

# **Outrage over women's safety in UP**

# Hathras woman not gangraped: Police

THE UP POLICE CLAIMED THAT A FORENSIC REPORT OF HER VISCERA HAD PROVED THAT SHE WAS NOT RAPED

#### AGENCIES

Hathras (Uttar Pradesh), Oct 1: Amid the national outrage over the "gangrape", torture and death of a young woman from Uttar Pradesh's Hathras, the police, quoting her autopsy report, Thursday said that the victim was not "gangraped". The "final diagnosis" does not mention rape but the report refers to tears in her private parts.

The Uttar Pradesh police claimed Thursday that a forensic report of her viscera had proved that she was not raped or gangraped. "The postmortem report says the victim died due to her neck injury. FSL (Forensic Science Laboratory) report hasn't found sperm in samples, making it clear that some people twisted the matter to stir caste-based tension. Such people will be identified and legal action will be taken," said Prashant Kumar, a senior UP police officer. Experts point out that samples were collected days after the incident

and sperms would not be present. The woman died of "injury to the cervical spine by indirect blunt trauma," according to the autopsy report accessed from the Delhi hospital where the 20-year-old died Tuesday. It mentions that there was an attempt to strangle her with her dupatta but clarifies that was not what caused her death.

The woman had been assaulted by four upper caste men from her village September 14. She was found by her family in the fields, naked,

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi being stopped by police personnel while he was on his way to Hathras along with party workers, Thursday

### Minor stoned to death in Bhadohi

LUCKNOW: A 14-year-old girl, belong ing to the Scheduled Castes, was found murdered in Bhadohi in easterr Uttar Pradesh. The police said she was attacked with stones and her head was bashed in. It is not yet known who are the attackers or wha is their motive. Police say they are ing all leads. The body has bee sent for postmortem.

bleeding, with multiple fractures and a gash in her tongue. The police claimed her tongue was cut because she bit it while her attackers were trying to strangle her. She gave a formal statement September 22.

The autopsy report dated September 29 refers to "rape and strangulation" in her medical history and says she had suffered from cervical spinal injury. The report's "final diagnosis" lists "alleged poststrangulation with cervical spine injury with sepsis with cardiopulmonary arrest". She was given CPR, the report said, and "despite all resuscitative efforts", declared dead at 8.55 a.m. Tuesday. The injury to her neck had left her

paralysed and struggling to breathe, according to her family.

Outrage over the incident spiraled after the UP police took away the woman's body and cremated it near their village in the dead of night against her family's wishes,

with her parents and brothers locked in their home. The family had begged to be allowed to take her body and perform the last rites the next morning, but they could not even get a last glimpse before her cremation.

Meanwhile, Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra were Thursday detained by the Uttar Pradesh police after they were stopped on the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida while walking towards Hathras to meet the rape victim's family.

Sources said they were taken away in a police jeep and kept in a guest house for sometime after which they were released and later headed back towards Delhi escorted by the UP police, they said.

### Another gangrape victim dies in UP's Balrampur

BALRAMPUR: A 22-year-old Dalit woman died after allegedly being raped by two men in Uttar Pradesh's Balrampur district, succumbing to critical injuries on the same day as the teen from Hathras in the state who breathed her last in a Delhi hospital two weeks after she was gangraped.

The two men accused A 22-year-old of assaulting the woman Dalit woman from Balrampur have been succumbed to arrested, police said amid critical injuries outrage over the death of the 19-year-old Dalit after allegedly woman from Hathras. being raped by two men in **Uttar Pradesh's** 

district

"My daughter had gone to take admission in a college Tuesday. On her way back, threefour persons abducted her, took her to their room, gave her an injection and raped her. They later sent her back on an e-rickshaw, which dumped her outside our house. They broke her legs and back. She could not stand or talk," the woman said.

She was rushed to a nearby hospital but died on the way, the SP said. When the matter was reported to the police by the hospital, her parents alleged she was gangraped, he added. Acting on the family's complaint, police identified the accused as Shahid and Sahil and arrested them.

## SW Cement Start Strong. Grow Stronger. 1800 266 266 1 (tollfree)

### GST mop-up rises 4 pc to ₹95,480 crore in Sept

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

#### New Delhi, Oct 1: The country's GST collections grew 4 per cent to a high of ₹95.480 crore in September, indicating that economic recovery is in sight.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) mop-up in September 2019 stood at ₹91.916 crore.

The Finance Ministry in a statement said the gross GST revenue collected in September 2020 is ₹95,480 crore, out of which Central GST is ₹17,741 crore, State GST is ₹23.131 crore. Integrated GST is ₹47,484 crore (including ₹22,442 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹7,124 crore (including ₹788 crore collected on import of goods).

In September 2020, the tax collections from import of goods and domestic transaction were 102 per cent and 105 per cent, respectively, of the revenues from these sources during the same month last year. The collections in September 2020 are higher by 10 per cent over August mop up. The GST revenue in April was ₹32,172 crore, May (₹62,151

crore), June (₹90,917 crore), July (₹87,422 crore) and August (₹86,449 crore). PwC India Leader (Indirect Tax) Pratik Jain said with the festive season coming in, though muted, one would hope that collections would improve further. Measures such as e-invoicing should also help plug the tax leakage, he added. Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co Partner Rajat Bose said: "The increase in the collection is an encouraging sign for the economy. It is expected that the revenue collection should

continue to improve as we

approach the festive season".

**Revenue from state** 

stands at ₹2,384cr

Service Tax (GST) revenue collec-

crore for the month of September

2020, government data showed,

Thursday. GST revenue collection

from the state was ₹2,015 crore

in same period of previous fiscal.

Government data also revealed

that the revenues for the month

are 18 per cent higher than the

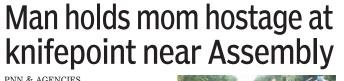
GST revenues in the same month

last year.

tion from Odisha stood ₹2,384

BHUBANESWAR: Goods and

STATE ISSUES **GUIDELINES FOR** UNLOCK 5.0



# RAINING IN BHUBANESW

The Balrampur victim's mother told reporters Wednesday night that the Balrampur rapists broke her daughter's legs and back, a charge denied by the police.

Quoting the victim's family members, Balrampur Superintendent of Police (SP) Dev Ranjan Verma said the woman worked in a private firm and returned home Tuesday in a serious condition. She looked dazed and had a cannula, medically known as Vigo and used for administering an injection or other fluids in the body, inserted in her hands.



I wanted to know Gandhi. So. I started reading Godse recently.

### **Diesel price falls in City**

BHUBANESWAR: After a pause of one day, diesel prices dropped again in the Capital city by 11 paise. Thursday. However, petro prices remained static. The prices of diesel continued to fall in the wake of subdued crude oil prices globally. With the latest reduction, diesel price stood at ₹76.81, While petrol price remained unchanged at ₹81.66. However, there was no change in petrol and diesel prices in other cities of country.

Bhubaneswar. Oct 1: High drama unfolded near the Assembly here Thursday, when a youth held his mother hostage at knifepoint before security personnel deployed in the area rescued her safely, police said. The man, having psychiatric ail-

ments, was arrested and sent to a hospital, police said.

While walking on Sachivalaya Marg near the state Assembly building, the youth suddenly took out a knife and placed it on the throat of a woman who was accompanying him, from behind

As the area is under thick security cover in view of the ongoing Assembly session, police personnel rushed to the spot and started talking to the man who was still holding his mother. At one point, he was overpowered. He was talking about activities

of some politicians but his statements were not coherent, police said.

Later, the woman identified him as her son.

"A youth, with known psychi-



atric ailments, held her mother hostage outside the security perimeter of the state Assembly. Police Officers patiently dealt with the hostage situation & safely rescued the woman," Commissionerate of Police, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack, said

in a Twitter post. 'The concerned police officers will be suitably encouraged for patience & professionalism. The youth is being sent to the Psychiatry Department of SCB Medical College. There has been no security breach," it said.

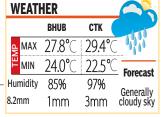
After being rescued, the woman said her son had asked her to accompany him to a hospital for a check-up and the incident occurred all of a sudden when they were passing through that area.



A couple shares an umbrella as the Capital city witnesses drizzle, Thursday

PIC: BIKASH NAYAH

#### **MARKET WATCH** VARIATION INDEX SENSEX **38697.05** 懀 629.12 VIFTY 11417.00 169.50 DOLLAR 73.56 ₹0.59 EURO 86.25 ₹0.35 **1** ₹236 GOLD ₹50.640 SILVER ₹59,980 **1** ₹61



# EU begins legal action against UK over Brexit deal

The UK had been put on formal notice over the Internal Market Bill, which would override a part of the agreement INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE Brussels, Oct 1: The European Union (EU) Thursday started a legal action against the UK after it refused to ditch plans to override sections

of the Brexit Withdrawal Agreement. In a statement, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the UK had been put on formal notice over the Internal Market Bill, which would override a part of the agreement when it came to goods and allow the country to modify or re-interpret

"state aid" rules on subsidies for firms in Northern Ireland, in the event of the two sides not agree-

She said the UK would have until the end of November to respond to the EU's concerns over the draft legislation, reports the BBC.

She the bill was a "full contradiction" of previous UK commitments over how a hard border on the island of Ireland should be avoided. The EU had given UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson until the end of September to ditch the contentious clauses, but "the deadline had lapsed", von der Leyen was quoted as saying in a Guardian report.

"We had invited our British friends to remove the problematic parts of their draft internal market Bill, by the end of September.

"This draft Bill is, by its very nature, a breach of the obligation of



good faith, laid down in the withdrawal agreement. Moreover, if adopted as is it will be in full con-

not been removed. Therefore this morning, the commission has decided to send a letter of formal notice to the UK government. This is the first step in an infringement procedure," she added in the statement. Meanwhile, the UK said it would respond "in due course", the BBC reported. A spokesperson for the Johnson government said the bill was a nec-

essary "safety net" to protect trade between different parts of the UK.

Thursday's announcement came after Maros Sefcovic, Vice-President of the European Commission for Interinstitutional Relations said Monday that the EU was mulling legal options if the UK breaches the Brexit deal.

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The State government Thursday issued fresh guidelines for Unlock 5.0. The fresh rules released by the office of the Special Relief Commissioner state that religious places, places of worship for public, cinema halls and swimming pools will continue to remain closed.

The government has, however, granted partial freedom for holding political events in the light of Tirtol and Balasore by-elections, but put a ceiling on the number of people who can participate in any political assembly.

...political meetings and other functions in connection with the said by-elections...shall be allowed within the jurisdiction of the said Assembly constituencies subject to a ceiling of 100 persons with mandatory wearing of face masks, physical distancing, provision of thermal scanning and hand wash or sanitizer," the new rules said.

It, however, said that if a meeting is held in closed premises, a maximum of 50 per cent of the hall capacity should be allowed subject to maximum of 100 persons. Permission for all such meetings/functions/gatherings in open spaces should be given keeping the size of the ground/space in view so as to ensure proper physical distancing subject to maximum of 100 persons.

Ban on opening of schools will remain, but teaching and nonteaching staff can be called to school for official work. The gov ernment has allowed PhD and post-graduate students to attend lab and technical sessions if the Higher Education department allows the same in consultation with the Home Ministry.

The list of banned places includes international travel, social, political, entertainment, academic, cultural function, cinema halls and swimming polls. Open airtheatres and swimming pools of sports department will be opened.



ing on a future trade deal.

"The problematic provisions have

tradiction to the protocol on Ireland

and Northern Ireland.





### SANDLER'S 'DISGUSTING' BEARD

Actor Adam Sandler is spotted sporting a beard lately, and the actor reveals the new look is for a basketball flick he is shooting in Philadelphia. "It's disgusting. I'm sorry. It's not a beard. It's a mask," joked Adam, according to a dailymail.co.uk report.

### TEIGEN, LEGEND 'IN DEEP PAIN'

Star couple Chrissy Teigen and John Legend are mourning the loss of their son one month after announcing the news of her pregnancy. Model Teigen and singer-songwriter Legend took to their Instagram and Twitter accounts to share the tragic news.



FORTUNE FORECAST



### ARIES

You have your hands full today. There will be plan ning, meetings and a lot of work to do. You may feel tired and dejected due to insufficient inputs from others. However, Ganesha says things will become clear slowly as matters come to a conclusion.

### TAURUS



You will show outstanding caliber in handling the responsibilities given to you. If you are participating in a competition, you are likely to be way ahead of others.

### GEMINI

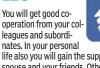
You need to bear in mind that you need to concentrate on your own image and standing in society rather than worry about the actions of others. Those in the retail business will see an unprecedented spurt in their profits today, says Ganesha.

### CANCER

Ganesha advises you to watch your back today. However, he wants to make it clear that you

may be at the receiving end of others' actions. Anyway, your cautious and watchful approach will save you from needless discomfiture. In short, life will teach you priceless and precious lessons today, predicts Ganesha.

### **LEO**



life also you will gain the support of your spouse and your friends. Other people will be accomodating of your problems and will try to solve them for you.

### **VIRGO**

You may relieve all the tension and pressure inside you today, a day which will be full of light and relaxing moments. Ganesha foretells a beneficial and progressive day for you. You will receive many invitations to social gatherings and parties.

### LIBRA

Ganesha says that you will try to enhance your skill regarding new technological inventions and will want to learn about the same in your



Mumbai: Suhana Khan, daughter of superstar Shah Rukh Khan, has revealed how she was told she is ugly because of her skin tone since she was 12 years old. Suhana said she has not get her skin lightened, adding that she would never do it.

She revealed her 'comments on her appearance' in her recent Instagram post along with a picture.

"There's a lot going on right now and this is one of the issues we need to fix!! this isn't just about me, it's about every young girl/boy who has grown up feeling inferior for absolutely no reason. I've been told I'm ugly because of my skin tone, by full grown men and women, since I was 12 years old," she wrote.

> "Other than the fact that these are actual adults, what's sad is that we are all Indian, which automatically makes us brown - yes we come in different shades but no matter how much you try to distance yourself from the melanin, you just can't," added Suhana. IANS

# Abhishek's sarcastic response to troll

Mumbai: Actor Abhishek Bachchan had a sarcastic retort for a troll asking him if he possesses hash, on his verified Twitter account. This comes at a time when the Narcotics Control Bureau is investigating several film stars for alleged drug links.

Commenting on a tweet by Abhishek Bachchan late on Wednesday, a Twitter user wrote: "Hash hai kya (do you have hash)?

To this, the actor tagged the official account of Mumbai Police and replied: "No! Sorry. Don't do that. But will be very happy to help you and introduce you to @MumbaiPolice am sure they will be very happy to learn of your requirements and will assist you."

Replying to another user who asked him how he bagged his next films after the 2008 debacle of Drona, Abhishek replied: "I didn't. Was dropped from a few films. But we live in hope and keep trying, hoping and working towards our goals. You have to get up every day and fight for your place under the sun. Nothing in life comes easy." IANS



New Delhi: Four More Shots Please actress Sayani Gupta feels that portrayal of women in the Hindi mainstream cinema is moving in the right direction, thanks to more women storytellers coming to the forefront and bringing with them a 'female gaze' that counters a

'male gaze' prevalent for the longest time.

She made her feature film debut in 2012 in Second Marriage Dot Com and has appeared in supporting roles in films such as Fan, Jolly LLB 2 and Article 15. Her latest web series, which was a popular success, has recently been nominated at the International Emmy Awards.

Asked about the critique of how women are portrayed in the mainstream cinema, and if she finds it changing at all, Sayani said: 'It is, and it should be critiqued, especially in Bollywood and in Hindi mainstream cinema. It's extremely problematic, you don't have representation of all kinds of woman. It's only a very skewed version of what a woman should be, and what she's doing."

**SAYANI GUPTA** 

# Interactive sessions on Gandhian philosophy today

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Bhava Samvad, a digital dialogue platform of Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF) will host several online interactive sessions on Mahatma Gandhi's life on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti Friday. KLF is organised every year with the participation of best minds of India in the world of literature.

A session on Gandhiji aur Swachhata: Ek Vimarsh will have public policy expert and author Atul K Thakur in conversation with Yugal Joshi, author and the Director of

thors Vandana Rag and Ashok Pandey discussing the book on Gandhiji by the latter.

The third session will have renowned journalist and author Prabhat Ranjan in conversation with author and civil servant Nishant Jain on Ruk Jaana Nahi & non-fiction writings in Hindi.

The fourth session will have the recitation of Jayadeva Goswami's Gita Govinda and Gandhi



Mohan Chunnu. KLF launched Bhava Samvad during the lockdowns to promote dialogue among creative minds which has reached more than one million viewers in four months' time

Devdutt Pattnaik, a renowned mythologist and a best-selling author will grace the KLF's popular digital dialogue platform Bhava Samvad October 3 to discuss Odia Ramayans and connect them to the national and in-









pare time. Ganesna says that if you wish to gain success you need to first leave your ego behind. Only then will you be able to stride ahead on the path to progress.

### **SCORPIO**

Today, Ganesha is in the mood to give you health tips. Cultivate healthy eat ing habits and exercise regularly to stay away from disorders like obesity. Irregular eating habits and unhealthy lifestyle may lead to many other troubles. Eat healthy, stay happy.

### **SAGITTARIUS**

You are on a high today and a feeling of ecstasy surrounds you. You are performance driven and shall give you best in anything you take up. Listen to your inner voice, it will guide you to the correct path. Ganesha show ers His benevolent blessings on you Make the most of this day.

### **CAPRICORN**

Things may just fall in to your lap today. You will help those in need but will get extremely upset when the out come is not as per your expectations, feels Ganesha. It is not an encouraging sight and it will affect your confidence adversely. But, you are overreacting, as these disappointments are not as big as they seem.

### AQUARIUS

You want to spread peace and joy all around, and today you may achieve that. You, however, may have to sacrifice your own preferences and interests to ensure that the problems get solved. It is a noble thing to play the role of peace maker, but people may take

**PISCES** 

You need to nurture your personal relationships carefully today, and give them the attention they are due. You need to control the outbursts of your temper and stop arguing with your partner or spouse over insignificant matters.

you for granted, feels Ganesha.



Ministry of Jal Shakti Government of India, said the organisers. The second session will have au-

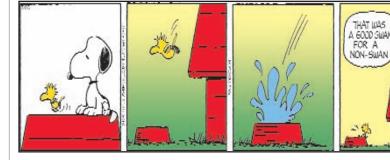
Bhajans by renowned vocalist Pt. Kunj Bihari Mishra along with author Kamal

FUN

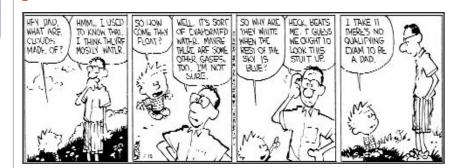


ternational trends in Ramayan studies, informed the organisers.





### CALVIN AND HOBBES



### BREVITY



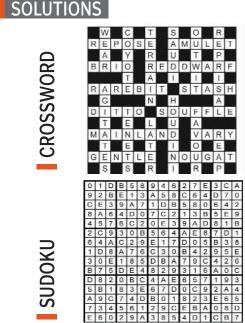
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CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

### SUDOKU

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

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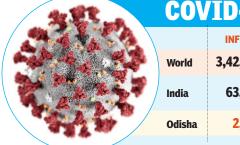






### **DAY FOR ELDERLY**

Dignitaries attend the observance of International Day for Older Persons organised by Jobra Baristha Nagarika Sangha in Cuttack, Thursday



Bill passed to allow e-payment of court fees

**DEBATE OVER UNIVERSITIES AMENDMENT BILL CONTINUES IN ASSEMBLY** 

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nalise administrative functioning of

all state-run universities bringing

vision to enhance the tenure of

Vice Chancellors to four years from

three years with the upper age limit

of 67 years with no provision of

re-appointment to bring sustain-

able improvement in university

The number of universities has

increased manifold and it is ex-

tremely difficult to present volu-

minous audit reports of every uni-

versity every year before the

Assembly. Therefore, the govern-

ment decided that the universities

can upload their audit reports on

their websites, which will be on

display for three years, Sahoo said.

said that the House has all rights to

amend the Universities Act, which

was passed by the august House

only. There is no encroachment in

the affairs of Central subject, he said,

adding, "This amendment will give

more autonomy and bring more

transparency in the functioning of

BJD legislator Amar Sathpathy

functioning, he said.

all universities under one Act. The government has made pro-

### **Congress wants** NCRB report sets House on boil **Collector shifted**

### POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jagatsinghpur** 

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Senior Congress leader and Jatni MLA Suresh Kumar Routray and some party members Thursday met the Chief Electoral Officer demanding the transfer of Jagatsinghpur District Collector.

Routray and some of the party members met CEOSK Lohani and submitted a memorandum wherein Routray has demanded the transfer of incumbent Collector of Jagatsinghpur district, Sangram Keshrai Mohapatra.

When asked about the reason behind the demand, Routray said, "It is for free and fair election in Tirtol byelection.'

Justifying his demand, Routray said the present District Collector is the son of Sarat Chandra Mohapatra of Sankheswar gram panchayat under Tirtol block.

Sarat was a local leader and elected sarpanch of Sankheswar gram panchayat for 1992-97.

Because the Collector is a native of Tirtol Assembly Constituency and his family supports the ruling BJD, free and fair election in Tirtol byelection is doubted.

He requested the CEO to replace the Jagatsinghpur Collector with a new Collector to conduct free and fair election.

Tirtol and Balasore Assembly Constituencies will go to polls November 3.

Cong says 'matter of shame' that the state has been placed at the second spot for molestation cases by NCRB report

### PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The state Congress, during Thursday's Assembly session, expressed concern over the rise in crimes against women, and said that it was a 'matter of shame' that the state has been placed at the second spot for molestation cases by an NCRB report. Congress Legislature Party Leader

Narasingha Mishra also sought a probe into an allegation of misbehaviour by a woman at a COVID-19 facility in Bolangir district. "Crimes against women have in-

creased in the state. Odisha came second in molestation cases after Uttar Pradesh, and leads in cybercrimes. If the state's population was to be considered. Odisha actually tops the list in molestation cases. This is shameful," Mishra said during the Zero Hour.

At least 20,274 cases of crimes against women were registered in the coastal state in 2018, and the number spiralled to 23,183 a year later, he said.

Odisha registered 11,318 molestation cases (section 354 of IPC) in 2019. This included 2,818 women, who were assaulted with the intent

Odisha came second in molestation cases after Uttar Pradesh, and leads in cybercrimes, said Congress leader Narasingha Mishra Speaker asked the Health and Family Welfare minister to

inquire into misbehaviour of a woman at a COVID-19 facility in Bolangir

to disrobe (section 354B of IPC) -which is the highest in the country, Mishra said, quoting the NCRB report. According



in India, the Congress leader pointed out. Mishra also said he had drawn the attention of the DGP to the Bolangir

case, but no action has been taken. A woman had recently alleged that an AYUSH doctor had misbehaved with her at a COVID-19 facility in Bolangir.

Speaker Surya Narayan Patro, upon hearing about Bolangir incident, asked the Health and Family

Bhubaneswar; Oct 1: The Assembly Thursday passed Court Fees (Odisha Amendment) Bill, 2020 to facilitate online mode of payment of court fees. Law Minister Pratap Jena moved the Bill, which was passed on the third day of the monsoon session.

POST NEWS NETWORK

In view of COVID-19 pandemic, the Orissa High Court and other subordinate courts are functioning in restricted manner. The HC has permitted electronic filing of cases which necessitates electronic method for payment of court fees. Since the Court Fees Act, 1870 provides for payment of court fees through physical stamps only, the Act required suitable amendment to provide for pay-

electronic mode (e-payment). This will enable the litigants and other stakeholders to have easy access to judicial process at all times

ment and refund of court fee through



Welfare minister to inquire into the matter.



including the present crisis.

Debate over Odisha Universities Amendment Bill, 2020, which was introduced in the House Wednesday. began Thursday and remained inconclusive as Speaker adjourned the House till 10.30am Saturday.

Criticising the government for amending the Universities Act-1989, senior Congress MLA Narasingha Mishra said, "What was the hurry to amend the Act through an Ordinance during this COVID times? Will this law be able to control the spread of the virus?"

The state government has initiated process to amend the law in 2015-16. But, it failed to do so due to

The Congress leader further increased drastically in Odisha. maintained that cybercrimes have

**Court Fees** (Amendment) Bill will enable litigants to have easy access to judicial process at all the times including the present crisis

objections made by the Law department, Mishra said, adding, 'The file was closed in 2018. But, now once again miscellaneous file has been opened by the Higher Education department.<sup>3</sup>

He said, "There is a big conspiracy behind this move." Mishra read out the draft notes written by Law department on the proposal to amend the Act and also said the way of amendment of the Act is being pursued is an encroachment to certain power given to Centre in the Constitution.

However, Higher Education Minister Arun Sahoo said the amendment was proposed to ratio-

from 843 in 2018 to 1,485 in 2019, an

# <sup>+</sup>Din in Assembly over power tariff hike

18 years).

### **OPPOSITION DEMANDS ROLLBACK OF THE HIKE IN VIEW OF COVID-19 CRISIS**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, **Oct** 1: Pandemonium prevailed in the state Assembly Thursday as opposition BJP and Congress created a ruckus over the power tariff hike by 20 paise per unit with effect from October 1.

Participating in a debate on admissibility of an adjournment motion over the power tariff hike, BJP alleged that the hike will add to the woes of the people who are already suffering due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Congress questioned the rationality behind waiver of power bills of industrial houses.

**Opposition Chief Whip Mohan** Charan Majhi alleged that the state government has failed to collect the pending electricity bills from different companies and industrial organisations. Electricity bills to the

POST NEWS NETWORK

the election norms.



tune of ₹3,000 crore are yet to be collected from 26 industrial organisations in the state, he said.

"Has the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC) increased the tariff without the knowledge and approval of the government? If so, the minister should quit from his position." Maihi demanded. Demanding immediate roll back of the power tariff hike, Congress legislator Santosh Singh Saluja asked why the state government is

**CEO HOLDS ALL-PARTY** 

**MEET FOR BYPOLLS** 

selling electricity at ₹3.21 per unit to other states, while purchasing the same at ₹3.81 per unit from the power generating states.

The state government has burdened the common people by increasing the power tariff. However, crores of power bills of Reliance and IMFA were waived off, Saluja claimed while questioning the rationality behind the hike. He urged

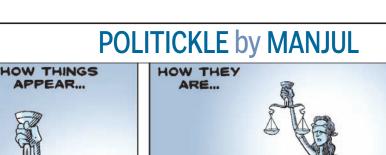
the government to promote solar power, which is not only cheaper, but the Centre is also providing subsidy to promote solar energy.

Speaker SN Patro too joined in the debate saying, "Though I have deposited the required amount six months back to install solar power

tion, Energy Minister Dibya Shankar Mishra said the OERC takes a decision after considering the interest of all the stakehold ers. The prevailing tariff in Odisha is less than the rate in states like West Bengal, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh, he said.

"Though the Central power generating agencies NTPC, NHPC have increased the electricity tariff by 68 paise and 60 paise per unit respectively in last four years, the hike was not passed to the consumers," the minister said.

Even though the power tariff has been hiked for power consumers after seven years, there was no revision of the tariff for BPL con-



The number of such crimes rose increase of nearly 76 per cent.

universities.

system in the Assembly, the work is vet to commence." Patro said he will convey a meeting in this regard after the session is over.

Replying to an adjournment mo-

he said.

Dissatisfied with the reply of the Minister, the BJP members staged a walkout from the House.

sumers and agricultural consumers,

### Miscreants attack ladv

Bhubaneswar: A woman Thursday sustained grievous injuries after falling off her scooter when some miscreants attacked her at Rasulgarh Canal Road here. The victim's farther lodged a complaint with Mancheswar police in this regard. The victim, Soujanya Sahoo, a resident of Soma Vihar in Balianta, works in private firm here. Thursday afternoon, Sahoo was her way home when the bikeborne miscreants started following her and hurled lewd comments at her. A few minutes later, they snatched away her mobile phone finding a lonely place on the Canal road. She lost her balance and fell off from the vehicle. The miscreants, however, fled the spot.



#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The Odisha Joint Entrance Examination 2020 (OJEE 2020) will be held in three shifts between October 12 and 19, an official said Thursday.

'While the first shift will begin at 9am and conclude at 11am, the second shift will be from 12.30pm to 2:30pm. The third shift, on the other hand, will start at 4pm and conclude at 6pm. Aspirants can use their credentials (id and password) to download their admit cards by logging into OJEE website (www.oiee.nic.in) October 5 onwards," according to the exam

schedule released by the OJEE. For Lateral Entry (LE) Tech (Diploma), the examination will be conducted in six sittings (in two days), whereas for admission into B Pharm course, the OJEE will be held in four sittings

For MCA and MBA admissions, the entrance test will be conducted in two and three sittings respectively. The OJEE will be held in three sittings for B Tech course. The notification further said that

the entrance test will be held in one sitting each for admissions into Integrated MBA, M Tech, M Arch, M Plan, M Pharm, LE Tech and LE Pharm courses.

According to sources, as many as 79,800 candidates have registered themselves for this year's OJEE, a state-controlled centralised test for admissions to various private and government medical, engineering and management institutions in Odisha. The exam committee had earlier asked the aspirants, who had not completed the online application process, to complete the same latest by September 23.

Notably, OJEE will be conducted in computer-based test (CBT) at across 53 centres-50 in Odisha and one each at Patna, Ranchi and Kolkata.

# Poor show by cops in tracing missing persons

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The performance of Odisha Police in tracing missing persons during 2019 was found to be dismal as compared to other states - this despite being successful in tracing more missing persons in 2019 than in the previous year.

According to the recently released crime statistics for 2019 by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Odisha Police registered a recovery rate of below 20 per cent of the total persons who were reported missing while many states achieved above 90 per cent success.

As per the NCRB report, as many as 15,317 persons, including 3,300 males and 12,017 females, were reported missing in the state in 2019 as compared to 13,062 persons during the previous year.

Similarly, Odisha Police suc-

### NCRB DATA

Odisha Police registered a recovery rate of below 20 per cent of the MISSING total persons who were reported missing while many states achieved above 90 per cent success A3,300 males and 12,017 females,

Itogether 15,317 persons, including were reported missing in the state in 2019 as compared to 13,062 persons during the previous year

Odisha Police succeeded in tracing as many as 5,339 persons in 2019, while 4,481 missing persons were found in 2018

ceeded in tracing as many as 5.339 persons in 2019, while 4,481 missing persons were found in 2018.

However, despite the slight increase in the number of traced persons, the state police recorded a dismal recovery percentage in 2019 in comparison with other states hav-

ing quite good recovery percentage. The cops in state achieved success in tracing only 19.3 per cent miss-

ing persons which is second worst in India during 2019. Punjab with 16.7 per cent recovery rate has topped the country in poor performance. However, Punjab out-

shone Odisha in female persons recovery percentage in 2019.

On the other hand, the sleuths of state police were tasked to trace the whereabouts of as many as 5,503 children below 18 years of age which also includes 1,165 minors whom the cops failed to trace during previous years.

The state police also succeeded in finding out as many as 1,490 missing children including 314 boys and 1,176 girls in 2019 as compared to 1,139 during 2018. However, the percentage of tracing of minor children has come down from 32.6 in 2018 to 27.1 in 2019 which means  $\rightarrow$ Odisha cops managed to trace around 27 out of the 100 missing minors in 2019.

It was the lowest in the country as compared to states like Kerala where around 95 per cent missingchildren were recovered during the same period.



### AMID PANDEMIC

THE CEO APPRISED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES ABOUT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF BYELECTIONS FOR THE TWO ASSEMBLY SEATS ISSUED BY THE ECI, LAST DATES FOR FILING NOMINATIONS. VERIFICATION, WITHDRAWAL, VOTING AND VOTE COUNTING

conduct of the byelections. It may be mentioned here that the Model Code of Conduct has come into force in the two constituencies

F ANY CANDIDATE HAS ANY KIND OF CRIMINAL CASE AGAINST HIM/HER, HE/SHE HAS TO DECLARE/DISSEMINATE THE SAME THROUGH ELECTRONIC OR PRINT MEDIA FOR AT LEAST THREE TIMES

N VIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC, POSTAL BALLOT FACILITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS (ABOVE 80 YEARS OF AGE) AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITY, COVID POSITIVE VOTERS, SUSPECTED COVID-19 PERSONS AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE UNDER HOME ISOLATION

he/she has to declare/disseminate

after the announcement of dates.

If any candidate has any kind of criminal case against him/her,

will be announced November 10. While a gazette notification will be issued for the bypoll October 9, the last date of filing nominations is October 16. The scrutiny of the nominations will be conducted October 17 and the withdrawal of

nominations is set for October 19. The Commission has asked to complete the poll process by November 12.

print media for at least three times.

postal ballot facilities to senior citi-

zens (above 80 years of age) and per-

sons with disability, COVID positive

voters, suspected COVID-19 persons

and the people who are under home

isolation, he said. As per the sched-

ule, bypoll to these two constituen-

cies will be held November 3 while

the counting of votes and the results

In view of COVID-19 pandemic.



### **OrissaPOST** FRIDAY | OCTOBER 2 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAF

# downtown

### Heavy downpour till Oct 6: MeT 17 fatalities push Covid toll to 859 3,615 FRESH NOVEL COROANVIRUS CASES TAKE ODISHA'S TALLY TO 2, 22,734

THIS IS THE EIGHTH LOW PRESSURE AREA OVER THE BAY OF BENGAL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF AUGUST

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: A fresh lowpressure area formed over Bay of Bengal Thursday, triggering widespread rainfall in Odisha even as the MeT office said heavy downpour is likely to lash many parts of the state till October 6.

Under the influence of a cyclonic circulation over west central and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal off south Odisha coasts, a low pressure area has formed over the same region, the Meteorological Centre here said in a bulletin.

While several areas including state capital Bhubaneswar and districts such as Angul, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Kendrapara, Ganjam and Mayurbhanj recorded rainfall of varying intensity since Wednesday, the low pressure system is likely to trigger heavy downpour in many parts of Odisha till October 6, it said.

It may cause waterlogging in low-lying areas and damage kutcha houses and informal roads at some places, the bulletin said.

Squally weather accompanied by surface wind with speed reaching 40-50 kmph is likely to prevail off Odisha coast adjoining Northwest and West-central Bay of Bengal, the MeT Centre said,



People travel on the Grand Road in Puri amid rain, Thursday

advising fishermen not to venture into the seatill October 5.

In view of the weather forecast, the state government has asked the district collectors to be prepared to deal with any possible waterlogging in low-lying areas and flash flood or landslide in hilly areas.

Special Relief Commissioner (SRČ) P K Jena issued an advisory to district collectors asking them to closely monitor the situation and keep continuous vigil on low-lying areas and take steps for dewatering wherever necessary. Advice for fishermen must be strictly implemented, he said.

As per the MeT Centre forecast,

heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely

to lash some places in Ganjam, Bolangir, Sonepur, Keonihar and Mayurbhanj districts till Friday. Parts of Kandhamal, Boudh, Kalahandi, Angul, Cuttack, Puri, Nayagarh, Dhenkanal, Khordha, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Balasore and Sambalpur may also receive heavy downpour during the period.

Similarly, heavy rainfall is likely to lash parts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jaipur, Kendrapada, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Puri, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Deogarh, Sundargarh, Sambalpur and Kandhamal districts on Friday and Saturday, it said.

LAND GRAB ALLEGATION

Admin to serve notice on OTV

Heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Keonjhar, Angul, Boudh, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Dhenkanal and Cuttack on Saturday and Sunday, it said.

Heavy rainfall may also lash parts of Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Bolangir, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Nayagarh, Khordha and Puri during the period.

The MeT Centre also forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall at one or two places over the districts of Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Bolangir, Nabarangpur and Rayagada districts on Sunday and Monday.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall may occur at one or two places over the districts of Bargarh, Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Bolangir and Kalahandi on Monday and Tuesday.

This is the eighth low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal since the beginning of August. Five backto-back low pressure systems developed on August 4, 9, 13, 19 and 24 had triggered heavy to very heavy rainfall in many parts of the state and created flood situations in several areas. Similarly, low pressure areas had formed over the Bay of Bengal on September 13 and 20, triggering widespread rainfall in Odisha, sources said.

### PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: State Thursday registered its highest single-day spike of 17 COVID-19 fatalities, which raised the death toll to 859, while 3,615 new cases pushed Odisha's tally to 2, 22,734, an official of Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) department said.

Khurda district, of which state capital Bhubaneswar is a part, registered four deaths. Two patients each succumbed to the infection in Cuttack and Nayagarh districts, and one each in Angul. Bhadrak. Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapara, Puri and Rayagada districts.

"Regret to inform the demise of seventeen #COVID19 positive patients while under treatment in hospitals," the H&FW department said on Twitter.

Ganjam district alone has accounted for 220 of the 859 deaths in the coastal state.

Of the 3,615 new cases, 2,118 were reported from various quarantine centres, and the remaining were detected during contact tracing, said the department. Khurda recorded the maximum number of fresh cases at 671, followed by Cuttack at 371 and Angul at 188. Odisha currently has 36,122 ac-



Passengers undergo thermal screening at Puri railway station

coastal state

/ hurda district **N**registered four deaths, while two patients each succumbed to the infection in Cuttack and Nayagarh districts, and one each in Angul, Bhadrak, Bolangir, Dhenkanal. Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi,

Kendrapara, Puri and

Rayagada tive cases, while 1,85,700 people

have recovered so far. Fifty-three COVID-19 patients have died due to comorbidities, according to the including 49,645 Wednesday.

Of the new cases, 2,118 were reported from various quarantine centres, and the remaining were detected during

**G**anjam district alone has accounted for 220 of the 859 deaths in the

contact tracing hurda recorded the maximum number

Nof fresh cases at 671, followed by

health department. Over 33 lakh sample tests have been conducted in the state so far,

### **SERO SURVEY** Highest nCoV antibody prevalence in Gajapati

she said.

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The recent sero survey report of Gajapati district claims that its population was most exposed to COVID 19 as 65 per cent of the studied samples were found to have developed antibodies against COVID-19.

The report was shared by Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC) Director Sanghamitra Pati with the media Thursday. According to the director, the sero prevalence (presence of antibody against COVID 19) in Gajapati ranged between 44 per cent to 92 per cent.

"The sero survey was done at Parlakhemundi in Gajapati district where we took a total of 1515 samples for the survey. This included 984 community members and 531 high risk groups. The sero prevalence of 65 per cent was reported from the area which is highest till now in Odisha," Pati said. She also said that the prevalence

was found to be 40-45 in high risk

group. "The highest prevalence

Pati said that after conducting sero survey in different parts of the state, a new survey will be conducted in Sept 5 in Malkangiri. "We will start the third sero survey of Bhubaneswar and first in Cuttack soon," she said.

"Odisha is one of the first states which started the sero survey for COVID 19. We started this in Puri and tested the high risk survey. We conducted the sero survey next in Bhubaneswar where the sero prevalence came upto 1.40 per cent. Later we did it in Berhampur where we saw 31 per cent sero preva-

lence," she said. Sero surveillance refers to the development of antibody against COVID 19 in human body. Antibodies are produced in human body against the COVID 19 virus when they are exposed to the virus to enable the body to fight against it naturally.

In Rourkela, the survey found 25% sero prevalence. In Bhuabneswar, it was five percent.

The Gajapati survey was a multi age cluster sampling held in the

### **RkI-Bbsr Express** to run till Dec 31

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The services of Rourkela-Bhubaneswar-Rourkela Intra-State train will be rendered till December 31, ECoR stated Thursday.

Rourkela-Bhubaneswar-Rourkela Intra-State Express from Rourkela will leave at 0510hrs daily except Saturdays and Sundays and will reach at Bhubaneswar at 1230hrs.

In the return direction. Bhubaneswar-Rourkela Intra-State Special from Bhubaneswar will leave at 1410hrs daily except Saturdays and Sundays and will reach at Rourkela at 2140hrs. This train will stop at Rajagangpur, Bamara, Jharsuguda, Rengali, Sambalpur City, Rairakhol, Boinda, Angul, Talcher Road, Dhenkanal and Naraj Marthapur between Rourkela & Bhubaneswar from both the directions.



### POST NEWS NETWORK

Khurda, Oct 1: The district administration Thursday put red flags in front of the gates of a studio of OTV at Sarua village under Begunia tehsil here while probing a land grab allegation against media house.

Many villagers of Sarua, Jaymangal and Gaudaput had alleged that OTV authorities have encroached upon grazing and private agricultural lands to lay roads to their studio and erect boundary walls around it.

A team of officials led by Begunia tehsildar Vivekanand Parida and local revenue inspectors conducted a land measurement at the front gate and another gate of OTV studio at Sarua around 11 am Thursday.

The team put red flags in front of the both gates of OTV studio after it was found that the media house authorities have encroached upon

grazing lands to lay roads. "During land measurement, we came to know that media house authorities had encroached upon grazing land to lay road to their studio. We have put red flags on a Thursday portion of the road to the studio main gate. This apart, red flags have been put in front of another gate of the studio after land measurement." Parida said. The tehsildar further said that the administration is probing the land grab allegations after receiving complaints in this regard from the villagers. "The probe is going on as per the law. There is no question of

ଦ୍ୟୁତ



A red flag put in front of the main gate of OTV studio at Sarua

A team of officials conducted a land measurement at the front gate and another gate of OTV studio at Sarua around 11 am

main gate. We will serve a notice in this regard on the authorities of OTV," Padhi said.

OP PHOTO

The additional collector revealed that around a hundred villagers of Sarua, Jaymangal and Gaudaput had alleged that OTV authorities have encroached upon grazing land to lay road to their studio. This apart, it has been alleged that the media house authorities have con-

### Last date for Plus III admission deferred

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Odisha Higher Education department Thursday extended the dateline for admission into Plus III first year in degree colleges for the session 2020-21. In a letter, Mihir Kumar Das, officer-in-Charge, PTC informed all degree colleges about the extension.

As per the notification, admission and online updating of students' data selected in First Merit List was extended to October 6. 2020. It was October 2 earlier.

The online deposit of the admission fees by students through SAMS (Student) account was extended to 05th October, 2020 (11:45 PM). The date for final data updating in the e-Space of the stuzFirst Merit List has been extended till October 7.

Merit List was also extended to October 13. The online deposit of admission fees by students for second merit list can be done from October 13 to October 17.

ucation Odisha Monday announced the first cut-off marks for admission into plus III degree courses for academic year 2020-21. As per report as many as 2.27.396 have registered

The date of publication of Second

The department of Higher ed-

Cuttack at 371 and Angul at 188

ଆପଣଙ୍କର ସ୍ନେହ, ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧା, ଅନୁଶାସନ ଓ ଭଲପାଇବା ଆନ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ସଦାସର୍ବଦା ସରଶୀୟ ହୋଇ ରହିତ । ଆସଣଙ୍କ ଅମର ଆମାର ସଦଗତି ନିମନ୍ତେ ଜଗତର ନାଥ ପଭ ଶ୍ରୀଚ୍ଚଗନ୍ନାଥଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ ବିନମ୍ର ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା କରୁଛୁ । ଶୋକସତ୍ତସ୍ତୁ: ଧର୍ମପତ୍ନୀ, ପୁତ୍ର ଓ ପୁତ୍ରବଧୂ, ଭ୍ରାତା, ବନ୍ଧୁ ଓ ପରିବାରବର୍ଗ

### ASSIFIED

### L(0S)

It is notified for the information that my original Pass Marks Statement Examination (For CBSE Class 10th Session 2016-2017 Registration No -B117/53005/0143 from CBSE, New Delhi) has been lost while on transit. RONAK PAREKH, Kazibazar, P.O.: Buxibazar, Cuttack - 753001, Odisha.

favouritism in the probe," Parida added.

In a related development, Khurda Additional Collector Manoj Padhi and sub-collector Ashok Behuria inspected the spot. "No one can encroach upon grazing land in any situation. The administration has put red flags on the road to the studio

**STIR OVER POWER TARIFF HIKE** 

structed boundary walls on agricultural lands, he said.

"Khurda sub-collector and Begunia tehsildar have been asked to probe the land grab allegation and submit a report within a week. We will take action if the allegations are found to be true," said the Additional Collector.

their names for admission against 2,49,790 seats in 1029 colleges.

was found in policemen which was 54 per cent while frontline workers reported 50 per cent prevalence,"

month of September. Five teams of ICMR were roped in for the same.

# **Odisha Cong slams UP Police**

#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The Congress' Odisha unit Thursday lashed out at the police in BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh for its "undemocratic and shameful" action of stopping and detaining party leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra while they were walking to Hathras to meet the rape victim's family.

State Congress president Niranian Patnaik wondered how the right of political leaders to express sympathy for a Dalit woman who has been murdered can be denied.

The behaviour of Uttar Pradesh Police was most unfortunate, undemocratic and shameful." he said.

Now the people of India should understand how the present governments in UP and the Centre want to run their show to remain in power, the Congress leader said.

"All of us should protest against this type of mentality and behaviour in order to save democracy in the country," Patnaik said.

Senior BJP leader Golak Mohapatra said the sensitive issue should not be politicised and claimed that Rahul Gandhi was stopped apparently to prevent any untoward incident.

Congress MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati said that the way Rahul



Youth and Student Congress activists scuffle with police during a demonstration at Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar to protest the alleged police attack on party leader Rahul Gandhi in Uttar Pradesh, Thursday OP PHOTO

Gandhi was treated by the Uttar Pradesh administration is highly condemnable.

Party MP Saptagiri Ulaka said that there was nothing wrong on the part of Rahul Gandhi to go to meet the rape and murder victim's family and express his sympathy.

A 19-year-old Dalit woman was raped in Hathras in Uttar Pradesh by four men on September 14. After her condition deteriorated, she was

referred to Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital where she died on Tuesday. Her body was cremated by the police in the dead of night.

While Rahul Gandhi and Privanka Gandhi were going to meet her family, they were stopped on the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida. The two were then taken away in a police jeep and kept in a guest house for sometime after which they were released.

#### SUCI (communist) activists hold a demonstration in front of the Electricity office at Ranihaat in Cuttack, Thursday, seeking a rollback of the power tariff hike OP PHOTO

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### **OrissaPOST** FRIDAY | OCTOBER 2 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR

# state

# **Experts probe graft in stadium work** Jagatsinghpur: Man hacks wife to death

Sambalpur, Oct 1: A day after this newspaper published a report on irregularities in construction of a hockey mini stadium at Jujumura in this district, an expert team visited the construction site and conducted a probe into alleged irregularities, Wednesday.

Orissa POST had published a report titled 'Stadium construction reeks of irregularities' September 29.

Vishal Kumar Dev, commissioner-cum-secretary, state sports and youth services department, expressed concern over the develop-

ment and directed a probe into the charges. He sought a report after completion of the probe.

As a result, an expert of WAPCOS Ashok Mohanty visited the construction site and conducted a probe into the allegations. Project director Lalit Mohanty, district sports officer Ashutosh Navak and Lakhsmidhar Mohanty of Madho Singh Hockey Academy were present during the visit of the expert. Notably, WAPCOS, a public sector unit, undertook the construction of

the stadium but later leased it out



o another Mohanty went around the stadium

and directed the implementing agency to put up an information plaque at the project site. He directed to use quality construction materials like sand, stone chips as well as cement and iron bars of prescribed brands in the construction work. The concrete sam-

ples used in the roof laying work were collected and sent for laboratory examination. He also asked the implementing agency to remain cautious while car-

rving out construction work so that no one will be able to bring up any

allegations. He sought formation of a committee headed by the district sports officer and comprising local residents to oversee the construction works.

This apart, he directed to take photographs and video record the construction work. He also expressed resentment on the quality of construction works and non use of cement concrete mixture machine. Meanwhile, a delegation of residents met Mohanty in the stadium site and lodged their complaints on

irregularities in construction works. However, locals have raised doubts on the probe. They demanded an impartial probe by an independent

### PROMPT ACTION

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ocals, however, have raised doubts on the probe. They demanded an impartial probe by an independent body as the probe is carried out by the expert of a consultancy agency which has undertaken the construction work



body as the probe is carried out by the expert of a consultancy agency which has undertaken the construction work.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jagatsinghpur, Oct 1: In an unfortunate incident of domestic violence, a woman was hacked to death by her outraged husband following heated altercations between the two late Wednesday night.

The man allegedly killed his wife at Harasina village of Mangarajpur panchayat under Kujanga police limits in Jagatsinghpur district 12 years after their love marriage.

According to sources, a quarrel erupted between the husband identified as Meghanad Tarai (42) and his wife Parbati (37) over a family dispute. The matter turned violent and assumed serious proportions as he started thrashing Parbati's head with a billhook.

Meghanad's father and a neighbour tried to stop the accused but in vain. The victim sustained grievous injuries and died on the spot.It was rumoured that Meghanad in contact with his former girlfriend which was opposed by his wife, villagers said. Bitter relationship prevailed between the accused and the deceased over this matter, they added. The accused was arrested by Kujanga police.

**UNSEASONAL RAINS** 

# ₹5.83-cr plan to fortify Budhabalanga banks

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Oct 1: Budhabalange river passing through Balasore has been changing its course every year, causing erosion of its banks every monsoon.

Reports said people of Puruna Balasore, Patrapada and some other vanished in the river while over

People have long been demanding high level spurs and stone packing of embankments as a deterrent against the advancing river.

drinking water department Pratap Jena also took stock of the area.

The team laid stress on strengthening the right side river embankment along which scores of



houses and a vast stretch of farmland get flooded during the monsoon. People have to bear the brunt of flood devastation.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has been apprised of the long-standing demand of people in the area.

As per the plan, stones will be laid on a 40 metre stretch inside the river while three high level concrete spurs will be built to mitigate the intensity of the churning water currents during floods. It was learnt that Rs 5.83 core will

be granted in the first phase.

### Illegal sawmills back to biz in Baliapal

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Baliapal, Oct 1: Amid allegations about illegal timber smuggling in various parts of Balasore, many illegal sawmills are working in parts of Baliapal block. Operation of such sawmills has taken a toll on gramya jungles in the area with timber smugglers working overdrive.

These sawmills were lying closed flowing a High Court order. Now, they have become active at Kalipada, Simulia, Dandtunida, Blaock Chhak, Langaleswar, Mandhata Bazar, Panchupalli, Kantapal, Mahabala, Aladiha, Bishnupur, and Kunuli. Locals alleged that gramya jungles in these areas are gradually vanishing due to sawmills.

Timber mafia and sawmill owners have forged a nexus while logs are being transported through second bridge on Subarnarekha, Penthei ghat and Dagara Choumukhi.

Timber and processed planks are transported to parts of West Bengal, it was alleged

DFO Biswaraj Panda said action will be taken against timber\_ mafia and illegal sawmill owners after getting complaints.

# Millet Mission strikes roots in tribal areas of Kandhamal



n fact, the nutrient-rich millets were fast fading away from in tribal pockets of this district, but the effort of the government has ensured a steady comeback of the crops to the agricultural scene in 12 panchayats, thanks to Millet Mission.

671 farmers in 130 villages have made good profits from millet farming in Phulbani area. More and more farmers are keen to take up this farming with government support

#### OFFICIALS WERE HAPPY TO SEE FARMING OF MILLETS RAISED BY SOME FARMERS LIKE ABHIMANYU MALICK OF SUBARNAPUR, JALANDHAR NAYAK OF MULUKUMAHA AND SITA PRADHAN OF NUAPALLI

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, Oct 1: The state government's Millet Mission has tasted initial success in Phulbani area. The programme was meant to augment the income of farmers and meet the nutritional needs of people in tribal-dominated Kandhamal district

Notably, the mission aims to fulfill the nutritional needs of women, expectant mothers and kids so as to fight malnutrition. This mission is successfully taking roots in various panchayats under Phulbani, a report said.

Now, the focus is to revive small crops for good income generation of the tribals. This cultivation is getting the much-needed attention across the state because of its high nutritional value.

In fact, the nutrient-rich millets were fast fading away from in tribal pockets of this district, but the effort of the government has ensured a steady comeback of the crops to the agricultural scene in 12 panchayats, thanks to Millet Mission.

The scheme's objective was to increase millet production by providing growers with marketing support and promote millet-based food processing entrepreneurs.

villages have made good profits from millet farming in Phulbani area. More and more farmers are keen to take up this farming with government support.

Under the programme, improved technologies like line sowing and transplantation are adopted with less seed and root intensification. Farmers are encouraged to cultivate these crops to adopt these methods. A team of officials comprising DAO Basant Kumar Sahu, Raikia BAO Anil Kumar Praharaj, deputy agriculture officer Upendra Padhi recently visited millet cultivated areas and too stock of the farming.

Amid heavy rains lashing parts of Sambalpur, people go out for work holding umbrellas

# Covid claims 4 siblings in Ganjam

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Oct 1: The pandemic has destroyed families even as the lockdown has hit economic conditions of people.

One such tragic story emerged

from Angargaon village under

Beguniapada block in Ganjam dis-

affected by the COVID-19 virus.

The tragedy has left the family

deceased breathed his

Sources said broth-

ers Dhabaleswar

Sahoo, Bhikari Sahoo,

Basudev Sahoo,

Mangaraj Sahoo and

last Wednesday

fection and within six days they died one after the other. The youngest of the siblings, Krushna was the first victim of the virus July 14 at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. Just two davs later. Mangarai

**DIES OF COVID-19** Koraput: The killer virus has

**KORAPUT TOWN IIC** 

Gunupur to have

riparian pockets live in fear as they have to face continuous erosion of the river banks over years. Due to changing course of the river, over 10 to 15 houses in the area have 2,500 families have to face a flood fury during the rainy season.

A team of officials and ex-MP

Rabindra Jena visited the area recently. They have submitted a proposal of Rs 5.83 crore for stone packing of 740-metre stretch and three high-level spurs.

Minister of Panchayatiraj and

The mission is vigorously being pushed by the women and child welfare department and the agriculture department in the tribal areas in the current kharif season. In tribal areas, the crops used to be cultivated on a large scale many years ago, but lack of marketing later impacted its cultivation.

### Bhitarkanika National Park reopens for tourists



POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapada, Oct 1: Good news for tourists who had been pining for spending quality time in the lap of nature. The Bhitarkanika National Park in Kendrapada district was reopened for tourists Thursday, Tourists can only be allowed for night halt in the BNP.

According to DFO of Rajnagar Mangrove Forest and Wildlife Division, Bikash Ranjan Das, only the tourists who have booked for staving at 16 eco cottages in the nature camps at Dangamal for night halt will be allowed inside the forest reserve. And those who are willing to reserve the eco cottages will have to book their reservations on the website www.ecotourodisha.com.

According to sources, each cottage and boat will be sanitised after every single use. However, there is no instruction from the forest department regarding the entry of general visitors. This has irked the local people. They have urged the department to reconsider its decision and allow general tourists into the park. The park had been out of bounds for tourists since March 17 due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For last three years, a number of steps have been taken to promote cultivation of millets such as ragi, gurji and kosla (small millet), kodo, kangu (foxtail millet) and jowars, which are known as age-old traditional food of the hill dwellers. Reports said, 1671 farmers in 130

They were happy to see farming of millets raised by some farmers like Abhimanyu Malick of Subarnapur, Jalandhar Nayak of Mulukumaha and Sita Pradhan of Nuapalli. The farmers were told by officials that the government will procure their millets at Rs 32.95 per kg this year.

### JCB machine torched by Maoists in Koraput

as they have been opposing all sorts of developmental works in remote areas of this district.

Koraput, Oct 1: After a brief lull, a case of a JCB machine being set Meanwhile, the sub-contractor afire was reported from Maoisthas lodged a report with the police based on which police have infested Narayanapatna block in Koraput district Wednesday night. launched an investigation.

However, Narayanpatna po-In the past, the district reported lice are yet to figure out whether several cases of construction vethe Maoists are involved in the hicles being set on fire by Maoists. Most cases were reported from Pottangi area where cadres of the According to sources, a sub-contractor was using the JCB machine outlawed CPI (Maoist) group had in road construction work in remote set many vehicles ablaze at differpockets. According to locals, the ent times to protest against the hand of Maoists cannot be ruled out road construction works.

Krushna Chandra Sahoo lived together along with their families in Angargaon village. They had their own businesses. Tragedy struck the family for

the first time two years ago when the family's second son Bhikari fell ill and died. However, with the passage of time the pain of losing a brother was slowly fading.

Everything was proceeding smoothly for the family till the outbreak of COVID-19. In July, three brothers tested positive for the in-

breathed his last and then Basudev succumbed to the disease

to

The eldest of the five, trict. Four brothers died after being Dhabaleswar bore the pain stoically. He went out of his way to support the family members of his completely shattered. The last of the younger brothers. Just when the

> family was coming terms with the successive tragedies, Dhabaleswar fell ill. Leaving nothing to

chance, he immediately underwent the rapid antigen test and the report was negative.

He was admitted to the COVID-19 ward of the MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Behrampur. This was done because three of his brothers had died due to COVID-19. He was kept under observation. However, his condition suddenly deteriorated Wednesday and he died. Family members are now questioning the authenticity of the rapid antigen test which was conducted

claimed vet another COVID-19 warrior in the form of Koraput town police station IIC Pitabasa Dharua.

Known as a capable police officer; IIC Dharua fell ill while discharging his duties. He got his samples tested and the report came out to be positive for COVID-19 a few days ago.

He was admitted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. He lost the fight against the deadly virus Thursday morning.

As the news broke, a pall of gloom enveloped Koraput town.

In Odisha, while many police personnel are undergoing treatment for COVID-19, over 20 personnel have succumbed to the disease. The district Thursday reported 47 fresh COVID-19 cases. With this, the district's tally has increased to 6,196.

### Sangeet Mahavidyalay

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Gunupur, Oct 1: To promote dance and music in southern Odisha, a Sangeet Mahavidyalay will be set up at Gunupur in Ravagada district.

This institute will be the first of its kind in southern Odisha which will create new opportunities for promising talents in the field of music and dance. The institute is recognized by the state government and affiliated to the culture department of the Utkal University. Admission for the academic session 2020-21 started as sale of forms was launched Wednesday in the presence of principal of the college Panchanan Choudhry and Gunupur sub-collector Sonal Jena.

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER L.I. DIVISION. BERHAMPUR e-mail : eeolicbam@ymail.com

### e-Procurement Notice

### Bid Identification No.05 / 2020-21 OLIC (BAM) / Dt. 30/09/2020

No.CAD-531:- The Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, Berhampu on behalf of OLIC invites Percentage Rate bids in single Cover system to be received in Online Mode only for the work "Installation and Energisation of New LIPs under different Blocks in Ganjam District as detailed in the table below. The Bid should be submitted by the eligible class of contractors as mentioned below registered with the State Government and contractors of equivalent grade / class registered with Central Government / M.E.S. / Railways / C.P.W.D. for execution of Civil Works with valid Electrical (H.T) License issued by ELBO Odisha as single or having joint venture with proper registration, through On-Line in the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in. The bidders should have necessary portal enrolment (with own digital signature certificate). The registered bidders from outside Odisha can also participate in this online tender process after necessary portal enrollment but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with appropriate authority of the State Numbers of Package 44 Numbers

1. Numbers of Fackage	TT NULLIDEIS
2. Estimated Cost	Rs.10.61 to 49.23 lakhs
3. Tender Cost	As per DTCN
<ol><li>Class of Contractor</li></ol>	As per DTCN
5. Date & time of publication	Dt. 05.10.2020 from 11.00 hrs.
6. Date & time of closing	Dt. 14.10.2020 at 17.00hrs
7. Date & time of opening of bid	Dt. 15.10.2020 at 12.00 A.M.
<ol> <li>Last date &amp; time of seeking tender clarification</li> </ol>	Dt. 12.10.2020 at 17.00 P.M.
Further details can be seen from the well	bsite www.tendersorissa.gov.in.
Addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of	of tender, if any, can be seen in
the said website.	

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER OIPR-32311/11/0005/2021

14-member tribal family lives in single-room

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

POST NEWS NETWORK

act or not.

Champua, Oct 1: A 14-memebr familv has erected a wooden platform inside their house to accommodate them all in the single room.

However, they are not doing this by choice but compulsion. Benefits of government schemes are still elusive to them.

Nata Munda and his 13 family members have been living in a single-room accommodation at Shankarpur village of Budhamara panchayat under Raruan block in Mayurbhani district for years.

In order to accommodate them all, they have erected a mancha (a raised wooden platform as farmers use to guard their crops) inside their house. At night, some members go up to the mancha with the help of a ladder and sleep there and the rest on the ground. The mancha rests



on four bamboo poles. Nata's family comprises his wife,

six sons, two daughters-in-law and four grand children. Nata says they have no choice but

to sleep on the mancha as their house

is too small to accommodate them all. "We are forced to sleep on the mancha inside our house as we have not been fortunate to get any house under any of the central or state government schemes," he rues.

While family members are working as daily labourers to make their ends meet, the space crunch has only aggravated their woes.

Local residents are also astonished to find the tribal family not being awarded a pucca house under government schemes as yet. "The family members have to sleep on a mancha inside their house is nothing but a mockery of the government schemes," they alleged.

When asked, Raruna block development officer (BDO) Pallabi Swain said a pucca house will be provided to Nata if he is eligible to get the same as per the 2011 list of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Or else, his plight will be brought to the notice of the district level officers and then necessary steps will be taken. Locals urged the administration to intervene in the matter and award a house to Nata's family.







# power post

### FOCUS ENERGY

By our stumbling the world **SRI AUROBINDO** 



# A win in defeat

The Vodafone case has refused to go from the public memory. The latest episode in the 13-year-old saga has come in the form of a ruling by the International Court of Arbitration at The Hague in favour of the British telecom major. The ruling, if not challenged by the Indian tax authorities, will spare Vodafone Group Plc of having to pay Rs20,000 crore in tax (including related interest and penalties) to the Income Tax Department towards capital gain and withholding tax. The arbitration court has ruled that using retrospective legislation is in clear violation of the fair and equitable treatment protections provided under Article 4 (1) of the Bilateral Investment Treaty between India and the Netherlands. We expect the ruling should end the bruising litigations. However, the government seems to be digging its heels. It has refused to acquiesce with The Hague court's ruling. It is exploring options on how to canalise the resources to undo the ruling. The Vodafone case dates back to 2007 when Indian tax authorities raised a demand on Vodafone International Holdings BV pursuant to acquisition of a 67 per cent stake in the erstwhile Hutchison Essar Ltd from Hutchison Telecommunications International Ltd for \$11 billion. This included the mobile telephony business and other assets of Hutchison in India. In September that year, the Government of India, for the first time, raised a demand of ₹7,990 crore in capital gains and withholding tax from Vodafone, saying the company should have deducted the tax at source before making a payment to Hutchison. Since the stake purchase transaction took place outside India between two overseas entities, Vodafone refused to comply with the tax demand.

Vodafone challenged the order in the Bombay High Court which ruled in favour of the Income Tax Department. Subsequently, the telecom major approached the Supreme Court, which in 2012 ruled that Vodafone Group's interpretation of the 1961 Income Tax Act was proper and the company did not have to pay taxes for the stake purchase. Unfortunately, the story did not end there. The then Finance Minister late Pranab Mukherjee circumvented the Supreme Court ruling by proposing an amendment to the Finance Act. The amendment gave the tax authorities the power to retrospectively tax such deals. Parliament passed the Act the very year and the company was asked to carry the onus of paying the tax with interest. The case had by then become infamous as the retrospective taxation case. There has been a lot of hue and cry over this. Global companies have created lots of concern for the government's stance on claiming retrospective tax and have since put on hold their India investment plans. The country has lost a lot of business because of this decision. Every successive Finance Minister has gone on record to assuage the fears of foreign investors on this count. But all have steered clear of the Vodafone case

The government should take The Hague court's ruling on the chin and pull the curtains on the protracted legal battle. The matter must not be allowed to linger any further. It has created enough antipathy among foreign investors against the government. This would also give a lot of credence to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attempts to woo foreign investments. Failure to do so would undermine foreign companies' faith in India's commitment to international treaties and rule of law. The Hague ruling should be construed as a win in defeat.

### WISDOM CORNER

66	Be a lotus flower. Be in the water, and do not let the water touch you.
66	We cannot fight new wars with old weapons. ACHARYA VINOBA BHAVE

A diamond with a flaw is better than a common stone that is perfect.

### WORDS**WORTH**

### Trove

he Guardian was a minor treasure-trove in early March 2015 for enquirers into matters of English language. An item in the Corrections and Clarifications column on Monday 2 March reported that grammar peda (tactfully described there as "linguistic purists") had been upset at the use of the phrase Snowden trove for the thousands of documents leaked by Edward Snowden. They asserted, and the Guardian's style guide agrees, that trove may not be used on its own, but must always form part of the compound noun treasure-trove. The idea that valuables that had been abandoned or hidden by persons unknown could be claimed by the state goes back at least to Roman times. The Latin was thesaurus inventus, which strikes modern non-Latinists as peculiar, since for us a thesaurus is a special form of dictionary, while to invent is to create something new. But thesaurus in Latin could mean a treasury and the concept of a book being a storehouse of knowledge has led to the word being used in English at least since the sixteenth century. And Latin inventus could as much mean discovered as invented. The Latin thesaurus inventus continued to be used until the end of the medieval period. After the Norman Conquest it existed alongside the Anglo-Norman tresortrové. This was gradually Anglicised into treasure found. Legal English, with its liking for old French terms, preferred to turn it into English in a different way; a legal textbook of 1567 explained that valuable abandoned property belonged to the queen and was called treasure-trove. Since the concept was a legal one, this form ousted the other one. Treasure-trove follows a pattern of compound terms derived from French in which the adjective follows the noun: others are governor-general. poet laureate, court-martial, heir apparent, letter patent and knight errant. Careful users of English, and the Guardian style guide, seem to be correct when they say that trove has no independent existence. At least, until we start to look at the evidence. People started to use trove by itself to mean a hoard or a valuable find at least as far back as the 1880s: "The value of her trove struck her, and she cast about for the best method of using it." By the 1920s, it was moderately common, though still not recognised by the linguistic authorities. When in 1950 Leonard Gribble published an anthology of tales for children under the title Story Trove, it clearly wasn't regarded as hopelessly bad English. Shortly afterwards, this well-known example appeared:"The Wise may have good reason to believe that the halfling's trove is indeed the Great Ring of long debate, unlikely though that may seem to those who know less." Nowadays it is unremarkable, though often expressing a broader sense of a hoard of intangible valuables. An Australian newspaper database, for example, is called simply Trove. Language has moved on. Trove is now too widely used to be dismissed as bad English Dictionaries include it (the Oxford English Dictionary has had an entry for it since 1989), though some refer the enquirer to treasure-trove. American ones are readier than British to accept that trove is now a noun and a valid abbreviated form of treasure-trove. The Guardian itself acknowledged this in its Corrections and Clarifications item: "Perhaps we should now accept that it's a useful word on its own." Indeed.

# **COOKING THIS PLANET**

ir conditioning (AC) may be cooling us, but it's cooking our planet. Countries around the world have experienced scorching temperatures this summer. This August was the second hottest on record. Global warming and more intense summer heat waves, coupled with increased urbanisation and rising incomes, are driving a dramatic increase in demand for AC units. The International Energy Agency

Iain Campbell & Caroline Winslow

**A SINGLE CHANGE IN OUR APPROACH TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAN ENABLE MORE PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD TO STAY COOL** BENEFIT CONSUMERS, **AND FLATTEN THE CURVE ON COOLING-RELATED** ENERGY **DEMAND AND** 

**EMISSIONS. IF WE WANT CLIMATE-**FRIENDLY AC, **WE NEED** 

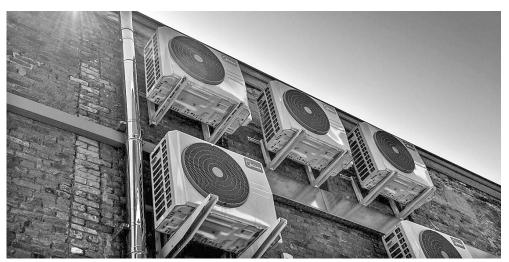
**TO LEAP TOWARD THE** 

**TECHNOLOGY CEILING**  (IEA) predicts that the number of ACs in operation globally will increase from 1.6 billion now to 5.6 billion by 2050. Over the next 30 years, ten air conditioners will be sold every second. Air conditioners contribute significantly to the greenhouse-gas emissions fueling climate change, both directly, owing to the hydro-fluorocarbon (HFC)based refrigerants they contain, and indirectly, given the energy they consume. A recent report by the IEA and the UN Environment Program is the latest to highlight the threat, describing it as "one of the most critical and often neglected climate and development issues of our time.

The 2016 Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Destroy the Ozone Layer aims to reduce HFC production and consumption by over 80 per cent by 2047. If implemented, this could avoid 0.4°C of global warming this century. But while the Kigali Amendment provides a pathway to address refrigerants, the world must now tackle the problem of air conditioners' energy intensity.

Most AC units sold today are 2-3 times less efficient than the best commercially available products. This is largely because consumers buy the lowest-priced units, with little or no understanding of the lifecycle cost implications of their purchase. The IEA estimates that widely diffusing the most efficient air conditioners on the market today could cut cooling energy demand by half.

While the AC industry needs to continue making units more efficient, we can, and must, take steps to drive the adoption of the best products already available. That means flipping the way we address the efficiency issue, which in turn will require policymakers and the industry to come together and show bold leadership.



The 2016 Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Destroy the Ozone Laver aims to reduce HFC production and consumption by over 80 per cent by 2047. If implemented, this could avoid 0.4°C of global warming this century. But while the Kigali Amendment provides a pathway to address refrigerants, the world must now tackle the problem of air conditioners' energy intensity

One way to boost energy efficiency is through policy intervention, specifically regarding minimum energy-performance standards (MEPS). Currently, MEPS are set just above the level of the worst-performing AC products, in order to keep them out of the market and provide some protection to consumers.

But with market growth continuing to accelerate, policymakers should instead set MEPS with reference to the best commercially available products - meaning that the MEPS would be just below the technology ceiling, rather than just above the technology floor. This significant change would not only protect consumers; it would also considerably reduce the lifecycle costs of owning and operating air conditioners. At the same time, it would still allow sufficient space for product competition, thereby bringing down the purchase price of more efficient units.

Such a policy could emulate and build on Japan's Top Runner program, launched in 1999, which effectively advances the country's AC market while delivering energy savings and reducing lifecycle costs. The scheme encourages consumers to purchase the best-per-

forming available units through a labeling program, which in turn increases economies of scale and lowers costs. And by demanding more efficient AC technologies from the market, Top Runner also bolsters investor confidence.

Targeting maximum efficiency in this way worldwide would decrease the lifecycle cost for consumers of owning an AC unit by a factor of two to three and eliminate the need for over 1,300gw of electricity generation capacity globally. It would also avoid 157-345gt of carbon dioxideemissions over the next four decades.

Establishing policies based on the best commercially available AC products rather than the most commonly sold ones would thus avoid emissions, reduce government spending on power generation, and save consumers money, all while continuing to incentivise the market to develop better performing products.

Better yet, such a policy shift would prepare the market for AC products with even greater efficiency potential that are already on the horizon. In 2018, an international coalition launched the Global Cooling Prize to identify a residential room air conditioner

that uses dramatically less energy and contains refrigerants with little to no effect on the climate. Eight teams have developed technolo gies that potentially could have five times less climate impact than standard AC units on the market today. Following testing this fall, one winner will be awarded a prize of \$1 million in March 2021 for their innovative cooling solution. Scaling such a cooling technology globally could save con-

sumers \$1 trillion in operational costs in the next 30 years, and avoid up to 0.5°C of warming by the end of the century. And that includes only the residential sector.

A single change in our approach to energy efficiency can enable more people around the world to stay cool, benefit consumers, and flatten the curve on cooling-related energy demand and emissions. If we want climate-friendly AC. we need to leap toward the technology ceiling.

Iain Campbell is a senior fellow at the Rocky Mountain Institute. Caroline Winslow is an associate with the Buildings Team at the Rocky Mountain Institute. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

#### WORLD SPECTRUM

Dr. D K Giri

**A LOOK AT** 

**ARGUMENTS IN** 

PERMANENT

**FAVOUR OF INDIA'S** 

**MEMBERSHIP OF** 

**THE SECURITY** 

COUNCIL

**Reforms in UN and UNSC membership** 

### LOI

### **DOUBLE DECKER**

Santa Singh and Banta Singh landed up in Bombay. They managed to get into a double-decker bus. Santa Singh somehow managed to get a bottom seat. But unfortunate Banta got pushed to the top. After a while when the rush is over. Santa went upstairs to see friend Bannta



What the heck's going' on? Why are vou scared? I was enjoying my ride down there?" Scared Banta replies. "Yeah, but you've got a 'driver'.

rime Minister Modi made an impassioned speech on September 22 on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. The crux of his speech was its reform and expansion and India's membership of the UNSC. He implored, "How long would a country have to wait particularly when the transformational changes happening in that country affect a large part of the world?"

It goes without saying that the geopolitics in the world has changed, the post-war power configurations have changed and it's a different world. The peace-keepers on the UN Security Council have become a threat to world security and the 'villains' of war have become champions of peace and democracy. I am referring to China, which is anti-democratic and anti-peace. How can it be UNSC member with a veto power? Japan and Germany are democracies, how can they be kept out of the UN power structure.

The veto power itself should be done away with. The decisions should be taken on majority vote. One country standing against the

Strange verdict

values of UN could not be vested with a veto to torpedo the collective will of the world. India, as the largest democracy in the world, can no longer be kept out of UN decision-making process.

But India's foreign policy has faltered too. Let us see how. It may be recalled that, in 1955, India was offered the membership of the UNSC by the US and others to come in from the Asian region. Jawaharlal Nehru declined it and suggested it should be reserved for China. Ever since, we lost the opportunity.

In the current scenario, the UN, the highest body of the world clearly lacks legitimacy as UNSC remains under-represented. Jeffery Sachs of Columbia University, a leading expert and commentator of world politics, says "Asia's inadequate representation poses a serious threat to the UN's legitimacy, which will only increase as the world's most populous region assumes an increasingly important global role." He suggests that one possible way to resolve the problem should be to add at least four

Asian seats: one permanent seat for India, one shared by Japan and Korea, perhaps on a basis of two-year or one-year rotation, one for the ASEAN countries, representing the group as a single constituency and fourth rotating among other Asian countries.

Let us look at arguments in favour of India's permanent membership of the Security Council. To start with, India has been a founding member of the UN, although its permanent membership has been elusive, since Nehru denied the offer for some inexplicit reasons. However, the arguments in support are many. To cite a few, India is the second most populous country with 1.3 billion, and is likely to overtake China to become number one. So it's incongruous that the biggest country in terms of population, one-sixth of the world humanity remains unrepresented in the highest body of the world. Second, it is the largest democ-

racy in the world. One of the missions of the UN is to foster democracy in the world, and India has remained a beacon light for coun-

tries in the whole of Asia as an unflinching democracy. Third, India has been a non-permanent member of the UNSC for six terms spanning 12 years, and has been overwhelmingly re-elected once more to start a new tem from January 2021. It's time that it becomes a permanent member.

Fourth, India is the 7th largest economy in the world, growing steadily with minor hiccups. It is expected to contribute to world trade and economy, as in 20 years' time or so, it is expected to overtake the Chinese economy, Fifth, India is already a member of the groups of rich countries like G-4 and G-77, which produce goods and services for the entire world. Sixth, India has the 3rd largest army in the world and has contributed so far 160,000 soldiers to 50 UN peace keeping missions to difficult conflict areas. Indian soldiers have laid down their lives for the freedom and security of countries under domination or in war.

> The writer is Professor of International Politics, JMI.

# etters

### TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are 101 requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

### rissapost B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010



ing that the incident was spontaneous and not pre-planned, and that sufficient proof could not be submitted by the prosecuting agency, the CBI. Evidently such a decision could not be reached just on the day of verdict, and as such presence of the accused ones in present days of corona-crisis in the court just for listening to the verdict should have been avoided. Moreover, such court decisions attracting huge public interest should be telecast live and be read right at beginning of court-hours.

Subhash Chandra Agarwal, DELHI

### Polls in Myanmar

Sir, The upcoming elections in Mayanmar, which is going to be held on November 8, 2020, is seen as a step towards Myanmar's transition from military rule which ended in 2011 to full democracy. It will be Myanmar's second freely contested election since end of 50 years of military rule. The military will still wield enormous power. It's guaranteed 25 percent of the seats in Parliament and retains control of three important portfolios. Some 75 percent of the seats in Parliament are up for polls, effectively giving the military the veto power over any constitutional change. Many analysts believe that the governing party - the National League for Democracy (NLD) is still expected to win but possibly with a smaller majority than in 2015. The party won a landslide victory in 2015 and tried to amend the Constitution but failed to obtain the vote needed. The NLD has failed on many fronts. It has failed to stop the fighting between the army and the ethnic armed groups despite a nationwide ceasefire agreement in 2015 and several rounds of talks. The government had also come under pressure internationally over a military crackdown on the Rohingya minority in Rakhine state in 2017.A 'no vote campaign' has also worried NLD, as there would be a probability  $-\!\!\!\!\!\!\!\!\!$ of lesser voter turnout because of the coronavirus.

Animesh Mishra, DHENKANAL







# Free speech 'can't' override others' rights RAJ'S APOLITICAL COVID

A BOMBAY HC BENCH WAS HEARING A PETITION FILED TO QUASH AN FIR REGISTERED **OVER TWEETS AGAINST MAHA CM UDDHAV THACKERAY AND HIS SON** 

### AGENCIES

Mumbai, Oct 1: The Bombay High Court Thursday said that in democracy a person has the right to express views, but it does not confer a license to violate the constitutional rights of others.

A bench of Justices SS Shinde and MS Karnik was hearing a petition filed by Sameet Thakkar, seeking to quash an FIR registered against him over his tweets against Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and his son, minister Aaditya Thackeray.

VP Marg police station here has registered a First Information Report against Thakkar for ob-

scenity and slander. Thursday, his lawyer Abhinav Chandrachud argued that Constitution gives every citizen the right to criticise those who hold a public office, even a Prime Minister.

Thakkar is facing a case for just two tweets which were not obscene. the lawyer said, adding that abusive language does not necessarily mean obscenity.

Chandrachud also cited Justice VR Krishna Iver's remark that courts should ignore trifling and venial offenses.

The Supreme Court too had said



that those holding public offices person and not the Chief Minister must be thick-skinned, the lawver added

The bench, however, People now think they can disagreed. 'Sometimes we get publicity if they post also receive very something against the PM o CM. You know now even harsh criticism. We know if we igjudiciary is not immune. Before nore it, everypandemic every day we used thing will pass.

But can we expect everyone to react in the same manner? Someone holding a public office might be very sensitive," the HC said.

Advocate Chandrachud also argued that IPC Sections 499 and 500 which deal with defamation were slapped against Thakkar, but the complaint had been filed by a private

The judges, however, said that the dignity of a public office should be maintained. "The rights of your client can not vioto keep getting so many late someone

who was allegedly defamed.

letters else's constitu-THE BENCH OBSERVES tional rights. Everybody knows these rights are not absolute .... if

criticism is fair then the person who occupies public office should have the capacity to accept it. But criticism can't be unfair and abusive," it said.

The High Court also observed

that it has become very easy to criticise someone on social media. "People now think they can get publicity if they post something against the PM or CM. You know now even judiciary is not immune. Before pandemic every day we used to keep getting so many letters,' the bench said.

Additional Public Prosecutor SR Shinde said the police had issued a notice to Thakkar under Section 41-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure. but he was yet to appear before them to record his state ment. Such a notice is issued where arrest is not necessary and the maximum punishment for the offense is less than seven years.

Advocate Chandrachud said his client was willing to record his statement, but he did not do so fearing arrest. "Our understanding is that there is no need for arrest when 41-A notice has been issued. You inform investigating officer of the same," the court told the government lawyer.

It directed Thakkar to appear before the police October 5 and asked the government to inform the court if the police decided to book Thakkar under any additional charges that would warrant his arrest.

# **CAMPAIGN FROM OCT 2**

#### AGENCIES

Jaipur, Oct 1: With Rajasthan witnessing a whopping rise in the number of coronavirus cases, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has appealed to leaders of all parties, MPs, MLAs to make the 'public movement against corona' starting from October 2 successful.

Till Wednesday, Rajasthan had 20,581 active cases, while cumulative cases in the state were 1,35,292. The state has registered 1,486 fatalities out of which 408 have been registered in Jaipur itself.

Since last few days, the number of Covid-19 patients in the state has been continuously touching the 2,000-mark, confirmed health officials.

Gehlot said that all leaders rising above the political ideology should participate in this public movement in keeping the virus at bay.

The Chief Minister was discussing with public representatives across all political lines over the public movement via video conferencing from his official residence Wednesday.

He called upon everybody to take a pledge to make the movement an effective weapon against the on-



Saving life is our top priority. There will be no shortage of funds to curb the infection. Masks will be distributed to people during this campaign ASHOK GEHLOT | CHIEF MINISTER, RAJASTHAN

66 Full cooperation will be extended in publicity during the campaign from our side, no matter what GULAB CHAND KATARIA | LEADER OF OPPN, RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY

the 'apolitical Covid-19 campaign'

will set an example in the country.

Vasundhara Raje said that the co-

rona infection is in its most dan-

gerous phase now. In such a situa-

tion everyone has to work together

Former Chief Minister

going coronavirus war. Ministers will visit the districts He said, "If the number of corona under their charge to initiate and positive cases surge then it will be monitor the campaign. a big challenge for us.' Assembly Speaker CP Joshi said

"Saving life is our top priority. There will be no shortage of funds to curb the infection. Masks will be distributed to people during this campaign," said Gehlot adding that he himself will kickstart the campaign from Albert Hall in Jaipur at 4:30 pm October 2. The next day October 3 all

rising above politics and party interests

## Hathras-like incidents won't be tolerated in Maha, says Uddhav

Thackeray was speaking while virtually inaugurating the newly-formed Mira-Bhayandar Vasai-Virar police commissionerate

#### AGENCIES

Thane, Oct 1: Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray Thursday said that Hathras-like incidents will not be tolerated in the state and those indulging in crime against women would be dealt with severely

His sta



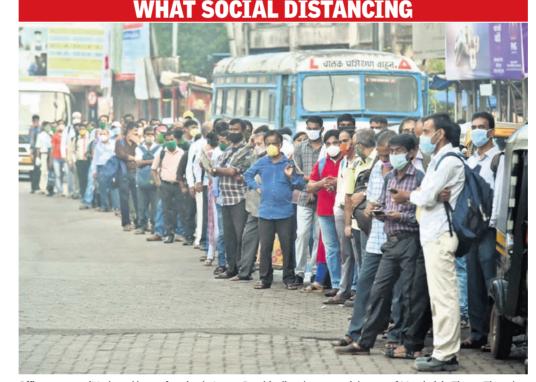
Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said the proposal for the new police commissionerate remained on paper during the previous government and it was brought to reality by the MVA government.

Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said Rs25 crore would be allocated for the new commissionerate soon.

### Deshmukh blasts Yogi

Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh Thursday targeted Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over the Hathras and Balrampur rape victims' deaths.

Taking to Twitter, Deshmukh said that instead of commenting on the affairs of other states, Adityanath should focus on ending the jungle raj in Uttar Pradesh. A 22-year-old Dalit woman died



Office-goers wait to board buses ferrying between Dombivali and commercial areas of Mumbai, in Thane, Thursday. Huge crowds are being witnessed at the bus stops as the suburban trains are allowed only for the people serving government organisations and other essential services

### Make people 'greedy' for handlooms, khadi

#### AGENCIES

Jaipur, Oct 1: On the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, the FICCI Rajasthan State Council organised a webinar on 'Future of Handloom & Khadi'.

Speaking as Chief Guest at the webinar, Dr Arvind Mayaram, Economic Advisor to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan mentioned that consumerism drives the world and there is a need to create demand and make people greedy for handlooms and khadi.

"We need to look at development of handloom and khadi from an economic activity perspective.' Srivastava, Dhirai

Commissioner, Rajasthan Foundation said that there is also a heightened interest and demand for handloom products like never before and time is ripe that we strengthen the entire value chain especially designing and marketing to unleash the real value and potential of the sector.



FICCI mentioned that the handlooms have a long tradition of excellent craftsmanship and acclaimed globally for their weaving and printing elegance. It is important to ensure sustenance of our cultural heritage. Welcoming the participants, Randhir Vikram Singh, Co-Chairman, FICCI Rajasthan State Council & CMD, Mandawa Hotels said that the handloom sector plays a crucial role in generating employment and revenue. It is one of the few sectors that preserve and promote Indian culture. Wandana Parnami, Chairperson, FICCI Ladies Organisation - Jaipur Chapter said there is an increased sensitivity towards environment today due to which sustainable fabrics are in demand and the importance of sustainability would play a crucial role in the resurrection of handlooms and khadi

tionwide outrage over the death of a 19-year-old Dalit woman from Uttar Pradesh's Hathras Tuesday, days after she was raped by four men September 14.

Thackeray was speaking while virtually inaugurating the newlyformed Mira-Bhayandar Vasai-Virar police commissionerate.

"When incidents like the one happened in UP occur, we usually discuss it for a while and then forget. But in Maharashtra, such incidents will not be allowed

to happen," he said.

"Hathras-like incidents will never be tolerated in Maharashtra. For that matter, any kind of crime against women, including harassment and eve-teasing, would be dealt with severely," the Chief Minister said.

There should be fear of police and they should crush criminal activities in the region, he added

"Policing should be such that visible, but people feel safe,"

have a separate police commissionerate for Mira Bhayandar and Vasai-Virar was long-pending.



day after heart-

Tuesday after allegedly being raped by two men in Uttar Pradesh's Balrampur district. She succumbed to critical injuries on the same day a 19-vear-old woman from Hathras in UP breathed her last in a Delhi hospital two weeks after she was gangraped. Both the women were

cremated Wednesday.

"A day after heart-wrenching#Hathras

wrenching #Hathras gangrape gangrape incident in UP yet incident another heinous crime has been in UP yet reported in Balrampur. Victims in another both incidents were brutally heinous assaulted by culprits. Instead of crime commenting on other states has been @myogiadityanath Ji should reported

focus on #UP's law & order in Balrampur. ANIL DESHMUKH I HOME MINISTER, MAHARASHTRA Victims in both inci-

> dents were brutally assaulted by culprits. Instead of commenting on other states @myogiadityanath Ji should focus on #UP's law & order." Deshmukh

In another tweet in Marathi on the same issue, he said, Instead of advising others @myogiadityanath ii vou should take strict measures

Deshmukh did not specify any instance of Adityanath comment-

### **NCPCR** takes cognizance of Baran incident

### AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) Thursday expressed concern over the abduction and sexual assault of two minor girls in Rajasthan's Baran district. It took suo moto cognizance of media reports of sexual crimes against the two minors in Baran.

"Prima facie, the case seems to be a violation of provisions of POCSO Act, hence, a detailed report along with the necessary information or documents has been sought from SP. Baran within 48

hours," the Commission said in Pradesh's Hathras. statement. In addition to this, the Commission took cognizance of sexual crimes against a 14-monthold girl and a four-vear-old minor in Alwar district of Rajasthan and asked for the action taken reports in these cases from the Superintendent of Police in Alwar

within seven days. Meanwhile, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot Thursday hit out at a section of the Opposition and media for "misleading" the public by comparing the incident in Baran to the gruesome gangrape of a Dalit woman in Uttar

According to police, two minor sisters went missing from their home in Baran district September 19. They were later found in Kota September 22. The girls were handed over to their families after recording their statements, police said, adding that medical examination of the girls did not confirm rape.

".. unfortunately the incident in Baran is being compared to the incident in Hathras. Girls in (the Baran case) have given their statement before the magistrate that they had gone with the boys on their own.' Gehlot said in a tweet in Hindi.

Laila Tyabji, Chairperson, Dastkar, stressed on bringing khadi bevond Khadi Bhandars. According to her khadi and handloom should be highlighted through nationwide campaigns, media, advertising, etc and given the reach to new markets and showcased at all kind of platforms so as to increase the consumption.

Presenting the concept of 3D -Decentralised, Diverse and Democratic framework for the development of Khadi, Kishore Shah, Co-Founder and Director. Khadi London suggested for setting a transformative target of development of 400 successful clusters and increase in market share for handloom and khadi from 5 to 25 per cent by 2025.

# Why Parth Pawar may give MVA headache

KNOWN TO HAVE AN INDEPENDENT MIND, PARTH, THE 30-YR-OLD SON OF STATE DEPUTY CM AJIT PAWAR, CALLS UPON THE AGITATED AND AGITATING MARATHAS TO ENSURE THEY 'GET JUSTICE BY WAY OF RESERVATIONS'

### AGENCIES

MUMBAI, Oct 1: The fiery but unpredictable Parth Pawar-grandnephew of Nationalist Congress Party president Sharad Pawar— Thursday stirred up Maharashtra politics by giving a 'wake-up' call to the Maratha community.

Known to have an independent mind, Parth, the 30-year-old son of state Deputy Chief Minister Aiit Pawar, called upon the agitated and agitating Marathas to ensure they get justice by way of reservations. Raking up the issue of Maratha

boy, Vivek K Rahade - who allegedly died by suicide demanding quotas for the community in jobs and education-Parth warned: "The flame that Vivek has ignited in our minds can set the whole system ablaze." Stating he was "devastated" to

hear of Vivek's death, Parth added before "a chain reaction of such unfortunate incidents starts,

#### Maratha leaders have to wake up and fight for this cause.

'The future of an entire generation is at stake...Requesting Maharashtra government to step in to solve the crisis." Parth urged, and announced his intention to move the Supreme Court by filing an intervenor application in the pending Maratha reservations matter cases.

"I am ready to carry the burning torch of Maratha agitation in my heart and knock the doors of justice for Vivek and millions of other helpless 'Viveks'. Jai Hind, Jai Maharashtra," assured Parth to the Maratha youth.

In a suicide note, Rahade said that he had appeared for NEET exams to pursue the medical stream but since the Maratha quotas were recently stayed and as his family could ill-afford education in private medical colleges, he was "ending his life"

He further said that after his



### SEOUENCE OF EVENTS In August, Parth shocked the

The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) govt, along with Oppn BJP, have moved the SC to get stay on Maratha reservations vacated after it was referred to a larger bench Sept 9

PARTH HAS ALSO HAILED THE FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY FOR THE RAM TEMPLE IN AYODHYA

death, the Centre and state govcount for nearly 33 per cent of the ernments may take note of the state's population of 11.50 crore. Maratha youth and his sacrifice Partha's sympathy for the would be worthwhile. Marathas ac-Maratha boy came at a time when

lies Shiv Sena-Nationalist Congress Party-Congress, along with Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party, have moved the apex court to get the stay on Maratha reservations vacated after it was referred to a larger bench September 9. This is not the first time that the

the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) al-

30-year-old Parth has created ripples in state politics with his comments or stand on certain issues.

In August, he shocked the MVA and the Pawar clan by seeking a CBI probe into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput and also hailed the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. It invited a public snub from Pawar Sr. who dismissed him as "immature" and the party did not give much importance to his statements. The MVA or the NCP have not vet reacted to Parth's latest ven-ture in support of Maratha youth and plans to move the SC.







MVA and the Pawar clan by

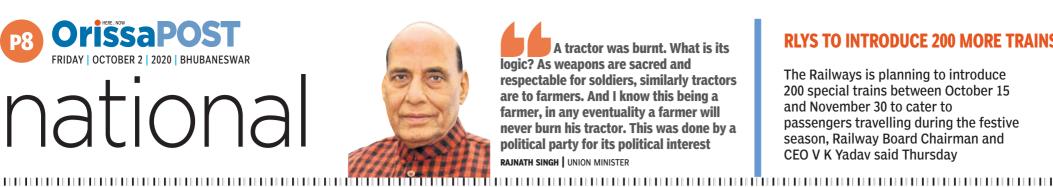
seeking a CBI probe into the

death of actor Sushant

Singh Raiput







A tractor was burnt. What is its logic? As weapons are sacred and respectable for soldiers, similarly tractors are to farmers. And I know this being a farmer, in any eventuality a farmer will never burn his tractor. This was done by a political party for its political interest **RAJNATH SINGH** UNION MINISTER

### **RLYS TO INTRODUCE 200 MORE TRAINS**

The Railways is planning to introduce 200 special trains between October 15 and November 30 to cater to passengers travelling during the festive season, Railway Board Chairman and CEO V K Yadav said Thursday



uote

On this auspicious occasion of Gandhi Javanti, let us resolve to rededicate ourselves to the

welfare and progress of the nation, to follow the mantra of truth and non-violence, and to build a clean, capable, strong and prosperous India, and to make Gandhiji's dreams come true

RAM NATH KOVIND PRESIDENT

The city government will launch a mega anti-air pollution campaign on October 5, and a centre is being set up in Naiafgarh to produce a chemical to deal with stubble burning

GOPAL RAI DELHI ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

Shiromani Akali Dal probably the oldest alliance partner of the BJP, has broken away sensing the disquiet

in the farming community and now Dushyant Chautala is feeling the heat of continuing with the BJP-led government in Haryana

KAPIL SIBAL CONGRESS LEADER

### SHORT TAKES

### 2 soldiers killed

Srinagar: Two soldiers were killed and four injured Thursday as Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked ceasefire violations at multiple places along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said."Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along LoC in Naugam Sector, Kupwara, Thursday morning by firing mortars and other weapons," Srinagarbased defence spokesperson Colonel Rajesh Kalia said.

### **Rly official held**

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Thursday said that it has arrested a Senior Inspector of the Store

# **Covid super-spreaders drove explosive outbreak: Study**

The researchers, including those from the Government of Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, found that over 70 per cent of Covid-19 infected patients in the country did not infect any of their contacts, while 8 per cent of infected individuals accounted for 60 per cent of observed new infections

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: The transmission of COVID-19 in India has been driven mainly by super-spreaders or a small percentage of infected people, according to the largest contact tracing study in the country which also shows that children are key to the spread of the novel coronavirus. The researchers, including those

from the Government of Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, found that over 70 per cent of COVID-19 infected patients in the country did not infect any of their contacts, while 8 per cent of infected individuals accounted for 60 per cent of observed new infections.

The study of over half-million people in India found that both cases and deaths due to the disease have been more heavily concentrated in the 40-69 year age group than is seen in high-income countries, among other trends.

84,965 confirmed cases of COVID-

19 in the two states based on data

The researchers also found a high prevalence of infection among children who were contacts of other cases around their own age. The study, published in the journal Science on Wednesday, assessed the disease transmission patterns in 5,75,071 individuals exposed to



collected by tens of thousands of contact tracers. According to the scientists, including Ramanan Laxminarayan from the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics, and Policy in New Delhi, the findings offer a peek into the pandemic's trajectory in a low- and middle-income country, where most COVID-19 cases have occurred.

Based on the data, the scientists said both cases and deaths in the two Indian states were concentrated in younger cohorts than expected from observations in higher-income countries.

The study noted that contacts with the same age were associated with the greatest infection risk -- a pattern, which the researchers said. was strongest among children be-

tween 0-14 years of age, and among adults older than 65 years. They said the proportion of deaths to the number of infected people. known as the case-fatality ratio (CFR), spanned 0.05 per cent at ages 5-17 years to 16.6 per cent at ages exceeding 85.

The researchers also noted that COVID-19 patients in the two states have a median stay of five days in the hospital before death compared to 13 days to death from the date of hospital admission in the US

Follow-up testing of exposed contacts revealed that 70 per cent of infected individuals did not infect any of their contacts, while 8 per cent of coronavirus positive patients accounted for 60 per cent of observed new infections.

# Cong not worthy of alliance: HDK

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Oct 1: JD(S) leader H D Kumaraswamy Thursday made a sharp attack on erstwhile ally Congress, saying it was not a party worthy of an alliance and it does not honour coalition dharma.

A day after the Karnataka Congress ruled out any understanding with the regional party for the November 3 by- elections to two assembly constituencies in the state, the former chief minister hit back, declaring there was no such proposal from JD(S).

....who had placed the pro posal from the JD(S) to have an alliance with the Congress? None of us have gone to Congress doors like they had come to HD Deve Gowda's (JDS supremo) doors after the 2018 assembly polls." Kumaraswamy tweeted.

He was referring to the Congress forging the post-poll tie-up with JDS under which he became the chief minister heading the coalition government that had collapsed last year following rebellion by a section of MLAs from both par-

The Congress was not a party worthy of an alliance, he said adding this was 'proved' by its conduct such as "bringing down" the coalition government led by him, luring of BSP MLAs supporting its government in Rajasthan to defect and its attempts to 'destabilise' the government in Maharashtra.

'There cannot be an alliance with Congress that does not honour the coalition dharma,' Kumaraswamy said

## Will PM hold 'Namaste Trump' rally, asks Cong

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Congress Thursday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi if he would still hold a 'Namaste Trump' event in honour of US President Donald Trump after he questioned India's COVID-19 numbers and accused it of concealing figures during the presidential debate.

Senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel questioned the government if it would answer the allegations made by President Trump."The president of the United States has made a serious charge that India is concealing COVID-19 deaths. We wish to remind him that Guiarat is still paying a price for hosting him in the midst of a pandemic. We hope our government answers to his allegations," he said on Twitter.

Taking a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over Trump's remarks, Congress leader P Chidambaram asked whether the PM will hold another 'Namaste Trump' rally to honour his "dear friend".

During the first presidential de bate ahead of the US polls, Trump raised questions over the credibility of India's COVID-19 tally, claiming that it was among the countries that do not accurately disclose the number of deaths due to the pandemic. Reacting to the remarks, Chidambaram said, "Mr Donald Trump clubs India with China and Russia and accused the three countries of hiding the number of COVID deaths. He also accused the three countries for causing the most air pollution."

'Will Mr Modi hold another 'Namaste Trump!' rally to honour



his dear friend?" he said, taking a dig at Modi over the grand event held in Ahmedabad during the US president's India visit in February this year.

"In 47 months I have done more than you have in 47 years' said Mr Donald Trump in the Presidential debate yesterday. If the statement reminds you of someone in India, that's your imagination!" Chidambaram said in a series of tweets.

The remarks by Trump came during his first presidential debate with Democratic challenger Joe Biden, who attacked the US president over the handling of the coronavirus crisis and said the president lied to Americans on the COVID-19 pandemic, which has killed more than 200,000 people and infected over seven million others in the country. Defending his handling of the crisis, Trump said "millions" could have died in America without his actions."When you talk about the numbers, you don't know how many people died in China. You don't know how many people died in Russia. You don't know how many people died in India. They don't exactly give you a right number. Just so you understand," Trump said.

### TERROR-FINANCING CASE ED files chargesheet against Hafiz Saeed rorist organisation by the United Nations in March, 2012 while Saeed is already designated as a global terrorist by the UN. "The FIF is noth-



ing but a front end organisation of JuD and LeT that was formed to evade security and sanctions. The Indian government has designated FIF as a terrorist organisation in August, 2016.""LeT seeks



### PREZ TURNS 75. **WISHES POUR IN**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: President Ram Nath Kovind Thursday said he was deeply touched by the birthday wishes and kind words he received from fellow citizens and friends, which gives him strength to serve the nation with deep gratitude and humility.

Kovind turned 75 Thursday. "Deeply touched by the birthday wishes and kind words I have received today from so many fellow citizens and friends. Your love and affection gives me strength to serve our people and our nation with deep gratitude and great humility. Thank you very much!," the president tweeted. Kovind was born on October 1, 1945 at Paraunkh village in Kanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. He was sworn in as the 14th President of India on July 25, "I convey my heartiest 2017.greetings to the Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind ji on his birthday today. He is known for his simplicity, warmth, vision, exemplary leadership and concern for the poor. May he be blessed with good health and a long life," Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also wished the President. "Birthday wishes to Rashtrapati Ji. His rich insights and wise understanding of policy matters are great assets for our nation. He is extremely compassionate towards serving the vulnerable. I pray for his good health and long life," Modi said.

Account of Central Railways in a graft case. The CBI said that the accused has been identified as Bipin Kumar Sharma, currently posted as Senior Inspector of Store Account, Mumbai division of CST, for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 30,000 from the complainant. A CBI officer said that he was arrested after a case was registered on a complaint alleging that Sharma demanded a bribe of Rs 30,000 for smooth delivery of 30.000 pieces of scrap PSC Sleeper which was awarded to the firm of the complainant.

### Two arrested

Panaji: Two Bulgarian nationals were arrested in North Goa district Thursday for allegedly withdrawing money from ATMs after stealing card data through 'skimming'. The duo, whose names were not disclosed, were arrested in the coastal village of Morjim, police said. They were suspected of stealing debit/credit card data through `skimming' devices at ATMs and withdrawing money, said inspector Jivba Dalvi of Pernem Police.

Man dies

Pune: An unidentified man died after he was allegedly beaten up by a group of people who suspected that he was a thief in Maharashtra's Solapur district on Wednesday, police said. The incident took place near Kumbhari village in the district. A case under IPC sections 302 (murder) and 34 (common intention) was registered and four people were arrested, said an officer from Walsang police station. an alleged terror-financing case. The agency's case is based on a National Investigation Agency complaint filed against the accused and Pakistan-based organisation

Falah-i-Insaniyat Foundation (FIF). "The prosecution complaint (chargesheet) has been filed against Indian national Mohd Salman. Hafiz Muhammad Saeed (founder of LeT, Jamaat-Ud-Dawa and Falahi-Insaniyat foundation), his deputy Shahid Mehmood, a Dubai-based Pakistani Mohd Kamran and Mohd Salim alias mama, a Delhi-based hawala operator under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act in an ongoing investigation linked to a terror financing case."

the ED said in a statement. Mohd Salman has been found to be involved in receiving funds from FIF operators and his associates through the hawala (illegal funds transfer) channel. the agency claimed. "FIF is a Pakistan-based terror organisation established by Jamat-ud-Dawa. It was founded by Hafiz Saeed," it said.

FIF has been designated as ter-

to raise funds and build network through FIF for further terror activities," it said.

The ED said its probe found "funds were re-routed from Pakistan to Dubai and further to India through hawala channels.""Mohd Salman was the recipient of funds sent by Mohd Kamran and his associates Abdul Aziz Behlim and Arif Gulambashir Dharampuria in Dubai," it said. "With respect to the inflow of

funds from Dubai, the quantum of funds that Mohd Salman was receiving from Mohd Kamran and his associates in Dubai through hawala channels has been quantified on the basis of emails, receipts and registers maintained by accused." "Mohd Salman used the funds

received from abroad for construction of Masjid at Uttawar in Palwal district of Haryana and for conducting marriage of poor girls in and around this village, it said. The agency had earlier attached a Rs 73.12 lakh worth immovable property of Salman in Delhi in this case.

An animal keeper feeds a 6-month-old elephant rescued from Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary, at the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati, Thursday PTI PHOTO

### **B777** aircraft for VVIP travel arrives

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: A custom-made B777 aircraft, which will be used to fly the President, Vice President and Prime Minister, has arrived in Delhi from the US Thursday, said government officials.

The plane was scheduled to be delivered by aircraft manufacturer Boeing to Air India in July but its delivery was delayed twice - once in July for a few weeks due to COVID-19 pandemic and then in August for a few weeks due to technical reasons -

the officials noted.

Air India One, which is the call sign of the aircraft, landed at the Delhi airport from Texas at around 3 pm on Thursday, they stated. Senior officials of the national carrier had reached the US during the first half of August to receive the plane from Boeing, the officials said.

Another custom-made B777 plane for the travel of VVIPs is likely to be received from Boeing during a later date, they noted. These two aircraft were part of Air India's commercial fleet for

a few months in 2018 before they were sent back to Boeing for retrofitting them for VVIP travel.

Officials said the total cost of purchase and retrofitting the two planes has been estimated to be around Rs 8.400 crore. The B777 planes will have state-

of-the-art missile defence systems called Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) and Self-Protection Suites (SPS).

In February, the US agreed to sell the two defence systems to India at a cost of USD 190 million.

### **PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES**

# SC directs refund of air tickets cancelled due to lockdown

#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Supreme Court Thursday directed refund of air tickets, domestic and international, for travel during the COVID-19 lockdown period from March 25 to May 24 within three weeks from the date of the cancellation of flights.

Accepting the Centre's proposal, the top court directed that if the tickets have been booked through an agent for travel within the lockdown period, in all such cases full refund shall be given by the airlines immediately and the amount shall be passed on immediately by the agent to the passengers.

It said: "If on account of finan-

cial distress, any airline/airlines are not able to refund then they shall provide credit shell, equal to the amount of fare collected, in the name of passenger when the booking is done either directly by the passenger or through travel agent so as to consume the same on or before March 31, 2021".

It is open to passengers either to utilise such credit shell up to March 31, 2021 on any route of choice or transfer the credit shell to any person including the travel agent concerned, and the airlines shall honour such a transfer, the top court said.

A bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and M



R Shah said the suggestions and formulations arrived at the meeting held by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MCA), Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which are acceptable to the majority of

stakeholders have to be implemented in letter and spirit.

"We also feel that such formulations are workable solutions in these peculiar circumstances which are prevailing in the country," the bench said, while passing a slew of directions for refund of air tickets to the hassled passengers, whose flights were cancelled due to the pandemic induced lockdown.

The top court's verdict came on a batch of petitions, including by NGOs and passengers associations, seeking complete refund of ticket fare for the flights cancelled. It said that the court cannot lose sight of the present situation prevailing in the country and across the globe with regard to the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and any strict enforcement action of Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) (aviation norms) against the airlines would further restrict their operations.

"It cannot be disputed that the civil aviation sector, which is one of the important sectors, is seriously affected in view of the ban imposed for operating flights. Added to the same, air passenger traffic has come down heavily and which is gradually being restored," the top court said.

It added that any such enforcement action may further jeopardise the possibilities of generation of cash by airlines which can further adversely affect/delay the refund cycle. "Strict enforcement of Civil Aviation Requirements at this moment may not yield any mean-ingful result for any stakeholder," the bench said.









I have no words to condemn the barbaric and shameful incident at Hathras involving a young Dalit girl. My deepest condolences to the family MAMATA BANERJEE WEST BENGAL CM

### **AHMED PATEL COVID+VE**

**Congress treasurer Ahmed** Patel has tested positive for Covid-19 and he has asked all those who came in close contact with him to isolate themselves and get tested





**MyNEP** Competition is an interesting way of sharing unique aspects about the National Education

Policy 2020. Participate in the competition at http://MyNEP.in. Be a part of the educational transformation of India

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER

I feel that anti-socia elements have taken over the state completely and there is no rule of law left in Uttar

Pradesh. The Balrampur incident is a replay of what happened in Hathras. In such circumstances request that President's rule should be imposed in the state MAYAWATI BSP SUPREMO

My first priority is to listen to parents. Our government is for protecting children. As of now, we have time till October 15, as per the

Central government's guidelines. We will take appropriate decisions before that S. SURESH KUMAR KARNATAKA PRIMARY

AND SECONDARY EDUCATION MINISTER

### SHORT TAKES

### **Ravi Kishan gets** Y-plus security

Lucknow: BJP MP and actor Ravi Kishan has been provided with the Y-plus category security following threats to life after he spoke out about the Bollywood-drug nexus links. In a tweet on Thursday, the actor expressed gratitude to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Ravi Kishan thanked the Chief Minister for providing security for his family and the people of his constituency' and said that his voice would continue to echo people's thoughts.



young woman, aged about 25

### **SC rejects PIL for probe** PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, Oct 1: The Supreme The petition filed by a group of Court Thursday rejected a PIL filed by retired bureaucrats alleging gross mismanagement of the

'MISMANAGEMENT' OF PANDEMIC

COVID-19 pandemic by the central government as the number of those infected by the virus has crossed 63 A bench headed by Justice L N Rao was told by advocate Prashant Bhushan that on February 4, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had issued an advisory but international passengers were not Bhushan said the "Namaste Trump" event was allowed to happen on February 24 and one lakh people had gathered at a stadium despite the MHA advisory that crowding

> announced by the government without consulting the experts. He said before the imposition of

per cent, while crores of jobs were lockdown, no steps were taken to prolost and the economy destroyed. Bhushan contended that the govcure PPE kits due to which several ernment has been unable to control doctors lost their lives. He said COVID-19 and as per official figseveral policemen have also lost ures, over 63 lakh people have been their lives due to COVID and added infected by the virus. He claimed these issues require inquiry. Bhushan said as per figures over that the lockdown was unilaterally

two crore salaried people have lost their jobs. He also referred to the issue of migration during the lockdown and said that the infection has spread across the country.

The bench said that this is a matter for public debate, not for the court and "We are not inclined to interfere". It added that these are matters for the Government to look

into and the authorities should be given the latitude.

petitioners including retired bureaucrats alleged that the Centre failed to undertake timely and effective measures for containing transmission of the virus and an independent inquiry by a commission, appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952, was essential to inquire into the "lapses".

The petition, filed through Bhushan, has claimed that the Centre's response to the pandemic and its "deleterious impact" on the lives and livelihoods of the citizens is a "definite matter of public importance and warrants appointment of a commission" under section 3 of the Act.

The plea has claimed that the nationwide lockdown, which had commenced from March 25 and the manner in which it was implemented, has had a "devastating impact" on jobs, livelihood and the overall economy. It alleged that the nationwide lockdown, which was announced on March 24, was "arbitrary, irrational and without due consultation with experts or state governments".

# Suspense over seat sharing continues

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, Oct 1: The filing of nomination papers for the Assembly elections in Bihar began Thursday though suspense continued over the seat-sharing formula among the two major alliances in the state -- the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and the Opposition Grand Alliance (Mahagathbandhan).

The Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) which is part of the NDA is posing a hurdle to seat-sharing in the alliance. On the other hand the RJD. the major party in the Grand Alliance, is not able or is unwilling to fulfill the demand of the Congress in the distribution of seats in the Mahagathbandhan.

For the last three decades, the regional parties have been supporting the national parties to come to power in Bihar. In such a situation the national parties are ready to keep the smaller and regional parties in good humour.

According to official data both the national parties, the BJP and the Congress, have not been able to cross the 100-seat mark in any Assembly election in Bihar since 1990. During the last Bihar Assembly election in 2015, the



Congress could be part of the gov ernment only with the help of both the Janata Dal United and the Rashtriya Janata Dal. Following the JD-U's exit from the Opposition Grand Alliance, JD-U supremo Nitish Kumar formed the government with the help of the BJP.

In the 2015 Assembly polls, the Congress had to remain content with 27 seats while the BJP won only 53 seats. Looking at the 2010 Bihar Assembly election results, the BJP had the support of the JD-U as an alliance partner with the JD-U bagging 115 seats and the BJP 91 to hold the reins of Bihar.

The same political scenario was there in the 2005 Assembly elections, too, where the BJP came to power with the support of the JD-U. In the 2000 Bihar state polls, the RJD came to power by registering a win on more than half of the 243 assembly seats.

### Court extends Sharjeel Imam's judicial custody

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 1: A Delhi court Thursday extended till October 22 the judicial custody of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) research scholar Sharjeel Imam, arrested under the antiterror law, in connection with the communal violence in the Northeast area of the national capital in February.

The Special Cell of Delhi Police had arrested Sharjeel on August 25 under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act in connection with the riots, a day after being brought to the capital city from a jail in Assam on a production warrant.

Sharjeel, a PhD student at the JNU's Centre for Historical Studies. was produced before the court through video conferencing from jail number one of the Tihar complex at the end of a month-long judicial custody. "Never have I understood why I am in the case," Sharjeel's counsel Surbhi Dhar said on the behalf of her client. She also opposed the extension of judicial remand and protested why the remand copy has not been supplied to them. The case pertains to a 'conspiracy' to incite the riots, which had left 53 people dead and 748 injured. Even though the police have filed a voluminous charge sheet in the matter, his name is not mentioned in it and will be added in the supplementary charge sheet.

## **UPPING THE ANTE** Rahul to hold tractor rallies across Punjab

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

lakh in the country.

screened until March 4.

should be avoided. He submitted

that experts had advised against a

full lockdown due to which the GDP

contracted by an unprecedented 23

Chandigarh, Oct 1: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will hold tractor rallies in Punjab and Harvana from October 3 to 5 to protest against the Centre's new farm laws, the party said.

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary and in-charge of Punjab affairs, Harish Rawat, Pradesh Punjab Congress Committee president Sunil Jakhar, and all state ministers and Congress MLAs will join the protests, "to give voice to the angst and pain of the farmers, whose livelihood and future has been put at stake by the central legis-

Moga), before moving through Lopon (Nihal Singh Wala).

The rally will then move into Jagraon (Ludhiana), where it will be received at Chakar, Lakha and Manoke, culminating eventually in a public meeting Jattpura (Raikot, Ludhiana), said the spokesperson.

On October 4, Rahul Gandhi will travel by car to Bhawanigarh for a public meeting, before embarking on tractors to Samana (Patiala), where receptions will be held at Fatehgarh Chhana and Bahmna, before ending the day with a public meeting at grain market in Samana.

On October 5, the protest will begin from Dudhan Sadhan (Patiala) with a public meeting, and

### FESTIVE SPIRIT



Elephants being worshipped by devotees on their arrival to take part in world-famous Mysore Dasara celebrations, in Mysore, Thursday

with a sharp-edged weapon by her husband and his two colleagues. The woman, who had been living at her parents' home in the Umaria village, after she was thrown out of her husband's home for dowry, was dragged to a nearby sugarcane field in the wee hours of Wednesday. The police have lodged an FIR in the matter. The woman was initially admitted to Barkhera community health centre from where she was shifted to the government district hospital as her condition was critical.

### Woman found dead

Aurraiya: In a shocking incident, a woman was found hanging in her house along with her three kids at Dibivapur area of Aurraiva district in Uttar Pradesh. According to the police, the bodies were found hanging with a saree from a hook in the room at their house on Thursday afternoon. Police officials have so far. refused to comment on the incident and other family members also did not say a word on what happened. The bodies have been sent for postmortem and further, probe is on, police added.

Man gets life term

Ramgarh (Jharkhand): A court in Ramgarh sentenced a man to life imprisonment after he was convicted of killing his wife for dowry two years ago. SK Shukla, the additional public prosecutor, said the court on Wednesday awarded life term to 27-year-old Naresh Mahto, who had in February 2018 poisoned his 21-year-old wife Dayamani Devi, after she failed to pay him a dowry of Rs 50,000. The woman's father filed a police complaint, following which Mahato was arrested.

lations.' the tractors will then travel 10

of the three days, and will be con-

On October 3, the protest rally

will cover a total distance of 22 km,

tocols, said the spokesperson.

According to a Punjab Congress kms to Pehowa border, from where spokesperson, the tractor rallies Rahul Gandhi will enter Haryana, are expected to be supported by for a series of programmes there, farmers' organisations and will said the spokesperson. According to sources in Haryana cover more than 50 kms over three days. The rallies are scheduled Congress, Rahul Gandhi is likely to to begin at around 11 am on each

address rallies at Kaithal and Pipli in Kurukshetra district along the national highway on October 5 after ducted amid strict COVID-19 prowhich he will return to Delhi. Farmers in Punjab and Haryana have been protesting against the farm laws and the Congress has



### SC: HOW CAN COURT GIVE DIRECTION TO WHO, CHINA?

#### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Supreme Court Thursday declined to entertain a PIL that alleged that the Covid-19 pandemic is a human created genocide and urged the top court to issue directions to the World Health Organization (WHO) and China.

A bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and comprising of Justice Hrishikesh Roy told the petitioner-in-person Raman Kakkar, "You may be a doctor, but not a lawyer, which is evident from the prayers in the PIL." The petitioner had moved the top court seeking to pass directions against the WHO officials, who failed to prevent the spread of Covid-19 disease in the world. The bench observed that the

PM to inaugurate longest highway tunnel Saturday



plea which sought compensation from China to India, for losses incurred due to the pandemic, could not be maintained. The bench said the court has no jurisdiction to summon China and asked the petitioner, "this court is not the government and how can it say what the WHO and China should do?"

The petitioner claimed that the WHO had delayed by a month in declaring Covid-19 as a health emergency that threatened the world. The bench reiterated that

the petition is not maintainable. Many reports have emerged stating that China hid crucial information about Covid-19, including the discovery of the initial outbreak and the country's first death for several days. Even, the US has blamed China for the Covid-19 outbreak across the globe.

In June, the apex court had declined to entertain a plea seeking direction to the Centre to move the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and file a USD 600 billion compensation case against China. The plea had alleged COVID-19 pandemic was "deliberately created" by China. Chief Justice S.A. Bobde had dismissed the petition, however granted liberty to the petitioner to make a representation before the Centre.

(BRO) worked relentlessly to over-

come major geological, terrain and

weather challenges that included the

most difficult stretch of the 587-metre

The breakthrough from both

Seri Nalah Fault Zone.

### **BJP LEADER** SHOT DEAD

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, Oct 1: A BJP leader who was involved in the real estate business, was shot dead in Patna's Beur area Thursday.

The deceased identified as Jesh Kumar Jha alias Raju Baba had gone for a morning walk when two unidentified men wearing face masks opened fire at him. He died on the spot. The incident took place at Sita Ram Marriage Hall around 6.30 a.m. The attackers fled from the crime scene brandishing their firearms.

Jha was block president of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Ashok Mishra, City SP (west) Patna, said the reason for the murder is yet to be ascertained. However, there could be a possibility of dispute among family members.

We are not ruling out personal enmity with others too.  $\rightarrow$ Police are looking into all aspects. The deceased was involved in the property business," Mishra said. A month ago, around half a dozen attackers had opened fire in theoffice of another property dealer, Tuntun Gop in the same area.

### 

### Atal Tunnel, the world's longest highway tunnel, at Rohtang in

three days

Himachal Pradesh Saturday. The function will be held at 10 am, said a statement from the Prime Minister's Office. The Atal Tunnel, which reduces the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 kms and the

travel time by four to five hours, is

a 9.02-km-long tunnel. It connects

Manali to Lahaul-Spiti valley

throughout the year. Earlier the

valley was cut off for about six

months each year owing to heavy

snowfall. The tunnel is built with

New Delhi, Oct 1: Prime Minister

Narendra Modi will inaugurate the

strategically important all-weather

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

ultra-modern specifications in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3,000 metres (10,000 feet)

above Mean Sea Level (MSL). The South Portal (SP) of Atal Tunnel is located at a distance of 25 km from Manali at an altitude of 3,060 metres, while the North Portal (NP) of the tunnel is located near village Teling, Sissu, in Lahaul Valley at an altitude of 3,071 metres. It is a horseshoe-shaped, single tube double lane tunnel with a roadway of eight metres. It has an overhead clearance of 5.525 metres. It is 10.5-metre wide and has a 3.6 x 2.25 metres fire proof emergency egress tunnel built into the main tunnel itself.

Atal Tunnel has been designed for



traffic density of 3,000 cars per day and 1,500 trucks per day with a maximum speed of 80 km per hour. It has state-of-the-art electromechanical systems including semi transverse ventilation system, SCADA-controlled firefighting, illumination and monitoring system.

The historic decision to construct a strategic tunnel below the Rohtang Pass was taken on June 3, 2000 when late Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister. The foundation stone for the access road to the South Portal of the tunnel was laid on May 26. 2002. The Border Roads Organisation

ends was achieved on October 15, 2017. The Union Cabinet, under chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on December 24 last year decided to name the Rohtang Tunnel as Atal Tunnel to

honour the contribution made by former Prime Minister Vajpayee. After attending the inauguration function of the Atal Tunnel at the South Portal, Manali, Prime Minister Modi will be participating in public functions at Sissu in

Lahaul-Spiti and at Solang Valley.









# **OrissaPOST** FRIDAY | OCTOBER 2 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR international

**Biodiversity protection** 

constitutes a critical

component of Nepal's

Nepal, Happy Nepali'

aspiration of 'Prosperous

KP SHARMA OLI NEPAL PRIME MINISTER

### **'GO TO EAT'**

A 'go to eat' dining campaign to help coronavirus-affected eateries across Japan kick-started Thursday



India through technical and other

forms of assistance, the legislation

said that the US should support

the ambitious renewable energy

generation goals set by the India

through technical and other forms

of assistance. Increased demand

for refrigeration and air condi-

tioning in India, and the adoption

of the Kigali Amendment to the

Montreal Protocol, done at Montreal

September 16, 1987, are driving in-

novation and investments in next-

generation refrigeration equipment

and refrigerants in India; it said.

As such the legislation says that

enhanced United States-India bi-

lateral cooperation and engage-

ment on the development of tech-

nologies and chemicals that are

compliant with the Kigali

Amendment are in the interest of

US industry leaders in the refrig-

eration and chemical coolant in-

dustries. Menendez was part of a

congressional delegation to India

in the fall of 2019, during which he

engaged with India's minister of

New and Renewable Energy and

Indian business leaders to discuss

how the US and India can address

the threat of climate change and

deepen cooperation on clean en-



resumption of code of conduct (COC) negotiations after a long pause because of the (coronavirus) pandemic is the priority of ASEAN countries and China

LE THI THU HANG VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT

We live in an inter dependent world where every species on planet earth has a specific role to play in our ecosystem. However, according to the WWF and the Zoological Society of London, the world's wildlife populations have fallen by an

average of 68 per cent just from 1970 to 2016 SHEIKH HASINA BANGLADESH PRIME

Enioved meeting Abdullah Abdullah, Chairman HCNR of Afghanistan. We had

MINISTER

a very interesting conversation: theme being the past is an invaluable teacher to learn from but not to live in

IMRAN KHAN PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER

### SHORT TAKES

### **California to ban** police chokeholds

San Francisco: The controversial chokehold method for restraining suspects is set to be banned in California after Governor Gavin Newsom signed policing bills, which will also allow independent probes into police shootings. The five bills introduced by Democrat state Assembly members were signed by the Governor Wednesday.

### **UK PM's dad** apologises

London: UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's father was caught shopping without a mask, after the incumbent government doubled fines for not donning one in the

### NAGORNO-KARABAKH CEASEFIRE MOVES Turkey rebuffs Russia, France and US



REUTERS

States called Thursday for an immediate ceasefire between Azerbaijan and ethnic Armenian forces around Nagorno-Karabakh, but Turkey said the three big powers should have no role in peace moves.

France, Russia and the United States are co-chairs of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE) Minsk Group, set up in 1992 to mediate in the decades-old conflict over the mountainous enclave.

They appealed for peace as the death toll rose in the heaviest clashes since the 1990s around Nagorno-Karabakh - part of Azerbaijan, but run by its mostly ethnic Armenian inhabitants.

We call for an immediate cessation of hostilities between the relevant military forces," the joint French, Russian and U.S. statement said.

They urged the former Soviet republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan to "commit without delay to resuming substantive negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions" under what is called the Minsk process.

But in a speech to the Turkish parliament just before the three countries' statement, President Tayyip Erdogan said he opposed their involvement.

"Given that the USA, Russia and France have neglected this problem for nearly 30 years, it is unacceptable that they are involved in a search for a ceasefire,' Erdogan said



He said a lasting ceasefire could be achieved only if "Armenian occupiers" withdrew from Nagorno-Karabakh.

His comments are likely to fuel tension with his NATO allies as fears mount that the conflict could draw in regional powers Russia, which has a military base in majority Christian Armenia, and Turkey, a close ally of mainly Muslim Azerbaijan. MOUNTING DEATH TOLL

Dozens of people have been reported killed and hundreds

wounded since Sunday in fighting that has renewed concern about stability in the South Caucasus, a corridor for pipelines carrying oil and gas to world markets.

Nagorno-Karabakh broke away from Azerbaijan in a 1991-94 war that killed 30,000 people, but is not recognised internationally as an independent republic.

Azeri civilians had been killed in the latest clashes, taking the civilian death toll in Azerbaijan to at least 18. Azerbaijan has not reported on casualties among its military forces.

Nagorno-Karabakh has said 103 of its servicemen have been killed and more than 200 wounded but has given no figures on civilian casualties

### Covid pushes forward new generation of African cyclists

Kenya's capital Nairobi began expanding cycle lanes five years ago and is now constructing several through the heart of the business district

REUTERS

Abidian. Oct 1: Africa's traffic-clogged cities make it the world's deadliest continent for pedestrians and cyclists, according

to make roads more fluid, even for health problems," Jacques Gabriel Ehouo, mayor of the central business district of Plateau, told Reuters after meeting with Costa. "Cycling can contribute to the

# **US-India clean energy cooperation Bill introduced**

THE LEGISLATION ALSO PROMOTES US-INDIA COOPERATION ON CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND RISK REDUCTION

### AGENCIES

Washington, Oct 1: A top Democratic senator has introduced a legislation in the US Senate to establish a forum for cooperation with India on clean energy technologies and energy transmission.

Introduced by Senator Robert Menendez, a ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Prioritising Clean Energy and Climate Cooperation with India Act seeks to establish the US-India Clean Energy and Power Transmission Partnership (CEPTP) as the main forum for cooperation between the two nations on clean energy technologies

The activities under the CEPTP include promoting joint research and development on clean energy technologies, encouraging US private investment in the Indian clean energy market and supporting initiatives to develop new and renewable energy generation capacity in India.

The legislation also promotes US-India cooperation on climate resilience and risk reduction, a statement said "Given the shared threat of climate change and India's growing need for electricity, there



is a strong case to be made for strengthening the US-India clean energy partnership," Menendez said.

'In that vein, I am introducing this legislation having witnessed firsthand the positive results that come when our nations work as a team to tackle common challenges. he said. It also sought America's participation in the International Solar Alliance led by India which is playing a key role in mobilising significant international investment in solar energy. It urged the US to promote research, develop-

### CAUSE

ment and private sector cooperation on the production of electric vehicles and the planning and execution of an expansive charging station network to support extensive use of electric vehicles. The Senate legislation, running into 39 pages, asks the Trump administration to support a report, within 90 days of its passage, detailing the scope and nature of the US' participation in Mission Innovation.

Observing that the US should support the Power for All initiative created by the Government of

> **Navalny accuses** Putin of being behind poisoning

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

ergy production.

Berlin, Oct 1: Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who is recovering in Germany after being poisoned in Russia by a nerve agent, accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of being behind the attack in comments released Thursday.

Navalny's supporters have frequently maintained that such an attack could have only been ordered at the top levels, though the Kremlin has steadfastly denied any involvement in it. Navalny, a politician and corruption investigator who is Putin's fiercest critic, was flown to Germany two days after falling ill on Aug. 20 on a domestic flight in Russia.

He spent 32 days in the hospital, 24 of them in intensive care, before doctors deemed his condition had improved sufficiently for him to be discharged. He has posted frequent comments online as his recovery has progressed, but in his first interview since the attack, he told Germany's Der Spiegel magazine that in his mind, "Putin was behind the attack," in a German translation of his comments. Navalny spent those two days in a coma in a hospital in the Siberian city of Omsk, where Russian doctors said they found no trace of any poisoning, before being transported to Berlin for treatment.



Actors dressed as pantomime dames take part in a protest to highlight the plight of the theatre sector amid the coronavirus pandemic, at Parliament Square in London, Britain

**NATIONAL DAY HOLIDAYS** 

Azerbaijan said at least three

wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was reported on Thursday. Stanley Johnson was photographed on Tuesday at a newspaper shop, without a face covering, the Metro newspaper reported. The 80-year-old author and former Conservative Party member of the European Parliament apologised. claiming he may not be fully updated on the new rules.

### 13 killed in north China fire

Beijing: Thirteen people were killed and 15 others injured when fire broke out at a tourist site in north China's Shanxi province Thursday, local authorities said. The fire engulfed an exhibition hall of snow sculptures at around 1 pm at the Taitaishan scenic site in Xiaoshanyan Village in Taiyuan, capital of Shanxi, the provincial government said. All the 15 injured have been rushed to hospitals and are in stable condition. Investigation has been launched into the cause of the fire. state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

### Cardinal Pell returns to Vatican

Rome: Cardinal George Pell, who left the Vatican in 2017 to face child sexual abuse charges in Australia. returned to Rome Wednesday to find a Holy See mired in the type of corruption scandal he worked to expose and clean up. The 79-year-old Pell arrived at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport on a flight from Sydney wearing a blue surgical mask. He waved briefly to reporters before getting into a waiting car without making any comments.

to the World Health Organisation. Many lack pavements, let alone bike lanes. That may soon change thanks

to a generation of African cycling activists who have been given a boost by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to avoid crowded public transport.

not the only problem. Kenya's Last month, after 10 years of capital Nairobi began expandcampaigning, authorities finally told Costa he could help plan ing cycle lanes five years ago and bike lanes in part of Abidjan, is now constructing several Ivory Coast's commercial capital. through the heart of the busi-"They are part of the solution, ness district



fight against COVID-19 because social distancing is naturally re-Millions of Chinese hit roads spected," he said.Costa, who wore his helmet throughout the meeting, has big ambitions. "Our focus was Ivory Coast,

#### but the goal is to make Africa and the continent cyclable," he PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said. Lack of infrastructure is

Beijing, Oct 1: Millions of travelstarved Chinese hit the roads as the country on Thursday shut down for eight-day official holidays to celebrate the 71st anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Mid-Autumn Festival which overlaps with the National Day holidays.

This is the first major holiday season for the Chinese after the COVID-19 hit Wuhan and rest of the country in January this year before it spread to the world, halting the Chinese New Year Celebrations with lockdowns. The National Day Holiday is the second biggest holiday for the Chinese during which



millions of people travel abroad and the country visiting their relatives and major tourist sites.

With travel restrictions removed for domestic travel after the COVID-19 was brought under control, transport services and tour operators expected a large number of Chinese to travel domestic destinations as China has not yet opened international travel. China's National Health Commission on Thursday said 11 imported COVID-19 cases were confirmed on Wednesday. As of Wednesday, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases on the Chinese mainland had reached 85,414, including the 186 patients still being treated, the Commission said. Altogether 80.594 patients have been discharged after recoverv and 4.634 died of the disease on the mainland so far, the commission said. The National Day celebrations began with a flag-raising ceremony at the Tiananmen Square in Beijing with the presence of a large

### **Trump signs** temporary govt funding Bill

### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, Oct 1: US President Donald Trump has signed a stopgap funding bill, known as the continuing resolution legislation, to keep the federal government open until December 11, averting the possibility of a shutdown.

He signed the bill on Wednesday midnight after returning from a rally in Minnesota. Earlier in the day, the Republican-majority Senate passed the bill by an 84-10 vote.

It was was unveiled by Democratic lawmakers from the US House of Representatives on October 21. According to a report in The Hill news website, the bill will allow the government to keep functioning in the new fiscal year, which began at midnight, by keeping funds flowing until December 11. An NBC News report said that it also includes a bailout for farmers in exchange for boosts in funding for nutrition benefits for poor families requested by Democrats.

Meanwhile, House Speaker -Nancy Pelosi and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin met earlier on Wednesday to discuss the next round of coronavirus aid. Following the meeting, she said that the House-( plans to vote on Thursday on an updated aid package.

## Unemployment marches higher in Europe amid pandemic

SOME 3.7 MN PEOPLE ARE STILL ON FURLOUGH SUPPORT PROGRAMMES IN GERMANY, THE EUROZONE'S LARGEST ECONOMY

#### AGENCIES

Frankfurt, Oct 1: Unemployment rose for a fifth straight month in Europe in August amid concern that extensive government support programmes won't be able keep many businesses hit by coronavirus

restrictions afloat forever. The jobless rate rose to 8.1% in the 19 countries that use the euro currency in August, up from 7.9% in July, official statistics showed Thursday. Some 13.2 million people were unemployed and the number of those out of work rose by 251,000.

Economists expect a further rise as wage support programs expire, while an increase in infections in many countries has increased fears that some restrictions on business interaction may have to be re-im-

posed.Some 3.7 million people are still on furlough support programmes in Germany, the eurozone's largest economy. The government has extended its emergency support through the end of 2021.

National governments have poured in fiscal stimulus in the form of support loans and guarantees for business, while the European Central Bank has launched a 1.35 trillion euro (\$1.57 trillion) monetary stimulus in the form of regular bond purchases with newly printed money through at least the middle of next year.

That has helped keep financial markets calm and credit flowing to businesses.

But all those measures have not halted a wave of corporate an-



nouncements of job reductions. Companies in the hardest hit in-

dustries such as airlines, tourism and restaurants may face a long

period of substantially diminished demand for their services and are laying off workers.

number of people.

The coronavirus in some cases has also accelerated restructuring programmes that existed before the pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to high rates of unemployment across advanced economies. The burdens associated with unemployment, however, have not hit all households equally.

Families with children and unemployed parents have reported especially high rates of hardship, with potential longterm consequences for child wellbeing and development. The increase of parental unemployment in the USA necessitates greater attention towards these potential consequences.















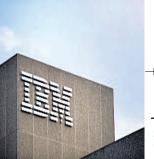
'India must

stick to flexible inflation targetting'

Access to digital learning will provide the elderly with a window of hope, whereby they can carry on with their daily living and livelihood activities, without putting themselves at risk DINESH TYAGI CEO, COMMON SERVICES CENTRF

### HCL, IBM EXPAND ALLIANCE

IT services major HCL Technologies has announced a new partnership with IBM to help clients accelerate their digital transformation by migrating enterprise mission-critical workloads to the IBM public cloud. In December 2018, HCL had acquired selected IBM software products for \$1.8 bn



Mumbai, Oct 1: India should stick

with its flexible inflation target-

ting framework, which has worked

well, to reap the benefits over the

long term, former Reserve Bank of

India (RBI) deputy governor Viral

The central bank and the gov-

ernment agreed in 2015 on a policy

framework that stipulated a pri-

mary objective of ensuring price

stability while keeping in mind

the objective of growth. That frame-

work is due for a review in early

2021. "Evidence seems to suggest

this is a good disciplining frame-

work with good democratic ac-

countability. We should persevere

REUTERS

Acharya said.

## uote

Any reduction in BCD (Basic Customs Duty) should be done in a phased manner to allow Indian companies

time to prepare and build their own competitiveness

VINOD GIRI DIRECTOR GENERAL, CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMPANIES

We welcome the guidelines from the CBDT for considering our appeal and exempting the transactions traded through power exchanges from the applicability of the new TDS and

PRABHAJIT KUMAR SARKAR

There were signs of demand recovery (last month), but the pandemic's impact could linger and

back to pre-virus levels by the end of the yea SHRIKANT MADHAV VAIDYA

CHAIRMAN, IOC

### SHORT **TAKES**

### REC sets ₹35K cr

New Delhi: State-owned REC Ltd Thursday said it is eyeing a revenue target of ₹35,000 crore for the current fiscal, 17.5% higher than 2019-20. "Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has finalised ambitious targets for REC Ltd in the ongoing financial year. The revenue target for FY2021 has been set at ₹35,000 crore, up by 17.5% from the previous year achievement," a company statement said. Operating profit margin target has been set at 28% as against 23.23% achieved in the previous year, and target for parameter "profit after tax as a percentage of average net worth" has been set at 17%.

People say that we are not factoring in financial stability, and I disagree because financial stability involves external sector stability VIRAL ACHARYA | FORMER DEPUTY GOVERNOR, RBI Auto makers see 'green

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

mentum.

New Delhi, Oct 1: Auto majors

Maruti Suzuki, Hvundai Motor led

the recovery march of passenger ve-

hicle (PV) sales in the domestic

market during September, posting

high double-digit growth as man-

ufacturers bank on festive season

demand to carry forward the mo-

Skoda Auto India, Kia Motors India

also witnessed increase in their

Tata Motors, Honda Cars India,

TCS provision

MD AND CEO, PXIL

monthly consumption may edge

### revenue target

September sales While companies like Mahindra & Mahindra and Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) saw decline in sales, they said demand is picking up and there is a lot more confidence in the dealers.

Market leader Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) said its domestic sales increased 32.2% to 1,52,608 units last month as against 1,15,452 units in September 2019.

The company's sales of mini cars comprising Alto and S-Presso stood at 27,246 units as compared to 20,085 units in the same month last year, up 35.7%, while sales of compact cars, including models such as Swift, Celerio, Ignis, Baleno and Dzire, increased by 47.3% to 84.213 units as against 57,179 cars in



In the changing business environment, the green shoots of recovery

are clearly visible with sales improving on a month-onmonth as well as y-o-y basis TARUN GARG | DIRECTOR (SALES, MARKETING & SERVICE)

HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA Sales of utility vehicles, including Vitara Brezza, S-Cross and Ertiga, increased 10.1% to 23,699

units as compared to 21,526 units in the year-ago month, MSI said. Hyundai Motor India also reported a 23.6% jump in its domestic sales to 50,313 units as against

40,705 units in September 2019. "In the changing business environment, the green shoots of

recovery are clearly visible with sales improving on a month-onmonth as well as year-on-year basis," Hyundai Motor India Director (Sales, Marketing &

Service) Tarun Garg said. Utility vehicles major Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) said its total domestic sales, which includes passenger vehicles, light commercial vehicles and three-wheelers. were down 16% to 34,351 units last month compared to 40,692 units in September 2019.

"At Mahindra, we are happy to witness a growth of 6% in utility vehicles. It is also encouraging to see that the enquiry and booking levels in September were significantly higher compared to the previous months, both for UVs and SCVs. M&M CEO, Automotive Division, Veejay Ram Nakra said.

With market sentiments indicating a robust festive demand across segments, both in rural and urban markets, the company is positive that this festive season will augur well for M&M and automotive industry, he added.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) reported a 20.45% decline in domestic sales at 8.116 units in September. The company had sold 10,203 units in the domestic market in the same month last year.

"We are seeing demand pick up and a lot more confidence in our dealers, thereby witnessing a 14 to 18% growth in orders," TKM VP Sales and Service Naveen Soni said.

# Mubadala to invest ₹6,247cr in RRVL

### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 1: Reliance Industries Limited (Reliance Industries) and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) announced Thursday that Mubadala Investment Company (Mubadala), the Abu Dhabi-based sovereign investor, will invest ₹6,247.5 crore into Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL), a subsidiary of **Reliance Industries Limited** (Reliance Industries).

with it," said Acharya. He said the

benefits, such as lower borrowing

costs, will only be seen over time.

"I would not enter into policy ad-

venturism by changing this right

now. It's too risky," Acharya told

successful in keeping inflation

within the mandated 2%-6% range.

But the flexible inflation targeting

policy has faced criticism recently

The RBI has by and large been

Reuters late Wednesday.

The investment values Reliance Retail at a pre-money equity value of ₹4.28 lakh crore. Mubadala's investment will translate into a 1.40% equity stake in RRVL on a fully diluted basis. This marks the second significant investment by Mubadala in a Reliance Industries subsidiary after the \$1.2 billion investment in Jio Platforms announced earlier this year.

Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries, said, "I am happy to welcome Mubadala as a valued investor in Reliance Retail Ventures. We value the partnership with a knowledge-rich organisation like Mubadala and acknowledge their confidence in our mission to strengthen the core of India's retail sector - the millions of small retailers, merchants and shopkeepers - through the power of technology. Mubadala's investment and

on account of the high weighting given to food items in the inflation basket which have proven highly volatile. CPI inflation on average has stayed above the RBI's mandated range in recent months due to supply-side disruptions on account of a nationwide lockdown to contain the coronavirus pandemic. And despite having spent less in relative terms than other emerging markets on direct fiscal stimulus to counter the pandemic-driven downturn. India faces a bulging fiscal deficit and a steep rise in its debt-to-GDP ratio. India's GDP contracted 23.9% in the June quarter and is seen contracting by around 10% for the vear as a whole.

Some economists have said the

had an adverse impact on growth due to its narrow focus on inflation compared with the multiple-indicator approach the RBI previously used, which looked at both growth and price stability. "A case can be made that India has been a precocious inflation targetter," V Anantha Nageshwaran, a member of the PM's Economic Advisory Council wrote in an opinion piece in August. "The country may have sacri-

inflation targetting framework has

ficed financial stability and economic growth in the process. So India may need to re-examine the appropriateness of the IT (inflation targeting) framework for its development needs," said Nageshwaran.

### ATF PRICE UP 2%, **KEROSENE RATE CUT** BY ₹2.19 PER LITRE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: Jet fuel (ATF) price was hiked by almost 2% Thursday, while rate of kerosene sold through PDS was cut by ₹2.19 per litre as oil firms synced rates in line with international cost.

The price of aviation turbine fuel (ATF) was raised by ₹719.25 per kilolitre (kl), or 1.82%, to ₹40,211.78 per kl in the national capital, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Besides, the oil firms reduced the rate of kerosene sold through public distribution system (PDS) for cooking at poor households.

The price was cut from ₹25.84 per litre in September to ₹23.65 per litre in Mumbai, Indian Oil Corp (IOC) said in a statement.

No PDS kerosene is sold in Delhi since July 2016 after LPG and piped natural gas covered all of its residents



A fall in international oil prices had led to elimination of subsidy on kerosene and domestic cooking gas (LPG) a few months back.

'Cumulative reduction in retail selling price (of kerosene) at\_ Mumbai since February 16, 2020, has been ₹12.73 per litre," IOC said. "There was a corresponding reduction in other markets during this period." There has been no change in the selling price of domestic LPG in Delhi and other markets across India for the month of October 2020. A 14.2-kg cylinder comes for ₹594.





This marks the second

significant investment

by Mubadala in a

**Jio Platforms** 

port in this journey.

**Reliance Industries** 

subsidiary after the

\$1.2 bn investment in

guidance will be an invaluable sup-

Khaldoon Al Mubarak, MD

tization, creating opportunities and market access for millions of small businesses across the country, and we are committed to supporting the company's continuing development.

(in₹Crores)

### **BIZ BUZZ** ANNUAL GENERAL HUDCO holds 50th General Meeting **MEETING IN CITY**

shoots of recovery'

### Maruti's Sept sales zoom over 30%

New Delhi: Automobile major Maruti Suzuki Thursday reported a rise of over 30% in its total sales for September. Accordingly, the company's total sales rose to 160,442 units in September 2020 from 122,640 units sold during the corresponding month of last year. "This is a growth of 30.8% over the same period previous year. The performance has to be seen in the context of lower base of September 2019," the company said in a statement.

### **DoP** gets new secretary

New Delhi: S Aparna, a 1988batch IAS officer of Guiarat cadre, has assumed charge as secretary in the Department of Pharmaceuticals, an official statement said Thursday. She has replaced PD Vaghela, who superannuated September 30, 2020, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers said. In 2017, Aparna was appointed to the post of executive director. World Bank. representing the constituency of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, it added.

IL&FS invites Eols

New Delhi: Infrastructure

Services (IL&FS) has sought

Expressions of Interest (EoI)

for the 42.25% stake it holds

along with IL&FS Financial

Services (IFIN) in subsidiary

IL&FS Engineering and

Construction Company

resolution process. The

transaction if successful

would lead to change in the

promoter of the IECCL. The

company has an outstanding

debt of around ₹4,700 crore.

(IECCL) under the group's

for 42% stake

Leasing and Financial

#### Bhubaneswar: The Housing & Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) held its 50th Annual General Meeting through video conferencing September 30. Director Corporate Planning HUDCO M Nagaraj chaired the meeting and addressed

September last year.-

the shareholders to apprise them of the outstanding performance of the company in its golden jubilee year.

### BMW to increase prices in India

New Delhi: German luxury carmaker BMW Thursday said it will increase prices of its model range in India by up to 3% from next month. The company will increase prices across the BMW and MINI product portfolio with effect from November 1, BMW Group India said in a statement. "BMW Group India is constantly engaged in offering aspirational products and highest levels of customer service to its exclusive clientele. The company will increase the prices of its cars by up to 3 per cent from November 1 because of rising costs and depreciating currency," BMW Group India President Vikram Pawah said. With comprehensive solutions and customer-centric offers from BMW India Financial Services and services across the dealer network, the company remains at the forefront of providing an unparalleled experience at all times, he added. The company sells a range of models under BMW and MINI brands in the country.



#### pandemic in the previous quarter of the ongoing year, we have made exemplary contribution in promoting and putting focus on plant, production, productivity and people, said Sridhar Patra, Nalco CMD.

POST NEWS NETWORK

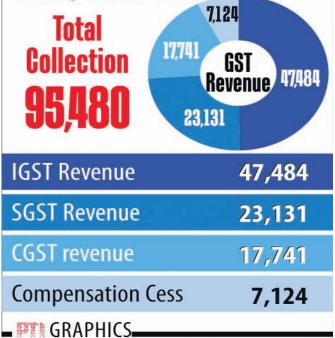
Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Amid the

extremely challenging business

environment, coupled with slump

in prices and onset of COVID-19

He made the statement during Nalco's 39th Annual General Meeting. He further said, "Year 2019-20 has been a year of mixed results for the company. Sustainability has now become a part of NALCO's key business processes. The year was a testimony to NALCO being a partner in progress in promoting inclusive growth as an industry leader and spreading happiness amongst " elgoeg



### **CIL production up 32%** at 40.51 MT in Sept

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Oct 1: State-owned CIL Thursday said it produced 40.51 million tonnes (MT) of coal in September, registering a growth of 31.6% over the same month last year. Coal India (CIL), which accounts for over 80% of domestic coal output, had produced 30.78 MT of the dry fuel in September 2019.

"Coal production at 40.51 MT in September '20 surged ahead by a robust 9.73 MT increase in absolute terms, compared to 30.78 MT in September '19, the growth being 31.6%," CIL said in a statement.

For the first time in the current fiscal, growth was in double digits, with all CIL subsidiaries showing an increase.

"Now that we broke the growth jinx in output and off-take, which were weighed down by the pandemic-induced slowdown, we expect to better our performance in the ensuing months.

"We aim to reclaim as much of the lost ground as possible during the rest of the fiscal," a senior of ficial of the company said.

"Generally, the H2 performance is higher in terms of production and supplies," the official added.

CIL's coal off-take saw a sizeable jump of 11.2 MT during last month.

The company supplied 46.46 MT in September against 35.28 MT in the same month last fiscal, logging a growth of 31.7 per cent, it said. Supplies to non-power sector logged a growth of 65 per centat 10.04 MT, compared to 6.08 MT in September last fiscal.

# IPL brings cheer to sports channels as advertising rise

The advertising volumes increased 15% during the first week of the current year's tournament as against the last year

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 1: After months long lull due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sports channels genre got some cheer with IPL matches in the UAE as both viewership and advertisers grew, the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) said Thursday.

BARC said 269 million viewers watched IPL 2020's opening week and there was a 15% growth in viewership as against the 2019 edition of the cricket fixtures to 60.6 billion viewing minutes

The TV industry's overall weekly viewing minutes came at 1,037 billion minutes for the week to September 25, which is 17% more over the pre-COVID-19 period but lower than the lockdown peak of



The first match between MI and CSK was watched by 158mn viewers (up 21%), garnering a 65% growth

1,266 billion minutes, it said. It can be noted that social distancing concerns had led to no

sporting fixtures being held during the lockdown, forcing broadcasters to air past matches from

their libraries. The industry was eagerly awaiting the IPL for the same. The first IPL match between Mumbai Indians (MI) and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) September 19 was watched by 158 million view-

ers (up 21%) and garnered a 65% growth in viewing minutes at 11.2 billion minutes and the same was sustained in the second match as well. BARC said.

The agency said a third of the TV

viewers watched IPL live and 44% CASH RICH LEAGUE'S IMPACT of the TV households watched the As many as 269mn viewers Watched matches from the matches. At 33%, growth in female viewers was higher than the males'

30%, it said, adding males accounted for 57% of overall watchers. here was a 15% growth in Advertising volumes increased 15% during the first week of the cur-

rent vear's tournament as against the last year, it said, adding the number of advertisers has risen 19% to 81 this year.

IPL also helped the smartphone usage figures with the daily time spent on mobile phone increasing 8% to 3 hours and 29 minutes, marketing agency Nielsen said.

It said massive gains have been seen in audience base for Disney+Hotstar, the app broadcasting the IPL matches, and also fantasy sports.







viewership this year as

he TV industry's overall

the week to September 25

weekly viewing minutes

came at 1,037 billion minutes for

against the 2019 edition

opening week

### **OrissaPOST** FRIDAY | OCTOBER 2 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR

# sports Mumbai Indians maul KXIP UPBEAT SRH

### Comments on **KKR-RR** match

(the win) perfect There was a lot o areas we could improve. It was a

good game. A lot of things pleased me – the way Gill started, Mavi bowled, the way Russell batted, the way lorgan kept his head. The beautiful sight of the youngsters ng for the catch no matter low high it is. It's a very special thing – these boys, the journey they've gone through when not playing, and for them to just come out and express themselves with the ball and bal was incredible.

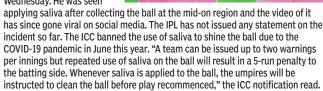
STEVE SMITH: We

have a few areas to improve on, disappointing tonight but we need to keep moving forward.

KKR like to chase, so we planned to put their death bowling under pressure but obviously couldn't do that as we lost too many wickets upfront. Few of us still thought we were playing in Sharjah. It did (feel a lot different), the far side is a very big side and we didn't see too many balls going there and the other side is slightly shorter. It is about forming whatever XI is best for the conditions we are facing, we will wait and see.

Uthappa spotted applying saliva on ball

DUBAI: In a violation of the ICC's COVID-19 protocol, India and Rajasthan Royals batsman Robin Uthappa was seen applying saliva on the ball while fielding against Kolkata Knight Riders in an IPL match here. The incident happened right after Uthappa dropped a Sunil Narine skier in the fifth ball of the third over here Wednesday. He was seen





#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Oct 1: Mumbai Indians (MI) were at their best against Kings

XI Punjab (KXIP) dominating in all three fields – batting, bowling and fielding – here in their IPL encounter, Thursday. The defending champions defeated the KL Rahulled side by 48 runs.

It was after; Rohit Sharma (70, 45b, 8x4, 3x6) and his two big-hitting lieutenants Kieron Pollard (47 n o, 20b, 3x4, 4x6) and Hardik Pandya (30 n o, 11b, 3x4, 2x6) powered MI to 191/4. In reply, KXIP managed to score 143/8.

KXIP began their chase wonderfully with Mayank Agarwal (25) taking the onus to attack from the word go while Rahul (17) playing second fiddle. However, Jasprit Bumrah (2/18) came into attack to break the stand, castling Agarwal in the fifth over.

After that, KXIP lost wickets at regular intervals while trying to keep up with the required rate. Sans Nicolas Pooran (44, 27b, 3x4, 2x6), none of the KXIP batsmen could made an impact.

For MI, sans Trent Boult (1/42), all the bowlers were quite economical. Leg-spinner Rahul Chahar (2/26), James Pattinson (2/28) and Krunal Pandya (1/27) bowled superb spells.

Earlier, Rohit led from the front with a splendid knock. After his departure, the duo of Pollard and Hardik smashed fours and sixes at will, scoring 67 runs in mere 25 balls. MI got 25 runs in the final over with Pollard sending Krishnappa Gotham's (1/45) last three balls into the stands of the Sheikh Zayed Stadium. They scored 19 off the penultimate over and 18 off the

18th over. MI were 87/3 at the end of the 14th over but upped the ante with Pollard and Rohit hitting a six each off legspinner Ravi Bishnoi (0/37) to collect 15 runs from the 15th over. Rohit scored 22 runs off the 16th over bowled by James Neesham (0/52). It was then left to the pair of Pollard and Hardik to provide the final flourish.

(Rohit Sharma 70, Kieron Pollard 47 n o, Hardik Pandya 30 n o; Sheldon Cottrell 1/20) beat KINGS XI PUNJAB 143/8 (Nicolas Pooran 44; Jasprit Bumrah 2/18. Rahul Chahar 2/26, James Pattinson 2/28) BY 48 RUNS.

The start was inauspicious for the defending champions as Sheldon Cottrell (1/20) castled Quinton de Kock with late swing after four dot balls in the first over.

Rohit reached 5,000 IPL runs with a glorious cover drive off his first ball of the innings, joining Virat Kohli and Suresh Raina.

Taking a leaf out of his captain's book, Suryakumar Yadav (10) got into the act straightaway. Late Ishan Kishan, who had scored 99 against RCB, struggled to get going before being dismissed.

**YIPL** 

track

unison.

teams

TODAY'S

MATCH

In order to accommodate Bravo,

Dhoni will either have to do away

with opener Watson or seamer

Josh Hazlewood, both of which

looks non-negotiable on the Dubai

of Kane Williamson made a frag-

ile middle order, full of Indian

rookies, look more solid. Both

Jonny Bairstow and David Warner

For SRH to succeed, they need

to find that one dependable Indian

big-hitter in the middle order in

case their top three - Bairstow,

Warner and Williamson fail in

Kashmiri lad Abdul Samad has

shows promise while both Priyam

Garg and Abhishek Sharma need

to up their game. The bowling

line-up is pretty even for both

While Deepak Chahar,

Hazlewood, Curran, Ravindra

Jadeja and Piyush Chawla can be

more than a handful on slow a

Dubai track, SRH have found their

death overs specialist in T

Natarajan, who can be an ideal

Rashid was brilliant against

also got their share of runs.

For Hyderabad, the presence

CSK VS SRH

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Oct 1: Ambati Rayudu's much-awaited comeback will be a shot in the arm for an under-pressure Chennai Super Kings (CSK) when they take on Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), who have shown resilience after early setbacks, in the IPL here Friday.

Rayudu, hero of CSK's opening IPL victory against Mumbai Indians, missed out due to mild hamstring injury and Bravo has been also carrying a niggle of similar nature since the Caribbean Premier League where he didn't bowl in the last two games.

CSK and SRH (since inception) have traditionally been two of the most balanced sides in most IPL editions but both have ensured scratchy starts this year, losing two of their first three games, primarily due to lack of balance in the middle order.

Rayudu's presence could well mean that he will replace an outof-form Murali Vijay at the top alongside Shane Watson.

However, same cannot be said about DJ Bravo as it will then force MS Dhoni to tinker with the whole line-up. But Kedar Jadhav's poor form will certainly be a worry for Dhoni as there aren't any ready replacement for the Maharashtra man, who hasn't played any notable innings in near or distant past.

foil to world's No.1 T20 bowler Bravo's replacement Sam Rashid Khan. Curran has been one of CSK's better performers in the first three games with good change-ups in pace and handy hitting.



Djokovic, Rafa in third round ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, Oct 1: Novak Djokovic and

# -Vinicius helps Real BAYERN WIN GERMAN SUPER CUP defeat Valladolid

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Munich. Oct 1: Joshua Kimmich nning goal as Bavern



### BRIEF SCORE MUMBAI INDIANS 191/4

SAMSUNG



#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madrid, Oct 1: Vinicius Junior scored after coming off the bench as Real Madrid defeated Valladolid 1-0 for their second win in a row in the Spanish league, while Atletico Madrid were held to a scoreless draw against promoted Huesca in a disappointing first start for Luis Suarez.

Vinicius netted the winner midway through the second half Wednesday after Madrid's forwards struggled again in attack. The young Brazilian broke the deadlock from close range after a defensive mistake by Valladolid defenders inside the area.

He had been on the field for less than 10 minutes after replacing striker Luka Jovic, who missed another chance to impress as a starter. Jovic had two of the best scoring opportunities of the game but couldn't capitalize on them,

first with a close-range shot in the first half and then with a header after halftime. Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane

started the match with two strikers, but Karim Benzema also was far from his best up front.

Vinicius became the first forward to score for Madrid this season after they opened their title-defense campaign with a 0-0 draw at Real Sociedad and a 3-2 win against Real Betis thanks to a late penalty kick converted by defender Sergio Ramos

Madrid again were without Eden Hazard, who had recovered from an ankle injury but now is nursing a right leg muscle injury.

The victory left Madrid at the top of the standings with seven points, along with Getafe, Valencia and Villarreal. Madrid and Getafe have a game in hand.

Valladolid, winless after four matches, had a few good chances on counterattacks and forced Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois to make a couple of good

saves In the other game, Suarez followed up his promising debut for Atletico with a lackluster performance in his first start Wednesday.

Three days after scoring two goals and setting up another in about 20 minutes off the bench in Atletico's 6-1 win over Granada. Suarez struggled in the team's 0-0 draw at Huesca.

The former Barcelona player started alongside young Portugal forward Joao Felix, but the duo failed to spark the attack for Diego Simeone's team.

The Uruguay striker had the game's best chance after a perfect through-ball by Felix in the 59th minute, but he failed to get past goalkeeper Andres Fernandez inside the area and eventually had his shot blocked.

Suarez was substituted by Diego Costa less than three minutes after the miss, but the Brazilian-born striker also couldn't do much up front.

Munich shrugged off concerns about fixture congestion to beat Borussia Dortmund 3-2 and lift the German Super Cup.

Dortmund fought back from 0-2 down to level the score Wednesday, before Kimmich and the two goalkeepers made the difference.

Bavern's Manuel Neuer showed superb reactions to palm away Erling Braut Haaland's shot when one-on-one with the Norwegian striker. Dortmund's stand-in keeper Marwin Hitz could only parry Kimmich's shot back to the midfielder in the 82nd minute and Kimmich stretched to flick in the rebound while falling. For Bayern it was a morale-boost-

ing recovery after losing 1-4 to Hoffenheim Sunday to end a 32game unbeaten run. It also marked the third win in a row against Dortmund.

Bayern have played for five trophies since coach Hansi Flick took charge in November and won them SIEGER UPERCUP 2020

Bayern members pose with the trophy; Joshua Kimmich (lying on the ground) watches the ball going into the net as Dortmund players haplessly look on

all, but all that success has made for more fixture congestion in the already packed 2020-21 season. The win over Dortmund came just six days after another Super Cup, when Bayern beat Sevilla 2-1 in extra time in UEFA's ceremonial season-opener.

Kimmich's winner was the second Bayern goal on a rebound after Corentin Tolisso was left with a simple finish to open the scoring in the 18th when Hitz pushed his first shot onto the crossbar following a

lightning-fast counterattack the length of the field.

Bayern made it 2-0 through Thomas Muller's header in the 32nd after Dortmund backed off Alphonso Davies and gave him time to play a cross perfectly weighted to meet Muller arriving at the far post.

Haaland hauled Dortmund back into the game, setting up Julian Brandt to score in the 39th and then scoring himself in the 55th in a move which began when Manuel

Akanji muscled Lewandowski off the ball in the midfield.

Dortmund's Danish midfielder Thomas Delaney played the final pass for Haaland on that move. However, Delaney was later at fault for the winner as he dawdled on the ball and Kimmich dispossessed him. defending champion Rafa Nadal scripted dominating victory over their respective opponents to enter the French Open third round. Djokovic, Thursday, defeated Ricardas Berankis 6-1, 6-2, 6-2, a day after Nadal saw off Mackenzie McDonald 6-1, 6-0, 6-3.

Djokovic has dropped a total of only 10 games so far on his way to the third round here. He won the title at Roland Garros in 2016 to complete a career Grand Slam. He improved to 33-1 in 2020. His lone loss came when he was disqualified at the US Open last month.

Last season's runner-up Dominic Thiem, who beat Jack Sock 6-1, 6-3, 7-6(8-6) and Alexander Zverev, who got rid of Pierre-Hughes Herbert 2-6, 6-4, 7-6(7-5), 4-6, 6-4, too advanced to round 3, Wednesday.

In the women's draw, Garbine Muguruza outplayed Kristyna Pliskova 6-3, 6-2 while Jelena Ostapenko stunned second seed Karolina Pliskova 6-4, 6-2.

# Manchester sides through in League Cup

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manchester, Oct 1: In this congested season like no other, coaches are typically using the English League Cup to rest and rotate key players. Not Pep Guardiola.

The Manchester City manager fielded all of his top available stars against Burnley Wednesday in a bid to stay on course for a fourth straight title in the competition, and it paid off.

Raheem Sterling scored twice, offseason signing Ferran Torres added the third, and Kevin De Bruyne ran the game in City's 3-0 win in a lopsided last 16 match.

Manchester United, Everton and Newcastle also advanced to the quarterfinals, joining Tottenham after their penalty-shootout win over Chelsea Tuesday. Determined to win any trophy



DELICATE TOUCH: Man City's Raheem Sterling calmly strikes the ball past a diving Burnley custodian during their League Cup game, Wednesday

going, Guardiola might have also Leicester in the Premier League wanted City to rediscover some Sunday—one of his heaviest defeats rhythm after a wild 2-5 loss to as a manager

Sterling could have had two or three goals before opening the scoring in the 35th minute by lashing in a left-footed finish from Benjamin Mendy's cross.

Torres squared the ball across the face of goal to set up Sterling for a simple second goal in the 49th, and the roles were reversed in the 65th as Torres ran through to curl home a finish with aplomb for his first goal since joining from Valencia in August.

City have won five of the last seven editions of the League Cup. One more triumph will draw the team level on overall League Cup titles with Liverpool, who have captured it eight times

Unlike Guardiola, Man United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer fielded a line-up full of fringe players but it was still enough to see off Brighton 3-0 in the teams' second meeting in four days.

While the first game was decided by a 100th-minute penalty by Bruno Fernandes Saturday, United had the cup match wrapped up much earlier thanks to a 44th-minute header by Scott McTominay, a low finish by Juan Mata in the 73rd, and a deflected free-kick by substitute Paul Pogba in the 80th.

Mata, a 32-year-old playmaker firmly down the pecking order at United these days, was the team's outstanding player. He also set up McTominay's goal.

Everton's 4-1 win over West Ham - secured by a second hat-trick of 🛁 the season by Dominic Calvert-Lewin — came at a cost. Richarlison scored Everton's other before hobbling off with an apparent ankle injury that he initially tried to run off. Everton has opened a season with -( six straight wins in all competitions for the first time since 1938.

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