

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



So you are feeling bigoted, dumb, racist and full of hatred! Weren't you told not to go near Trump?

SHORT TAKES

N-capable Shaurya successfully tested

Bhubaneswar: India successfully test-fired an advanced version of Shaurya missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead from a defence facility off the Odisha coast Saturday. The surface-tosurface missile can hit targets in around 800 km range, said defence sources. Developed by the DRDO, the missile was testfired from the Abdul Kalam Island test range at 12.10 pm. Shaurya is about 10 metres long with a diameter of 0.74 metre. September 30, India successfully test-fired an extended-range supersonic cruise missile BrahMos with an indigenous booster from a test facility off the Odisha coast, with a range of around 400 km.

Maharathy under ventilator support



Bhubaneswar: The health condition of senior BJD legislator and former minister Pradeep Maharathy remained

Hathras horror rocks Assembly

NO BUSINESS COULD TAKE PLACE IN THE FIRST HALF OF SATURDAY SESSION

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: The first half of the Saturday Assembly session was marked by ruckus in the house over the alleged gang rape in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras with Opposition Congress MLAs forcing the Speaker to adjourn proceedings several times.

The issue was raised by Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Narasingha Mishra when the House assembled for the day at 10.30 am. He slammed the UP government and its police over the incident and "misbehaviour" towards Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Soon after Mishra completed his speech, Congress members stood up on their seats and shouted slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, protesting against the incident. They also rushed to the Well of the House and demanded resignation of the UP Chief Minister. "Modi-Yogi hi...hi, Rahul Gandhi

Zindabad", they sloganeered. Unable to run the House, Speaker SN Patro first adjourned the proceedings for 10 minutes at 10.58 am and then for 15 minutes later. Following this,



the Speaker invited CLP leader Mishra, Leader of Opposition Pradipta Naik, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha, Mishra and Jajpur MLA Pranab Prakash Das for an allparty meeting in his chamber. However, as the situation did not improve, the House was adjourned till 3 pm. No business could take place in the first half. Leader of Opposition Naik, of the



said similar incidents have also taken place during the Congress rule. Naik's statement was not audible enough due to the pandemonium in the House.

"Democracy has been murdered by the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh. The Congress party will not tolerate

...We demand justice for the Dalit girl. All Dalit women in the state will resort to protest if justice is denied to the victim

HURIA I BJD MLA

attack on its leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. We will continue our agitation till Adityanath resigns,' Congress MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati told media persons outside the House.

The ruling BJD too criticised the Yogi Adityanath government and condemned the incident. Outside the House, BJD MLA and former minister Snehangini Chhuria said, "We strongly condemn the Hathras incident. UP Police and the civil administration are functioning under the direction of the state government. We demand justice for the Dalit girl. All Dalit women in the state will resort to protest if justice is denied to the victim.

The Congress MLAs' protest in the House was followed by the party's agitation outside the Assembly for two days over the alleged manhandling of the Gandhi sibling-duo.

"The Congress and the BJD don't have any moral right to raise the issue. Everyone knows about the incidents which happened in Pipili, Kunduli, Padmapur and Itishree cases. The Congress should not forget its history how a woman was brutally murdered and cut into pieces," BJP leader Naik said outside the Assembly.

The Congress and the BJD don't have any moral right to raise the issue. **Everyone knows about** the incidents which happened in Pipili, Kunduli, Padmapur and **Itishree cases** PRADIPTA KUMAR NAIK BJP ML

12 PAGES + SUNDAY POST | ₹4.00



Rahul, Priyanka meet gangrape victim's kin

Not CBI but SC

monitored probe

UP CM Yogi Adityanath

Saturday recommended a

CBI probe into the Hathras

development came within

hours of Additional Chief

the victim's family at her

home. The CMO tweeted

ily members of the victim

said they want a Supreme

Court-monitored inquiry.

Secretary (Home) Awanish

Awasthi and Director General

of Police HC Awasthi meeting

confirming this. But the fam-

Meanwhile, talking about

the Saturday scene- the

police had to resort to mild

lathi charge to disperse the

huge crowd assembled at

the Delhi-Noida Direct

Succeeding in his second

attempt to meet the victim's

family, Rahul made the an-

nouncement from the DND

(DND) flyway here.

gang-rape incident. The

AGENCIES

New Delhi/ Hathras (UP), Oct 3: Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Saturday met the family of the Dalit woman who died this week after she was allegedly gang-raped, triggering nationwide outrage.

Uttar Pradesh authorities had scuttled an earlier attempt by the two leaders to travel to Hathras, detaining them and several party workers in Greater Noida outside Delhi.

Saturday, the party staged another show of strength at the Delhi-Noida border. The UP Police said they will allow five party representatives to meet the family in the village in Hathras district.

The 19-year-old woman was allegedly gang-raped September 14 in an assault by four men that left her critically injured. She died at a Delhi hospital last Tuesday.

> Student loses ₹1L in online games, hangs self in Joda –

POST NEWS NETWORK

flyway.

Joda, Oct 3: A Class VIII student allegedly hanged himself in Joda town of Keonjhar district after losing nearly ₹1 lakh while playing online game, Saturday. The deceased was identified as 14-year-old Amitanshu, son of Binod Apat of Kamarjoda. Reports said the victim's parents had bought him a mobile phone for online studies during the Covid-19 lockdown period. However, he spent most of his time playing an online game on the phone. He lost ₹61,000 from his father's bank account and ₹35,000 from his mother's account. When Binod Apat made inquiry in the bank, the bank authorities told him that the amount The victim's parents bought him a smart phone for online studies during the Covid-19 lockdown period; however, the kid spent most of his time playing an online game in it



6 MONTHS MORATORIUM 'No interest on interest on loans up to ₹2 crore'

AGENCIES New Delhi, Oct 3: The Centre in

TARA PRASAD BAHIN

Waiver of six months' AGENCIES interest by SRI would

SUSHANT'S DEATH NOT **MURDER BUT 'SUICIDE'**

critical, Saturday. Manarathy is currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar after testing Covid positive. He was under ventilator support as doctors kept him under observation. Expressing concern over the health condition of his party man, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Saturday evening spoke to the family members of Maharathy and extended his best wishes and prayers for the latter's speedy recovery. Naveen also spoke to the doctors supervising the treatment of Maharathy and directed to ensure best possible treatment for speedy recovery of the legislator.

BHUB	СТК	
MAX 30.7°C	31.6°C	
[≌] min 24.7°(2 3.0° C	Forecast
Humidity 98%	97%	
Rainfall 43.6mm	25mm	Generally cloudy sky

an affidavit has informed the Supreme Court that it has taken a decision to waive "interest on interest" on loans up to ₹2 crore during the six-month moratorium period

The affidavit said the only solution is that the government should bear the burden resulting from waiver of compound interest.

"After careful consideration and weighing all possible options, the respondent Union of India has decided to continue the tradition of handholding the small borrowers," said the Centre. The categories of loans up to ₹2 crore include: MSME loans, education loans, housing loans, consumer durable loans, credit card dues, auto loans, personal loans to professional and consumption loans

The Centre said it is impossible for the banks to bear the burden resulting from waiver of compound interest without passing on the financial impact to the depositors or affecting their net worth adversely, which would not be in larger public interest.

The affidavit said: "The gov-

completely wipe out over half of the bank's net worth which it has accumulated over nearly 65 years of its existence, says Centre

ernment, therefore, has decided that the relief on waiver of compound interest during the six-month moratorium period shall be limited to the most vulnerable category of borrowers.'

After the recommendations of an expert committee, the Centre has altered its stand. Previously, the RBI and Centre had argued against waiver of interest on interest, as it would be against the interests of other stakeholders, especially depositors, and also unfair to those who have paid their dues.

A bench comprising Justices Ashok Bhushan, RS Reddy and MR Shah had urged the Centre to have a re-look at its decision in the backdrop of financial hardship faced by many amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic - although, the top court had agreed to not waive interest altogether.

New Delhi, Oct 3: The AIIMS' medical board has ruled out murder in the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput, terming it "a case of hanging and death by suicide", the premier institute's forensic chief Dr Sudhir Gupta said Saturday.

In its conclusive medico-legal opinion to the CBI, the six-member team of forensic doctors has dismissed the claims of "poisoning and strangling" made in the case of Singh's death.

"It is a case of hanging and death by suicide. We have submitted our conclusive report to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)," Dr Gupta, who is also the chairman of the forensic medical board, said.

There was no injury on the body other than that of hanging. Also, there was no mark of struggle and scuffle, he said but refused to divulge any further details stating the case is sub-judice. September 28, CBI spokesperson in a statement said that the agency is conducting a professional investigation into the death of Sushant in which all aspects are being looked at and no aspect has been ruled out as of date.



Sushant was found dead June 14 in the Mont Blanc Apartment in resort Bandra in Mumbai. His family members raised suspicion of

Sushant having been murdered. The CBI registered a case August 6 on the notification of the Centre after the Bihar government recommended for a federal agency probe on the complaint of the late actor's father KK Singh.

The CBI team reached Mumbai August 20, a day after the Supreme Court gave its nod for the federal agency probe. The CBI recorded the statements of several people in the case and also visited his flat,

Cooper hospital and Waterstone

The CBI grilled Sushant's girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty, her brother Showik, father Indrajit, Sushant's house manager Samuel Miranda, flatmate Siddharth Pithani, personal staff – Neeraj Singh, Dipesh Sawant and Keshav Bachne. Besides the CBI, the Enforcement Directorate and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) are probing the money laundering charge and drugs angle respectively. NCB has also arrested Rhea, Showik, Miranda and Sawant in connection with the drug case.



US jobless data may dent Trump's reelection bid

THE US UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FELL TO 7.9 PC IN SEPT FROM 8.4 PC IN AUG. A BIG DROP IN NORMAL TIMES WOULD BE WELCOME NEWS FOR A PRESIDENTIAL INCUMBENT SEEKING REELECTION IN JUST OVER A MONTH BUT THESE ARE NOT NORMAL TIMES!

AGENCIES

Washington, Oct 3: US employment growth slowed more than expected in September and over 3,00,000 Americans lost their jobs permanently, dealing a potential blow to President Donald Trump ahead of the fiercely contested November 3 Presidential election.

The Labor Department's closely watched employment report Friday underscored an urgent need for additional fiscal stimulus to aid the economy's recovery from a recession triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The slowdown in hiring compounds problems for Trump, who announced overnight that he had tested positive for coronavirus.

Just over half of the 22.2 million jobs lost during the pandemic have been recouped. Former Vice President Joe Biden, the Democratic Party nominee, blames the economic turmoil on the White House's handling of the pandemic, which has killed more than 2,00,000 people and infected over seven million in the nation.

"The jobs report adds to Trump's woes," said James Knightley, chief international economist at ING in New York. "Betting odds signal a diminished chance he will win reelection and a much higher probability of a Democrat clean sweep.'

Nonfarm payrolls increased by 6,61,000 jobs last month, the smallest gain since the jobs recovery started in May, after advancing 1.489 million in August. Every sector added jobs with the exception of government, which shed 2,16,000 positions because of the departure of temporary workers hired for the Census and layoffs at state and local government education departments as many school districts shift to

JOBS FELL OFF A CLIFF

- Walt Disney Co. to lay off 28,000 employees in its theme parks division American Airlines and United Airlines.
- two of the largest US carriers, have begun furloughs of more than 32,000 workers
- Economists believe the unemployment rate will not see its pre-crisis level of 3.5 pc until mid-2024 and it could take a year to regain the lost jobs
- The labour force participation rate fell to 61.4 pc from 61.7 pc in August
- The participation rate for women dropped to 55.6 pc from 56.1 pc; it was little changed for men

online learning. Employment in the leisure and hospitality sectors increased by 3.18.000, accounting for nearly half of the gain in nonfarm employment. Payrolls are 10.7 million below their pre-pandemic level.

Economists polled by Reuters had forecast 8,50,000 jobs were created in September. Employment growth peaked in June when payrolls jumped by a record 4.781 million jobs. The unemployment rate fell to 7.9 pc in September as 6,95,000 people left the labour force from 8.4 pc in August.

was paid towards an online game played on the smart phones.

Fumed over his son's act, Binod scolded him. Strongly reacting to it, the minor boy got inside a toilet and hanged himself.

The family members rescued the boy and rushed him to a nearby hospital, where he was declared dead.

Joda police registered a case of -(unnatural death and started an investigation.











KING'S ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI TO **RELEASE IN SELECT US THEATRES**

Amazon Studios has set a release date for One Night in Miami, which marks the directorial debut of Oscar winner Regina King. According to Variety, the film will release in select theatres December 25 and later launch on streamer Amazon Prime Video January 15, 2021.

VIKANDER HOPES TO SHOOT TOMB RAIDER 2 IN 2021

Oscar winner Alicia Vikander says the muchawaited Tom Raider 2 is expected to start shooting in 2021. Vikander, who took over the role from Angelina Jolie, made her debut as the globetrotting titular protagonist with 2018's Tomb Raider.



FORTUNE **FORECAST**



You will find some decisions difficult to make. but be intent and res-

olute. Emotions may put you off rail, but once you have resolved, don't stray from it. Besides, Ganesha advises you to learn to endure setbacks in a mature manner

TAURUS

You may find yourself compromising against your will today, predicts Ganesha. Stand strong despite things

going awry instead of feeling disillusioned due to poor results. Ongoing negotiations might come to a logical end and a few important decisions are likely to be delayed due to lack of proper information.

GEMINI

A crucial social event at home is on the anvil, and it will demand most of your attention. Intense business negotia tions, which were going on for a long time will come to a logical conclusion. The results are likely to be stacked in your favour.

Today, you are likely to achieve something that you have badly wanted for a long time. It is very

likely that you will get very emotional in the moment of victory today, predicts Ganesha. Your arrogance and overconfidence can throw you off track.

Payal Ghosh

A CONTRACTOR

PEANUTS

1

LEO

Unlike Dennis or Calvin, expect your sometimes haughty and mostly naughty kids to behave 'just right' at the right time. It's not that

children like to break rules, they just want to have some fun, reminds Ganesha.

VIRGO

Ganesha foretells that you will start off on a long, arduous path to success. Some tough work will play a vital role in your progress. Don't cut corners, and your labours will pay rich dividends and you will reap due rewards. Some opportunities are best left alone as they involve too much risk.



'#MeToo movement in India fake'

Mumbai: Actress Payal Ghosh Saturday termed the #MeToo movement in India as fake. The actress, who has levelled sexual harassment charges against filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, has also questioned the authenticity of the movement that started two years ago in the country.

"All the accused got a clean chit in the #Metooindia movement. So it deems the accuser to be false. Why are they not punished for harassment then? Where is the truth. Up in the air. Why are those women not behind the bars

for false accusations, as the accuser got a clean chit?" Payal wrote on her verified Twitter account.

"The women posting in support of the accused know nothing about the situation and can have an opinion that the accused can't do this ever. It's like the rapist's wife saying that the husband is innocent and can never do this. Tell me otherwise," Payal wrote in separate tweets, tagging her opinion with #fake and #Metooindia.

Payal's claim over authenticity of the MeToo movement in India comes at a time when Anurag Kashyap has received the support of several industry colleagues, including actresses he has worked with, as well as his two ex-wives after she accused him of sexual harassment. IANS



When Arjun stared at his phone for 10 minutes

New Delhi: Actor Arjun Mathur has been nominated for an International Emmy Award at the upcoming 2020 edition of the global gala, but he insists he does not feel like a star

Arjun makes the cut in the Best Performance By An Actor list for his role of the gay wedding planner Karan Mehra in the web series *Made In Heaven*. He recalls receiving the news with a sense of disbelief. The first thing I did was not believe it stare at my phone screen for a good five to 10 minutes. I kept on looking for some way

to confirm if it was real or if I was dream ing. Then I messaged my family. The first phone call I made was to (series co-creator) Zoya (Akhtar). I haven't yet had the chance to celebrate the news as such, Ariun said

On the show, his pro-

tagonist Karan is

gay. In the

past, too, he

gay charac

ters in

Onir's

film 2

Am and

Mira

Nair's

short film

Migration.

IANS

played

E-OLYMPIAD SET TO ASSESS COUNTRY'S BUDDING MINDS

The national-level championship will begin in

November 2020 which is open to students of Classes IV to XII from all

education boards across India

AGENCIES

New Delhi: For school-goers. quizzes like olympiads can be experimental learning outside the classroom. With learning having gone digital, an online nationwide GK olympiad for school students is all set to test young minds on their general knowledge, and make e-education a bit more exciting, even during school closures. Mind Wars, a multiplatform knowledge programme promoted by Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd has announced India's largest online general knowledge Olympiad 2020, intending to identify, encourage, and promote students towards achieving a better tomorrow. The national-level championship will begin in November 2020, and it is open to students of Classes IV to XII from all education boards across India. The 20-minute exam comprises relevant and interesting general awareness question across 5 topics per class, that aims at im-

proving students



ability and growth in the coming years. Furthermore, it is formulated based on the results of a detailed survey of principals and teachers from across 5,000 Indian schools pan India.

"Quizzes and puzzles are a great way of experiential as well as experimental learning for kids. The play and competitiveness associated with quizzing also makes it fun and engaging. Knowledge gained in such engaging manner is retained better by a budding mind. Also, it helps develop positive behavioural and response patterns for kids in their formative years. The Mind Wars GK Olympiad provides platform for kids to prepare and practise for quizzes before they play the competitive Olympiad. It also provides opportunity for kids to re-try and improve their scores. In this manner the program is designed to encourage kids for pursuing a goal of continuous learning and improvement,' said company's senior vice-president Umesh Kr Bansal.

Olympiads have been a part of the school activities for decades. They are widely accepted and respected form of evaluating and recognising the capabilities of school students. Olympiad certificates have been part of the extra-curricular achievements for children as they appear for competitive exams and higher studies, he added.

Going with the times, the organisers have made the Olympiad completely digital from registration, to practise, to the final competitive exam as well. The participating students can give the exam on a date of their choice and from the safety of their homes.



IANS

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FEEL TOKEN

FOR GRANTED.

debut in 2005, she made inwhen she stant headlines. Not just bewas younger cause she was cast opposite superstar Salman Khan in her first film, but because of the uncanny resemblance she bore with Aishwarya Rai Bachchan.

Since her first outing, Lucky: No Time For Love all those years ago, Sneha has not shared much in common with Aishwarya. The film tanked despite Salman, and many SODS feel the constant comparisons with former Miss World Aishwarya were perhaps the reason that fans failed to fully see her potential as an individual artiste.

"I am so comfortable in my own skin and all those comparisons didn't bother me. Also, that was also their PR strategy on how to describe me. That thing actually emphasised the entire comparison. Otherwise, it may not have been such big

There will be some good news about your children's progress. This is the right time to invest in business. For financial investors and share brokers this period is beneficial, so make the most of it.

SCORPIO

Your energy levels are high as you as you gear up for new events However, there are

chances that these events may not meet your expectations. But, don't lose hope and get disappointed. Keep your spirits high.

SAGITTARIUS

Lady luck is all smiles for you today, predicts Ganesha. Suddenly, you feel like multi-tasking and becoming a jack of all. This is likely to keep you busy, almost throughout the day. If need be, your colleagues and peers will lend a helping hand.

CAPRICORN

You are in hot water, but do not lose hope during these turbulent times. Maintain a calm head over your shoulders and deal with the

problems, guides Ganesha. Also, do not jump to conclusions or be argumentative with the people around you, as you may end up being at the losing end.

You will not need a reason to party today. Be it the news of a friend getting married or you buy ing a new car, you are in a mood to celebrate life like anything! Apart from this, you

will have a smooth sailing through out the day, foresees Ganesha.



your undoing, or provide vou with handsome returns, savs Ganesha. This is because you could come out on top by treading cautiously, but uncalculated risks will probably throw your calculations out of gear.

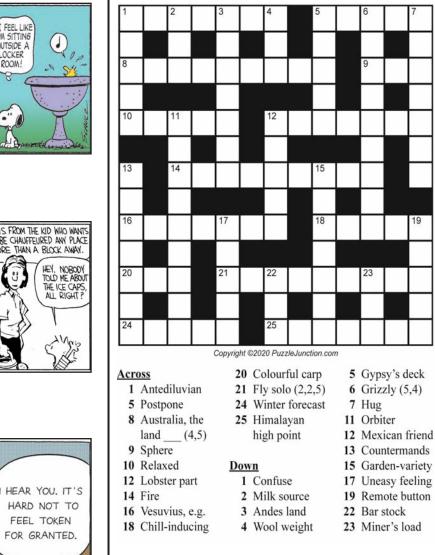


EVERY SINGLE DAY.

FEEL LIKE 1 JTSIDE A LOCKER ROOM!

CALVIN AND HOBBES



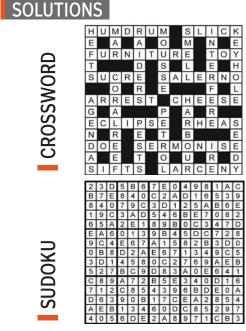


CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

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

0					Е		1	6				1	3	
		6		8	Α	В				9	5			
			С				3	9						
Е				7		2			В					
	9				3	5			Е			2		
		В	0								9		1	4
5		9		6		С			2		1	1 - 11 2 - 21		0
		С	3	Е	7		đ	5		6	0		А	
А	6							Е	4	7	D			2
2	7		1	А				0						
		1		0		D	9	Α	3				Е	
8	В						0		7				2	D
С		7		3			5					6		
		Е			4		6			2	С			
			Е	В	С				1		4		0	7





deal," she claimed.

FUN

CROSSWORD

REPRESENTATIVE IMAGES

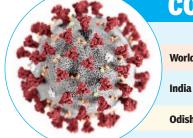






BUMPY RIDE

Poor condition of the Ring Road near the Collector office in Cuttack inconveniences the commuters, Saturday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
d	3,49,48,628	2,59,78,182	10,34,858
L	64,73,544	54,27,706	1,00,842
ha	2,29,387	1,98,194	892

The officials deliberated on issues

related to the status of Maoist

extremism in the state, steps taken by security forces to tackle

the ultras, fresh operational

strategy against Maoists among

others

Anti-Maoist operations will be

intensified in core operational

areas of CPI (Maoist) in the state

with greater synergy with CAPF

Anti-Red ops to be intensified in core areas

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: Several state and central security forces Saturday resolved to intensify operations in Communist Party of India (Maoist) strongholds in Odisha by ensuring better coordination among them.

The decision was taken at a highlevel meeting held at the office of the Directorate of Intelligence here. Senior Security Advisor to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs K Vijay Kumar, Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) AP Maheswari and Odisha DGP Abhay along with many senior officials of state and central armed police attended the meet-

The officials deliberated on issues related to the status of Maoist extremism in the state, steps taken by security forces to tackle the ultras, fresh operational strategy against Maoists, redeployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) in

BROWN SUGAR,

₹1 CRORE SEIZED

POST NEWS NETWORK

GANJA WORTH OVER

Khurda, Oct 3: The Quick Action

Team (QAT) of Commissionerate

Police seized 300 grams of brown

sugar from a vehicle near Pahala on the outskirts of Capital city,

Saturday morning. The market

value of the sized narcotic would

be around Rs 35 lakh in grey mar-

ket. Similarly, 700 kg ganja was

also seized from a coir-laden truck near Godipada toll gate in Khurda.

Acting on a tip-off, the cops in-

tercepted a vehicle and the con-

traband was found after a search.

During investigation it was found

that the narcotic was being trans-

ported from Jaleswar area in

In another haul, the Narcotics

Control Bureau (NCB) seized 700

kg ganja from a coir-laden truck

near Godipada toll gate in Khurda

Saturday. The estimated value of

the seized narcotic item is said to

be around Rs 70 lakh in grey mar-

ket. The driver of the truck has

been arrested and his interroga-

The NCB had been tipped off

about the truck. Accordingly, the

officials intercepted the vehicle

and the contraband was found

during a raid. The narcotic item

tion is underway, it was learnt.

Balasore to Bhubaneswar.

THRUST ON COORDINATION SENIOR SECURITY ADVISOR TO MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS VIJAY KUMAR COMMENDED THE STATE POLICE FOR

core areas, steps to achieve better synergy among the forces.

"It was emphasised to further intensify anti-Maoist operations in the core operational areas of CPI (Maoist) in the state with greater synergy with Central Armed Police Forces. It was also emphasised to

fast-track the re-deployment of CAPFs in Kalahandi, Kandhamal and Nabarangpur districts," said a press note released by Odisha Police after the meeting. The officials stressed on emu-

ITS SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS AGAINST LEFT WING EXTREMISM IN STATE

lating a better 'coordination mechanism' followed by police forces of

Odisha and Andhra Pradesh in combating the Maoists along the border. Vijay Kumar commended the state police for its successful operations against the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in state and assured all possible help from central government in future too

Murderous attack on havildar in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: A havildar of Commissionerate Police has sustained severe injuries following a murderous attack by a former special police officer (SPO) at Rental Colony under Nayapalli police limits here.

The injured cop has lodged a complaint with the police against the absconding SPO. The accused. a retired official of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), was working as an SPO with Commissionerate Police.

According to sources, the victim has been identified as Santosh Kumar Behera, a havildar in PCR van at Nayapalli police station. Behera received an order from the police control room regarding a brawl at the Rental Colony. He along with some other cops rushed to

The accused, a retired official of Central Reserve Police Force, was working as an SPO with **Commissionerate Police**

the spot. The locals informed the cops that the accused had been beating his wife and children mercilessly.

Meanwhile, when Behera was climbing the ladder, the accused suddenly came out of his house and started attacking him with a shoe stand kept nearby.

An injured Behera soon called more forces to his help but the accused succeeded in fleeing the spot. Police have launched a manhunt to arrest the accused after registering a case in this regard.

Odia boy sets world record in holding 'tree posture'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: Odia boy Sanat Rath has set a Guinness World Record in holding 'tree posture' (Brukhyasana) for the longest time. Sanat achieved the rare feat by holding this posture for one hour six minutes and 55 seconds.

Sanat said that the purpose of the attempt is to promote Yoga as a way of living and celebrating life. "Yoga, cycling and exercise are very important for youngsters. By pursuing these physical workouts, a youth can remain fit and stress-free," Sanat said.

Earlier, Sanat made it to Limca Book of Records with the largest collection of unique cycles. "I have always cherished the dream of setting world records. As of now, I have entries in Guinness World Record and Limca Book of Records. My dream has come true and I am feeling very satisfied." he said

₹472Cr CMRF money spent on COVID mgmt

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: A statement by Housing and Urban Development (H&UD) Minister Pratap Jena claimed that the Odisha government has spent a staggering ₹472 crore on COVID management during the last seven months.

The written statement was tabled before the Assembly Saturday which gave an account of the expenditure the government incurred out of the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). The breakup of the data revealed that the majority of the funds were given to the District Collectors to tackle the health disaster. Funds were also spent on arranging train tickets for migrants returning to the state. The detailed list of expenditure claimed that the Police department, Housing and Urban Development department, National Health Mission, selected civic bodies got the share to cater to the

the last few months. The data claimed that a larger chunk of ₹165 crore was utilised to pay the returnee Odias as incentives for successful completion of quarantine after their return to the state. The incentives were routed either through the Panchavati Rai department or the Housing and Urban Development department. On the other hand, nearly ₹194 crore was allocated to different district administrations to manage the health disaster. The amount was paid to different districts at multiple transactions based on the need of the districts. Ganjam, Khurda, Cuttack districts received the highest allocations from the CMRF. The government has also

needs of COVID management in



Municipal Corporation (BMC), ₹3 crore to Berhampur Municipal Corporation and ₹7.5 crore to the Cuttack Municipal Corporation. Out of the three civic bodies as-

Motor vehicle revenue dips 42%

BHUBANESWAR: Motor vehicle revenue in the state has dipped by 42 per cent till August end of this financial year as compared to the

corresponding period of FY 2019-20.

REPORT IN ASSEMBLY

Alarger chunk of ₹165 crore was Autilised to pay the returnee Odias as incentives for successful completion of guarantine after their return to the state

early ₹194 crore was allocated to N different district administrations to manage the health disaster

The govt has allocated ₹17.5 crore to BMC, ₹3 crore to Berhampur Municipal Corporation and ₹7.5 crore to CMC

for the migrant workers from Shramik trains.

Another expenditure shown from the office of the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) was ₹1.5 crore

As per a written statement by Fransport and Commerce Minister Padmanabha Behera, the state government has collected ₹382.78 crore in between April and August of this fiscal as against ₹661.29 crore during the period in last fis-

in May, 15.61 per cent in June, 19.98 per cent in July and 18.04 per cent in August. About 1,40,063 vehicles were registered in the state till August 2020 while 10,534 driving licences were renewed during this time, he said. Behera said the state has collected ₹4.14 crore as fine from the violators while check

Form squad to inspect **COVID hosps: Speaker**

BHUBANESWAR: Speaker Surya Narayan Patro Saturday directed Health and Family Welfare Minister Naba Kishore Das to form a special squad for inspection of all government and private COVID hospitals in the state.

Patro gave the ruling in the House as many opposition members have alleged gross mismanagement at COVID hospitals across the state. The Speaker said he himself also received similar complaints. The Speaker directed the minister to set up a special team which will visit all COVID hospitals in the state to oversee their overall management.

Speaker warns scribes

The Speaker Saturday warned the journalists against circulating misleading news about House proceedings.

The Speaker, while giving a ruling on the matter, asked mediapersons covering House proceedings not to misinterpret statements of the legislators. He also urged media houses to ask their reporters outside the Assembly to refrain from publishing news about House business, failing which action will be initiated against them.

Mo Bus service for **UPSC** examinees

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: In a bid to facilitate transport services to candidates appearing UPSC Civil Services Preliminary examination, the Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT), Saturday, said that it would run Mo Bus service on Route No-16 and 18 connecting the twin cities.

In a tweet, CRUT stated that Mo Bus service will begin at 6am. Sunday. The two routes, 16 and 18, will see buses plying between Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar to Biju Patnaik Park, Cuttack and from Baramunda here to Jagatpur in Cuttack. The buses will be available in every 10 min-

utes between 6 am and 6.30am. Similarly, from Cuttack the Mo Bus service will be available

in every 15 minutes between

4.50pm and 5.35pm. The preliminary examination will be held at 2,569 centres across 72 cities in the country.

Meanwhile, the Indian Railways has decided to run special trains within jurisdiction of East Coast Railway (ECoR) a day before to facilitate candidates of UPSC examination scheduled for October 4.



was being smuggled from Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh to Bihar, it was learnt.

LAND GRAB CHARGE OTV MD, kin booked

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khurda, Oct 3: Baghamari police Saturday registered a case against OTV managing director (MD) Jagi Mangat Panda, her father and brother in connection with alleged land grab by the media house at Sarua village under Begunia block here.

A case has been registered against Panda, her father and brother on charges of illegal acquisition of the landed properties of two Dalit persons and issuing threat to the victim duo, police said. The case has been registered under SC/ST Act and Section 447, 506 and 34 of the IPC, they added.

"SDPO Sushil Kumar Mishra has been directed to probe the allegation against the media house. We will take stern action if the allegations are proved," said Khurda Superintendent of Police (SP) Ajay Pratap Swain. According to police, Haluri Pahadsingh and Sanatan Pahadsingh, two Dalit persons of Sarua, had lodged a complaint against OTV MD, her father and brother. As per the complaint, the duo has agricultural lands under Sarua revenue village. A few years ago, OTV authorities had tried to lure the duo to sell their lands to the media house. However, Haluri and Sanatan refused to part their lands.

Subsequently, OTV authorities purchased landed properties close to the duo's lands and constructed buildings and boundary walls, said the complainants, adding access to their farmlands has been blocked. "The media house authorities have prevented us from accessing our agricultural lands. They threatened us when we raised an objection," alleged the duo in their complaint.

cal. Motor vehicle revenue collection has fallen by 82.75 per cent in the month of April, 66.69 per cent

sisted, BMC received the lion's share for COVID management. Some other assistance included ₹15 crore to the police department, ₹46 crore to the National Health Mission and ₹9 crore given to the allocated ₹17.5 crore to Bhubaneswar East Coast Railway as train fare

Likewise, Behera said, about 70.33 lakh registered vehicles are plying on state roads.

ing vehicles documents whereas

the amount was ₹35.13 crore dur-

ing the same period last year.

which was given to the 30 districts for food expenditure of the quarantine centres, personal hygiene kits, bedsheets/pillow covers for quarantine centres and cleaning of the centres. These also include provision for homeless, destitute and beggars.

Patro gave this ruling follow-

ing a privilege motion moved by senior Congress MLA Narasingha Mishra on a media report about him. Though he himself and his party and had raised COVID issue and demanded a debate inside the House, a misleading media report is being circulated in WhatsApp about him, Mishra said.

HEAVY RAINFALL WARNING FOR 3 DAYS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: Predicting heavy rainfall till October 6, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Saturday issued yellow warning for several districts.

The low pressure area (LOPAR) formed over northwest and adjoining west central Bay of Bengal off Odisha north Andhra Pradesh coasts was located over northwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining Odisha coast, the IMD said.

Under its impact, heavy rainfall would occur at one or two places in Ganjam, Koraput, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Sambalpur, Boudh, Angul, Cuttack, Deogarh, Gajapati and Sonepur, Sunday.

The IMD said a few places in Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Boudh, Bolangir, Bargarh, Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Rayagada districts would witness heavy rainfall, October 5. Similarly, heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at one or two places in Koraput, Nabarangpur, Bargarh, Bolangir, Jharsuguda, Nuapada, Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Boudh and Kalahandi, October 6.

At the same time, light to moderate rain and thunderstorm will continue to occur at many places of south and interior pockets of Odisha. The highest 75 mm rainfall was recorded at Nayagarh, followed by 48 mm at Angul and 43.6 mm at Bhubaneswar.







Vehicles ply on a water-logged Bomikhal road in Bhubaneswar as heavy rain lashed the city, Saturday. (Bottom) People travel on the Sachivalaya Marg amid the downpour in the Capital OP PHOTOS

downtown

State yet to submit UCs of ₹60 cr: RTI



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: An RTI query revealed that utilization certificates (UCs) that help rule out misappropriation and frauds have not been submitted by the Odisha government to the Centre against release of Rs 60 crore allocated in 2014-15 for development of pilgrimage and heritage sites.

The Ministry of Tourism in 2015 had launched the PRASAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spirituality Augmentation Drive) scheme that aimed at integrated de velopment of pilgrimage destinations in a prioritised, planned, and sustainable manner in order to provide a complete religious tourism experience.

The scheme which focused the development of lighting and illumination with renewable energy sources, eco-friendly modes of transport, first aid centres, internet connectivity and basic tourism facilities like transport, last-mile connectivity had shortlisted Puri's Jagganath Temple as one of the 41 religious sites to be developed for tourism.

"The government of India has released Rs 50 crore for infrastructure development for Jagannath Dham and Ramachandi-Prachi river front at Deuli under a mega circuit in 2014-15 for Puri. Besides that the ministry also released an amount of Rs 10 core to the government of Odisha in the same year," the

he Ministry of Tourism in 2015 had launched the PRASAD (Pilgrimage **Rejuvenation and Spirituality** Augmentation Drive) scheme that aimed at integrated development of pilgrimage destinations

he government of India has released ₹50 crore for infrastructure development for Jagannath Dham and Ramachandi-Prachi river front at Deuli under a mega circuit in 2014-15 for Puri under PRASAD scheme for development of pilgrimage and heritage sites

Considered to be an important document, utilization certificates are mandatory submissions to the central government which explains the breakdown of usage of funds

Ministry of Tourism responded to a query filed in the RTI.

'Though six years have passed. the government of Odisha has not submitted utilization certificates (UCs) of a single rupee to the Central Ministry till date," the ministry further added. Considered to be an important document, utilization certificates are mandatory submissions to the central government which explains the breakdown of usage of funds.

'In absence of utilisation certificates, there is no assurance that money disbursed has been used for the purpose for which they have been given. Moreover, high pendency of the certificates is fraught with the risk of misappropriation and fraud." said Pradeep Pradhan, RTI activist here.

3,053 FRESH CASES, 17 FATALITIES IN STATE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: The state's COVID-19 tally rose to 2,29,387 Saturday as 3,053 more people tested positive for the infection, a health official said. Seventeen fresh fatalities pushed the state's coronavirus death toll to 892, he said.

As many as 1,804 new cases were detected in quarantine centres. while 1,249 people tested positive for the infection during contact tracing, the official said. Khurda district, under which Bhubaneswar falls, reported the highest number of new cases at 561, followed by Cuttack (256) and Mayurbhanj (153), he said.

Three fresh fatalities each were reported in Balasore and Dhenkanal. two each in Jagatsinghpur, Khurda and Puri, and one each in Bhadrak, Ganjam, Jajpur, Mayurbhanj and Nayagarh districts, the official said. Ganjam district has so far re-

ported the highest number of COVID-19 deaths at 221, followed by Khurda (146) and Cuttack (74).

Fifty-three COVID-19 patients have died due to other ailments so far,

he said The state has so far tested over 33.95 lakh samples for COVID-19,

including 46,404 Friday, he added. Capital records 329 fresh cases As many as 329 COVID-19 cases were detected under Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) limits over last 24 hours. BMC said Saturday. While 110 of them were quarantine cases, remaining 219 are local contact ones. Meanwhile, 341 persons who earlier tested positive for the disease have recovered.

According to a notification issued by the civic body, as of Saturday, 22,876 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 in Bhubaneswar out of which 19,255 have recovered. While there are 3,502 active cases, 100 persons succumbed to the disease. Cuttack records 168 new cases As many as 168 new COVID-19

cases were detected under **Cuttack Municipal Corporation** (CMC) limits in last 24 hours,



CMC said Saturday.

While 32 of them were home quarantine cases, 67 were from institutional quarantine centres and the remaining 69 were local contact ones. According to a notification issued by the civic body, as of Saturday, 12,577 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 in Cuttack out of which 10,256 have recovered. There are 2,270 active cases and 51 persons have succumbed to the disease.

Ganjam district has so far reported the highest number of COVID-19 deaths at 221, followed by Khurda (146) and Cuttack (74). Fifty-three **COVID-19 patients have** died due to other ailments so far

4,066 PERSONS RECOVER

The state health department Saturday said 4,066 persons who earlier tested positive for Covid-19 have recovered and are being discharged. Out of the 4,066 persons, 648 are from Khurda, 521 from Cuttack, 225 from Angul, 181 from Jajpur, 167 from Sundargarh, 152 from Jagatsinghpur, 152 from Nuapada, 141 from Bargarh, 135 from Nabarangpur, 128 from Sambalpur, 127 from Bhadrak, 119 from Balasore, 114 from

Mayurbhanj, 108 from Kandhamal. 106 from Kendrapara, 105 from Puri, 91 from Jharsuguda, 81 from Bolangir, 65 from Keonjhar, 65 from Malkangiri, 61 from Rayagada, 61 from Sonepur, 60 from Ganjam, 60 from Kalahandi, 60 from Koraput, 59 from Boudh, 57 from Dhenkanal, 41 from Nayagarh, 14 from Deogarh, 13 from Gajapati and 149 from State Pool. With this, total recoveries in the state stood at 1,98,194.

COVID-19: SOP on

use of Favipiravir

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: The state

government Saturday issued a Standard Operating Procedure

(SOP) on how Favipiravir tablets

can be administered to COVID-19

patients who are currently in

In a letter, Additional Chief

Secretary PK Mohapatra directed

all District Collectors, municipal commissioners, CDMOs, PHOs

and superintendents of govern-

ment medical college and hospitals

to ensure administration of favipiravir to patients in home isola-

tion with strict adherence to SOP

sponse teams will be trained to assess the patients in home iso-

lation to see if they are eligible for

administration of the tablet. The

tablet can only be administered to

patients in consultation with

trained doctors. The team will

According to the SOP, rapid re-

tablet issued

POST NEWS NETWORK

home isolation.

LIVELIHOOD MATTERS

Hawkers from West Bengal selling fried groundnuts at the Ring Road near CDA in Cuttack, Saturday

Differently-abled girl shines through dance

POST NEWS NETWORK



Farmers wouldn't be deprived of MSP: Pradhan

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: Union Minister of Petroleum and Steel Saturday said farmers in the country won't be deprived of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their crops under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Mod He was speaking in a press conference in the state capital to talk about the recently passed three legislations on farmers. "Under the leadership of PM Modi, no farmers are going to suffer and receive profits below MSP. The three Acts will be a harbinger of an era of better profit for the farmers unlike the 70 years of earlier governance," he said. When asked why the MSP has not been made part of any law, he said, "Even earlier the MSP was not well prescribed in laws but it was given. Under our governance, the MSP was strengthening. In last few years, farmers have been selling more paddy under MSP. Earlier, MSP for pulses was hardly given which was given in good numbers in the last



UNION MINISTER DONATES PLASMA

CUTTACK: Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Saturday afternoon donated plasma at SCB Medical College and Hospital here after his recovery from Covid-19. After his recovery. Pradhan do-



also inform patients and their kin about the side-effects, precautions and actions to be taken after ad-ОР РНОТО ministration of the tablet.

The three Acts will be a harbinger of an era of better profits for farmers unlike the 70 years of earlier govt,

few years," he said.

Pradhan said

The BJP leader from Odisha claimed that the power to dismantle or retain the APMC lay with the states. He said that the three bills would bolster the selling power of farmers and weed out the middle-

men involved in trading of the crops of farmers in the market.

He also tried to allay the fears of multi-national companies invading the local markets and said that in the past, several local players had been buying crops from farmers in good amount and collaborating with them. "Don't we have good and capable

players who can tie up with farmers. There are several examples in Nabarangpur, Bolangir and others where the local produce is procured by local players. The talks of MNCs invading agri markets are misleading," he said.

nated plasma on the advice of doctors after necessary interval. Prof Datteswar Hota, principal of SCB Medical College and Dr Smita Mohapatra, nodal officer for plasma therapy in the hospital were present at the time when Pradhan donated plasma at the plasma bank.

To make plasma donation move ment a success, Pradhan appealed to all those who have recovered from Covid-19 to come forward and voluntarily donate their plasma.

He said that administration of plasma therapy has been of success in case of critical and serious patients for which the movement for plasma donation should be made more widespread. Speaking to mediapersons, Dr Mohapatra, nodal

The seat will go for

by-poll November 3

for which senior

Congress leaders

including state unit

in-charge A Chella

officer said that today's event is quite inspiring for the residents in the state as the Union Minister came all the way from New Delhi to donate plasma in the hospital. Over 482 recovered persons comprising doctors, police, defence personnel and others have donated plasma at the plasma bank in the SCB Medical College and Hospital since its inauguration by the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik July 15, she said. The Union Minister's voluntary donation of plasma will help in an increase of plasma donors, she hoped. Pradhan had informed in social media of his getting infected with coronavirus August 4. Later, he was admitted to a Gurugaon hospital.

- dancing.

The tribal girl resides in Badabanga panchayat under Daringbadi block in Kandhamal district along with her family. Owing to locomotor disability or Osteogenesis Imperfecta, her physical growth has been restricted for past several years. The nearest primary school being almost a kilometre away from her village hindered her education.

While a normal person would have moped for missing out on life. tough people like Suneli believes in living life to the fullest. "Everybody loves my dance," gleams the little dancer. Her parents said Suneli learnt to dance on her own by watching videos. She fascinated co-villagers with her moves and animated expressions. Notably, the block education officer (BEO) along with other officials met her family a few days back and ensured her admission

into a local school. The BEO gave her school uniform, books and a wheelchair which will facilitate her going to school. The officials also promised the family that Suneli would receive all benefits as per government norms.

COVID-19: G UDAYAGIRI TRADERS' **BODY OBSERVES 48-HOUR BANDH**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani. Oct 3: G Udavagiri Traders' Association is observing a 48-hour shutdown from Saturday. All the shops and markets were seen with their shutters down.

Such a decision has been taken to stop the spread of coronavirus in the locality. They have also decided that they will open their shops from 7am to 4pm from Monday onwards.

The traders' association has also urged people not to come out of their houses unless there is an urgency. Kandhamal Saturday reported 32 fresh COVID-19 cases,

taking the district's total tally to 4.677. While 4,085 patients have so far recovered from the disease, 569 are still undergoing treatment. The killer disease has so far claimed 23 lives in the district.

Earlier, Jharsuguda Chamber of Commerce and Karanjia Businessmen's Association in Mayurbhanj had taken similar decisions to curb the spread of the disease in their respective areas. The Jharsuguda Chamber of Commerce had observed a seven-day long shutdown ending October 2, Karanjia Businessmen's Association's three-day-shutdown ended September 30.

Noted gynaecologist dead Cong appoints leaders for Tirtol bypoll

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack. Oct 3: Noted gynaecologist and obstetrician Dr Ashis

Kumar Dey passed away Saturday morning at his Tulasipur residence in the city. He was 87 and died of cardiac arrest. His son, Debaloy Dey, daughter Barnali Sahu, grandchildren and kin were present

at his bedside at the time of his death

Dey was born in Kolkata

December 12, 1932. After completing his medical education from RG

Kar Medical College in Kolkata, Dey worked in the gynaecology

and obstetrics department of VSS Medical College and Hospital now VIMSAR in Burla. MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur and in SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack

by people from all walks of life and the members of Odisha

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: The Congress party Saturday appointed senior leaders in charge of blocks in the Tirtol Assembly constituency to oversee party affairs for the bypoll. Pradesh Congress Committee

(PCC) president Niranjan Patnaik has appointed Gurupada Nand and Manas Choudhury in charge of Raghunathpur block while Bandita Parida and Ganeshwar Behera will look after Biridi block and Amarnath

Kumar and others will campaign for the

Pradhan, Shuvendu Mohanty and Arindam Sarkhel will be

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488 Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro

in charge of Tirtol block.

Various senior leaders including state unit in-charge A Chella Kumar, Niranjan Patnaik, Congress Legislative Party leader Narasimha Mishra, Chiraniib Biswal and Pradeep Majhi, Jaydev Jena, Sarat Patnaik and Prasad Harichandan, Ranjib Biswal, Saptagiri Ulaka, Suresh Kumar Rautaray, Taraprasad Bahinipati, Ramesh Jena, Santosh Singh Saluja and Mohammed Moquim will campaign for the party candidate. The seat will go for bypoll November 3.

Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book

Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion-Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

Gynaecologist Association.

His death was mourned

party candidate







state

Sonepur villages declared 'child marriage free' The villages which have received the tag for the first time

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sonepur, Oct 3: In a first, seven villages out of 43 identified as most vulnerable in terms of child marriage in this district have the prestigious tag of 'child marriage-free village

In past years, the district had reported many cases of child marriages. Waking up to the alarming situation, the district administration took several initiatives to put an end to this evil practice. A movement in the name of 'Sankalp' is underway across the district. Under the movement, the administration is taking various steps to sensitise parents about the adverse impact of the early age marriages of their daughters.

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

Bhadrak DHH after

Bhadrak, Oct 3: Tension gripped

Bhadrak district headquarters

hospital (DHH) after family mem-

bers of a deceased accused the

DHH authorities of negligence

According to sources, Satyandu

Mallick, a retired army man, of

Thakurtpatna village under

Dhushuri police limits in Bhadark

district accidentally fell into a

pond and suffered injuries. Family

members rescued him and rushed

him to Dhushuri community

health centre (CHC) and then to

The family members alleged

that despite the serious condition

of the patient the medical staff

did not attend to him, suspecting

him to have contracted coron-

avirus. This resulted in his death.

family members allegdly misbe-

haved with the medical staff, giv-

ing rise to tension at the DHH.

Later, town police pacified the

Elderly person languishes in

irked family members.

Alleging medical negligence,

Tension grips

patient's death

POST NEWS NETWORK

Friday afternoon.

Bhadrak DHH.

Similarly, various programmes have been taken into hands to give the victims of child marriage a better and secured life. The administration has identified 43 villages as most vulnerable villages in terms of child marriage.

The administration's efforts have finally paid dividends. Seven of the 43 villages have become child marriage-free villages.

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the district administration in association with Action Aid and UNICEF declared the villages as free from the heinous practice of marrying off children at a tender age.

The villages which have received the tag for the first time in the district are Janamura of Sonepur block, Salipali of Ulunda block, Jampali of

ENDING A SOCIAL EVIL

in the district are Janamura of Sonepur block, Salipali of Ulunda block, Jampali of Binika block, Gajabandh of Dunguripali block, Kheramal of Biramaharaipur block and Suraiimund and Bhurad villages of Tarabha block

the alarming situation, the district administration took several initiatives to put an end to this evil practice. A movement in the name of 'Sankalp' is underway across the district with the administration sensitising parents about the adverse impact of the early age marriages of their daughters

Binika block, Gajabandh of Dunguripali block, Kheramal of Biramaharajpur block and Surajimund and Bhurad villages of Tarabha block.

Due to the steps the government

In past years, the district saw many cases of child marriages. Waking up to

has been taking for the last two vears, these villages have not reported even a single case of child marriage in the period. Child marriage protection offi-

cer (CMPO) Sabita Dora, members

of the child marriage protection committees, teachers and villagers took a pledge not to allow child marriage in their village.

With a view to make all the 43 villages as free from child marriage, another initiative has been taken since July, 2020.

Under this initiative, village level 'child marriage protection committees' have been formed at all the villages and every week activities like rallies, meetings and pledge taking events involving girls, youths, villagers, parents and women of SHGs are being organised.

The administration in association with Action Aid and UNICEF has formed task force and taken some more steps to check child marriage in the district, it was learnt.

riverbank so that the water of

Brahmani and its distributary will

Later, water samples of the

Brahmani and the Kharashrota were

collected at Kabatabandh, Jokadia

bridge, Deulakana, Kusunpur Bridge,

Marthapur and Tisco Intake point and

Ganda nullah December 29, 2015.

The laboratory tests found presence

of highly toxic chemicals like cyanide

up hearing of the issue September

20. 2018 and ordered formation of a

five-member committee under the

chairmanship of the forest and en-

vironment secretary. It also wanted

an action plan to tackle the river

The National Green Tribunal took

and phenolic compound.

water pollution.

not polluted.

Admin ultimatum to NHAI for repair of NH-215, 49



ways because of their deplorable

conditions. We have pursued the

NHAI authorities to finish the re-

pair work in time. We hope that

after receiving this Office letter,

the authorities will take necessary

steps forward," Thakare ex-

Notably, the national high-

ways known as the lifelines of

Keonjhar district are in a run-

pressed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Oct 3: District Collector Ashish Thakare Saturday issued notice to chief general manager and regional office of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to undertake repair of the dilapidated national highways - NH-215 and NH-49 on a war footing.

In a letter, Thakare warned the NHAI authorities of legal action if the repair work is not undertaken immediately.

authorities about the poor state of the roads for several times, no action has been taken yet. Henceforth, the NHAI will be held responsible in case accidents take place along the roads. Legal action will be taken against them," the letter written by the District Collector read.

accidents and causalities are occurring on the national high-

pletely run down. The roads requires immediate repair," another driver said.

Man-elephant row: Woman trampled to death, jumbo dies

Bangiriposi on edge

Bangiriposi: Even as paddy crop is ripening, elephant menace has been a cause of concern for farmers in Bangiriposi area of Mayurbhanj district. The animals have been on a damaging spree, a report said. A herd of 11 elephants unleashed a reign of terror in Balikhani and Kuabasar of Dhobishola panchavat. They have damaged paddy over 10 acres while people in Jhinkapahadi, Neturapat, Chaulaghori, Anlagunia and Shvamsundarpur villages have been spending sleepless nights for the last several days. The animals have damaged four houses at



her life, the animal caught her by its trunk, tossed her on the ground and trampled her under its feet.

As the news broke, family members and villagers rushed to the spot where tension flared up for sometime as the villagers demanded compensation and steps to save their lives and properties. On being informed, forest department officials also rushed to the spot. They pacified the villagers, promising compensation as per government rule. They recovered the body for post mortem. In a related development, an elephant was found dead at near Mlaygiri resertve forest under Deogarh forest division in this district. Forest officials are vet to ascertain the cause of its death. It was suspected to be an act of poaching as its tusks are missing. The animal had stayed from Keonjhar to Pallahand area.

No action yet on CETP use for industrial units

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 3: Taking a serious note of growing pollution of the water of the Brahmani river in Jajpur, the High Court had directed the state government to set up common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) by the industrial units operating on along the river banks, but the order has not been implemented till date, a report said.

The NGT has also issued a similar order on an appeal (593/2017) and based on a writ petition (375/2012) filed in Supreme Court. Despite all this, the government sits pretty cool over the issue.

The report added that in the absence of CETPs, the water of Brahmani is getting polluted with the effluents being discharged from the industrial units in Kalinganagar. People and domestic animals of Danagadi, Korei, Rasulpur, Jajpur, Binjharpur and Bari blocks have to bear the brunt of polluted water when they are using the pol-

luted water. The river water is allegedly unfit for human consumption and has affected the lives and livelihood of people in these riparian pockets.

The industrial units and mines have violated the orders of HC, SC and the National Green Tribunal by

POLLUTION OF BRAHMANI WATER



not setting up CETPs.

The Brahmani with a 480-km course originates from the confluence of Koel and Sankha rivers at Panposh near Rourkela in Sundargargh district and flows through parts of Sundargarh, Deogarh, Angul, Cuttack, Jaipur and Kendrapara districts before merging with the Bay of Bengal at Dhamra under Chandbali in Bhadrak district. At Jenapur in Jajpur, the Brahamani has branched itself into two parts as Brahmani and Kharashrota.

In the upstream area, the river water is also polluted by effluents from industrial units in Angul and

Rourkela. Upset over continued pollution of the river water, people had staged agitations in the past while a PIL was filed in the High Court.

Hearing the PIL August 28, 2015, the HC had issued notices to the Chief Secretary and secretaries of industry, mines, water resources, forest and environment departments. chairpersons of state and central pollution control boards as well as the Collectors of Jharsuguda, Jajpur, Keonjhar and the ADM of Talcher.

units on demarcated areas on the

hill, Chariaban, Bhalu

depleted, livelihood of

pleting forests.

authorities concerned to ensure that CETPs are installed by industrial

The CPCB had then directed the SPCB to form a five-member committee but the order is yet to be implemented while at least 10 industrial units are allegedly releasing toxic elements into the water of

Brahmani and Kharashota with out treating their effluents. As for the water pollution issue, regional officer of the SPCB Pramod Kumar Behera said following the orders of The High Court also directed the the higher authorities, steps are

being taken in this direction. However, he said he has no orders regarding the CETP issue.

Guardians of Dasapalla forests

toilet for years in Jharsuguda POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayagarh, Oct 3: By 2000, four forests around Tanganadi village in Kulurukumpa panchayat under Dasapalla block in Nayagarh district had stood almost denuded, because of rampant tree felling by the timber mafia. Now, these forests have got back their virgin look and become verdantly rich thanks to community efforts by local people. They have set an example for others in

When forests at Tabakli grown luxuriantly.

Villagers have ensured that the ecosystem in the region is protected. Mundia and Biluapada got As a result of the vigil, a variety of wildlife which had disappeared from the area, have reappeared region. local tribals was affected

Wild animals such as jungle cats, civet cats, mongooses, jackal, hyenas. foxes, wild boars, gaur, bats, rodents, owls, jungle babblers, bulbuls blue jays, cuckoos, crows, doves peacocks, jungle fowls, mynas, partridges, peafowls, golden orioles and brah-

down condition, thereby causing water logging due to rain. The poor state of these roads has been posing serious threats "Despite informing the NHAI to local commuters-reportedly severe accidents and causalities. "The national highways here are in precarious condition. Many

drivers have lost their lives in severe accidents. We had staged protests for several times, but in vain," a local truck driver alleged. "It is very tough to drive on

these roads, which have com-"More than 95 percent of the



POST NEWS NETWORK

Jharsuguda, Oct 3: Despite tall talks of the state government boasting of its popular schemes aimed at uplifting the poor and the downtrodden, many needy are still deprived of governmental benefits.

An old man identified as Jogendra Nikhunti, a resident of Pujaripalli village under Lakhanpur block in Jharsuguda district, has been languishing in a toilet for over a year as his kutcha house was damaged in rains.

The daily-wage labourer has been living in the toilet, built under the Centre's flagship programme Swachh Bharat Mission. Despite several pleas, no one has extended any help to the helpless old man.

"My house got damaged in the rain last year. Since then, I have been living in the toilet with all my belongings. It is very difficult to fit into the small room. I am forced to live

here sans any option.

Jogendra said. Adding to his woes, Jogendra does not get any ration under the state government's scheme. Irony is that, he has got a hefty electricity bill though he does not have a house or electric connection.

On being contacted, local sarpanch Krushna Kalo said that, "Ration card has been provided to Jogendra, but he is ineligible to get ration as his Aadhaar card has not been linked to it. We will look into the matter to provide ration and a pucca house to him soon".

Lakhanpur block development officer (BDO) Sanjiv Patel said that, he will conduct an inquiry into the matter.

'We have a Permanent Waiting List (PWL) of beneficiaries. We provide houses to the beneficiaries as per their turn in the waiting list. We have to check the list before extending any help." said Patel.

the forest conservation. Reports said, when forests at Tabakli hill, Chariaban, Bhalu Mundia and Biluapada continued to

deplete because of tree felling, livelihood of tribals living in the area was affected.

to protect the forests and their greenery, but timber mafia used to threaten the former. They had to face their fury.

Locals realised their blunder in

They were earlier making attempts

2003 and resolved to safeguard the de-

Seven years of zealous guarding has rejuvenated the forests sprawling over 45 acres. Trees like Sal, Piasal, Asana and Kusuma have

COMMUNITY EFFORTS SAVE GREENERY



many kites and paradise fly catchers are seen here.

This forest conservation is perhaps one of the best success stories about safeguarding of forests through community participation. Now, tribals get sal leaves, siali leaves, wild roots and grass, which fetch them a scope of earning. Tribals are happy after regeneration of the lost forests.

The villagers' effort is the mainstay for this successful conservation process. Such forest conservation can be referred to as a model of community-forest relationship for other areas across the state." some social activists observed.

The local residents have applied for land pattas under Forest Dwellers Rights Act.

Padmacharan Majhi,Nirupama Majhi and Manoranjan Behera said, "United efforts of the tribals saved the forests which ensure their livelihood. 27 families of the village depend on the forests. The government should provide them land pattas.

The monk has to keep 50 kg flat-

tened rice and jaggery before the

arrival of animals. The scene of the carnivorous animals having vege-

tarian food is to be seen to be be-

lieved. He buys the food with the

alms he has received and with con-

tribution from devotees

night. Locals alleged that though the forest department is aware of the elephants, no step is being taken to drive away the animals. They are trying their best to scare away the animals with torches and crackers, but it is ineffective. "The animals again come back to the villages at night and cause mayhem," locals rued.

Banakati village Thursday

POST NEWS NETWORK

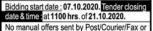
Dhenkanal/Angul, Oct 3: In another incident of man-elephant conflict, a 48-year-old woman was trampled to death by an elephant at Majhikhaman village under Kamakhvanagar sub division in Dhenkanal district Saturday morning.

The deceased has been identified as Netramani Sahoo of Majhikhaman village under Muktaposi section of western range. According to sources, Netramani was on way to her farmland in the morning. It was when she was passing through a forested area, a wild elephant came from nowhere and before she could do anything to save

EAST COAST RAILWAY Tender Notice No. ST-OT-RQP-SIDING-KUR-190 Dt.: 29.09.2020

Name of the Work : YARD REMODELLING FOR PROVISION OF BALLAST SIDING AT RADHAKISHOREPUR (RQP) STATION IN KHURDA ROAD DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY.

Tender Value : ₹ 24,60,439.50, EMD: ₹ 49,200/-, Cost of tender document: ₹ 3,540/-(Including GST 18%)



in person shall be accepted against such -tenders. complete information including e-tende ents of the above e-tender

Khurda Roa

website : http://www.ireps.gov.in erers are advised Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom

PR-280/L/20-21

Wild bears visit this place every evening to eat prasad

POST NEWS NETWORK

Papadahandi, Oct 3: A non-descript village under this block in Nabarangpur district has recently been in news for a surprising reason. Here there is an ashram at Basini village under this block and Kodinga forest range which plays host to wild bears who come here every evening to eat prasad.

Reports said these wild animals visit the Baba Gangadhar Ashram every evening to eat prasad and return to the forest in night. People throng the ashram to get a glimpse of the wild animals as the clock strikes 4 pm. Animal lovers claimed the visit of wild animals to the ashram for food is indicative of food shortage they are facing in the forest due to loss of green cover.

The bears are dependent on food that is provided to them by devotees and inmates in the ashram and visit



it regularly. These ferocious wild animals are tied to a string of love and do not harm anybody during their stay in the ashram.

A report coming from a village in Nabarngapur district has surprised many as there is a Chandi temple at Ghunchapali in Mahasamund district of Chhatishgarh where wild bears from the forest frequent every evening to eat prasad offered by devotees and others every evening.

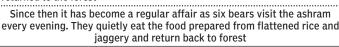
Sources said the ashram of Baba Gangadhar, a monk of Mahima cult, is situated at Basini village. The visit of the wild animals started a few months back when a bear suddenly strayed into the ashram. The monk instead of fearing the animal fed it with prasad. Later, the animal returned to the forest.

Since then it has become a regular affair as six bears visit the ashram every evening. They quietly eat the food prepared from flattened rice and jaggery and return

LOVE FOR ANIMALS

back to forest.

he ashram of Baba Gangadhar, a monk of Mahima cult, is situated at Basini village. The visit of the wild animals started a few months back when a bear suddenly strayed into the ashram. The monk instead of fearing the animal fed it with prasad. Later, the animal returned to the forest



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, GANJAM, BERHAMPUR

Phone-0680-2404096, E-Mail: eerwgmt@yahoo.co.in **Government of Odisha e-Procurement Notice** Bid Identification No. Online Tender/04/EERWD-II/2020-21 No.8466/RWD-IIGB, Date 25.09.2020 No.O-413:

1	Name of the work	:	Road Works
2	Estimated cost	:	Rs. 53.00 lakhs to Rs.85.00 lakhs
3	Period of Completion	•	6 (Six) Calendar Months as per Annexure
4	Date & Time of availability of Bid documents in the Portal		From 07.10.2020 at 10.00 A.M. to 21.10.2020 upto 3.00 P.M.
5	Last Date/ Time for receipt of Bids in the Portal	:	21.10.2020 upto 3.00 P.M.
6	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	••	Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division-II, Ganjam, Berhampur
	inther details can be seen tps://tenders.ori.nic.in/nicger	0/2	Division-II, Ganjam, Berhampur rom the e-procurement portal w





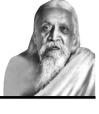






FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

There is no greater pride and glory than to be a perfect instrument of the Master. SRI AUROBINDO



Whither rule of law

The Indian State, meaning the government in all its forms but especially the Union government, is a slightly strange creature. It is in name and form a democracy and even a liberal one. A liberal democracy is defined as "a democratic system of government in which individual rights and freedoms are officially recognised and protected, and the exercise of political power is limited by the rule of law.

This is both true and not true of the Indian State. It is democratic in the sense that it is controlled by political parties which are elected to office for fixed terms. Individual rights and freedoms exist in theory but in large measure do not exist in reality. Political power is not limited by rule of law but by how much authority the individuals in power are willing to assert. When the individuals in office are modest and conscious of their position within the constitutional framework, the State will appear to be both democratic and liberal

However if individuals are authoritarian (meaning willing to enforce strict obedience to authority at the expense of personal freedoms), like the prime minister and the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, then the same State appears undemocratic. Rule of law exists in States where there is no space for authority to exercise arbitrary power. By that definition India is not a rule of law State. There is actually very little restriction on the arbitrary exercise of authority

Parliament can be denied the right to vote. People can be denied the right to freedom of peaceful assembly (guaranteed under Article 19) by declaring Section 144 at India Gate. An entire village can be denied the right to liberty (guaranteed under Article 21) by simply locking it up and not allowing anyone to either go in or out. This is not how democratic States function but it

is happening in India. There is no limiting element to how much arbitrary authority can be exercised. The Constitution does not change and nor are any laws required to be altered here. The State just doesn't have the internal capacity to resist misuse. Theoretically, the judiciary can check the overreach of the government But the Indian judiciary can be managed by a strong authority in ways that it cannot be in other nations. Judges can be given Rajva Sabha seats and governorships as a reward Indian judges can appear in their own matter when they are accused of sexual harassment, and their fellow judges will not object to this This is a violation of one of the fundamental principles of justice, referred to as 'nemo judex in causa sua' (nobody can be a judge in their own cause) but it has happened in India recently. This is not a rule of law State.

For it to become one, it must have stronge institutional capacity than it does. And it must have more participation from the citizenry than it does. Indians pride themselves on having one of the highest voting rates in the democratic world and that is something to be justifiably proud of. In the United States, for example in the 2016 election that brought Donald Trump to power, 55 per cent of America voted. This was 12 per cent less than the

turnout in India's 2019 election, when 67 per cent of the electorate voted. That is a substantial difference. But Americans participate in the democracy outside of the electoral process also. Protests against the arbitrary use of authority, as seen in the Black Lives Matter movement, in which millions of people dissented against the use of force against African Americans, have brought changes to law and policy.

In India such protest is restricted severely by the State, but it appears also to be the case that there is less interest at the level of the Indian citizen in standing up for constitutional rights. This is particularly so in issues where there is no individual or selfish interest. Standing up for others is something that is the bedrock of rule of law and democratic States. In India the authority assumes, perhaps rightly, that protest is localised and limited to those immediately concerned with the issue and will die down in time. How do we move from this place to becoming a rule of law nation (something that presumably most of us want)? The answer is not easy and it is not even clear.



Aakar Patel Rule of law exists in States where there is no space for authority to exercise arbitrary power. By that definition India is not a rule of law State



The climate crisis and the Fourth Industrial Revolution – with its breakthrough technologies such as artificial intelligence and 5G networks – are setting the world on a geopolitical collision course. Both the drive to decarbonise and the battle for global technological supremacy depend on critical minerals like rare earths, lithium, and cobalt - all of which are highly concentrated in a few locations, including China.

The scramble to control these elements' supply chains is intensifying. For example, the electric vehicles made by Tesla and other automotive firms run on lithiumion batteries, but just a handful of countries produce most of the world's lithium. The tension between the geographic concentration of critical resources and the increasing global competition for supply will further unsettle geopolitics in the twenty-first century.

A long era of stable resource competition is thus rapidly ending. Historically, empires locked in their economic supply chains and managed competition. And in the long post-1945 cycle of decolonisation, the US, as the global economic hegemon, backstopped the rules and norms of world trade. At the same time, supplies of critical resources – in particular, fossil fuels - became more dispersed as improved geological information and new technologies (like deepsea drilling and fracking) helped to loosen OPEC's grip.

But today, conditions have flipped. Critical minerals for the digital and post-carbon economy are highly concentrated geographically, while the end of US unipolarity and increasing global trade uncertainties have triggered a rush to secure them.

China's global rise underpins the competition-concentration tension. Industrial innovation and production are no longer the exclusive purview of the OECD economies, especially the US, European Union member states, and Japan. These major powers pre-



Tension between geographic concentration of critical resources and the increasing global competition for supply will further unsettle geopolitics in the twenty-first century

viously secured critical inputs through colonial expansion and resource carve-ups, but China's export ambitions, and its control of key supply chains, have changed the game. Moreover, China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) – a transnational infrastructure investment scheme with participating countries across Africa, Eurasia, and South America openly challenges earlier models of access and cooperation.

Governments in the Global South, where many critical resources are located, are frequently willing to strike exclusive deals. They have welcomed China's one-stop-shop financing schemes, increased engagement, and narrative of 'win-win partnerships' that offer a reliable alternative to Western funding and norm-setting.

China's resource domination is reshaping geopolitics. In 2010, China halved its export quotas for rare earths, and also reportedly banned their sale to Japan following a trawler incident near Japan's Senkaku Islands, which China calls the Diaoyu Islands and claims as its own. The episode awakened other leading economies to the fact that a major competitor and rival controlled 97 per cent of the global supply of these vital inputs for magnets, glass, electronics, defense systems, wind turbines, and hybrid and electric vehicles.

The US, the EU, and Japan reacted in a piecemeal manner at

best, and ten years later still haven't produced effective strategies to free themselves from China's resource grip. Rare earths made headlines again in 2019, when China indicated that it might 'weaponise' them in its trade dispute with the US. Meanwhile, breathless media reports of rare-earth discoveries in Afghanistan, Greenland's melting glaciers, the abyssal sea, asteroids, and planets demonstrate that magical thinking continues to trump effective policymaking.

Likewise, decarbonisation places a premium on further breakthroughs in battery technology and storage, which is why global lithium production skyrocketed from 32,500 tonnes in 2015 to 95,000 tonnes in 2018. Two of the three politically and economically volatile countries in the so-called 'lithium triangle' – Chile, and Bolivia – are all BRI participants and receive substantial Chinese investment, the third, Argentina, is considering joining. Because none has the capacity for vertical integration, China controls more than 60 per cent of global manufacturing capacity for lithium-ion batteries. Even Australia, which has substantial rare-earth and lithium reserves, has so far failed to become an 'in-

dependent' alternative supplier. Cobalt, another key battery input, is overwhelmingly mined in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The DRC has the world's

largest cobalt reserves - three times

those of Australia, which ranks second - and produces 60 per cent of global mined cobalt. The country remains the most cost-competitive producer, with China the dominant investor, although an outcry over labour practices has raised questions about ethical mining.

How might rich-country governments best manage the competition-concentration tension regarding critical minerals, especially if traditional global institutions are on the wane? One option is to revive the old colonial model of carving up regions to manage competition. But although China has been able to extend its global economic influence without the bag gage of having been a colonial power, the EU, US, and Japan can no longer play that game successfully. Smaller developing countries now have other options and preferences, and often side with China, Russia, India, or other powers.

Alternatively, the traditional powers could begin to build a new framework for cooperation. But President Trump's 'America First' posturing and a lack of coordination among former allies currently stand in the way. In addition, business is not wired to put geopolitics above the bottom line. Repeated calls by governments to desinicise supply chains achieve little; ministers fulminate about competition but do not address the needs and interests of countries where key strategic resources are concentrated

China has demonstrated its increasing economic power by systematically forging a global network of partners. The powers of old must now build new avenues of trust and cooperation with developing countries, not only to secure the critical minerals vital to powering the world in the Anthropocene era, but also because a perilous planet is a threat to everyone.

The writer is Professor of **Environmental Studies and Public Policy at New York** University/NYU Abu Dhabi. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

SPECTRUM AGRICULTURE

Sophia

Kalantzakos

MINERALS FOR

POST-CARBON

ECONOMY

ARE HIGHLY

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US UNIPOLARITY

AND INCREASING

GLOBAL TRADE

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A RUSH TO

SECURE THEM

HAVE TRIGGERED

CRITICAL

How to boost Odisha's rice harvest?



The importance of rice in advances in rice research have Odisha is enormous as this major staple is embedded in the diet, economy, culture, and history of the state. Production of rice

made remarkable strides to offer farmers climate-resilient varieties. CR 1009 sub 1, Swarna sub 1, BINA dhan 11 are some of those recently

gies should be field-assessed and promoted aggressively. Third, only 33.7 per cent cul-

rice doesn't free up enough time for taking up pulse cultivation. The advent of early-maturity HYVs tivable area of Odisha is under ir- both for rice and pulse-- creates opportunities to grow both crops

Sixth, Odisha is a place of ge-

netic diversity of rice. There are tra-

ditional varieties such as Kalajeera,

For instance, it cannot just be the defeat of one party and the election of another. Because there is no limit to the supply of strong-willed authoritarians and the problem will recur in future.

Something deeper needs to be changed and it is not clear whether this change can be produced by external forces or by a single event. The ownership of India as a rule of law democracy must be ultimately with the citizenry. At the moment it is not. The expectation is that the government will not abuse its authority and that a political party not misuse the State. What we are seeing today is the clear evidence that this is not enough.

WISDOM CORNER

66	Trust in dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to et	ernity. KAHLIL GIBRAN
66	Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ou	Irs to win or lose. LYNDON B. JOHNSON
66	The most positive men are the most credulous.	ALEXANDER POPE

WORDS**WORTH**

Truepenny

hough it appeared earlier, this word is best remembered because it features in Hamlet, in the scene in which his father's ghost tells Hamlet of his murder and asks him to avenge it. When Marcellus and Horatio enter, the ghost cries from the cellar below for them to swear that they will never divulge what Hamlet is about to tell them. Hamlet shouts to his father, "Art thou there, truepenny?" It was a term of affection, comparing an honest or trustworthy man to a genuine coin. This may strike us today as not being important, when pennies are mere tokens made of base metal, but in Shakespeare's day, pennies were silver and were comparatively valuable. Counterfeiting was rife. The word has never been common. Sometimes it appears as a direct quote of Hamlet's words, as a humorous way of asking "who's there?" (as in Colin Wilson's Ritual in the Dark of 1976: "He pulled her shoulders back on to the bed, and kissed her. There was a heavy thump from overhead. Sorme looked at the ceiling, saying: Are you there, truepenny?").

LO

CARPET

carpet laver had just finished Ainstalling carpet for a lady. He stepped out for a smoke, only to realise he'd lost his cigarettes. In the middle of the room, under the carpet, was a bump.

"No sense pulling up the entire floor for one pack of smokes," he said to



him his pack of cigarettes, "I found them in the hallway." "Now," she said, "if only I could find my parakeet."



Mosharaf Hossain THE STATE'S SEED SYSTEM AND **EXTENSION APPARATUS** SHOULD **REVITALISE THEIR OUTREACH APPROACH FOR FASTER UPTAKE OF**

POTENTIAL **VARIETIES TO BETTER EQUIP FARMERS IN** MITIGATING RECURRENT **CLIMATIC ABERRATIONS**

etters

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

and suggestions, preferably by email,

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send in their valuable comments, opinior

105

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST

(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

to: edit@orissapost.com

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

determines the state's food security at a significant scale. Rice alone makes up 24.4 per cent of the total agricultural output in the Odisha -- the highest by any single crop and employs more than 50 per cent of total workforce. However, the state's glaring gap in rice productivity is a huge challenge to optimise the economics of cultivation. Odisha cuts a dismal figure in terms of rice productivity that stands at only 1.74 tonne per hectare compared to the national average (2.57 ton/ha). Intending to actualise the objective of paddy productivity en-

hancement and farm income augmentation, the state government has taken several steps in recent times. However, certain critical areas warrant a strategic focus.

First, the state's rice area is chronically prone to abiotic stresses -- submergence, drought, and salinity of varying degrees. These weather-shocks damage crops almost every year. Of the total 3.7 million ha rice area, 1.15 million ha (31 per cent) suffers a setback of flood while 1.25 million ha (34 per cent) witnesses intermittent occurrence of drought. Besides, the problem of salinity impedes farming in 0.15 million ha, mostly in coastal areas. Interestingly, recent

bred varieties. Unlike traditionally grown varieties these can tolerate inundation for at least two weeks without yield penalty. Likewise, DRR 44, DRR 43, Sahabhagidhan, CR 201, CR 205 can considerably safeguard farmers in the event of a drought spell. But insufficient awareness about these varieties and their slowpaced diffusion are leading to under-utilisation of research outcomes. The state's seed system and extension apparatus should revitalise their outreach approach for faster uptake of these potential varieties to better equip farmers in mitigating recurrent climatic aberrations.

Second, a rice variety after a stipulated period of 10 years should ideally be discouraged for cultivation since genetic purity and resistance to diseases and pests start eroding considerably. But in Odisha. three varieties (Swarna, Pooja, and Vijetha) that rule the rice area are more than 20 years old. Available substitutes (e.g. in place of Swarna, Swarna sub 1 recommended) for these varieties should be appropriately explored and disseminated to raise crop productivity. The latest arrival of high yielding varieties (HYVs) suitable in different ecolo-

rigation compared to 95 per cent or more in states like Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh. Rice is a water-guzzling crop that consumes about 4500-litre water to produce a kg. Therefore, ongoing efforts to create or reform canals and microirrigation structures should be fast-tracked to bring more rice area under assured irrigation. The other two emerging eco-friendly ways to avoid excessive use of water are Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) and adoption of Green Super Rice (GSR) varieties. DSR requires at least 30 per cent less water transplanting method. GSR is a relatively new invention, where a variety will provide a stable yield with fewer inputs like water, fertilizer, and pesticide.

Fourth, the quality of seeds alone can boost rice productivity by at least 5-10 per cent. But farmers have little access to quality seeds due to limitations in formal seed system and credibility issues of informally managed seed chain. A recent study by International Rice Research Institute observed that 64 per cent of rice farmers rely upon their farm kept seeds while only 36 per cent purchase it from credible market sources.

Fifth, farmers in Odisha grow pulses after harvesting of Kharif rice. However, longer duration of

UP cops draw flak Communalism rages on

Machakanta, Haladichuda with unique qualities including health benefits. However, due to low productivity, farmers show little eagerness to grow these varieties. Their commercial viability can be achieved by positioning them as premium quality rice for better price realisation through development of a well-studied value chain. Finally, despite significant breakthroughs in research, there still exist gaps in breeding varieties for extremely marginal environments (stagnant flooding for more than 15

days, severe water deficit) and incorporating better resistance to varieties for pests and diseases. Research institutes should collaborate with departments and agriculture universities to deliver on these gaps. Given the vital contribution of rice to the state's food security mission and agricultural GDP, all productivity-boosting measures should be strategically explored and implemented.

The writer works with the International Rice Research Institute, Bhubaneswar. Views are personal.

Witch-hunt against NGOs

Sir, The Narendra Modi government has had a run in with quite a few NGOs. Any NGO perceived as 'uncomfortable' has been put under the scanner by the government. Amnesty International's stinging reports against the Indian government on "human rights abuses." made the Centre see red. Already reeling under the onslaught of Opposition parties, sections of the press and rights activists over its debatable stand on Kashmir, the government was miffed by Amnesty's propensity to "breach set conventions." That is to say any rights body it considers inconvenient is put under the scanner by an overzealous government. True, the government, on its own, did not shut down Amnesty. But when it chokes an international organisation of repute by creating a non-conducive functional environment the organisation is left with no option Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA but to shut.

Sir, The police in Uttar Pradesh, who have come under a cloud for their handling of the Hathras gangrape and murder case, have further eroded their image by snatching away the mobile phones of the victim's family and intimidating them. The police also used strong-arm tactics to seal the victim's village and sever communication lines. The happenings of the last few days have dented the police's image

NJ Ravi Chander, BANGALORE

Sir, The lukewarm reaction of the political class to the verdict in the Babri Masjid demolition case is on expected lines. Given that the demolition of Babri Masjid involves the religious sensitivities of the majority community, most of the mainstream political parties have been cautious about their response. However, prominent Muslim and Left leaders from south India came down heavily on the verdict. AIMIM president and MP from Hyderabad Asaduddin Owaisi said this judgement was given only to appease the Hindutva brigade. After a series of lengthy delays, the verdict was pronounced after 28 years. In spite of being an important case, successive governments at the Centre and in UP were not interested in fast-tracking the case. Their disinterest showed that they didn't want to alienate the Hindus. This puts a spotlight on the fact that political parties are concerned more with political gains than with moral principles. As the construction of the Ram Mandir is underway, the demolition of the Babri Masjid continues to be a festering wound for Indiandemocracy and constitutional values. The social evil called communalism rages on. Venu GS, KOLLAM



Sec 144 comes into force to 'Delhi virus cases showing downward trend' check virus spread in Kerala

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, Oct 3: With Kerala witnessing massive surge in COVID-19 cases, prohibitory orders came into force across the state Saturday as per which not more than five people can assemble at any place, including banks, shops and commercial establishments.

There is no restriction on movement of public transport and government institutions, commercial establishments, industries, hospitals can function adhering to social distancing and break the chain protocols.

While in Idukki, only town areas, including the tourist hotspot of Munnar, Adimali and Vandiperiyar, the CrPC 144 order will come into force, in Kasaragod district, the order would be implemented till October 9.

In the remaining12 districts, the prohibitory orders would be in place till the month end. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan warned that those flouting the new restrictions will face stringent action.

While visiting shops, people should wear masks and gloves, ensure social distancing, and if they fail to adhere to the COVID-19 pro tocol, they will have to face action, Vijayan said speaking at an online function here Saturday.

As gatherings pose an impending danger of a super spread of the infection, the prohibitory order, which came into effect from 9 AM Saturday, has been issued by the state government.

Kerala Friday had reported the



While visiting shops, people should wear masks and

gloves, ensure social distancing, and if they fail to adhere to the COVID-19 protocol, they will have to face action PINARAYI VIJAYAN

biggest single day surge of 9,258 coronavirus cases after over 60,000 samples were tested, forcing the government to take stringent measures to halt the spread of the virus, which has so far claimed 791 lives in the state.

The total infection tally has soared to 2.12 lakh. In the order issued by Thiruvananthapuram District Collector Navjot Khosa, more than five people cannot gather in public places in the entire district.

where till now 36,433 people have been infected with COVID-19 and 12,223 are presently undergoing

treatment. As a further surge in COVID-19 cases is imminent and with category B and C patients, who need hospitalisation and intensive care, increasing, strict prohibitions need to be put in place, failing which it will seriously endanger human lives in large numbers, the collector said in the order. Khosa stated that the District

Medical Officer had informed that in the event of unmanageable surge, the health infrastructure of the district will be overwhelmed which can lead to high mortality. Within containment zones any

congregation or public functions (indoor and outdoor) of more than five people will not be allowed, except for marriages and funerals, where upto 20 people will be permitted, the collector said

New Delhi, Oct 3: The COVID-19 situation in the city is far better now as compared to September and the daily cases have also begun to show a downward trend, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said Saturday.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Delhi was at number two but now has come down to the sixth spot in the country in terms of the number of COVID-19 cases, he told reporters

The minister reiterated that the city government had significantly ramped up testing capacity due to which a rise in COVID-19cases was

High Covid deaths among docs due to inadequate PPE

PPE kits, inadequate technique of PPE donning and doffing, nondisclosure by patients of their exposure to possible Covid-19 infection, excessive working hours, and poor doctor-patient ratio are the reasons for higher fatality among doctors, according to an analysis. India currently has the most number of Covid-19 cases in the world after the US. The pandemic has also caused

high mortality, not only in patients, but also in the healthcare fraternity. According to an analysis of the pandemic's impact on the healthcare community, the other recognised risk factors among doctors are close contact in physical examination and therapy of infected patients, direct contact with body

NEW DELHI: Lack of adequate fluid and excreta from the patients, suctioning of airways, endotracheal intubation, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. As per a research paper by Aanandita Kapoor and Krishan Mohan Kapoor, the maximum number of Covid-19 fatalities have been recorded among general practitioners. Among the specialists, most deaths are seen among pediatricians, followed by medical specialists, general surgeons, obstetricians, gynecologists and anesthesiologists. A total of 382 Covidrelated deaths and 2,174 infections were reported among doctors in India till September 10, with a case fatality rate of 16.7 per cent among Indian doctors, which was 10 times the rate of 1.7 per cent in the general population.

recorded for a long period in September.

'But now cases have begun to come down and it's sort of stabilised. Also, the positivity rate has fallen to less than 5.5 per cent from 8.5-9 per cent recorded earlier. So the situation is far better now,

he said. The national capital recorded 37 more COVID-19 fatalities Friday as the toll climbed to 5,438, while 2,920 fresh cases took the tally to over 2.85 lakh, authorities said.

The number of containment zones in Delhi jumped to 2,648

Friday from 2,615 Thursday. Friday, the positivity rate stood at 5.19 per cent while the recovery rate was over 88 per cent, the bulletin said, adding that the fatality rate was 1.9 per cent.

The Delhi government has significantly ramped up testing in the past few days The number of tests conducted

and corresponding fresh cases reported, ranged from 24198 (2,312) September 1 to 61,973 (4,071) September 19.

On India crossing the one lakh-

TALLY JUMPS TO 2.87 LAKH NEW DELHI: The national

capital recorded 2,258 fresh COVID-19 cases Saturday, taking the tally to over 2.87 lakh, while 34 more fatalities took the death toll to 5,472, authorities said. This is the second day in a trot that the city reported less than 3,000 new cases. Authorities reported 2,920 new cases Friday. The city reported 34 deaths Saturday, the lowest since September 25 when 24 fatalities were recorded. Fortyeight deaths were reported September 29, the highest in a day since July 16, when the city reported 58 deaths. The cumulative COVID-19 case count rose to 2,87,930 with 2,258 more people contracting the viral disease. The death toll stands at 5,472, according to the Delhi government's latest health bulletin.

mark in terms of COVID-19 deaths, Jain said it is a "grim milestone". Asked about the protests over

the Hathras incident, he said, toughest punishment should be meted out to culprits so that "such people have fear of the law and think ten times before taking such a step". On the BJP-led civic bodies claim-

ing crores of money due from the city government in terms of property tax to them, the AAP leader said

"all payments have been done" "BJP has been ruling the MCD for over a decade. It will get done only if they go out of MCD," Jain said when asked about the mitigation in the level of landfill sites in Delhi.

Kerala can leapfrog into new world by 2030: PC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Oct 3: Kerala is one among the few handful states in India which can leapfrog into a new world by 2030 if it transforms its economy beyond the conventional bounds, former Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram has said.

The senior Congress leader said the state should transform to a knowledge-based economy by embracing Information and Communications Technology, Artificial Intelligence of Robotics

and a highly networked world. "These are the concepts which Malavalees can easily absorb because of their high literacy," Chidambaram said, inaugurating a virtual summit on development of Kerala, titled Pratheeksha 2030, organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies (RGIDS)



adopted today in European coun- is based on an advanced knowltries, in Singapore and in China. edge-based economy, advanced ICT-"That is the curriculum you enabled economy and an advanced

Emphasising the need for building a knowledge-based economy, Chidambaram said school education system in Kerala must jump into the curriculum adopted today in **European countries**

2030," Chidambaram said at the virtual programme attended by Keralites based in UAE October 2 Besides Kerala, other states which can aspire to do that include Delhi, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and perhaps one or two other states, Chidambaram said. He said Kerala must continue to invest in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry traditional industries and tourism. "But you should not stop there. You have to imagine a new Kerala bevond the conventional bounds," Chidambaram added

'Cheapest' diagnostic facility: MRI scan at ₹50

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 3: The country's 'cheapest' diagnostic facility will start functioning at Gurdwara Bangla Sahib in December and an MRI here will cost just ₹50, according to the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC).

A dialysis centre is also being set up at Guru Harkrishan Hospital on the gurdwara premises. It will start functioning next week. A dialysis procedure will cost only ₹600, DSGMC president Manjinder Singh Sirsa said. Diagnostic machines worth ₹6 crore were donated to the hospital. These include four machines for dialysis, and a machine each for ultrasound, X-Ray and MRI, he said.



Magnetic Resonance Imaging People from lower incom

Emphasising the need for building a knowledge-based economy, he said the school education system in Kerala must jump into the svllabus and curriculum that are

should adopt," he said. The Congress leader urged the people and policymakers in the state to pay sufficient attention for "re-imagining Kerala which becomes an advanced

state within India.' He said only a handful states in India can imagine, leapfrogging from today into a new world which

economy.

"China, for example, in the last 5 to 10 years has leapfrogged into that new world. Most European countries are already in that new world. You have the strength, you have the ability, you have the capacity to leapfrog into a world that embraces a knowledge-based economy by

(MRI) services will be available for the needy for just ₹50. For others. an MRI scan will cost ₹800. A committee of doctors has been set up to decide who needs concession, Sirsa said. In private laboratories, an MRI

costs at least ₹2.500.

groups will be able to get an X-Ray and ultrasound done for just ₹150.

The machines are being installed and the diagnostic centre will be operational in the first week of December. These will be the most affordable diagnostic services in the country, Sirsa said.

Delhi to rope in school kids for dengue campaign

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 3: With the '10 Hafte 10 Baje 10 Minute' campaign of the Delhi government gaining momentum amongst various sections of the society, the fifth week of the campaign seeks to engage school children in creating awareness regarding measures to prevent dengue.

Last week, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had asked all the **Resident Welfare Associations** (RWAs) to come forward and make the residents in their localities aware of the measures to be taken to prevent the most prevalent viral infection transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes

In the fifth week of the dengue campaign, the school children will be encouraged to do their homework by inspecting their houses at 10 a.m. for 10 minutes for signs of



stagnant clean water, said a Delhi government statement Saturday.

After inspecting their houses and draining the accumulated water, the children will also be encouraged to call their friends and motivate them to inspect their houses for clean stagnant water and participate in the campaign as per the government's plan.

Taking to social media last week, Kejriwal had tweeted, "Taking forward the campaign against dengue today on the fourth Sunday by replacing the water collected at home. In this way, we have to stop the breeding of dengue mosquitoes and protect our family and the entire Delhi from Dengue.'

The Delhi government has launched a telephonic helpline -01123300012 and WhatsApp helpline - 8595920530 to assist the general public with dengue this year.

THE SUBTERRANEAN ECOSYSTEMS OF KERALA HARBOUR SOME OF THE PLANET'S MOST BIZARRE SPECIES MANY OF WHICH ARE BLIND. PIGMENT-LESS, AND HAVE PECULIAR MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERS

Scientists discover new family of bony fish

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Oct 3: Scientists from India, Germany, United Kingdom and Switzerland have discovered a new family of bony fish from the Western Ghats, and named it Aenigmachannidae.

Results of this study were published in 'Scientific Reports,' the open-access mega-journal of the Nature Publishing Group.

A year after the discovery of the enigmatic Gollum Snakehead, Aenigmachanna gollum from the rice fields of northern Kerala, scientists have now conducted detailed studies on its skeleton and genetic assembly.

The study led to the recognition that this species, and its congener Aenigmachanna mahabali, represents a new family different from Channidae, in which both species were initially placed.

Rendered images obtained from high-resolution CT scans revealed that Aenigmachanna gollum has a surprisingly large number of primitive characters, and detailed molecular phylogenetic analyses including of its mitogenome, suggested an ancient separation from Channidae, the study said.

These suggest that members of Aenigmachannidae are 'living fossils' and comprise an ancient gondwanan lineage that survived the



in a small region like Kerala is unparalleled, and indicates the exceptional diversity and endemicity of fish in this part of the world

> RAJEEV RAGHAVAN | ASST PROF, KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES

new family of bony fish comes six years after the description of Kryptoglanidae, another unique family of freshwater fish endemic to Kerala.

'The presence of two unique endemic families of freshwater fish in a small region like Kerala is unparalleled, and indicates the exceptional diversity and endemicity of fish in this part of the world," said Raghavan.

The gollum snakehead, Aenigmachanna gollum and the mahabali snakehead, Aenigmachanna mahabali are known to occur in the aquifers and subterranean channels connected to paddy fields and dug-out wells in Malappuram and Pathanamthitta districts of Kerala. While Aenigmachanna gollum

was discovered by pure chance in a rice field not long after the devastating floods that raged in Kerala in August 2018, Aenigmachanna mahabali was discovered opportunistically from a dug-out well.

'The aquifers of Kerala have a wealth of enigmatic and relic fauna, the diversity of which we are only Germany, who led this paper.

slowly uncovering. But subterranean ecosystems are under high levels of threat due to indiscriminate ground water extraction and pollution, and introduction of alien species in the dugout wells. As a result, we may be losing unique habitats and species much before they are known to science," said Neelesh Dahanukar, Research Scientist at the IISER, Pune, who co-authored the paper.

According to scientists, the subterranean ecosystems of Kerala harbour some of the planet's most bizarre species such as Horaglanis krishnaii, Kryptoglanis shajii, Aenigmachanna gollum and Monopterus digressus.

Many of these species are blind, pigment-less, and have peculiar morphological characters that are otherwise not seen in species occurring in surface waters.

Around 10 such enigmatic species of subterranean fish are currently known from Kerala, the scientists said.

"Throughout my career I have worked on many strange fishes, but the Gollum Snakehead is easily the weirdest of them all. If I had been asked whether such a fish existed in the Western Ghats or anywhere in the world, I would have said, no way. Yet here it is," remarked Ralf Britz, based at the Senckenberg Museum at Dresden,

Indian subcontinent, about 100

The research team comprised

scientists from Senckenberg

Natural History Collections in

Dresden (Germany), the Natural

History Museum in London (UK),

Natural History Museum in Berne

(Switzerland), Indian Institute of

Science Education and Research

(IISER) - Pune (India), Nirmalagiri

College in Kannur (India), and the

Kerala University of Fisheries and

Ocean Studies in Cochin (India).

Assistant Professor at the Kerala

University of Fisheries and Ocean

Studies, Rajeev Raghavan, who was

part of the study, said the recogni-

tion of Aenigmachannidae as a

million years ago, it added.





A dictatorship is going on across the country. Instead of government for the people, it is running a government against the people, the Dalits and the farmers MAMATA BANERJEE WEST BENGAL CM

NAVY CAPTAIN DIES IN PARAMOTORING MISHAP IN K'TAKA

A naval officer died Friday in a paramotoring accident in Karnataka when the engine of the paramotor developed a snag and he plunged into the Arabian Sea



uote

Adityanath's DIG, Law and Order, now says no rape took place. If you had a daughter Adityanathji, you

would understand the pain. If any untoward incident takes place with a daughter or a son, how much pain one faces

RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA CONGRESS LEADER

There is no agitation against the farm laws anywhere in India except Puniab, You should not hold agitations as a part of political agenda

PRAKASH JAVADEKAR BJP LEADER

The CBI should soon make public its inquiry report into Sushant Singh Rajput's death so that people know whether it was a case of suicide or

murder ANIL DESHMUKH MAHARASHTRA HOME MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Driver burnt alive as truck catches fire

Kota (Raj): A man was burnt to death after the truck he was driving caught fire when it rammed into the rear of a stationary vehicle while negotiating a turn in Rajasthan's Bundi district, police said Saturday. The accident occurred on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday. The 46-yearold driver died after being trapped inside the cabin of the truck, they said. The truck loaded with wooden furniture was heading to Kota from Churu when the accident took place around 2.30 am, he added.

Retired CBI officer held for graft

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation arrested its recently retired superintendent of police NMP Sinha in connection with an alleged bribery case, officials said Saturday. Sinha, who retired in August this year, was the superintendent of police in the economic offence wing of the CBI, officials said. NMP Sinha was once part of the team that probed the fodder scam in Bihar. He was arrested in the ₹25-lakh bribery case, officials said.

Tejashwi Yadav to lead Grand Alliance in Bihar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, Oct 3: A multi-party Grand Alliance took shape here ahead of the Bihar Assembly polls Saturday notwithstanding a minor fissure, with Rashtriya Janata Dal's Tejashwi Yadav being backed unanimously as the face of the coalition and the party ending up with a lion's share of the seats.

Announcing the seat-sharing formula in presence of leaders of Congress, CPI(ML), CPI and CPI(M), Yadav said his party will accommodate old alliance partner Vikashheel Insaan Party (VIP) and JMM its ally in adjoining Jharkhand from its quota of 144 seats in the 243-strong Assembly. Among other allies, Congress

has been given 70 seats, nearly twice as many as it had contested in the 2015 Assembly polls in alliance with the RJD and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's JD(U). The Congress will also be field-

ing its candidate in Valmiki Nagar Lok Sabha seat where by-poll will be held November 7. Among the Left parties, the

CPI(ML) has been given 19 seats, followed by CPI (six) and CPI(M).

Yadav vowed to dislodge the government headed by Nitish Kumar, whom Congress leader Avinash Pandey in his address accused of "apharan" (hijacking) of the man-



RJD leaders Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap raise hands with Bihar Congress in-charge Avinash Pandey, VIP party chief Mukesh Sahni and Left party leaders during the Grand Alliance's press conference ahead of Bihar Assembly elections in Patna, Saturday PTI PHOTO

AMONG OTHER ALLIES, CONGRESS HAS BEEN GIVEN 70 SEATS, NEARLY TWICE AS MANY AS IT HAD CONTESTED IN THE 2015 ASSEMBLY POLLS

MONG THE LEFT PARTIES, A THE CPI(ML) HAS BEEN GIVEN 19 SEATS, FOLLOWED BY CPI (SIX) AND CPI(M)

date in the previous elections. The JD(U) chief had fought 2015 elections opposing the BJP led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi but ended up re-aligning with the saf-

fron party, Pandey said.

The disjointed formation, however, continued to be in disarray as VIP president Mukesh Sahni a Hindi film set designer-turnedpolitician announced soon after the press conference that he was quitting the Grand Alliance since he did not get "a respectable offer". "This is a fight between the peo-

ple and the double-engine government," Tejashwi Yadav told reporters. The announcement comes a day

after filing of nominations for the first phase of voting started Thursday. The last date for filing nominations

is October 8. Seventy-one of the total 243 constituencies will see voting in the first phase October 28.

Voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. instead of 5 AM this time. Covid patients, suspects and those in quarantine will vote separately and there will be no physical contact during meetings and rallies, Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said. Voters have to use masks and gloves. The number of phases has also been reduced from five to minimise infection. "Covid-19 patients can vote in the last hour of the day," he added.

SHOPIAN FAKE ENCOUNTER BODIES OF SLAIN TRIO EXHU

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Oct 3: Bodies of three men from Rajouri, killed in an alleged fake encounter by Army in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir in July this year, have been exhumed and handed over to their families, officials said Saturday.

The exhumation was done late Friday night at an unidentified location in north Kashmir - hours after Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said the legal process to exhume and handover the bodies was on and would be completed soon.

The bodies of the three persons were exhumed and then handed over to their families, the officials said. They said the families of the

three men were called from Rajouri district in Jammu region and taken to the spot where the trio was buried. The families will take the bodies to their native village to bury them, they added.

The DGP had Friday said that the legal process to exhume the bodies had been started and will be completed soon. On September 30, inspector general of police (IGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said since



the DNA samples matched with the

family, the three bodies will be exhumed and handed over to families after due process of law. On July 18, the Army claimed three militants were killed in Amshipura village in the higher reaches of south Kashmir's Shopian district.

However, the Army initiated an inquiry after social media reports indicated the three men were from Rajouri district in Jammu and had gone missing at Amshipura.

The families of the trio from Rajouri who worked as labourers in Shopian had also filed a police complaint. The Army completed the probe in record four weeks and September 18, the force said it has found "prima facie" evidence that its troops "exceeded" powers under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act during the encounter and initiated disciplinary proceedings.

Kartarpur corridor re-opening subject to Covid protocols: MEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 3: India Saturday said a decision to re-open the Kartarpur corridor would be taken in accordance with the protocols relating Covid-19 and easing of restrictions.

The comments by spokesperson in the Ministry of External Affairs Anurag Srivastava came in the wake of Pakistan's proposal to reopen the corridor which was shut in March in view of the coronavirus pandemic.

In November last year, the two countries threw open the corridor linking Dera Baba Sahib in Gurdaspur in India and Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan, in a historic people-to-people initiative.

"As you are aware, movement was suspended in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak. We remain in touch with all concerned authori-

Guwahati, Oct 3: When 12-year-

Udalguri district was diagnosed

ties including ministries of home affairs and health and family welfare," Srivastava said, responding to a media query on the issue. "A decision on re-opening of the corridor would be taken in accordance with the Covid-19 protocols and easing of restrictions," he said.

Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara is located in Pakistan's Narowal district across the river Ravi, about four kilometres from the Dera Baba Nanak shrine. It is the final resting place of Sikh faith's founder Guru Nanak Dev, who had spent the last 18 years of his life in Kartarpur. In his comments, Srivastava also

said that Pakistan is yet to construct a bridge at Budhi Ravi channel as promised last year. "One year hence, Pakistan is yet

to construct the bridge while it is ready at our end. A technical meeting with Pakistan was also facilitated and two teams met August 27.





Minister dies after defeating nCoV

Ranchi: A day after he tested negative for coronavirus. Jharkhand Minority Welfare Minister Haji Hussain Ansari passed away Saturday at the Medanta Hospital here, a IMM leader said. According to Jharkhand Mukti Morcha spokesperson Suprivo Bhattacharva. Ansari's coronavirus report had come negative Friday. The 73-year-old leader was made Minister for the second time in January this year in the Hemant Soren's government. He was admitted in the hospital for treatment of coronavirus earlier on.

Riys allows sale of cooked food

New Delhi: In a huge relief for passengers ahead of the festive season, the Railways has allowed the sale of cooked food at its catering and vending units on stations for the first time since the coronavirus outbreak but said the food plazas, Jan Ahars, cell kitchens and refreshment rooms will open only for takeaways. These units were earlier allowed to sell only packaged food. No dine-in to be allowed stated the order by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation.

JE-afflicted Assam girl starts walking again

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

their daughter back.

her feet again.

Daughter of a poor farmer. Boro is now old Bhanita Boro from Assam's looking forward to rejoining her school once with the deadly Japanese Encephalitis in June, her poor parthe pandemic ends ents had left the hope of getting

struggle starts after being diag-However, due to the coordinated efforts of doctors, officials and nosed. If proper care is not taken people empathetic to her situaduring the treatment and after tion, the Class VII student from discharge, then the person might Simliguri village is standing on become paralysed for his/her entire life or even lose his/her life.' One of the three daughters of a Health and Family Welfare

poor farmer who mortgaged his (Commissioner and Secretary) tiny plot of land for ₹70,000 to treat Monalisa Goswami said. her, Boro is now looking forward After her release in July, a team to rejoining her school once the of doctors and officials from the state headquarters met Boro and

her parents to check her condi-

"For any JE patient, the real

Covid-19 pandemic ends.

tion and tried to communicate with the patient to analyse whether she is able to respond to commands. Goswami added. Health Services (Malaria) Joint

Director Harpal Singh Suri said, 'The girl was earlier physically disabled and unable to move her limbs or body parts. She had tried to move her hands and tongue when asked to but was unable to do it. Then, we provided her with a wheel-chair and her physiotherapy began.'

Though she has not been completely cured of the disease, her rate of recovery is satisfactory and commendable," Senior Medical and Health Officer Parashee Choudhury said, sharing some photographs of Boro in the post-JE stage and her gradual betterment.

Bihar Dalit teen ends life after 'gangrape'

AGENCIES

Patna, Oct 3: Amid nationwide outage against the alleged gangrape and murder of a 20-yearold woman in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras, a Dalit teenage girl in poll-bound Bihar's Gaya district died by suicide Friday after allegedly being gangraped by four men, the police said.

According to the police, the girl's parents have filed a case of gang rape naming three of the four accused as Rahul Kumar, Chintu Kumar and Chandan Kumar. The fourth accused remains unidentified, the police said.

According to sources, the body's

autopsy was done at Gaya Medical College and the results are awaited.

The case comes close on heels of a Dalit woman's alleged gang rape and murder by four men from a so-called "upper caste" community in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras.

Opposition parties, including Congress and RJD, are likely to corner Bihar's ruling coalition led by Nitish Kumar Yadav over women's safety, atrocities against Dalits, the three controversial farm bills okayed by the President amid continued opposition by farmers still on protest, its handling of the coronavirus pandemic and the migrant crisis.

"The arrested Afghan refugees were staying in Delhi. They were doing drug business in the guise of interpreters. They used to get instructions from their handler or the drug kingpin who is based in Afghanistan to collect the parcel and hand it over to the next channel," said NCB's Zonal Director KPS

NCB cracks Afghan

heroin trafficking

New Delhi, Oct 3: The Narcotics

Control Bureau (NCB) has busted

a drug syndicate with the arrest

of four Afghan nationals who were

smuggling a consignment of 380

gm of "premium quality Afghan

heroin" concealed in a special cav-

ity made inside a metal piston.

September 30 after the four for-

eign origin members of the mod-

ule were held during a two-day

operation in which the NCB seized

the Afghan heroin from a courier

service in Delhi. The consignment

was shipped from Afghanistan

and was destined for Delhi.

The syndicate was unearthed

module, 4 held

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Malhotra in a statement. The kingpin had created multiple identities so that a person handing over the parcel did not know the identity of the next one, said the officer.

"All the four persons arrested are believed to be a part of an Afghan-Nigerian drug syndicate." The four accused - Rahimullah Sakhizada, Shekib Ahmed, Abdullah and Agah Wali – have been sent to judicial custody.

According to the NCB, the parcel was booked in the name of Sakhizada who received it on behalf of his Afghan handler named Popal.The parcel was then collected by Ahmed as directed by-Popal. He was working as an interpreter.

Hit hard by pandemic, circus goes online The artistes, especially the clowns, say that although they are happy to be back in the game, they are missing the fun of the live shows

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, Oct 3: Life came crashing down for 51-year-old Biju Pushkaran, the head clown of India's famous Rambo Circus, along with it's over 100 artistes when the coronavirusinduced lockdown was imposed in March this year, forcing the circus to fold its tent.

But after six months of despondency, smile returned on the faces of these artistes as the circus went online and presented a virtual show for the first time September 25.

The crew members say that they felt hopeless and dejected during the lockdown, but this virtual way of presenting the show through prerecorded videos has given a new

lease of life to the circus. The artistes, especially the clowns, say that although they are happy to be back in the game, they are missing the fun of the live shows like getting hugs from children and selfies

with them Overwhelmed by the response to this special fundraising show 'Life Is A Circus', organised in association with LaQshya Live Experiences and Production Crew Entertainment, the circus is now planning to hold more such shows in the near future.

"After the lockdown was imposed, we thought it was a temporary phase, but as the severity of the pandemic increased so as the lockdowns, our artistes stranded at

DOWN BUT NOT OUT



Airoli in Navi Mumbai, started feeling the pinch in terms of food and income," said Pushkaran.

He said local politicians and social groups lent a helping hand,

which made them sail through during tough times as they provided grocery and other items.

"While I was here in Maharashtra, my family, including my wife and children, back in Kerala were also going through hard times and I had to send whatever money I had," he said.

Pushkaran added that as the pandemic situation was worsening in Mumbai, at least 40 artistes and workers at the circus left for home after special trains were started by the government.

"I felt dejected, defeated and sank into depression as the future looked bleak, but my owner Sujit Dilip infused confidence in me and said although we are down, we are definitely not out," he said.

According to Pushkaran, the circus was then approached by Production Crew for online shows. Thereafter, shooting for the virtual shows took off. He said that on the first day of the shooting, he froze

before the camera. "The director asked me what happened. I told him that I am missing hugs, selfies and dancing with little kids, which used to take place during a live show in the actual circus," he said.

Pushkaran, a circus clown for 21 years, said that after the first show, he felt happy after seeing childrens sitting holding placards with messages like 'We Love Rambo Circus' written on it.















MAHA MAY SEEK WORLD HERITAGE TAG FOR WARDHA ASHRAM

The Maharashtra government is likely to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site status for the renowned Gandhi Sevagram Ashram in Wardha, where Mahatma Gandhi lived for nearly 12 years



India's Covid death toll passes 100,000

been a transformation in the government's way of work. Now, schemes are not made based on how many votes are there in an area. Now the effort is that no Indian is left out

There has

uote

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER

We are lacking in a basic sense of humanity and compassion. We have failed to protect our daughters and hold our sons accountable for their actions

KAILASH SATYARTHI NOBEL LAUREATE



SHORT TAKES

Teenage girl kidnapped, raped

Ballia (UP): A 15-year-old girl was allegedly kidnapped and raped in Sikandarpur Police Station area here, police said Saturday. The girl was rescued Friday morning from Rasra bus stand and the accused identified as 23-yearold Asif has been arrested, SHO, Sikandarpur Amarjeet Yadav said. The girl was allegedly kidnapped on Wednesday by Asif and raped, the SHO said. On the complaint of the victim's father a case was registered, he added.

Senior citizen stabbed to death

Mumbai: A 70-year-old man was allegedly stabbed and bludgeoned to death in suburban Mulund here, police said Saturday. Vijaynagar resident Maruti Laxman Gavali was found dead at a shop on Walji Wadda Road Friday morning, an official said. The deceased was

REUTERS

New Delhi/Bangalore, Oct 3: India's death toll from the novel coronavirus rose past 100,000 Saturday; only the third country in the world to reach that bleak milestone, after the United States and Brazil, and its epidemic shows no sign of abating.

Total deaths rose to 100,842, the Health Ministry said, while the tally of infections climbed to 6.47 million after a daily increase in cases of 79,476. India now has the highest rate of daily increase in infections in the world.

The Centre, faced with a collapsing economy after imposing a tough lockdown to try to stem the spread of the virus in late March. is pushing ahead with a full opening of the country. Cinemas were allowed to re-open at half capacity this week and authorities can decide to re-open schools from the middle

of this month. Heading into winter and the holiday season, including the Hindu festival of Diwali next month, the world's second most populous country could see a jump in cases, health

and fight for justice for the

Dalit woman who died

after she was assaulted

and allegedly gan-

Awasthi alleged that

ily of the victim.

the step had been taken

to prevent Lallu from join-

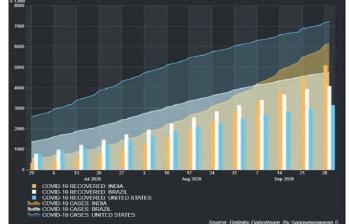
ing party leaders Rahul Gandhi

tice for the gang-rape victim.'

in another effort to meet the fam-

graped.

Congress spokesperson Anshu



Covid-19 cases vs recoveries: India, Brazil and US

experts said.

"We have seen some recent slowdown of the virus curve but this may be a local peak, there may be another coming," said Bhramar Mukherjee, a professor of biostatistics and epidemiology at the

University of Michigan. She said data showed a little over 7% of the population of 1.3 billion had been exposed to the virus, mean-

ing India was still far from any sort of herd immunity. The number of cases could rise to 12.2 million by the end of the year but the rate of spread would depend on how effective measures such as social distancing were, she said.

"So it will continue like a slow burning coil, that is my hope, and we have to play the long game to stop it from being a wildfire.'

GRAPH

Total deaths rose to 100,842, while the tally of infections climbed to 6.47 million after a daily increase in cases of 79,476

he United States, Brazil and India together account for nearly 45% of all COVID-19 deaths globally

eading into winter and the holiday season the world's second most populous country could see a jump in cases, health experts said

Data questioned

The United States, Brazil and India together account for nearly 45% of all COVID-19 deaths globally.

Death rates in India, however, have been significantly lower than in those other two countries, raising questions about the accuracy of its data. India has, on average, less than one death from the disease for every 10,000 people while the United States and Brazil have seen six deaths per 10,000.

US President Donald Trump, de-

fending his administration's handling of the pandemic in this week's presidential debate, said countries such as India were under-reporting deaths.

Shashank Tripathi, of the Centre for Infectious Disease Research at the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru, acknowledged there could be problems with the data though India's young population might help explain the lower death rate.

"In India, even without a pandemic, all deaths are not properly registered," Tripathi said.

"I'm not very confident that the mortality rates reflect the right numbers, though the younger demographic has given us some advantage

Representatives of the Health Ministry and the Indian Council of Medical Research did not immediately respond to calls or emails for comment.

Health experts said there could be greater immunity in India because of the high incidence of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis. Nearly 1,200 people in India die of TB every day, roughly the same as deaths from Covid-19.

Memorial for soldiers martyred in Galwan Valley



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 3: The Indian Army has built a memorial for its 20 personnel who were killed while valiantly fighting Chinese troops in Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh June 15, official sources said Saturday.

The memorial, located at Post 120 in eastern Ladakh and inaugurated earlier this week, mentions the heroics of the 'Gallants of Galwan' under operation 'Snow Leopard' and the way they evicted the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops from the area while inflicting "heavy casualties" on them in "hand-to-hand combat".

China is yet to disclose the number of its soldiers killed and injured in the clash though it officially admitted to have suffered casualties. According to an American intelligence report, the number of casualties on the Chinese side was 35. Post 120 lies along the Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO) road. The names of all the 20 Indian Army personnel were inscribed at the unit-level memorial.

Colonel B Santosh Babu, the commanding officer of the 16 Bihar regiment, was among the Indian Army personnel killed in the clash that had significantly escalated the border tension between the two countries.

PM opens world's longest highway tunnel in Rohtang

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rohtang (HP), Oct 3: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday inaugurated the strategically important all-weather Atal Tunnel. which reduces the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 km and the travel time by four to five hours, at Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh.



NCP activists raise slogans during a protest over the death of a 19-year-old Dalit woman after an alleged gangrape in UP's Hathras, in Surat, Saturday

under house arrest PRESS TRUST OF INDIA 'This shows how scared this government is. Is it wrong to fight Lucknow, Oct 3: Uttar Pradesh for the victim or meet the family Congress president Ajay Kumar members?" he asked. Lallu Saturday said he had been put The state Congress said Lallu, disunder house arrest in order to

those who fight for jus-

at my door and they stopped me from going for morning walk, telling me that I'm under house arrest. Force has been deployed at my

trict heads and more than 500 workers had been placed under house arrest. "Yogi ji, don't stop

> tice. Stop the crimes," it tweeted. According to Lallu, police came to his house in Lucknow around 1.30 am and started

banging on the door. He was handed over a notice that a case has been filed against him at the Hazratganj police station and he has to appear next Friday. "This morning, I saw policemen

'I'm under house arrest. I am being treated as a criminal," Lallu said. "This is only to stop me from going to Hathras and fight for jus-

"stop" him from going to Hathras

UP Cong chief put



door." Lallu said.

allegedly stabbed with a sharp weapon and his face was bashed in with a cement block, the official said. Based on a complaint lodged by the victim's son, the police have registered a case of murder against an unidentified person and further probe is underway, he added.

Lion cub found dead in Gir forest

Junagadh: A female lion cub was found dead in Dedakdi range of Gir forest in Gujarat's Junagadh district Saturday, a forest department official said. The carcass of a six to seven-month-old female lion cub was found in Dedakdi range of Gir West division forest, said DT Vasavada. chief conservator of forests (wildlife), Junagadh, No external injury marks were found on the carcass. Guiarat is the only abode of Asiatic lions, and a full-moon light observation carried out by the forest department in June estimated its population to rise 29 per cent to 674.

4 cyber criminals

T'gana cops nab

RJD MP moves SC challenging validity of new farm laws

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 3: RJD MP Manoi Jha has moved the Supreme Court challenging the Constitutional validity of the newly enacted three agriculture laws, saying they are "discriminatory and manifestly arbitrary" and will expose marginal farmers to exploitation by big corporates.

Parliament has recently passed the three Bills - the Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act 2020. These have



come into effect from September 27 after President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent.

Jha, a Rajya Sabha member of the Rashtriva Janata Dal (RJD), has filed the plea in the top court through lawyer Fauzia Shakil. Besides Jha, Congress Lok Sabha member from Kerala TN Prathapan and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Rajya Sabha member from Tamil Nadu Tiruchi Siva had moved the top

court against the farm laws.

Jha, in his plea, said, "The impugned legislations corporatise agriculture and ushers in an unregulated and exploitative regime. A farmer would not have the knowledge to negotiate the best terms with a private company. This leads to unequal bargaining position in negotiating the farm agreement with corporates would lead to corporates monopolising the agriculture sector."

The plea said the laws have been passed by Parliament "in breach of the Parliamentary Rules and convention and the impugned Acts are unconstitutional on the ground that it is discriminatory and manifestly arbitrary and further violates the Basic Structure of the Constitution."

Naxal leader killed by his own cadres In Chh'garh

AGENCIES

Bijapur, Oct 3: The police said that a senior Naxal leader who was behind many killings in the Bijapur district has been killed by his cadres Friday. According to the police, he was carrying a reward of ₹8 lakh on his head and was responsible for the recent killings in the Gangaloor area. "In the Bijapur district, a major

incident has come into light pertaining to Naxals where Divisional Committee Member Modiyam Vijja was killed by his own cadres of the Gangaloor Area Committee,' Inspector General of Police in Bastar Range of Chhattisgarh P Sundarraj said.

'Vijja was behind most of the civilian killings in West Bastar Division region of Bijapur district,"

the inspector general said further adding, "There is a lot of dissent among the senior cadres and local cadres with regard to mindless violence against the innocent tribals.'

This is a very important development in the background of recent civilian killings in the South Bastar region. The matter is currently under investigation, the inspector general said.

Meanwhile, a report from Raipur said that a villager was axed to death by Naxals in Chhattisgarh's Bastar district, police said Saturday.

The incident took place in Gumalwada village under Nagarnar police station area Friday night, an official said. "As per preliminary information, a dozen unidentified men dragged Budra Nag out of his house and killed him with.'



Atal Tunnel, built by the Border Roads Organisation, is the longest highway tunnel in the world.

The 9.02-km tunnel connects Manali to Lahaul-Spiti valley throughout the year, the Prime Minister's Office has said, noting that the valley was earlier cut off for about six months every year due to heavy snowfall.

Modi was accompanied by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat

The Atal Bihari Vajpayee government had taken the decision to construct a strategic tunnel below the Rohtang Pass June 3, 2000, and the foundation stone for the access road to the south portal of the tunnel was laid May 26, 2002

PAKISTAN'S SINISTER PLAN IN PoK BOOMERANGS

DESPITE KNOWING THE IMPLICATIONS OF DABBLING WITH THE STATUS OF THE GILGIT-BALTISTAN REGION, IMRAN KHAN HAS GONE AHEAD WITH HIS PLAN TO ELEVATE THE REGION TO FIFTH PROVIDENCE OF PAKISTAN

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: Police Saturday said they have arrested a fourmember gang of cyber criminals from Raiasthan who allegedly created fake social media accounts of police officers and sent messages seeking money, to those in their friends list. It has been found that fake social media accounts of 350 police officers, belonging to Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh have been created. Fake accounts have been created in the name of 81 police officers from Telangana, police in Nalgonda district of Telangana said.

New Delhi, Oct 3: On January 16, 1948, in the 228th meeting of the Security Council, Sir Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, the then Pakistan Foreign Minister and a delegate to the UN, made it clear that Gilgit-Baltistan is a part of the state of

Jammu and Kashmir. In March 1963, the Pakistan Foreign Minister ZA Bhutto, wrote to the President of the Security Council saying: "It is necessary for me to point out the evident fact that the territory of Jammu and Kashmir is not a part, integral or otherwise, of the territorv of the Union. The territory of Jammu and Kashmir belongs to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.'

Last year, a seven-member bench headed by the Chief Justice of Pakistan Supreme Court Mian Saqib Nisar, while sealing the UN resolution on the Kashmir issue, also declared Gilgit-Baltistan a part of the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

A resolution unanimously adopted by the leadership of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) Assembly in 2014 mentioned: "Making Gilgit-Baltistan a fifth province will weaken Pakistan's national stand on Jammu and Kashmir at the international level." Political parties like Muslim League Nawaz, Muslim Conference, Peoples Party of Pakistan, Jamaate-Islami, Azad Kashmir People's Party and others also joined in send-

Skardu ing a loud and clear Kha message that "making Gilgit-Baltistan a

province of Pakistan will have disastrous consequences for the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir.'

Even the separatist leaders like Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, and Mohammad Yasin Malik had in March 2016 opposed a similar proposal which was being floated by Riaz Hussain Pirzada, Pakistan's minister for inter-provincial coordination reasoning that

"any proposal to declare Gilgit-Baltistan as

the fifth province of Pakistan is unacceptable as it tantamount to changing the

disputed nature of Kashmir". Despite knowing the political, ge-

ographical, economical, and strategic implications of dabbling with the status of the Gilgit-Baltistan re-

gion, Imran Khan, at the behest of his bosses in the Pakistani army, has gone ahead with his plan to elevate the region to fifth providence of Pakistan. Ali Amin Gandapur, Minister of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, had announced the same September 17.

But, the move boomeranged on the very first attempt. Khan and the military establishment are facing a stiff resistance as the people of the region have come out in large numbers to oppose the proposal straightaway.

Manzoor Parwana, Chairman of Gilgit-Baltistan United Front, said: "If you want to make a province, negotiate with the nationalists. Not with the political parties like Tehreeke-Insaf and Muslim League-N. These parties don't truly represent the people of the region."

Senator Sherry Rehman, a senior leader of the Pakistan People's Party, had recently exposed the plan for Gilgit-Baltistan hatched by the military command and the ISI in Rawalpindi. The move to amend the Article 258 of the Pakistan constitution has been postponed due to the severe reaction of political parties.

While Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leader Maryam Nawaz said that the Gilgit-Baltistan issue is a political issue that should be solved in the parliament, PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto is of the opinion that the peo-ple of Gilgit-Baltistan have the right to decide the future of region.







OrissaPOST SUNDAY | OCTOBER 4 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR international



India, which espouses the policy of 'No First Use' against nuclear weapon states, believes that nuclear disarmament can be achieved through agreed multilateral framework and New Delhi is convinced of the need for meaningful dialogue among nations possessing nuclear arms for building trust and confidence HARSH VARDHAN SHRINGLA | FOREIGN SECRETARY OF INDIA

COVID-19 IMPACT

There was a three-fold increase in the number of people reporting significant depression and anxiety problems during lockdown. according to a new study



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The Quad seeks to establish promote, and secure Indo-Pacific principles especially as PRC

tactics, aggression, and coercion increase in the region DAVID R. STILWELL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

The world is living in the shadow of nuclear catastrophe, fuelled by growing distrust and tensions between the nuclear

powers ANTONIO GUTERRES SECRETARY-GENERAL

Sending my prayers (for) health and safety of the first lady and the President of the United States after they tested positive for COVID-19. My wife Jill and I pray that they will make a guick and full recovery JOE BIDEN EX-VICE PRESIDENT OF US

SHORT TAKES

Two killed, 24 missing

Paris: Flooding from record rains in the mountainous region that spans France and Italy killed two people in Italy and left at least 24 people in the two countries missing Saturday. A storm that moved overnight across southeastern France and then northern Italy caused major flooding on both sides of the border, destroying bridges, blocking roads and isolating communities. In Italy, a firefighter was killed during a rescue operation in the mountainous northern region of Val d'Aosta. Another body was found in Vercelli province, near where a man had been swept away by flood waters late Friday.

770 students contract Covid

Trump's hospitalization rocks final stage of campaign

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, Oct 3: An election year already defined by a cascade of national crises descended further into chaos Friday, with President Donald Trump quarantined at a military hospital with the coronavirus after consistently playing down the threat. Democratic challenger Joe Biden

took down his attack ads and pressed a bipartisan message in battleground Michigan after he and his wife tested negative."This cannot be a partisan moment. It must be an American moment. We have to come together as a nation," Biden declared at a speech in Grand Rapids, warning that the virus "is not going away automatically."

While Biden vowed to continue his cautious approach to campaigning during the pandemic, the President's diagnosis injected even greater uncertainty into an election already plagued by crises that have exploded under Trump's watch: the pandemic, devastating economic fallout and sweeping civil unrest. With millions of Americans already voting, the country Friday



days at the military hospital

The President's doctor reported that Trump was "fatigued" and had been jected with an experimental antibody drug combination still in clinical trials

threatened to rattle global markets and political debates around the world. The development focuses the campaign right where Biden has put his emphasis for months – and where Republicans don't want it: on Trump's uneven response to a pandemic that has killed more than 205,000 people in the U.S. And for the short term, it's grounded entered uncharted territory that Trump under quarantine at Walter

Reed National Military Medical Center, denying him the large public rallies that fuel his campaign just a month before the election.

Biden and other Democratic officeholders wished Trump well in the wake of his diagnosis, although some could not help but admonish the Republican president, who openly ignored his own administration's social safety recommen-

dations for much of the year. "Going into crowds unmasked and all the rest was sort of a brazen invitation for this to happen," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said

The White House reported Friday evening that Trump will spend "a few days" at the military hospital; the president's doctor reported that Trump was "fatigued" and had been injected with an experimental antibody drug combination still in clinical trials. His campaign announced that all of Trump's scheduled campaign events were being moved online or temporarily postponed. Trump's family, a steady presence on the campaign trail, was also grounded

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien and Republican National Committee Chair Ronna McDaniel have tested positive for the virus as well. But Vice President Mike Pence, who has tested negative, will attend his campaign events as planned.

Other world leaders, including Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson, have contracted the virus and made full recoveries. But strategists in both parties acknowledged the timing is bad. Millions of

Americans have already begun voting in several key states, and tens of millions more will receive absentee mail-in ballots or begin in-person early voting in the coming weeks. "Trump's main advantages, including incumbency, have been removed. Rallies, his main vehicle for mobilizing his base, will no longer be possible. Fly-bys with Air Force One as a backdrop are

gone," said Republican strategist Rick Tyler, a frequent Trump critic. He said that Trump's infection also "fundamentally undercuts his entire campaign strategy, which was to ignore the pandemic and make unsubstantiated claims that we've turned the corner and are making an economic comeback.

Biden, meanwhile, moved to take down his ads attacking Trump, according to deputy campaign manager Kate Bedingfield, who noted that the campaign would continue running positive ads. The decision was made before news surfaced that Trump would be moved to a military hospital. Otherwise, Biden is not expected to alter his approach to the campaign significantly as Trump recovers.

PIA SACKS 54 EMPLOYEES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad. Oct 3: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has sacked 54 more employees for having fake degrees, abusing drugs and for poor performance, according to a media report Saturday.

Of the 54 employees sacked by the national carrier, seven were dismissed for tampered documents, eight for absence, two for taking bribe, four for immoral acts and one for being intoxicated. The Dawn newspaper reported. Another two employees were removed for theft. Apart from the sacked personnel,

13 employees were given letters of appreciation. Seven officials got bonuses for excellent performance. Now, the number of employees sacked in the airline in the last four months has gone upto 220. The PIA has taken up a so-called 'cleaning up' exercise of its staff following Aviation Minister Ghulam Sarwar Khan's probe report into the May 22 Karachi plane crash. The domestic flight from Lahore to Karachi had crashed in a residential area near the Jinnah International Airport in Karachi.

Imran seeks legal strategy

Sharif has been living in London since November last year when he was allowed to go there for medical treatment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Oct 3: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has asked his party leaders to devise a legal strategy to bring back former premier Nawaz Sharif from the UK as in the absence of an extradition treaty between the two countries it would be difficult to get him extradited, according to a media report. Presiding over the first meeting

of a committee recently formed to counter the Opposition, Prime Minister Khan Friday asked Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) leaders to foil all moves of the Opposition aimed at destabilising the government and "maligning" the Army. the Dawn News reported.

The government had earlier sent a request to the British government for the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader's repatriation to ensure that he faces the corruption cases pending against him in the courts



Sharif has been living in London since November last year when he was allowed to go there for medical treatment. His recent speeches targeting the army for political interference has apparently unnerved

the Imran Khan government. A source privy to the meeting told Dawn that the Prime Minister was committed to bringing back Sharif from London and directed the committee members to devise

a legal strategy because in the absence of an extradition treaty between Pakistan and the UK, it would become difficult to get him extradited

The committee comprises federal ministers Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Asad Umar, Fawad Chaudhry, Shafqat Mahmood and Pervez Khattak. Adviser to the Prime Minister on Interior and Accountability Shahzad Akbar had earlier said that he had written fresh letters to the British authorities for Sharif's repatriation, adding that a formal application has also been sent for his extradition.

The adviser was of the view that though both countries have no extradition treaty, wanted people could be handed over to each other under special arrangement. On September 15, the Islamabad High Court issued non-bailable arrest warrants for Sharif who failed to surrender before it despite clear warning by the bench

15 KILLED IN EXPLOSION

REUTERS

Kabul, Oct 3: Attackers set off a truck bomb in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province Saturday killing at least 15 people and wound ing dozens, according to provincial officials, as violence continues in the war-torn nation despite peace talks taking place in Qatar.

Attaullah Khugyani, a spokesman for the provincial government, said the number of casualties, most of whom were civilians, could rise and that dozens of people were also injured by the blast in Ghani Khel district.

Obaidullah Shinwari, the Nangarhar provincial council's member, said 52 people were injured in the blast. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Ministry of Interior spokesman Tariq Arian blamed the insurgent Taliban for the attack, saying in the last two weeks they had carried 650 attacks which had killed 69 civilians.

The Taliban did not immediately respond to calls requesting comment. Afghan government ne-

Vaccine could be rolled out within 6 mths: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Oct 3: There is growing hope that a vaccine against coronavirus may be given the green light by health regulators by the end of this year to be rolled out for a vaccination programme in six months' time or even less, according to a UK media report.

The vaccine candidate under trial by University of Oxford scientists in collaboration with pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca is the furthest in the process of trials and, according to a report in 'The Times', it could be given the required clearances by Christmas in December.

The newspaper quoted UK government sources involved in the making and distribution of vac cines as saying that a full vaccine roll-out programme for adults could take six months or less after approval. We are looking at closer to six

months and it is likely to be far

shorter than that," a government

source said. Under a protocol de-



issues based on their higher risk from the deadly virus. People over 50 will be next in line, with younger adults at the back of the queue.

The UK government has ordered 100 million doses of the Oxford vaccine once it is ready for rollout and the doses are being manufactured before it has been shown to be successful in order to save time once it clears all the regulatory stages

According to the newspaper report, scientists on the trial are hopeful that they will get results before the end of this year, and that they will at the very least show that it prevents 50 per cent of infections, the threshold for success. If it is approved by the regula-

London: At least 770 students at the UK's Northumbria University have been tested positive for the novel coronavirus, leading to hundreds of other pupils to self-isolate. In a statement Friday, a university spokesman said that of the 770, 78 were symptomatic and all the infected students and their close contacts were currently self-isolating for 14 days in line with the government guidelines, the BBC reported.

Partial lockdown imposed in Madrid

Madrid: A partial lockdown has been imposed in Madrid as Spain was trying to control a second Covid-19 wave in the one of the worst-affected countries in Europe, the media reported Saturday. According to authorities, more than three million people will be affected by the new measure under which the capital city's residents will be allowed to travel outside their home districts for essential journeys only starting from the weekend, the BBC reported. Also under the new lockdown. bars and restaurants will not be allowed serve after 10 p.m. and a maximum of six people will be permitted to meet in any setting

Oli's key advisors **Covid positive**

Kathmandu: Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's chief advisor and his other two aides have contracted coronavirus that has claimed 528 lives and infected over 84,500 people in the country. During the tests conducted Friday, Oli's chief advisor Bishnu Rimal, press advisor Surya Thapa, and foreign affairs advisor Rajan Bhattarai tested positive for COVID-19.

RISKY JOURNEY



Migrants ride on the back of a truck that slowed down to give them an opportunity to jump on in Rio Dulce, Guatemala

gotiators are holding talks with the insurgent Taliban in their political capital of Doha in attempts to end decades of conflict, but calls by the government and international community for a ceasefire or reduction in violence have so far been rejected by the Taliban.

veloped by the UK's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, any approved vaccine will then be given to all over 65, followed by younger adults at higher risk, which could include those from ethnic minorities as well as those with serious health

tors, the UK's National Health Service (NHS) is said to be in a position to begin mass vaccination almost immediately. There are others within the UK government, however, who are more cautious on the timelines as vaccinating every adult is a big challenge.

Antarctic Peninsula at warmest in decades: Study

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Santiago, Oct 3: The year 2020 is the hottest in the Antarctic Peninsula in the past three decades, a study by the University Of Santiago De Chile out Friday found.

Between January and August, temperatures reached between 2 and 3 degrees Celsius (35.6 and 37.4 degrees Fahrenheit) on the peninsula, which is the northernmost part of mainland Antarctica, according to researchers at the Chilean Air Force's Frei Base on King



George Island. Those tempera

tures are "more than 2 degrees

Celsius over typical values," cli-

matologist Raul Cordero said in

a statement released by the

Chilean Antarctic Institute

(INACH)

"In the far northern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula, the average maximum temperature so far this year has been above 0 degrees. This had not happened for 31 years," Cordero added.

He called that fact "alarming," since it could indicate that the rapid rate of ocean warming ob served in the area at the end of the 20th century is resuming. The high Southern Hemisphere winter temperatures are in contrast however, with those registered between August and September, which reached -16.8 degrees Celsius, the lowest since 1970.

California nears milestone: 4 mn acres burned this year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Francisco, Oct 3: California is poised to hit a fearsome milestone: 4 million acres burned this year by wildfires that have killed 31 people and incinerated hundreds of homes in what is already the worst fire season on record.

Flames have scorched an area larger than Connecticut. Fire crews at a blaze in the wine country north of San Francisco were on high alert Friday as forecasters warned of ex-

treme fire danger into Saturday. Powerful winds didn't materialize early Friday, allowing fire crews a chance to make gains. But winds up to 30 mph (48 kph) were forecast to push through the hills of Napa and Sonoma counties as

the Glass Fire, which exploded in size earlier in the week, threatens more than 28,000 homes and other buildings.

"So far we have not seen the velocity of the winds that we were expecting," Cal Fire Battalion Chief Mark Brunton said. "But there will be gusts and ... we do have hot embers and it won't take much to take that and blow it into a very dry receptive fuel bed. That gives us cause for concern.' Winds were blowing at higher el-

evations on the western side of the fire. Crews expected a long battle to keep flames from jumping containment lines and to prevent spot fires from leaping ahead to spark new blazes

More crews and equipment were



deployed in and around Calistoga, a town of 5,000 people known for hot springs, mud baths and wineries in the hills of Napa County about 70 that fouled the air throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Numerous studies have linked bigger wildfires in America to climate change from the burning of coal, oil and gas. Scientists say climate change has made California much drier, meaning trees and other plants are more flammable.

The Glass Fire is the fourth major blaze in the region in three years and comes ahead of the third anniversary of an October 8, 2017. wildfire that killed 22 people. Around the state, 17,000 firefighters were battling nearly two dozen major blazes. Virtually all the dammiles (110 km) north of San age has occurred since mid-August, when five of the six largest fires in state history erupted. Lightning The area was also experiencing high temperatures and thick smoke strikes caused some of the most devastating blazes.

Cal Fire Deputy Chief Jonathan Cox said wildfires have scorched 3.9 million acres in California since August 15. That figure, which works out to more than 6,000 square miles (15,500 square km), is astonishing even in a state that has had its fair share of fires.

"We're at a historic moment where we are going to cross the 4 million acres burned mark in California this year," Cox said. "And unfortunately, we're just getting into some of the most critical fire months in California.'

The death toll increased to 31 people after a person burned in the LNU Lightning Complex diedfrom their injuries, Cal Fire said in a statement.



Francisco.





Sustainability should include employment. Unemployed youth is probably the most dangerous situation any economy or any country can face

'SUPPLIED 8,500 TONNES OF STEEL'

State-owned RINL has said it has supplied over 8,500 tonne of steel for the all-weather Atal Tunnel which reduces the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 kms and travel time by four to five hours. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the tunnel Saturday along with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh



Microsoft to end **Open License**

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Programme for SMBs

New Delhi, Oct 3: Microsoft has

announced to end its 20-year-old

Open License programme for small

and midsize organisations from

January 1, 2022. The organisa-

tions can continue to renew and

purchase new software licenses.

software assurance and online

services through the Open License

programme until December 31,

uote

India is developing AIbased solutions for social empowerment across spheres like healthcare

education, finance, agriculture and governance. On the strength of its data and innovation prowess, India can become the AI laboratory of the world

AMITABH KANT CEO, NITI AAYOG

We are pleased to launch the generic version of Sapropterin Dihydrochloride Tablets, for oral use. illustrating our continued commitment to bring affordable generic medicines to market for

MARC KIKUCHI CEO (NORTH AMERICA GENERICS), DR REDDY'S LABORATORIES

patients



and generate ₹25,000 crore sales turnover per annum when fully commissioned

JAGADISH SHETTAR INDUSTRY MINISTER. KARNATAKA

SHORT TAKES

Audi opens SUV Q2's bookings

New Delhi: German luxury car maker Audi Saturdav opened bookings for its upcoming SUV Q2 in India which will be launched in the market in the second half this month. The Audi Q2, which will be the company's fifth product launch this year in India. can be booked with an amount of ₹2 lakh online through the company's website or at the nearest Audi India dealership. Audi India said in a statement.

'Farm budget rises 11-fold'

New Delhi: Labour Minister h Gangwar on

Indian startups vow to fight Google's clout

STARTUPS SAY THAT GOOGLE EXERTS EXCESSIVE CONTROL OVER THE TYPES OF APPS AND OTHER SERVICES THEY OFFER AS 99% OF THE SMARTPHONES IN INDIA RUN ON GOOGLE'S ANDROID MOBILE OS



AGENCIES

for 0.41% stake.

tential.

four decades of successful long-

term value investing across the

world, is partnering with Reliance

Retail in its mission to transform

record of long-term partnerships

will be invaluable to the transfor-

mation story of Indian Retail. This

investment is a strong endorse-

GIC's global network and track

the Indian retail landscape.

New Delhi, Oct 3: Dozens of India's technology startups, chafing at Google's local dominance of key apps, are banding together to consider ways to challenge the US tech giant, including by lodging complaints with the government and courts, executives told Reuters.

> Although Google, owned by Alphabet Inc, has worked closely with India's booming startup sector and is ramping up its investments, it has recently angered many tech companies with what they say are unfair practices. Setting the stage for a potential

> showdown, entrepreneurs held two video conferences this week to strate-

gise, three executives told Reuters. 'It's definitely going to be a bit-

ter fight," said Dinesh Agarwal, CEO of e-commerce firm IndiaMART. "Google will lose this battle. It's just a matter of time." He said executives have discussed

forming a new startup association aimed chiefly at lodging protests with the Indian government and courts against the Silicon Valley company

Nearly 99% of the smartphones of India's half a billion users run on Google's Android mobile operating system. Some Indian startups say that Google exerts excessive control over the types of apps and other services they can offer, an allegation the company denies. The uproar began last month



when Google removed popular payments app Paytm from its Play Store, citing policy violations. This led to a sharp rebuke from the Indian firm's founder, Vijav Shekhar Sharma, whose app returned to the Google platform a few hours later, after Paytm made certain changes. In a video call Tuesday, Sharma

called Google the "big daddy" that controls the "oxygen supply of (app) distribution" on Android phones. according to an attendee. He urged the roughly 50 executives on the call

to join hands to "stop this tsunami." "If we together don't do anything, then history will not be kind to us. We have to control our digital destiny," Sharma said.

One idea raised was to launch a local rival to Google's app store, but Sharma said this would not be immediately effective given Google's dominance, one source said.

Sharma and Paytm, which is backed by Japan's SoftBank Group Corp 9984.T, did not respond to requests for comment. Google declined to comment. It has previously said its policies aim to protect Android users and that it applies and enforces them consistently on developers.

STRAINING TIES

This week the US company angered some Indian startups by deciding to enforce a 30% commission it charges on payments made within apps on the Android store.



"As of January 1, 2022, commercial customers won't be able to buy new or renew software licenses or online services through the Microsoft Open License programme," the tech giant said in an update.

"New license-only purchases should be transacted through partners in the Cloud Solution Provider programme".

The Microsoft Open License programme was created over 20 vears ago for small and midsized customers to buy multiple perpetual software licenses at a volume price.

Microsoft said it is taking a significant step to simplify licensing by introducing perpetual software license purchases through the new commerce experience, as part of its Cloud Solution Provider programme for partners, with a target availability date of

January 2021. "Small and midsize customers will benefit from a simplified approach and greater flexibility in how you purchase software licenses in a way that's easy to understand, that directly improves licensing asset management, and with predictable costs," the company said. Some companies may___ have purchased "tokens" to use Microsoft's online services

GIC, TPG to invest ₹7,350 cr in RRVL

Reliance New Delhi, Oct 3: Reliance Industries Limited Industries Limited and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) Growth is Life have announced that Singapore's GIC will invest ₹5,512.50 crore for 1.22% equity share on a fully diluted basis into RRVL, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries. On the other hand, global investment firm TPG

will be investing ₹1,837.50 crore GIC is pleased to partner with Reliance Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and through this new MD of Reliance Industries, said: "It gives me great pleasure to welcome GIC to the Reliance Retail the company to position family. I am delighted that GIC, secular growth in India's with its track record of close to

retail market LIM CHOW KIAT I CEO, GIC

India's retail market. We believe Reliance Retail will continue to use its extensive supply chain and store networks, as well as strong logistics and data infrastructure, to add value to its customers and shareholders.

ment of our strategy and India's po-GIC is a leading global investment Lim Chow Kiat, CEO, GIC, said: firm established in 1981 to man-"GIC is pleased to partner with age Singapore's foreign reserves. A Reliance through this new investdisciplined long-term value investor, GIC is uniquely positioned ment, which will enable the comfor investments across a wide range pany to position Reliance Retail for the strong secular growth in of asset classes, including equi-

ties, fixed income, private equity, real estate and infrastructure Indians.

investment announced in half an hour by RRVL around midnight followed by GIC. Ambani, said: "I am pleased to welcome TPG as a valued investor in Reliance Retail's mission of growing and transforming the Indian Retail ecosystem for the

TPG has a proven track record global technology businesses and industry leaders and we look forward to their guidance and sup-

Jim Coulter, Co-CEO, TPG, said: "Regulatory changes, consumer demographics and technological disruption are creating seismic shifts across the entire retail value chain in India. In the midst of this transformation. Reliance Industries has utilized technology and scale to position Reliance Retail as an incredibly strong, well-organised, and innovative leader.

We are excited to join with them as they seek to create a more inclusive retail industry that allows Kiranas and Indian consumers to benefit from the connectivity. efficiency, and accessibility of the Reliance Retail omnichannel platform.

'India can be a global player in many sectors'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Oct 3: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Saturday that India has the capability to become a global player in many sectors and needs to scale up its manufacturing activities.

Speaking at a webinar organised by EXIM Bank, he said sectors which have potentials to become globally competitive are required to be identified.

"There is no need to segregate between products for exports and domestic sector. We require quality, good technology and scale, though some support may be needed at

Exports will definitely happen automatically if products are "good and competitively priced", the minister said, adding that the industries should not expect that subsidies will be the "only solution"

Speaking on the free trade agreements (FTAs), he said, "We have to foster such collaborations with the developed countries which have large markets, and not nations like Chile and Peru." India can surely be part of the global supply chain and also a reliable partner, Goyal said, adding that "building capaPivush Goval

Speaking at a webinar. Goyal said sectors which have potentials to become globally competitive are required to be identified

bilities, scale and good manufacturing practices are the need of the hour".



"Despite the growing private consumption demand, India's gross value added (GVA) has decreased. EXIM Bank has commissioned a study on the policy constraints faced by some sectors like textiles, apparel, automobile, electronics and pharmaceuticals," he added.

investment, which will enable **Reliance Retail for the strong**

Meanwhile, TPG's is the second

benefit of all Indians.

of being a valuable partner to port in our journey.'



Saturday said budget of the agriculture ministry has been increased 11 fold to ₹1.34 lakh crore from ₹12,000 crore in 2009-10 during the UPA regime, which reflects Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment for welfare of farmers. The government has been under attack for bringing in new farm laws which are aimed at providing marketing freedom to farmers for selling their produce.

ATDC ties up with factories

New Delhi: Apparel exporters body AEPC Saturday said its training arm ATDC has tied up with 77 manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu for a World Bank funded skilling project. Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) Chairman A Sakthivel said ATDC (Apparel Training and Design Centre) will impart three-month classroom training to 240 apprentices in five different courses followed by 12-month on-the-job training.

Meity to seek **Cabinet** approval

New Delhi: The IT ministry is looking to use artificial intelligence for addressing problems such as language barrier that are faced by Indians in communication and expects to get Cabinet approval in a month to launch programmes based on the next generation technology, senior government officials said Saturday. Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said that India is organising a conference on AI, RAISE 2020, which will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday evening.

MCL produces 98L tonnes coal in Aug



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: In the middle of ongoing COVID-19 crisis, a major coal producer Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) released data of its total coal production during the month of August 2020. The data revealed that MCL fell short to meet total target for the month.

According to MCL's website data, the subsidiary of Coal India produced around 98.033 lakh tonne of

coal in August. The company had targetted to reach coal production of 116.798 lakh tonne from its opencast and underground mining.

MCL's coal production in underground reached 0.584 lakh tonne in same month while 108.215 lakh tonne of coal production was made possible during opencast mining. The coal producer had produced 67.320 lakh tonne in same month of previous fiscal. MCL has targetted to produce 173 million tonne of coal during current fiscal in Odisha. An official said that the company is likely to extract around 5 lakh tonne of coal per day and 15 MT coal in a month. As of now, MCL has produced around 532.836 lakh tonne in last five

months including August during current fiscal.



SBI, HUL join hands to digitise small retailers

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 3: Country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) and Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) joined together to cater to the needs of small retailers by providing them digital payment and financing solutions. The pact was declared during a webinar held recently.

This partnership will help in the digital empowerment of HUL retailers and distributors through SBI's customised solutions. Under this collaboration, the bank will offer an instant paperless overdraft facility of up to ₹50,000 to retailers for their billings with distributors as well as financing facili-



ties to HUL's distributors.

To ensure customers get the option of digital payments in smaller towns as well, the bank will install SBI Point of Sale (POS) machines at multiple HUL touch points across the country. Additionally, SBI will provide UPI based solutions to HUL

retailers for hassle-free, safe and instant cashless payments to their dealers from HUL's retailer application Shikhar.

SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar said, "SBI has got an opportunity to leverage its strong geographic presence and strategic digital solutions to simplify the financial needs of HUL's customers, retailers, dealers, and employees.'

HUL CMD Sanjiv Mehta said, "General trade is a very important channel for the country as it serves the needs of millions of consumers by making essential products available.

This channel also plays a significant role in our economy by creating employment opportunities for a wide spectrum of people."

MARKET OUTLOOK

Stimulus, healthy macros expected to lift markets

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Oct 3: Expectations for new stimulus measures along with healthy macro-economic data will push India's equity markets higher during the coming week, analysts said. Accordingly, investors are betting on the new stimulus measures being announced in the US and India to accelerate economic activity

Besides, recently released auto sales numbers and macro economic data points also indicate towards a sustained economic recovery.

"In the coming week, we will have a tug-of-war between a series of encouraging macro numbers in India, including PMI, monsoon, auto sales numbers, September trade deficit numbers, rail freight, power consumption, fuel sales, GST collections, coal despatches, and



nervousness due to Dolnald Trump getting infected with Covid-19," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research at HDFC Securities. 'We think the positive India

macros will have an advantage and the Indian markets could rise some more," he added.

Jasani said that sectors which

have underperformed so far could

do well, including banks and realty, among others

"Select small and midcap stocks could continue to perform. Now onwards, the focus will also shift to Q2 results that will kick off in the coming week." Jasani said. As per schedule, the Q2FY21 results season

In the coming week, we will have a tug-of-war between a series of encouraging macro numbers in India, including PMI, monsoon, auto sales numbers, rail freight, fuel sales, GST collections, and on the other hand we have the global nervousness due to Trump getting infected with Covid-19

DEEPAK JASANI I HEAD OF RETAIL RESEARCH, HDFC SECURITIES

will begin from October 5. IT major TCS is expected to come out with its quarterly results Wednesday.

Apart from quarterly results, markets will also get direction from the decision on the loan moratorium case Monday.

The second quarter results would also begin next week with TCS reporting its numbers Wednesday," said Siddhartha Khemka, Head, Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

"Decent auto sales numbers for the month of September also provided support to the market. Going ahead, the market may continue with its positive trend in near term amid hopes of stimulus announcement -- both from the US government and the Indian government," Khemka said.

According to Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, "The market is expected to be guided by announcement of stimulus measures by the US and the outcome of the Supreme Court

moratorium hearing." "We expect Unlock 5.0 to boost investor sentiments for the media week.

and the tourism sectors which had fallen significantly since the lockdown. Investors should remain cautious, as markets are keenly focusing on the court hearings on moratorium to be held next week and volatility might spike once again," Nair said.

Last week, Indian markets gained on the back of positive global cues, better-than-expected domestic macro numbers and decent auto sales in September.

The risk appetite also improved as the Central government October 1 issued new guidelines for opening up of more activities in areas outside the containment zones.

Consequently, the NSE Nifty50 closed the week higher by 3.3%, while the BSE Sensex gained by 3.5%. The equity markets ended higher on 3 out of the 4 tradingdays during the truncated trade

on the other hand we have the global







sports

RCB THRASH ROYALS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Oct 3: Captain Virat Kohli (72 n o, 53b, 7x4, 2x6) roared back to form with an unbeaten knock and stitched a 99-run stand with Devdutt Padikkal (63, 45b, 6x4, 1x6) to power Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) to a comfortable eight-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in an IPL match here Saturday

This was after wrist-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal (3/24) snared three wickets in an impressive bowling show that helped them restrict RR to 154/6. It was RCB's third win in four matches.

Padikkal yet again produced an impressive innings before he was dismissed by Jofra Archer (1/18) in the 16th over. The young RCB opener allowed his captain to get in and settle down before Kohli produced some of his trademark shots later on to accelerate.

The RCB needed 31 runs after Padikkal's dismissal and another inform batman AB de Villiers (12 not out) ensured that his side reached the target with five balls to spare. Having failed to score big in his

earlier three innings (14, 1, 3), Kohli took time to settle down and scored mostly in ones and twos initially. Padikkal continued his good form having scored 56, 1, 54 in his three earlier innings. He reached to

his fifty in 34 balls. He was the dominant batsman in RCB's opening stand of 25 runs with Aaron Finch who was out in the third over.

Earlier, Chahal jumped to joint top spot in the bowlers' chart with Kings XI Punjab's Mohammed Shami on eight wickets Opting to bat, the Royals lost their

top order cheaply inside the powerplay overs but recovered to some extent to post a decent total, thanks to Mahipal Lomror's knock of 47. The Royals were 31/3 and they reached 70/3 at halfway mark with Robin Uthappa (17) and Lomror stitching a 39-run stand for the fourth wicket. But Uthappa failed again with Chahal getting him

caught at long off. Chahal ended Lomror's innings in the 17th over as the batsman sliced up a widish delivery to Devdutt Padikkal at long off.

Rahul Tewatia (24 not out), looking for yet another explosive innings after the one against Kings XI Punjab, hit two sixes in the last over after enduring a beamer from

Navdeep Saini on his chest. BRIEF SCORES: Rajasthan Royals 154/6 (Mahipal Lomror 47, Rahul Tewatia 24 n o; Yuzvendra Chahal 3/24) lost to Royal Challengers Bangalore 158/2 (Virat Kohli 72 n o, Devdutt Padikkal 63; Jofra Archer 1/18) by eight wickets.

CORRUPT APPROACH REPORTED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 3: A cricketer, competing in the IPL in the UAE, has 'reported a corrupt approach', putting BCCI's anti-corruption unit (ACU) on a high alert.

The IPL is played in a bio-secure environment, which has significantly reduced the chance for persons with dubious credentials approaching the player directly. The threat though still remains by and large due to the online network of corruptors

BCCI ACU chief Ajit Singh confirmed the development to this agency. "Yes (a player has reported approach)," Singh, the former DGP of Rajasthan Police confirmed the news. "We are tracking him. It will take some time," he said when asked if the alleged corruptor or 'person of interest' has been nabbed.

As per anti-corruption protocols, the name of the player (Indian or overseas) or franchise is not revealed for confidentiality purposes. With players and support staff staying in a bio-bubble, unlike other years, the ACU is concentrating more on the possible online corrupt approaches.

Most of the players, especially the younger ones are mostly on social media platforms like Instagram and Twitter where unknown people masquerading as fans try to befriend them.

A senior BCCI official said all the players whether overseas or Indian international, uncapped domestic players have all attended multiple anti-corruption classes.

'The best part is that the player who was approached immediately sensed that something is fishy. He had suspicion and he immediately shared his concerns with the ACU. Every player, even those who have come from the U-19s are well aware about each and every anti-corruption protocols," the BCCI official, privy to the development, told this agency on the condition of anonymity.

MATCH

AT 3:30 PM

🚳 KXIP VS CSK 🙉

TELECAST: STAR SPORTS

Sunday.

Iyer, Shaw, Nortje lift DC



DC skipper Shreyas Iyer and Prithvi Shaw (inset) in action against Kolkata Knight Riders in Sharjah, Saturday

AGENCIES

Sharjah, Oct 3: Shreyas Iyer (88 n o, 38b, 7x4, 6x6) showed his class with a captain's knock after Prithvi Shaw's (66, 41b, 4x4, 4x6) opening act before Anrich Nortje (3/33) bowled superbly to help Delhi Capitals (DC) seal a commendable 18-run win over Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in their IPL match here, Saturday.

Chasing a mammoth 229 on a batting paradise, KKR got a wonderful start, despite losing opener Sunil Narine in the second over. Shubman Gill (28) and Nitish Rana (58, 35b, 4x4, 4x6) added 64 runs before the former's departure reduced KKR to 72/2 in 8.1 overs.

After then KKR lost wickets at regular intervals trying to keep up with the required rate. KKR were 122/6 in 13.3 overs, when Eoin Morgan (44, 18b, 1x4, 5x6) and Rahul Tripathi (36, 16b, 3x4, 3x6) joined hands and almost pulled off a miracle.

Nortje broke the stand in the third ball of the 19th over, dis-

BRIEF SCORES DELHI CAPITALS 228/4 (Shreyas Iyer 88 n o, Prithvi Shaw 66, Rishabh Pant 38; Andre Russell 2/29)

beat KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS 210/8 (Nitish Rana 58, Eoin Morgan 44, Rahul Tripathi 36; Anrich Nortje 3/33, Harshal Patel 2/34) by 18 runs.

missing the England skipper. By then, Morgan and Tripathy had added 78 runs, with the scoreboard reading 200/7. There was still a slim hope, but Marcus Stoinis (1/46) wrapped up the things getting rid of Tripathi in the final over through a slower yorker.

KKR finished their innings on 210/8. Besides Nortje, Harshal Patel (2/34) and Amit Mishra (1/14) bowled well for the winning side.

Earlier, Iyer and Shaw demonstrated a batting masterclass with splendid knocks up the DC batting order. Later, Rishabh Pant (38, 17b, 5x4, 1x6) dusted off his rustiness with a quickfire knock.

Containment was never possible on such a track with Capitals batsmen hitting as many as 14 sixes and 18 boundaries in the entire innings.

After two good games, young Kamlesh Nagarkoti (1/35) and Shivam Mavi (0/40) got harsh lessons as Dinesh Karthik couldn't risk completing their quota of overs. Patrick Cummins (0/49) was taken

to task by Shaw in the Powerplay as he repeatedly cleared the in-field. Mavi opening the bowling also got the hammering as he lost his length early on, bowling either too full or too short to the DC openers.

Such was Shaw's form that even Shikhar Dhawan (26, 16b, 2x4, 2x6) was overshadowed despite some decent hits in a 56-run opening stand.

The two spinners Varun Chakravarthy (1/49) and Sunil Narine (0/26) were simply sent into the orbit. Andre Russell (2/29), who conceded only seven runs in the final over and also dismissed Marcus Stoinis in that over, was brilliant among the KKR bowlers

STAR TROIKA: Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal (left inset) in action; Yuzvendra Chahal celebrates a Royals' wicket

MI FAVOURITES AGAINST SRH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sharjah, Oct 3: Boasting an explosive batting line-up that complements their affective death bowling, Mumbai Indians (MI) will have their nose ahead in the IPL match against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) here Sunday.

To add to SRH's worry, doubts remained over lead seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar's participation in the match. Bhuvneshwar picked up an injury Friday night and was unable to complete his final over in the game against Chennai Super Kings. He walked off

pummel any attack into submission on his day. While the poor form of Quinton de Kock is worrisome, the prolific Suryakumar Yadav would be more than keen to convert his starts.

The biggest positive for the defending champions is that their middleorder has finally delivered with Ishan Kishan, Hardik Pandya and Kieron Pollard launching into opposition attacks with their big-hitting prowess.

Mumbai are unlikely to make any changes to their bowling combination, with all their bowlers putting up a splen-

did show against

SRH will

from their

also take a lot

of confidence

XI

Kings

Punjab.

seven-run win over CSK, where all their youngsters delivered after the big guns failed to fire.

The team management would be hoping that skipper David Warner, Jonny Bairstow and Manish Pandey are among the runs again. Kane Williamson also is a certainty in the playing XI, given his ability to take the innings deep and hold one end up.

Abdul

If the seniors fire, that will reduce the pressure on young guns Abhishek Sharma,

Samad. But if

Bhuvneshwar

misses out, that

would mean

more pressure on

and

SIPL Privam Gars

yorker specialist T Natarajan,

Rashid Khan.

left-arm pacer Khaleel

Ahmed and star spinner

In that case, they will

have to choose from their

other pacers – Basil

Thampi, Sandeep

Sharma or Siddharth

Kaul – but none can

match up Bhuvneshwar's

skills and experience.



Dubai, Oct 3: Hit hard by but everything – fielding, bowling and

the field with the help of the team physio.a

In the event the experienced seamer misses out, table-toppers Mumbai will fancy their chances more at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, whose boundaries are much shorter than Dubai and Abu Dhabi and have been a paradise for power-hitters.

The defending champions, having humbled a 30 strong Kings XI Punjab in their last game, are unlikely to make any changes to the winning combination.

Skipper Rohit Sharma is in sublime form and he can

ROLAND GARROS ROUND-UP

Jabeur creates Arabian history on clay

Paris: Tunisia's Ons Jabeur became the first Arab woman to reach the fourth round of the French Open as she beat eighth seed Aryna Sabalenka 7-6(9-7), 2-6, 6-3 Saturday. The 30th seed displayed her trademark court craft to undermine Sabalenka's power as she surpassed her previous best third round showing at Roland Garros in 2017. The Tunisian had also become the first Arab woman to reach a Grand Slam guarterfinal in Australia this year.

Zverev advances

Germany's Alexander Zverev dismantled Marco Cecchinato 6-1, 7-5, 6-3 in under two hours Friday to move into the French Open last 16 where he will meet Italy's rising star Jannik Sinner. Zverev, who did not play any claycourt events following last month's run to the US Open final, was dominant and grabbed two quick breaks to wrap up the first set after 25 minutes.

Rafa marches on

Claycourt master Rafa Nadal powered his way into the fourth round of his beloved French Open as his campaign for a recordextending 13th title picked up momentum with a merciless 6-1, 6-



4. 6-0 demolition of Italian Stefano Travaglia Friday. The second seed, looking to match Roger Federer's record of 20 men's Grand Slam singles titles, will next meet 20vear-old American Sebastian Korda. one of his biggest admirers.

Altmaier stuns

German qualifier Daniel Altmaier, ranked 186th in the world, bundled out Italian seventh seed Matteo Berrettini from the French Open with a comprehensive 6-2, 7-6(7-5), 6-4 victory Saturday. The 22-year-old was not even sure he would make

his debut at this year's claycourt Grand Slam as he was struggling with an injury and needed a goahead from a doctor at the last minute to take part in the qualifiers.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, Oct 3: Neymar scored his first goals of the season to help Paris Saint-Germain make up some lost ground in the French league with

PSG moved up to second in the sixth round after winning four games straight. The defending champion started with two defeats. Kylian Mbappe, who also scored, had the first big chance at Parc des

to wait long for the breakthrough, a fine goal from Alessandro Florenzi in the seventh minute. The Italian defender lifted the ball over an opponent with his fist touch, then lobbed it over another defender inside the far post with his next. It was his first goal for PSG since his sum-

Neymar was next to test the goalkeeper, but Bernardoni wasn't beaten until the 36th, when Mbappe cut in between two defenders before teeing the ball up for Nevmar to shoot in off the underside of the crossbar. The Brazilian got his second goal Neymar wheels away in celebration after scoring against Angers, Friday

from close distance in the 47th, and Angers defender Ismael Traore pulled one back in the 52nd as the home side relaxed.

PSG defender Presnel Kimpembe was forced to clear from Stephane

1 in the 71st, and Mbappe wrapped up the scoring in the 84th.

batting – has to come together. When the result go a team's way, many of the frailties gets hidden but even the smallest of things get exposed when the opposite happens.

The desperation was palpable on men to put runs on the board and runallow Dhoni to find his feet.

Dhoni has batted under tremendous huge expectations make his and his would soar to unprecedented levels.

batsmen down the order. But the job would be easier said than done since they are up against a side which has been batting well, though results have not exactly gone in their favour.

Skipper KL Rahul and Mayank Agarwal have been in top form. But despite scoring in excess of 200 twice, the Puniab side lost those matches because of their limited bowling resources. None, expect Mohammed Shami, gives confidence of stopping the rival batsmen.

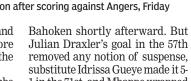
This is exactly what CSK must look to exploit. They need to get Punjab's toporder early. Overall, CSK have better resources but they must utilise them to the hilt

Neymar helps PSG rout Angers

a 6-1 rout of visiting Angers.

Princes in the fifth minute saved by the quick reacting Angers goalkeeper Paul Bernardoni. But the home side did not have

mer switch from Roma



cushion to Dhoni and other capable

Dhoni's face after the latest loss. CSK will need one of their top-order batsrate in the middle overs need to be taken care of, too. If that happens, it will

pressure in the initial games and the team's failure look worse. By the time he goes after the attack, the asking rate

Chilwell helps Blues crush Crystal Palace

a start that least defines

them, Chennai Super

Kings (CSK) would be

desperate to find answers

to their predicament

when they take on Kings

XI Punjab (KXIP) in an IPL match here

So used to be on top of their game in

the previous editions, sitting at the bot-

tom of the points table now with three

losses in four matches is an unknown

Nothing has worked for them de-

spite having the resources. They even

made three changes to their playing XI

for Friday's game against Sunrisers

Hyderabad but neither comeback of

territory for the MS Dhoni-led side.

REUTERS

London, Oct 3: Chelsea thrashed Crystal Palace 4-0 at home in the Premier League Saturday as Ben Chilwell marked his league debut for the Blues by scoring a goal and creating another for fellow defender Kurt Zouma before Jorginho sealed the win with two penalties.

Palace had stifled Chelsea in a goalless first half but Chilwell punished them for their first defensive error, scoring from close range in the 50th minute after Mamadou Sakho fluffed a clearance and allowed Cesar Azpilicueta to line up a cross

Chelsea doubled their lead in the 66th minute when the visitors failed to clear a corner and Zouma rose above everyone else to meet a cross by Chilwell and send a header past Vicente Guaita.

Jorginho made sure of the win when he converted two penalties in the space of five minutes late in the game. Chelsea coach Frank Lampard will be as happy with his



BEN CHILWELL

team's first clean sheet of the season as the four goals they scored. Lampard made six changes to the team that salvaged a 3-3 draw after being 0-3 behind at West Bromwich Albion last weekend, four of them at the back as he gave league debuts to left back Chilwell and goalkeeper Edouard Mendy.

Chilwell, who signed from Leicester City in August, had a debut to remember, showing his pace down the wings and firing (crosses into the Palace box all afternoon.

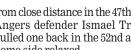
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Author, model and social worker Kalpasa Ankita Shaw loves to visit eldercare centres Sunday and spend time with the senior citizens.





Fitness enthusiast

I never skip my Yoga session on holidays which is essential for my mental wellbeing. This apart, I take to dancing to maintain my fitness.

Day of giving back

I am pretty satisfied with my life and have no complaint whatsoever. Therefore, on Sundays, I offer food and medicines to people who struggle to meet ends.

Seeking inner peace

I get mental peace by visiting old age homes and spending quality time with elderly people.



Mommie dearest

I am a diehard fan of my mom. I love some delicacies cooked by her and enjoy select movies too with my little sister. Spending time with my cute niece who lives in the USA through video call is a must for me on Sundays.

Cousin bonding

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

MIXED BAG

ENGAGING STUFF

Sir, I found the last edition of Sunday supplement interesting. The cover story Offbeat Destination is an informative piece. I got to learn about Baneswar and Harihareswar temples. I was unaware of these shrines. Thanks to Sunday POST, I learned about these sites. Giving facelift to these unknown temples is the need of the hour. I liked reading My Sunday segment too because Antara Chakraborty is my favourite singer. She has a soothing voice. Her voice works as an antidote when I get depressed. Literature segment was also interesting. Tinseltown page looked attractive. I expect Sunday POST to continue its good work in future as well.

SITAKANTA PALAI, BHADRAK

EXCHANGE OF IDEAS

Sir, I was delighted to read the story 'Expanding literary Horizons' published for the International Translation Day. The story highlights the importance of translation through which a writer can reach out to various sections of people speaking and writing in a different language from the former. With the world becoming a global village, translation makes it easier for people to connect with their counterparts living in various parts of the world. It gives the pleasure of reading to people various books which is alien to their culture and philosophy. It is an exchange of ideas between two regions for which the translator should take care while translating text from one language to another as little mistake in understanding its essence might mar his/her effort. It should not be verbatim but a synopsis of the original writing.

SARITA MOHANTY, SECTOR-6, CDA, CUTTACK



A WORD FOR READERS

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

Phone (0674) 2549982, 2549948

♣→ COVER

Voices for the **voice ess**

Lack of awareness and stricter punishment are of the few reasons behind growing cases of animal cruelty in India, says well-known animal rights activist Purabi Patra.

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

oung Sneha Aryan (name changed), a creative writer working with a Bhubaneswar-based publishing house, one day spotted an injured pigeon writhing in pain while she was having lunch on her office terrace. Though new to the city, she managed to rush the distressed animal to an animal care centre taking help of an office boy. Fortunately, the attending doctor was an ardent animal lover who took all care for the bird's recovery. Though many of Sneha's colleagues were present on the terrace, most of them thought taking strain of treating a bird is wastage of time. It is not only Sneha's friends, many among us think the same way undermining the fact that every animal on the earth has right like humans to live

with dignity and they too deserve the care like we do.

In order to raise status of animals and their welfare standards across the globe, World Animal Day is observed October 4 every year. OCTOBER 4 The day also meant for celebrating

the human-animal bonding. But in this dogeat-dog world, how many people really care for the well-being of these voiceless creatures. Moreover, cruelty against the animals in the society is growing by the day. Here is what a few advocates for animals have to say on why animals, especially strays, are being ill-treated in our country.

Purabi Patra, founder

and chairperson of Animal Welfare Trust, Ekamra, attributes lack of awareness and lack of stricter punishment are the reasons behind growing number of animal cruelty cases. Besides, she feels that people don't have compassion towards animals

these days. The seed of kindness and compassion towards animals should be sown in kids right from the childhood so that they can develop respect and love for animals

Recalling a few anecdotes, she says, "Recently,

a

pregnant dog was beaten mercilessly by two women at Samantrarapur area in Bhubaneswar. On being informed, we rescued her in dying condition. Naming the dog April, we started an online campaign to get justice

for April. April delivered two puppies following a surgery but succumbed to the injuries. The newborns also did not survive due to premature birth. Justice for April soon became a movement across social media platforms after her death. We also lodged a police complaint demanding exemplary punishment against the offenders. However, police served notices on the accused but took no action against them. Lack of punishment encourages many to commit such crimes and get away with them.

Citing one more instance of cruelty, Purabi continues: "In another incident, a 68-year-old man was arrested and remanded in judicial custody for his alleged sexual assault on a stray dog at Patia, Bhubaneswar. The accused, a security guard, was booked under relevant sections of IPC. After the animal's medical examination was conducted at Saheed Nagar Veterinary Hospital, it was handed over to me. However, the accused is roaming scotfree.

Purabi feels that stricter amendment of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960 is the need of the hour. "In most cases of animal cruelty, the accused get bail as cases are often registered under Sections 428 and 429 of IPC. For these sections, the maximum sentence period is less than seven years. Besides, most sections of PCA Act treat several offences as non-cognizable and bailable. This makes easier for the accused to escape imprisonment ther by securing bail or paying penalty, often as little as ₹50. The state government has to come up with stringent laws for crime against animals."

"In India, it is common sight to see people pelting stones at stray animals for the sake of fun. Besides, people also engage bulls and hens in fights for entertainment. In villages, people also organise cart races where bullocks are treated as playful objects. As if this was not enough, animals are sacrificed at many shines flouting laws. Gone are those days when animals were not only considered part of our habitation but also worshiped", says Sanjib Das, secretary of People for Animal.

Sanjib, who recently helped Athagarh forest officials bust a pangolin smuggling racket, says "Animals are important components of the ecosystem. Their role as consumers



helps maintain the cycle of energy in the environment. We don't take stray dogs seriously although their role in ecosystem cannot be ignored. Be it stray dogs or wild animals, we need to conserve all animal species. So, government should ini-

tiate action against those who torture the animals.²



WORLD

ANIMAL

DAY

Bichitrananda Biswal popularly known as Bichi Bhai has dedicated his life for wildlife conservation. A farmer by profession, he is the founding member of Sea Turtle Action Programme (STAP). He has been monitoring the long term Olive Ridley Conservation Programme of Action for Protection



of Wild Animals (APOWA) in Puri and Jagatsinghpur in association with Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Odisha. Hailing from Astaranga, he has also undertaken community-led conservation programmes to protect wildlife, sparrow and biodiversity. He is also a part of the Mangrove

Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration programme at Astaranga. In the last 26 years, he has saved more than 1100 venomous snakes, 200 Dolphins and 100 sparrows. He has been working tirelessly to safeguard all kinds of wild animals and mammals from poaching.

He maintains that cruelty against animals is a cognizable offence under Sections 428 and 429 of IPC. There is an urgent need to implement

effectively the laws made for the protection of animals. When it comes to conservation of Olive Ridley, officials of forest, fishery and Indian Coast Guards have to work together to save turtles from clutches of poachers. Lack of coordination between these three departments leads to large scale poaching of Olive Ridlev. Rajesh Prusty is

one of the most sought



after names in Bhubaneswar when it comes to animal rescue work, cows and bulls in particular. He says "Law against animal cruelty is not implemented properly which is why the mute creatures are subjected to ill-treatment and torture. Besides, enough awareness is not created on the issue. Moreover, incidences

of human-animal conflict are highlighted in the media. But animals are abused across the globe in laboratories, farms and pet shops for human good."

Akash Ranjan Rath, former honorary wildlife warden of Puri, says, "Human beings are selfish. They use animals for their own interest. Ironically, we all like animals, be it wild or domesticated, and take pleasure watching them on television screen but hardly do anything worth-



while to ensure their dignity. If everyone starts to look at animals with love and compassion, we will see far fewer cases of cruelty towards animals. There are rules and laws in place against the ill-treatment of animals, but are rarely followed. We all need to develop an emotional bonding towards animals and try to instill the feeling of love and respect for animals as they are an important part of our ecosystem."

CELEBRATING WITH STRAYS

Marriage certainly is one of life's most significant events and couples leave no stone unturned to make the occasion special. But here is a couple who made it truly memorable by spending time with stray and rescued animals in a Bhubaneswarbased animal shelter home.

Eureka Apta and Joanna Wang, both residents of Bhubaneswar, went for a simple temple wedding so that they can spend little more for the wellbeing of stray animals. They donated food and other daily essentials to an animal shelter centre in the city and also spent time with the animals to celebrate their marriage.

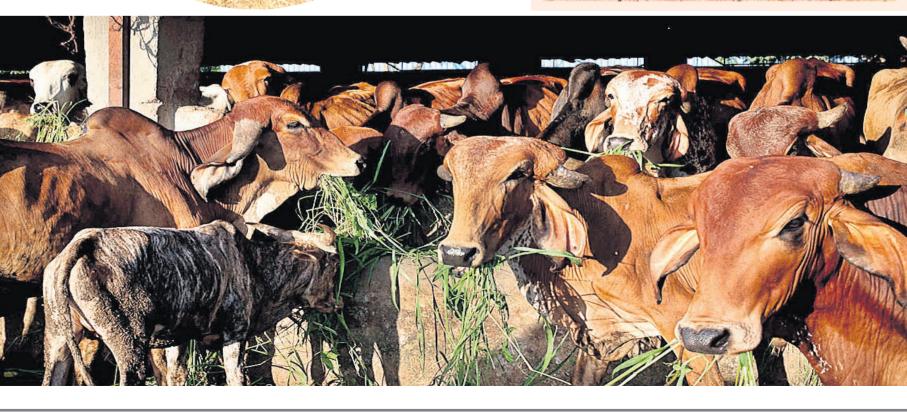
Apta is a filmmaker who had worked with Odisha Tourism and NFDC while Wang is a dentist. "We always had this plan. We wanted to do something for these voiceless animals instead of going for a lavish celebration," said the duo.

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

COVER



Eureka and Joanna spending time with stray dogs



SUNDAY POST OCTOBER 4 - 10, 2020

Hand care during corona times

ith number of Covid +ve cases on the rise, one of the easiest but most important ways to protect you and your loved ones is to wash hands frequently.

Proper handwashing which takes at least 20 seconds not only reduces the spread of coronavirus but can also prevent the spread of viral illnesses such as cold and flu and other infections.

As we diligently wash hands more frequently than usual to slow the spread of the virus ,unfortunately, the practice often removes the natural, protective oils from our skin, exacerbates dry skin issues, causes dry, cracked and raw skin. It can also lead to conditions like eczema.

Besides, this can cause open wounds in your skin that can allow in bacteria and other germs and increase your risk for infection through the

fissures.

Here's everything you need to know about how to wash your hands and take their proper care.

Actually, the skin on the back of the hands is thin and lacks oil glands. That is why the hands are prone to wrinkles and lines. The nails also become dry and brittle, breaking or chipping easily. So along with protecting ourselves from the new disease, we also need to protect our hands. The outermost

layer of our skin is

composed of oils and wax, and it acts as both a shield from the outside and a guard that maintains natural moisture in the skin. This natural barrier is broken down by the suds created by soap while washing hands.

Bath time is appropriate for pampering the hands and supplying them with the oil and moisturising they need. Before your bath, apply warmed oil on the hands and massage it into the skin. This helps to soften the skin. You can use coconut oil, which is very nourishing. Or, use pure almond oil. Immediately, after your bath, apply a moisturising lotion or cream, while the skin is still damp. This helps to seal in moisture. Twice a week, have a pre-bath treatment by mixing ground almonds

hands.

working it into the skin.

You can also try some home reme-

dies to keep the skin soft and smooth.

Among many kinds of moisturisers, hand

creams are better than body lotion because

they are more nourishing. Lotions, which

are primarily water-based, can further dry

with curd and a pinch of turmeric. Apply on hands. After 15 minutes, rub the paste gently on the skin and wash it off with water. At night, massage cream on vour

> skin because the water evap-

out

orates. Creams, which are often oil-based, are more effective after washing hands.

Alternatively, you can take four teaspoon almond oil and mix one tablespoon rose water. Add half-teaspoon tincture benzoin, drop by drop. Mix together. Apply this on your hands. Put hands inside loose cotton socks and leave on the preparation all night. Rinse off with plain water next morning.

Use hand ointment or cream instead of a lotion as these are more effective. Vaseline is still the most effective moisturizer used by many.

Lemon juice and sugar rubbed together with the hands helps to soften the skin. Take two tablespoons sunflower oil, 2 tablespoons lemon juice and 3 tablespoon coarse sugar. Mix together till it becomes a paste. Apply and rub into hands. Wash off after 15 minutes. Repeat the process three times a week.

Take fresh orange peels, pierce them with

a fork. Rub the peels on the hands to brighten them. Choker (wheat bran) and besan (gram flour) can be mixed with turmeric and milk into a paste and applied on the hands. Wash off after 20 minutes. This softens, cleanses and

tightens the skin. Mix al-

mond oil and honey in equal parts and massage into the nails and cuticles. For dry nails, warm any vegetable oil and soak fingers in it for ten minutes. Wipe off with a moist towel.

A few almonds eaten daily make the nails strong. Include whole grains, yogurt, leafy green veg-

etables, sprouts and fruits in your diet. If your skin is sensitive to harsh chemicals then you should handle cleaning supplies while wearing gloves.

One-teaspoon Brewer's yeast added to one glass of fresh fruit juice also keeps the nails and skin in good condition.

Apply thick moisturiser and then cover with cotton gloves to increase absorption before going to bed at night. Consider a humidifier at night-raising the humidity level in a room to help dry skin.

Germs spread more easily from wet skin than from dry skin, so drying your hands completely is an important step. Paper towels or clean clothes are the most effective way to remove germs without spreading them to other surfaces.



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

Hornsby to star in *Lost in Space* Season 3

ctor Russell Hornsby has boarded the cast of the third and final season of Netflix sci-fi series *Lost in Space*.

The actor is best known for starring in shows such as Lincoln Heights, In Treatment, Grimm and the Academy Award-nominated movie Fences.

According to *Deadline*, the details of Hornsby's character have been kept under wraps.

The show was renewed for the final season in March this year.

Lost in Space is a re-imagining of the classic science fiction series of the same name in the 1960s.

It is set 30 years in the future, where colonisation in space is now a reality, and the Robinson family is among those tested and selected

to make a new life for themselves in a better world. The Netflix Original stars Toby Stephens, Molly Parker, Jenkins, Mina Sundwall, Taylor Russell, Ignacio Serricchio and Parker Posey. PT

Shahid to turn producer soon

Though the glorification of toxic masculinity in *Kabir* Singh (2019) had raised many eyebrows, there's no denying that Shahid Kapoor dominated the box-office with the runaway hit. A year on,

> having sealed his place as a bankable star, it is heard that the actor is set to take a leap of faith and turn producer.

Over the past few months, Kapoor has apparently been in talks with a leading OTT giant for a multi-project deal. "He is expected to headline three offerings, thus foraying into digital entertainment. Shahid, who has been considering turning producer for a while, is keen to bankroll one of the projects with the OTT platform. He has begun the groundwork to set up his studio," reveals a source.

AGENCIES

Kangana resumes wo after seven month

TINSELTOWN

ctress Kangana Ranaut recently travelled down South to finish pending work of her film, *Thalaivi*.

"Dear friends today is a very special day, resuming work after 7 months, travelling to southern India for my most ambitious bilingual project *THALAIVI*, need your blessings in these testing times of a pandemic," she tweeted.

Along with her tweet, Kangana posted a few morning selfies for her fans.

"P.S just clicked these morning selfies hope you all like them," she added.

Kangana was spending time with her family in Manali ever since lockdown happened. She was in Mumbai for a few days in between, when

Brihanmumbai Municipal

Corporation (BMC) initiated a demolition drive at her office in the city claiming illegal construction. *Thalaini* is the biopic of late Tamil chief minister J Jayalalithaa, directed by AL Vijay.

Vaani happy to see industry bouncing back

Even as the government Wednesday evening announced its decision to open cinema theatres in a phased manner, several film units have already started shooting amid the new normal.

Among units that are filming overseas is the Akshay Kumar-starrer *Bell Bottom*. The cast and crew have been shooting in Glasgow, Scotland. Actress Vaani Kapoor, who is paired opposite superstar Akshay in the film, says she is happy to see the industry bouncing back.

> "Shooting for *Bell Bottom* has

been fun and a good experience. Despite the ongoing challenges amid the ongoing pandemic, the team managed to have a really smooth and safe shooting experience while filming with a large crew, for which they deserve all the credit," said Vaani.

"We were made to feel safe on the sets because of their commitment to safety and hygiene," she added.

safety and hygiene," she added. Vaani is also gearing up to start shooting for Abhishek Kapoor's untitled romantic drama opposite

Ayushmann Khurrana.

Scrumptious biryanis

Mutton biryani

INGREDIENTS

- For garam masala:
- Cinnamon stick: 1
- Cloves: 8-10
- Cumin seeds: 2-3 tsp
- Fennel seeds: 1 tsp
- Coriander seeds: 2-3 tsp
- Pepper corns: 1 tsp
- Star anise: 2
- Mace
- Brown cardamom: 2-3
- Green cardamom: 3-4

For cooking:

- Salt: 2-3 tsp
- Basmati rice: 2 cups
- Ghee: 3 tsp
- Oil: 2-3 tbsp
- Milk: 2-3 cups
- Saffron

For mutton marination:

- Mutton: 1/2 kg
- Ginger-garlic paste: 2-3 tsp
- Turmeric: 1 tsp
- Chilli powder: 1 tsp
- Cashew nut paste
- A pinch of garam masala
- Curd: 4-5 tsp

PROCEDURE

Dry roast all the spices. Once they are roasted, transfer them to a masala grinder and grind them finely. Now marinate mutton. To half kg mutton, add ginger-garlic paste, turmeric and chilli powder. Then add cashew nut paste, garam masala, curd and whisk it. Cover it with the lid and put it in the refrigerator for an hour. Let the meat come to room temperature. Season the meat with salt. Soak basmati rice in water for about 30 minutes. Grease the handi with some ghee and oil. Transfer the marinated meat from the bowl to the handi. Now stir and cook the meat for a few minutes. Cover with the lid and simmer it for another half an hour. Now layer the mutton with cooked rice and pour a little saffron induced milk over it. Add a little salt, garam masala, roasted onions and ghee over it. Cover the handi with the lid and weight it down with something heavy. Keep the flame low. Cook for about half an hour. Serve it hot.



Prawn Biriyani

INGREDIENTS

- For biryani masala:
- Carom seeds: 1 tsp
- Fennel seeds: 1 tsp
- Cardamom pods: 5
- Clove: 5
- Cinnamon Stick: 4

For biriyani:

- Sunflower Oil: as required
- Onions, finely sliced: 2
- Bay leaves: 2
- Cinnamon Stick: 1
- Cloves: 1
- Cardamom: 4
- Star anise: 1
- Basmati rice: 2 cups
- Prawns (cleaned and deveined): 1-1/2 cups
- Red chilli powder: 2 tsp
- Turmeric powder: 1/4 tsp
- Lemon juice: ½ tsp
- Curd: 1/2 cup
- Mint leaves: 1/2 cup
- Salt according to taste

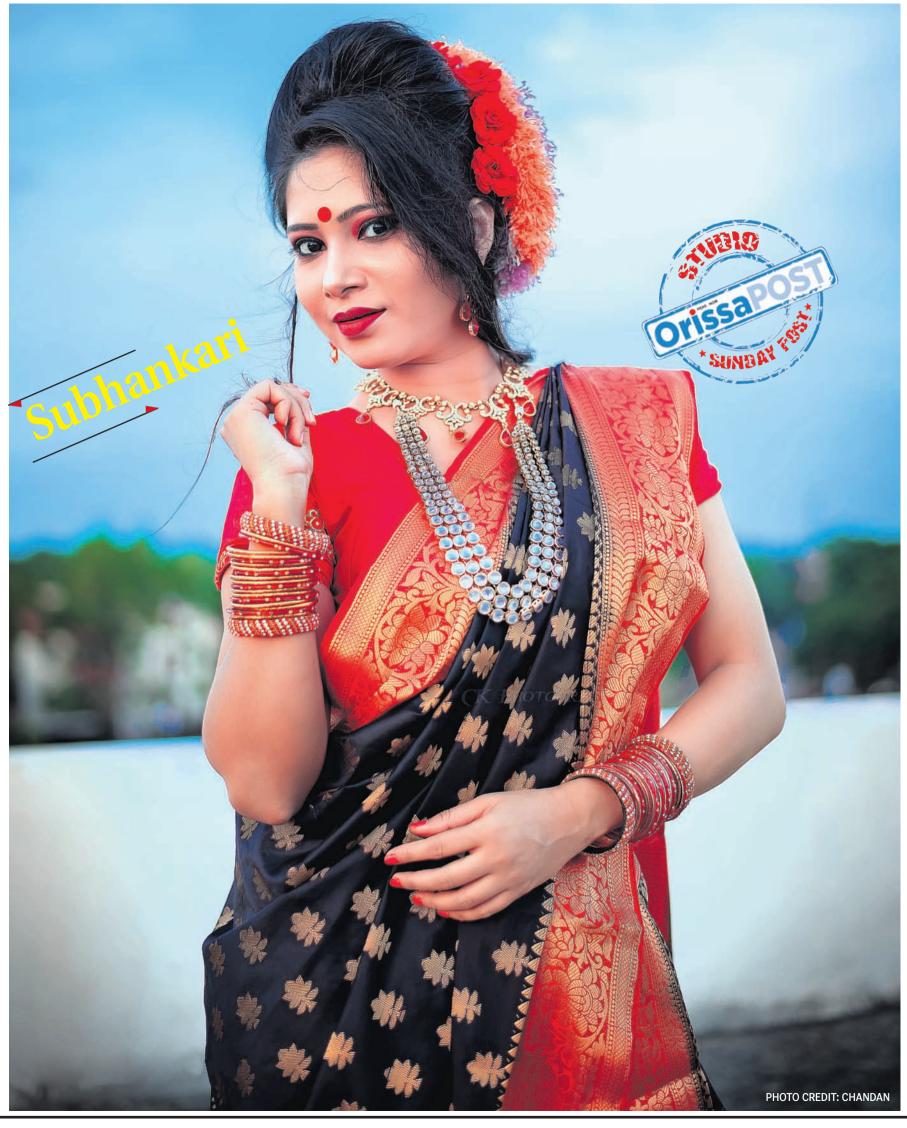
PROCEDURE

roast the ingredients like the ajwain seeds, fennel seeds, cinnamon, cardamom and cloves and grind them into a fine powder. Add oil in a wok/kadhai and saute the onions on medium heat till the onions are brownish and crispy. Soak basmati rice in water for about 30 minutes. In a mixing bowl, add cleaned and de-veined prawns, turmeric powder, 1 tablespoon of biryani masala, red chilli powder, half lemon juice, 1/2 teaspoon of salt, 1/2 cup of chopped mint leaves, 1/2 of the fried onions and curd. Combine everything well with the prawns and set aside for about an hour. In a medium sized saucepan, add 5 cups of water, 1 tablespoon of biryani masala, cloves, cinnamon, bay leaves, 1/4 cup of mint leaves, 1 tablespoon of oil and remaining salt. Boil water over high flame. To the boiling water, add the soaked rice and cook on high flame for about 4 to 5 minutes. Do not overcook the rice. Overcooking rice may make them mushy and rice might break. Drain the water from the rice immediately and set aside. Meanwhile, in another medium wide saucepan, spread the remaining half tablespoon of oil on the bottom of the pan. Spread the marinated prawns at the bottom layer of the pan. Add half of the remaining fried onions and spread them evenly above the prawns. Sprinkle the mint leaves evenly. Layer the rice over the prawn masalas and spread them evenly. Garnish with the leftover fried onions. Dissolve a pinch of saffron in hot water and pour them on top of the layered rice. Cover the pot with the lid and cook the layered rice on high flame for about 10 minutes. Do not open the lid while cooking. Reduce the flame and cook the biryani for about 20 minutes. Turn off the heat and remove the lid after 15 minutes of resting time. Combine the biryani well in such a way that the masalas and rice is well combined. Do not stir hard as rice might break. Garnish with cilantro and it is ready to be served.

To begin making the Prawns Birvani recipe, firstly dry

FOOD





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