Akhil Giri had said. Akhil was wrong. I personally apologise on behalf of the legislator. I am sorry over the entire issue

MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

part of All India Trinamool Congress culture," she said.

Giri faced flak recently for his remarks on the looks of President Droupadi Murmu. After a video clip of his comments went viral, he apologized for it. "Politics is an art; speaking is also an art. Whenever I say something wrong, I take back

my words. No one in Trinamool supports Akhil Giri, but the kind of venom opposition leaders in Bengal spew day-in and day-out is reprehensible. Is it right to call someone 'darkak' (crow species) for his skin colour?" she asked while pointing out that Giri was targeted for his complexion in the past.

The TMC boss said she believes people should not focus on the beauty of one's skin, not on his or her soul. "Beauty is not skin-deep; your soul inside should be fair," she said.

Referring to Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari's purported comment against state minister Birbaha Hansda, Banerjee said she feels ashamed of how a tribal woman was insulted by the leader.

The TMC Monday released a video where leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari was heard making remarks against the state minister from the ST community Birbaha Hansda.

In the 11-second video clip shared by the TMC on its Twitter handle, Adhikari was purportedly heard telling a group of people, "Those who are sitting there are kids. This Debnath Hansda and Birbaha Hansda are all kids; their place is beneath my shoe."

Stone quarry collapse: 12 feared trapped

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Aizawl (Mizoram), Nov 14: At least 12 people are feared trapped after a stone quarry collapsed in south Mizoram's Hnahthial district, about 160 km from Aizawl, Monday, a senior police officer said.

The incident occurred at around 3 pm when labourers of ABCI Infrastructure private limited were working in the quarry at Maudarh village, Hnahthial, Superintendent of Police (SP), Vineet Kumar said. He said that 13 people were working at the place when it caved in.

While one worker managed to escape from the spot the remaining 12 failed to do

so and were trapped under the debris, the SP told PTI. Rescue operation is in progress and no person has been rescued from the debris till 7:30 pm. Kumar said.

Hnahthial district officials and a medical team also rushed to the spot soon after the incident.

People familiar with the incident said that loose soil caved in from the above while the labourers were breaking and collecting the stones at the quarry.

Volunteers of Young Mizo Association (YMA) from nearby villages also rushed to the spot for the rescue operation, they said.

Maudarh is a small hamlet located about 23 km away from Hnahthial town.



15 years of age.

"We found strong evidence that the risk of being missed or delayed was higher for both children and the elderly than adults; 45 per cent higher for children and 12 per cent higher for the elderly" study joint lead author Finn McQuaid, from LSHTM, told PTI.

"Our results show that in many countries those who already faced the most difficulty in obtaining TB diagnosis and care have suffered worsening access as a result of the pandemic," McQuaid said. The researchers modelled trends in TB case reporting to the World Health

Organisation (WHO) for 45 high-burden countries between 2013 and 2019. Predictions for 2020 using these models were then compared to actual observations in the same year. As many as 195,449 (nearly two lakh) children below the age of 15 years, 1,126,133 (over 1.2 lakh) adults aged 15 to 64 years old and 235,402 (2.3 lakh) older individuals aged 65 years or older had a missed or delayed diagnosis of TB in 2020, they said.

Researchers found that over 1.5 million people in 45 high-burden countries had a missed or delayed tuberculosis diagnosis in the first year of the pandemic

These figures include 511,546 (5.1 lakh) women and 863,916 (8.6 lakh) men, they said. Although the study found no evidence for systemic disparity in risk by age or sex on a global scale, when broken down by country, setting-specific inequalities were revealed. For example, in over half of countries (57.1 per cent) analysed, children were at a greater risk of having their TB diagnosis delayed or missed due to Covid-19 than adults, the researchers said.

UCO Bank

Zonal Office : C-2, Ashok Nagar, Unit-II, Bhubaneswar-751009, Ph. : 0674-2620423

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
(Under SARFAESI Act 2002)

(E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS ON OR BEFORE 29.11.2022 upto 4.00 P.M.
Sale of Movable/Immovable Properties mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002). Whereas, the Authorized Officer of UCO Bank has taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 in the following loan account with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" AND "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said property/ies.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES					
Sl. No.	BRANCH & CONTACT NO. / Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors	Description of Movable / Immovable Property	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession / Outstanding Amount	Reserve Price / EMD/BID Increase Amount	Date & Time of E-Auction
1.	SAHID NAGAR BRANCH, BHUBANESWAR, MOB.: 9439365465 / Borrower: M/s. Ayushee Beverages Pvt. Ltd., Regd. Office: At: Plot No.: 2/147, 1st Floor, IRC Village, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Odisha, Mr. Janmejaya Jena (MD: M/s. Ayushee Beverages Pvt. Ltd.), S/o: Mr. Balaram Jena, At: Purusottampur, P.O.: Gababasta, P.S.: Cuttack Sadar, Dist.: Cuttack-754001 / Guarantors: 1) Mr. Janmejaya Jena, 2) Mr. Balaram Jena, 3) Mrs. Itishree Patra, 4) Mrs. Charulata Jena, All are Residing At: Purusottampur, P.O.: Gababasta, P.S.: Cuttack Sadar, Dist.: Cuttack-754001, 5) M/s. Vaibhabh Infretech Pvt. Ltd. (MD: Mr. Janmejaya Jena)	All that part & parcel of Immovable Property standing in the name of Mr. Janmejaya Jena, S/o.: Mr. Balaram Jena, Mouza: Nagari, P.O.: Gababasta, P.S.: Cuttack Sadar, Tahasil: Baranga, Dist.: Cuttack, Khata No.: 417/146, Plot No.: 285/1779, Area: Ac.0.320 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari, corresponds to previous Khata No.: 181, Plot No.: 285, Area: Ac.0.320 Dec. out of Ac.0.640 Dec. from western side, Bounded by East: Rest part of this Plot, West: Abhiram Sethi, North: Uchhaba Sahoo & Others, South: Govt. Road	02.08.2016 / 23.11.2016	₹1,76,00,000/- / ₹17,60,000/-	30.11.2022 between 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. (With Unlimited Extension of 10 minutes each)

Date & Time of Inspection of Property: on or before 29.11.2022 during banking hours on any working day

Terms & Conditions:
(1) The auction sale will be "on-line" e-अuction / bidding through website <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. (2) All intending bidders shall register with E-Auction portal by navigating through <https://ibapi.in> Bidders Registration or by typing the URL <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> to create their USER ID and PASSWORD. (3) All intending bidders are advised to go through the website <https://ibapi.in/> OR <https://mstcecommerce.com/> for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in E-Auction sale proceedings. (4) Prospective bidders may download the videos provided in <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> under selection (BUYER GUIDE FOR LOGIN & REGISTRATION) to know the process flow for the auction to be conducted. (5) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will be deposited in Wallet by generating challan (BY NEFT ONLY) well before the date of auction and do not wait till the date of auction. Do not use any other mode of remittance otherwise the same will be refunded back by MSTC. (6) A copy of the Bid form along with the enclosure submitted online (also mentioning UTR Number) shall be handed over to the Chief Manager (Recovery), UCO Bank, Zonal Office, Bhubaneswar or soft copies of the same by E-mail to: zobbsr.rec@ucobank.co.in. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the purchase amount (including earnest money already paid), immediately on closure of the E-Auction Sale proceedings on the same day of the Sale in the same mode as mentioned above. The balance 75% of the purchase price shall have to be paid within 15 days of acceptance/confirmation of sale conveyed to them. (8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank. If the borrower/guarantor pays the dues to bank in full before sale, no sale will be conducted. (9) The property is sold in "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" AND "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and the intending bidders should make discreet enquiries as regards on the property of any authority besides the bank charges and should satisfy themselves about the title, extent and quality of the property before submitting their bid. No claim of whatsoever nature regarding the property put for sale, charges, encumbrances over the property on any other matter etc. will be entertained after submission of the online bid. (10) The undersigned has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/stamp duty charges and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reasons. (11) The purchaser shall bear the stamp duty charges including those of sale certificate registration charges, all statutory dues payable to Government, taxes and rates and outgoing both existing and future relating to the property. The sale certificate will be issued only in the name of successful bidder. (12) The sale is subject to conditions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act/Rules 2002. (13) For any property related query may contact the respective Branch Head or Chief Manager (Recovery), Mr. S. B. Samantray, Mob.: 9438387972, email: zobbsr.rec@ucobank.co.in. (14) This Notice is also to the Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general. (15) All the Properties are under Symbolic Possession of the Bank. (16) This is a Statutory 15 days Sale Notice to the above mentioned Borrowers & Guarantors under Rule 9(1) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

Place : Bhubaneswar, Date : 14.11.2022 Authorized Officer, UCO Bank, Zonal Office, Bhubaneswar

Kerala HC quashes varsity VC's posting

The order, which apparently vindicates Governor Arif Mohammed Khan's move seeking resignation of 11 VCs in the state over the violation, is a blow to the Left government which has been opposing him on the issue

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kochi/Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 14: The Kerala High Court Monday quashed the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS). The court said the appointment was made in violation of UGC (University Grants Commission) norms.

The order, which apparently vindicates Governor Arif Mohammed Khan's move seeking resignation of 11 VCs in the state over the violation, is a blow to the Left government which has been opposing him on the issue.

A Bench of Chief Justice S Manikumar and Justice Shaji P Chaly said the selection of Dr K Riji John as the VC of KUFOS cannot, what the judges said, be sustained under law as it overlooks the UGC regulations of 2018 regarding appointment of VCs.

The Bench held that the search-cum-selection committee, which recommended only his name for appointment, was also against the norms.

"Taking into consideration the law accordingly, we have no hesitation to hold that the selection of Dr K Riji John as the VC of the Kerala University of Fisheries and



Ocean Studies, overlooking the UGC Regulations, 2018, cannot be sustained under law. We are also of the view that the search-cum-selection committee constituted is also in violation of the UGC Regulations, 2018," it said.

As a result, the court quashed the 2020 notification issued by the Governor appointing the selection committee, its 2021 resolution recommending only one name and 2021 order of the Chancellor appointing John as VC for a period of five years or till he attains the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

The Bench directed the Chancellor to constitute a selec-

tion committee for recommendation of a panel of names in accordance with the UGC regulations at the earliest.

At the same time, the court said the contentions that John lacked the requisite years of service for appointment as VC were not legally sustainable.

The verdict was welcomed by the BJP and the Congress. Both said the judgement hit the government hard.

But, the CPI(M) said the verdict would be legally examined and appropriate steps taken after that.

State Finance Minister KN Balagopal also speculated that the

order might have been specific to the procedure followed in appointment of the VC of KUFOS and may not be applicable to everyone else.

Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee president K Sudhakaran said the verdict was a setback to the LDF government which had allegedly appointed their favourites to key positions in the varsities.

He said in a statement that there needs to be a thorough investigation into all such appointments.

Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly V D Satheesan alleged that the Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Khan were to blame for the appointments.

"They both created this problem. The Opposition stand that appointments were in violation of UGC norms has been endorsed by both the Supreme Court and the Kerala High Court," he said.

Satheesan, speaking to reporters in Thiruvananthapuram, further said all the VCs to whom show-cause notices were sent should resign and re-apply for the post.

This way only the deserving and competent candidates would be selected, he said.

BJP state president K Surendran said it was an indication that the Governor's stand was correct and that of the ruling Left wrong.

HINDU OUTFIT TO CONTEST K'TAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

SRIRAMA SENE FOUNDER PRAMOD MUTHALIK ALLEGES THAT THE BJP WHICH CAME TO POWER WITH THE SUPPORT OF HINDUS HAS FAILED TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY AND HINDUTVA

AGENCIES



Bangalore, Nov 14: In what is being seen as a setback to the ruling BJP in Karnataka, Srirama Sene founder Pramod Muthalik has announced that 25 people who are "staunch Hindutva followers" will contest in the upcoming Assembly elections, which will be held in less than six months.

Talking to reporters, Muthalik Sunday alleged that the BJP which came to power with the support of Hindus has failed to protect the community and Hindutva.

"BJP was born for and because of Hindutva... Other than Modi (PM Narendra Modi) at the Centre and Yogi (CM Yogi Adityanath) in Uttar Pradesh, we are not able to see anyone else working or run-

ning the administration to save Hindutva. The BJP that won in Karnataka because of the hard work of Hindus, could not protect Hindus and Hindu Karyakartas," Muthalik said.

Speaking to reporters here, he said, even today Hindu Karyakartas are suffering with Goonda Act cases against them and their names are mentioned in the rowdy sheet, and the BJP despite being in the government did not show any mercy on them by making efforts to take back cases. Also there have been killings of many Hindu Karyakrtas, he added.

"As Hindus in BJP who have won, have not been able to do anything, we fierce Hinduwadis in Karnataka like karyakartas who are there for Hindutva and Swamijis have resolved to enter politics to save Hindutva. So in the upcoming 2023

Assembly polls 25 fierce Hinduwadis will contest as independent candidates," Muthalik said.

To liberate Datta Peetha, to stop killings of Gomatha (cows), to free from Christian religious conversion, to save Hindu women from Love Jihad, they are contesting polls, with a resolve to protect Hindus, he said.

The Datta Peetha shrine issue has been a controversial one in Karnataka for several years. A temple in the name of Dattatreya and a dargah in the name of Sufi saint Baba Budan Dargah are located at the cave in the Bababudangiri Hills of the Western Ghats.

Muthalik had recently said that he will contest in the next Assembly elections and that a study is on to finalise a constituency from where he has to contest.

Centre trying to ruin India's cooperative sector: Vijayan

AGENCIES

Palakkad, Nov 14: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan Monday attacked the Union government saying it was trying to destroy the cooperative sector in the country.

Vijayan said the century-old cooperative sector in the country has a pivotal role in the people's lives. Inaugurating the All India Cooperative Week here, Vijayan said civil society had elaborately discussed the changes brought in the cooperative sector and the state government had raised concerns of it.

"The Supreme Court has ruled that the states have the authority over the cooperative sector. This is a major setback to the Union government's policy. We have also overcome the efforts to destroy our cooperative sector through demonetisation," Vijayan said.

Vijayan said efforts were made to destroy the constitutional in-

stitutions of the country and the Union government was making use of such institutions to attack the cooperative sector.

"They (Centre) are trying to intervene in the cooperative sector by issuing new orders. While ours is a federal country, there are many interventions violating our federal laws. All these interventions are adversely affecting the cooperative sector," Vijayan said.

The Chief Minister said the country was going through the highest price hike in the last three decades but Kerala managed to remain a state with low inflation due to the 'multi-faceted' intervention of the cooperative sector along with the Left government.

"We have also survived demonetisation which sought to paralyse our cooperative sector and financial institutions. They had also alleged that our cooperative societies were the depository of black money," Vijayan said.



Row erupts in Karnataka over painting classrooms in saffron

THE KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF 7,601 CLASSROOMS ACROSS THE STATE UNDER A NEW GOVERNMENT SCHEME NAMED AFTER SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

AGENCIES

Bangalore, Nov 14: Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai Monday defended the government's move to paint the thousands of school classrooms to be constructed under 'Viveka' scheme in saffron colour.

The Karnataka government has proposed construction of 7,601 classrooms across the state under the new government classrooms scheme named after Swami Vivekananda.

Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said: "Regarding this saffronisation, it should be noted that it is not BJP money but public money. Have people asked for saffronisation or have they got the mandate to do so? Have they got a mandate for tampering with history?"

Bommai launched the scheme on Children's Day by laying the foundation stone at Government Higher Primary School at Madiyal in Kalaburgi district.

Asked to comment about the move of colour coding such classrooms with saffron that has sparked a controversy, the Chief Minister



said, "Why do people turn red with the very name of saffron? What's wrong to have saffron colour? There's saffron colour in the (national) tricolour. Swami Vivekananda himself used to wear a saffron robe."

"They (Congress) aren't interested in comprehensive development of education," Bommai charged.

He said there is a tendency to create controversy on any progressive changes made.

"Vivekananda was a 'Sanyasi'.

'Viveka' means wisdom. We named the schools after Swami Vivekananda so that children draw inspiration from him and a good atmosphere will be created in schools," the Chief Minister opined.

Asked if "saffronisation of education is happening", he said: "Definitely not".

School Education Minister B C Nagesh said if architects recommend to the government that saffron colour looks good on such classrooms, it will be done.

"We have left the decision to ar-

chitects. The government does not decide on what kind of paint, window, door and steps. We will take a decision on what they (architects) say," Nagesh said.

"Some people have an allergy towards (saffron) colour," he said.

Taking a dig at the Congress, the Minister said: "I want to ask them, there is saffron colour in their flag. Why did you keep it? Remove it," Nagesh said.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister said the state government will build 8,000 school rooms in the state of which 2,000 will be the 'Kalyana Karnataka' region (erstwhile Hyderabad-Karnataka region) alone while 6,000 will be in the rest of Karnataka.

"If this can be done for three years continuously, it will bring a major reform in the state. This will address the shortage of classrooms from primary schools in the state," Bommai said.

He said that he has released Rs 250 crore for the construction of toilets in all the schools by August 15, 2023.

The state government has approved recruitment of 15,000 teachers, Bommai said.

Islamic institute in Kerala sets example by teaching Sanskrit

IMPORTANT PORTIONS OF THE BHAGAVAD GITA, UPANISHADS, MAHABHARATA, AND RAMAYANA ARE SELECTIVELY TAUGHT IN SANSKRIT TO STUDENTS OVER A PERIOD OF EIGHT YEARS AFTER THEY PASS OUT OF CLASS 10

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thrissur, Nov 14: Students in long white robes and white head-dresses in an Islamic institution unwaveringly reciting 'slokas' and 'mantras' in Sanskrit under the watchful gaze of their Hindu gurus, is what sets apart a Muslim educational organisation in Thrissur district of central Kerala.

"Gurur brahma gurur vishnu, Gurur devo maheshwara, Gurur saakshaat param brahma, Tasmai shri gurave namaha," one such

student recites on being asked to do so in Sanskrit by his professor. "Uttamam (excellent)," the professor responds in Sanskrit, as another student finishes reciting a different 'sloka' asked of him.

All conversations between the student and the professor in the class are in Sanskrit.

The objective behind teaching Sanskrit, Upanishads, Puranas, is to inculcate in the students knowledge and awareness about other religions, Onampilly Muhammad Faizy, the principal of the Academy of Sharia and Advanced Studies (ASAS) run by Malik Deenar Islamic Complex (MIC), said.

Another reason, and the main one, for teaching Sanskrit to the students at MIC ASAS was Faizy's own academic background as he had studied Shankara philosophy.

"Therefore, I felt that students should know about other religions and their customs and practices. But an in-depth study of Sanskrit as well as the Upanishads, shastras, Vedanta would not be possible during the eight-year study period," he told PTI.

"Instead, the idea is to provide basic knowledge about these and create an awareness in them about other religions," Faizy said.



Important portions of the Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, Mahabharata, Ramayana are selectively taught in Sanskrit to the students over a period of eight years after they pass out of Class 10, he said.

The selective teaching of these texts is because the institution is primarily a Sharia college where other languages, like Urdu and English are also taught besides a degree course in Arts as it is affiliated to the Calicut University.

"The academic workload is huge. Therefore, we take in students who can handle it and also maintain strict standards. There is an en-

trance exam for admitting students," he said.

Some of the students recently told the media that initially it was tough to learn Sanskrit, just like Arabic, but by continuously studying and practising, it becomes easier over time.

"It is a tough task initially. Just like Arabic. But if we study it continuously, repeatedly practice it, just like with Arabic, it becomes easier over a period of time. The regular classes and the tests also help us to learn it," one of the students said.

Another student said he was excited to learn Sanskrit and hear the

'slokas'.

Just like his classmate, he too was of the view that like Arabic, "if you put in the effort, it becomes easier to learn."

While there has been no objection from parents of the students or anyone else, a major challenge has been finding good faculty to teach Sanskrit, the Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, properly to the students.

"That is why we were able to start teaching Sanskrit just seven years ago and it is also the reason that it is being taught only at this branch - one of seven," principal Faizy said.

We have an excellent faculty here who have devised a good curriculum for the students, he noted.

The response from the side of the students too has been encouraging as they have shown an interest in learning Sanskrit, the principal added.

there ready to teach. So, I have no such reservations," he told the media.

Dr Ramesh, who also teaches Sanskrit at MIC ASAS, said that the students there have never heard of Sanskrit before coming there.

"They have not even learnt it in school. But as we move from one phase to another, the students are able to speak a little in Sanskrit, learn 'padams' and are able to understand some 'slokas' also," according to him.

The visuals of the Sanskrit classes are posted on the institute's Facebook page.

At a time when political parties in Kerala are at loggerheads over alleged saffronisation of higher education institutions or them becoming centres of communism, this Islamic institution is setting an example by teaching its students Sanskrit and the Bhagavad Gita along with Arabic and the Quran.

Hafiz Aboobacker, one of the coordinators at the institute, told a media channel that it was important to learn about Islam, but knowledge about other religions was also important and that is also a reason for including Sanskrit in the syllabus.

Kerala to aware schoolkids against body shaming

AGENCIES

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 14: The Kerala government will create awareness among school students against body shaming and will consider making it part of the education curriculum, State General Education Minister V Sivankutty has said.

The minister said body shaming was a heinous act and there are many who have lost sanity, being victims of it.

In a Facebook post, Sivankutty said someone had commented on his photo asking him to reduce his tummy.

"I had replied saying that body shaming is a heinous act. No matter what the explanation is, body shaming phrases are the worst. It

The state government will consider making it part of the education curriculum

is said as though in a loving manner. This happens in our society on many levels. There are many among us who have lost our sanity, being victims of body shaming," Sivankutty said.

He shared the experience of one of his friend's brother, a school student, who had to face discrimination due to his colour. The boy later complained to the teachers after which the other students turned against him. The minister said the boy had to change schools and suffered a lot of trauma.

"I repeat, we should end body shaming. Let's be modern people," the minister said.

"Let's discuss how such awareness can be made a part of the education curriculum. Simultaneously, let's discuss how to deal with such situations during teachers' training programmes," Sivankutty said.

The minister, in his Facebook post, said he will talk to the boy who faced discrimination and will ask his family to give him confidence. He underlined that it's not one's colour or wealth that matters but ideals like goodness of heart.



national

of the day quote

A conspiracy is being hatched against the state. A malicious campaign has been unleashed against the government and the TMC as a part of it. Those who don't like Bengal keep maligning us (TMC) and hatching conspiracies

MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

Nehru rejected Maharaja Hari Singh's plea to accede to India not just once but thrice

KIREN RIJUJI | LAW MINISTER

Pandit Nehru — the maker of modern India. 21st India cannot be imagined without his tremendous contribution

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE | CONGRESS PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

3 govt officials dead in J&K road accident

Bhaderwah/Jammu: Three officials died and one more was critically injured when their vehicle skidded off a road and plunged into a deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Monday, police said. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the accident and directed the district administration to provide all possible assistance to the injured. The vehicle was carrying a team of the Roads and Building department when it met with the accident.

Man missing for 4 yrs found dead

Ghaziabad: A woman and her paramour were arrested here Monday after the skeletal remains of her husband, who was missing for the last four years, were dug up from the premises of her boyfriend's home, the police said. The arrested individuals have been identified as Savita and Arun. The skeletal remains have been sent for postmortem and DNA test. During questioning, Arun told the police that he has been in a relationship with Savita since 2017. Her husband Chandravir had seen both of them in objectionable positions on several occasions. Following that, there was tension in the marital life of Chandravir and Savita.

Girl bleeds to death after being raped

Unnao: A college student in Uttar Pradesh's Unnao died due to excessive bleeding after she was raped repeatedly by a 25-year-old man. The accused, who has now been arrested, had taken a performance enhancing pill before the act. According to the police, the man, Raj Gautam, raped her when she was alone at home. Despite the victim's protest, she continued to rape her till she fainted and started bleeding from her private parts.



This is a new era of technological and information revolution. Children are now aware about various domestic, social and environmental issues. With the advent of technology, knowledge and information are now at their fingertips

DROUPADI MURMU | PRESIDENT OF INDIA

GRIM SITUATION

The dengue infestation has spread to almost all the 11 districts of the Mizoram, which has till October recorded an exponential jump of 934 per cent in the incidence of the disease over that of last year, a health official said



Stalin inspects rain-hit delta areas, flays Oppn



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cuddalore/Chennai (TN), Nov 14: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin Monday inspected the Cauvery delta areas that were battered by heavy rains, directed officials to estimate the crop loss and ordered ₹1,000 cash assistance to affected people.

After inspection in Cuddalore and Mayiladuthurai districts, Stalin, answering a question on crop loss and compensation and the demand of the main opposition AIADMK, told reporters that officials have been asked to determine the extent of loss.

Following the review, the Chief Minister ordered a cash relief of ₹1,000 to all the family card holders (Public Distribution System cards) residing in Sirkazhi and Tharangampadi talukas of

Mayiladuthurai district, severely affected by the recent showers.

AIADMK interim general secretary and Leader of Opposition K Palaniswami Sunday demanded that the government provide ₹30,000 per acre as compensation to farmers.

Stalin said the Opposition parties would come up with claims to criticise the government and gain political mileage, and he was not worried about it.

The exercise to estimate damage to standing crops and compensation would be based on people's expectations, he said. The Chief Minister gave away assistance, which includes ₹4,100 in cash for partial damage to hutments and a bag of 10-kg rice and clothes to the affected people. He was accompanied by his senior Cabinet colleagues and officials briefed him on the initiatives being pursued in rain-hit areas to restore normalcy.

Northeast monsoon has been active over the State, and Cuddalore and Mayiladuthurai districts have borne the brunt of the downpour.



FITNESS TEST: Punjab police personnel take part in a long jump competition during the Punjab Police Games 2022 in Jalandhar, Punjab

PTI PHOTO

India may see faster progress on climate goals, says report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: At least three of the four top emitters of greenhouse gases — China, the EU and India — are expected to see faster progress towards a clean energy economy than they have set out in national plans or NDCs, according to a new analysis released Monday.

The report, "Big Four: Are major emitters downplaying their climate and clean energy progress?", by the UK-based Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit, suggests interconnected global crises and market mechanisms are driving the shift towards electric vehicles, low-carbon heating and renewables around the world, in particular in those four countries.

Rapid price reductions, which make wind and solar power vastly cheaper than fossil fuel alternatives, concerns over energy security and access, and in Europe, the support for Ukraine, are driving this momentum, while EV sales are accelerating with major markets reaching tipping points.

In the three countries, these forces are strong enough that they may well be on track to outstrip their emissions targets under the Paris Agreement, which indicates a more positive picture for limiting global warming to 1.5 degree Celsius, the report said.

In India, the authors noted, the rollout of renewable energy, particularly solar, is accelerating rapidly and will transform India's electricity sector this decade.

In August, India released its updated nationally determined contributions and now stands committed to reducing emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 per cent by 2030, from the 2005 level, and achiev-



According to "Global Carbon Budget Report 2022", the top four CO2 emitters in 2021 were China (31 per cent), the US (14 per cent), the European Union (8 per cent) and India (7 per cent)

ing about 50 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

These NDCs are, however, contingent on delivery of finance and technology transfer.

NDCs are national plans to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, as advocated in the Paris Agreement.

"Coal generation will become an increasingly unprofitable back-up for wind and solar, a function that will itself inevitably fall away as storage takes off," the report said.

Citing the draft National

Electricity Plan, it said the total generating capacity of India's coal-fired power plants doubled between 2007 and 2017 and the Central Electricity Authority sees coal-fired capacity increasing by less than 20 per cent over the next decade.

"Over the same period, the capacity of renewable generation is set to soar by 250 per cent," according to the report.

"This picture is reinforced by the plans of some leading companies. The giant Adani conglomerate plans to put 70 per cent of its capital investment this decade into the energy transition, including renewables and green hydrogen — a total of \$50-70 bn (billion). Reliance Industries will invest \$80 bn in renewable energy projects in Gujarat alone" the report read.

Financing India's decarbonisation transition is also helped by a significant partnership with Germany, signed earlier in 2022, that could unlock up to \$10.5 billion in assistance through to 2030 to boost clean energy resources.

Shivakumar appears before ED again

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar Monday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate in Delhi for a fresh round of questioning in the National Herald money laundering case.

This is the second time that the federal agency is recording his statement in the case that has been registered under the criminal sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The 60-year-old former Karnataka cabinet minister told reporters he has furnished all documents sought by the agency in connection with the probe and that he had to depose again despite seeking a three-week deferment of the summons.

"They have summoned me again on the Young Indian issue...I had sent some papers to them (ED) but probably they are not satisfied."

"We respect them, we respect the

Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and other senior Congress leaders like Mallikarjun Kharge and Pawan Bansal have been questioned by the ED over the last few months in the National Herald money laundering case



summons and we respect the institution. There is nothing to hide and whatever we have given (as a donation to Young Indian) is for charitable work," he said. Shivakumar and his MP brother D K Suresh have donated an unspecified amount of money in the past to Young Indian.

"There is nothing wrong in this (giving donation)...Many well-wishers have done so," Shivakumar, who said he came straight from the Mahakal temple in Ujjain for his deposition, told reporters.

The Congress leader had skipped

NATIONAL HERALD CASE

the scheduled summons of November 7 citing his professional engagement and the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra led by party leader

Rahul Gandhi that was traversing through Karnataka. He and D K Suresh were last questioned by the ED in the case last month after which Shivakumar told reporters outside the agency's office on A P J Abdul Kalam Road in central Delhi that he was asked "a lot of questions" about Young Indian, the company that owns National Herald, his family members, and institutions linked to him.

GYANVAPI CASE VERDICT OVER 'SHIVLING' WORSHIP POSTPONED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Varanasi (UP), Nov 14: A fast-track court Monday postponed till November 17 its judgment on a plea seeking permission to allow the worship of a "Shivling" claimed to have been found inside the Gyanvapi mosque complex here.

Civil Judge (senior division) Mahendra Pandey postponed the judgment till November 17, Assistant District Government Counsel Sulabh Prakash said.

After hearing the arguments of both the sides to the dispute, the court had, October 27, reserved its order on the suit for November 8. As the judge was on leave November 8, the matter was posted

for Monday. Plaintiff Kiran Singh, general secretary of the Vishva Vedic Sanatan Sangh, May 24 filed the suit in the Varanasi district court, seeking a ban on the entry of Muslims into the Gyanvapi complex, handing over of the complex to the Sanatan Sangh and permission to offer prayers to the "Shivling". On May 25, District Judge A K Vishvesh had ordered the transfer of the suit to the fast-track court.

The Varanasi district magistrate, the police commissioner, the Anjuman Intezamia Committee, which manages the affairs of the Gyanvapi mosque, and the Vishwanath Temple Trust were made respondents in the suit.

Dimple Yadav files nomination for Mainpuri bypoll



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mainpuri (UP), Nov 14: Samajwadi Party candidate for the Mainpuri Lok Sabha bypoll Dimple Yadav filed her nomination papers Monday and said her father-in-law Mulayam Singh Yadav's blessings are with her.

The December 5 bypoll was necessitated after the seat fell vacant following the demise of SP patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav October 10. The result of the bypoll will be declared December 8. SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and MP Ramgopal Yadav accompanied 44-year-old Dimple during the filing of nomination papers at the District Magistrate's office here.

However, no one from Pragatishheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) chief Shivpal Singh Yadav's family accompanied Dimple to the DM's office. Before submitting the papers, Dimple, wife of Akhilesh Yadav, touched the feet of MP Ramgopal Yadav.

After filing her nomination papers, Dimple said, "Mainpuri gave recognition to 'netaji', and 'netaji' gave recognition to Mainpuri. Netaji's blessings are with me, and in the elections, the blessings of the people of Mainpuri will be with the SP." Former MP from Mainpuri Tej Pratap and SP district president Alok Sakya also accompanied them. Filing of nominations has started and the last date for filing nominations is November 17. The BJP, which is aiming to turn the apple cart of SP in its stronghold Mainpuri like it did recently in Azamgarh and Rampur, is yet to announce its nominee to take on Dimple.

MORBI BRIDGE COLLAPSE MAY CHANGE POLL EQUATION

The Morbi bridge collapse in Gujarat October 30 which left 135 dead including 55 children rates as one of the worst 'man-made' disaster of recent times.

The Supreme Court Monday agreed to list for hearing a PIL seeking constitution of a judicial commission to probe the Morbi bridge collapse.

A bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice J B Pardiwala took note of the submission of lawyer Vishal Tiwari, who has filed the PIL, that the matter needed an urgent hearing. Meanwhile, the Gujarat High Court is likely to hear the suo motu PIL Tuesday, as the matter was not taken up Monday because of the unavailability of the bench headed by Chief Justice Aravind Kumar.

The social activist Sanjeev Ezhava in his PIL has sought dismantling

of the five-member committee formed by the state government to probe the collapse and formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) comprising experts from the IIT to make structural scrutiny of the pedestrian bridge. It has been contended that Oreva Group has no expertise or knowledge in repairs, maintenance or renovation and therefore sub-contracted the work to a little know contractor Devprakash solutions for ₹2 crore.

This sub-contractor only replaced the wooden deck with aluminium ones and did not touch upon the weak and corroded suspension cables. Neither the municipality nor the Oreva group sought any technical advice or approval regarding the structural design nor was any fitness certificate issued before re-opening it for the public. Though the High Court rejected



Sanjeev's PIL on the ground that multiple litigations were unwarranted, it permitted him to assist the court in the PIL it has filed.

Despite multiple allegations of violations, only the small fry has been arrested - two managers of the firm Oreva, ticket collectors, three security guards and the bridge repair contractors - while the top brass of the firm are yet to be arrested.

Oreva Managing director, Jaysukhbhai Patel who was present with his family at the re-opening of the bridge and had publicly

claimed that it will now hold up for at least 8 to 10 years is missing and has not been sighted thereafter. Speculation is rife that powerful forces within the ruling establishment are protecting him and he is likely to surface only after the ensuing polls get over. Meanwhile, the police demand for further remand of the two accused managers.

The Prime Minister's 'high optics' visit November 1, the last day of his 3-day tour of official engagements in Gujarat and emphasis on 'detailed, impartial and extensive' inquiry after chairing a high-level meeting notwithstanding, the fact is that his own party has been ruling the Morbi municipality.

It had won all the 52 seats in 2021. Civic body president Kusum Parmar and chief officer Sandipsinh Jhala have washed

themselves clean of all responsibility though the later has subsequently been suspended. The two aver that the company was solely responsible for safety, security, operations and maintenance. Except for two small stints - all totalling over two years - when the Congress held sway, the BJP has been ruling the Morbi municipality almost continuously since 1986.

The mishap is expected to have a significant fallout in the ensuing state Assembly elections, particularly in Saurashtra where the ruling party was on a weak wicket in the 2017 elections.

In 2017, the Congress had bagged 30 of the total 54 seats in Saurashtra and Kutch region to the BJP's 23 with one going to others. This was a shot in the arm to the Congress which had got only 16 seats in 2012 with the BJP bagging 35 and oth-

ers picking up the remaining 3 seats. The bridge collapse is expected to become a poll issue with the Congress opposition and AAP pouncing on it to rub in the charges they have been levelling against the BJP government.

What is galling is that a 'watchmaker' was handpicked to repair a 143-year old-suspension bridge this year without any tender without any expert supervision nor safety audit and the bridge was re-opened without a safety and completion certificate being issued.

The agreement does not fix responsibility for accidents and loss of life, gives commercial and branding rights to the watchmaker till 2037 and, wonder of all wonders, rules out any 'interference' by government or government agency in the management and maintenance of the bridge!

international



Of course China remains an important business and trade partner. But the Asia-Pacific region encompasses far more than just China
OLAF SCHOLZ | GERMAN CHANCELLOR

JEFF BEZOS TO GIVE AWAY MOST OF HIS FORTUNE
Amazon founder Jeff Bezos said he will give away the majority of his wealth during his lifetime, becoming the latest billionaire to pledge to donate much of his vast fortune



of the day quote

The coronavirus wave, which seemed to be slightly slowing, is starting to spread again in the winter season
HAN DUCK-SOO | SOUTH KOREAN PM

The blast that hit Istanbul on Sunday is likely an act of terror
RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN | TURKISH PRESIDENT

New Zealand to upgrade trade deal with ASEAN, Australia
JACINDA ARDERN | NEW ZEALAND PM

SHORT TAKES

Shooting kills one
Alabama (US): Gunshots erupted at the end of a south Alabama city's signature annual event, a parade capping off the National Peanut Festival, leaving one person dead, another wounded and sending terrified spectators ducking for cover. With thousands of people lining the streets of Dothan on Saturday, the parade was nearing its conclusion when a series of gunshots rang out around what video showed a group was gathered near an intersection.

3 killed, 2 injured
Charlottesville (US): Three people have been killed and two others were wounded in a shooting at a parking garage at the University of Virginia, according to the school's president, and police searched Monday for a student who was a suspect. The shooting around 10:30 pm Sunday "resulted in three fatalities; two additional victims were injured and are receiving medical care," President Jim Ryan said in a letter to the university community posted on social media. He identified the suspect as Christopher Darnell Jones Jr.

Girl abducted
Johannesburg: The abduction of an eight-year-old Indian-origin girl in South Africa's Cape Town and the alleged inaction of the police in probing the case has triggered protests by the residents of the city. Abirah Dekhta, a student of Rylands Primary School, was abducted on the morning of November 4 from her school transport vehicle by some unknown persons while she was waiting for another student. Her parents settled in Cape Town from India some years ago. Her father runs a mobile phone shop in the city. However, even after the passage of 10 days, police remain tight-lipped about the probe, prompting the residents of the Indian-dominated suburb of Gatesville in Cape Town to demand answers from the authorities.



UP AND DOWN: Motoring enthusiasts take part in the annual VSCC Lakeland Trial at Honister Slate Mine in Keswick, Britain

ILLEGAL MIGRATION UK SIGNS PACT WITH FRANCE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 14: UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman Monday signed a new agreement with neighbouring France, which will see enhanced French patrols to curb the rising number of illegal migrants crossing the English Channel into England in dangerous small boats.

The Indian-origin minister is in France to finalise the new arrangement, which will also see specialist UK officers embedded with their French counterparts for the first time as part of a new financial agreement.

The UK's annual payment to France to help police the border is set to rise to Euro 72 million in 2022-23 from Euro 62.7 million for 2021-22. Under the new UK-France joint agreement, the number of officers patrolling the French coast at Calais to stop people setting off to the English coast at Dover will rise from 200 to 300.

"There are no quick fixes, but this new arrangement will mean we can significantly increase the number of French gendarmes patrolling the beaches in northern France and ensure UK and French officers are working hand in hand to stop the people smugglers," Braverman said.

"We must do everything we can to stop people making these dangerous journeys and crack down on the criminal gangs. This is a global challenge requiring global solutions, and it is in the interests of both the UK and French governments to work together to solve this complex problem," she said.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak also flagged the issue as an "absolute priority" and said he was "confident we can bring the numbers down." "I do think that the absolute priority that British people have right now, as do I, is to grip illegal migration," Sunak told reporters en route to Indonesia for the G20 summit as the agreement was announced in London.

According to official estimates, more than 40,000 people have crossed in small boats so far this year, up from 28,526 last year and 8,404 the year before.

Biden, Xi seek to avoid conflict

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bali, Nov 14: US President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping Monday held their first in-person meeting here with both leaders underscoring the need to manage their differences and prevent a conflict, amid Beijing's coercive military posturing against Taiwan and in the strategic Indo-Pacific region.

The high-profile meeting between Biden and Xi that lasted nearly three hours took place on the margins of the G20 summit here in this Indonesian city. Both leaders shook hands and greeted each other with smiles, standing in front of a row of US and Chinese flags.

This is their first face to face meeting after Biden became president two years back. They have, however, talked on phone - and as vice president earlier Biden had been in touch with the Chinese strongman. The two leaders did not wear masks.

In his opening remarks, Biden said that he was committed to keeping the lines of communication open with Xi. "I'm committed to keep lines of communication open between you and me personally, but our governments across the board, because our two countries have so much that we have the opportunity to deal with," he said.

"As the leaders of our two nations share responsibility in my view to show that China and the US can



HIGH-PROFILE MEET AT BALI

Currently the China-US relationship is in such a situation that we all care a lot about it because this is not the fundamental interest of our two countries and peoples, and it is not what the international community expects (from) us
XI JINPING | CHINESE PRESIDENT

I'm committed to keep lines of communication open between you and me personally, but our governments across the board, because our two countries have so much that we have the opportunity to deal with
JOE BIDEN | US PRESIDENT

manage our differences, prevent competition from becoming anything even near conflict and find ways to work together on urgent, global issues that require our mutual cooperation," he added.

On his part, Xi said the world is paying attention to the high-stakes meeting between him and President Biden.

"Currently the China-US relationship is in such a situation that we all care a lot about it because this

is not the fundamental interest of our two countries and peoples, and it is not what the international community expects (from) us," Xi said.

"As leaders of the two major countries we need to chart the right course for the US China relationship. We need to find the right direction for the bilateral relationship going forward and elevate the relationship," he added, speaking through a translator.

Istanbul explosion: Syrian woman held

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Istanbul, Nov 14: Turkish police said Monday that they have detained a Syrian woman with suspected links to Kurdish militants and that she confessed to planting a bomb that exploded on a bustling pedestrian avenue in Istanbul, killing six people and wounding several dozen others.

Sunday's explosion occurred on Istiklal Avenue, a popular thoroughfare lined with shops and restaurants that leads to the iconic Taksim Square.

"A little while ago, the person who left the bomb was detained by



Police members work at the scene after an explosion on busy pedestrian Istiklal street in Istanbul, Turkey

At least 46 other people were also detained for questioning, the Istanbul Police Department said in a statement

our Istanbul Police Department teams," Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu announced early on Monday. Police later identified the suspect as Ahlam Albashir, a Syrian national.

At least 46 other people were also detained for questioning, the Istanbul Police Department said in a statement. Sunday's explosion was a shocking reminder

COP27

India joins 57 nations in long-term strategies for net-zero pathways

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 14: India Monday joined 57 nations to have submitted long-term strategies for net-zero pathways at the on-going UN climate summit, COP27, in Egypt.

This is a follow-up of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in Glasgow where he committed to India meeting net-zero goal by 2070. The report, Long Term Low Carbon Development Strategy (LT-LEDS), was launched by Environment Minister Bhupendra Patel Yadav at the India@75 pavilion at the COP27 venue in Sharm El-Sheikh.

India's approach is based on four pillars that inform its climate policy landscape, namely its low historic contribution toward global warming, significant future energy needs of the country, national circumstances as it pertains to committing to low-emission growth strategies, and the need to build climate resilience.

More than 100-page document specifies that it will focus on the following seven sectoral priorities to meet India's decarbonisation goals.

They are low carbon development in electricity systems consistent with development; The Indian government will prioritise demand side management for future planning of power systems.

The LT-LEDS also mentions the rationalisation of fossil fuels, "with due regard to energy security". A

further priority area will also be the development of green taxonomy for the power sector.

Develop an integrated, efficient, inclusive, low carbon transport system: The LT-LEDS section on transport includes priority planned actions around a phased transition to cleaner fuels. Demand side management measures have also been mentioned, along with measures on traffic management and intelligent transport systems.

Promote adaptation in urban design, energy and material efficiency in buildings, and sustainable urbanisation: Adaptation measures have been prioritised in the urban development section of the LT-LEDS along with low-carbon modes of municipal service delivery and waste management.

Promote economy-wide decoupling of emissions from growth, and development of an efficient, innovative, low-emission industrial system: India's LT-LEDS for industrial decarbonisation depends heavily on measures to improve resource efficiency and exploration of fuel switching and electrification as and when viable.

The strategy document also places special focus on the decarbonisation of MSMEs, which have been largely absent in India's decarbonisation story, despite carrying a significant industrial base, energy demand and being a large source of employment.

India's long-term strategy shall involve the mainstreaming of climate finance and the development of new multilateral mechanisms for supporting innovation, and technology development



Attack on Imran: PTI moves SC



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad/Lahore, Nov 14: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Monday filed multiple writ petitions in the Supreme Court to get a FIR registered against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Interior Minister and a top Army officer - the three persons who the party's chief Imran Khan had accused of hatching a plot to assassinate him.

Khan, 70, suffered bullet injuries in the right leg on November 3 when two gunmen fired a volley of bullets at him and others in the Wazirabad area of Punjab province, where he was leading a protest march against the Shehbaz Sharif government.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief on Monday asserted that registering a FIR for the assassination attempt was his right. On November 8, Punjab police named Naveed Mohammad Basheer, the assailant who was taken into custody, as the prime accused in the case and filed an FIR against him.

They are yet to register an FIR against Prime Minister Sharif, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and ISI Counter Intelligence Wing head Maj-Gen Faisal Naseer, the three names revealed by Khan, who allegedly plotted his assassination.

Permanent Indian residents can now be part of Canadian military

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Toronto, Nov 14: The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) have announced that permanent residents, which includes a large number of Indians, will now be allowed to enlist, as the military struggles with low recruitment levels, according to a media report.

The move also comes five years after the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) announced that they're changing their "outdated recruitment process", means allowing permanent residents who have lived in Canada for 10 years to apply, CTV News reported.

Permanent residents were previously only eligible under the Skilled Military Foreign Applicant (SMFA) entry programme, which was "open for individuals ... that would reduce training costs or fill



a special need ... such as a trained pilot or a doctor," according to the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia, a not-for-profit association of retired and serving members of the CAF.

Right now, candidates must be citizens of Canada, over 18 years old (or 16, providing they have parental consent), and have a grade 10 or

grade 12 education depending on if they plan to enlist as an officer. These criteria - except, of course, the citizenship requirement - will also apply to permanent residents.

The CAF sounded an alarm in September over a severe shortage of recruits to fill thousands of vacant positions, meeting about half the number of applicants it needs

per month to meet the goal of adding 5,900 members this year.

While the armed forces haven't said whether the recent move was made to boost recruitment, Christian Leuprecht, a professor at the Royal Military College of Canada, says that it makes good sense. "In the past, the CAF had had the luxury of being able to limit itself to citizens because it has had enough applicants. This is no longer the case," Leuprecht told CTVNews.ca in an email.

He added, "The CAF had resisted opening up the ranks to permanent residents because it does create additional burdens and risks, in terms of security clearances, for instance." But recruiting non-citizens isn't by any means something new, he points out, arguing many other countries have done this for years.

"Countries such as France use

military service as either a pathway to citizenship or an accelerated pathway to citizenship; but since Canadian citizenship is relatively easy for permanent residents to obtain, it's not clear that would offer a major incentive in the Canadian case," he said.

In March, Defence Minister Anita Anand said that the CAF needs to grow if it is to meet global demands triggered by Russia's ongoing unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. "Time is of the essence in everything we do when so much is at stake for Canada and for the world. We are facing the greatest threat to international peace and stability since the end of the Second World War," she said in a press conference at the time.

"What can a country like ours, an incredible country like ours, bring to the table?"

NEARLY 1 LAKH INDIANS BECAME PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF CANADA IN 2021. ONE IN FIVE PEOPLE COMING TO CANADA WERE BORN IN INDIA, THE STATISTICS CANADA DATA SHOWS, MAKING IT THE TOP COUNTRY OF BIRTH FOR RECENT ARRIVALS

of the day quote

Domestic original equipment manufacturer demand constitutes almost 50 per cent of sales for the Indian auto component industry. This is likely to remain healthy in FY2023, with double-digit growth expected in both passenger vehicle and commercial vehicle segments

One year ago, we made our way to the public markets. We are aware of the expectations that Paytm carries, and I assure you that we are on the right path to profitability and free cash flows

At this point of time the plan is to get to an IPO in the next three years. That's how we are planning our expansion at this point of time

SHORT TAKES

LIC jumps most since its listing

Bangalore: Shares of Life Insurance Corporation of India rose as much as 9.1% Monday, their best intra-day percentage gain since listing, after the country's largest insurer reported a surge in quarterly profit Friday. LIC's profit after tax surged to ₹159.52 billion in the July-September quarter, from ₹14.34 billion a year earlier, boosted mainly by the transfer of nearly \$1.8 billion from policy holders' fund to shareholders' fund. The state-owned insurer, which listed on Indian stock exchanges in May, said it transferred ₹142.72 billion from its non-participating fund to shareholders' fund.

PhysicsWallah profit up 10-fold

New Delhi: Edtech firm PhysicsWallah (PW) has recorded a multifold jump in its net profit to ₹97.8 crore in the 2021-22 financial year, the company said Monday. The unicorn edtech firm had registered a profit of ₹6.93 crore in the previous financial year. The operating revenue of PW jumped close to 10-fold to ₹234.09 crore in FY 2022 from ₹24.6 crore in FY'21. PW started its journey in 2014 as a YouTube channel to coach JEE and NEET aspirants.

AI joins industry bodies FIA, AAPA

New Delhi: With a view to contribute and help shape the future of the aviation sector, Air India has joined two key industry bodies - the Federation of Indian Airlines (FIA) and Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA). In the domestic arena, the flag carrier has rejoined the FIA which works with regulatory authorities, government departments and other stakeholders with an overall objective of fostering safety & growth in the country's aviation sector. Regionally, Air India is now first Indian airline to join the AAPA, a trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia Pacific region.

POSOCO gets new name

New Delhi: India's national grid operator "Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO)" Monday announced that it has changed its name to "Grid Controller of India Ltd". The name has been changed to reflect the critical role of grid operators in ensuring integrity, reliability, economy, resilience and sustainable operation of the Indian electricity grid.



For bringing the petrol and diesel under the GST, the states have to agree. If the states make the move, we are ready. We have been ready all along
HARDEEP SINGH PURI | PETROLEUM MINISTER

ADANI GETS NOD FOR NDTV OPEN OFFER

Billionaire Gautam Adani's conglomerate received the regulatory nod from Sebi to float an open offer for a further 26% stake in New Delhi Television Ltd, marking a crucial milestone in a takeover battle between Asia's richest person and the broadcaster's founders



LTI-Mindtree merger gets Sebi nod; now 5th largest IT co by m-cap

THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST MERGERS IN THE INDIAN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 14: The L&T Group Monday announced operationalisation of the merger of Mindtree with LTI (Larsen & Toubro Infotech), creating the country's sixth largest software firm with a revenue of \$5.25 billion this year, and the new entity, LTI-Mindtree, will begin trading from November 24.

The fall in consumer price index-based retail inflation has also brought some relief for the Reserve Bank which has been struggling to bring it below the upper tolerance level of 6% since January this year

New Delhi, Nov 14: India's annual retail inflation eased to a three-month low of 6.77% in October, helped by a slower rise in food prices and a higher base effect, strengthening bets of smaller rate hikes by the country's central bank at its meeting next month.

LITTLE RELIEF

Oct retail inflation eases to 6.77%

Annual food inflation 7.01% in Oct vs 8.60% in Sept

Central bank seen to hike rates by 25 bps -35 bps in Dec

Core inflation seen at 5.9%-6.3% in Oct vs 6.07%-6.1% in Sept

REUTERS



Inflation still faced threats in the food segment, as vegetables and cereal prices did not show signs of a moderation. We do expect the RBI to continue to increase the repo rate, albeit by a smaller quantity of 25 bps to 35 bps in the coming policy to be in tune with what other central banks are doing

MADAN SABNAVIS | CHIEF ECONOMIST, BANK OF BARODA

to remain slow, and it could take up to two years before the inflation rate eased to 4% — the middle level of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) target.

months, the finance ministry said in a tweet, after the data release.

RISK FOR GROWTH

Monday's data comes against the backdrop of RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das warning last week, while speaking at an event, that if inflation remained above 6% for a prolonged period, it will be detrimental to growth.

WPI inflation eases to 19-month low

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation dipped to a 19-month low of 8.39 per cent in October on easing prices of food, fuel and manufactured items. Declining for the fifth consecutive month, the WPI inflation cooled to single digit after a gap of one-and-a-half years, giving some comfort to the RBI which has been struggling to rein in price rise. Since April 2021, WPI inflation remained in double digits for 18 months with September print at 10.79 per cent. Inflation in October 2021 was 13.83 per cent. The earlier single-digit WPI inflation was recorded in March 2021, at 7.89 per cent.

India for the current and next calendar year due to higher inflation, high interest rates, and slowing global growth.

Last week, ratings agency Moody's revised down India's GDP growth forecast to 7% in 2022, from earlier estimate of 7.7%, and to 4.8% in 2023.

Adding to the upward price pressure on inflation is a weaker rupee, down around 9% for the year, which has prompted the RBI to defend the currency by selling dollars from its reserves.

Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the core inflation rose 5.9% to 6.3% last month, according to three economists' estimates, compared to 6.07% to 6.1% in September.

Edible oil import bill zooms 34%

ACCORDING TO SEA, HIGH VOLATILITY IN GLOBAL PALM OIL PRICES THIS YEAR AFFECTED INDIA'S PALM OIL BUYING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: India's edible oil import bill rose 34.18 per cent to ₹1.57 lakh crore in the oil year ending October 2022, while in volume terms it rose 6.85 per cent to 140.3 lakh tonne, industry body SEA said Monday.



Indonesia and Malaysia are the major suppliers of RBD Palmolein and CPO to India

import of soft oil rose, it said.

tonne from 1,43,000 tonne in the said period.

India, the world's leading vegetable oil buyer, had imported 131.3 lakh tonne of edible oils in the 2020-21 oil year (November-October) for ₹1.17 lakh crore in the previous year, according to the Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA).

As a result, there was a decrease in palm oil import at 79.15 lakh tonne during the 2021-22 oil year, when compared with 83.21 lakh tonne in the previous year, while soft oil import rose to 61.15 lakh tonne this year, from 48.12 lakh tonne in the previous year, it said in a statement.

Among soft oils, the import of soybean oil increased sharply to 41.71 lakh tonne this year from 28.66 lakh tonne in 2020-21, in the absence of lesser supply of Sunflower oil in the previous year, SEA said in a statement.

Import gradually increased during the first two quarters and it slowed down in the third quarter. However, it again increased in the fourth quarter due to the lifting of a ban on palm oil by Indonesia and a sharp decline in international prices which boosted buying from India, it said.

Similarly, the import of sunflower oil rose marginally to 19.44 lakh tonne this year from 18.94 lakh tonnes in the previous year.

In March-April for a brief period, palm oil was as expensive as soft oils. Its availability was further affected in May-June by Indonesia's decision to ban exports. As expected, India's palm oil buying plunged and

As November 1, there was an opening stock of 24.55 lakh tonne of edible oils in the country. India needs about 19 lakh tonne of edible oils per month and currently operates at 40 days stock which is the highest inventory held by India.

PRICES HIT RECORD

Smartphone shipments see lowest Q3 since '19

REUTERS

Bangalore, Nov 14: India's smartphone market fell by 10% year-on-year last quarter to 43.5 million units, marking the lowest third-quarter shipment since 2019, and a high inventory pile-up is expected to lead to a muted fourth quarter, market research firm IDC said Monday.



Xiaomi led the smartphone market with 21.2% share while Apple led the premium category with a 63% share

Samsung regained second slot with 18.5% share. It was followed by Vivo with 14.6% share, Realme 14.2% and Oppo 12.5% market share

The 5G smartphone share reached 36 per cent of total smartphones during the reported quarter with 16 million units at a slightly higher average selling price of \$383, about ₹32,000, apiece compared to \$377, about ₹30,600, in the previous quarter.

ments at mid-premium price points," said Upasana Joshi, research manager, client devices, IDC.

Despite the festive season beginning earlier than usual, the unrelenting rise in prices pulled down shipments in the world's second-biggest smartphone market, IDC said.

Moreover, the inventory pile-up and post-festive tapering in demand will lead to a muted fourth quarter, said Navkendar Singh, associate vice president, devices research, IDC.

The average selling price jumped 15% year-over-year, and 6% from the previous quarter, to a record \$226, IDC said. "The average selling price has grown consistently for the past eight quarters in a row due to increasing costs and growing 5G ship-

IDC expects 2022 shipments of around 150 million units, a decline of 8-9% over the previous year, and Singh does not expect 2023 to be any better.

GLOBAL CRYPTO MELTDOWN

The collapse of FTX empire, which has wiped out the entire \$16 billion fortune of co-founder Sam Bankman-Fried - one of history's greatest-ever destructions of wealth, has shaken confidence in the already troubled industry that was struggling to gain mainstream credibility

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Cryptocurrency markets worldwide have been battered with billions of dollars being wiped out but India managed to stay relatively unscathed thanks to a cautious approach of the government and the RBI.

India dodges crypto bullet thanks to RBI

FALL FROM GRACE



Total market value of cryptocurrencies below \$1trn from \$3trn YoY

Bitcoin reached an all-time high of over \$68K in Nov 2021 after starting the year at just under \$30K and now trades at \$16K

market value of cryptocurrencies below \$1 trillion in just a year from \$3 trillion in 2021 and sent Bahamas-based crypto exchange FTX into bankruptcy after a rush of customer withdrawals.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATES PUT EXPOSURE OF INDIAN INVESTORS TO CRYPTO ASSETS AT ONLY 3%

In India, the RBI has been resolutely opposing virtual currency from day one while the government initially was toying with the idea of regulating such instruments by bringing a law.

According to the RBI, cryptocurrencies have specifically been developed to bypass the regulated financial system and this should be reason enough to treat them with caution.

However, the government after a lot of deliberation came to the conclusion that global consensus is required in respect of virtual currencies as these are borderless and risks involved are far too high.

WazirX and ZebPay continue operations.

According to Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI) president, Kamlesh Shah, steps taken by the RBI and government not to give recognition to cryptocurrency is appropriate at this point in time.

Who are the heroes? The Government of India, SEBI, RBI, etc to call the BS. If Indian entities like brokers got into crypto, imagine how many would have lost money. Even without this, around 3% Indians own crypto. Tailpiece: This may not be over. Please do not buy this dip

ABID HASSAN | CEO, SENSIBULL.COM

rencies and the government also backs the idea of banning private digital currency.

India's cautious approach Although the legality of cryptocurrencies is yet to be decided, the government, from April 1, has brought in a 30 per cent income tax plus surcharge and cess on the transfer of crypto assets, like Bitcoin, Ethereum, Tether and Dogecoin.

Also, to keep a tab on the money trail, a 1 per cent TDS has been brought in on payments over ₹10,000 towards virtual digital currencies.

Even at present gains from crypto are chargeable to income tax, but the Budget 2022-23 announcement of 30 per cent tax has brought in clarity with regard to the rate at which the tax has to be paid.

Industry experts said the high rate of tax and increased compliance requirement due to TDS has dampened investor mood and crypto exchanges have seen a decline in trade volume.

Time to change things: Kumble

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Former India captain and coach Anil Kumble feels having totally different squads in limited overs and Test format is the way forward for the country in international cricket.

England's roaring success in ODIs and T20Is has ignited the debate for different teams and coaches in white and red ball cricket.

"Definitely, you need separate teams. You need, certainly, T20 specialists. I think what this English team has shown and even the last (T20) World Cup champions Australia have shown is that you need to invest in a lot of allrounders. Look at the batting order," Kumble told 'ESPNews'.

"Today Liam Livingstone is batting at No.7. No other team has a No.7 of the quality of Livingstone. (Marcus) Stoinis walks in at No.6 (for Australia). That's the kind of team you have to build. That's something that you need to invest in."

"I'm not really sure whether you need a different captain or a different coach. It all depends on what team you are going to pick and then choose how you want to build the support and the leadership around it."

Former Australia all-rounder Tom Moody said splitting coaches should be seriously considered by international teams. England have Brendon McCullum as their Test coach and Matthew Mott as their white-ball coach.

"I think there is no doubt that moving forward, whether it be player or support management, there needs to be a serious look into that separation."

"It seems England have quite a considerable difference between their red-ball squad and their white-ball squad. They've created a depth of quality," Moody told the cricket website after England won their second T20 World Cup title.

"With regards to England being the best white-ball team (of all time), I don't think they're there yet. If they had won in the UAE at the last T20 World Cup, you could base an argument, but they weren't there in that one. So they've missed



a World Cup there. They've missed that sort of dominance of a cycle." Moody said the demands on the players and the team management involved in all the formats are huge. "The price of having success is extremely draining. If you are going to be prepared properly, it's very hard to manage it with three formats," said Moody.

Adil Rashid to put his name in IPL auction

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Melbourne, Nov 14: Adil Rashid's game changing performances in England's T20 World Cup winning campaign could certainly make him a hot property at the upcoming IPL auction in Kochi December 23.

Rashid, who literally choked India and Pakistan in the semi-final and final with high profile scalps like Suryakumar Yadav and Babar Azam, could once again be seen in an IPL team jersey after his stint with Punjab Kings.

"Yes, I will be putting up my name in IPL auctions this time," Rashid told this agency after the World Cup final Sunday. When asked if he has been in talks with any team, he replied in the negative.

While Rashid might have got only four wickets in six games, he finished his full quota of overs in all games at an economy rate of 6.12. And what could interest the franchisees is the pace at which he bowled, potentially making him more effective than ever on tracks like Eden Gardens, Chepauk or Uppal.

He explained how he has decreased his pace and gone for more flighted deliveries like the

googly to fool Pakistan skipper Babar Azam.

"Babar's googly, I don't if it was the turning point of the match but I was definitely getting some turn. I don't know about Shadab Khan or Liam Livingstone. I was bowling a bit more slow today and got the big leggies (leg breaks) going my way. Normally I bowl a bit quicker and bit shorter. That was my game plan for me and that's the way I bowl," Adil explained his strategy.

While Shadab and Livingstone (when he bowls leg spin) are much quicker through the air, Rashid believes in taking the opposite route. "Shadab and Liam bowl it a bit quicker and everyone has got their own way. For me, slower I bowl better it is."

The England team's massive transformation over the last seven years has been discussed to death but Rashid believes that they have not only tried to win games of cricket but also entertain the viewing public.

"For past seven to eight years, we have taken the approach of being positive. Being fearless with bat and ball, trying to entertain but also being true to ourselves. Two World Cups and it's working well for us," said Rashid.



EXPERTS' OPINIONS

If I was the Chairman of the selection committee, I would say that Hardik Pandya should be the captain of the 2024 World Cup, straight away, I'd put it that way - number one. And start rebuilding a side right from today, that is from the (upcoming) New Zealand series. You start from today, the preparation for the WC, you need to understand, starts 2 years in advance. So, you do whatever you want to do, the trial and error policy, do whatever you want, try it for one year, then you form a team and by 2023 make sure this is going to be at the level that is going to play the World Cup

KRISHNAMACHARI SRIKANTH

This group of England white ball players is extraordinary and for once English cricket has a trendsetting team the rest of the world should emulate. How are England going about their business? What do they do? If I was running Indian cricket, I would swallow my pride and look at England for inspiration

MICHAEL VAUGHAN

The players with experience of playing in T20 leagues around the world really shone. You look at India, who have the biggest T20 league, but their players do not have the experience of the guys who are playing all over the world. You look at guys like Alex Hales, Chris Jordan, guys who play in the Big Bash. It is no coincidence that they (England) excelled in Australia

DARREN SAMMY

Paris Games 2024 mascots unveiled



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, Nov 14: The mascots for the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics have been revealed — a Phrygian cap. The soft bright red cap, also known as a liberty cap, is an updated version of a conical hat worn in antiquity in places such as Persia, the Balkans, Thrace, Dacia and Phrygia, a place in modern day Turkey where the name originates.

It later became a symbol of the pursuit of liberty in the French Revolution — and is still worn by the figure of Marianne, the national personification of France

since that time. The Olympic cap is triangular in shape, and comes complete with friendly smile, blue eyes, tricolor ribbon and big colored sneakers. The Paralympic version features a prosthetic leg that goes to the knee. Organisers said they wanted something that represented an "ideal". They said they chose the cap as an "allegory of freedom". The choice to use it for the Paris Games seems to draw out links between modern France and the ancient world. "The Phrygian cap embodies the ability we all have together when we collectively decide to rise up to strive for better," Paris organising committee brand director Julie Matikhine said.

"This was the case during the French Revolution and it will be the case once again with the Paris 2024 Olympic Games because this is a revolution through sport."

FRITZ STUNS NADAL AT ATP FINALS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turin, Nov 14: Rafael Nadal's bid to win one of the few titles missing from his glittering career started poorly as he was beaten in straight sets by eighth-seeded Taylor Fritz in their opening match at the ATP Finals.

After a close-fought opening set, Fritz dominated the second as the American secured a 7-6(7-3), 6-1 victory over the top-seeded Nadal Sunday.

Fritz strengthened his grip on the match when he broke Nadal's serve in the fourth game of the second set. Nadal fought valiantly to stay in the match and managed to save four break points in the sixth game but Fritz prevailed at the fifth time of asking to leave him serving for the match. He closed it out when the Spaniard sent a forehand long.

It was only Nadal's second singles match since the US Open as he has struggled with injuries and also became a father for the first time in October. Nadal has never



Expressions say it all: Taylor Fritz is ecstatic after winning a point, while Rafael Nadal looks disappointed during their match at ATP Finals, Sunday

won the ATP Finals title in 10 attempts. He finished runner-up in 2010 and 2013.

Earlier, third-seeded Casper Ruud, who lost in the semifinals last year, eased to a straight-set vic-

tory over tournament debutant Felix Auger-Aliassime in the other Green Group match.

The match was largely dominated by serving and a solitary break in the seventh game of the second set proved enough for the Norwegian player to secure a 7-6(7-4), 6-4 win over the fifth-seeded Canadian.

"I think this is some of the best level that I have played since the US Open," said Ruud, who lost the final at Flushing Meadows to Carlos Alcaraz. "The last couple of months have been a little bit of a struggle, I have to honestly say that, but you have to accept it as well."

"You will face difficult moments in your career, and maybe these last couple of months was one of those... It doesn't matter how hard you practice if you don't win matches, so today was a great win for me."

Novak Djokovic, Stefanos Tsitsipas, Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev complete the lineup in Turin.

Odisha athletes bag 2 golds, one silver at Jr Nat's



TEJASWANI DHAL

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Odisha athletes' impressive outing continue at the National Junior Athletics Championships in Guwahati as they secured three medals — two gold and one silver — Monday.

Tejaswani Dhal claimed gold in kids javelin throw event with the performance of 33.60 mtr. This is the new event added in the National Competition.

The state boys U-20, 4x100m relay team consisting of Bhima Sardar, Abhisekh Dalabehera, Lalu Prasad Bhoi and Aryan Ekka added one more yellow metal to Odisha's medals tally, missing the meet record by just 0.03 seconds.

Merymukta Soreng settled for a silver in Girls U-20 triple jump event with the performance of 12.37 mtr. Maharashtra's Poorva Hitesh Sawant bagged the gold with an effort of 12.98m.

At the end of the fourth day — the penultimate day — Odisha have 10 medals in their kitty so far, having six gold, three silver and a bronze.



BOYS' RELAY TEAM

Kohli, Surya named in WT20's 'Most Valued Team'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Melbourne, Nov 14: Tournament's leading run-getter Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav were on Monday named in the 'Most Valuable Team' of ICC 2022 T20 World Cup.

Indian superstar Kohli ended as the tournament's most prolific batter with 296 runs at a stunning average of 98.66. Kohli kick-started his campaign with a pivotal 82 not out against arch rivals Pakistan to anchor his side to a heart-thumping final-ball four-wicket victory.

And further knocks off 64 not out against Bangladesh, 62 not out against the Netherlands and 50 against England in the semifinals helped round off an individual competition to savour for one of the greatest white-ball batters of the modern era.

Fellow Indian Suryakumar finished as the tournament's third highest run-scorer with 239 runs overall. Three half centuries — 51 not out against the Netherlands in Sydney, 68 against South Africa in Perth and 61 not out off just 25 balls against Zimbabwe in Melbourne — helped haul his side



Top from (L) Alex Hales, Jos Buttler, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Glenn Phillips, Sikandar Raza; Bottom from (L) Shadab Khan, Sam Curran, Anrich Nortje, Mark Wood, Shaheen Shah Afridi; 12th man: Hardik Pandya

into the semifinals as he scored at a staggering strike rate of 189.68 in his six innings. Another Indian, Hardik Pandya was named as the 12th man of the side. Captain, wicketkeeper and opening batter Jos Buttler, fellow opener Alex Hales and seamer Sam

Curran all made the cut for England. New Zealand star Glenn Phillips and Zimbabwe ace Sikandar Raza occupy the No.5 and No.6 positions in the playing eleven. Phillips' stunning century against Sri Lanka catapulted his team to a comfortable 65-run victory in Sydney.

Another innings of 62 against England helped him reach a total of 201 runs at an average of 40.20. For Raza, 219 runs and 10 wickets, proved pivotal assets for Zimbabwe with both bat and ball. He scored a polished 82 off his 48 balls in his country's opening game

against Ireland in Hobart, before further batting contributions against Scotland, Netherlands and India — bolstered by a brilliant three for 25 as Zimbabwe stunned Pakistan in Perth — rounded off a tournament to remember. Completing the middle order is

Pakistan all-rounder Shadab Khan, who grabbed an impressive 11 wickets at an average of just 15.00. And he was similarly impressive with the bat, striking a solid 92 runs at an average of 24.50 to help fire his side to the final in Melbourne.

Sam Curran and Anrich Nortje line up at No.8 and No.9, with the former being crowned Player of the Tournament after a series of spellbinding bowling displays. The left-arm seamer claimed remarkable figures of 3/12 in the final after getting his tournament underway with a similarly scintillating 5/10 against Afghanistan.

Another bowler who starred was pace ace Nortje, who finished with a tournament-best average of just 8.54. Nortje conceded just 94 runs while in the process of taking his 11 wickets.

Rounding off the side at No.10 and 11 are fellow pace bowlers Mark Wood and Shaheen Shah Afridi, who took nine and 11 wickets respectively for England and Pakistan. Taking his place as 12th man is Indian all-rounder Pandya, who starred with both bat and ball by racking up 128 runs and eight wickets.