

IRREGULAR by MANJUL

I've checked. There is no problem.

Give it a little time. Seems.

it is mourning SPB.

DIESEL PRICE FALLS,

PETROL UNCHANGED

BHUBANESWAR: Diesel price in the

capital continued to decline Friday

after a two-day pause as product

prices remained steady. The price

of diesel was dropped by 20 paisa

remained unchanged for the third

deduction, diesel price stood at

paused at ₹81.66. In the national

capital, Oil marketing companies

also cut diesel price by 18 paisa

₹71.28 per litre, Thursday. The

petrol price remained static at

₹81.06 a litre.

per litre to ₹71.10 a litre down from

₹77.43 Friday. Petrol price was

prices fell globally while crude

per litre while petrol prices

consecutive day. After the



Govt used the money for other purposes, which led to overstatement of revenue receipts and understatement of fiscal deficit

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 25: The CAG has found that the Union gaovernment in the very first two years of the GST implementation wrongly retained ₹47,272 crore of GST compensation cess that was meant to be used specifically to compensate states for loss of revenue.

In its audit report of government accounts, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) flagged that the amount was to be credited to the non-lapsable **GST** Compensation Cess collection fund for payment to states for loss of revenue due to implementation of GST since 2017, but the government did not do so, and thus violated the GST law.

The GST Compensation Cess Act, 2017 provides for levy of cess for the purpose of providing compensation to the states for loss of revenue arising due to implementation of GST for a period specified in the Act, CAG said. CAG said out of the ₹62,612 crore GST Compensation Cess collected in 2017-18, ₹56,146 crore was transferred to the nonlapsable fund. In the following year (2018-

STATES SUFFER

States have not been paid their promised compensation for letting go of their powers to levy taxes on goods and services since last fiscal

The Centre says a slowdown in the economy has meant that not enough money is being collected by way of cess



CONTRADICTORY REPORT: The CAG findings run contrary to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's submissions in Parliament that states could not be compensated for revenue shortfall as there was no such provision in the law

19), ₹54,275 crore out of ₹95,081 crore collected was transferred to the fund. The short transfer in 2017-18 was

₹6,466 crore and in 2018-19 it was ₹40,806 crore, CAG said adding the Centre used this money for other purposes which led to an overstatement of revenue receipts and understatement of fiscal deficit for the year. The short-crediting was a violation of the GST Compensation Cess Act, 2017.

The issue of compensation cess is driving a wedge between the Centre and states at the GST Council - the highest decision making body of the GST regime that had subsumed 17 different central and state taxes such as excise duty and VAT.

States have not been paid their promised compensation for letting go of their powers to levy taxes on goods and services since last fiscal. The Centre says a slowdown in the economy has meant that not enough money is being collected by way of cess that is levied on luxury and sin goods.

The Centre has asked states to borrow for meeting the revenue shortfall. States ruled by Congress, Left, TMC and AAP have opposed the move completely arguing that the Centre should borrow and provide to states, since states have given majority of their taxation powers to the Centre under GST regime introduced in July 2017.



MONSOON SESSION Patro spells out Assembly norms



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Going away from the convention, the proceedings of monsoon session of the State Assembly will be conducted for four and half hours on each day, Speaker Surya Narayan Patro informed at an all-party meeting here Friday.

Patro said that the first day of the monsoon session will begin at 11 am while the proceedings will be held from 10.30 am to 1 pm and again from $3 \text{ pm to } \overline{5} \text{ pm on}$ each of the other days.

Sitting arrangements have been made in accordance with social distancing norms, he said. Senior members, who are unable to attend the session, can do so from the district headquarters or their own office, where video conferPramilla Mallick said that there will be no Question Hour and 12 Ordinances, which have been cleared by the state Cabinet, will be tabled during the session for discussion. Other businesses of the House like Zero Hour and Calling Attention among others will continue as per present practice, she said.

Senior Congress legislator Narasingha, however, has termed the decision to suspend Question Hour as illegal and unconstitutional. "Cancelation of the Question Hour and earlier announcement of such a thing is illegal and unconstitutional. I strongly condemn this.'

After paying obituary references for former President late Pranab Mukherjee, former MLAs Bishnu Charan Das.

MARKET WATCH INDEX VARIATION SENSEX **37388.66** 懀 835.06 BOL NIFTY 11050.30 1 244.80 DOLLAR 74.15 ₹0.18 EURO ₹0.28 86.08 ₽ ₹353 GOLD ₹49,551 SILVER **₹58,723** ₹906





didn't even consult the farmer organisations nor any state. Agriculture is a state subject, they are doing it for corporates and it is anti-farmer, by all means, even Niranjan Patnaik extended the

Police deployed 15 platoons of police to prevent any incident.

Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) president their own farmer organisation is op- moral support to the agitation.

Playback legend SPB passes away at 74



decades, died Friday afternoon, his son S.P.Charan said. Speaking briefly to the media outside the MGM Healthcare Hospital, Charan said Balasubrahmanyam passed away at 1.04 p.m. and thanked the hospital officials for the treatment and service. In a statement issued Friday the hospital said: "In a further setback this morning, despite maximal life support measures and the best efforts of the clinical

team, his condition deteriorated further and he suffered a cardio-respiratory arrest. With

trade union leaders and student activists joined the protest.

to gherao Krushi Bhawan in the

political parties like Congress.

Many farmer leaders, activists,

The protest was supported by

city but were stopped by police.

Suresh Panigrahi, member of committee, said, "Passing of the farm Bills amidst the pandemic is not acceptable. The government

posing the Bills." The protesters burnt the effigy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with slogans of 'Ram Naam Satya Hai' at Master Canteen Square. Commissionerate

which was observed nationwide as 'Bharat Bandh'. Other party leaders were seen voicing their concerns over the farm Bills passed in the Parliament recently.

profound grief, we regret to inform that he has passed away September 25 at 13.04 hours." The hospital said, Balasubrahmanyam was on life support measures since Aug 14 for severe Covid-19 pneumonia. MORE P2

encing facility is available, Patro said, adding, "They have to inform beforehand about it in writing.' Government chief whip

Madan Mohan Dutta, some former members and police personnel, the House will adjourn for an hour on the first day Sept 29.

Voda wins ₹20K crore dispute against govt

recently.

REUTERS

New Delhi, Sept 25: Vodafone Group Plc VOD.L has won an international arbitration case against the Indian government in a \$2 billion tax dispute, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

An international arbitration tribunal in The Hague ruled that India's imposition of a tax liability on Vodafone, as well as interest and penalties, were in a breach of an investment treaty agreement between India and the Netherlands, one of the sources said.

The tribunal, in its ruling, said the government must cease seeking the dues from Vodafone and should also pay 4.3 million pounds (\$5.47 million) to the company as partial compensation for its legal costs, the source said.

Vodafone and India's finance ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The tax dispute stems from Vodafone's acquisition of the Indian mobile assets from Hutchison Whampoa in 2007.

The government said Vodafone was liable to pay taxes on the acauisition, which the company contested. In 2012, India's top court ruled in favour of the telecom provider but the government later that year changed the rules to enable it to tax deals that had already been concluded.

In April 2014, Vodafone initiated arbitration proceedings



The tribunal said the govt must cease seeking the dues from Vodafone and pay \$5.47 million to the company as partial compensation for its legal costs

The tax dispute stems from Vodafone's acquisition of the Indian mobile assets from **Hutchison Whampoa** in 2007

against India. India is entangled in more than a dozen international arbitration cases against companies, including Cairn Energy CNE.L, over retrospective tax claims and cancellation of contracts. The exchequer could end up paying billions of dollars in damages if it loses.

Bihar polls from October 28

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 25: Voting for Bihar assembly elections will be held in three phases October 28, November 3 and November 7 in one of the biggest elections globally during the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by counting of votes November 10, the Election

Commission announced Friday. Announcing the poll schedule for the 243-member Bihar assembly, Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said voting will begin as usual at 7 am but the period will be extended by one hour until 6 pm, except in the Left Wing Extremismaffected areas, so that COVID-19 patients can vote in the last hour of the day.

The world has changed significantly since the last major election



in our country, which was held for Delhi assembly, and the COVID-19 pandemic has forced a new normal in every aspect of our life.

Bihar assembly polls will be one of the biggest elections globally to be held during prevailing COVID-19 situation, Arora said.

He also said special protocols have been readied for voters who are COVID-positive patients.

Announcing the poll schedule at a press conference here, Arora

CALL ON BYPOLLS SEPT 29: CEC

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission will take a call on bypolls to one Lok Sabha and 64 assembly seats on September 29 after going through inputs provided by poll officials and chief secretaries of the states concerned, **Chief Election Commissioner Sunil** Arora said Friday. He also said that EC Secretary General Umesh Sinha will issue a press release of the schedule the same evening based on the decision taken at the poll watchdog.

said the number of phases for 243member Bihar assembly polls has been reduced keeping in mind security arrangements and festive season, among other factors.

STF arrests 4, including 'lady don', in arms deal

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: The Special Task Force of Crime Branch, with the help of Commissionerate Police busted an illegal arms racket here Friday.

The accused persons were identified as Rajendra Kumar Sahoo, 38, alias Litu, Gourang Jena, 38, alias Nabin of Pattamundai in Kendrapara, Jyotsnarani Das, 30, of Nimapada in Puri and Alok Kumar Jena of Jharapada area in the city. As per the sources, the STF

sleuths Thursday received incriminating information regarding the illegal deal of fire arms and ammunitions between a local miscreant and a dealer who came from Kendrapara district in a white Scorpio vehicle (OR02 AE 9993).

Subsequently, the STF sleuths sought the help of Commissionerate police to keep a watch on the gun runners travelling by the particular vehicle in different areas of city like Shahidnagar, Mancheswar, Khandagiri, Badagada. Chandrasekharpur and Capital police station areas.

Later, the sleuths ascertained that two dreaded criminals along with Jvotsnarani, touted as the lady don, were waiting for someone near the state museum. The STF team along conducted raids at the spot and arrested the trio. The cops seized one 9mm country made pistol fitted with magazine containing four live ammunitions, the Scorpio and mobile phones.

Ahead of bypolls, govt nod to Mahanadi bridge

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Ahead of by-polls for Balasore Sadar as well as Tirtol Assembly segments, the state government Friday approved a bridge project over the Mahanadi River in Jagatsinghpur district.

According to reports, after completion, the bridge would connect Tirtol, Poshal and Sankheswar areas and benefit around 50,000 residents of Ainta, Gopalpur, Kanimula, Bisanpur, Krushanadapur, Poshala, Bijipur, Saralapur and Tentulipada areas in the district.

The local residents had been de-

manding for this bridge since long. To ensure proper road communication and economic development of the area, the state government has decided to go ahead with the project, sources said.

The 888.89 metre-long bridge will be constructed with an estimated cost of Rs118.56 crore. Following the state government's approval, tender process for the project also began Friday.

'The work will begin soon after completion of tender process. The bridge will facilitate better road communication and enhance economic activities in the district,"



said an official statement issued move. To woo the voters of Tirtol, by the engineer-in-chief of Rural the government has come up with Works department. the project, they alleged.

Meanwhile, Opposition BJP and "If the government would have Congress smell politics behind the little shame, it might not have an-

nounced the project. During Bijepur by-election also the government had announced Gangadhar Meher irrigation project. But the tender process was started in 2020. People of Tirtol knew about this very well and will not be influenced by the decision," said BJP leader Prithiviraj Harichandan.

Similarly, senior Congress leader Suresh Routray said, "To influence the voters, the state government has announced the bridge project.'

BJD leader Pramila Mallick said, 'It is the duty of opposition partiesto oppose all moves of government. We will win both the seats.'













SELENA FLAUNTS SCAR

Singer Selena Gomez has showed off her scar from a kidney transplant in a new social media post. She says she now feels confident and is proud of what she had gone through. The 28-year-old posted a photo of her in a blue swimwear in Instagram. She is seen posing with one leg placed on a rock, which puts her inner thigh scar on display

BOSEMAN HONOURED

A Black Panther mural featuring late actor Chadwick Boseman, who brought alive the popular superhero on screen, has been unveiled at Disneyland. The theme park unveiled the mural in its Downtown Disney shopping district in California. The artwork by Nikkolas Smith has the late star giving the famous Wakanda salute to a young fan wearing a "Black Panther" mask



FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshaSpeaks.com accuracy • reliability • trust 🎑 FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181



You have been too busy with work and social obligations. It is high time vou took a break and did something for yourself. Your health may need attention. Ganesha

says, everything else should take a back seat if you're stressed out.

TAURUS

Today, you will strike a great balance between your professional and personal life, predicts

Ganesha. You will save your money from being swindled by others. You may be lagging in the race to catch up with your goals, but will not be disappointed by what you achieve

GEMINI

You need to guard against hurting anyone's feelings because of your ill-temper or harsh language. You need to help others in their troubles. You ought to reflect on the toll that the troubles that have visited you have taken on you, and accordingly empathise with others, says Ganesha.

There is nothing extraordinary about today. You will be busy doing the routine work and will find contentment in the mundane. The absence of thrill and adventure doesn't mean that you'll be free for

most part of the day.

LEO



happiness one moment, and then will be depressed the next. You need to guard against mood swings and find a balance to achieve success in your work today. Financial gains are indicated.

VIRGO

Surf's up as you enjoy an unexpected achievement! But your joy ride today may well be spent in vexing about the problems you have. Expect to gain new money for a new venture. Your business will rise atop the highest wave today, foretells Ganesha



ment. But you already ex

SPB: The voice of heroes goes silent permanently

CHENNAI: SP Balasubrahmanyam or popularly SPB, the playback singer, as well the voice over, of popular heroes from south and Hindi movies breathed his last Friday. The coronavirus attacked his lungs and permanently silenced the singer who, in his illustrious career, had sung over 40,000 songs in 16 different languages over a ca-

reer spanning five decades. In a Facebook post, August 5, the 74-year old SPB said that he was suffering from a very mild attack of coronavirus and had got himself hospitalised to take rest. He had She encouraged me said that though the doctors had advised him to stay at home and take rest, he decided to be in a hospital, as at home his family members would get concerned. He hoped to get discharged from the hospital in two days. But it was not to be.

The man who had sung the one had said that if of the popular duets with P Susheela а achieves some-"Aayiaram Nilevae Vaa" (Come thousand moons) for MG thing significant Ramachandran (MGR) in the Tamil in a field, then it is movie Adimai Penn has finally reached the stars, perhaps to sing by several others.

case.

Honoured with Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awards in 2001 and 2011 respectively, SPB has won six National Film Awards for the best male playback singer and several

for the Gods.

other state awards. Born to SP Sambamurthy, a Harikatha artist and mother Sakunthalamma June 4, 1946, SPB instilled interest in music at a very young age. His younger sister P Sailaja was also a movie playback singer.

While pursuing engineering, he used to participate in singing competitions and won prizes. "At one such competition, popular playback singer S Janaki while giving the prize sowed the seed of singing in movies in me by saying that I can shine in the cine world

saying that she too was not a trained singer," SPB had reminisced at a media meet. A humble person, SPB person due to the nudges and help rendered And in his

there were couple of people. Had it not been for his friend and roommate Murali who compelled him to reach the recording studio in December 1966, he wouldn't have become a singer.

SPB recorded his first song composed by music director and his mentor SP Kodandapani for the Telugu movie Sri Sri Sri Maryada Ramanna. Nearly a week later after his debut, he recorded his first Kannada song for the movie Nakkare Ade Swarga in 1967. Soon

he became busy with Telugu movie songs. At a media meet SPB had said he was grateful to MGR for postponing the shooting for "Aayiram Nilavae Vaa" by a month so that the song was ready.

The singer said he was then down with fever. Given his stature MGR could have recorded the song with a different singer and gone ahead with the shooting. "I had asked MGR about that later. He said after the audi[,]

tion, I



SPB sung in movies like Maine Pyar Kiya and Hum Aapke Hain Kaun starring Salman Khan

would have told my friends that I will be singing for MGR. And if I was replaced the talk would be that MGR didn't like my voice and so he chose some other singer. That would have been a big setback for my Tamil movie career, which he (MGR) didn't want to happen," SPB recalled the incident.

It was in 1981 that SPB made his debut in the Hindi movie world singing for Kamal Haasan in "Ek Duuje Ke Liye" and went on to sing in movies like "Maine Pyar Kiya", "Hum Aapke Hain Kaun" and others.

"It was K Balachander, Director, Ek Duuje Ke Live who had insisted that I should sing for Kamal Haasan though the music composers Laxmikant-Pyarelal were bit reluctant to try me out," SPB reminisced.

Disha becomes 'beauty' brand ambassador

NEW DELHI: "Beauty is an integral part of my life, even more since I became a model," says Bollywood actress Disha Patani has been roped in as the beauty brand ambassador of Myntra.

Disha will be featuring in a brand campaign that will bring to the table a holistic representation of a tech-savvy, modern-day celebrity with the appeal to connect and engage with enthusiasts for/beauty and personal care products across various age-groups.

She says: "Myntra has consistently pioneered the path to self-expression through fashion

and beauty for fashionforward customers, including myself. Through this association with Myntra, I hope to inspire and help people across India on their journey towards discovering their own unique fashion styles and preferences." Commenting on the

association, Amar Nagaram,

CEO, Myntra, said: "In a first-ever for Myntra, this association with Disha as our beauty brand ambassador represents our increasing focus on the booming Beauty and Personal Care segment. Through our tech-based personalisation capabilities, a growing

portfolio, and content innovation, we are extending our superlative consumer experience to cater to the beauty needs of consumers and help them complete the look. Disha joins our illustrious list of celebrity brand ambassadors ahead of the festive season and will help us in our vision of providing a holistic fashion and lifestyle of-

fering to our fashion-forward consumers across the nation under one roof.

Tamannaah opens up on her role in Andhadhun's remake

MUMBAI: Tamannaah Bhatia is excited to reprise the role of Tabu in the Telugu remake of the Hindi thriller. "Andhadhun". "I've always been an ardent fan of Tabu's work and it is such an honour to reprise a role played by her. The original film has this psychological influence on people and succeeded in inducing a sense of curiosity. What I personally loved about the original film was the brilliance of the script and the screenplay. It had no hero or no

villain," she said. Actor Nithiin will reprise Avushmann Khurrana's National Award-winning role in the Telugu re-

make. "It is a very unconventional casting and I have always wanted to do a film that is entertaining, while it has

have started taking an incline towards films that embody a sense of individualism, that are less scared of convention and much more stimulating. This is the first time I will be collaborating with Nithiin and he is one the few people in Telugu industry I have never worked with previ-

ously. So, I am quite looking for-ward to this project," Tamannaah added

"Andhadhun", a black comedy crime thriller directed by Sriram Raghavan, has Ayushmann playing a piano player who pretends to be blind and whose life is thrown in a tizzy when he becomes witness to the murder of an aged film actor by the latter's wife and her lover. The Telugu veron is being directed

by Merlapaka

IANS

THEN AGAIN AT NOON

1

THE NEXT DAY, YOU GET DIFFERENT ANSWERS.

Gandhi.

Akshay's episode sets record

MUMBAI: Akshay Kumar has set a new record. This time, though, the big-screen superstar has made history on television. The recent episode of British adventurer Bear Grylls' show "Into The Wild" featuring Akshay has emerged as the second most-watched television show in the history of the infotainment genre in India. The show had garnered a huge buzz on social media, with #KhiladiOnDiscovery reaching out to 1.31 billion individuals and delivering 2.9 billion impressions. About 1.1 crore people watched its premiere on Discovery Network channels. Almost 2.6 crore people watched the show in the first week across Discovery Network channels (original + repeats).

Akshay shot for the episode at Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka in January this year.

Before Akshay, superstar Rajinikanth and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have featured in Bear Gryll's show



more than likely that public servants will have encouraging and optimistic achievements lined up for their efforts.

.....

SCORPIO

The stars are aligned in a way that they produce a constructively favourable day for you today, predicts Ganesha. You know the importance of a team and treat everyone - seniors & juniors as equals. This will make the work environment harmonious.

SAGITTARIUS

It is not your nature to warm the bench, but you will wake up feeling lazy and laid-back today, says Ganesha. This may be due to the fatigue of some recent endeavours. For a change, you will try and delegate your work and responsibility to those around you. Make sure that they you do so wisely as they may not live up to your standards, warns Ganesha.

CAPRICORN

Today, you will get back to playing the power game, using both fair and unfair means to achieve your goals, says Ganesha.

Intellectual growth will be phenomenal; equally good will be your intuitions. In fact, your gut feelings will guide all the decisions you take today, and rest assured, none will leave you in a soup.

Your communication skills will work wonders today. Your eloquence will win you precious brownie points, and may prove highly beneficial in meetings. In fact, all your arguments will

sound very persuasive. The trick is not to get ruffled, says Ganesha, when people don't agree with you.

PISCES

An auspicious time for starting new projects, today will see you make substan tial investments in your future. Your family is the foundation of your success, and keeping that in mind will provide you with some vital insights. Your smile wins many a heart today, says Ganesha.



CALVIN AND HOBBES









CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row, column and box must contain the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.

2	Е	5							0			6		В
В						7	1	D	Е					С
				5			6			В				
1	D		6		3	С						8	5	
	6			1		9	0				8	7		
7	А				1					0		D	8	3
						2		Α			D	В		
	8				D		С				6		4	1
	9			2			3		С					
С	4		0						9		2			
			7	0		4			6			Е	А	2
						1	А	С	3	5				
					5			6	2		Е	4	7	
0				A			8	Е		9				
		D		E	6		7					С		0







PEANUTS

moments of

darkness.

Lately, I





CALMNESS MATTERS

A flock of ducks takes shelter under a plant at Taladanda canal in Cuttack, Friday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
ld	3,25,07,809	2,39,94,355	9,89,235
a	58,16,103	47,52,991	92,317
ha	2,01,096	1,65,432	767

1,709 cops serving in

Red-hit areas feted

Bhubaneswar: Director General of

Police Abhay has awarded Police

1,709 police personnel, including

awarded to police personnel as per the SOP issued by the Ministry

of Home Affairs. Police personnel

areas as designated by the Ministry

of Home Affairs are eligible to get

the medals. The awardees include

Rayagada, 107 from Kalahandi, 173

districts and establishments, and

252 personnel from Koraput, 248

from Malkangiri, 275 from

12 IPS officers.

from Gajapati, 444 from other

Antrik Suraksha Seva Padak to

12 IPS officers. The medal is

serving two years in internal

security duty in Naxal-affected

'Controlled blood sugar can help fight nCoV better'

OST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Doctors who are part of the state government's awareness programme on COVID-19 have said that diabetes patients who have kept their sugar levels under control are in a better position to fight the novel coronavirus.

He also added, "They need to Anuj Kumar Baliarsingh, track their symptoms like an endocrinologist at SCB breathlessness and heart rate irregularities. Routine cardiac Medical College and Hospital, proceedings could be postponed said that diabetes patients are equally vulnerable to COVIDin such times. But important 19 infection as others are. He, and emergency cardiac surhowever, said that if their geries could be done at these blood sugar levels are under times.



According to Mahendra Kumar Tripathy, a senior cardiologist at CARE Hospital here, heart patients are likely to get more

patients are likely to get more

complications if infected with

the virus. He said, "People

with cardio vascular diseases

can see more impact of Covid

on their system. Such patients

may see some complications

if they are infected with the

disease. Their blood vessels

may see some blockages.'

complications if infected with the virus

Complications will develop if blood sugar level of diabetes patients is not under control when they are infected with COVID-19. The diabetics thus need to control their sugar levels to reduce the

TWO MORE SPL TRAINS TO GUJARAT TO CLEAR RUSH POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: In view of heavy rush in special trains towards Surat and Ahmedabad from Odisha and high number of passengers getting long waitlist position in other Gujarat bound trains, East Coast Railway (ECoR) is providing two more special trains towards Gujarat.

These trains are: Khurda Road-Surat-Khurda Road weekly special and Khurda Road-Ahmedabad-Khurda Road Special.

Khurda Road-Surat-Khurda Road weekly special will run from Khurda Road at 8:40pm every Sunday from 27th September to 18th October, 2020 and from Surat at 8:30am every Tuesday from 29th September to 20th October, 2020.

The stoppages are Bhubaneswar, Dhenkanal, Talcher Road, Angul, Sambalpur, Bargarh Road, Bolangir, Titlagarh, Kantabanji, Raipur, Durg, Gondia, Nagpur, Bhusabal, Jalgaon and other important Stations between Khurda Road and Surat from both the directions.

The second special Khurda Road-Ahmedabad-Khurda Road special will run from Khurda Road at 10:40am every Wednesday from 30th September to 21st October, 2020 and from Ahmedabad at 12:15am every Saturday (mid night of Friday) from 3rd October to 24th October, 2020.

Stoppages include Berhampur, Srikakulam Road, Vizianagaram, Kottavalasa, Duvvada, Anakapalli, Rajahmundry, Elluru, Vijayawada, Warangal, Ramagundam, Manchiryal, Sirpur Kaghaz Nagar, Balharshah, Chandrapur and Wardha.

Naveen bats for classical status to Odissi music

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday urged Union Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel to accord classical status to Odissi music (vocal and instrumental) to fulfil the long cherished dream of music lovers of Odisha and the country.

Naveen wrote a letter to Patel following a decision of the Heritage Cabinet to draw the attention of Union government towards according classical status to Odissi music.

Odishan music has at least a tradition of 2.000 years and is based on written sastra and its own crore raaga. It is a distinctive rendition style based on codified grammar; the characteristic giti system of classical texts and having its own tala, different from Hindustani and Carnatic music, he said.

He said Odissi music has made significant impact on Indian cultural scenario. Several Odishan playwrights, sculptors, painters and choreogra-

MISSIVE TO UNION MINISTER

ODISHAN MUSIC HAS AT LEAST A TRADITION OF 2.000 YEARS AND IS BASED ON WRITTEN SASTRA AND ITS OWN CRORE RAGA

nent because of its characteristics bhangi, thani, lalitya, mudra and others phers have earned national and in-

ternational fame. Odissi dance has been recognised as one of the classical forms and stands eminent because of its characteristics bhangi. thani, lalitya, mudra, etc.

Elaborating the steps taken by the state government to get classical status for the music at an institutional level, the CM said, his government has established Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Odissi Research Centre and Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi with the purpose of promotion of music, dance and drama in the state.

It is a distinctive rendition style based on codified grammar, the characteristic giti system of classical texts and having its own taala, different from Hindustani and Carnatic music Odissi dance has been recognised as one of the classical forms and stands emi

> Another milestone in the path of promotion of culture, art, music and tradition of Odisha was the establishment of Utkal University of Culture way back in 1999 by the

government, he mentioned. "It is a matter of concern that Odissi music, the tradition of which dates back almost to second century BCE is vet to be recognised as a classical music by the Government of India. No doubt, Odissi music has all the requisite and exclusive characteristics to be recognised as a classical music," the Chief Minister stated in his letter to Patel



Best wishes Barad on his First Birthday (26th September) from his family members and relatives. May God bless you with lots of love, happiness and success. Happy birthday to the most charming and amazing little boy. amily and Relatives, Bhubaneswa

Mohanta, S/o- Rahini Mohanta, Caste Kudumi, Vill- Jashipur, 1732

Wensen Sian, Odisha Society, Marfat

Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Jamda, 1749

Surendra Nath Singh, S/o- Birendra

Bahadur Singh, Caste- Rajput, Vill-

Surendra Nath Singh, S/o- Birendra

Bahadur Singh, Caste- Rajput, Vill-Jashipur, 1751/3766

Dulal Mohanta, S/o- Dirija Mohanta, Lali

Mohanta, W/o- Dirija Mohanta, Caste-Kudumi, Vill- Jashipur, 2048

Manjushree Mohanta, W/o- Chittaranjan

Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Rasamtala

Itamundi, 1745/3543

Jashipur, 1750/3763

1745/3646

1750/3801

Dhirendra Mohanta, Dinabandhu Mohanta

S/o- Daitary Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill-

Father Chak Panathera, S/o- Worki Abira

Pana Thera, Caste- Cristian, Vill- Karanjia

Manbodh Mohanta, S/o- Chaitan Mohanta,

control when they are infected wit								_
COVID-19. The diabetics thus need t		Vil	lage: Hand	dipuhan				1
control their sugar levels to reduce th chances of complication		12	53/947	Private	Gharabari	0.016	Laxman Ho, S/o- Singh Ray Ho, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Handipuhan, 53/947	
ANUJ KUMAR BALIARSINGH ENDOCRINOLOGIS AT SCEMC		13	53/948	Private	Gharabari	0.016	Mangal Sing, S/o- Sriram Sing, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Handipuhan, 53/948	
		14	53/949	Private	Gharabari	0.016	Sriram Sing, S/o- Kusal Sing, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Handipuhan, 53/949	
control, then there is least to When asked about kidne	भारत का राजपत्र	Vil	lage: Jama	ada				1
⁺ bother. patients on dialysis durin		15	1	Private	Sarad-II	0.024	Matu Kalha, Bana Kalha, Kuna Kalha, S/o-	
"Complications will develop if their blood sugar level is not under control when they are	Offe Gazette ut Duuta						Jaraka Kalha, Lepo Kalha, Raibari Kalha, S/o- Dabaka Kalha, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Jamda, 1	
under control when they are infected with COVID-19. The diabetics thus need to control their sugar levels to reduce the chances of complications," SCB Medical College ar Hospital said that for suc patients who are under dia ysis has now COVID ea marked dialysis machines	EXTRAORDINARY भाग ॥-खण्ड 3-उप खण्ड (ii)	16	13	Private	Sarad-II	0.012	Bhubaneswar Behera, Rasananda Behera, Padma Behera, Surukuni Behera, S/o- Krutia Behera, Menki Behera, W/o- Krutia Behera, Caste- Dhoba, Vill- Jashipur, 13	
he said. All diabetes patients who These are available many government hospita	PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY	17	2/408	Private	Sarad-II	0.0567	Pritam Purty, S/o- Kulana Purty, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Jashipur, 2/408	
have their sugar levels under control can opt for home iso-	TRANSPORT AND MINISTRY OF ROAD HIGHWAYS	18	3/409	Private	Sarad-II	0.002	Pritam Purty, S/o- Kulana Purty, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Jashipur, 3/409	
lation once they are infected COVID now. Kidney patien	NOTIFICATION	Vil	lage: Jash	ipur		21		1
with COVID-19, he added. Mahendra Kumar Tripathy, a senior cardiologist at CARE are administered dosage their COVID drugs (if i fected) as per their cond	f New Delhi, the 25th September, 2019 S.O. 3490(E) Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the		1680	Private	Dahi-I	0.004	Sudar Mohan Hembram, S/o- Dula Hembram, Caste- Santal, Vill- Kaliani, 1680	
Hospital here, said that heart tions," he said.	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the Nationa Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intension to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed t	1	1681	Private	Dahi-I	0.008	Parmeswar Mohanta, S/o- Krushna Chandra Mohanta, Rajendra Mohanta, S/o- Karmu Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Jashipur, 1681	
BJD RECONSTITUTES	the said notification for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management an operation of NH49 on the stretch of land from Km 271 to Km. 296 (At- Jashipur, Po. Khairi,	d 21	1682	Private	Dahi-I	0.008	Chita Ranjan Mohanta, S/o- Sadhu Chandra Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Rahanda, 1682	
	P/s. Jashipur, Dist- Mayurbhanj) in the district of MAYURBHANJ in the state of ODISHA.	22	1732	Private	Gharabari-II	0.008	Banamali Mohanta, Ghanashyam	

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1745/3543

1745/3646

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1749

Private

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And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in

ITS STUDENT WING

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: As part of its ongoing organisational restructuring exercise, the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Friday named new office bearers of its student wing—Biju Chhatra Janata Dal (BCJD).

BJD president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has appointed Abinash Thakur, Prasanta Panda and Rajesh Raj Swain as working presidents of the student wing while Ipsita Sahoo is the secretary general. Similarly, student lead-

ers Ajit Behera, Biswa Pratap Sahoo and Swagatika Mohanty have been placed as senior vicepresidents of the BCJD. The party has also appointed six zonal presidents,

11 vice-presidents, 40 general secretaries, 44 secretaries, 33 joint secretaries and presidents for 32 organisational districts of the student wing

FOR SCB EXPANSION



The Sweeper Colony at SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack being evicted to facilitate the expansion of the state-run health institute, Friday ОР РНОТО

Prameya" and "Pragatibadi" both dated 01.05.2019; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act:

And whereas objections have been received and the same have been considered and disallowed by the Competent Authority;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the competent authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling within 29 2048 the NH49 in the stretch of land from Km. 271 to Km. 296 (At- Jashipur, Po. Khairi, P/s. Jashipur, Dist-Mayurbhanj) in the district of MAYURBHANJ in the state of ODISHA.

		- wavuronam) in the district	OTIVIAYUI	REMANJ IN THE STATE OF ODISHA.						the second s			
	te : ODISH Survey Number	IA	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	District : Mayurbhanj Name of the Land Owner/ Interested Person Part Survey No.	30		Private	Gharabari-III	0.004	Bishnupriya Mohanty, W/o- Umesh Chandra Mohanty, Naresh Chandra Mohanty, S/o- Nilamani Mohanty, Caste- Karan, Vill- Jashipur, 2117/3380			
Talu	ik: Jashipur ige: Barbil				interested i erson i un ourreg no.	31	422	Private	Sarad-I	0.1295	Debsaran Mohanta, S/o- Modan Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Jashipur, 422			
	146	Private	Dahi-II	0.024	Kirani Das, S/o- Sagar Das, Rayana Das, S/o- Kumbhir Das, Caste- Bathudi, Vill-	32	422/4047	Private	Gharabari-I	0.0526	Debsaran Mohanta, S/o- Modan Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Jashipur, 422/4047			
					Barbil, 146	Vil	Village: Jokajhary							
	ige: Beguni	211				33	81/1	Private	Sarad-II	0.008	Surendra Nath Mohanta, S/o- Bolei			
2	11/1	Private	Dahi-I	0.0405	Rabis Chandra Pan, S/o- Rajendra Pan, Caste- Pan Patra, Vill- Amada, 11/1		07/4	Dist	- Ocrael I	0.000	Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Kenjhara, 81/1			
3	11/1259	Private	Gharabari	0.008	Rabis Chandra Pan, S/o- Rajendra Pan,	34	87/1	Private	Sarad-I	0.008	Kamallochan Das, S/o- Manas Das, Caste- Gopal, Vill- Jashipur, 87/1			
4	Caste- Pan Patra, Vill- Amada, 11 31 Government Nayanjori 1.3152569 Purla Bibhag, 31					Vil	lage: Kenjha	ra						
	6	Private	Dahi-II	0.0486	Ganga Ho, S/o- Lopo Ho, Caste- Kolha,	35	1514/1799	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Muniram Mohanta, S/o- Gobinda Mohanta Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Kenjhara, 1514/1799			
Ville	ige: Chaine	hda			Vill- Begunia, 6	Vil	lage: Tangab	hila						
	673	Private	Dahi-I	1212-002-0	Kuna Naik, Dhaneswaar Naik, S/o- Doma Naik, Ratna Naik, Angad Naik, Ramchandra Naik, Laxman Naik, Chemulu Naik, S/o-		367	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Rahini Kumari Mohanta, D/o- Ketra Mohan Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabhila, 367			
		0			Sadhu Naik, Sankuru Naik, S/o- Diguna Naik, Caste- Ganda, VIII- Chainebda, 673	37	732	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Dasaratha Mohanta, S/o- Amina Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 732			
7	673/1123/ 1190	Private	Gharabari	0.012	Ramesh Chandra Nayak, S/o- Basudeb Nayak, Caste- Ganda, VIII- Begunia, 673/ 1123/1190	38	759/1	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Promod Kumar Mohanta, S/o- Konhei Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 759/1			
	ige: Cheligo	odhuli				39	760/1	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Mothura Mohanta, S/o- Sagar Mohanta,			
8	14	Private	Sarad-II	0.0607	Naran Majhi, S/o- Ananta Majhi, Basta Majhi, Raghu Majhi, Suna Majhi, S/o- Sakila Majhi, Kanhai Majhi, Pitamber						Naba Kishore Mohanta, S/o- Purusottam Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 760/1			
_	0.10			0.0507	Majhi, S/o- Suna Majhi, Caste- Santal, Vill- Chheligodhuli, 14	40	762/1	Private	Gharabari	0.004	Chandra Mohanta, S/o- Konhei Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 762/1			
· · ·	243	Private	Sarad-I	0.0567	Ratna Ho, S/o- Sagu Ho, Caste- Kolha, Vill- Chheligodhuli, 243	41	926	Private	Sarad-II	0.008	Aghanu Mohanta, S/o- Sunaram Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 926			
10	357	Private	Sarad-III	0.0688	Josen Majhi, S/o- Basuday Majhi, Upendra Nath Majhi, Jitendra Majhi, Barsa Majhi, Kunar Majhi, S/o- Suai Majhi, Caste-	42	963	Private	Sarad-I	0.1052	Satrughana Mohanta, S/o- Suku Mohanta, Caste- Kudumi, Vill- Tangabila, 963			
				-	Santal, Vill- Chheligodhuli, 357				TOTAL	2.2445569				
	ige: Ghupar					-			IF. No. N	NHAI/11013/0	Odisha/NH-6/L.A/Notification/3(a)/3A2/3D2			
11	280/392	Private	Sarad-I	0.032	Surendra Ram, S/o- Ramakrushna Ram, Caste- Mahuri, Vill- Jashipur, 87/1					at statut di Shiketa	RAJESH GUPTA, Dy. Secy			



downtown

STATE COVID TALLY PAST 2L; TOLL 767

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: The state's novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) tally breached the two lakhmark Friday as 4,208 more people tested positive for the infection, while 15 fresh fatalities pushed Odisha's coronavirus death toll to 767, an official of the health and family welfare (H&FW) department said.

The fresh infections, reported from all 30 districts, have taken the state's caseload to 2,01,096. As many as 2,462 new cases were reported from quarantine centres, while 1,746 infections were detected during contact tracing, the official said.

Khurda district, under which Bhubaneswar falls, has reported the highest number of new cases at 725, followed by Cuttack (465) and Jajpur (237), added the official.

Khurda also reported the highest number of fresh fatalities at four, followed by three in Puri, two in Mayurbhanj and one each in Angul, Bolangir, Cuttack, Kandhamal, Kendrapara, and Rayagada districts, the official pointed out.

On the other hand, Ganjam district registered the highest number of 218 COVID deaths followed by Khurda (119), Cuttack (61), Puri (47), Sundargarh (39) and Rayagada (37).

ments so far.

during the pandemic.

of the habit

mortality.

portance," he said.

Infra overhaul for **Cuttack cancer hosp**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 25: If everything goes as per plan, a concrete bunker for providing radiation therapy at Acharya Harihar Postgraduate Institute of Cancer (AHPGIC) would be ready by March 2021.

This was revealed at a recent governing body meeting of the hospital chaired by Health Minister Naba Das.

Two LINACs, a stimulator and other modern equipment would be installed at the bunker to provide radiation therapy to the patients, said a reliable source at the cancer hospital.

As per a decision taken at the governing body meeting, the ex-



ALL IN LAST 24 HRS

Of the 4,208 fresh cases, 2,462 were reported in quarantine centres, while 1,746 infections were detected during contact tracing

Khurda reported the highest number of fresh cases at 725, followed by Cuttack (465) and Jajpur (237)

KHURDA REPORTED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF FRESH FATALITIES AT FOUR. FOLLOWED BY THREE IN PURI, TWO IN MAYURBHANJ AND ONE EACH IN ANGUL, BOLANGIR, CUTTACK, KANDHAMAL, KENDRAPARA, AND RAYAGADA

Sports minister tests COVID +ve

Bhubaneswar: Sports and Youth Services Minister Tusharkanti Behera has tested positive for COVID-19, the minister said Friday. Behera is symptomatic and under medication. He has been placed under home isolation while his condition was stated to be stable. The minister urged his friends and associates who came in contact with him during the last seven days to isolate themselves and undergo COVID-19 test

30.09 lakh samples for COVID-19, in-Odisha now has 39,232 active cluding 52,882 Thursday, added the coronavirus cases, while 1,61,044 H&FW department official. people have recovered from the disease so far, the official said, adding

For the last 10 days, Odisha has been reporting over 4,000 COVID that as many as 53 COVID-19 patients have died due to other ailcases daily, while over 3700 COVID patients are also cured and dis-The state has so far tested over charged from the hospital daily.

DAS BURMA TESTS +VE FOR COVID-19

BHUBANESWAR: Former Brahmagiri Assembly constituency MLA and present Deputy Chairperson of Odisha State Planning Board, Sanjay Kumar Das Burma tested positive for COVID-19 Friday. Disclosing the information himself, Das Burma requested all those who have come in contact with him in the recent past to undergo COVID-19 tests and observe home isolation. So far, 24 BJD MLAs including Mukesh Kumar Pal (Pallahara), Aditya Madhi (Malkangiri), Pradip Kumar Amat (Boudh), Sudhir Kumar Samal (Dhenkanal), Pradeep Maharathy (Pipili), Chakramani Kanhar (Baliguda), Sashi Bhusan Behera (Kendrapara), Saroj Kumar Meher (Patnagarh), Sadasiva Pradhani (Nabarangpur), Prabhu Jani (Laxmipur), Bhagirathi Sethy (Anandpur), Soumya Ranjan Patnaik (Khandapada), Bishnubrata Routray (Basudevpur), Susant Rout (Bhubaneswar-North), Ananta Narayan Jena (Bhub-Central), Bikram Panda (Berhampur), Byomakesh Ray (Chandbali), Pritam Padhi (Pottangi), Sanjib Mallick (Bhadrak), Sunanda Das (Bari), Srikant Sahu (Polsara), Sudhanshu Shekhar Parida (Remuna), Prasanta Muduli (Jagatsinghpur) and Prasant Behera (Salepur) have been infected by the COVID-19 virus.

Police Commissioner Sudhanshu Sarangi along with other police officials creates awareness on precautionary measures against Covid-19 at Unit-II market in Bhubaneswar, Friday

NEED OF THE HOUR

Come World Tourism Day, Mo Bus 'll start for Puri, Konark

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; Sept 25: The Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) Friday announced that it will commence the much-awaited Mo Bus service to Puri and Konark on eve of the World Tourism Day, September 27.

As per the CRUT, while Mo Bus's route no 50 will connect Bhubaneswar Railway Station (Master Canteen) to the abode of Lord Jagannath, Route no 70 will connect Bhubaneswar Railway Station to the Sun Temple town, Konark.

"This is one of the major culture and tourist corridors in the state and Mo Bus would link local citizens and tourists alike to the popular tourist destinations. In the present scenario, two Non-AC buses will ply on both routes four times



in a day to begin with. We will add more buses and increase frequency over a period of time. On the inauguration day only one bus will ply on both the routes. Regular service will start from Monday onwards," said Arun Bothra, Managing Director, CRUT.

Bothra also said that maximum fare for service between capital city and Puri will be Rs 70. Meanwhile, passengers travelling

between Bhubaneswar and Konark will be charged Rs.60. "Passengers are requested to tender exact change to purchase tickets in order to minimise cash transaction. QR code payment option will be available on these routes," he added

Reiterating the need of following COVID norms, Bothra said wearing of masks is compulsory for all the passengers. It may be noted that cleaning and disinfection of buses are being done on a daily basis as per standard procedure in the interest of passengers and staff deployed in the buses.

As per sources, route no 50 stops will include Bhubaneswar Railway Station (Master Canteen), State Museum, Ravi Talkies Square, Dhauli Square, Uttara Square, Pipili Bypass, Maltipatpur and Puri Bus Stand. Route no. 70 will also connect major bus stops enroute.

SIDDHAMAHAVEER RAILWAY OVERBRIDGE Locals seek spl package before project begins



in the midway due to some un-_ known reasons, sources said.

It is worth mentioning here that the residents of the Pilgrim city have been demanding construction of an ROB at Siddhamahaveer level crossing for the last two decades. The Centre had given its nod to the project in December 2019. According to the locals, the railway authorities usually shut the level crossing gates once every 15 minutes to facilitate rail traffic, much to the inconvenience of commuters. Many tourists depend upon the NH to visit the Sun Temple at Konark. But absence of an ROB puts the tourists in trouble near Siddhamahaveer level crossing. Even ambulances and vehicles carrying patients are being forced to wait for more than 15 minutes. Students also face difficulties in reaching classes on time," said a so cial activist.









of AIIMS, Bhubaneswar babies, citing the immense benefits said exclusive breast-Dr Binod Kumar Patro, Professor feeding for the initial six AIIMS, Bhubaneswar said exclusive breastfeeding for the initial six months from a child's months from a child's birth is one birth is one of the best of the best and most cost-effective interventions for reducing child and most cost-effective interventions for "Despite several efforts in the field of nutrition, we are lagging be-

reducing child mortality hind in achieving cent per cent of exclusive breastfeeding. These issues should be given utmost im-

He said, "We need to administer safe complementary feeding to the newborns. Diet and growth mon-

NGO activists attacked Bhubaneswar: Miscreants kidnapped

two activists of a city-based NGO and dumped them at Baramunda bus stand after snatching away their phones, cash, ATM card late Thursday night. Taranisen Dharua, one of the victims, lodged a complaint with Khandagiri police. Dharua, a member of Social Association for Development of Human Beings, along with his friend Raju was returning from AIIMS Bhubaneswar. The driver of the miscreants traveling in a Swift Dzire followed their vehicle and asked them the road to Bharatpur Square. As they stopped to guide them, four people got out of the car and held guns at them. They asked Dharua and Raju to get into the car. Later, they started beating the duo with iron rods and sharp weapons to get the pin number of Dharua's ATM card.

have completed their master's degree in surgical oncology and gynaecologic oncology. We are planning to offer higher studies in anaesthesia and onco pathology in coming days

LALATENDU SARANGI I AHPGIC DIRECTOR

pansion work of the cancer hospital would be carried out in tandem with modernisation work at SCB Medical College and Hospital in the Silver City here

The authorities of the cancer hospital will form a technical committee to assist the expansion work.

Participating in the meeting, additional chief secretary (Health department) Pradipta Mahapatra dealt with issues related to financial assistance for Niramaya scheme at the cancer hospital and digitisation of its records.

Cancer hospital director Lalatendu Sarangi informed the meeting that his institute is now providing master's degree in surgical oncology and gynaecologic oncology. "This year, two students have completed their master's degree in each of the two subjects. We are planning to offer higher studies in anaesthesia and onco pathology in coming days," Sarangi said.

Sarangi further revealed that the cancer hospital, in association with Sambalpur University, is all set to offer diploma in medical physics from this academic year.

consultant, from BPNI (Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India), Maharashtra appealed to hospitals to not advocate for milk substitutes for the babies. "One of the measures in Baby Friendly Hospital Initiatives should be to desist from distribution of milk substitutes either free or low cost to health facilitates. Steps should be taken to support breastfeeding

Dr Sarita Bhagwat, lactati

to the newborns,' Dr Prashant Gangal, Pediatric Specialist, BPNI, Maharashtra on the other hand talked about immunization, medications and other support for the babies keeping in mind the COVID threat.

itoring, development, drugs (calcium & iron for mother and LBW babies) and dose (immunization of pregnant mother and child) should be used to improve their

health,' The session was organized by the AIIMS. Bhubaneswar in collaboration with UNICEF Odisha to deliberate on the issue of Infant and Young Child Feeding issues and solutions. The Department of Community Medicine of the AIIMS, Bhubaneswar had been organizing several online sessions to create awareness on best practices in

nutrition through media and com-

munity participation.

Puri-Konark National Highway here have urged the district administration to provide them a special package.

Puri, Sept 25: People and shop-

keepers who are likely to be evicted

for the construction of a railway

Siddhamahaveer level crossing on

(ROB)

at

POST NEWS NETWORK

overbridge

The locals of Siddhamahaveer area Friday met Additional Collector Binay Dash and put forth their demand. They also urged the administration not to initiate the land acquisition work for the project during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"The administration should hold discussions with locals and shopkeepers who are likely to be evicted for the ROB project. It should provide a special package to the affected people. The special package should be in line with the package

Siddhamahaveer locals hold discussions with senior officials

OP PHOTO

announced for the evicted people of Srimandir heritage corridor project," said Shatrughan Baliarsingh, a resident of Siddhamahaveer area. According to Baliarsingh, many locals of Balukhand, Kumtipatna, Matiapada and Siddhamahaveer area would be affected by the ROB

project. The NHAI and the district administration had initiated process for land acquisition for the project January 16 this year. The authorities had planned to acquire 2.66 acre land for the 900-metre long ROB. However, the work was stopped

OP PHOTO

Returnee teaches deprived students during pandemic

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Even as online education remains a distant dream for many school students in rural areas due to lack of digital resources, a migrant returnee of Uparpita village of Khariar block in Nuapada district has started teaching students in his locality during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Khageswar Majhi, who works as an MGNREGA worker after his return from Mumbai during the lockdown, has been teaching a batch of students in the morning and evening everyday since August 15. His efforts to teach students during this time have been lauded by par-

ents and others in his village.



During his childhood, Khageswar dreamt of becoming a successful person by completing higher education and bring his family out of poverty.

However, the poor financial condition of his family had forced Khageswar to leave his high school education in the midway and migrate to Mumbai to earn some money. Khageswar was working as a construction worker in Mumbai prior to coronavirus-induced lockdown, sources said.

After his return from Mumbai, Khageswar struggled to get some work in his locality. Subsequently,



Khageswar Majhi teaching children at his village

Khageswar Majhi has been teaching a batch of students in the morning and evening everyday since August 15

he started working under the MGNREGA.

"Many of my village children were roaming here and there as their schools were shut. They were disconnected from learning. Without education life is meaningless. We can defeat poverty through education. So, I decided to teach some children of my locality during this critical time," said the 26-year-old.

Khageswar feels the closure of schools during Covid-19 has hit the poor children of his locality hard. This has promoted him to start teaching children up to Class-V.

Khageswar's noble work has not only benefitted the poor children but also encouraged many other youths to take up remedial classes for students who are finding it difficult to access the online education.

The youths are now taking up remedial classes for two-hours each day for a group of children, each consisting five to six learners. Precautionary measures like physical distancing, use of handwash and sanitisers are mandatory in these classes, sources said.

OUR OR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.



OrissaPOST SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 26 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR

Indravati power for Kalahandi people

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatana, Sept 25: Indravati Upper Hydropower Generation project of the OHPC had been made functional at Mukhiguda under Javpatna block of Kalahandi 21 years ago, but thousands of people in this district were deprived of electricity since then. Ironically, many villages under this block have no power supply.

Now, their dream will be realized soon, as the energy department has decided to provide electricity to 25,000 left out people in the first phase from the project.

This has reportedly been successful due to continuous efforts of Junagarh MLA and energy minister Dibyashankar Mishra.

A decision to this effect was taken at a high level review meeting chaired by Mishra at OHPC conference hall at Mukhiguda.

The minister held discussions with officials of the OHPC on how to provide electricity to the people of Kalahandi.

Officials revealed that the process



THE ENERGY MINISTER SAID CHIEF MINISTER NAVEEN PATNAIK WILL INAUGURATE THE GRID CONNECTIVITY THOUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING

in this regard has been completed. In the first phase, 25,000 people in Jaypatna block will be provided electricity from five 33/12 KV grids under 220/132/33 KV grid at Banore. In the next phase, people in Dharmagarh, Junagarh. Golamunda blocks will get the ben-

efit. The energy minister said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will inaugurate the grid connectivity though video conferencing.

He also said the state govern-

DHARMAGARH, GOLAMUNDA BLOCKS WILL GET THE BENEFIT

ment has been working to develop Kalahandi into a leading district. "Over 1.5 lakh people will get electricity if electricity supply from UIHP is ensured in a phased manner," he added. He later visited the 220/132/33 KV power grid at Banore It may be noted here that people living in 16 villages in the cut-off areas of Indravati reservoir are deprived of basic amenities. There is no power supply, drinking water,

communication, health and edu-

cation facilities in these villages under Thuamul Rampur block.

21-YEAR OLD DREAM

IRONICALLY,

MANY

VILLAGES

JAYPATNA

INDRAVATI

PROJECT IS

NO POWER

IN THE NEXT PHASE, PEOPLE IN JUNAGARH.

SUPPLY

BLOCK WHERE

SITUATED HAVE

UNDER

NOW, THEIR DREAM

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DEPARTMENT HAS

ELECTRICITY TO

25,000 LEFT OUT

PHASE FROM THE

DECIDED TO PROVIDE

PEOPLE IN THE FIRST

SOON, AS THE

ENERGY

PROJECT

97 villages (44 from undivided Koraput district and 53 from Kalahandi) were affected and 32,530.87 acres acquired by displacing 17,000 people for construction of the dam. Displacement was carried out in four phases -1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992. Scores of people did not want to leave their villages in the hilly area of Indravati reservoir.

Labourer dies, 3 hurt as tractor ovérturns

POST NEWS NETWORK

state

Rayagada, Sept 25: In a tragic incident, a labourer was killed and three others seriously injured when the tractor-trollev carrying them turned upside down in a road mishap here in the district Friday. The incident took place near Jenjilibadi village under Kolnara block. As per reports, the tractor belonging to Suri village was on its usual activity carrying four labourers in its trolley. After refuelling at the nearby oil depot, the driver lost balance as he applied sudden brakes while trying to avoid a head-on collision with a vehicle coming from the opposite side.

Following such a mishap, Muna Huika (25) got killed on the spot while Kuni Kumbharika (23), Shibani Kadraka (24) and Baburao Khambarika (22) sustained serious injuries. While the three were initially admitted to the District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) here, critical Kuni has been shifted to MKCG at Berhampur.

Swabhiman people seek 200 workdays



STRESS ON MGNREGS

Tribals residents of Panasput, Jantri, Andirapalli, Gajulumamudi, Jodamaba and Muduliguda submitted a memorandum to the BDO, pointing out nine demands

Their major demand is creation of more work scope under the MGNREGS when they have been facing difficulties in the pandemic

All should be given work during the Covid times. The governmen should provide 200-workdays to each beneficiary to tackle the pandemic induced miseries," they said

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chitrakonda, Sept 25: People of Swabhiman Anchal (earlier known as cut-off area) are deprived of various facilities. Upset over this, hundreds of tribals from six panchayats organised a prajameli (public meeting) at Panasaput village under Chitrakonda block in Malkangiri district Thursday.

They pressed for nine demands. The major demand is creation of more work scope under the MGN-REGS when they have been facing difficulties in the pandemic.

"All should be given work during the Covid times. The government should provide 200-workdays to each beneficiary to tackle the pandemic induced miseries, they said.

Tribals residents of Panasput, Jantri, Andirapalli, Gajulumamudi, Jodamaba and Muduliguda submitted a memorandum to the BDO, pointing out nine demands.

Their demands included primary health centre in each panchavat, appointment of MBBS doctors and ventilators, 200 workdays under MGNREGS, provision of cash bank payment, waiver of agriculture loans and payments of pension to all differently abled persons and widows.

The other demands are hike of wages to Rs 500 and steps to create self-employment opportunities for unemployed youths.

They observed that MGNREGS should be properly to ensure work scope for the people as Covid has impacted all their activities.

"This area has no banking facilities. In view of this, the administration needs to make weekly cash payment to the beneficiar-

ies," they added. "Since people have in fact not good scope of earning, the loans of the people should be waived to alleviate their financial burden at this critical time," they noted.

IOCL, IDCO ink pact for Bhadrak textiles park Sarvodaya leader Bhagbat Nanda dies

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, Sept 25: The hopes of a textile park in Bhadrak will be realized soon. The land of the park proposed at Dhamnagar Chhak has been unutilized for 25 years. The issue was recently taken up by the Bhadrak MP Majulata Mandal in the Parliament.

It was learnt that IOCL and IDCO have signed an agreement at Dhamnagar sub register office September 11 for the textile park.

The park will be set up in a part of the acquired land. People who have spared their land were happy



to know about the development. It may be noted here that 217.71 acres were acquired in mouzas in 1995 for the textile park. When the land was acquired, local farmers were told that their land would be

spread of the disease. The com-

mittee has appealed the busi-

nessmen to down their shutters

during this period. However, shops

dealing in essential commodities

like medicines have been kept out

of the bandh's purview. Similarly,

no restriction has been imposed

on vehicle and people movement.

shops in the town were found

closed Friday, suggesting that they

Meanwhile, the administration

has announced ward nos 1 and 2

as Containment Zones to stop the

have supported the band call.

Baring a few shops, all other

used for a sugar factory. In the last 25 years, locals had staged agitations and road blockades over delay in the

project. Finally, it was decided that the park will be set up on 59.625 acres. The Bhadrak MP Manjulata Mandal demanded that if the textile park is set up on the land, people in the district would not have to migrate to Gujarat and other states Sambalpur, Sept 25: Noted Sarvodaya leader and social worker, Bhagbat Prasad Nanda, died in his home here, family sources said Friday, He was 82. His mortal remians were consigned to flames Friday.

Nanda was suffering from prolonged illness and died Thursday. He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik condoled the demise of Nanda

"CM@Naveen_Odisha condoled the demise of Sarvodaya leader Bhagabat Prasad Nanda. CM said

his association with Bhoodan movement demonstrates his concern for the poor and landless farmers. CM conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family and prayed for peace to the departed soul," the CMO Odisha tweeted Friday.

Nanda, who was born December 14, 1937 at Balangir, was president of Odisha Sarvodaya Parishad.

He joined Bhoodan Padavatra, led by Acharya Harihar Das in 1959 and later joined the Sarvodaya movement after completing his college education. He was political special assistant of former Chief

Bolangir: People call 7-day bandh for Covid Committee', a committee to stop

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Sept 25: Bolangir town has been shut for a week starting September 25. The shutdown has not been clamped by the district administration. A newly formed 'Corona Niyantrana Committee' has called for this week-long bandh to put a check on the ever increasing Covid-19 cases in the town.

Bolangir district has been reporting more and more Covid-19 cases every day. At the same time, the district administration has clarified that it is not going to impose any shutdown as per the Centre's guidelines.

Seeing no options left, mempers of several organizations lo-

Jharsuguda: No fast food vending for 15 days

JHARSUGUDA: Continuing its fight against coronavirus, the Jharsuguda district administration has banned selling of roadside fast food and other edibles Friday onwards. Collector Saroj Kumar Samal

said roadside vending of fast food and other cooked edibles will not be allowed for 15 days in Jharsuguda district from September 25 onwards to contain the spread of Covid-10 in a tweet. He said small businessmen will be given incentive of Rs 2,500 per head for compliance. However,

spread of the disease. This apart. Bolangir district reported 76 both the Bolangir District Collector and superintendent of police have fresh COVID-19 cases Friday. With been going around the city asking this, the district's tally has gone

deviation from the rule will invite penalty. Residents of Jharsuguda town have welcomed the decision. "Scenes of these roadside eateries and gup chup carts being crowded with customers at major chowks and mar-

> kets, giving a toss to social distancing have become common here. The district administration's order will go a long way in curbing the spread of the virus," some of the locals said.

Notably, the district reported 81 fresh Covid-19 cases Friday.

COVID-19 hospitals and 640 patients are presently undergoing treatment. The district reported up to 3,854. Of them, 3195 have al- one death case due to COVID-19 ପୌର ପରିଷଦ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ଯୋଡ଼ା ପତ୍ର ସଂଖ୍ୟା ୩୮୪୭ ତା୧୪୲୦୮୲୨୦୨୦



ଏତଦ୍ୱାରା ଯୋଡ଼ା ପୌର ପରିଷଦ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ବାସ କରୁଥିବା ଅଧିବାସୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜଣାଇଦିଆଯାଉଛି ସମସ୍ତ ଯେ, ତା୩୧।୦୭।୨୦୨୦ରିଖ ପରିଷଦର ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ଅଧିବେଶନରେ ନିଷ୍ପତ୍ତି ଗ୍ରହଣ ସ୍ୱରୂପ ଯଦି କୌଣସି ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ଯୋଡ଼ା ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଖୋଲା ଜାଗାରେ ମଳ, ମୂତ୍ର ଏବଂ ଛେପ ପକାନ୍ତି, ତେବେ ତାଙ୍କଠାରୁ ଟ୫୦.୦୦ଙ୍କା ଜରିମାନା ଆଦାୟ କରାଯିବ ଏବଂ ଆଗାମୀ ୧୫ ଦିନ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଯୋଡ଼ା ସହରକୁ ବାହ୍ୟ ମଳ

Minister Nandini Satpathy.



AGENCIES

cated in the town joined hands people to wear face masks and and formed 'Corona Niyantrana

maintain social distancing.

ready been discharged from Friday, taking the toll to 19.

Koraput reports 72 cases, tally up to 5,832

KORAPUT: There is no let-up in the rising coronavirus cases in Koraput district as the tribal-dominated district reported 72

Local residents have drawn rangoli on a street as part of Covid-19 Awareness Week at Chhatrapur in Ganiam OP PHOTO

fresh Covid-19 cases Friday. With this addition, the district's tally has increased to 5,832. Of the fresh cases, 55 are males and the rest females. Among them, five are from

quarantine centres, 37 have contracted the virus from previous positive cases and the rest 30 are local cases As many as five patients

have travel history. While one has returned from Andhra Pradesh, one each from Chhattisgarh and Ganjam and two have returned from Kandhamal.

While Koraput municipality reported maximum number of 15 cases. Sunabeda and Jeypore municipalities reported nine and six cases respectively. Similarly, four cases were reported from Kotpad NAC.

The block-wise breakdown: Kundra (11), Semiliguda (five),

Nandapur (four), Koraput, Boipariguda, Bandhugaon (three each), Borigumma, Jeypore and Lamataput (two each), Narayanpatna, Potangi and Kotpad (one each). Of the total 5,832 cases, 5.022 have recovered from the disease while 803 are still undergoing treatment. So far, seven patients have succumbed to the disease

ମୁକ୍ତ + (ODF+) ଘୋଷଣା ନିମନ୍ତେ ସମସ୍ତ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯାଇଛି । ଏ ବାବଦରେ ଯଦି କୌଣସି ବ୍ୟଲ୍ଟିବିଶେଷଙ୍କର ଆପତ୍ତି ଅଭିଯୋଗ ଥାଏ, ତାହାହେଲେ ଉକ୍ତ ନୋଟିସ ବାହାରିବାର ୧୫ (ପନ୍ଦର) ଦିନ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଲିଖୃତ ଭାବେ ନିମ୍ନ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷରକାରୀଙ୍କଠାରେ ଦାଖଲ କରିପାରିବେ । ଯୋଡ଼ା ସହରକୁ ପରିଷ୍କାର ପରିଚ୍ଛନ୍ନ ରଖିବାରେ ଆପଣ

ସହଯୋଗ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ସ୍ୱା./- ନିର୍ବାହୀ ଅଧିକାରୀ, ପୌର ପରିଷଦ, ଯୋଡ଼ା

2 women put lives to risk to attend to Anganwadi duties

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Sept 25: Spirit and dedication of two Anganwadi workers has earned them accolades from all over Odisha. The two, Pramila Pelmal and Hemalata Shisa, swim across a river everyday to attend to their duties in Malkangiri district. For them 'work is worship' and the two working at different Anganwadi centres under Ralegada panchayat of Swabhiman Anchal in Malkangiri district put their lives at risk to attend to their responsibilities.

While Pramila works at Suapali Anganwadi centre, Hemalata is engaged at Nerudapali. They attend to the needs of children and women in Suapali and Nerudapali villages under Chitrakonda block. The two provide food to the residents of the two villages, attend to the health needs of women, especially



Pramila works at Suapali Anganwadi centre while Hemalata is engaged at Nerudapali. They attend to the food and health needs of children and women in Suapali

gourd shells to their waists and cross the river to go to their respective Anganwadi centres. They also spread awareness about Covid-19

Pramila and Hemlata also

spread awareness about

and Nerudapali They usually tie dried bottle The two Anganwadi workers cross the swelling Nerudapali river every day to attend to their responsibilities, even during the rainy season

those who are pregnant. Both shells to their waist and cross the river to go to their respective Anganwadi centres.

COVID-19 and the precau-"Every year we cross the nullah dangerously due to tions that should be taken. The duo crosses the poor road connectivity in the swelling Nerudapali river area. We put our lives at stake every day to attend to their reand cross the nullah to serve the people," said Pramila. sponsibilities. Even during the rainy season when the Hemalata also echoed similar views and informed the odds river is flooded, they take risks to cross it. They usucannot deter them to perform ally tie dried bottle gourd their duties.

OFFICE OF THE PANCHAYAT SAMITI. MAHANGA

Phone No. 0671-2354138, E-mail :- ori-mahanga@nic.in

No. 3789

INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

Dt.24.09.2020

Tender Call Notice No. 01 / 2020-2021

The Block Development Officer, Mahanga Block on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in single for the works as detailed in the table below.

SI. No	Name of work	Value of work (In Rs)	Bid Security @1% (In Rs)	Cost of Bid document (In Rs)	Class of bidder	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF AUDITORIUM (CORE HOUSE) IN BHAGABATI BIDYAPITHA, SUKLESWAR, GP-PALLISAHI, BLOCK- MAHANGA, DISTCUTTACK" (Civil Part)	55,00,922/-	55,000/-	10,000/-	"B"	11 (Eleven) Calendar Months

1. Bid documents consisting of specifications, the schedule of quantities and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in the website: www.cuttack.nic.in from 03.00 PM of 28.09.2020 to 5.00 PM of 13.10.2020.

2. The sale of the Bid documents shall start from dt.28.09.2020 at 3 PM and close on dated 13.10.2020 at 5 PM during office hours in the office of the under signed . Bids shall be received on or before 5 PM of 13.10.2020 through Registered Post or Speed Post only. The Authority will not be held responsible for any postal delay in delivering of Bid documents or non receipt of the same.

The Bids received shall be opened at 11.00 A.M on dated 14.10.2020 in the O/o Panchayat Samiti, Mahanga in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. The bidders who participated in the bid can witness the openings of the bids. If the office happens to be closed in the last date of the opening of the bids as specified the bids will be opened in the next working day at the same time and venue.

4. The authority reserves the right to cancel any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

5. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the above said website.

Sd/-**Block Development Officer, Mahanga**





power post

FOCUS AGRICULTURE

Do not belong to the past dawns but to the noons of future. SRI ALIROBINDO

Return of the retired

hile senior bureaucrats often get re-employed with the government after they retire, it is certainly rare for a retired babu to be reappointed as secretary to the government, to the same post he retired from two years earlier. But the Modi sarkar has many firsts (and in this instance, seconds) to its credit.

So, there were some puzzled faces when former bureaucrat Raghvendra Singh was recently appointed as culture secretary, replacing Anand Kumar, who was shifted as secretary of the National Commission for Backward Classes, as part of a high-level reshuffle. Singh, who belongs to the 1983-batch of the West Bengal cadre, is CEO of the Development of Museums and Cultural Spaces, under the Ministry of Culture, and will continue to hold that post. Singh has been appointed on a contract basis for a year. Interestingly, Singh was the Culture Secretary from December 12017 till August 2018. So, the new Culture Secretary is the old Culture Secretary!

Before Singh's (re)appointment, there was Parameswaran Iyer, who returned as secretary, Drinking Water and Sanitation, in 2016 on contract although he had resigned from the IAS in 2010 to join the UN and then the World Bank. Interestingly, he did not complete his term, but resigned last month for "personal reasons"

DIVIDED IN UNIFORM

If Delhi Police was feeling cornered and unloved after several retired top cops criticised its investigation of the riots in northeast Delhi in February this year, it has now found support in 26 retired IPS officers who have come out in defence of their Delhi brethren.

The Delhi Police Commissioner SN Shrivastava was left scrambling for allies when the widely respected retired IPS officer Julio Ribeiro, a former Mumbai police commissioner and former DGP of Guiarat and Punjab, and former envoy to



Romania, questioned the Delhi Police's handling of the probe into the riot cases. He accused the Delhi cops of taking action against "peaceful protesters' while ignoring the actual perpetrators of the riots and also noted that Shrivastava was not addressing the issues that he had raised in his letter to the Delhi Police Commissioner.

Ribeiro's broadside found resonance in many minds who see the police investigation as vilification of peaceful protesters and a politically motivated campaign. But it has also brought the venerated top cop in the line of fire of those who see this as an attempt to "demoralize the Indian Police Service". However, Ribeiro's detractors come across as attempting a rearguard action that will do little to change the public perception about Delhi Police. And by pitting cop against cop, the force in khaki is split right down the middle.

'HURT' IRS OFFICIALS

Last month, the Modi sarkar announced reforms in the taxation system with the aim of making the system seamless, painless and faceless. The faceless assessment scheme will eliminate human interface between the taxpayer and the tax officials and has been largely welcomed by all. But not every IT babu is happy with the development.

According to sources, the IRS Association of the Northeast region views the decision as one that will reduce the stature of the service. The association members have reportedly proposed a complete makeover of the IRS including cadre restructuring, a new transfer and deputation policy, and creation of cadre posts in other ministries and departments. Apparently, the resentment among the IRS officers is due to their belief that faceless taxation will reduce the service to "cyber policing".

Under faceless assessment, AI and data analytics-based systems will be used to identify taxpayers and send notices in a transparent manner. This will inevitably require a change in how IT officials will function. The NE-IRS officers are perhaps jittery about this change from the "normal".

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect

NEW CROPS, MORE MONEY

he government has provided that sale of agricultural produce through the mandis will no longer be compulsory. Large companies will be able to enter into direct contracts with farmers to buy their produce at predetermined prices. Certainly, this will hit at the interests of the traders who make a living in the *mandis*.

However, the situation is similar to the entry of e-portals in retail trade. The street-corner kirana shops continue to survive because they provide certain services such as immediate delivery and replacement that e-traders are not able to provide. In the same manner, the entry of large companies in agricultural trade will not kill the mandis. The mandis provide a highly valuable service of sorting the farmer's produce in different qualities and then selling that crop to a particular buyer. A trader may, for example, buy tomatoes produced in Alwar and supply them to Kanpur. Such a service cannot be provided by the e-traders. Hence, the mandis will survive. Farmers have a right to enter into direct contracts with large companies and their freedom to do so must be preserved.

Bharat

PUBLIC

MUST BE

SUPPORT

Ihunjhunwala

INVESTMENT

FINE-TUNED TO

VALUE-ADDED

AGRICULTURE.

FOR EXAMPLE,

THE GLOBAL

DEMAND FOR

- GUAVAS,

MANGOES,

TEA – IS

COFFEE AND

INCREASING

ORGANIC FOODS

The government has also removed certain crops like cereals, pulses and edible oils from the items covered under the Essential Commodities Act. This Act places limits on the maximum quantities of specified items that can be stored by traders. With this change, the traders will be able to store as much quantities of these crops as they may want. This measure can have some negative impact. These crops were brought into the act because big traders bought the produce, hoarded it, created an artificial shortage in the market

and induced a huge price increase. Both the farmers and the consumers suffered in the process. The farmer got the low price prevailing at the time of the purchase. The consumer paid the manipulated high price at the time of the sale. The government had brought these crops under the Act to prevent such manipulation of the market. At the same time, storage of crops by private traders is much more efficient than the

in the just-concluded ses-

sion of Parliament, when

Opposition members protested

against the passage of the farm

Bills, was most unfortunate and

stands out in the recent history of

Indian Parliament, The act can be

termed as a misdemeanour falling

short of misconduct in the course

of the Parliamentary proceedings.

Bills and discuss emergent issues

like the situation along the Line of

Actual Control (LAC). It was with

great difficulty that the session was

convened amidst the pandemic

which has affected one and all. It was

a constitutional requirement for

the House to meet as there cannot

be a gap of more than six months

between the last sitting and the en-

House was precious. The pande-

monium has largely dented and

sullied people's perception towards

the highest representative body

and the image of the law-makers.

It has raised cynicism about the

credibility of the august house. It

is worth the while to recall the ob-

servations of Lord Nolanwho

As such, the brief time before the

suing session of the House.

Parliament had to pass important



The government must work out a system to cover the risk of the farmers in cultivation of market-based crops. A subsidized insurance system which covers against price decline would be one option. Also, the government should put in place a programme of research in advanced agricultural technologies such as tissue culture to enable cultivation of these crops

Food Corporation of India (FCI). The way forward is to make it compulsory for the traders to disclose the quantity of crops stored by them.

Simultaneously, the government must direct the FCI to import crops that the traders may be hoarding. The FCI can make forward contracts or outsource storage of the relatively small quantities involved. In this way, the government can stabilize the price and the country will also become free from the inefficiencies of the FCI in bulk storage.

There is a need to go farther, however. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) is provided to select crops such as wheat, rice and sugarcane. Our farmers have increased the production of these crops because they are assured of a decent price. This success has shifted the farmer's attention away from other crops that could provide higher returns such as vegetables, fruits, timber, flower and orchids because of uncertainty of price in these unsupported crops. We need to move the farmers from low-value MSP crops to high-value market-oriented crops. In particular, it is important to support crops

that have a huge international demand such as flowers, organic foods and designer vegetables.

We have a varied climate from Kerala to Kashmir. It is possible for us to become a global flower and vegetable hub and supply these items across the year. The government must work out a system to cover the risk of the farmers in cultivation of market-based crops. A subsidized insurance system which covers against price decline would be one option. The government is trying to re-

duce agricultural subsidies of food, fertilizers, water and diesel. The need is to turn these subsidies towards areas that lead to a multiplier effect. For example, instead of subsidizing electricity for extracting ground water, the same money can be better utilised in providing subsidy for water recharging by building check dams, ponds and anicuts.

Public investment in agriculture also needs a close study. Mere building of more canals and increasing area under irrigation will not help because the prices of agricultural crops are declining if we take the inflation into account Public investment must be finetuned to support value-added agri culture. For example, the global demand for organic foods - guavas, mangoes, coffee and tea - is increasing. The government must create a certification mechanism in each district to promote this. Export subsidy may be provided to private exporters of value-added agricultural crops.

We have been asking for the dismantling of domestic agricultural subsidies by the rich countries under the WTO. The idea is that opening of the markets of rich countries will provide opportunities for our farmers. The resulting increase in supply from other producers can wipe out the gains for us. For example, the entry of Vietnam in coffee and black pepper has wiped out the gains for Indian farmers from free trade in these crops. We should consider an altogether different policy. We must make cartels for specific agricultural commodities just as OPEC has done for oil. India can join hands with Malaysia to increase the world price of rub ber; with Bangladesh for jute, with Sri Lanka for tea and Pakistan and Egypt for cotton. This will provide high prices to our farmers. But we may have to come out of the WTO in the process which we must consider seriously.

The government is trying to increase the flow of credit to the farmers under the impression that lower interest rates will provide re lief to them. No relief is likely to be got, however. The rural areas are flush with funds. The credit-deposit ratio of rural banks is typically 15. The loan given out is only ₹15 for every ₹100 of deposits garnered by the rural banks. Thus rural banks have plentiful deposits but few applicants for loans. Farmers have the money but no opportunity to deploy it productively because of absence of profitable opportunities in villages

Expansion of credit will serve no purpose in this situation. It is like pouring tap water into the waterfall. The government must instead focus on promoting specific areas such as floriculture where the profits are high. Need is to make fundamental shifts in the policies. The writer is a former

professor of IIM, Bangalore.

SPECTRUM DEMOCRACY

Decency and decorum in Parliament

WISDOM CORNER

eople are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, make them.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind. ALBERT EINSTEIN

The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small CONFUCIUS

WORDS**WORTH**

Triacle

mericans prefer to call it molasses but treacle, our current form of the old word triacle, is the usual British name for the sticky, sweet stuff. Many British children encounter the name first in the treacle well in Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. The older form of the word is remembered in the apothecaries' term triacle, but it was originally used for something very different - an antidote to the venom of a snake or insect. This word came through French and Latin from Greek theriake, meaning an antidote against a poisonous bite, which has its origin in therion, a wild beast. Herbal remedies against such bites often contained alkaloids and so tasted bitter - it was common to sweeten them with honev to make them easier to swallow. English apothecaries changed over to black treacle as the sweetener when it began to be available in the Middle Ages. The word was often used in a sense not so very different to that of balm or salve, some fragrant ointment or preparation used to heal or soothe the skin.

Trimmer

problem with looking up trimmer online is that the political sense is swamped by references to tools that cut and neaten, such as hedgetrimmers and hair-trimmers. The political sense of the word isn't now so common as it once was, though one can still find it at the heavyweight end of journalism. The reference was originally to the trim of a yacht or sailing ship and to the action of keeping the vessel balanced against the forces of wave and wind. Sails continually need trimming and a person who does it can be called a trimmer. In the late 17th Century, this idea was applied to English politics during the administrations of George Savile, Lord Halifax.

LO

NOUNS

class is on and the lady teacher Abegins with asking questions at the fag end of the class. Teacher holds the stick and says, "Hey, stand up. Tell me two nouns."

teacher.

A boy get up, "Who, me?" He asks the teacher. "Very good, sit down," says the

Rup Narayan Das

THERE IS NEED FOR SERIOUS DEBATE IN THE HOUSE AND **THE BILLS THAT** WERE HURRIEDLY PASSED WARRANTED A

SERIOUS DEBATE

hat happened at the chaired a relevant committee of Chamber of Rajya Sabha the House of Lords in 1995.

> He said. "We cannot say conclusively that the standards of behaviour in public life have declined. We can say that conduct in public life is more rigorously scrutinised than it was in the past, that the standard which the public demand remains high, and that the great majority of people in public life meet those high standards."

The unfortunate incident has raised the imperative and necessity as how to check such incidents in future. It is pertinent to mention in this connection that the Speaker of the Lok Sabha had constituted a committee under the chairmanship of the veteran parliamentarian V. Kishore Chandra Deo in May 2007 to inquire into instances of misconduct including misuse of privileges and facilities by members of the Lok Sabha. The committee was further authorised to look into the desirability of defining what acts would amount to misconduct on the part of a member and make suitable recommendations regarding action against such misconduct. The terms of reference further said the Speaker will decide whether the member or the members will at-

tend the House till a suitable decision is taken after the submission of the report by the committee.

The committee sought views from the stakeholders in the political spectrum including the civil society and the judicature. The committee, through a questionnaire addressed to the stakeholders, sought to elicit their views on some pertinent issues such as the desire and ability to define as to what can be construed as misconduct and also the need to codify them and some related issues. Veteran parliamentarian the late President Pranab Mukherjee opined that misconduct is nothing but "conduct unbecoming of a member of Parliament," not only in discharge of his parliamentary functions but also in the discharge of his public duties and probity of conduct in private life to the extent it impacts on the performance of his public duties

Mukherjee further observed that what amounts to conduct "unbecoming of a Member of Parliament" depends on the facts and circumstances. A contrarian view was given by the legal fraternity including Soli Sorabjee and PP Rao who observed that it was desirable and necessary to codify such actions of MPs which would amount to misconduct so that there is a deterrent for members.

Those who had seen the stellar performance of eminent parliamentarians would only feel pained and anguished at the bedlam that happened in the chamber of the Raiva Sabha. There is need for serious debate in the House and the bills that were hurriedly passed warranted a serious debate. It is incumbent upon the lawmakers to keep the interest of the people in mind, and not the partisan political considerations.

The conduct of members should be exemplary; the debate in the House illuminating. The government is duty-bound to listen to the just and fair argument and points of views and amend the laws accordingly if a situation so demanded. What the country needs is substantive democracy and not merely a functional democracy which simply conforms to the procedural and constitutional requirements.

> The writer is a former joint secretary of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Views are personal.

Happiness survey

Sir, The first-ever 'India Happiness Report 2020' has Odisha, Chhattishgarh and Uttarakhand finding their places at the bottom of the list. The survey was conducted in all the 36 states and Union Territories between March 2020 and July 2020 during the coronavirus spread. On various parameters-work, relationships, health, philanthropy, religio-spiritual orientation and impact of Covid-19, the survey covered around 16,950 people. Mizoram has topped the list. The survey found no significant correlation between gender and happiness, agegroup, marital status, income levels and education. The survey might or might not have arrived at the right conclusions. It could also be that happiness cannot be measured on the basis of various parameters. Different people get joy from different engagements or indulgences in life. Family plays a vital role in one's happiness as per Indian social Hitesh Kumar Parida JAJPUR conditions.

Essential commodities

Sir, This has reference to the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 that has been passed recently.

Rajya Sabha has passed the Bill on Tuesday. It is aimed at deregulating commodities such as cereals, pulses, oilseeds, onions, potatoes, and edible oils. After the amendment, the supply of certain food items like cereals, potatoes, oilseeds, and edible oils can be regulated only under extraordinary circumstances like a war, famine, an extraordinary price rise, or a natural calamity of a severe nature. In effect, the amendment takes these items out of the purview of Section 3(1) which gives power to the Central government to "control production, supply, distribution, etc of essential commodities". This may be a good step forward. Animesh Mishra, DHENKANAL Rahul's century

Sir, KL Rahul put up a stellar display with the willow as his side routed the Virat Kohli-led Royal Challengers Bangalore by a whopping 97 runs in Dubai. The Kings XI skipper went hell for leather to notch up an unconquered 132 off just 69 balls. Rahul's century is a record in the IPL both by an Indian and a captain, besting Rishabh Pant's (128 n/o) and David Warner's (126) respectively. After 'Lady Luck' deserted them in their first match against Delhi Capitals, the triumph must come as a shot in the arm for the 'men in red'. However, the IPL is a long-drawn tournament and Rahul and his men would be required to produce win the Cup for the maiden time.

NJ Ravi Chander; BANGALORE



TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are (Q) requested to send their contact numbers and full 2 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



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kochi, Sept 25: The CBI Friday filed a detailed report in the special

court here on the Kerala govern-

ment's now controversial Life

DNA samples of 3 men killed in Fresh trouble: CBI to probe Vijayan's pet project encounter match with families

IN THE ALLEGED FAKE ENCOUNTER CASE. THE FAMILIES OF THE THREE MEN CLAIMED THAT THEY WORKED AS LABOURERS IN SHOPIAN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 25: The DNA samples of three men who were killed in an alleged fake encounter with the Army in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district in July have matched with their families from Rajouri, a senior police officer said Friday.

Asked whether the three men were indeed labourers, as claimed by their families, and not involved

Omar questions official claim

Srinagar: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah Friday guestioned the official version that arms and ammunition were recovered from the Shopian encounter site in July after the DNA tests Friday proved that the three slain men were labourers from Rajouri district of the union territory. "According to this official version, 'incriminating materials, including arms and ammunition, were

recovered from the site of encounter'. So who planted this 'incriminating material'?" Omar said in a tweet. "These young men were buried somewhere in North Kashmir. It is imperative that the bodies be exhumed & handed over to the families immediately so that a proper burial can take place near their homes in Rojouri district," Omar, who is also the National Conference vice president, said. Sajad Lone, chairman of Peoples Conference, said he did not expect anything to change due to the latest developments as such cases have happened in the past as well. "Will there be any change? Will the sanctity of human life be restored? No. nothing will change. This encounter was exposed by our media forcing initiation of investigation. As hiding it in today's digital age was not possible. My thoughts with the 3 men murdered in cold blood," Lone wrote on his Twitter handle.

in militant activities, he said it is a matter of further investigation. July 18, the Army had claimed three militants were killed in





three men were from Rajouri and had gone missing in Amshipura.

from Rajouri." On whether it had been established that the three men were labourers and not involved in any militant activities, Kumar

further investigations in the case.³ The Army completed its inquiry into the matter in a record four media reports indicated that the weeks.



The families of the three men claimed they worked as labourers in Shopian and lodged a police complaint. The police also launched an investigation and collected the DNA samples of the three families from Rajouri to match with the slain men. "The DNA report has come and matching has taken place," Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar told reporters here. Asked if he meant that the DNA samples of the three men have matched with the families from Rajouri, he said, "There is positive matching with the families

said, "The police are now taking up Amshipura village in the higher reaches of south Kashmir's Shopian. It initiated an inquiry after social



for Vijayan ever since he assumed office in 2016, was floated to build houses for the homeless and landless, using funds from sponsor ships, and the role of the state government was to provide the land only. The project, however, ran into trouble when Anil Akkara, the Congress legislator from Wadakkanchery in Thrissur, first raised questions about the wrongdoings in a building project in his constituency, cleared with funds from UAE-based charity organisation, the Red Crescent.

Though Vijayan had been maintaining that the state government, apart from handing over the land, had no role in the project, things began changing since the Kerala gold smuggling case surfaced.

This particular project was routed through the UAE Consulate, where main accused Swapna Suresh and PS Sarith, whose arrest led to uncovering of the scam, both worked. It turned murkier, when news surfaced that the son of state Industries



UNDER SCANNER

THE KERALA GOVERNMENT'S NOW CONTROVERSIAL LIFE MISSION HOUSING PROJECT WAS ROUTED THROUGH THE UAE CONSULATE, WHERE MAIN ACCUSED SWAPNA SURESH AND PS SARITH, WHOSE ARREST LED TO UNCOVERING OF THE GOLD SMUGGLING SCAM, BOTH WORKED

THOUGH VIJAYAN HAD BEEN MAINTAINING THAT THE STATE **GOVERNMENT, APART FROM** HANDING OVER THE LAND, HAD NO ROLE IN THE PROJECT, THINGS BEGAN CHANGING SINCE THE KERALA GOLD SMUGGLING CASE SURFACED

PRESENTLY, THE CUSTOMS, THE NATIONAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY, THE ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE AND THE INCOME TAX ARE PROBING THE GOLD SMUGGLING, DRUGS AND THE LIFE MISSION CASE, BUT THE OPPOSITION WAS DEMANDING THAT ONLY THE CBI CAN PROBE THIS CASE, AS EXTERNAL AGENCIES WERE FUNDING THIS PROJECT

Minister EP Jayarajan was also close to Swapna.

Suspicions were also raised after Bineesh Kodiyeri, son of the powerful CPI-M state Secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate.

Adding to the problems, it came out that the commission for the project was not Rs 1 crore, but more than that, as per Vijavan's media advisor as well as state Finance Minister Thomas Issac.

Vijayan, for the past one month, has been evading media's questions about the Life Mission project.

Speaking to the media, Akkara noted it was he who had first raised this fraud and he approached Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan seeking justice. "I knew the CBI

would take up this case, as I had given them a detailed complaint on this case. Later I was called by the CBI and I gave them all the details I had about this project. Now I am happy that the CBI has taken the case up. This was a classic case where in the name of the poor, money was swindled ... such a thing should never ever happen," said Akkara

Both the Congress and the BJP for long have been up in arms demanding a CBI probe and calling for the resignation of Vijayan for taking people for a ride. State BJP President K Surendran

said this is a classic case of usurping of public funds. "This particular project was cleared by Vijayan, who is the Chairman of the Life

Mission. He even went to the UAE to source funds for this project. Swapna and suspended IAS officer M. Sivasankar had reached UAE a few days before Vijayan landed. Now that the CBI has taken up, every aspect that we raised on this will be looked into," he said. Congress-led UDF Chairman Benny Behanan said if Vijayan has

any morals left, he should quit immediately. "This project was mired in con-

troversy over its funding and the commission that was paid was the hard truth, which Vijayan always had dismissed with contempt. Everyone including Vijayan will now be questioned by the CBI and if he has any morals left, he should quit." he said.

found guilty by court

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Sept 25: An Indian national, trained by ISIS in Iraq in 2015, was found guilty by a court here Friday for hatching a criminal conspiracy to wage war against the Governments of India and Iraq. Subahani Haja Moideen, a Keralite, was arrested by the NIA in 2016 following a crackdown in Tamil Nadu with the help of central security agencies and other state police, foiling designs of ISIS operatives to attack or eliminate certain prominent persons and tar-



Keralite trained by ISIS J&K POLICE FORM SIT TO PROBE LAWYER'S KILLING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 25: The Jammu and Kashmir Police Friday said it has constituted a special investigation team (SIT) to probe the killing of advocate Babar Qadri who was shot dead by unidentified gunmen here Thursday.

Speaking to reporters at a press conference here, Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said the case was a top priority for the force and an SIT has been formed to probe it.

"I went to the (Qadri's) house his morning and inspected the scene of the crime. We have formed

an SIT headed by SP Hazratbal. It

the lawyer came down, they fired upon him indiscriminately with a pistol. He received four bullets in his head and succumbed to injuries on the way to a hospital. When the militants were fleeing, they fired a few rounds in the air. We are assessing the CCTV footage from a camera installed

nearby," he said. The IGP said Qadri's car was fired upon in 2018 and he had a threat perception but had declined to shift to a safe zone.

"A police officer, who is a relative of Babar, had requested him to shift from Hawal area to

Kerala gets UN award for prevention, control of lifestyle diseases

The award recognises achievements during 2019 on the multisectoral action in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, mental health and wider NCD-related sustainable development goals





get places of public importance. The Special NIA court will pronounce the quantum of punishment Monday

The Court convicted Moideen under IPC Sections 120(B) (Criminal Conspiracy), Section 125 (waging war against Asiatic power in alliance with the Government of India) and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Section 20 (Punishment for being member of terrorist gang or organisation).

It also held him guilty under Section 38 (Offence relating to membership of a terrorist organisation) and 39 (Offence relating to support given to a terrorist organisation). According to the chargesheet filed by the NIA, Moideen, hailing from Idukki district, intentionally and in April 2015.

To further the activities of ISIS, he proceeded to Iraq during April-September 2015, joined the terrorist organisation and waged war against the Government of Iraq, an Asiatic Power in alliance with the Government of India During custodial interrogation,

he had disclosed that he had knowingly and intentionally communicated with co-conspirators in ISIS within and outside India over social media platforms like Facebook and Telegram to wage war against

the Governments of Iraq and India. Based on his disclosures, the contents of his email and social media accounts were extracted in the presence of independent witnesses, during custody.

will include a legal expert apart from senior officers of the police. The SIT has been asked to investigate the matter and solve the case immediately and ascertain which militant and outfit was involved in the incident." Kumar said.

Qadri was shot at by unidentified militants at his residence in the Hawal area of the city Thursday evening. He succumbed to the injuries on the way to a hospital. Kumar said the assailants would

be arrested or neutralised soon. 'We will arrest them as soon as

possible and if we cannot arrest them, we will try to neutralise them in an encounter. This case is a top priority for us," the IGP said.



The IGP said Qadri's car was fired upon in 2018 and he had a threat perception but had declined to shift to a safe zone

Giving details about the incident, Kumar said two persons posing as clients with files in their hands and faces covered with masks came to Qadri's house Thursday evening.

"They called the lawyer saying that they want some suggestion for an accident case. When a safe zone, but the lawyer declined. Local police officers also said they were requesting him to shift for the last one week as the locality was congested and the police patrolling was difficult. He (Qadri) had said he did not want to leave his house. I have seen the tweet by him about danger to his life. Unfortunately he had not tagged the Kashmir police in that tweet, but Jammu police,' Kumar said.

The IGP appealed to people -whether protected or not -- who face a threat to approach the police. "Babar had not shared any such thing with us, otherwise we would have shifted him to a safer place," he said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, Sept 25: Kerala bagged a United Nations award Thursday for its 'outstanding contribution' towards the noncommunicable diseases-related sustainable development goals.

The UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) award this year on prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) was announced by World Health Organization directorgeneral Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

The award recognises achievements during 2019 on the multisectoral action in the prevention and control of NCDs, mental health and the wider NCD-related sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Health Minister KK Shailaja said the award was a recognition of the tireless service of Kerala in the health sector.

The state government has arranged facilities from the basic public health centres to hospitals at all levels to treat the lifestyle diseases." Shailaja said in a statement. "We were able to control the death rate during the COVID-19 period as we were able to focus on the NCDs.'

She congratulated all the health workers for the achievement of the state.

This is the first time the state has been recognised for this annual award. Kerala is among the seven ministries of health across the world.

The state government release

said the award was a recognition

What's pushing Pashmina shawl-makers into penury

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Sept 25: Kashmir's Pashmina shawl has a centuries-old reputation and Emperor Napoleon presenting a gown made of Pashmina yarn to his queen Josephine is just one of the myriad stories eulogising the famed handwoven garment.

Pashmina shawls are woven from the fleece of domesticated, high altitude Himalayan Capra hircus goat. This special species of goat is found in the Himalayan range at high altitudes in Tibet, Ladakh and Nepal, J&K established a goat farm of this special breed at Khuril (Nyoma) in Leh district of Ladakh in 1970s. The goat farm is now in the newly-carved Union territory of Ladakh and hosts around 1,000 Pashmina goats.

Another Pashmina goat farm is situated at Upshi, 40 kms from Leh town. In Kargil district of Ladakh region, another Pashmina goat farm is located at Khangral, 60 kms from Kargil town. This farm was established in 1996 with 30 goats.

"Pashmina yarn comes from the



undercoat of the goat and is colspun into yarn that is lected by using special combs. The woven by Pashmina shawl fleece is then auctioned to bidders makers into the magic garwho pass it on to the shawl weavers. ment," said Mohd Sultan, 61, The undercoat is basically a dea shawl-maker in the old city fence mechanism by the animal to of Srinagar

ward off the extreme cold. If the Kashmir has traditional shawlsame animal is brought down to making families who specialise in warmer climates, the goat does not making the Pashmina shawls with grow the undercoat," said a vetmajority of such families concenerinarian posted at the Khuril goat trated in the old city area of Srinagar. farm. Officials at the farm say the "Pashmina making has been in fleece is sold at Rs 2,000 per kg. our family line for the last five gen-

"The raw material is de-haired and then the pure undercoat fleece is availability of yarn due to COVID-19 and now the heightened tensions between India and China in Ladakh region, it is likely that the art of Pashmina shawl-making is going to be a thing of the past," lamented Nazir Ahmad, 54, a Pashmina shawlmaker from Eidgah area of Srinagar city. Others in

the indushave kept the art alive, but given the worst period of the non-availability of yarn due to COVID-19 and nov the heightened tensions between India and China in Ladakh region, it is likely that the art of Pashmina shawl-making is going to be a thing of the past

NAZIR AHMAD I SHAWL-MAKER

erations. We have kept the art alive, but given the worst period of the non-

try believe official apathy is pushing the traditional Pashmina shawl-makers into penury and oblivion.

"We have been demanding support from the government not in terms of money, but by making available the Pashmina yarn at reasonable rates. This is not happening in the Valley.

"Influential people monopolise the varn market and then use the poor shawl-makers as bonded labour. I think the magic of the Pashmina shawl is now relegated to history books," said Mohd Raza, 45, another shawl-maker whose family has been in the trade for four generations. Making a Pashmina shawl is a painstaking and labourious task. One shawl-maker, who is otherwise known as a good weaver, takes almost one year to finish a shawl. In economic terms it means making one Pashmina shawl should earn a weaver an entire year's livelihood.

"This rarely happens given the remuneration an average Pashmina shawl-maker gets. This also acts as a dampener for the shawl-maker and his family," said Gowhar, a shawl trader of Kashmir. Given the hardships faced by this world famous industry, the only glory a Pashmina shawl-maker can boast of is the picture of the French empress Josephine sporting a gown made of the poor shawl weaver's hard labour.

The state government has arranged facilities from the basic public health centres to hospitals at all levels to treat the lifestyle diseases... We were able to control the death rate during the COVID-19 period as we were able to focus on the NCDs KK SHAILAJA I HEALTH MINISTER

of the lifestyle disease control mechanism in Kerala, and the treatment and free services received by a large section of the population.

"In addition, the state-of-theart lung disease control program, cancer treatment program and paralysis control program were also considered for the award," it said.

In June, Shailaja was honoured by the United Nations for her efforts to tackle the coronavirus pandemic. She was among a few of the world leaders invited to speak on the occasion of the United Nations Public Service Day

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, President of the General Assembly Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of Ethiopia Sahle-Work Zewde, were among other speakers.

in the country also has the best public healthcare systems in India.













Why was the law made? Why was the minimum support price not proposed? You can understand from it that the situation is very serious and the way these three bills were passed, it was also done in a shameful manner ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CM

QUAKE HITS LADAKH

A medium-intensity earthquake of magnitude 5.4 hit the Ladakh region Friday, the National Centre for Seismology said. It said the quake occurred at 16:27 pm at a depth of 10 kilometres



uote

LAC ROW CHINA WANTS INDIA TO VACATE KEY HEIGHTS

India has executed 194 developmental projects in 37 African countries and is currently working to complete 77 more

projects in 29 countries in the continent, with a total outlay of USD 11.6 billion

V MURALEEDHARAN UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



The Modi government has put the agriculture sector in private hands, similar to the railways and civil aviation sectors, in a bid to benefit corporate friends funding the BJP TEJASHWI YADAV RJD LEADER

SHORT TAKES

Parole extended

Bhopal: Parole granted to 3,900-odd inmates of Madhya Pradesh jails in view of the coronavirus outbreak has been extended by 60 days and they are now expected to be back in their cells only by November-end, a senior official said Friday. Parole was granted after the Supreme Court in March asked states to take steps to decongest jails so as to contain the spread of COVID-19 in these facilities. The state has some 43,000 inmates in 125 jails, of which 3,900-odd were given parole and 3,000 were granted interim bail



Medininagar (Jharkhand): Security forces Friday defused four landmines allegedly planted by Naxalites on a road in Jharkhand's Palamu district, police said. The Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)

Hyderabad youth kidnapped, killed

During the Corps Commander-level talks, China told India that it will not discuss disengagement in eastern Ladakh, where the build-up by both sides has triggered a war-like situation over the last four months, till the time India vacates strategic positions

Two LeT commanders

killed in J&K encounter

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Indian Army sources said.

the strategic positions.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Friday, police said

who retaliated.

he said.

sition of strength tactically, but

Srinagar, Sept 25: Two Lashkar-

e-Toiba (LeT) commanders were

killed in an overnight encounter

with security forces in Anantnag

district of Jammu and Kashmir

about the presence of militants in

Sirhama area of the south Kashmir

district, security forces launched

a cordon and search operation on

Thursday evening, a police officer

said. He said the search operation

turned into an encounter after the

militants fired upon the forces,

A tight cordon was maintained

throughout the night to prevent

the two militants from escaping.

They were killed in the exchange

of fire, the officer said.

Incriminating materials, include

ing arms and ammunition, were re-

covered from the encounter site,

Addressing a press conference

here, Inspector General of Police

(IGP). Kashmir. Vijay Kumar said

the two militants were Lashkar

commanders. "One of the militants

has been identified as Abu Rehan

Based on specific information

India wants a roadmap for de-escalation all along the Line of Actual New Delhi, Sept 25: China is in-Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh to sisting that India vacates strategic be drawn out. heights on the south bank of India stated, during the talks,

Pangong Lake ahead of talks on that all friction areas, including Depsang, should be discussed for disdisengagement on the LAC, top engagement all along the LAC. During the Corps Commander-"Why should discussions be relevel talks, China told India that it stricted to one or two places when will not discuss disengagement in there is a massive build-up all across eastern Ladakh, where the build-up the LAC," a top Indian Army offiby both sides has triggered a warcer said.

like situation over the last four India has occupied critical mountain heights on the south bank of the months, till the time India vacates Pangong Lake, including Rechin Chinese People's Liberation Army La. Rezang La. and Mukpari that troops are adamant on resolving were unmanned till now. This step. the situation first on the south bank along with some others peaks it holds, allows India to dominate the where the Indian troops are in po-

Spangur Gap under Chinese control

Kumar said LeT militants were

also behind the killing of Bhupinder

Singh, Block Development Council

chairman, Khag, in central

Kashmir's Budgam district. Singh

was shot dead by militants

dropped his two personal security

officers (PSOs) at Khag police sta-

tion and left for his home, the IGP

said. "He then went to his village.

about 10 to 12 kilometres from

there, in his private car without

informing the police. We have sus-

"Investigations are on and two sus-

pects have been called. SP Budgam

is himself investigating the matter.

Perhaps the militants had known

that he was coming home. We have

taken all the details and will solve

location details, names of two

Lashkar militants have come up-

LeT commander Yousuf Kandroo

and Abrar from Narbal, he said. On

the killing of an assistant sub-in-

spector of the Central Reserve

Police Force in Wadipora, Budgam,

Kumar said the attack was carried

out by Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) as

M-4 cartridges were found at the

spot. "M-4 is usually used by JeM

Prima facie, from his call and

this case soon." Kumar said.

pended the two PSOs," he said.

After touring his area, Singh

Wednesday evening.



and also the Moldo garrison on the Chinese side

This has irked the PLA which has made multiple attempts to dislodge Indian troops, leading to instances of warning gunshots being fired. India had changed the rules of engagement after the Galwan Valley clash of June 15 where 20 Indian soldiers and unknown number of Chinese soldiers were killed. Chinese had attacked Indian troops with medieval barbaric weapons like iron-studded clubs.

After that, the Indian Army had empowered its commanders on the ground to take a decision whether



as well, sources said.

The Indian Army has also put barbed wire obstacles near the heights under its control at the LAC, signalling to the Chinese not to enter its territory. Three days ago, the Indian and Chinese sides, in a joint statement, after the 14-hourlong diplomatic-military talks in Moldo said that both have agreed to implement the consensus reached by their leaders over the border issue. September 21, senior Indian

A villager guides his cattle towards a safer place from a flood-hit village near Kampur in Nagaon district of Assam, Friday

MCI goes, NMC takes charge

Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), Sept 25: A head constable in Uttar Pradesh Police has died after allegedly shooting himself in the head with his service carbine at the Police Lines here.

Forty-two-year-old Mazhar Hussain, was posted at the Police

The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education Boards, Medical Assessment and Rating Board, and Ethics and Medical Registration Board have been constituted to help the NMC in day-to-day functioning

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 25: Putting into ic reforms' in the



Melaghat area of Maharashtra. and Santosh Kumar Kraleti, CEO, Foot Soldiers for Health Pvt Ltd, have been nominated as expert mem bers. Dr RK Vats will head the Secretariat as NMC Secretary. The NMC will carry forward the reforms initiated by the Board of Governors under Dr VK Paul. Already, the number of MBBS seats has increased over the last six years by 48% -- from around 54.000 in 2014 to 80,000 in 2020. The PG seats too have increased by 79% - from 24,000 to 54,000 in the same duration.

and Chinese commanders held the GRIM SITUATION

6th round of Military Commander Level Meeting. "The two sides had candid and in-depth exchanges of views on stabilising the situation along the LAC in the India-China border areas," Indian Army had stated. "They agreed to earnestly im-

plement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, strengthen communication on the ground, avoid misunderstandings and misjudgments, stop sending more troops to the front line. refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground, and avoid taking any actions that may complicate the situation. The two sides also agreed to hold

the 7th round of the Military Commander-Level Meeting as soon as possible, take practical measures to properly solve problems on the ground, and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border area. It was for the first time that the Indian delegation had two Lt Generals, two Major Generals and a Joint Secretary from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE Hyderabad, Sept 25: In a shocking case of honour killing, a youth from Hyderabad was kidnapped and murdered by the family members of his wife for marrying her against their wish. The body of Hemant Kumar,

28, was found in Sangareddy district near Hyderabad early Friday. Hemant and his wife Avanti were kidnapped by a group of people from their house in TNGO colony in Gachibowli area around 3 p.m. on Thursday.

While Avanti managed to escape from their clutches by jumping out of a car, they took her husband to the city outskirts and murdered him. Cyberabad police have reportedly arrested 12 people in connection with the kidnap and murder. They include Avanti's maternal uncle, cousins and hired killers.

Hemant and Avanti, who were neighbours, fell in love about eight years ago and wanted to marry. However, the girl's family, belonging to an upper caste, was opposed to the marriage. Avanti's parents locked her in home in November last year and were looking for another alliance. She later managed to escape and on June 10 this year, Hemant and Avanti entered into the wedlock at a temple in BHEL

As the couple faced threat from Avanti's family, they approached Cyberabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar, who referred the matter to Chandanagar police station. Both sides were called to the police station and Avanti's family was told not to trouble the couple. However, on Thursday a group of more than 10 people in three cars reached Hemant's house and asked the couple to come with them. "We were told that they want to discuss the issue and we boarded the cars. After a few minutes I realized that we have been kidnapped and I jumped out of the car," Avanti said.

UP cop ends life

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

weighing 12-15 kg each, were laid on a road near Mansuria village in Manatu police station area. Superintendent of Police. Sanieev Kumar. said. "The landmines were laid to inflict casualties on the security forces. Investigation is on to find out which Naxalite outfit was behind it." the officer said.

Liquor seized

Medininagar: Police seized liquor worth around Rs 15 lakh from a warehouse in Palamu district of Jharkhand on Thursday and arrested three people, an official said here. During a raid at the warehouse in Bhagat Tendua area, police seized over 1,200 cartons of liquor, "which were to be sent to Bihar ahead of the assembly elections" in that state next month, Sub-Divisional Police Officer, Chhattarpur, Shambhu Kumar Singh said.

from Pakistan, who was active since March 2019. The second one has been identified as Adil Rashid Bhat, who was also a Lashkar commander," he said.

"Bhat was involved in an attack on two policemen at Nowgam on August 14," the IGP said, adding that he had decamped with an INSAS rifle which was recovered from the encounter site. The killing of the two militants is a huge success for

militants," he said. Responding to a question. Kumar said 170 to 200 militants are active in Kashmir. On the alleged custodial death of a man, Irfan Ahmad Dar, in Sopore area of Baramulla last week, the IGP said the matter is being investi-

the forces, he said.

gated even as a magisterial inquiry is on. He said two policemen have been suspended because Dar had fled from their custody.



Lines and had joined duty on Wednesday after a 10-day break. He was found dead on Thursday.

Pitamber Singh, another head constable, who was present at the time of the incident, said, "I returned from duty and lay down in the barracks after my lunch. Mazhar was also lying in his bed just a few metres away. Suddenly, I heard a gunshot. Initially, I thought it was the sound of glass breaking, but when I took a closer look, I saw Hussain lying in a pool of blood.

Senior police officials, including IG (Moradabad range) Ramit Sharma, SSP Prabhakar Chaudhari and superintendent of police (city) Amit Kumar Anand, who were reportedly at a meeting in Police Lines at the time, rushed to the spot. "The forensic team has collected evidence from the scene. The familv has been informed and the body is being sent for post mortem," IG Ramit Sharma said.

field of medical education, the Union government has set up the National Medical Commission (NMC) along with four other autonomous boards while abolishing the MCI

The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education Boards. Medical Assessment and Rating Board, and Ethics and Medical Registration Board have been constituted to help the NMC in day-to-day functioning. The four boards come into existence with effect from Friday. The decades-old Medical Council of India (MCI) stands abolished.

The reforms are aimed to steer the country's medical education towards a transparent, qualitative and accountable system. The basic change is that the regulator is now 'selected' on merit, as opposed to an 'elected' regulator.

Men and Women with impeccable integrity, professionalism, experience, and stature have now been placed at the helm to steer the medical education reforms fur-

AAROGYA SETU LOSES SHEEN AS DOWNLOADS DROP

ther. The notifications in this regard were issued on September 24.

Dr SC Sharma (retired Professor of ENT Department, AIIMS, Delhi) has been selected as the NMC Chairperson for three years. The NMC will also have 10 ex-officio members, including Presidents of the four autonomous boards; Dr Jagat Ram, Director of PGIMER, Chandigarh; Dr Rajendra A Badwe, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai; and Dr Surekha Kishore, Executive Director, AIIMS, Gorakhpur.

In addition, the NMC will have 10 nominees from among Vice Chancellors of Health Universities from states/UTs, 9 nominees from state Medical Councils, and three expert members from diverse professions. Dr Smita Kolhe, a social worker working in the tribal

The NMC's key functions include further streamlining of regulations, ratings of institutions. HR assessment, and focus on research. Besides. it will work on the modalities of a common final-year exam after MBBS (NEXT-National Exit Test) to serve for both registration and PG entrance, prepare guidelines for fee regulation by private medical colleges, and developing standards for Community Health Providers to serve in primary healthcare with a limited licence for practice.

It may be recalled that the National Medical Commission Act. 2019 was passed by Parliament in August, 2019.

Priest booked

.....

Muzaffarnagar: A priest and his brother were booked for allegedly stealing Rs 1.25 lakh cash and other valuables from a temple in Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar district, police said Friday. The priest, Sompal, of the Yogmaya temple at Miranpur town in the district and his brother Rampal are absconding after the incident that took place Wednesday evening, they said. The in-charge of the temple managing committee, Anurag Sharma, lodged a complaint against the duo on Thursday. According to the complaint, the donation boxes were broken open by the accused who decamped with cash and ornaments. Police said efforts are on to nab the accused

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE New Delhi/Noida, Sept 25:

Prashant Kumar who lives in Noida sector 143 often goes to a nearby mall-cum-office complex with his family for some quick bites or gets a bank job done.

The complex does not allow anyone without checking the Covid status on Aarogya Setu app on the visitors' smartphones, along with the mandatory thermal temperature screening.

Whenever Kumar plans a visit to the complex, he updates the contact tracing app on his smartphone as well as the devices with his family members, filling the self-assessment form by just ticking all the

As cities get unlocked and people begin to visit markets, eating joints, malls and other public places, this attitude is worrisome as this does not paint the real picture, especially if someone who is an asymptomatic Covid patient visits public places even with the 'safe' app tag on.

"I only update the app while visiting the complex and leave it without any use for days. It surprises me that it is so easy to just fill in wrong details and enter wherever you want with the 'you are safe' tag," Kumar said.

Kumar said he has even seen people who are not aware of the Aarogya Setu app, downloading it right in front of the complex, filling the self-assessment form quickly with 'None of the Above' symptoms and entering the premises, only to

remove the app later. According to latest data from app Intelligence Company Sensor Tower, Aarogya Setu downloads have decreased significantly in the country, as much as 90 per cent less last month compared to April when it was launched

with much fanfare.

larogya Setu

As Delhi Metro resumed services after more than five months due to Covid-19 restrictions, officials in some stations, including Noida Sector 16, were seen trying to block entry of people into the station for not having "Aarogya Setu" app on their mobile phones during the initial trial phase.

This despite the fact that in the new travel protocol for passengers published by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) on September 3, it mentioned that "the use of 'Aarogya Setu App' for updating health status by passengers will be advisable."

However, as the services gathered full steam, passengers have hardly reported facing any questions about having the app on the smartphones.

The decision of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL) to make Aarogya Setu mandatory for metro commuters was brought to Karnataka High Court's notice this month after legal services organisation SFLC.IN's advisory board member Anivar A. Aravind filed a petition challenging the voluntarymandatory nature of Aarogya Setu and invasion of privacy rights in the absence of a specific legislation governing data collected by it.

Meanwhile, security guards at several outlets in shopping malls across the country are allowing entry only after visitors show they have the app downloaded on their mobile phones.

A similar experience was reported by Aasheesh when he tried to visit a Lifestyle outlet at the City Centre Mall at Sector 10, Rohini in New Delhi. Visitors to government offices have also reported that they were allowed to enter the offices only after downloading the app. However, the biggest question is:-Is it worthwhile to track people with Covid?

them "safe".



boxes with "none of the above' symp-

toms. And the app declares











The dates of the Bihar elections have been announced. The Lok Janshakti **Party welcomes the Election Commission's decision. The** 2020 elections will write a new story of betterment in Bihar CHIRAG PASWAN | LJP PRESIDENT

DENGUE THREAT AMID PANDEMIC

There is 'no standard protocol' for treatment of patients who have contracted a double infection of COVID-19 and dengue, and a very 'finely balanced' approach is needed to tackle both the ailments at once, experts said



uote

My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and friends of Mr SP Balasubrahmanyam. His songs touched millions of hearts in many languages. His voice will live on. **#RIPSPB**

RAHUL GANDHI CONGRESS LEADER

Now we see two kinds of people. One who has tremendous fear for the coronavirus and

the other who is very careless about the outbreak. The threat of spread of the virus is more from asymptomatic patients UDDHAV THACKERAY MAHA CM

Despite endless announcements and directions of the Uttar Pradesh government, incidents of injustice, atrocities against Dalits and women, cases of rape and murder etc. have not stopped

MAYAWATI BSP PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Landslide buries several homes

Shillong: Woman cricketer Razia Ahmed was killed and five others were missing when their homes were buried in a landslide triggered by incessant rainfall in Meghalayas East Khasi Hills district Friday, officials said. Body of Razia, who has played for Meghalaya in several national-level cricket tournaments was retrieved from the debris.

Nine held for IPL betting in Kolkata

Kolkata: Nine persons have been arrested from different parts of Kolkata for allegedly betting on an Indian Premier League (IPL) cricket match, police said Friday. Acting on a tip-off, sleuths of the Kolkata

Police's detective

FARMERS' STIR CRIPPLES NORTH INDIA AGENCIES

Chandigarh, Sept 25: Over 265 farmers' groups took to the streets Friday to block roads and carry out rallies and marches in a nationwide agitation against the controversial farm bills.

Agitating farmers blocked roads, including highways, to press the Centre for the withdrawal of the legislations, which are yet to get the

Oppn 'using farmers' shoulders to fire'

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday accused the Opposition of "misleading" farmers and "using their shoulders to fire" at his government over the farm bills for selfish political interests, and asserted that for the first time in decades, the Centre has framed laws that will benefit farmers and workers. Addressing BJP leaders and workers, Modi launched a powerful defence of farm as well as labour bills, saying the reforms will benefit the small and

marginal farmers the most.



assent of the President.

Road blockades caused hardships to commuters in many states. Punjab farmers held the agitation as part of a "bandh" call against the Bills.

The "Punjab bandh" call is getting support from government employees' unions, singers, commission agents, labourers and social activists

Shops, commercial establishments and vegetable markets at many places remained shut. Shopkeepers have been appealed to keep their shops shut in support of farmers

Farmers Thursday had started a three-day "rail rook" stir against the Bills and squatted on tracks in parts of the state.

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh

had said the state government was with them in fight against the Bills and no FIR will be registered for the violation of Section 144 of the CrPC, which bars assembly of more than four people at a place.

While the ruling Congress and AAP have extended support to the protest, the Shiromani Akali Dal held a "chakka jaam" (road blockade) at many places in Punjab.

SSR DEATH CASE NCB grills Rakul Preet, Deepika's ex-manager



AGENCIES

Mumbai, Sept 25: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)Friday is questioning Hindi film industry's actor Rakul Preet Singh, Dharma Productions executive producer Kshitij Ravi Prasad and Deepika Padukone's former manager Karishma Prakash in connection with its probe into the drugs case related to death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

According to NCB officials, Rakul, Karishma and Kshitij deposed before the drug law enforcement agency in a drug case related to the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput. NCB officials said Rakul was the first to arrive at the NCB office followed by Karishma and Kshitij. They are being questioned about their alleged drugs chats that came to the fore after the NCB seized the electronic devices of several people. The NCB will be asking them whether they procured drugs for personal consumption or whether they were part of a drug syndicate. The NCB will also ask them about if they provided drugs to any other people in the entertainment industry and made some monetary gains. Reportedly, the NCB has also asked Dharma Productions ex-Assistant Director Anubhav Chopra for questioning in connection with the case. The development comes two days after the NCB summoned Deepika.

'NCB to summon Karan Johar soon⁵

In what looks like more trouble for the biggest names in Hindi film industry, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) could summon several top actors. directors and producers of tinsel town for questioning. The development comes when Siromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Maniinder Singh Sirsa has claimed that the drug law enforcement agency is set to summon filmmaker Karan Johar soon in a drug-related case. Sirsa had filed a complaint with the NCB chief Rakesh Asthana last week over the alleged drug party hosted at Johar's residence in 2019 where several top actors were in attendance including Deepika Padukone, Ariun Kapoor, Vicky Kaushal, Varun Dhawan, Ranbir Kapoor, Malaika Arora and several others.

Rakul, Shraddha Kapoor, Sara Ali Khan and others. Earlier in the day responding to a question on whether Ranveer Singh will join the investigation with his wife Deepika, an NCB official said, "We confirm that we have not received any such request from any summoned person. The last email received from the concerned summoned person is only regarding joining the investigation.

Bihar to have rallies with distancing norms



Vice Admiral AK Chawla, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Southern Naval Command (SNC), reviews the parade during Naval Investiture ceremony, in Kochi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

COVID-19 pan-

demic, re-

Friday, the min-

The five-minute

protocol is intended

to introduce peo-

to Yoga, and also

а

help them to

ple at the workplace

sumed

istry said.

from

take

break from

the work

schedule

New Delhi, Sept 25: Activities

for promoting the "Yoga Break"

protocol of the Ministry of AYUSH,

which were suspended due to the

and to refresh and re-focus, it said.

Yoga is an ancient Indian disci-

pline intended to bring balance

and well-being of individuals to



GOATS BECOME GUESTS | AYUSH ministry's 'Yoga

department conducted raids in Hare Street, Park Street, Jadavpur and Salt Lake areas Thursday night and arrested nine persons, mostly in their mid-20s, for allegedly betting on the previous day's IPL cricket match, a senior officer said.

India, Cambodia to boost defence ties

New Delhi: The Union government Friday held a webinar with officials of the Cambodian Army to boost defence cooperation, said an official statement. "Senior MoD (Ministry of Defence) officials from the Indian side and senior army officials from the Cambodian side participated in the webinar and spoke about enhancing defence cooperation between both the nations.' the statement noted.

30.9% prefer Nitish as CM

New Delhi: The three-phase Bihar Assembly polls will be the first large-scale election in the country amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and as per the IANS C-Voter Bihar opinion poll survey, 30.9 per cent of the people are still backing Nitish Kumar as the most preferable candidate to be the Chief Minister again.

Engineer held

New Delhi: The CBI has busted an online child pornography racket being run on Instagram allegedly hv a UP-based engineer, officials said Friday. The CBI has registered an FIR against Neerai Yaday, a resident of Anpara in Sonbhadra, who has a BTech degree.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

said Friday.

Purba Barddhaman district its

home for nearly a week, sources

pregnant, wandering in Balgona Barddhaman (WB), Sept 25: A Bazar area, an officer said. "After humane gesture by some West searching in vain for the owner, Bengal police personnel has we decided to bring the trip to the made a few goats albatross police station as the area is noaround their necks, as the trip torious for theft of goats. has made their police station in

"However, now we are tired of feeding the goats and taking care of them. We are trying to find the owner, who can come and take back his/her goats

four goats, of which one was

One of the goats has also given birth to two babies at Bhatar poafter giving sufficient proof," lice station, prompting the pothe officer said. Police, which licemen to assign a civic volunoften launches manhunt for criminals, is now looking for teer to take care of the kids. The police personnel. during night pathe owner of the goats who could trolling six days ago, had found relieve them of the burden.



Break' protocol resumes

and spiritual dimensions.

may further hamper their effi-

ciency and effectiveness," the min-

istry said. The Ministry of AYUSH

in association with the Morarji

"Due to the change in

working habits, particu-

larly on the computer and

continuously sitting for

long hours, the ma-

jority of the work-

force is feeling work

stress. Such stress

may decrease the

focus at work which

Vasa, Guduchi for Covid management

The Ministry of AYUSH has approved a proposal for carrying out a clinical

study to assess the role of Vasa and Guduchi in therapeutic management

Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, in collaboration with the IGIB

solutions for COVID-19, the Ministry of AYUSH has taken up systematic

Dhyana.

of symptoms in COVID-19 positive patients. This will be a randomised,

unit of CSIR, the ministry said. In view of the need for accelerated

studies on different possible solutions through multiple channels.

open label three armed study, and will be conducted at the All India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 25: Political parties and candidates can hold rallies as part of their campaigning for the Bihar assembly polls and the grounds where such meetings will be held will have white circles to ensure distancing norms.

Addressing a press conference to announce the schedule for Bihar assembly elections, Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said he wants to dispel doubts that there will only be virtual campaigning in the state.

The 'propganda' that only virtual meets will take place during campaigning is way off the mark, he said.

Arora said the district election officers have already identified places where gatherings can take place. The exercise of putting markers to ensure distancing norms is on.

District election officers and district superintendents of police should ensure that the number of attendees does not exceed the limit prescribed by the State **Disaster Management Authority** for public gatherings, an EC statement later said. DEOs will depute sector health regulators to oversee that COVID-19 instructions are being followed during such meetings.

Political parties and candidates concerned should ensure that all COVID-related requirements such as face masks, sanitisers and ther mal scanning are fulfilled during each of these election activities, the commission said.

Anyone violating the norms will face action under relevant sections of the Disaster Management Act and the Indian Penal Code, the EC warned.

As part of restrictions put in place to check the spread of the virus, the EC has reduced thenumber of people who can under take door-to-door campaigning.

the physical, mental, emotional Desai National Institute of Yoga feedback of participants. Lecturer turns farm labourer to support family

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, Sept 25: Till March, Navnath Gore was a lecturer in a college in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra, but the COVID-19-induced lockdown took away his contract job and reduced

him to a farm labourer. Gore (32), a resident of Nigdi, a small village in Jat tehsil of Sangli district, received the Sahitya Akademi's Yuva Puraskar for young writers in 2018, but that is hardly a consolation for a man who has fallen on hard times due to the outbreak of coronavirus.

Coming to terms with the reality of losing job, a situation faced by millions worldwide, he decided to work

as a farm labourer in his home district to support his family. A post-graduate in Marathi from the Shivaji University in Kolhapur district, Gore started writing his maiden novel 'Fesati' during his post-graduation days.

The book got published in 2017 and he won the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar the next year. "After I won the award, I received an offer from a college in Ahmednagar district where I started working as a lecturer on a clock hour basis and used to get Rs 10,000 per month."

"In February this year, my father passed away and the responsibility of my mother and a 50-yearold brother, who is physically challenged, came on my shoulders,'



said Gore. After the death of his father, Gore went home in February, but could not go back to his teaching job as the lockdown was imposed in March-end to curb the COVID-19 spread.

"I came back to my village in February. Since my job was contractual, the income from the college also stopped." "With no income, it was difficult for us to make the ends meet. I then started taking up odd-

jobs and also started working as a farm labourer in the region," he added. Gore, who travels long distances in the region for work, said he earns around Rs 400 if he works full day. Gore recalled his student days in Kolhapur, where, while pursuing his post-graduation, he used to work as a security guard at an ATM centre to support his family. 'Fesati' is a story of a youth, who

(MDNIY) had developed five min-

utes yoga break protocol to de-

stress, refresh and re-focus the

workers at the workplace in 2019.

group of eminent Yoga experts

contains stretching exercises like

Tadasana, Kati Chakrasana,

among others, and Nadisodhana

Bhramari Pranayama and

The protocol was initially

launched on a trial basis in

January and was found to be ef-

fective, based on an analysis of

The protocol developed by a

against all odds, completes his education. The book also depicts the plight of farmers. Meanwhile, moved by Gore's plight, Maharashtra minister Vishwajeet Kadam, who also manages Bharti Vidyapeeth, said he has offered a job to him with the Pune-based group of educational institutes.







OrissaPOST SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 26 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR international

With the arrival of autumn and winter, "twindemic of Covid-19 and the flu" could overburden the bloc's health systems and lead to more loss of life STELLA KYRIAKIDES | EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER FOR HEALTH AND OOD SAFETY

FB SUSPENDS THREE FAKE RUSSIAN ACCOUNTS

Facebook Inc said it has dismantled three fake accounts which could be used by Russia's intelligence services to leak hacked documents as part of efforts to disrupt the upcoming US election





I can only speak for Russia. Russia will in no way build its policy on the basis of taking into account these

aggressive demands that have no legal force

SERGEI LAVROV RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

I must say. enough is enough! You (the Unites States) have created enough troubles for the world already

ZHANG JUN CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE UN



serious human rights violations committed by it against its own people

VIMARSH ARYAN

FIRST SECRETARY, INDIAN MEA

SHORT TAKES

\$66mn allocated for Beirut victims

Beirut: Lebanese President Michel Aoun has approved \$66.1 million in the 2020 state budget to be paid to the people affected by the August 4 Port of Beirut explosions. The distribution of the money will be based on the lists prepared by the Lebanese army, giving priority to those who have been affected the most by the explosions. The explosions, caused by 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate detonating at a warehouse in the port, killed around 190 people, wounded 6,000 others and led to at least 300,000 being homeless.

Global nCoV cases cross 32.1 million

Washington: The overall number of global coronavirus cases has crossed the 32.1 million mark, while the deaths have increased to more than 981,000, according to the Johns Hopkins University, As of Friday morning, the total number of cases stood at 32,135,220 and the fatalities rose to 981,754. The US is the worst-hit country with the world's highest number of cases and deaths at 6,976,215 and 202,762, respectively, according to the CSSE. India comes in the second place in terms of cases at 5,732,518, while the country's death toll soared to 91,149.

Trump infuses politics into his Jadhav's fate hangs in choice for the Supreme Court

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, Sept 25: President Donald Trump is infusing deliberations over his coming nomination of a new Supreme Court justice with political meaning as he aims to maximise the benefit before November 3 and even secure an electoral backstop should the result be contested.

Even before Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death last week, the President had tried to use likelihood of more Supreme Court vacancies to his political advantage. Now, as he closes in on a decision on her likely replacement, Trump has used the vacancy to appeal to battleground-state voters and as a rallying cry for his conservative base. He also is increasingly embrac-

ing the high court - which he will have had an outsized hand in reshaping-as an insurance policy in a close election.

Increases in mail, absentee and early voting brought about by the pandemic have already brought about a flurry of election litigation, and both Trump and Democratic nominee Joe Biden have assembled armies of lawyers to continue the fight once vote-counting begins. Trump has been open about tying his push to name a third justice to the court to a potentially drawnout court fight to determine who will

be sworn in on January 20, 2021. "I think this will end up in the Supreme Court," Trump said

United States

of America

H1B



Wednesday of the election, adding, "And I think it's very important that we have nine justices." It's a line echoed by Trump allies, including Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who said Thursday, "I think that threat to challenge the election is one of the real reasons why it is so important that we confirm the Supreme Court nominees, so that there's a full Supreme Court on the bench to resolve any election challenge."

Barely six weeks from Election Day, and as millions of Americans are already voting, Trump and his advisers have tried to use the court vacancy to help deliver Trump another term in office.

Supreme Court nominations are never entirely devoid of political considerations, but Trump's decision has been particularly wrapped up in a charged political moment.

Within hours of Ginsburg's death Trump made clear his intention to nominate a woman in her stead, after previously putting two men on the court and as he struggles to mitigate erosion in support among suburban women. In discussing his five-person short list, he's been sure to highlight some from election battlegrounds that he's aiming to win this fall as much as their jurisprudence.

"I've heard incredible things about her," he said of Florida's Barbara Lagoa, a day after Ginsburg's death. "I don't know her. She's Hispanic and highly respected, Miami, Highly respected. In an interview with a Detroit television station, he volunteered that hometown Justice Joan Larsen is very talented."

Trump was even considering a meeting with Lagoa this week in Florida, where he plans campaign events. The appellate court judge was confirmed last year by the Senate in a bipartisan vote and has been promoted for the court by GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis and others as a nominee with more across-

RALLYING FOR FUTURE

hands of Pak courts Pakistan has once again made it clear that it will not

accept India's demand of having a foreign lawyer to represent Kulbhushan Jadhav in the Islamabad HC

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Islamabad, Sept 25: Pakistan has once again made it clear that it will not accept India's demand of having a foreign lawyer to represent Kulbhushan Jadhav in the review and reconsideration case being heard at the Islamabad High Court (IHC), leaving his fate in the hands of the Pakistani courts.

While responding to a query whether Pakistan would be executing Jadhav or not, Foreign Office spokesperson Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri, responded at a weekly media briefing: "Pakistan being a responsible member of International community is fully cognizant of its obligation to comply with the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) decision."

"I cannot predict what the decision in the matter would be, but effective review and reconsideration in the case can only be provided by Courts in Pakistan." Elaborating more about the details and proceedings of the case, Chaudri said Jadhav confessed to his involvement in terrorist activities in Pakistan. 'When Commander Jadhav was

arrested in Pakistan, he confessed his involvement in terrorist activities in Pakistan during the investigation. India took the issue to grant of consular access to Commander Jadhav to the ICJ." "In the judgment, the ICJ asked



of four things; to apprise Commander Jadhav of his rights under the Vienna Convention: to provide consular access to him through Indian consular official; to provide for effective review and reconsideration of his conviction and to stay the execution till an effective review and reconsideration was provided.

"Pakistan has been complying with all of these," the spokesperson added. Chaudhri blamed India for opting to create all possible hindrances in its "efforts to frustrate Pakistan's efforts for implementation of the ICJ judgment and use Jadhav's case as propaganda tool against Pakistan"

Talking about New Delhi's demand for having an Indian or a foreign lawyer to represent Jadhav, Chaudhri said that it has been communicated to India "repeatedly that only those lawyers can represent Commandar Jadhav in the Court who have the license to practice law in Pakistan".

UN panel says corruption hits the poor hardest

ASSOCIATED PRESS

United Nations, Sept 25: A UN panel says tax abuse, corruption and money laundering are draining hundreds of billions of dollars from governments that could help the world's poor.

A report from the high-level panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity published Thursday said governments can't agree on the problem or the solution. But they're also losing an estimated \$500 billion due to corporate tax avoidance from profit-sharing enterprises. In addition, the panel estimated that \$7 trillion in private wealth is hidden in tax haven countries, with 10% of world GDP held offshore, and that money laundering amounts to around \$1.6 trillion per year, or 2.7% of global GDP. "Corruption and tax avoidance are rampant," said former Lithuanian president Dalia Grybauskaite, a panel co-chair. "Too many banks are in cahoots and too many governments are stuck in the past. We're all being robbed, especially the world's poor." She said trust in the finance system is essential to tackle global challenges including poverty, climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.



partment said in a statement.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Washington, Sept 25: The US will invest \$150 million in training for middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations in key sectors, including in information technology which employs tens of thousands of Indian professionals. The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise. The technology companies depend on it to hire tens of thousands of employees each year from countries like India and China. According to the Department of Labor, prominent among these sectors are information technology, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, transportation, wherein the H-1B One Workforce grant programme would be used to upskill the present workforce and train a new generation of workers to grow the future workforce.

providers and employers to rethink how to deliver training, the de-

In this grant programme, the department's Employment and Training Administration has set out to streamline funding and resources to encourage a more integrated workforce system that will push the applicants to provide an innovative mix of training strategies, leveraging innovative modes of training delivery, including online.

distance and other technology-enabled learning. Through local public-private partnerships, the grantees will deploy training to provide individuals in their communities with skills necessary to advance career pathways to employment in middle-tohigh-skilled H-1B occupations within key industry sectors. The training models will include a broad range of classroom and on-the-job training, customised training, incumbent worker training, registered apprenticeship programmes and industry-recognised apprenticeship programmes. The US Department of Labor is challenging communities to think as 'One Workforce'," Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training John Pallasch said. 'In the current job environment. it is critical that local organisations work as one, instead of independent parts of a process. Our goal is to create seamless community partnerships to build career pathways for local job seekers to enter middle-to-high-skilled occupations in the cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing and transportation sectors," he said.

the-board appeal.

Nepal landslides kill 12, 9 missing

Kathmandu: At least 12 people died and nine others went missing in separate incidents of landslides triggered by heavy rainfall in western and eastern Nepal Thursday, officials said. Heavy to moderate rainfall continued to lash Nepal since Tuesday. According to the meteorological department, the downpour will continue till Saturday. Nine people, including three children, died and four others went missing after their house was swept away by a landslide in Waling municipality of western Nepal.

Donald Trump's niece sues him

New York: Mary Trump, the niece of Donald Trump, sued the US President Thursday, accusing him and other family members of cheating her out of tens of millions of dollars from an inheritance. The complaint filed in a New York state court in Manhattan against Donald Trump, his sister Maryanne Trump Barry, and the estate of his brother Robert Trump, who died in August, accused the defendants of "rampant fraud" and conspiracy. Jay Sekulow, a lawyer for Trump, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The coronavirus pandemic has not only caused disruptions in the labour market, but also forced many education and training



People attend a 'Fridays For Future' protest rally at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany, Friday

WITH EYE ON NOBEL, TRUMP WANTS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN INDIA, CHINA

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New York, Sept 25: With eye on Nobel Peace Prize, United States President Donald Trump wants to mediate the dispute between India and China, even though his offers have been turned down.

Asked by a reporter Thursday about his nomination for the prize for promoting Israel-Arab relations, he said, "I know that China now, and India, are having difficulty, and very – very substantial difficulty. And hopefully they'll be able to work that out. If we can help, we'd love to help.



Trump was nominated by a member of Norwegian Parliament mainly for helping the United Arab Emirtes and Israel establish diplomatic relations, a breakthrough in lowering hostilities in the Middle East.

Trump said, "It was an honour to be nominated for two Nobel Prizes. So that was an honour. And we'll see what's happening.'

As part of the question about his nomination, the reporter also asked, "Does your global foreign policy also checkmate China? It stops them from increasing the defence of China globally?

Instead of answering it directly, Trump veered off into the offer of help to India and China. Both countries had turned down an earlier offer he made in May to mediate between them Norwegian MP, Christian Tybring-Gjedde, also claimed that Trump played "key role in facilitating contact between conflicting parties.³

"Instead we get dithering and delay bordering on complicity,' Grvbauskaite said.

The report said criminals exploited the COVID-19 pandemic as governments relaxed controls to speed up health care and social protection.

Queen Elizabeth's finances hit, royal budget may lose £15m

IN MARCH, THE UK

WENT INTO LOCKDOWN **AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND ROYAL FINANCES HAVE BEEN DENT-**ED BY THE LOSS OF **SIZEABLE INCOME GENERATED FROM PUBLIC VISITS TO** THE PALACES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

London, Sept 25: Britain's Royal household Friday defended taxpayerfunded trips, including a golfing jaunt by the beleaguered Prince Andrew, as it warned of a financial hit stemming from the coronavirus pandemic. Unveiling the annual financial

report of Queen Elizabeth II's household, officials also said Prince Harry and his wife Meghan were now paying commercial rent on their UK residence at Windsor Castle, after quit ting the royal frontline.

The Sovereign Grant, which pays for the monarch's official duties and upkeep of royal palaces, came to 82.4 million pounds (\$105 million) in the financial year ending in March 2020, a slight rise from the year before.

In March, the UK went into lockdown against the coronavirus pandemic and royal finances have been dented by the loss of sizeable income generated from public visits to the palaces. Losses to the Royal household's core budget will come to 15 million pounds over the next three years, according to Michael Stevens, who as Keeper of the Privy Purse is the queen's treasurer.

A separate budget for long-term repairs designed to avert a "catastrophic failure" to the fabric of Buckingham Palace, the queen's main residence in London, will suffer a shortfall of 20 million pounds.

By law, the Sovereign Grant cannot go down year-on-year, and the monarchy has become increasingly cost-conscious given wider public



scrutiny of its affairs.

But Stevens said British taxpayers would not be asked to cough up for the additional shortfalls, at a time

when millions are suffering a drop in income or outright loss of their jobs.

"In responding to both these financial challenges we have no intention of asking for extra funding and will look to manage the impact through our own efforts and efficiencies." he told reporters.

The Royal Household has already instituted a freeze on pay and new hiring, and is "actively looking at cutting non-essential expenditure", a senior roval source added. **ROYAL SPORTS**

The annual report itemised the costs of royal trips over the past financial year, including 15,848 pounds incurred for a charter flight to take Prince Andrew to a golf club in Northern Ireland in July 2019. Another charter flight was deemed

necessary for Princess Anne to attend a rugby match between Italy and Scotland in Rome in February, at a cost of 16,440 pounds.

While the queen's only daughter is a widely popular and industrious member of the family, her second son Andrew's reputation has been shredded by his association with the late Jeffrey Epstein, a convicted paedophile.

Both royals were serving in an official capacity as patrons of relevant organisations.

Officials were also grilled about a claim by Prince Harry's spokesman this month that the queen's grandson has paid back 2.4 million pounds of taxpayers' money used to renovate Frogmore-Cottage, his home in the grounds of Windsor Castle.









All sectors have been adversely impacted by **COVID including MSMEs which** employ a lot of people. Technology gives us the opportunity to bring our life back on the tracks and is a boon in many ways if used correctly PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI UNION MINISTER

JSW SOLAR BAGS PROJECTS

JSW Energy said its solar power subsidiary has bagged 810 MW blended wind energy projects under an auction conduced by state-owned SECI. The Solar Energy Corporation of India had conduced an auction for setting up 2,500 MW inter-state transmission system projects under tariff based competitive bidding



It is time that India brings a paradigm shift and aim to be in the top 25 countries in the next global innovation ranking. Our Meity has launched Aatmanirbhar Bharat App innovation challenge and awarded best of Indian apps in various categories SANJAY DHOTRE UNION MINISTER

> I am delighted to be signing this MoU

today, deepening

partnership with the

Government of West

for me on a personal basis

KEVIN MCCOLE MD. UKIBC

the UKIBC

record contraction omy will experience a record con-traction in the fiscal year to March 2021 on account of the global COVIDbefore sharp recovery

'Economy to see

INDIA'S LONG-TERM RATING WAS AFFIRMED AT 'BBB-' WITH A STABLE OUTLOOK WHILE THE SHORT-TERM RATING WAS HELD AT 'A-3'

REUTERS Mumbai, Sept 25: The Indian econ 2021 on account of the global COVID-19 pandemic but real GDP will recover significantly in FY22, rating agency Standard and Poor's (S&P) said Friday. S&P affirmed its rating on India's

long-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit at the lowest investment-grade level and retained its stable outlook on the economy.

India's long-term rating was affirmed at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook



while the short-term rating was held at 'A-3'.

The stable outlook reflects our expectation that India's economy will recover following the resolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the country's strong external settings will act as a buffer against financial strains despite elevated government

funding needs over the next 24 months," S&P said.

India has the second highest virus cases globally despite seeing one of the strictest of lockdowns and cases are still rising as the economy gradually opens up.

"We expect economic activity in India to begin to normalize in fiscal 2022, resulting in real GDP growth of about 10%. The Indian government's direct

fiscal support has been limited to 1.2% of GDP so far compared to roughly 3% of GDP on average in other emerging market economies.

on Rana Kapoor for disclosure lapses

Sebi slaps ₹1 cr fine



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 25: Markets regulator Sebi Friday imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on Rana Kapoor, former MD and CEO of Yes Bank. for not making disclosures about Morgan Credit's transaction.

By not disclosing about the transaction to Yes Bank's board of directors, Kapoor has created an opaque layer between him and stakeholders, Sebi said in an order.

Morgan Credits, which was an unlisted promoter entity of Yes Bank, raised ₹950 crore from Reliance Mutual Fund, now Nippon India Mutual Fund, through unlisted Zero Coupon Non-Convertible Debentures (ZCNCDs) in April 2018.

Kapoor, who was also the pro-

Kapoor being a 'guarantor' of crore, Sebi noted. According to the regulator, Kapoor has hidden the material information of him being a 'guarantor' to the transaction from the board of directors of the bank and the same has directly impacted the lender in terms of the market capitalisation. In addition, he failed to inform

'G-PAY DOESN'T SHARE CUSTOMER TRANSACTION DATA'

the board of directors of Yes Bank

Govt plans \$4.6 bn incentives for battery makers: Report

REUTERS

seen by Reuters.

widely adopted.

On the occasion of our anniversary, we look forward to serving people with some great deals and offers on a wide selection of GST enabled products from top brands across categories PETER GEORGE DIRECTOR, AMAZON BUSINESS

Bengal, I lived in Kolkata from 2005

to 2008, so it is particularly pleasing

SHORT TAKES

K Madhavan elected IBF prez

New Delhi: The Indian **Broadcasting Foundation** (IBF) Friday said that Star & Disney India's MD K Madhavan has been elected as its new president. Madhavan would succeed Sony Pictures Networks India managing director and chief executive NP Singh, the apex body of Indian broadcasters said in a statement. Besides, the IBF board has also elected three vice presidents: India TV Chairman Rajat Sharma, Turner International MD (South Asia) Siddharth Jain and Viacom18 MD Rahul Joshi.

Vi's shares jump 14%

New Delhi: Shares of Vodafone Idea Ltd zoomed

PUSH FOR EVs New Delhi, Sept 25: The government is planning to offer \$4.6 billion in incentives to companies setting up advanced battery manufacturing facilities as it seeks to promote the use of electric vehicles and cut down its dependence on oil, according to a government proposal A proposal drafted by NITI Aavog, a federal think tank chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said India could slash its oil import bills by as much as \$40 billion by 2030 if electric vehicles were

The proposal is likely to be re-A proposal drafted by viewed by Modi's Cabinet in the coming weeks, said a senior gov-NITI Aayog, said India ernment official, who was not aucould slash its oil import thorised to comment on the matter bills by as much as \$40 and declined to be identified. NITI Aayog and the Indian government did not respond to requests for comment. The think tank recommended

bn by 2030 if EVs were widely adopted incentives of \$4.6 billion by 2030 for companies manufacturing advanced batteries, starting with cash will increase it to 15% thereafter to and infrastructure incentives of promote local manufacturing, the ₹9 billion (\$122 million) in the next document said.

financial year which would then Though keen to reduce its oil dependence and cut down on pollution, "Currently, the battery energy India's efforts to promote electric storage industry is at a very nascent vehicles have been stymied by a stage in India with investors being lack of investment in manufaca little apprehensive to invest in a turing and infrastructure such as sunrise industry," the proposal charging stations. Just 3,400 electric cars were sold in the world's secondsaid. India plans to retain its import tax rate of 5% for certain types of most populous nation during the last batteries, including batteries for business year, compared to sales electric vehicles, until 2022, but of 1.7 million conventional passenger cars. The policy could benefit battery makers such as South Korea's LG Chem 051910.KS and Japan's Panasonic Corp 6752.T as well as automakers which have started building EVs in India such as Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra.

While China accounts for 80% of the world's lithium-ion cell production, India has introduced stricter investment rules for Chinese companies. It has also slowed down the approval processs for some proposals after a deadly border clash between the two countries in June.

The draft proposal said annual domestic demand for battery storage and market size - currently less than 50 gigawatt hours and worth just over to \$2 billion - could grow to 230 gigawatt hours and more than \$14 billion in ten years time.

RBI to hold rates as inflation rises: Poll

The central bank held its main repo rate at 4.0% at its meeting last month and said it would keep policy accommodative to support an economy which nosedived 23.9% last quarter

REUTERS

Bangalore, Sept 25: The Reserve Bank of India will keep rates on hold until early next year in a delicate balancing act between curbing high inflation and lifting the economy from its worst recession on record, a Reuters poll of economists showed.

August inflation, at 6.69%, held above the top end of the RBI's medium-term target range of 2-6% for the fifth consecutive month amid supply disruptions, while coronavirus infections spread in India at the fastest pace anywhere in the world.

repo rate at 4.0% at its meeting last month and said it would keep policy accommodative to support an economy which nosedived 23.9% last quarter, the weakest performance on record.

the last few days.

That compared with a quarterdicted a month ago.

The Monetary Policy Committee

CMPDI AN INTEGRAL PART,

WON'T BE SEPARATED: CIL

(MPC) is then forecast to cut its repo rate by 25 basis points to

The central bank held its main

All 66 respondents expected no change at the September 29 to October 1 meeting and the consensus showed rates would remain on hold in December, according to the poll which was conducted over

point cut in the fourth quarter pre-





3.75% in the January-March quarter, holding until at least the end

of the next fiscal year. "The current stagflation conditions are putting the MPC in a difficult position. Disrupted supply chains caused by irregular lockdowns will keep inflation elevated," said Hugo Erken, head of International economics at Rabobank, referring to a state of per-

sistent inflation but with no growth. "Given the inflation mandate of the RBL the risk of high inflation becoming entangled in high inflation expectations and policy credibility, we feel the RBI will keep the status quo.

The economy, which was already weakening before the pandemic struck, is expected to mark its first full-year contraction since 1979 this year as millions are left unemployed in the world's second most populous country.

about his material interests in the That suggests more support is transaction. needed despite \$266 billion of announced government stimulus and a cumulative 115 basis points worth of RBI rate cuts since

moter of Yes Bank, entered into an agreement as a 'guarantor' with Morgan and Milestone Trusteeship Services with respect to the transaction through a trust deed. the agreement has provided "personal guarantee" for the obligations of Morgan to the extent of ₹410 crore and provided his shares in the company as a security for the outstanding amounts equal to ₹820

nearly 14% Friday after Vodafone won the arbitration case against India over ₹20,000 crore retrospective tax dispute. The stock jumped 13.60% to close at ₹10.36 on the BSE. During the day, it zoomed 14.91% to ₹10.48. On the NSE, it gained 13.18% to close at ₹10.30. The company's market valuation rose by ₹3,563.86 crore to ₹29,769.86 crore on the BSE.

SP Group to recast **₹10,900 cr debt**

.....

Mumbai: The Shapoorji Pallonii Group, which has decided to exit the Tata group, will restructure ₹10.900 crore of its debt under the resolution framework for pandemicrelated stress, a group official said. The relief is being sought under the onetime loan restructuring plan approved by the RBI after it accepted the KV Kamath panel report, which allows financially stressed companies to recast their debt for two years, the official said.

Paytm Mall loss narrows 60%

New Delhi: E-commerce firm Paytm Mall Friday said its loss narrowed by 60% to ₹479 crore in 2019-20 on account of reduction in assortment size, cashback and promotions. The company had posted a loss of ₹1,171 crore in 2018-19. "During the last fiscal year, we have streamlined business operations to improve our unit economics. Our efforts are to become profitable with hyperlocal outreach and initiatives which have already started giving positive results," Paytm Mall COO Abhishek Rajan said.

goes northward

Energy rev collection

POST NEWS NETWORK

be ratcheted up annually.

POST-LOCKDOWN Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the industrial Mishra reviewed the electrical consumption in FY'21 status of revenue has been reduced during the onset collection from Electricity of coronovirus in the country, by almost 26% from the previous year **Duty and Electrical** but with the progression of un-Accidents through video locking the economy, activities have again picked up and the inconferencing dustrial consumption has also increased, said Dibyasankar Mishra,

State Energy Minister. Mishra reviewed the status of revenue collection from Electricity **Duty and Electrical Accidents** through video conferencing, Friday. The revenue from Electricity Duty has also increased. It is predicted, there may be reduction of

consumption and revenue collection the Captive Power Plants remotely. He directed EIC (Elec.) to complete by not more than 6% than the last year, said the minister. the installation of RT-DAS system Mishra also expressed his hapat the earliest. piness on the increased strength of Electrical accidents are a major

consumption and revenue collection concern in the use of electricity. and directed all the concerned of-Minister reviewed the total number of accidents occurred in 2019 ficials to give their attention and efforts in reviving the state's economy. 20 and current fiscal till August.

Secretary to conduct a separate

meeting with Industry Department

to resolve any disputes of industries

relating to Electricity Duty. Mishra

also reviewed the progress of Real

Time Data Acquisition System (RT-

DAS) to capture the meter data of

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 25: Coal India Limited (CIL) said that Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) is an integral part of CIL and will not be separated from it. CMPDI is an in-house planner and guide for CIL's coal-producing companies and will play an important role in pursuing the target of producing one billion tonnes of coal by He advised the Principal 2023-24 by the coal behemoth.

During 2019-20, CMPDI, the consultancy arm of CIL added 7.8 BT of Coal resources, highest ever coal resources estimated by CMPDI in a year since its inception, through Detailed Exploration covering an area of about 292 sq. km through preparation of 25 Geological Reports.

In addition to this, about 9.75 billion tonnes of new resources were estimated through Promotional (Regional) Exploration covering an area of about 140 sq. km through 6 Geological Reports. CMPDI has carried out 12.94 lakh metres of



drilling under Detailed Exploration and 1.16 lakh metres of drilling under Promotional (Regional) Exploration during 2019-2020.

Additionally, 32 project reports were prepared in 2019-20 by the consultancy company with a capacity addition of about 178 million tonnes per year. CMPDI also played pivot role in providing technical consultancy of 35 numbers of First Mile Connectivity projects of CIL meant for environment friendly mechanized handling and dispatch of coal apart from various other activities.

CMPDI, a Miniratna Category-I company and fully-owned subsidiary of Maharatna company, Coal India Limited, headquartered at Ranchi has seven strategically located Regional Institutes at Asansol, Dhanbad, Ranchi, Nagpur, Bilaspur, Singrauli and Bhubaneswar for catering to the consultancy requirements of each of the coal producing subsidiaries of CIL.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 25: Google Friday said Google Pay does not share customer transaction data with any third party outside the payments flow.

The clarification from Google came after reports cited the company's submission to the Delhi High Court saying it is allowed to share customers transaction data with third parties with the prior permission of NPCI and payment service providing (PSP) banks. "This is to clarify that press reports on the basis of the affidavit filed by Google before the Delhi High Court, do not represent the complete facts," a Google spokesperson said on Friday.

The spokesperson added that Google Pay is in full compliance with Unified Payment Interface (UPI) procedural guidelines, issued by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the applicable laws.

Online grocery segment to touch \$3bn by year-end: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 25: COVID-19 induced tailwinds, coupled with participation from large conglomerates like Reliance are expected to drive growth in the online grocery segment in India, expanding the market to \$3 billion by year-end, according to a report. With supply ramping up in time

to match the surging demand, e-Grocery will grow very fast to be \$18.2 billion by 2024 from \$1.9 billion in 2019 - growing at a CAGR of 57%, the report by consulting firm RedSeer and online grocery player BigBasket said.

"During COVID-19, consumers have shown increased propensity to order online. A lot of this behaviour is likely to stick ... Entry of large players like Jio will drive adoption among tier II + cities (a large, relatively untapped market). Renewed interest from large horizontals like Flipkart/Amazon, among other online players will further boost penetration," the re-

port said. It added that while the growth in e-Grocery in the lockdown has been impressive, the segment is expected to see about 2.6X growth in GMV (gross merchandise value) run-rate by the end of the year.



"For all of 2020, the GMV will be over 70% higher than 2019, which

would indicate a fundamental shift in how e-Grocery is perceived as a

PARADIGM SHIFT

With supply ramping up in time to match the surging demand, e-Grocery will grow very fast to be \$18.2 billion by 2024

Denewed interest from Flipkart/Amazon, Ramong online players will further boost penetration

or all of 2020, the GMV will be over 70% higher than 2019, which would indicate a fundamental shift in how e-Grocery is perceived as a business

business. With traditional players

increasingly leveraging the local

ecosystem in their offerings, that could be the preferred way for players to scale beyond the top cities, it said.

This, and more such innovation and partnerships, will be the way forward for Indian e-Grocery, the report added.

It said while there were some challenges in the initial days of \rightarrow lockdown, the e-Grocery category grew 73% during that period.

Fresh vegetables and fruits saw 144% growth, while FMCG products grew 150%. "We expect the growth of online to be steady for therest of the year (2020) to reach \$3 billion plus," it added.











OrissaPOST SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 26 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR

DC OUTPLAY SUPER KINGS KKR lock horns with a depleted Sunrisers



Kagiso Rabada (R) is all smiles after dismissing a CSK batsman, Friday

AGENCIES

Dubai, Sept 25: Young Prithvi Shaw (64, 43b, 9x4, 1x6) struck a fluent half century and shared a 94run opening stand with Shikhar Dhawan (35, 27b, 3x4, 1x6) before their bowlers spelled doom for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) as Delhi Capitals (DC) registered a morale-boosting 44-run win in their

IPL match here, Friday. Chasing a challenging 176, CSK never got the momentum they wished for as the top order failed to provide a start yet again. It eventually put pressure on the middle order and CSK couldn't recover from it.

Faf du Plessis (43, 35b, 4x4) again stood firm, with some help from Kedar Jadhav (26). However, it was never enough for such a daunting task. MS Dhoni (15) also walked in where the team's required run-rate was over 14.

In the end, DC, who restricted CSK to 131/7. scripted a comfortable win. Kagiso Rabada (3/26) was the pick of the bowlers. Anrich Nortje (2/21) also bowled brilliantly, along with the spinners – Axar Patel (1/18) and Amit Mishra (0/23).

Earlier Shaw played a superb innings in the company of Dhawan to provide a superb start to DC's innings after being put into bat. The duo started slowly, scoring just 36 runs of the first six overs of powerplay before opening up to stitch 94 runs for the opening wicket in 10.4 overs. Shaw got into his stride, hitting two consecutive boundaries off Deepak Chahar: The Mumbai young-

ster didn't appear to rush things and played some attractive shots. Once Dhoni introduced the spin duo of Piyush Chawla (2/33) and Ravindra Jadeja (0/44) in the seventh over, both Shaw and Dhawan

went on the offensive. Dhawan after playing second fiddle for a while, joined the party and hit a couple of attractive boundaries and slogged Jadeja's first ball for a six over mid-wicket.

The DC openers hammered 58 in the next 4.4 overs after the slow start. Chawla broke the dangerous-looking partnership by removing both Dhawan and Shaw in consecutive overs.

Rishabh Pant (37 n o, 25b, 5x4) and captain Shreyas Iyer (26) pushed the scoreboard along before the latter was caught by a diving Dhoni off Sam Curran (1/27) as CSK managed to pull things back.

BRIEF SCORES Delhi Capitals 175/3 (Prithvi Shaw 64, Rishabh Pant 37 n o, Shikhar Dhawan 35; Piyush Chawla 2/33. Sam Curran 1/27) beat Chennai Super Kings 131/7 (Faf du Plessis 43; Kagiso Rabada 3/26, Anrich Nortje 2/21) by 44 runs.







It really defied logic to see such

a defensive strategy by a team now

coached by Kiwi great Brendon

McCullum who is known for his ag-

Known to put up a balanced side

on the park, Hyderabad lacked

strength and experience in their

middle order, failing miserably

against Royal Challengers

Needing just 43 runs from last

five overs, SRH lost their last seven

wickets for 32 runs to lose the

game by 10 runs. If that was not

enough, injury to their all-rounder

Mitchell Marsh has compounded

being run out in an unfortunate

manner at the non-striker's end will

be keen to get into the act, while it

remains to be seen whether Kane

Williamson has recovered from

his injury to bolster the batting

impressive and it seems the think

tank may bring in Mohammed

Nabi to bowl alongside his fellow

mate Rashid Khan while

Bhuvneshwar Kumar will spear-

TODAY'S

MATCH

KKR VS SRH

TELECAST: STAR SPORTS

head the pace attack.

SRH bowling has always been

Skipper David Warner, after

gressive mindset

Bangalore.

their misery.

department.

SIPL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Sept 25: Skipper Dinesh Karthik's tactical nous will once again be put to test when Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) take on a depleted Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in their second IPL fixture here Saturday.

Much was expected from a revamped KKR set-up but it seemed Karthik did not learn from his past mistakes and made some inexplicable decisions that led to their complete capitulation against Mumbai Indians.

Once again, the batting position of their biggest hitter Andre Russell became the talking point in their 49-run loss to Mumbai Indians.

The Jamaican, who was their highest run-getter last season with 510 runs from 249 deliveries and the tournament's highest strike rate of 204.81, was seen at No.6 but by then the task had become extremely difficult.

World Cup winning captain Eoin Morgan, who was roped in to bolster the wobbly middle order, also could not do much as the asking rate had shot past 13 by the time he came to bat at No.5

In bowling too, there was a tactical blunder by holding back their ace spinner Sunil Narine till the last over of power play.

On a day, their biggest buy Pat Cummins failed miserably, Narine was given a go only when his IPL 'bunny' Rohit Sharma was well set

Anushka slams Sunny for 'disrespectful' comments

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 25: The legendary Sunil Gavaskar Friday found himself in the midst of a controversy for making an unsavoury comment against Virat Kohli and his wife Anushka Sharma after the Indian captain's forgettable outing in the IPL. Reacting to what she termed a 'distasteful message' by Gavaskar, Sharma sought an explanation from

the former India captain. In the commentary box, Gavaskar came up with a shocking comment involving Kohli's actor wife Anushka. The remark was in bad taste and did not go down well with the RCB skipper's fans, with some of them urging the BCCI to remove Gavaskar from the commentary panel.

Sharma reacted to it by putting a statement on her Instagram page. She wrote, "That, Mr Gavaskar,



your message is distasteful is a fact words and sentences in your mind but I would love for you to explain to use to comment on my husband's why you thought of making such a performance from last night or are your words only relevant if you sweeping statement on a wife accusing her for her husband's game? use my name in the process?" Over the years, on quite a few

"I am sure over the years you have respected the private lives of instances the Bollywood actress every cricketer while commentathas been blamed whenever her ing on the game. Don't you think you high-profile cricketer husband should have equal amount of reunder-performed on the field, and she rued that fact. spect for me and us?

Sharma added, "It's 2020 and "I am sure you can have many

things still don't change for me. When will I stop getting dragged into cricket and stop being used to pass sweeping statements? Respected Mr. Gavaskar, you are a legend whose name stands tall in this gentleman's game. Just wanted to tell you what felt when I heard you say this." The remark according to Gavaskar

was in reference to a video clip where Kohli and Anushka were seen enjoying some tennis ball cricket in their compound.

sports

"Firstly, I would like to say, where am I blaming her, I'm not blaming her. I am only saying that the video showed she was bowling to Virat. Virat has only played that much bowling in this lockdown period," Gavaskar told India Today channel.

"It is tennis ball fun game that people have to pass time during the lockdown, so that's all, so where am I blaming her for Virat's failures.

Gavaskar also rubbished allega tions on social media that he made a 'sexist comment'. "I'm the one who has always batted for wives going with husbands on tours. I am the one who has always said that like a normal guy going to office for a 9-5 job, when he comes back home, he comes back to his wife, similarly why can't cricketers have their wives with them," Gavaskar said.

KL RAHUL: I had a chat with Maxi (Glenn Maxwell) yesterday, he said how are you feeling, I said that I am not feeling completely in control of my batting, he said you must be joking, you are hitting really well. Quite nonestly I was nervous but I knew if I spend time in the middle, hit a few balls from the middle of bat, it will all settle down. I try to do (the same routine as I did when I was a player) but as a captain you have shortened time and you are running around and doing a lot of things

ILI: I have to stand in front and take the brunt of it, not the best day in the office, couple of important chances of KL (Rahul) when he was set and that cost us 35-40 runs at a later stage. Maybe if we restricted them to 180 we wouldn't have been under pressure from ball one of the chase. We have had a good game (against SRH), we have had a bad game and now it is time to move on and learn from the mistakes we made

Bayern claim UEFA Super Cup Son guides Spurs through; AC Milan advance

champion AC Milan, who were

Martinez heads in the winner in the extra time for the Champions League winners against Sevilla



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Budapest, Sept 25: Javi Martinez is Bayern Munich's Mr. Super Cup. Seven years after scoring an extratime goal to help Bayern win their last UEFA Super Cup, Martinez netted the winner in the 104th minute Thursday as the German club beat Sevilla 2-1 in the European curtain raiser in a stadium partially filled with fans.

Martinez rose above a crowd of players to head in the rebound when Sevilla goalkeeper Yassine Bounou parried David Alaba's speculative shot.

Bayern midfielder Thomas Muller hailed Martinez as 'Mr. Super Cup', recalling the 2013 goal which sent a game against Chelsea to a penalty shootout which Bayern won.

It could be one of Martinez's last game for Bayern after eight years and eight German league titles. Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge told German media last month that the versatile defensive player was seeking to leave.

Playing extra time was far from ideal for either team in a season which has started later than normal and will have a more conBayern lifted a fourth trophy in three months after the Indesliga, German Cup and npions League, even if it wa a largely symbolic prize

Sevilla has played four Super Cup games in the last seven years as a serial winner of the Europa League and lost them all

gested calendar amid the coronavirus pandemic.

For both Bayern and Sevilla it was the start of a run of four games in 11 days and came barely a month after Bayern beat Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League final.

Europa League champions Sevilla took an early lead when David Alaba fouled Ivan Rakitic and Lucas Ocampos converted the 13th-minute penalty. Champions League winner Bayern leveled when Leon Goretzka hammered in a ball expertly cued up for him by Robert

Lewandowski in the 34th. Bayern were largely in control of the second half but saw two goals ruled out — one for offside, one for a shove by Lewandowski — and needed Neuer to save Youssef En-Nesvri's shot on the counterattack in the 87th minute.

The game was played with around 15,000 supporters in the Puskas Arena, around a quarter of capacity, as UEFA trialed a partial return of fans in time for the Champions League and Europa League group stages.

However, the recent rise in coronavirus cases across Europe — and Budapest in particular — made it a controversial move. Around 800 out of the 2,100 tick-

ets sold to Bayern fans were returned ahead of the game after politicians in the state of Bavaria warned fans against going to Budapest. Sevilla distributed around 500 tickets, meaning the vast majority of people in the stadium were

Hungarian locals. Social distancing rules were

largely followed at the Puskas Arena, with fans mostly sitting in ones and twos with empty seats in between. However, travelling Bayern fans pushed to the front of their sector to watch the trophy presentation and stood shoulder to shoulder when the team came to celebrate in front of their stand. Only a few wore masks, which UEFA had said were oblig-

atory 'when social distancing cannot be respected'.

London, Sept 25: Son Heung-min scored one and set up two other in Tottenham Hotspur's 3-1 victory over Shkendija in North Macedonia in their Europa League qualifying match, Thursday.

In other match, AC Milan midfielder Hakan Calhanoglu scored twice to give his team a 3-2 home victory over Norwegian club Bodo/Glimt. There were no major upsets as Celtic, Wolfsburg, PSV Eindhoven and Sporting Lisbon all advanced to the playoff round.

Lorenzo Colombo also scored for the seven-time European

Leo criticises **Barcelona** for selling Suarez

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barcelona, Sept 25: Lionel Messi criticised the exit of teammate and good friend Luis Suarez Friday, dealing another blow to the damaged relationship between the Argentine and Barcelona's leadership.

Messi posted a photo of himself with Suarez on Instagram with a message expressing his sadness for his friend's departure and his anger at how the club transferred him to Atletico Madrid.

"It is going to be so strange seeing you in another shirt, and even stranger to have to play against you," Messi wrote.

"You deserved a sending-off fit for what you are: one of the most important players in club history, both for what you did for the group and individually — not the one they gave you. But it is true that at this point nothing surprises me."

Suarez bid farewell to Barcelona's fans in an emotional news conference Thursday. He left Camp Nou as the club's third leading scorer with 198 goals.



AN ALL-ROUND DISPLAY: Son Heung-min (L) joins Harry Kane in celebration after setting up the latter's goal against Shkendija, Thursday

Sandhu, Sanju win **AIFF FOTY awards**



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 25: Goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and midfielder Sanju were Friday declared the AIFF men's and women's Footballer of the Year (FOTY) respectively, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) said. Sandhu is the second goalkeeper to win the award after Subrata Paul in 2009.

Meanwhile, Anirudh Thapa and Ratanbala Devi were declared men's and women's Emerging Footballer of the Year respectively. The AIFF said that while the men were chosen based on votes from the head coaches of the clubs in the Indian Super League (ISL) and I-League, the women's winners were chosen



by women's national team head coach Maymol Rocky along with AIFF Technical Director Isac Doru.

"Huge thanks go to AIFF and everyone who has supported and helped me relentlessly to achieve this today. There was always a desire to reach this point and this is an award which I have always looked up to. Chhetri-bhai (Sunil Chhetri) has won it so many times and I have always thought when I can be worthy enough to win it,' said Sandhu.

"We have garnered some fantastic performances at the club front as well as for the national team last year, but we need to push harder to raise the bar and we can surely do that," said Thapa.

banned from UEFA competitions last year after breaching financial fair play rules.

Milan will travel to face Rio Ave next week in the playoffs. The Portuguese team prevailed 4-2 on penalties after drawing 1-1 at Besiktas in Turkey.

After scoring four goals against Southampton in the Premier League Sunday, Son netted again. Thanks to Son's assists, Erik Lamela and Harry Kane also had a goal each to set up a home match against Maccabi Haifa in the playoffs. The Israeli club won 2-1 at Rostov in Russia.

Minamino, Jones strikes lift Reds against Lincoln

AGENCIES

London, Sept 25: Takumi Minamino and Curtis Jones struck braces as a much-changed Liverpool cruised past Lincoln City 7-2 in an entertaining EFL Cup third-round clash Thursday.

Jurgen Klopp made 10 changes from the side that beat Chelsea 2-0 in the Premier League Sunday, with only Virgil van Dijk keeping his place, but they still had more than enough firepower to swat aside their League One opponents.

Xherdan Shaqiri got the visitors on their way inside the opening 10 minutes, sublime free-kick from 22 yards into the top-right corner, before a fine strike from Minamino and a double from Jones made it 4-0 at the break.

Minamino added a fifth immediately after the restart before ২ Tayo Edun pulled one back for 🏼 🧯 the Imps on the hour mark.

Marko Grujic and Lewis Montsma then exchanged quickfire goals, while Divock Origi added a seventh late on as Liverpool set up a fourth-round clash with Arsenal at Anfield next week.

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