HERE.NOW

AIMING HIGH

Actor Sharvari Wagh says she would love to explore her musical side along with acting LEISURE

/OLUME 10, ISSUE 215 | www.orissapost.com

CBI DETAINS KULKARNI

The CBI detains Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni for questioning in connection with murder of BJP ZP member in 2016 TWO STATES

NEW COVID SYMPTOM

Delirium or mental confusion accompanied by fever could be an early symptom of Covid-19 INTERNATIONAL P10

BHUBANESWAR | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 | 2020

12 PAGES | ₹4.00

BIDEN'S BLUES AHEAD

THE DEMOCRAT IS INCHING TO 270 ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES, AS TRUMP THREATENS TO FIGHT THE OUTCOME IN THE COURTS

AGENCIES

Washington, Nov 5: Democrat Joe Biden edged closer to victory in the U.S. presidential race on Thursday as election officials tallied votes in the handful of states that will determine the outcome and protesters took to the streets.

President Donald Trump alleged fraud without providing evidence, filed lawsuits and called for recounts in a race yet to be decided two days after polls closed. He tweeted this evening, "STOP THE COUNT!

The race was coming down to close contests in five states. Biden held narrow leads in Nevada and Arizona while Trump was watching his slim advantage fade in must-win states Pennsylvania and Georgia as mail-in and absentee votes were being counted. The Republican President clung to a narrow lead in North Carolina as well, another must-win for him.

Trump had to win the states where he was still ahead plus either Arizona or Nevada to triumph and avoid becoming the first incumbent US President to lose a re-election bid since fellow Republican George HW Bush in 1992. Edison Research gave Biden a 243 to 213 lead in Electoral College votes, which are largely based on a state's population. Other networks said Biden had won Wisconsin, which would give him another 10 votes. To win, a candidate needs 270 votes.

The counting and court challenges set the stage for days if not weeks of uncertainty before the Electoral College meets December 14 and the next president is sworn in January 20.

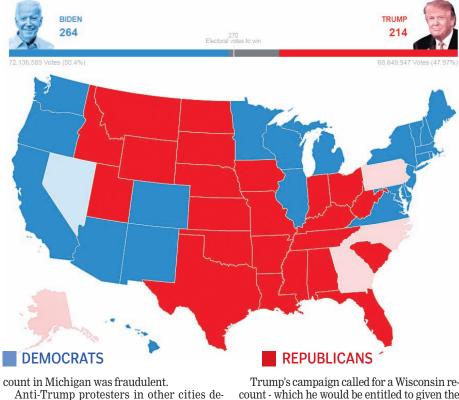
RAZOR-THIN MAJORITY

With tensions rising, about 200 of Trump's supporters, some armed with rifles and handguns, gathered outside an election office in Phoenix, Arizona, on Wednesday following unsubstantiated rumors that votes were not being counted.

In Detroit, officials blocked about 30 people, mostly Republicans, from entering a vote-counting facility amid unfounded claims that the vote







count - which he would be entitled to given the manded that vote counting continue. Police arslim margin there - as well filing lawsuits in Michigan and Pennsylvania to stop vote countrested 11 people and seized weapons in Portland, Oregon after reports of rioting, while arrests were ing. Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, also made in New York, Denver and Minneapolis. in charge of elections, called the Trump team's Over 100 events are planned across the country lawsuit "frivolous.

Trump's campaign filed a lawsuit in Georgia arriving ballots to ensure they are not counted.

Trump to join a pending lawsuit filed by Pennsylvania Republicans over whether the battleground state should be permitted to accept late-arriving ballots. The maneuvers amounted to a broad effort to contest the results before counting has concluded. "They are finding Biden votes all over the place - in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan. So bad for our Country!' Trump posted on Twitter.

US TOP COURT MAY NOT HAVE FINAL SAY

WASHINGTON: While President Donald Trump has promised to ask the US Supreme Court to weigh in on a presidential race that is still too close to call, the nation's top judicial body may not be the final arbiter in this election, legal experts said. Election law experts said it is doubtful that courts would entertain a bid by Trump to stop the counting of ballots that were received before or on Election Day, or that any dispute a court might handle would change the trajectory of the race in closely fought states like Michigan and Pennsylvania. As of Thursday, the election still hung in the balance. A handful of closely contested states could decide the outcome in the coming hours or days, as a large number of mail-in ballots cast amid the coronavirus pandemic appears to have drawn out the process. However, legal experts said that while there could be objections to particular ballots or voting and counting procedures, it was unclear if such disputes would determine the final outcome.

BIDEN CREATES HISTORY, GETS HIGHEST VOTES

NEW YORK: Democratic nominee Joe Biden has won more votes than any other presidential candidate in the US history, shattering a record set by former President Barack Obama. according to a media report. As of November 4, Biden had got over 70.7 million votes, more than anyone who has ever run for president, the National Public Radio (NPR) reported. This count includes 300.000 more votes than what Obama got in 2008, which was the previous record. Biden surpassed the popular vote record of 69,498,516 set by Obama in 2008. Biden, in a tight electoral vote fight to the White House against incumbent President Donald Trump, is 2.7 million votes ahead of the Republican leader in the popular vote. His lead is growing as counting picks pace in key battleground states. NPR said millions of votes are still being tabulated across the country, including in California, which has reported 64 per cent of the votes counted. Trump was also nearing Obama's record with 67.32 million votes



UGC guidelines for reopening colleges

For central varsities and other higher education institutions, the decision has been left to the VCs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 5: The University Commission Thursday notified guidelines for reopening of universities and colleges across the country which have been closed since March in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

For central universities and other centrally funded higher education institutions, the decision for reopening of campuses has been left to the vice-chancellors and heads. However, for state universities and colleges, the respective state governments will have to take a call, the guidelines said.

"For centrally funded higher education institutions, the head should satisfy herself or himself regarding the feasibility of opening of physical classes and decide accordingly," the guidelines said.

"For all other institutions including state universities. private universities, and colleges, opening of physical classes to be done as per the decision of the respec-

Grants (UGC) UGC University Grants Commission tive state governments,' they said.

The universities and colleges have been asked to plan the opening of campuses in a phased manner, with such activities that adhere to Covid-19 norms including social distancing, use of face masks and other protective measures.

"The universities and colleges shall only be allowed to open if they are outside the containment zones. Further, students and staff living in containment zones will not be allowed to attend the colleges," the guidelines said. "Students and staff shall also be advised not to visit areas falling within containment zones. The faculty, staff and students of the university and college should be encouraged to_ download 'Aarogya Setu App'," they said.

to require that Chatham County, which includes By early Thursday, Biden had 3.6 million more votes than Trump nationwide, but margins were the city of Savannah, separate and secure laterazor-thin in several states. In Wisconsin, Biden led Trump by roughly 21,000 votes out of 3.3 It also asked the US Supreme Court to allow million cast. In Georgia, Trump led by 19,000 votes Trump, 74, has long sought to undermine the credibility of the voting process if he lost. Since Tuesday's Election Day, he has falsely declared victory, accused Democrats of trying to steal the election without evidence and vowed to fight

IRREGULAR by MANJUL 5 major investment proposals get nod



Before making America great again, they should at least learn how to count votes!

KORAPUT MAN BOOKED FOR POLYGAMY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeypore, Nov 5: A woman from Koraput district Thursday lodged an FIR with the Jeypore Town police seeking action against her husband, alleging that he has married over 20 women.

In her complaint, the woman further alleged that her husband lied about his relationships with other women. She said that as her husband believes in polygamy, he married many women before their marriage as well as after their marriage. The woman has also daughter from the man. Her daughter also complained before the media that her father is also the mastermind behind a fake currency racket in the district and a cheater.

"When I brought this issue up with my mother-in-law, she said her son can have any number of affairs as he was a patriarch," rued the victim woman. She also alleged that her husband has illegal affairs with some other girls in Jeypore. The man whose marriages are now the talk of the town has been identified as Prabhat Chetti.

This is the largest-ever investment approved by the state since implementation of IPR-2015

POST NEWS NETWORK

rare.

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: The state government Thursday approved five mega industrial proposals worth ₹92.713 crore. This is the single largest investment approval during the current Industrial Policies Resolution (IPR-2015) period. The High Level Clearance Authority (HLCA) headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik approved the projects involving manufacture of pellets, iron, steel, stainless steel, rolled products and cement utilising waste products like slag and fly ash from other industries.

between Wednesday and Saturday.

states in court. US election experts say fraud is

out of nearly 5 million cast.

The Chief Minister directed the Chief Secretary Asit Tripathy to review the progress of these projects and apprise

him of the progress on regular basis. Expressing happiness over the flow of investment proposals to the state, he said the industrial economy of Odisha has revived quickly. The state has approved investments worth ₹1.17 lakh crore since February 2020 having the potential to employ 53,000 persons, he pointed out.

The government has approved the proposal of Jindal Steel and Power Limited (JSPL) to expand its integrated steel plant in Angul from 6 MTPA to 18.6 MTPA along with setting up 36 MTPA slurry pipeline and a 12.5 MTPA cement

plant. The JSPL is estimated to invest ₹76,018 crore for these projects, which have the potential to create employment opportunities for 24,350 persons.

The expansion project of Jindal Stainless Limited's stainless steel plant has also been approved by the HLCA. The company will invest ₹6,840 crore in Kalinganagar (Jajpur) and create employment opportunities for 2,236 persons.

The Essar Minmet Limited's 14 MTPA Beneficiation, an equal capacity of pellet plant and slurry pipeline projects have also approved by the government. The company has committed to invest ₹6,650 crore in Keonjhar and Paradip and create employment opportunities for 1,468 persons.

Expansion projects of Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India Limited and Shyam Metalics & Energy Limited were approved during the meeting.

Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN could be launched in February

REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 5: An Indian government-backed Covid-19 vaccine could be launched as early as February - months earlier than expected - as last-stage trials begin this month and studies have so far showed it is safe and effective, a senior government scientist told Reuters.

Bharat Biotech, a private company that is developing COVAXIN with the government-run Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), had earlier hoped to launch it only in the second quarter of next vear.

"The vaccine has shown good efficacy," senior ICMR scientist Rajni Kant, who is also a member of its Covid-19 taskforce, said at the research body's New Delhi headquarters Thursday.

"It is expected that by the beginning of next year, February or March, something would be available.

Bharat Biotech could not immediately be contacted.

Z	Z	Z
BHATAT	BHATAT	BRATAT
8	8	8

A launch in February would make CO-VAXIN the first India-made vaccine to be rolled out.

India's cases of coronavirus infections rose by 50,201 cases Thursday to 8.36 million, second only to the United States. Deaths rose by 704, with the total now at 124,315. The daily rise in infections and deaths has slowed since a peak in mid-September.

Kant, who is the head of ICMR's research management, policy, planning and coordination cell, said it was up to the Health Ministry to decide if COVAXIN

shots can be given to people even before the third-stage trials are over.

"It has shown safety and efficacy in the Phase I and II trials and in the animal studies - so it is safe but you can't be 100% sure unless the Phase III trials are over," Kant said.

"There may be some risk, if you are ready to take the risk, you can take the vaccine. If necessary, the government can think of giving the vaccine in an emergency situation.

Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said in September the government was considering granting an emergency authorisation for a Covid-19 vaccine, particularly for the elderly and people in high-risk workplaces.

Several leading vaccine candidates are already in final-stage testing. An experimental vaccine developed by Britain's AstraZeneca is among the most advanced ones, and Britain expects to roll it out in late December or early 2021.



The beauty of oneness

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& on diamond jewellery value

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PEDRO PASCAL RELIVES CHILDHOOD IN THE MANDALORIAN SERIES

Actor Pedro Pascal says he re-lived his childhood while essaying his character in popular series, The Mandalorian. Pascal plays the titular bounty hunter, along with Gina Carano as Cara Dune, and Carl Weathers as the shifty Greef Carga.

LASHANA CONFIRMS HER CHARACTER WILL REPLACE 'JAMES BOND'

There have been a lot of speculations about the role of Lashana Lynch in the Bond franchise, and now the actress has confirmed that her character is set to be the next protagonist of the film series and take the story forward.



FORTUNE FORECAST



ARIES You will be in a tight fix as the day starts. However, that's exactly the kind of situation in

which your skills are tested. In the evening you will draw a lot of praise for your excellent performance. If Ganesha chooses to shower his blessings on you, you will sign new deals.

TAURUS

Money matters are likely to take up most of your time, this day. Ganesha sees that you will have quite a time handling the difficulties and complexities they pose. You may not find an easy way out of your financial problems and will find it hard to take firm decisions.

GEMINI

You are likely to be in a romantic mood today. You may just end up falling in love today. A difficult situation will bring out the competitive streak in you and spu you on to physical and mental excellence Your capacity and intelligence will be testified to by your work, says Ganesha

You will focus on financial matters and plan accordingly. Compared to expenses, you will save more. A beneficial day for cashiers, money lenders and petty traders. Ganesha counsels hard work to achieve success

LEO

You will be unable to express the feelings that rise up inside you in spite of wanting to.

lowever, keep them close to your heart. You will be very serious about your work today. There is a possibility of some delay in your schedule today due to unforeseen problems, says Ganesha

VIRGO

Ganesha says don't let setbacks cow you down today as you will emerge stronger from each one of them. It will be your logic and reasoning abilities that will aid you in gaining the perfection in completing your work. You may look forward to spending the evening with your beloved or a special friend.



Sharvari wants to explore her musical side

Mumbai: Sharvari Wagh is all set to make her big Hindi film debut in Bunty Aur Babli 2, but she admits that along with revealing her acting skills, she would also love to explore her musical side.

"Ever since I was child, I was influenced by music. I used to love listening to music. I used to sit in my room and play the old cassettes. So, I always used to have some kind of music with me wherever I went to. Even if I was sitting idle, I used to listen to music," Sharvari

"When I was 10, my mom enrolled me in a keyboard class and I haven't stopped learning the keyboard till today!" she

said. plore



of show biz.

films and I ab

IANS

both these things can come together and it should be an absolute dream project,"

said.



cal side seri ously, now

that she is in the world

> "I love acting, I love performing in solutely love playing the keyboard. So,

she pointed out.

Sanya strikes cool pose in hot pink

edy anthology star-

ring Abhishek A

Tripathi, Asha

Negi, Shalini

Vats

and

Inavat

Verma

and is

Bachchan, Aditya Roy

Kapur, Rajkummar

Mumbai: Actress Sanya Malhotra looks stunning in a bubble gum pink cut-out pant suit in her latest social media post. The Dangal actress shared a string of pictures on Instagram sporting the bright pink number. She leaves her hair open and applies minimal make-up for maximum impact.

For the caption, she just dropped pink heart emojis.

scheduled to release on Netflix November 12 She was last seen in the Vidya Balan-starrer Sanva will soon be seen in Anurag Basu's Ludo. The film is a dark com-

When Raveena got jittery during a shoot

was a perfect number. Everytime I think of it, it brings a smile to my face," she said.

Apart from Aamir, Salman and Raveena, the film also featured Karisma Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Shakti Kapoor, Jagdeep, Deven Verma, Viju Khote, and hehzad Khan.

The Rajkumar Santoshi-directorial, which is today considered as one of the cult films, had failed to create its

magic at

box of-

IANS

fice.

Mumbai: Raveena Tandon has recalled a nervous moment while shooting for the Aamir Khan-Salman Khan starrer, Andaz Apna Apna, which had released 26 years

"As the film completes 26 years today, I can't help but remember how much I loved shooting for the song Elo ji sanam hum. Aamir and I were shooting on a horse car riage and while we were a little scared, it was really fun. Beautiful lo cales topped all the fun we had while shooting, and this song

It should be noted that COVID and multiplexes are permitted to 19 pandemic has hit the museum and open with up to 50 per cent of their art sector across the world, and seating capacity, in areas outside said that as museums and art galthe containment zones only, from leries slowly resume their operations October 15. Entertainment parks and re-open their premises, it is and similar places and businessto-business (B2B) exhibitions have imperative that comprehensive guidelines are laid down to prealso been permitted to open with

vent transmission of COVID-19 and effect from October 15. ensure safety of visitors and staff. With a ceiling of 100 persons and other guidelines, social, academic, In an issued statement, the Ministry hoped the reopening dursports, entertainment, cultural, reing the festive season would allow ligious, political functions and other congregations have already been permitted outside containment zones. AGENCIES



have been closed since March 17. Other similar institutions can be reopened as per convenience and in tune with relevant state, city or local laws, rules and regulations/Unlock guidelines in force, said the Ministry in a statement. These guidelines contain SOPs

to be followed by the management of museums, art galleries and exhibitions (both temporary and permanent), as well as the visitors to these spaces, the Ministry said.

"Comprehensive guidelines have been issued for adequate cleaning, purchase of tickets and for ensurng safety of visitors and staff at mu

seums, exhibitions and art gal-

leries." The ministry has also

clarified that no museums ther orders," said the Ministry.



and/or art galleries shall re-open inside containment zones, and State/UT governments may consider proposing additional measures as per their field assessment.

"The National Directives for COVID-19 Management and the relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. State/UT Governments, etc. shall be strictly complied with during all activities and operations. These guidelines shall

come into effect immediately, and

shall continue to be in effect until fur-

Museums, art galleries to reopen from Nov 10 Comprehensive guidelines have been issued for adequate cleaning, purchase of tickets and for ensuring safety of visitors and staff at museums, exhibitions and art galleries, said a Culture Ministry official

"Shakuntala Devi". which opened digitally a few months ago amid lockdown.

Rao, Sanya Malhotra, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Rohit Saraf, Pearle Maaney, Pankaj

ain mental peace it is advised you per form voga or meditation. There will be pressure put on you regarding certain matters at the work-front.

SCORPIO

A series of events at work front may keep you busy throughout the day. You may be unable to manage the clutter and confusion created by too many things at the same time. However, you emerge a fighter because of your power of resilience. Ganesha advises to go slow, yet steady; take one problem at a time and sort it out.

SAGITTARIUS

Ganesha predicts a day full of romantic develop ments today. Mushy talks and whispering sweet nothings in your beloved's ears may give you little joys of life. However, brace vourselves as there are times when relationships do not workout. and you may experience this soon.

CAPRICORN

By and large, your life today will be dull. But, there isn't something unfavourable or negativ about it, assures Ganesha, as the planetary movements signal a change, probably a positive one, happening in the near future. So, keep your chin up and get ready for a better tomorrow.

You are armed with good communication skills. and like always, it will come to your aide today too. There is one problem though. You are not clear about your emotions and it may make your arms blunt, foresees Ganesha.

PISCES

Your energy and enthusiasm will know no bounds today, as everything seems to fall into place, seemingly on its own. You will blaze a new trail at the work-place. Certain tough calls may leave you off-balance momentarily, but you will come out of it with flying colours. For those who are in artistic professions, fame could come knocking on your door, says Ganesha

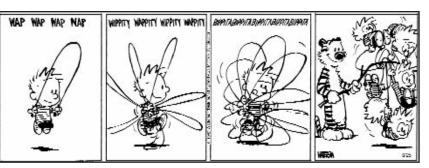
PEANUTS

HEE HEE

HEE HEE

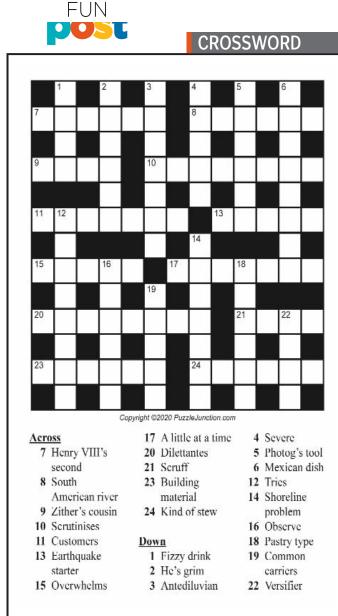


CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY





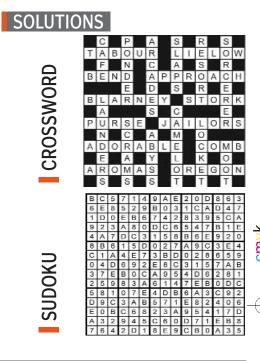
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

the public to once again enjoy exploring rich cultural heritage of India. Notably, cinemas, theatres

SUDOKU

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

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









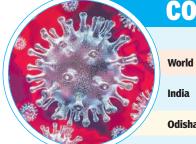






PLEA FOR AID

Carpenters holding a demonstration at the office of Puri Collector, Thursday, seeking government assistance in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic



VI	D-19	TR/	ACK	ER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD	
ld	4,86,49,190	3,48,35,653	12,33,932	
a	83,64,086	77,11,809	1,24,315	
sha	2,97,274	2,83,533	1,378	

Farmers up in arms against new farm laws

SINCE MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE IS NO LONGER A LEGAL RIGHT IN THE NEW LAWS, THERE IS EVERY POSSIBILITY THAT FARMERS WOULD NOT GET THE MSP. SAYS A PROTESTING FARMER



Police detaining the agitating farmers from NH-16 near Palasuni in Bhubaneswar, Thursday

₹15.000 per acre to

farmers for crop

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: Two days

after byelection to Balasore Assembly

seat, ruling Biju Janata Dal presi-

dent Naveen Patnaik, Thursday, sus-

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: Extending its support to a nation-wide 'Chakka Jam' protest against the farm laws of the Centre, hundreds of farmers under the banner of Nabanirman Krushak Sangathan (NNKS) staged a demonstration here, Thursday.

According to sources, a shuffle erupted between the farmers and the police when the protesters blocked the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack National Highway near Hi-Tech College square here.

The farmers sat on a dharna on NH-16 after they were prevented by the police personnel to march ahead. Police personnel wearing PPE kits also detained some farmers and later released them.

NNKS convener Akshay Kumar said, "We are opposing the Central farm laws including scrapping of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) sys-

Youth arrested for attacking Bolagarh tehsildar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khurda, Nov 5: A youth allegedly attacked Bolagarh tehsildar here

tem. Due to such laws, the prices of essential commodities have risen sharply. We also demand amendment to the relief code to provide compensation of

Another farmer leader

Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Food Corporation of India and State Mandi Board. Since MSP is no longer a legal right in the new laws, there is possibility that farmers will not get MSP while selling their produce at private mandis, he said. This apart, in con-

some parts of western Odisha. In

Farm laws enacted by Union govt

- THE FARMERS' PRODUCE TRADE AND COMMERCE (PROMOTION AND FACILITATION) ACT, 2020, SEEKS TO GIVE FREEDOM TO FARMERS TO SELL THEIR PRODUCE OUTSIDE THE NOTIFIED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKET COMMITTEE
- (APMC) MARKET YARDS.
- THE FARMERS (EMPOWERMENT AND **PROTECTION) AGREEMENT** OF PRICE ASSURANCE AND FARM SERVICES ACT, 2020, GIVES FARMERS THE RIGHT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AGRIBUSINESS FIRMS, PROCESSORS, WHOLESALERS, EXPORTERS, OR LARGE RETAILERS FOR THE SALE OF FUTURE FARMING PRODUCE AT A PRE-AGREED PRICE.

THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2020, IS MEANT TO REMOVE COMMODITIES LIKE CEREALS, PULSES, OILSEEDS, ONION, AND POTATO FROM THE LIST OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES AND DO AWAY WITH THE IMPOSITION OF STOCK HOLDING LIMITS.

Sambalpur, the farmers under the banner of Western Odisha Krushak Sangathan's Coordination Committee blocked the NH-5 at Maneswar Chhak from 11am to 12noon.

Three new agriculture bills were passed during the last monsoon session of the Parliament following which they got the Presidential assent September 27.

a statement issued by the BJD

General Secretary (Media Affairs),

Earlier, Dash was denied party

ticket to contest from Balasore seat,

which he had represented in the

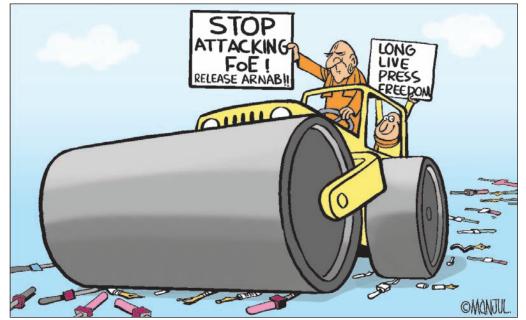
Assembly thrice in 2000, 2009 and

Manas Ranjan Mangaraj said.

Ex-MLA Jiban Pradip Dash suspended from BJD party had fielded Swarup Kumar Das from Balasore as its candidate. The three-time MLA's name was, however, in the list of party's star

> campaigners for the bypolls. Dash said he is falsely accused of indulging in anti-party activities

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Tests for learner's licence to resume November 16

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: After nearly eight months, the state government is going to resume tests for issuing learner's licence (LL) with effect from November 16, Transport Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda said in an order Thursday.

In view of Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown, the LL service has remained suspended since March 25, 2020.

The LL applications filed by ve hicle owners who have already paid for LL test will remain valid and slot booking will be available from November 12 at 11 am. Thereafter test slots will be open for booking from 7am to 10pm every day, the order said.

Only existing LL applicants can book the slot. They have better chance to book their favourite slot at 7am every day.

However, no new applicant can

GUIDELINES

Only existing applicants can book slots for the test from November 12 onwards N o new applicant can apply for LL now. Date of

applications for new LLs will be notified later

The government will not allow any applicant from Containment Zones for the LL test

Candidates can undergo the LL mock test in www.parivahan.gov.in

applicants to apply for new LL will

be notified later. The slots will be

of 15-minute duration which will

Candidates can undergo the LL

mock test in www.parivahan.gov.in.

include 10 minutes of test time.

tomatic sign of Covid-19 will not be allowed for the test. The Transport Commissioner apply for LL now. The date of fresh

has advised all applicants not to bring their friends and relatives with them to the office. In case of emergent situation

A candidate has to answer at least

12 out of 20 questions correctly to

get through the test. The candi-

dates are not allowed inside the of-

fice prior to more than 45 minutes

of the slot time. LL applicants must

have to wear masks and follow so-

cial distancing norms at the testing

applicant from Containment Zones

for the LL test. In case, any such

applicant tries to enter any RTO of-

Similarly, applicants with symp-

fice, police action will be taken.

The government will not allow any

centre/office.

due to Covid pandemic leading to shutdown of the office, the test will be cancelled at short notice.

SARUA LAND DEAL I-T dept to probebenami transaction

dation or low quality Due produce, private comto such laws, the panies may not prices of essential abide by an agreecommodities have risen ment. As the masharply. We also demand jority of the amendment to the relief farmers are code to provide a small, marginal compensation of ₹15,000 and sharecropper acre to farmers for per, it will be difcrop loss ficult for them to AKSHAY KUMAR I NNKS

CONVENER

said the new farm laws will destrov existing system like

tract farming, in the name of gra-

wage a legal battle against the corporate sector in case of violation of

PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

commodities' under the new laws. Now, the unscrupulous businessmen will resort to unlimited hoarding and create artificial scarcity, causing sufferings for the consumer, the framer leader added.

Similar protests were also held in

the party on charge of anti-party ac-

tivities during the bypolls which

were held November 3 following

the demise of the sitting MLA

"Jiban Pradip Dash, Ex-MLA,

agreements, they said. There is nothing called 'essential

Thursday, when he was conducting raid on an illegal murram quarry under this tehsil limits in Khurda district.

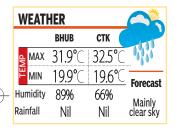
Acting on an FIR lodged by Bolagarh tehsildar Dhobei Nayak, Begunia police nabbed the youth. Navak and his team were conducting the raid on illegal murram quarry at Gopalpur village under Pichukuli panchayat in the morning when the accused youth assaulted the tehsildar.

Police have seized two tractors including a JCB machine that were being allegedly used for excavation of murram at the illegal quarry here.

Begunia police has registered a case in this connection and launched a detailed probe. Others involved in this illegal quarrying activity will also be arrested soon, they said. However, they did not give any details about those under scanner as investigations are still on.

Notably, illegal quarrying activities have become rampant in the Bolagarh locality.

MARKET WATCH						
	SENSEX			724.02		
CURRENCY BOURSES	NIFTY	12120.30		211.80		
ENCY	DOLLAR	74.22	₽	₹0.56		
CURR	EURO	87.60		₹0.42		
NOI	GOLD	₹51,634		₹814		
BULLION	SILVER	₹63,450		₹2,061		



Balasore is hereby suspended from pended former party MLA Jiban Pradip Dash from the regional outfit. Dash has been suspended from

Biju Janata Dal for his anti-party activities with immediate effect,"

Madan Mohan Dutta (BJP).

2014. He lost to BJP's Madan Mohan Dutta in the 2019 elections. The

"I know, some people were hatching a conspiracy against me," he said.

PREP FOR TERRACOTTA EXPO



Preparations underway at Exhibition Ground in Bhubaneswar, Thursday, for inauguration of 'Mruttika-2020', a terracotta crafts expo, Friday

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: The state Crime Branch, Thursday, requested the Income Tax (I-T) department to enquire into alleged involvement of Odisha Infratech Private Limited (OIPL) in benami money transaction while purchasing a landed property at Sarua in Khurda.

Speaking on the issue, Crime Branch additional director general (ADG) Soumendra Pariyadarshi, Thursday, said that initial probe into the illegal land deal revealed that Odisha Infratech Private Limited cheated innocent Scheduled Caste persons and its ex-employee, Rabi Sethi, by usurping the land from them and during the process was also involved in benami transaction.

He said that the I-T department has been requested to investigate the case under the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Act as it falls under its jurisdiction.

The CB claimed that the accused company has fraudulently purchased the land by circumventing The CB claimed that the company has fraudulently purchased the land by circumventing provisions of OLR Act

various provisions of the Odisha Land Reforms (OLR) Act.

The ADG, CB also alleged that the ex-employee of OIPL who was used by the company to grab the land belonging to SC people has revealed that the company kept him in dark while using his name to purchase the lands measuring 7.294 acres during 2010 to 2013.

He was also not paid the ₹65 lakh by the company while registering the plots in its name between 2016 and 2019.

The Economic Offences Wing had earlier arrested Manoranjan Sarangi and Sibaprasad Srichandan by registering a case (8/20) October 31, 2020.

DY DUPED OF ₹2L THROUGH MATRIMONY SI

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: A housewife from the city here has lost around ₹2 lakh to cyber criminals while trying to find a suitable bridegroom for her sister-in-law through a prominent matrimonial site. The 35-year-old lady has been staying along with her in-laws at Pandav Nagar under Badagada police limits here.

According to sources, the victim had created a profile with popular Indian matrimonial portal, Jeevansathi.com, as a paid member.

Later, she sent a message on behalf of her sister-in-law to the profile of a Telugu-origin doctor, reportedly opened by cyber criminals to dupe innocent prospective brides.

Subsequently, the conman con-

tacted the lady and expressed his interest in the proposal. He also started charting from a WhatsApp account registered with a phone number of United Kingdom.

Later, she sent all the details along with the photo of her sisterin-law to the crook through mail and WhatsApp.

After a few months, October 19, the accused, Rudra, informed the victim that he would visit India to meet the prospective bride to get hitched.

Later, the victim, a housewife, received a phone call from the accused cyber crook from an Indian mobile phone number. The accused told the lady that the customs department at the New Delhi Airport had detained him at the Airport demanding penalty for carrying



PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

extra luggage and some British pound sterling (GBP). He requested the lady to deposit

₹50.000 in the account of a custom department official which he would settle after meeting here. One of

ONLINE FRAUD

he victim had created a profile with popular Indian matrimonial portal. Jeevansathi.com, as a paid member

he lady received a phone call from the cyber crook from an Indian mobile phone number

he accused told the lady that the customs department at the New Delhi Airport had detained him at the Airport demanding penalty for carrying extra luggage

he lady deposited around ₹1 lakh in different account of the accused as penalty

the female aides of the cyber fraudster also phoned the lady assuring the plea of the accused as genuine.

The lady deposited around ₹1 lakh in different account of the accused as penalty. Later, she also paid another ₹1.45 lakh in the account of the fraudsters who claimed that the customs department demanded more penalties for the £ 5,00,000 around ₹5 crore in Indian currency

However, she smelt a rat when the cyber crooks demanded another ₹5 lakh to release some more luggage November 2. The accused also sent a fake RBI portal to deceive her.

Badagada police have started investigation into the matter after registering a case in this regard.

Notably, the cyber criminals have also looted several lakhs from one person from Dhenkanal and an eld-erly widow from Puri adopting the same modus operandi.



ОР РНОТО





downtown

COVID TOLL MOUNTS TO 1,378

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar; Nov 5: State's Covid-19 tally mounted to 2,97,274 as 1,385 more people tested positive for the infection, while 14 fresh fatalities pushed Odisha's coronavirus death toll to 1,378 in the last 24 hours, the Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) department said, Thursday.

while 587 fresh infections were detected during contact tracing.

Khurda district, under which Bhubaneswar falls, reported the highest number of new cases at 159, followed by Cuttack and Mayurbhanj at 109 and 103 respectively.

Three fresh fatalities each were reported in Khurda and



SCENARIO TN ODTSHA

Khurda reported the highest number of new cases at 159 followed by Cuttack and Mayurbhanj at 109 and 103 respectively

Three fresh fatalities each were reported in Khurda and Mayurbhanj, two each in Cuttack and Sundargarh and one each in Ganjam, Nabarangpur, Nayagarh and Sambalpur

As many as 798 new cases were reported in quarantine centres,

Khurda has so far reported

coronavirus fatalities at 239,

followed by Ganjam at 231 and

Odisha has so far tested over

including 50,780 Wednesday

The positivity rate in Odisha

47.87 lakh samples for Covid-19,

the highest number of

Cuttack at 115

stands at 6.21

Another journalist dies of nCoV

A nother journalist died of Covid-19 in state, an official said Thursday. Prabir Pradhan, a senior reporter of an Odia news channel, died at a hospital in the Capital city here, his family said.

He was 35. Pradhan, a native of Athamalik in Angul district, is survived by wife and a two-yearold daughter.

His father, a retired police officer, had also succumbed to the infection a month ago. Pradhan had joined duty

after completing the mandatory isolation period as his father was infected with the deadly virus.

He was admitted to the Covid Hospital last week and had to be put on ventilator support Wednesday.

"Saddened to learn of untimely demise of young and promising journalist Prabir Pradhan, who used to cover crime

Ganjam, Nabarangpur, Nayagarh and Sambalpur districts, according to an official of the H&FW de-

partment. As many as 53 coronavirus patients have died due to other ailments so far Mayurbhani, two each in Cuttack Khurda district has so far reand Sundargarh and one each in ported the highest number of coron police. Recently his father, a retired police officer, had left us all. Talked to his sister to convey condolence. May he attain Sadgati," director general of police Abhay tweeted.

The twin city Commissionerate of Police has organised a condolence meeting in Pradhan's honour.

Journalists, politicians, police personnel and people from different walks of life expressed condolence over the death.

The mortal remains were consigned to flames as per the Covid-19 protocol at Satya Nagar crematorium in Bhubaneswar.

State government's media advisor Manas Mangaraj expressed condolence.

BJP state president Samir Mohanty described Pradhan as a hardworking journalist. Earlier, two senior journal-

ists-Simanchal Panda and K CH Ratnam—died of Covid-19.

navirus fatalities at 239, followed by Ganjam at 231 and Cuttack at 115, the official said.

Odisha has so far tested over 47.87 lakh samples for Covid-19, including 50,780 Wednesday, the official said, adding that the positivity rate in the coastal state stands at 6.21.



Congress leaders, including Niranjan Patnaik and Suresh Kumar Routray, demonstrate near PMG Square in Bhubaneswar, Thursday, condemning the 'frequent attacks on Dalits'

stitutions would remain closed

till November 30, "So, the colleges

will remain closed till November

end after which we will review

the situation," said the minister.

education institutions, e.g., state

universities, private universities

and colleges, and resumption of

physical classes would be done as

per the decision of the respective

Altogether, 12 rakes of fly ash have

been transported from ECoR ju-

risdiction towards different cement

industries and other industrial

firms. This will also boost the freight

In its bid to achieve fly ash load-

ing figure, East Coast Railway has

utilised 7,942 wagons per day in

lockdown and closure and less work-

force in industries and in mineral

units under East Coast Railway ju-

This has been achieved despite

the month of October, 2020.

loading of ECoR.

state/UT governments.

As per UGC guidelines, all higher

'No decision to reopen colleges' sued by the state, all academic in-

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: After guidelines were announced by University Grants Commission (UGC), Thursday, for reopening of colleges and universities, state Higher Education Minister Arun Sahoo said he had not gone through the guidelines but can't say about resumption of classes in colleges.

POST NEWS NETWORK

As per 'Unlock 6.0' guidelines is-

ECoR carries 16.37mn tonne of freight in Oct

Higher Edu dept defers CPET 2020 result declaration

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: Higher Education Department of Odisha Thursday issued revised guidelines for the result declaration of **Common PG Entrance Test** (CPET) 2020.

According to the guidelines, the department will declare the name of the candidates selected in the CPET 2020 November 16. Notably, earlier it had been decided by the department to de-

The candidates were asked to update their graduation/equivalent marks on Student Academic Management System portal by 11.45pm of November 10 –

clare the result November 7.

On the other hand, the candidates are directed to update their graduation/equivalent marks on Student Academic Management System (SAMS) portal by November 10 till 11.45 PM.

After the declaration of the result the universities and colleges will complete their admission process by December 10, the notification read.

As many as 62,942 out of 71,789, who registered for the test, appeared the entrance examination_ for a total of 14,700 PG seats. The examination was conducted with all COVID-19 protocols and separate (isolation) rooms were allotted to COVID positive candidates or suspected cases.

TRAINING FOR E-ASSEMBLY FROM TODAY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: Ahead of the winter session of the Assembly scheduled to kick off November 20. Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro Thursday said that all proceedings in the House will be conducted for maximum 4 hours and 30 minutes.

"All proceedings the House will be held for 4.5 hours daily during the winter session amidst strict adherence of the Covid-19 guidelines. We are vet to decide on whether Question Hour will be conducted. The MLAs, Assembly staff and journalists who wish to join the session are advised to undergo Covid test," stated SN Patro.

"A training camp for e-Assembly will also be held from Friday. In the first phase, the Assembly staff would be imparted training in this regard." Patro added.

A notification issued by the Assembly secretariat mentions that the winter session will commence from November 20 and con-

'Ensure well-being of LGBTQ community'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: The State department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) has now asked all the Collectors in the state to ensure welfare of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community during the COVID 19

pandemic. The department has asked them to ensure implementation of the recommendations of an expert committee constituted by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) which studied their status during the COVID 19 pandemic.

The recommendation batted for access to health services to the community without any discrimination, ensure uninterrupted availability of anti-retroviral treatment for HIV and its testing facilities. It also asked for sensitization of health professionals on non discrimination of the community at health centres.

The recommendations also talked about access to social security, relief measures and welfare schemes.



covered under these schemes," it said.

The department also said to ensure implementation of the existing guidelines and protocols, medico-legal care for survivors of domestic and sexual violence along with timely treatment, psycho-social support and medico-legal documentation in cases of domestic/sexual violence victims.

The NHRC recommendation also said that the government may provide appropriate financial support to the economically vulnerable section of the LGBT community who have lost their livelihood due to the pandemic and lockdown.

"Ensure that no person from the LGBTQJ+ community is forcefully evicted from their place of stay on the grounds of gender based discrimination," the Collectors have been told. The officials have been asked to ensure provision of education through online classes is inclusive for and accessible to all members of the LGBT community and no discrimination should be made on the basis of their identity/gender.

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has carried 16.37 million tonne of freight in October which is the highest loading of the current fiscal, an official said Thursday.

ECoR has carried 0.97 million tone more freight in October by registering a growth of 6.29 per cent. In October, 2019 ECoR had carried 15.40 million tonne of freight.

Till the end of October, of the cur-

Timber, machines seized during raid

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar. Nov 5: The vigilance and forest department officials Thursday seized illegal timber worth over ₹2 lakh from Pipli area in Puri during a raid at Balipatna on the outskirts of the city.

The raid was conducted following a tip-off regarding the illegal hoarding of timber and illegal furniture in Balipatna Range under Khurdha Forest Division in Pipil police station area. As many as nine timber poles, 60.46Cft timber, 24 power driven motor, cutter, sander, drill machine have been seized by from the spot.

rent financial year, the ECoR has carried 104.88 MT of freight. This include 59.63 MT of coal, 13.38 MT of iron ore, 8.84 MT of iron and steel, 3.98 MT of raw materials for steel plants, 3.61 MT of fertilizer, 1.65 MT of container 1.43 MT of food grains, 1.39 MT of petroleum products and 10.97 MT of other commodities, the official said.

Due to the efforts of the Business Development Unit of ECoR, fly ash are now being transported to different states which are being utilised in cement plants as raw materials.

WOMAN FALLS OFF TRAIN, DIES

risdiction.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Barang, Nov 5: A 31-year-old woman died after falling off a speeding train near Sribantapur village here late Wednesday, a senior Government Railway Police (GRP) official said, Thursday.

The official said they have found the body of Jagana Pradhan, a resident of Bagabara village under Biramaharajpur police limits, along the railway tracks near Sribantapur village Thursday. A case of unnatural death has been registered and the body sent for autopsy. Sources said Pradhan had been working as a domestic help at a senior Forest official's residence in Bhubaneswar: A few days ago, she had been to Bihar to work for the officer's daughter. According to the official, the mishap occurred when the victim,



Jagana Pradhan, a resident of Bagabara village under **Biramaharajpur police** limits. was found dead along the railway tracks

tinue till December 31.

As per the calendar of sittings, the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 2020-2021 will be presented in the Assembly on the first day. The session will have 40 working days, the notification said.

While the next four days of the session from November 21 to 24 have been earmarked for official business, the private member's business (bills and resolutions) will be tabled November 25.

The House will hold discussion on demand for grants of the first supplementary statement of expenditure for the year 2020-2021 between November 26 and 28

The Appropriation Bill on the first supplementary statement on expenditure will be presented November 29.

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before Executive Magistrate, Darpan, Dhanamandal, I Kabita Samal, w/o Ramachandra Samal, Vill.-Haripur, PO-Samasarpur, PS-Mahanga, Dist.-Cuttack, have changed my name Kabita Samal to Kabita Biswal for all purpose.

"All relief measures/welfare schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna, Pradhan Mantri, Ujjwala Yojana, etc, should take into account gender diversity and vulnerabilities of LGBTQ+ community especially, in terms of eligibility requirements like ID proofs, and ensure that transgender and intersex persons are fully

Meanwhile, no person was apprehended in the case as the accused had already left the spot.

near Sribantapur village

along with the official's daughter. was returning Bhubaneswar through Patna-Puri Express late Wednesday night. "Prima facie, Pradhan was standing near her coach's door when she lost control and fell off the train, leading to her death," said the official.

The department had arranged 26 centres across the state to conduct of the examination. The admission will be held in 83 streams this academic session.

Major universities of the state including Berhampur University, Sambalpur University and Utkal University had prepared question papers for the students.

SEEKING A HELPING HAND



Opera artistes stage a demonstration at Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar, Thursday, demanding ₹10,000 assistance from the Chief Minister OP PHOTO

Routapada weavers supply silk, cotton garments for Holy Trinity

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khurda, Nov 5: Preparations are going on at full pace for the Nagarjuna Besha (warrior attire) of Srimandir deities in Puri November 27.

The weavers of Routapada under Begunia block in the district here have supplied silk and cotton garments for the unique ritual which would be performed after a gap of 25 years, sources said.

"We have supplied silk and cotton garments to the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) for the performance of Nagarjuna Besha, Odhani Sasthi and other rituals at Srimandir,' said Govind Chandra Das, a weaver of Routapada

According to Das, the SJTA had ordered for various silk and cotton garments including Khandua Pata, Patani, Boirani, Mailam, **NAGARJUNA BESHA**



Gadiphuta, Sootaphuta, Netaphuta, Karia and Gamuchha for the performance of Nagarjuna Besha and other rituals of Lord Jagannath

and his siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra.

The temple administration had ordered for the garments in October. It had given specific measurements for the garments. The weavers of Routapada have been supplying silk and cotton garments for Rath Yatra and other Srimandir rituals since last many years," Das said.

Gopinath Das, another weaver of the village, claimed that they have been weaving garments for Srimandir deities since 1993. "We had also supplied silk and cotton garments to Srimandir during Nabakalebara festivals in 1996 and 2015," he said.

According to Gopinath, the families of Govind Chandra Das, Rama Chandra Das, Bhagwan Das, Ashok Das, Kailash Chandra Das, Rabindra Das and Kartika Patra have been weaving garments for Srimandir deities since many years

OR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STA

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OrissaPOST FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 6 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAF

state

Suktel project faces local ire

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Nov 5: Even as the government makes efforts to restart construction of the stalled Suktel project in Bolangir in November, it faced strong opposition from the displaced.

Reports said, a high-level committee headed by state water resource department chief engineer Jyotirmaya Rath faced vehement opposition from locals who have been displaced by Suktel irrigation project in Bolangir Wednesday afternoon. The opponents are members of Budianchal Agragami Sangha who demanded compensation first before resuming the work.

The committee was on a visit to Suktel site to restart construction work which was halted by a couple of years

Following opposition from the displaced, the team was compelled to stop the ongoing work. The locals staged a sit-in seeking fulfillment of their 11-point demands prior to carrying out construction at the project site. Budianchal Agragami Sangha president Upendra Sahu and its member Umakant Khuas accused the administration of forcibly making attempt to resume work without resolving the problems of the people.

They warned that they would

Firecrackers seized,

3 held in Sundargarh

Rajgangpur, Nov 5: Two days

after the state government an-

nounced a ban on sale and use

of firecrackers between

November 10 and November 30,

Rajnagar police in Sundargarh

seized a huge quantity of crack-

ers from three houses at

Bagichapada village, police said

POST NEWS NETWORK

Thursday.



strongly oppose it.

The villagers, affected by the project, have been demanding compensation for loss of their land as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. They also

want to include members of families who are 18 and above. Once commissioned, the project will irrigate 29,146 hectares in Balangir district and 2,684 hectare in Sonepur, covering 189 villages.

Strange metallic rocket-like object

The project was started in 2013. Its work was stopped in 2018 due to

protests by residents of villages in its periphery over compensation and various demands. The government had sanctioned

2,448 crore for the project of which 1,848 has been spent. The rest 600 crore was lying unutilised for the last two years. It is said that only 50 per cent of the dam and 70 per cent of the spillway had been completed. Work on the project has been dis-

rupted several times over last 12 years due to frequent conflicts between pro and anti-dam activists. The project would inundate over 638 hectares. Residents of

A high-level committee headed by state water resources department chief engineer Jyotirmaya Rath faced vehement opposition from locals who have been displaced by Suktel irrigation project in Bolangir Wednesday afternoon. The opponents are members of Budianchal Agragami Sangha who demanded compensation first before resuming the work

he villagers, affected by the project, have been demanding compensation for loss of their land as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. They also want to include members of families who are 18 and above

nearly 16 villages will be completely displaced and villagers of 10 others will be partially displaced, some locals fumed.

"There are issues which need to be resolved first. However the project work will commence soon,' Bolangir District Collector Chanchal Rana informed.

The ambitious project was sanctioned in 1996 under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme with an estimated cost of Rs 217.16 crore. It was estimated that the dam would irrigate four blocks of Bolangir and Subarnapur districts.

Odisha, WB hold joint security drill **'Sagar Kavach'**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paradip, Nov 5: A joint team comprising personnel from Odisha and West Bengal carried out a coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' on the Paradip coast Thursday. The exercise aimed at fine-tuning surveillance activities along respective maritime borders saw participation of Indian Coast Guard, Coastal Police, Paradip Port Trust, State Fishery department, Customs department, Marine Enforcement wing, Central Industrial Security Force, Intelligence Bureau and the staff

The 'Sagar Kavach' is being conducted every year by different coastal states following 26/11 Mumbai attacks to curb terrorist infiltration into the country by

"More than 13 agencies are collaborating for this exercise. 18 picketing points were created for the purpose," Paradip maritime police station IIC Pradyumna Kumar Behera said.

2 minor girls drown,



Farm workers winnowing away chaff from paddy after harvest at Kenghati area in Sambalpur district, Thursday

tration should first identify these

pastors and arrest them so that

conversion activities are stopped.

headman Kalu Hansda gave a mem-

orandum to the Collector while

people of Gopinathpur led by head-

man Chandra Sekhar Majhi sub-

mitted another memorandum to

the administration over the issue.

lagers said an NGO had grabbed

8.18 decimals at Gopinathpur and

started construction of a church

which has become a bone of con-

tention between pro and anti con-

The conversion activities keep the

villages on edge and tense. In such

situation, the villagers demanded

that the administration take steps

to remove the church construction

as soon as possible, or else the pos-

sibility of an explosive situation

can't be ruled out in future, they

version activists.

pointed out.

In their memorandum, the vil-

Villagers of Sunaposi led by

Admin urged to act tough on conversion



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 5: Amid allegations of religious conversion in remote pockets of Keonjhar, people of Sunaposi and Gopinathpur villages under Saharapada block took up the issue with the district administration Thursday.

Voicing concern over the conversion of gullible tribals, people of two villages from 60 km submitted two separate memoranda to Keonjhar Collector.

'The conversion activities have been creating tension in our villages. The administration should do the needful to restore peace in the region," they appealed to the Collector. Some religious preachers are involved in conversion activities.

Tourist spots in Kandhamal banned till November 30

and will visit the spots. In order to check the footfalls, imposed a ban restricting tourists from visiting the places.

the district administration has Tehsildars-cum-executive mag-



Complete information including e-tende documents of the above e-tenders is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in NOTE : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 day before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigenda issued for this tender visional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom PR-334/L/20-21 Khurda Road

fished out by Balasore fishermen

Three persons have been arrested in this connection. They have been identified as

Rahul Kumar Ram, Amar Kumar Ram and Anand Kashyap, residents of Bagichapada under Rajgangpur police limits.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rajnagar police station conducted a raid on houses of the three accused and found a huge quantity of firecrackers.

Further investigation revealed that the trio had stored the firecrackers with no precautionary measures. The police registered three separate cases and arrested the accused under sections 286 of IPC and 9-B (1)(b) of the Explosives Act.



Soro, Nov 5: Fishermen caught a long and heavy metallic rocketlike object in their fishing net off the coast of Bahanaga block here

in Balasore district Thursday. The strange object got caught in the net of Harihar Majhi, a resident of Baunsa Aadia village of Kharasahapur panchayat. He was at first exalted after finding his net to be heavier than usual. He and four co-fishermen thought they had caught a large fish. But to their

POST NEWS NETWORK

a glimpse of the object.

a similar catch in August this year.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhajan singer

Bhikari Mohammad

Nayagarh, Nov 5: Odia devotional singer Bhikari Mohammad passed away Wednesday night at his residence in Khandapada of Nayagarh district. He was 76.

Mohammad propagated Hindu-Muslim brotherhood by singing songs like Odia Chhanda, Chaupadi, Janana, Bhajan and the traditional Dhumpa song of Khandapada and earned fame in Odisha and outside. People dubbed him as the second Salabega of Odisha.

He had shared his sweet voice by singing devotional songs with eminent singers of Odisha including Bhikari Bal, Akshaya Mohanty, Pranab Patnaik, Prafulla Kar, Chitta Jena and Dibakar Mohanty on several occasions.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

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Tender Value (₹) : 30,13,392.30 EMD :₹ 60,300.00, Cost of Tende Document: ₹ 3,540.00(including 18% GST Start Date Date and time of closing of ten At 1100 hrs of 23, 11, 2020.

No manual offer shall be accepted and such manual offers shall be rejected

of the light house. sea

areas gathered at Majhi Sahi of

a mechanized country boat August 17 that they saw a shooting star like object falling from sky. The object dropped in water at Jamuka river mouth. And the same object got caught in their net. They had said the rocket-like object was still producing faint sound after its retrieval. Later, the sound stopped on its own. The 8-ft long object weighing about 50 kilograms was later handed over to the officials of ITR at Chandipur.

Kharasahapur panchayat to catch

Notably, eight fishermen from Talapada village under Remuna block in Balasore district had had

It was when they were sailing in



ITI hailed for hosting largest open-air scrap sculpture park



POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 5: An open-air scrap sculpture park in the Industrial Training Institute here has made it to headlines by entering the Asia Book of Records. The scrap sculpture park has been declared as the largest open-air scrap sculpture park in Asia.

This was stated here by Rajat Kumar Panigrahi, principal of Berhampur ITI. He said the park shows a new era of teaching concept on design, ability to think, team work, integration of skills in various sectors like engineering drawing, welding, sheet metal, masonry, turning fitting and painting with an aim of converting the institute into an education wonderland

The ITI has set a record for conceptualising and designing the largest open-air scrap sculpture museum, measuring 10,000 square metres. This is a new innovative concept of skill development through waste management whose heights range from seven feet to 70 feet. All the sculptures have been designed, fabricated and installed in an open space.

The museum named The Heart, Mind and Hand Show consists of 20 big sculptures namely Giant Guitar, Iron Man, Terminator, Dolphin, Turtle, Helicopter, Chetak, Predator, Spotted Deer, Robot, Reindeer, Lizard, Peacock, Huge Cow, King Kong, Fishing Lure, Tank, Hanging Fish and Giraffe, as confirmed on March 17, 2020.

7 labourers rescued from MP, middleman arrested lage in Ratlam district

POST NEWS NETWORK

Koksara. Nov 5: Amid reports about return of migrant returnees to various states during the pandemic, Koksara police along with its counterparts in Madhya Pradesh rescued 7 bonded labourers from the clutches of a contractor Wednesday. A middleman was arrested too.

utter dismay, they found a rocket-

It was learnt that they have in-

formed the Integrated Test Range

(ITR), Chandipur about the catch.

Meanwhile, people from nearby

like object caught in their net.

According to reports, a middleman had lured two labourers of Behera Roiguda under Koksara police limits and five people of Dabriguda under Amapani police limits on the promise of jobs in Madhya Pradesh.

However, two of them were allegedly 'mortgaged' with a contractor for Rs 80,000 by the middleman. The migrant labourers Nayak (27) and Balkrushan were being tortured at Kanwar vil-Navak(21) were also rescued.

The arrested middleman was identified as Krushna Durga. Krushna had taken two brothers Bharat Majhi(35) and Chatur Majhi(30) to Madhy Pradesh to provide them jobs at a bore well dig-

ging company. The two had informed their plight to their families over phone October 29. Their parents filed a complaint at the Koskara police station in this regard.

A police team from Koksara led by ASI Janmejay Bag rescued the two. At this time, Amapani police had contacted the Koksara police team about five other migrant labourers stuck in Madhya Pradesh. Tophan Patra (30), Yudhistir Nayak(20), Kumud Majhi(25), Satya another missing

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkanal/Jajpur, Nov 5: Two girls met their watery grave even as another went missing while they were taking bath in a pond in separate incidents in Dhenkanal and Jajpur districts, Thursday.

In the first incident, a minor girl drowned and another went missing in a pond at Karmul village under Gondia police limits in Dhenkanal district Thursday.

The deceased was identified as Anita Mallick (10) and the missing girl was Ankita Mallick of Karmul village. The mishap took place while Anita and Ankita were bathing in the pond.

In the second incident, an 11year-old girl met watery grave while she was taking bath in a pond at Artia Kusunpur village under Rasulpur block in Jajpur district, Thursday.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, Nov 5: With a view to checking the spread of COVID-19 in the district, the Kandhamal district administration has imposed a ban on visits to picnic spots and tourist destinations in the district till November 30.

The administration issued a notification in this regard Wednesday. According to the notification, the resorts of tourism department will remain open for tourists during this period.

There are several places including Ludu Waterfalls, Putudi Waterfalls, Kalinga, Daringbadi and Katramal known for attracting tourists the year round.

Particularly in winter, these spots witness huge footfalls. As the winter has already set in and no lockdown or shutdown restrictions are in place, it is likely that a large number of people from various parts of the state and the country

local police stations have been asked to conduct regular enforcement and take action against the violators.

Date : 04.11.2020

tter No: 1535 (13)

30. The executive magistrates and



lodge such claim with the Company within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice after which no claim shall be entertained and the Company will proceed to issue dunlicato charo cortificatos (N.K. MOHANTY) Place : Bhubaneswar

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COMPANY SECRETAR

SOUTH CO UTILITY OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ELECTRICAL CIRCLE, BHANJANAGAR, TEL - (06821) 240335 (O) FAX - 242400

EMail ID:- circlehead.bhanjanagar@southcoodisha.com No: 1535 (13) Date: 05.11.2020

Charigochhia a source of livelihood for many

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Nov 5: Charigochhia estuary formed by the Budhabalang river which meets the Bay of Bengal has been a source of livelihood for hundreds of families of Srikona panchayat under Sadar block in Balasore district.

For them catching fish is the only means to keep the pot boiling back at home.

Before meeting the sea, the Budhabalng makes a U-turn at Charigochhia and forms an estuary, proving to be a boon for nearby people. One can find people sitting in a line with fishing rods from early in the morning till the evening. Besides Charigichhia village, people from Old Balasore, Motiganj, Nuasahi Pola and Nakhpur villages also depend on this estuary to earn their livelihoods.



According to fishermen, the estuary is very deep due to the river's U-turn. "The estuary has been a favorite for bigger fish in the river. The mouth being a deep one, catching fish using nets is not possible here. So all of us catch fish using fishing rods," they observed.

They said they catch varieties of fish in different times of the year. A family earns something between Rs 5.000 and Rs 6,000 in a month.

"At times we catch 'Begti' or 'Balia' fishes weighing 10 to 12 kilograms. We use special kind of fishing rods for these bigger size fish. The rods used for catching shrimp are normally short and thin whereas the rods used for catching bigger fish are comparatively bigger and stronger," they added.

According to Sudhanshu Patra, a villager, Charigochhia village is inhabited by about a 100 families with a population of over 500. Catching fish has been a prime source of earning livelihood for most of the villagers.

The estuary is known for shrimp and begti. While fishermen sell the female shrimps to local prawn farmers at Rs 400 to Rs 500 per kg, they take the rest of their catch to the fish market at Motignaj where they sell them for between Rs 600 and 700 a kilogram.

Echoing the same, Gopal Chandra Patra, another villager, said he has an eight-member family and whatever he gets from fishing and farming is enough to meet the family expenses. "I have never experienced any problems in running my family," he added.

Letter No: 1535 (13)				Date: 05	.11.2020
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- om Dt. 09.11.2020 up to 23.11.2020 (1.00 PM)
- 2) Last date of submission of online tender: Upto Dt. 23.11.2020 (5.00 PM)
- Submission of Tender (Hard Copy) Upto Dt. 24.11.2020 (1.00 PM)
- Opening of Techno-commercial bid (Part-I): On Dt. 24.11.2020 or or after 3.00 PM

Southco Utility reserves the right to alter the tendered quantity and reject/accept any or all tenders or split the tender among tenders withou assigning any reason thereof.

> Sd./- Superintending Engineer (Elect.) Electrical Circle, Bhanjanagar









FOCUS ECONOMIC STIMULUS

'In fact, if one reads attentively what Sri Aurobindo has written, all that he has written, one would have the answer to every question.'



Gold looks glum

THE MOTHER

n the economic history of the world, one would clearly observe that gold has always been a sensitive barometer of fear. Its value invariably runs up in proportion to people's fear quotient. The fast upward rally in the value of the yellow metal has been coterminous with the global tensions and strife that has marked international relations over last one and half decades. So much so, that the value of gold has gone up by more than 10 times over the last 15 years. This period has been marked by a heightening of international strife and turmoil resulting in a spike in global uncertainties. Terrorism, financial crises, tensions between countries, nuclear one-upmanship and religious fanaticism, to name only a few, have wracked the world over this period. International trade has gone for a huge toss. With the Covid-19 breaking out, both production and consumption have tumbled. The fizz of everybody's life has gone. There is despair all around. In fact, there was not a darker period in the living memory of people than the current pandemic age. The current rise in gold is an indicator of general fear and uncertainty about the future. Its rise today reflects worries over the safety of investing in traditional instruments. Not only are geopolitical tensions with China rising - gold's value also rose this year during a standoff between the US and Iran. The failure of the global scientific community to go on top of the pandemic has immensely contributed to the sustained rally in the yellow metal. The value of the precious metal has appreciated by over 40 per cent in a little over one year. This year alone, its price has soared by nearly 30 per cent. This trend is likely to continue until we have a vaccine in the market to prevent an infection. Unfortunately, this possibility is still far away. Thus, gold rates will continue to remain firm going forward. Also, an absence of other investment options is driving people to put money in gold. Lately, the Reserve Bank of India is on a gold-buying spree. The bank bought 6.8 tonnes of gold during the pandemic-hit September quarter. While the central bank is jacking up gold reserves in smaller tranches, the government has been issuing sovereign gold bonds. Over past few months, the government is issuing gold bonds every month.

Recent fears around the second wave of Covid-19 have forced many countries to enforce lockdowns. Although India is yet to recall lockdown here, the spurt in daily infections over recent days will make the investment climate further choppy. In the backdrop of such economic uncertainties stoking the gold price, its sales may come down during the coming Dhanteras and Diwali festivals. Chances are that people will keep away from buying gold except for buying it for ritualistic use. However, gold still holds a lot of lure as an investment option, especially when other investment avenues are drying up. Buying gold at ₹50,000 per 10 grams may be expensive now, but a decade later, this would turn out to be a very prudent investment. The only flip side around this time is people may not be having much disposable liquidity which will bear negatively on the prospect of gold sales. People still looking at gold as an investment option have the choices of investing in sovereign gold bonds or exchange-traded funds. The latter has been floated by mutual funds. They offer capital returns in line with the movement in gold prices. However, availability of these options will have an adverse impact on the sale of physical gold or jewellery. All of those may make the prospect of gold sales glum ahead of the festival.

WISDOM CORNER

- You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching, love like you'll never be hurt, sing like there's nobody listening, and live like it's heaven on earth. WILLIAM W. PURKEY
- Fairy tales are more than true: not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten. NEIL GAIMAN
- When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

WORDS**WORTH**

Beefing

The verb beef, with the meaning you give, has been in the language for a surprisingly long time - it's on record from the 1860s. We have to go back further to trace the verb to its beginnings. In the early eighteenth century there was a slang phrase to cry hot beef or give hot beef, which meant to raise the alarm, to start pursuit or to set up a hue and cry. This may have been based on a street hawker's cry and to have been a pun on stop thief! The New Canting Dictionary records in 1725, "to cry beef upon us: they have discovered us and are in Pursuit of us". A few years later, the verb beet by itself also meant to raise a hue and cry and this continued in use well into the nineteenth century. The next step is a bit disconnected, because the written evidence for it only begins to appear in the 1860s and it doesn't chart the way that beef had been developing. One change was that beef became a general cry of alarm, unconnected with theft, and then merely a shout or cry, a sense that came out of the theatre and was later taken to Australia by emigrants. At around the same period beef shifted to mean a complaint, thus giving us the slang sense we have today. You gave your message the punning subject line what's the beef? That obviously comes from the verb to beef and is still a common idiom meaning "what's the problem?" or "what's going on?", though it typically turns up in the popular prints as a humorous reference to ranching, mad cow disease, the Calgary stampede, McDonalds restaurants and related bovine topics.

AN 'NREGA' FOR ARTISTS

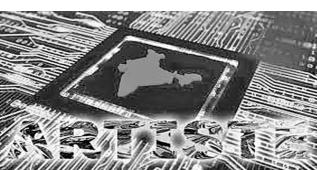
ovid-19 has disrupted human life across the planet like few other modern-era disasters. In India, where the virus ate into nearly a fourth of the country's economy in the first quarter, artists and performers are among the groups and communities that have been the hardest hit.

From folk musicians in the Manganiar and Langa communities in Rajasthan to the storytellers of Telangana's Kakipadagollu community, who have been practising their art forms since the 12th century, many are unable to put food on the table.

Even in the best of times, a vast majority of India's artists have struggled to earn decent wages as they are largely in unorganised sectors of the economy. Their predicament is exacerbated by the fact that many of them don't have regular jobs and their livelihood is dependent on regular performances. Those who mainly rely on live concerts and road shows are without their key source of revenue in a stay-at-home world.

In the United States and other developed countries, museums and other platforms that artists depend on for their livelihood have adapted to the new reality. Museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City now conduct virtual tours and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is providing daily digital stage offerings. Artists of all types, from Yo-Yo Ma's live streaming of Bach's classic cello suites to Garth Brooks free online country music concert, have taken their shows digital.

However, unlike their colleagues in the western world, Indian artists, especially practitioners of the folk tradition, do not have such platforms to showcase their talent and earn a livelihood. Therefore, it is important for the country and the society to support its artists. The central and state governments should work together, in tandem with philanthropic organisations, to reduce the pain of the artists' community. In the United States, the



Covid-19 has disrupted human life across the planet like few other modern-era disasters. In India, where the virus ate into nearly a fourth of the country's economy in the first quarter, artists and performers are among the groups and communities that have been the hardest hit

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act provided \$75 million to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to provide grants to non-profit art organizations. The NEA and many others posted blogs listing organizations for artists to contact for resources and grants during the pandemic. States, local governments, philanthropic foundations and individual citizens stepped up to the plate and provided financial assistance as well.

India should consider a similar public-private effort to sustain its artists, many of whom are currently jobless and struggling. Such an initiative should take into account both the current needs of the artists and their long-term sustenance.

In the short term, it is important to put money in their pockets right away. The long-term goal should be to create infrastructure that will continue to nurture their creativity and offer lifelong support. Given the magnitude of Covid-19 and the devastating effects around the world on healthcare, educational and economic systems of all nations, most economists and experts now agree that the recovery will be very slow - and especially slow for those who are self-employed or gig-workers in low paying jobs.

Most Indian artists fall into this category. Those interested in supporting these artists during these transitional times can help lay a more solid foundation going forward after the Covid-19 pandemic has ended. In India, a few prominent artists have already launched a modest initiative to support struggling artists. The Assistance for Disaster Affected Artistes (ADAA) initiated by a group of independent artists such as musicians Aneesh Pradhan and Shubha Mudgal, provides more than a hundred artists and their families ₹5.000 per month. But their sixmonth programme ends in October. Another new initiative, 'Artists

for Artists', a virtual performance series, is also under way to raise money to support artists and performers.

Given the enormity of the challenge -- there are nearly a dozen classical and more than 150 folk dance forms in India - these efforts need to be scaled and replicated throughout the country. The government and private philanthropists should take the baton from ADAA and 'Artists for Artists' and take it to the next level. The government, for its part, should launch an initiative along the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

(NREGA) to support Indian artists The rural employment programme, started up in the past decade, is credited with substantially reducing poverty, especially in rural India.

During the Great Depression. the United States set up the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works **Progress Administration Federal** Arts Project which produced more than 18,000 works of sculpture and posters. In India, a similar programme under the Sangeet Natak Akademi (the National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama) or the Ministry of Culture, could be set up to support various art forms, including music, performing arts, sculpture, painting, and even films.

Such a collective, supported by private foundations, could create works of art of all kinds, performances and concerts in communities across the nation, triggering a cultural renaissance. In addition to sus taining the struggling artists, it will also revive and record for posterity many dying art forms. An added benefit of such an initiative is that artists can be enlisted to be part of spreading awareness of and fighting Covid. As the country tackles mental health challenges in the post Covid world, the unifying and healing power of art can be used as a tool against the pandemic.

In conclusion, artists are the conscience of society. Art plays a pivotal role in connecting, inspiring, engaging, and educating communities. It transcends all boundaries and represents the very best of humanity.

In a country like India, where some of the folk traditions have been preserved and handed over by communities from generation to generation and century to century. art is also a vital part of the heritage and history. By implementing a collaborative programme such as NREGA, India can ensure that those traditions not only survive but thrive into the next century and give birth to new ones.

> Frank F. Islam is an entrepreneur, civic leader and thought leader based in Washington DC.

SPECTRUM CORRUPTION

Managing 'managed freedom'

n July 9, Uzbek blogger and the means for survival. Miraziz Bazarov posted an Thanks to a wave of public outopen letter to the rage, an anti-corruption investi- from Kyrgyzstan over social-media International Monetary Fund and gation was conducted, finding that posts critical of Mirziyoyev. employees of the sanitary-epidemiological service, a department within the health ministry, had embezzled more than \$171,000 since the Covid-19 crisis began. President Shavkat Mirziyoyev established the investigating agency for the stated purpose of preventing the misuse and misappropriation of Covid-19 funds. This is in line with the promise to uphold free speech and democracy that Mirziyoyev made four years ago, following the death of his despotic predecessor, Islam Karimov. But the reality on the ground shows how difficult it is for the government to fulfill his promise. While Mirziyoyev has praised bloggers and their work, anti-defamation laws mean that they can still face prison or crushing fines for their work. And bloggers might have no idea what response they will get until after their work is published. In fact, Bazarov is just the latest in a long line of government critics to be targeted. Over the last year, at least six social media activists have been detained because of posts critical of the government. And they are the lucky ones: others have been kidnapped, beaten, and confined to psychiatric facili-

ties. Uzbek journalist Bobomurod Uzbekistan must move beyond per-Abdullaev was recently extradited

mitting only "constructive" criticism – as defined by reformers within the ruling elite - and embrace full freedom of expression and association, with no threat of interrogation, prison, fines, or abuse. It must do so urgently, not least because of the Covid-19 crisis. In Uzbekistan, as in many other countries, the pandemic has overwhelmed state institutions. But the crisis has also highlighted the impressive progress the country has made, especially in terms of the development of its civil society. During the second wave, when hospitals were overrun with patients. volunteers organized to purchase supplies for hospitals and create a system for delivering and setting up portable oxygen concentrators in infected people's homes. By publicising these projects, bloggers and social-media activists helped to make them work, including by raising funds and finding volunteers. And yet they remain vulnerable to official retribution for the opinions and information they post. Protecting them is essential to keep Uzbekistan on the path of democratisation.



Frank F. Islam

Beg the question

his one really bugs people who know some logic and are familiar with the classical languages. From my attempts to research the point, it also seems to cause trouble for dictionary writers and compilers of style guides, so much so that I've not found two authorities that entirely agree on the nature of the problem or which senses of beg the question are acceptable. You can easily find examples of the sense you quote, which is used just as though one might say "prompt the question" or "forces one to ask". Here's an example from the Independent on Sunday about gay weddings: "It begs the question why the Church ever sanctioned something it now abominates?". This meaning of the phrase seems to have grown up because people have turned for a model to other phrases in beg, especially the wellknown I beg to differ, where beg is a fossil verb that actually used to mean "humbly submit". But the way we use beg to differ these days makes beg the question look the same as "wish to ask". It doesn't - or at least, it didn't. The original sense is of a logical fallacy, of taking for granted or assuming the thing that you are setting out to prove. To take an example, you might say that lying is wrong because we ought always to tell the truth. That's a circular argument and makes no sense. Another instance is to argue that democracy must be the best form of government because the majority is always right.

LOL **BEER FESTIVAL**

fter a Beer Festival in London, A all the brewery presidents decided to go out for a beer. Corona's president sits down and says, "Señor, I would like the world's best beer, a Corona.' The bartender takes a bottle from the shelf and gives it to him. Then Budweiser's president says, "I'd like the best beer in the world, give me 'The King Of Beers', a Budweiser." The bartender gives him one.



'I'd like the best beer in the world, the only one made with Rocky Mountain spring water, give me a Coors.'

He gets it. The guy from Guinness sits down and says, "Give me a Coke."

The other brewery presidents look over at him and ask, "Why aren't you drinking a Guinness?" The Guinness president replies, "Well, if you guys aren't drinking beer,

Adam Hug

UZBEKISTAN RANKS 153RD OF 180 COUNTRIES IN TRANSPARENCY **INTERNATIONAL'S** CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS **INDEX, NOT LEAST** BECAUSE **OFFICIALS HAVE OFTEN USED THEIR POSITIONS TO ENRICH THEMSELVES AND SILENCE**

the Asian Development Bank on Facebook, highlighting the likelihood that the government was misusing Covid-19 relief funds. Bazarov's allegation proved to be justified, but he paid a price for making it: he was summoned to the State Security Service (SGB) office for questioning

Bazarov addressed the IMF and the ADB, because they - along with the World Bank - had together issued nearly a billion dollars in loans for Uzbekistan's battle against Covid-19. But Uzbekistan has a long record of official corruption. It ranks 153rd of 180 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, not least because officials have often used their positions to enrich themselves and silence their critics.

That is why Bazarov urged the IMF and the ADB to refrain from issuing loans to Uzbekistan until the government devised a mechanism that would enable the public to track how the funds are spent. That way, the funds would be invested in Uzbekistan's health-care system, which is on the brink of collapse, and would help the many citizens who, as Bazarov noted, had been left "without incomes

Now, bloggers and other social media users may be about to become even more vulnerable. The Agency of Information and Mass Communications recently proposed a Bill that would hold website owners criminally liable for user comments on their platforms.

Civil-society activists are also on shaky ground. Independent nongovernment organisations may no longer be subject to the repression of the Karimov era. but they still have no official legal status. This failure to allow NGO registration makes it difficult for activists to carry out their work, raise money, or hire staff, and leaves them open to SGB harassment.

The truth is that, while Mirzivovev's government has implemented some reforms, it has gone only as far as a system of "managed freedom." There is room for some dissent, though how much is not always clear, and the state is still quick to revert to repressive measures. That is the core finding of the London-based Foreign Policy Centre's recent "Spotlight on Uzbekistan." a report on which I worked with other experts.

To make real progress toward democracy, the report argues,

Adam Hug is Director of the Foreign Policy Centre, a non-partisan international affairs think tank. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

etters

THEIR CRITICS

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are (0) requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

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

Democracy in danger

Sir, India is the largest democracy in the world. No doubt we are proud to be Indians, but let's see the state of affairs of our democracy. On October 5, 2020 a journalist of a Malayalam news portal was arrested by the UP Police under UAPA because he was on his way to cover the gangrape and murder of a girl in Hathras. On October 8, 2020 a journalist from Manipur, Wangkhem was arrested for sedition because he responded to a Facebook post by wife on a BJP politician. Earlier, on August 18, 2020, freelance journalist Prashant Kanojia was arrested by UP Police because of a tweet. Later, the Allahabad High Court granted him bail. On July 16, 2020, a journalist in Assam, Rajib Sharma was arrested because he was investigation cattle smuggling charges against a district Forest department officer. On May 11, 2020, another journalist in Gujarat, Dhaval Patel, was arrested by police in a sedition case because he criticized the CM. On May 7, 2020, Haryana journalist Naresh Khosla was arrested after he informed the police about stone pelting in his area. On April 16, 2020, ABP journalist Rahul Kulkarni was arrested for allegedly spreading fake news about migrant workers in Mumbai. Four months later he was set free. Similarly, several journalists were arrested from different parts of the country just because they refused to toe the government line. So, isn't our democracy in danger?

Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR

Modi govt's Achilles' heel

Sir, If there is anything which the Modi government has been incapable of is the handling of diplomatic relation with Nepal. It has been become NDA government's Achilles' heel despite many efforts. Nepal is dancing to China's tunes and it even altered map constitutionally to flatter the Dragon. Ties between Nepalese and Indian armies are as intact as they were earlier. India should use Indian Army Chief's Nepal visit to elevate the downgrading relations as both the nations enjoy historical and cultural ties. China is twisting Nepal's arm to its own benefits in the name offering developmental projects and so-called soft loans which end up in debt trap. Chinese growing influence and presence are the matters of grave concerns. Already, there are reports that the Chinese People's Liberation Army has encroached upon several hectares of land in neighbouring Nepal, but its government is in a denial mood to please the Dragon

Niharika Pandey, NAGADA



neither will I."





Amaravati. Nov 5: As many as

262 students and about 160 teachers

have tested positive for Covid-19

in Andhra Pradesh during

the past three days after

schools were re-

opened November

2 for Class IX and

X students, a sen-

ior official of the

Education de-

partment said

Commissioner

of School Education

Veerabhadrudu said the

place in every institution.

Chinna

figure is not alarming when

compared to the number of stu-

dents attending the schools, though

every care is being taken to ensure

Covid-19 safety protocols are in

four lakh students attended schools.

There were 262 positive cases. It is

"Yesterday, (November 4) around

School

Thursday

CBI detains ex-Karna minister Kulkarni in 2016 murder case

Yogeshgouda, then a Zilla Panchayat member from the BJP was hacked to death by a group of 5-6 men, reportedly over a property dispute, in his own gym at Saptapur in Dharwad June 15, 2016

AGENCIES

Dharwad, Nov 5: The Central Bureau of Investigation detained former minister and Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni Thursday for questioning about his alleged role in the murder of BJP Zilla Panchayat member Yogeshgouda in 2016

According to sources, Kulkarni was taken to Dharwad Town Police Station, where the murder case was first registered by the police. The CBI team has already ques

tioned Vijay Kulkarni, the younger brother of the former minister, his close aides, few Congress lead ers and also Yogesh's wife.

In June, the CBI examined Pandu Rangrane (the then retired Commissioner Hubli, Dharwad) Jinendra Khanagavi (the then DCI Dharwad and presently SP Security Division, Bangalore), and Mallikarjun Baladandi (the then DCP Crime and Traffic Dharwad and presently Additional SP Haveri) at the Central Bureau of Investigation office in Bangalore.

"These policemen were the supervisory officers in Dharwad during the investigation of Yogeshgouda murder case by the local police in 2016," said a source, privy to the investigation.

The police had registered a case against six accused, who are all residents of Dharwad. After taking over the investigation September 24 last year, the CBI arrested eight persons, of whom seven are in judicial custody and one is out on bail

In May, the CBI also filed a chargesheet against the eight people. The investigation agency said the accused had allegedly come to Dharwad on two occasions in June 2016 and with the support of the other acthreatening him and at the same cused allegedly planned the crime. time also trying to strike truce.

Recoveries continue to outnumber new Covid cases in K'taka

CBI



(L) The deceased BJP Zilla Panchayat member Yogeshgouda and Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni

In June, the CBI examined Pandu Rangrane (the then retired Commissioner Hubli, Dharwad), Jinendra Khanagavi (the then DCP Dharwad and presently SP Security Division, Bangalore)

Crime and Traffic Dharwad and presently Additional SP Haveri)

These cops were the supervisory officers in Dharwad during the investigation of Yogeshgouda murder case by the local police in 2016

Earlier, the Karnataka Police had filed a charge sheet in the murder case September 9, 2016. Yogeshgouda, then a Zilla

Panchayat member from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was hacked to death by a group of five or six men, reportedly over a property dispute, in his own gym at

Saptapur in Dharwad June 15, 2016. Following a plea by elder brother of Yogeshgouda, Gurunathgouda, the case was handed over to the for investigation. Gurunathgouda had been making several allegations against the top officials and Vinay Kulkarni, who was then the Mines and Geology minister in the Congress-led government in the state. Gurunathgouda had even accused

He had also alleged tampering of evidence in the case. The BJP leaders too had demanded a CBI inquiry, alleging involvement of the Congress leaders, including the then Minister Vinay Kulkarni. While the then Congress government headed by Siddaramaiah declined to hand over the case to the

The investigation body had

also questioned Mallikarjun

Baladandi (the then DCP

CBI, the present BJP-led government got the CBI working on the case. In June 2017, an audio recording of Vinay Kulkarni's alleged conversation laced with threats on the

telephone with the advocate representing the BJP leader's family went viral. The audio clip coincided with Kulkarni's plunge into the agitation for the separate religion status for Lingayats, which was almost a year before the crucial 2018 Assembly polls in Karnataka.

As schools reopen in AP, 262 students test +ve

However, the govt says "it is not alarming" as "it is not even 0.1 per cent" of the students attending schools

Poor

students who

not even 0.1 per cent. It is not correct to say that they were affected due to their attendance to schools. We ensure that each school room has only 15 or 16 students,'

the official told PTI, adding, "It is not alarm-

As per

ment,

students

couldn't afford online ing. classes are the most affected ones if the schools were not open the staand it is quandary for girl students tistics in tribal and rural areas as parents promay indulge in child marriages if vided the teenagers stop going by the to schools depart-

V CHINNA VEERABHADRUDU

registered for Class IX and X in the state out of which 3.93 lakh attended, out of 1.11 lakh teachers, over 99,000 thousand attended the educational institutions Wednesday.

Out of 1.11 lakh teachers, about 160 teachers tested positive, he added. "Lives of both students and teach-



a-day.

said earlier.

nounced.

AGENCIES

leges reopened from November 2 for

classes IX, X and intermediate.

Classes IX and X and Intermediate

first and second year would func-

tion on alternate days only for half

Classes VI, VII and VIII would

begin November 23 while classes I,

II, III, IV and V would start from

December 14, an official statement

All the educational institutions

have remained closed since March

when the national lockdown to con-

tain the spread of Covid-19 was an

Protest peacefully

Bangalore, Nov 5: The

Karnataka Muslim Ulemas (cler-

ics) forum has appealed to the

community in general and the

vouth in particular to not go

overboard while protesting

against the objectionable car-

The Ulemas appealed for peace-

ful protests and stressed that

these protests should be well

within the boundaries of the

country's laws that one lives in.

Ulemas termed these cartoons

as nothing but a hate speech

and not part of freedom of

cannot allow others to hurt someone's feelings or religious sentiments. Therefore, the cartoons are equally deplorable as the

'Freedom of speech by any country's constitution's standard

Condemning the cartoons, the

toons in France.

speech.

against 'hate'

speech: Ulemas

ers are important for us," he said. According to him, the attendance of students to schools was hovering about 40 per cent as parents are still apprehensive of the killer virus there are 9.75 lakh despite tight measures being taken by the government.

Veerabhadrudu said poor students who could not afford online classes are the most affected ones if the schools were not open and it is quandary for girl students in tribal and rural areas as parents may indulge in child marriages if the teenagers stop going to schools.

All government schools and col-

Yedi vows to fight against 'love jihad'

AGENCIES

AGENCIES

Bangalore, Nov 5: Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa Thursday said the government will take strong measures to put an end to religious conversion in the name of "love jihad."

"In recent days there are media reports about religious conversions in the name of love iihad in Karnataka. I have discussed this with officials before coming here. What other states have done or not done is a different matter, but in Karnataka we will have to put an end to it," Yediyurappa said.

Addressing the BJP state executive meeting in Mangaluru, he said, his government was mulling taking strong steps against such activities.

"Young girls of the state are ure," he added.



and are being converted to considered it seriously BS YEDIYURAPPA CHIEF MINISTER,

KARNATAKA

being lured in the name of love and money and are being converted to other religions, we have considered it seriously. After thorough review, we will take a strong meas-

Karnataka Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai Wednesday had said the government was considering a law against religious conversion for the sake of marriage. **BJP** National General Secretary CT Ravi too in a tweet had recently

said that on lines of Allahabad High Court's order, Karnataka will enact a law banning religious conversions for the sake of marriage "We will not remain silent when

jihadis strip the dignity of our sisters. Anyone involved in the act of conversion shall face severe and swift punishment." he had said. The Allahabad High Court had

recently said in a case that conversion just for the sake of marriage is not valid. The court made the remark while

dismissing a plea by a newly married couple.



Dushyant Dave, representing the AP govt, submits before the bench that the HC is also bound by laws declared by the SC and it doesn't have extraordinary powers to pass any order it likes

Supreme Court and it does not

seeking a CBI probe.

The bench asked Dave if the Jagan Mohan Reddy government has decided to review all decisions of the previous TDP government. Dave replied. "Not at all, only those cases where gross irregularities were found

TDP leader Varla Ramiah on an appeal by the Andhra government challenging the High Court stay of its orders to constitute a Cabinet sub-committee to scrutinize TDP regime policies/programmes and also to form a Special Investigation Team to en-

killings in France," they added. "Quran does not validate protests in a violent manner that has happened in France. It is a heinous crime even in the Quran. Therefore, do not indulge in any act that will bring disrepute to the community as a whole," the Ulemas told a press conference. They further added that the community should try and resolve matters in an amicable manner instead of promoting hate from either side. Mohammed Moulana Maqsood Imran Rashadi said. "What has happened in France is grossly condemnable. Both acts cannot be justified. In the guise of freedom of speech, they shouldn't have hurt the community's feelings, same way the guiding book of Islam does not permit killings to prevent such acts. Therefore, we appeal to our community members and the youth not to go overboard while protesting against the cartoons published in France.

other religions, we have

Bangalore, Nov 5: Maintaining its momentum, 8.045 recoveries outnumbered 3,377 new Covid cases on a single day in Karnataka.

"With 8,045 patients discharged Tuesday, recoveries shot up to 7,88,780 till date, while 3,377 fresh

RECOVERIES: 8045 NEW INFECTIONS: 3377

cases were registered, taking the southern state's Covid tally to 8,35,773, including 35,693 active cases," said the state health bulletin Wednesday.

Death of 34 patients due to the infection in the last 24 hours rose the state's toll to 11,281 since the pandemic broke March 8.



Kulkarni and his associates of

New cases, however, dropped below 2,000 in Bangalore to 1,953 taking its tally to 3,43,507, including 18,806 active cases, while 3,20,783 recovered, with 5,827 discharged in the last 24 hours.

With 16 succumbing to the infection in a day, the city's death toll rose to 3,917. Of the 928 patients in the intensive care units (ICUs), 464 are in Bangalore, 47 in Ballari, 40 in Tumakru, 36 in Hassan, 35 in Kolar and 29 in Kalaburagi.

New Delhi, Nov 5: The Supreme Court Thursday issued notice on an appeal filed by the Andhra Pradesh government challenging the stay granted by the Andhra Pradesh High Court into the Amaravati land acquisition.

AGENCIES

A bench headed by AMARAVATI Justice Ashok Bhushan and com-LAND CASE prising Justices MR Shah and R Subhash Reddy issued notice on the plea seeking revival of the SIT

probe and posted the matter for further hearing after four weeks. Senior advocate Dushyant Dave, representing the Andhra Pradesh government, submitted before the

bench that the High Court is also

bound by the laws declared by the

have extraordinary powers to pass any order it likes. He added that the High Court prohibited a probe and even registration of a case in this matter. Dave said, "Can this be allowed? Is this how a High Court can function?"

Dave argued that the state government has been completely fair and has written to the Centre seeking a CBI probe in the matter.

"What more can a state do to show its bonafides? But the High Court passes an extensively wide order," submitted Dave, urging the top court to issue notices on the appeal against the interim order. He added that the Centre is yet to respond to the letter The top court issued notice to quire into alleged irregularities.



Counselling cells for Covid anxious Andhra students THE DEPT OF HIGHER EDUCATION HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO TELL ALL THE UNIVERSITIES IN THE STATE TO SET UP A COUNSELLING CELL ON CAMPUS

AGENCIES

Amaravati, Nov 5: Andhra Pradesh government has directed all state universities to set up campus counselling cells to help the Covid anxious students, as the pandemic has disrupted their education, careers and future plans.

"We have noticed that a lot of students are scared about their future, thinking Covid can damage their chances of being successful. They need to be told that their careers aren't in danger and that the government and the departments stand with them," said special Chief Secretary Satish Chandra.

He said some students carry the baggage of stress caused by the Covid lockdown and the pandemic outbreak

"Mental health is as important as physical health for a student who aims to do well. Due to the same, as per the directions of the Chief

Minister, we have undertaken this initiative with the aim of getting such students back to the right path," he said.

The state government has recognised that the psychological impact of Coronavirus outbreak and the subsequent lockdown has been a matter of much deliberation across the world

According to officials, student community happens to be one of the most vulnerable sections amid turbulent times such as the pandemic, leading to emotional turmoil and putting their careers at stake.

"As a step towards addressing the same, the government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to actively help the students deal with their psychological issues emerging out of financial and career oriented as well as any other forms of stress which could push them into a pessimistic sphere," said an official.

The department of Higher



Education has been directed to tell all the universities in the state to set up a counselling cell on campus. "Highly qualified psychology

professors, a lot of whom have at

some point been practicing counsellors will be responsible for addressing the issues of students in order to bring them back to the right path," added the official.

Students across the board lost as many as five months of physical classes as they were suspended from March 26, sending their academic years into a tailspin.

Jagan not distributing ready houses to beneficiaries: TDP

AGENCIES

Amaravati, Nov 5: Telugu Desam Party (TDP) chief and opposition leader in Andhra Pradesh, Kinjarapu Atchannaidu, slammed Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for allegedly not distributing the TIDCO homes to eligible

people in the state. "We have built 2.62 lakh houses for eligible people in gated communities. Former Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu took up this project with utmost priority. but this CM (Reddy) is not distributing them," said Atchannaidu.

He said those houses were built with the Central government help and some contribution from the beneficiaries, tying up with the banks.

The TDP president said the houses were built in many cities as gated communities, some of which may have small deficiencies such as lack of water or roads but all of them were ready.

"We selected the beneficiaries through online mode, we checked who is eligible, who doesn't have a house, we took little beneficiary contribution from them and tied up with the banks," said Atchannaidu.

The opposition leader said everybody should notice this development of not distributing the ready homes, which should have happened even when a government changes.

"But this CM, despite the houses being completed is just keeping the keys with him and not distributing," claimed Atchannaidu.

He criticised Reddy that instead of giving away the ready homes, he was trying to distribute some lands to people which are located in graveyards and those belonging to the government and SC and ST communities.

Atchannaidu said the Chief Minister was trying to show off asif nobody had ever distributed land before.





We have

oticed

that a lot







This is not an election just about voting for a candidate. It's about the future of Bihar. On one side, there are those who work for development and on the other, there are those who left no stone unturned in taking Bihar towards destruction JP NADDA | BJP PRESIDENT

PUNJAB EASES CURBS

The Punjab government Thursday announced to reopen universities and colleges located outside the containment zones from November 16



Shah sounds Bengal poll bugle



KESHAV PRASAD MAURYA UP DEPUTY CM

You all must have seen photographs of Kumar standing in front of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at rallies, with hands folded and head bowed. So much bitterpass be had for Modi

much bitterness he had for Modi just a few years back, He has sought to swallow it all because of lust for power CHIRAG PASWAN LOK JANSHAKTI

PARTY CHIEF



art production facilities

SHORT TAKES

Sivasankar's ED custody extended

Kochi: Ex-Kerala Principal Secretary M. Sivasankar's custody with the **Enforcement Directorate was** Thursday extended till next Wednesday by a local court here. The bail application of the once powerful IAS officer will also be taken up on Wednesday. Sivasankar was arrested on October 29 soon after his anticipatory bail plea was rejected by the Kerala High Court and since then he has been in the custody of the ED.

Pakistan violates ceasefire

Jammu: Pakistan resorted to unprovoked firing and shelling at Indian positions on Thursday in three sectors

AGENCIES

Bankura (WB), Nov 5: Union Home Minister Amit Shah said Thursday that he can sense massive public anger against the Mamata Banerjee government in West Bengal and the death knell of her regime has been sounded.

Shah urged the people to give the BJP a chance to form the next government in the state to fulfill the dream of "Shonar Bangla". "Since last night, I am in West Bengal and can sense the massive public anger against the Mamata Banerjee government. On the other side, I can sense a hope among the masses that a change can be ushered in the state only under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," the senior BJP leader said after garlanding the statue of revolutionary Birsa Munda here.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah addresses BJP's West Bengal unit workers at a meeting in Bankura, Thursday

Shah, who is on a two-day tour to the state, hit out at the Trinamool Congress government over the "killings" of BJP members. "From the kind of attack and atrocities that are being perpetrated on BJP workers, I can sense that the death knell

TMC hits back at Shah

Kolkata: The ruling TMC Thursday mocked Union Home Minister Amit Shah for "daydreaming" of BJP coming to power in West Bengal and described his tribal outreach as a "poll gimmick" to divert attention from atrocities on backward communities in states ruled by the saffron party. "Union Home Minister Amit Shah is behaving like a BJP activist. He and his party should stop daydreaming about coming to power in West Bengal. Instead, he should concentrate on uniting his party in the state, which is a divided house," senior TMC leader and MP Saugata Roy said. "The people of Bengal are firmly behind Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee", he added.

of the Mamata Banerjee government has been sounded," he said. "I am confident that we will form the next government in Bengal with a two-third majority," he added.

Shah assailed the West Bengal government, saying that benefits of over 80 central schemes, including PM-Kisan and Ayushman Bharat, could not be reached to the poor in the state.

"The Mamata Banerjee government is not allowing the benefits of central schemes to reach the poor. More than 80 central schemes for the poor, tribals and the backward communities are not being permitted by the state," he claimed.

UP IN ARMS



Farmers raise slogans as they block a road during a protest over the recent farm reform bills, in Bathinda, Thursday

Calcutta HC bans crackers on Kali puja

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 5: The Calcutta High Court Thursday banned the use and sale of firecrackers on Kali Puja to curb pollution amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

A division bench of justices Sanjib Banerjee and Arijit Banerjee gave the direction while hearing two Public Interest Litigations (PILs). Kali Puja is on November 15. The court directed that the ban will also be in force during Jagaddhatri Puja, Chhath and Kartik Puja.

The court said that the guidelines, which were in place during Durga Puja such as no entry to pandals, will also be in effect during Kali Puja.

The bench lauded the state government for effectively implementing the court-directed guidelines during Durga Puja.

It asked the police to ensure that the norms are strictly enforced on Kali Puja as well. Fifteen people will be allowed in the Kali Puja pandals having an area up to 300 sq metres, and 45 persons in the bigger ones, the court said.

The bench also disallowed procession during immersion.

The state government on Tuesday had appealed to the people to avoid bursting firecrackers during Kali Puja and Diwali in order to check air pollution, which is hazardous for COVID-19 patients.

"With everybody's cooperation, we want to hold the Kali Puja and Diwali festivals avoiding firecrackers. The administration appeals to people to avoid firecrackers," Chief Secretary Alapan

Bandyopadhyay had said. An association of firecracker makers has already demanded compensation of Rs 2 lakh for each licensed fireworks dealers, numbering over 53,000.

The 'Poschim Bango Atosbazi Unnayan Samity' has said that livelihood of around four lakh people in the state are at stake. A complete ban on fireworks will raise the possibility of il-

will raise the possibility of illegal firecrackers flooding the market and flouting the existing noise cap of 90 decibel, it has said.

INDIA SLAMS PAK

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



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 5: India Thursday described as "highly condemnable" Pakistan's decision to transfer the management of the Kartarpur Sahib gurudwara from a Sikh body to a separate trust, saying it runs against the religious sentiments of the Sikh community.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India received representations from the Sikh community expressing grave concern over the decision to transfer the management and maintenance of the gurudwara from the Pakistan Sikh Gurudwara Prabhandhak Committee to the administrative control of the Evacuee Trust Property Board, a non-Sikh body.

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

"We have seen reports about Pakistan transferring the management and maintenance of the Holy Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib away from the Pakistan Sikh Gurudwara Prabhandhak Committee, a body run by the minority Sikh Community, to the administrative control of the Evacuee Trust Property Board, a non-Sikh body," the MEA said.

"This unilateral decision by Pakistan is highly condemnable and runs against the spirit of the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor as also the religious sentiments of the Sikh community at large," it said. The MEA said, the Sikh community, in its representations to India, expressed grave concern over the decision by Pakistan "targeting the rights" of the minority Sikh community in that country.

"Such actions only expose the reality of the Pakistani government and its leadership's tall claims of preserving and protecting the rights and welfare of the religious minority communities," the MEA said.

"Pakistan is called upon to reverse its arbitrary decision to deprive the Sikh minority community its right to manage affairs of the Holy Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib," it 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.

The Kartarpur corridor was thrown open in the midst of heightened tension between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir issue.

The relations between the two countries nosedived after India scrapped Jammu and Kashmir's special status on August 5, 2019 and bifurcated it into two union ter-_ ritories.

The corridor was shut in March in view of the coronavirus pandemic.

of the line of control (LoC) in J&K's Poonch district. Colonel Devender Anand, Defence Ministry spokesman said at about 5.30 p.m. on Thursday Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling with mortars along the LoC in Shahpur, Kirni and Qasba sectors of Poonch district.

Bikru massacre: SIT submits report

Lucknow: The Special Investigation Team (SIT), set up to probe the Bikru massacre in which eight policemen were ambushed and killed on July 3, has submitted its report to the state government. According to the government spokesman, the report runs into 3,500 pages. It involves the proceedings against about 80 senior and junior officers while SIT has recommended administrative reforms against 30. It also recommended action against 75 officials including 40 police personnel for having links with the main accused Vikas Dubey. SIT has prepared its investigation report on the basis of more than 100 witnesses

Gurugram: A 31-year-old man

allegedly raping a woman on

the pretext of marrying her,

complaint, the accused Izhar

ul-Haqq, who was familiar to

her, had established physical

relationship with her on the

later when she asked him to

promise of marriage, but

marry her, he refused.

has been booked here for

police said Thursday. According to the woman's

Woman raped

Teen killed for refusing to bring snacks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 5: A 14-year-old boy was allegedly stabbed to death in southeast Delhi's Kalindi Kunj area after he refused to get snacks for a man who was consuming alcohol, police said Thursday.

The incident took place on Wednesday and the accused has been arrested, they said.

According to Deputy Commissioner of Police (southeast) R P Meena, they received information on Wednesday that a 14-year-old boy was being taken to the Apollo Hospital.

The hospital informed police that the injured boy had been declared brought dead, the DCP said. The body has been preserved in the mortuary of the hospital.

There were multiple injuries on the body of the deceased, police said.

During enquiry, the statement of an eye witness was recorded who said the deceased was assaulted by a person named Shadab, a resident of Madanpur Khadar Extension, Meena said, following which a case under section 302 (murder) was registered at Kalindi Kunj police station.

Shadab, who is in his early 20, has been arrested, police said. The boy was going for some work when he was stopped by the accused, who was consuming alcohol.

The accused asked the boy to get snacks for him. When the boy refused, he assaulted the boy and later stabbed him, a senior police officer said.

Further investigation is underway, police added. Reporting of cyber crimes low in Assam: Survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, **Nov 5:** Reporting of cyber crimes to the police is considerably low in Assam though a high level of awareness and understanding exists among the internet users, according to a survey report conducted by the Assam police and the Cyber Peace Foundation.

The survey was conducted in the month of October to gauge the level of awareness around cybersecurity in the state and it was found that the respondents expressed a deep understanding on cyber crime though only 16 per cent had reported to the police when exposed to cyber crimes.

"Only 16 per cent of the respondents stated that they have reported to the police when exposed to cyber crime while 32 per cent preferred reporting to the website and 22 per cent doing nothing at all", the report said.



Sixty-two per cent of the respondents, however, knew that cyber crime is reported at the police station and 58 per cent of respondents were also aware that Assam Police had dedicated cyber police stations and police personnel to deal with cybercrimes.

Seventy per cent of the respondents were aware of crimes committed with the intent of stealing the data from computer hardware while 71 per cent were aware of online harassment, 78 per cent about hacking, 68 per cent about online impersonation and 64 per cent about spreading fake news.

Govt issues revised guidelines

Internatio

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 5: The government Thursday issued a set of revised guidelines for international arrivals, under which travellers seeking exemption from institutional quarantine will need to submit a negative RT-PCR report 72 hours before undertaking the journey.

The India-bound passengers can also undergo COVID-19 testing at the airports where the provisions are available. According to the guidelines issued by the Health ministry, passengers would need to give an undertaking on the portal or to the Ministry of Civil Aviation through concerned airlines before they are allowed to undertake the journey, stating that they would abide by the decision of the appropriate government authority to undergo facility/home quarantine/self-monitoring of their health for 14 days, or as warranted.

"Only for compelling reasons/ cases of human distress such as pregnancy, death in family, serious illness and parent(s) with children of the age of 10 years or below,



home quarantine may be permitted for 14 days," it said.

For seeking exemption, they would need to apply to the online portal (HYPERLINK "http://www.newdelhiairport.in"ww w.newdelhiairport.in) at least 72 hours before boarding the flight to India. The decision taken by the government as communicated on the online portal will be final, it said.

"Travellers may also seek exemption from institutional quarantine by submitting a negative RT-PCR test report. This test should have been conducted within 72 hrs prior to undertaking the journey. The test report should be uploaded the guidelines said. The guidelines stated that in-

ternational passengers arriving without an RT-PCR negative certificate and wishing to seek exemption from institutional quarantine may also avail the facility to undergo testing at the airports where such provisions exist.

"International passengers arriving without RT-PCR negative certificate and not opting for RT PCR test at airport (if facility is available) /arriving at an airport where testing facility is not available will have to undergo mandatory 7 days' institutional quarantine and 7 days' home quarantine," it said.

RJD, JD-U want to repeat success in third phase

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, Nov 5: On November 7, elections will be held on 78 seats for the third and final phase of assembly elections in Bihar. Although the election in this phase is important for every political party, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and the Janata Dal United face the challenge of retaining their old seats. For the BJP, the challenge is to repeat the success of the 2010 elections.

In this phase, for the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the BJP is contesting on 35 seats while its ally the JD (U) has fielded 37 candidates. In addition, five candidates of the Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) and one of the Hindustani Awam Morcha are in the fray.

On the other hand, for the Mahagathbandhan (Grand Alliance), the RJD is contesting on 46 seats and its ally the Congress on 25 assembly seats. In the last election, the Mahagathbandhan had won 54 seats out of 78 in these areas, but the situation has changed this time round. After the coming together of the JD(U) and the BJP, the RJD may find it tough to repli-



cate its success. The party had won 20 seats in the region in the last election. The same is case for the JD(U) that had won 23 seats from the region in the last election. In the third phase of elections, the RJD and JD (U) are facing each other in a direct contest on 23 seats while the RJD has a prickly battle with the BJP on 20 seats. In this phase, the Congress faces the BJP on 14 seats and is contesting against the JD(U)on nine seats. In 2010, 27 of the 91 seats that the BJP won came from this region. No wonder the BJP is working hard to replicate its success in the region. However, the election in

 However, the election in
 Seemanchal has never been easy
 for any party. The math here is
 fairly complicated. Asaduddin Owaisi's party, the All India Majlise-Ittehadul Muslimeen is already preparing to field its candidate in this Muslim-dominated region and make a dent in RJD's vote bank. The election for this phase is no less challenging for the Congress that is part of the Grand Alliance. In the last election, the party had won on 27 seats, but its four sitting seats have gone to the account of its allies.

Meanwhile, all parties are working hard to improve their position, but who would the voters favour will only be revealed on November 10 when the results are declared after the counting of votes.











The global economic fallout of the coronavirus pandemic will continue to remain a challenge and India has been looking at it not as constraints but as an opportunity for its economy as well as rebalancing of the international system HARSH VARDHAN SHRINGLA FOREIGN SECY OF INDIA

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 5: The Supreme

Court Thursday favoured nation-

wide guidelines to do away with practice of affixing posters out-

side residences of Covid-19 pa-

tients. It sought the Centre's re-

sponse on a PIL within two weeks.

A bench headed by Justice

FOOD SURVEY

Amid the Covid-19 pandemic, a new report Thursday revealed that only two in 10 consumers have complete confidence that their food is safe to eat





We are asking world leaders to comply with the Paris Agreement. Our Prime Minister is passionate about

climate change. India's emission share in the world is only six per cent. India is taking care of nature and doing well

PRAKASH JAVADEKAR UNION ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

We will soon be completing a journey of 10 months in fighting the coronavirus. The country is now witnessing substantial improvements in COVID-19 parameters HARSH VARDHAN UNION HEALTH MINISTER

Indian Naval Ship Airavat has delivered 100 MT of food aid to Sudan as part of a COVID relief package

S JAISHANKAR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Cop found dead

Srinagar: The body of a policeman was found tied to a tree in Budgam district of Jammu and Kashmir Thursday, hours after he went missing, police said. Constable Ishfaq Rather was posted at Parihaspora in Pattan area of Baramulla district, a police official said. Rather, a resident of Magam area, went missing from his home last evening and was found dead in Agrikalan area, he said. Further details of the incident are awaited, the official added.

Youth kills self

Ramgarh (Jharkhand): A 26year-old youth in Jharkhand's Ramgarh district died by suicide allegedly after the local panchayat directed him to marry his sister-in-law, a widow, as a punishment for having an illicit relationship



India and China are engaged in border dispute for the last seven months in Eastern Ladakh

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 5: In a clear message to China, just ahead of talks to resolve border issue, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said Thursday that India is facing challenges on its borders and will defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity. "India is a peace-loving country

and that peace can only be ensured through the ability to deter war," Singh said while speaking at a webinar celebrating the Diamond Jubilee to mark 60 years of the National Defence College in Delhi. The webinar theme was on 'India's National Security - The Decade Ahead' and it started with a keynote address by Rajnath Singh. The Minister said: "We believe that differences should not become disputes. We attach importance to the peaceful resolution of differences through dialogue. India is determined to protect its sovereignty

and territorial integrity in the face of unilateralism and aggression, no matter what the sacrifice." India and China are engaged in border dispute for the last seven months in Eastern Ladakh. Despite several rounds of talks between the two countries, the dispute remains unresolved. Talking about India's relations with friendly counties he said: "We have enhanced the scope and quality of our rela-



He also mentioned that it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's special interest in reaching out to partner countries in West Asia, South East and East Asia. "India's strategic partnership with the US is stronger than ever before," Singh

Talking about India's ally Russia, Singh said: "India also has a strong, traditional and deep-rooted relations with Russia. Our two countries have weathered many a challenge in the past through our close understanding and appreciation of each other's concerns and interests." He said working with likeminded countries, India has achieved substantial success to not only expose Pakistan's regressive policies, but also make it is increasingly difficult to continue

With the exception of Pakistan, given its agenda of fuelling terrorism, India has improved its relations with all neighbours. We have invested heavily to help and support our friends to forge a relationship of mutual-respect and



said.

with its previous business as usual approach.

mutual-interest," he added.

Nitish stuns Bihar with his remark

bridled glee. "Nitish Kumar has re-

alised that he has become

tired...that he cannot handle Bihar.

Today, he has understood the

ground reality and decided to

quit," RJD leader and the chief

ministerial candidate of the op-

position Grand Alliance Tejashwi

who led his party out of the NDA

in Bihar just before the election,

contended Kumar's comments at

his rally on the last day of can-

vassing would have demoralised

JD(U) candidates even further. "I

don't know who advised him to

make this statement at his last

Chirag Paswan, the LJP chief.

Yaday told reporters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Purnea/Patna. Nov 5: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar Thursday stunned his audience on the last day of electioneering with his remark that the assembly elections under way in the state were his last.



Sharma stating that the decision and action of affixing posters outside residences of Covid-19 positive persons and disclosure of such names violate Article 14 and 21 of the Constitution. "Affixing posters outside residences of Covid-19 positive persons amounts to unprecedented violation of the right to privacy

End posters on Covid patients' home: SC

A BENCH HEADED BY JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN REMARKED WHEN DELHI GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO

DO IT BEFORE THE DELHI HIGH COURT, THEN WHY CAN'T CENTRE DO IT FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY

guaranteed under Article 21 of Constitution," said the PIL. 'We had filed a petition in the Delhi High Court raising this issue pursuant to which the Delhi Government stopped this practice. This should be implemented by all states and UTs for which

which is a Fundamental Right

FESTIVE SEASON



A worker sprays colour on idols of Goddess Laxmi and Ganesha ahead of Diwali in Jaipur, Thursday

Man lynched in UP

PTI PHOTO

The accused was on the run since he committed the crime and the local police had announced a reward of ₹25,000 for any information about him

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh), Nov ar-old man, who had been



complex as well as household staff of neighbours, vendors, passers-by and other unrelated persons," contended the petitioner

we have now approached the

19 positive who are already bat-

tling the severe physical illness

and the associated mental trauma

are subjected to stigmatisation,

due to this practice of affixing

homes lead to further aggravat-

ing their illness as it is widely

publicised amongst other resi-

dents of a colony or apartment

"Affixing posters outside their

posters outside their homes.

The plea has argued that Covid-

Supreme Court," Sharma said.

Boat capsize: 1 dead, 7 missing

PRESS TRUST OF INDA

Bhagalpur (Bihar), Nov 5: A boat carrying nearly 50 people capsized in Bihar's Bhagalpur district Thursday, killing a 40-year-old woman, while seven others were feared drowned. officials said.

The remaining people on the boat either swam to safety or were rescued by SDRF personnel, a senior official said. The incident took place in Naugachia police district, around 30 km from here, when agricultural labourers were cross ing a river by a boat to go to their fields, Bhagalpur District Magistrate Pranav Kumar said.

'One body has been recovered so far. She has been identified as Sunaina Devi, a resident of Tintanga in Gopalpur police station area in Naugachia. Seven people are still missing," the DM said. A team of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) has reached the spot and efforts were on to recover the seven missing persons, he added

with a married woman of his village, police said Wednesday. The body of Lav Kumar, a resident of Rola-Bagicha village, was found hanging from the ceiling of a room in their new house at Purabdih village on Tuesday evening, Gola police station officer-in-charge B N Ojha said.

Man surrenders

Thane: A 50-year-old man was arrested after he walked into a police station with a bloodied knife that he had used to allegedly kill his wife in Bhiwandi town of Maharashtra's Thane district. police said Thursday, Ansar Nagar resident Mohammed Rafigue Mohammad Yunus walked into the police station after killing his 38-year-old wife on Wednesday night. senior inspector Mamta D'Souza of Shanti Nagar police station said.

.....

Three held

Thane: Three persons were arrested for allegedly killing a man who had broken into a restaurant and stolen their mobile phones in Bhiwandi town of Maharashtra's Thane district, police said Thursday. The victim Shamshiddin Asif Shaikh and his accomplice broke into a restaurant in Balaji Nagar in the early hours of Wednesday and stole mobile phones of workers sleeping in the premises, senior inspector Maloji Shinde of Narpoli police station said. On hearing some noise, the workers woke up and demanded their phones back, and allegedly attacked the victim with sharp weapons after he refused to return the stolen items, he said.

another daughter refused to take it and ran away from the house at Maruthamalai near here, police said Thursday.

Coimbatore, Nov 5: A couple

and their daughter committed sui-

cide by consuming poison while

FAMILY ENTERS

SUICIDE PACT;

ONE FLEES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The incident came to light when the 19-year-old daughter, who refused to take the poison, informed the neighbours, who in turn informed the police. Preliminary investigation revealed that 50-yearold Sivamurugan had incurred heavy loss in milk business, leading to mental depression, the police said. He, his wife and elder daughter

consumed the poison stuffed in banana in the wee hours of today while the other daughter refused to consume the poison-laced fruit and fled the scene. Police went to the house and sent the bodies for a postmortem. Further investigations were on, the police said.

Will contest TN polls: Haasan

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

politician Kamal Haasan Thursday said he would be contesting in the 2021 assembly polls in Tamil Nadu and also seeking the support of fellow actor Rajinikanth.

Speaking to reporters here Kamal Haasan, who had floated the Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM) party, said he will contest the assembly polls next year. Kamal Haasan said he is discussing politics with Rajinikanth who is also mulling to float a political party.

also ask Rajinikanth for support in the upcoming polls. Kamal Haasan said it is Rajinikanth who has to take a decision on his political stance and his health is more important. According to Kamal Haasan, MNM's politics will not be blaming politics or vengeance politics but a guiding politics. He said the process of selecting the prospective candidates for the assembly polls is underway.

The NDA's chief ministerial candidate was addressing a rally at Dhamdaha in Purnea district. Campaigning for the last of the three-phase election ended Thursday. "Today is the last day of campaign. Polling will take place day after tomorrow. This is my last election (ye mera antim chunav hai). All is well that ends well (ant bhala to sab bhala)," said Kumar, his outstretched arms betraving the emotions he concealed behind his smiling face.

The crowds were stunned into silence for a few seconds, after which they erupted in applause for the 69- year-old leader who has ruled the state for nearly 15 years.

This is for the first time that the socialist warhorse, who has ruled the state for close to a decade and half, barring a few months when he made Jitan Ram Manjhi the chief minister to keep the seat warm for him, has apparently talked about quitting electoral

Chennai, Nov 5: Actor-turned-

The MNM founder said he would

politics. rally. When the leader runs away His detractors reacted with un-

from the battleground, the contestants will definitely be demoralised," Paswan said.

Some in the JD(U) said what Kumar meant was that it was his last public meeting of the election and not the last election of his political career.

They, however, chose to be anonymous. Premchandra Mishra, a Congress MLC and party spokesperson, said Kumar's announcement was an acceptance of "impending defeat". "Nitish Kumar is tired and retired. A wave of change sweeps Bihar," said Randeep Surjewala, while reacting to the development.

accused of sodomising, killing and hanging a four-year-old from a tree in July, was lynched by the victim's family in Bareilly.

The accused was on the run since he committed the crime and the local police had announced a reward of ₹25,000 for any information about him. Posters with photos of the accused were also put up in several places by the police.

The relatives of the child, however, caught the accused, Prempal, on Wednesday evening and beat him to death with rods and bricks even before the police could reach. After he was attacked, Prempal was rushed to a hospital where doctors declared him brought dead. Senior Superintendent of Police

(SSP) of Bareilly, Rohit Singh Sajwan, told reporters, "Prempal, who was wanted in the sexual assault and murder of a 4-year-old boy, was beaten to death by a few people in Aonla area on Wednesday. We have arrested two persons in the lynching case and both of them are the relatives of the boy. An FIR has been registered against two

identified and several unidentified people for the murder."

According to the police, Prempal had been hiding in Aonla in Bareilly district. It may be recalled that the four-year-old boy had gone missing on July 13 soon after he stepped out to play. He was last seen playing with Prempal, who had come to his home along with a few relatives of the family, a day earlier. Initially the family thought that Prempal had abducted the child for ransom.

But, a few hours later, they found the child's body hanging from a tree outside the village. Postmortem examination confirmed sexual assault and Prempal went missing. Police had registered an FIR under IPC sections 302 (murder) sections 377 (unnatural offences), 364 (kidnapping), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence) and under section 4/5 of POCSO Act against him.

DOUBLE WHAMMY Shun crackers, says Kejriwal, invites all to virtual puja

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 5: Warning the double whammy of pollution and the Covid pandemic could further "worsen" the national capital's scene in the coming days, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Thursday appealed people to shun firecrackers for the safety of their kids and family.

Kejriwal said he will be performing Laxmi puja at 7.39 p.m. on November 14, along with other Delhi Cabinet Ministers, which will be live-streamed. He appealed every Delhiite to join in the Diwali celebrations by performing Laxmi puja at their homes.



He also declared that Delhi has given an alternative to stubble burning. "Hopefully," he said that "this will be the last year when we have to tolerate pollution due to stubble

burning". "There are adverse effects of both corona and pollution in Delhi this year. The Delhi government, along with the people of Delhi, is making all efforts to deal

with the issue. The situation of Corona is deteriorating due to pollution," the Delhi CM said. The smoke from stubble burning causes pollution in Delhi every year but no state government has provided any effective solution to the problem of stubble burning, he said and claimed to have spoken on the issue with many farmers in the neighbouring states, and come up with a plan. Farmers say "they do not want to

burn stubble because it kills the good bacteria on the farmlands, makes the soil infertile, and causes major pollution", Kejriwal said and added, however, "they do not have any option because they are provided with no alternative".

"To provide an alternative to stubble burning, the Delhi government has taken a crucial step in association with the PUSA Institute. The farmers do not need to burn stubble, they can use a chemical developed by the PUSA Institute on the fields, and the stubble turns into manure in just 20 days. I hope that this is the last year when we have to suffer due to pollution," Kejriwal said. "No government should be able to make any excuse to not provide an alternative to stubble burning, as Delhi has given an alternative to all the states."

Kejriwal reminded how Delhiiteshad vowed last year not to burn firecrackers on Diwali.





OrissaPOST FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6 2020 BHUBANESWAR international



Russia is doing everything in its power to make sure that the conflict in the South Caucasus ends as soon as possible VLADIMIR PUTIN | RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

INDONESIA IN RECESSION **AFTER 22 YEARS**

For the first time after 22 years, Indonesia has entered recession due to the heavy coronavirus-induced impact on the country's economy, authorities said Thursday



uotel

Congress should approve a new COVID-19 relief package aimed at assisting American businesses and workers affected by the pandemic

before the year ends MITCH MCCONNELL US SENATE MAJORITY

It was impractical for the island nation to be under a lockdown until a cure for the novel coronavirus was found, hence the public should be ready to lead normal lives but with health guidelines

GOTABAYA RAJAPAKSA SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT

The months ahead will be challenging for everyone, so it is especially important that we discuss and coordinate our policies VALDIS DOMBROVSKIS EUROPEAN COMMISSION EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Avian flu detected in Japan

Tokyo: The Japanese government Thursday said an avian flu outbreak has been detected at a poultry farm in Kagawa prefecture, leading to the culling of thousands of chickens. Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Kotaro Nogami informed Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga of the outbreak Thursday, Xinhua news agency reported.

Dutch to cull 200,000 chickens

Amsterdam: The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture Thursday ordered the culling of 200,000 chickens after highly pathogenic bird flu was found at a farm in the eastern town of Puiflijk. The cull, which includes birds at a second farm within a 1km

BIDEN VOWS TO REJOIN PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT

Washington, Nov 5: Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden has pledged that his administration would rejoin the historic Paris Agreement on climate change. Biden, 77, has not won the presidential elections yet, but is inching closer to be declared the winner by garnering 264 electoral votes out of the required 270. His Republican rival and incumbent US President Donald Trump has got 214 electoral votes, according to latest projections released by the US media.

On November 4, the US formally withdrew from the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change, a decision originally announced three years ago. "Today, the Trump Administration officially left the Paris Climate Agreement. And in exactly 77 days, a Biden Administration will rejoin it," Biden tweeted on Wednesday night, reflecting his decision to reverse one of the key policies of the Trump administration on day one

The US, under the Obama administration, had acceded to the Paris Agreement in 2016. It was a signature achievement of the Ohama administration. The Paris accord committed the US and 187 other countries to keeping rising global

PIO elected to Michigan

state legislature

Thanedar, an Indian-origin millionaire businessman who ran for Governor two years ago, has been elected to the House of Representatives in Michigan with 93 per cent votes. Thanedar, 65, also a scientist, raised a recordbreaking \$438,620, primarily from his own wealth, in the state House primary against six other opponents of the Democratic Party. The former gubernatorial hopeful cashed in on his high name familiarity after he moved from Ann Arbor to Detroit after losing the 2018 primary. His campaign two years ago featured a heavy dose of "Shri for We" television ads.

temperatures below 2C above preindustrial levels and attempting to limit them even more, to a 1.5C rise. Trump argues that the agree-

ment is disadvantageous for the US, while it gives benefits to countries like China, Russia and India. According to him, it could be economically detrimental and cost 2.5 million Americans their jobs by 2025. The decision by the US -- one of the world's biggest emitters of

RACE FOR WHITE HOUSE



Trump's son-in-law hunts for lawyers

As the Trump White House absorbs the grim maths, The New York Times is reporting that Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner spent Wednesday hunting for a "James Baker-like" figure -- the attorney who oversaw former President George W. Bush's successful 2000 presidential election recount

in Florida, to lead Trump's "stop the count" lawsuit strategy. At 10 a.m. ESTThursday, Fox News and The Associated Press have their numbers posted as 264-214 in Biden's favour. In parallel, the post-election autopsy is already underway in the Biden camp. Headlining their concern is the slippage among the Hispanic community in all important Florida. Equally, the excitement of being within striking distance of ousting Trump is palpable. "Trump is going to get beat! Biden will be the next President," James Carville, famed Democratic strategist, declared on news telly, after Fox and AP called Arizona for Biden

of regret from world leaders. greenhouse gases -- to quit the agree-Biden has proposed a USD 5 trilment has led to condemnation from lion plan to combat climate change. environmentalists and expressions

Wary China hopes for smooth ending to poll

A wary China Thursday hoped the presidential poll process in the US would end smoothly and successfully and said that there is a room for cooperation between the two nations despite 'some differences,' as observers forecast heightening of the rivalry between the top two economies no matter whoever emerges victorious. The US presidential election remained undecided Thursday evening, turning the nation's attention to a handful of battleground states that continue to tabulate the crush of mail-in ballots that will decide whether Donald Trump or Joe Biden will be victorious. "People are following closely, me included but it seems that the votes are still being counted and results have not come yet," China's Vice-Foreign Minister Le Yucheng said at a media conference here when asked to comment on the US Presidential poll. We hope the election will proceed smoothly and successfully," Le, a former Ambassador to India said, adding that there is a room for cooperation despite "some differences".

The US is the second leading producer of all carbon dioxide emissions globally, behind China.

President Trump originally announced his intention to withdraw from the agreement in 2017 and formally notified the United Nations last year. The US exited the pact after a mandatory year-long waiting period that ended Wednesday. The US is the only country to withdraw from the global pact. It can still attend negotiations and give opinions, but is relegated to "observer status". Trump had stated that he intended to renegotiate the details of the US' membership within the Paris Agreement that can better

protect US workers in industries like coal, paper, and steel.

By early Thursday, Biden had drawn about 3.6 million more votes than Trump nationwide. Trump defeated Democrat Clinton in 2016 after winning crucial battleground states and securing the Electoral College wine even though she drew about 3 million more votes nationwide. Anti-Trump protesters in other cities demanded that vote counting continue and there were arrests in Portland, Oregon, as well as New York, Denver and Minneapolis. Over 100 events are planned across the country between Wednesday and Saturday.



Supporters of President Donald Trump pause for prayer during a rally outside the Maricopa County Recorders Office PTI PHOTO



A man holds a copy of a newspaper reporting the US presidential election in downtown Madrid, Spain

Is it safe to stay in hotels during the pandemic?

An activist takes part in a protest led by shutdown DC the day after the 2020 US



TikTok removes Republicans' videos

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

REUTERS

San Francisco, Nov 5: Chinese short-video making app has joined the ongoing social media war with US President Trump who is declaring premature victories, saying it has pulled down videos spreading election misinformation from two Republican-supporting accounts -- The Republican Hype House and The Republican Boys. The videos by Republican Hype House and the Republican Boys were spreading false claims about

"election fraud" as the vote counting was still underway.

"These videos have been removed for violating our policies on misleading information." TikTok said



amid the uncertainty around who will be the next US president. The Chinese short-video making app recently got another reprieve from the ban imposed by the Trump ad-

radius, is the second in the country this month after the H5N8 disease was first found in wild fowl. Dutch poultry farmers have been ordered to keep birds inside to prevent transmission.

N Korea adopts anti-smoking law

Seoul: At a rare meeting of the Supreme People's Assembly, North Korea adopted an anti-smoking law state media reported Thursday In its report, the state run Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said the Tobacco-Prohibition Law and Revising and Supplementing the Law on Enterprises was adopted during the meeting held Wednesday.

Indian reported missing in Dubai

Dubai: A former Indian expatriate, who had returned to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on a tourist visa to look for a job, has been reported missing, according to his friends. Chenoth Thuruthummal Ashik, 31, had reportedly gone out for a walk from his friends' apartment located in Dubai's Persia cluster area, Gulf News reported.

Russia's forces arrive in Pakistan

Islamabad: A contingent of Russia's Special Forces arrived in Pakistan Thursday for a joint military exercise, the Army said here. This will be the fifth edition of the joint military drill DRUZHBA - between Pakistan and Russia and it would continue for two weeks, according to a statement issued by the Pakistan Army.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, Nov 5: Is it safe to stay in hotels during the pandemic? In a recent travel update, the US Centers for Disease **Control and Prevention makes** it clear: Staying home is the best way to protect yourself against the coronavirus.

presidential election in Washington

If you do travel, the CDC says, sharing a rental home with people from your own household is safer than staying with friends or family who aren't from your household or staying at a hotel where you would encounter more people. The riskiest option, it says, is

a hostel or other dorm-like lodging with shared sleeping areas. Try to find a rental that guar-

antees a 72-hour buffer between guests, says Dr Natascha Tuznik, an infectious disease expert at the University of California, Davis

If you stay at a hotel, check to see what safety steps it's taking. Many hotels have adopted enhanced cleaning procedures, for example, and are encouraging social distancing in common areas

You can also use disinfectant wipes to clean the surfaces that are most touched, like light switches and faucets. Tuznik said. And consider omitting housekeeping services to ensure fewer people enter the room. Outside the room, experts suggest avoiding common areas and taking the stairs instead of the elevator if you can

in a tweet Thursday.

However, Taylor Lorenz, who is a reporter with the New York Times, tweeted: "TikTok removed the initial videos but the Republican Boys account is still active and they just posted another video spreading the same voter fraud conspiracies. The new video has already amassed thousands of views".

REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

TikTok maintained that it has removed the videos in question for violating its policies against misleading information.

Both Twitter and Facebook were busy flagging Trump posts claiming 'big wins' and 'voting fraud'

A federal judge in Pennsylvania blocked the government from moving ahead with restrictions that would have effectively shut down the app from November 12. The ruling came from a lawsuit filed by three TikTok creators who were concerned that the ban would prevent

them from earning a living.

ministration in the US.

England enters 2nd lockdown UK invites Modi to Climate

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 5: The UK government Thursday reminded people about the tough fines in place over severe breaches as England entered its second stayat-home lockdown in order to try and control the rapid spread of COVID-19 infections, expected to last at least until December 2.

UK Justice Secretary Robert Buckland said that while the police forces of the country will continue to follow the principle of policing by consent, they would respond to "egregious breaches"

and hand out fines where necessary. Under the legal requirements in place, people have been told to stay at home unless leaving for work if they can't work from home or to shop for essentials or a form of daily exercise.

All non-essential shops, pubs, bars, restaurants and gyms have been ordered to close and households are also banned from mixing indoors or in private gardens, unless in a so-called "support bubble" There is a 200 pounds fine for each breach which doubles on every offence up to a maximum of 6,400 pounds and organisers of large

gatherings face a 10,000 pounds fine. "Where a more intense intervention is needed then the police will be involved and of course the fine structure is still in force." Buckland

told the BBC. "I think the message has to go out very clearly that this will only work if we all play our part," he said, adding that only a 'tiny minority" of people are responsible for breaches which risk public health

His message came as the Metropolitan Police, the UK's largest police force, issued a statement around its policing plans for the second lockdown.

London/New Delhi, Nov 5: The UK has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Climate Ambition Summit scheduled next month, according to a British government statement Thursday. The December 12 Climate

Ambition Summit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ambition Summit will provide a platform for leaders who are ready to come forward with announcements of new, more ambitious nationally determined contributions and longterm strategies to net zero, as well as new climate finance pledges and ambitious adaptation plans.

During a meeting with Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla in LondonWednesday, Philip Barton, Permanent Under-Secretary at the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, "extended an invitation for Prime Minister Modi to attend the December Climate Ambition Summit", the British High Commission in New Delhi said in a press release.

The UK, as COP26 (to be held in Glasgow next December) President, the UN and France will host the virtual leader-level summit on the five-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement, in partnership with-Chile (as COP25 President) and Italy (COP26 partner), it said.

Mental confusion could be an early sign of nCoV: Study

The research, published in the Journal of Clinical Immunology and Immunotherapy, suggests that together with the loss of the senses of taste and smell, and headaches that occur in the days prior to the manifestation of coughing and breathing difficulties, some patients also develop delirium

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 5: Delirium or mental confusion accompanied by fever could be an early symptom of COVID-19, particularly in elderly patients, according to a review of studies.

The research, published in the Journal of Clinical Immunology and Immunotherapy, suggests that together with the loss of the senses of taste and smell, and headaches that occur in the days prior to the manifestation of coughing and breathing difficulties, some patients

also develop delirium.

As such, the manifestation of this state of confusion, when accompanied by high fever, should be considered an early marker of the disease, particularly in the case of elderly patients. "Delirium is a state of confusion

in which the person feels out of touch with reality, as if they are dreaming," explained Javier Correa from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) in Spain.

"We need to be on the alert, particularly in an epidemiological sit-



uation like this, because an individual presenting certain signs of

confusion may be an indication of infection," said Correa, who carried out this study at the University of Bordeaux in France

Correa, together with UOC researcher Diego Redolar Ripoll, reviewed scientific work published on the effects of COVID-19 in relation to the central nervous system, i.e. the brain.

The review found that there are growing indications that the novel coronavirus also affects the central nervous system, and produces neurocognitive alterations, such as headaches and delirium, as well as psychotic episodes.











Like other businesses, we also saw an impact of the lockdown and started thinking about the essential products that people would need in that situation. We launched the UV-steriliser in April-end along with products like masks and home office accessories PANKAJ GARG CEO, DAILYOBJECTS

ADANI CHANGES NAME

Indian energy giant Adani Group, which has been at the centre of controversy over its Carmichael mine in central Queensland, Thursday changed the name of its Australian mining division to **Bravus Mining and Resources**



uote

As part of TechMNxt charter, Tech Mahindra aims to offer a cutting-edge solution built on Blockchain and smart contracts that optimises

spends and proactively mitigates disputes RAJESH DHUDDU BLOCKCHAIN AND

CYBERSECURITY PRACTICE LEADER, TECH MAHINDR/



which creates lot of customer excitement. It also gave us the ability to have bulked up the supply significantly...and supply sufficient quantities into the market

MURALIKRISHNAN B COO, XIAOMI INDIA



relentlessly to find an effective vaccine for COVID-19. As a front-runner in packaging segment,

we are committed to support the vaccine developers with the best packaging solutions

RISHAD DADACHANJI DIRECTOR, SCHOTT KAISHA

SHORT TAKES

SBI shares gain 6 pc

New Delhi: Shares of State Bank of India (SBI) closed with nearly 6 per cent gain on Thursday after the company reported a 55.41 per cent rise in consolidated net profit for the September guarter. The stock rose by 5.63 per cent to close at ₹218.70 on BSE. During the day, it jumped 6.71 per cent to ₹220.95. On NSE, it gained 5.55 per cent to settle at ₹218.50. The company's market valuation rose by ₹10,397.25 crore to ₹1,95,181.25 on BSE. In volume terms, 121,48 lakh shares were traded on BSF and 13.80 crore on NSE.

Investors wealth

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 5: Government facing severe pressure on revenues due to the Covid disruptions may end the current financial year with a 30 per cent drop in Goods and Service Tax (GST) collections. This would be a big setback to the Centre that is already burdened with adequately compensating the states for GST related revenue shortfall.

According to the EcoScope report by Motilal Oswal Financial Services, GST collections is expected to come in at ₹9-9.2 lakh crore range in FY21 as against the budgeted estimate of ₹13.8 lakh crore. This comes despite the fact that GST collections stood at ₹1.05 lakh crore in October, 10.2 per cent

higher than the collections in October 2019.

The October collections were also the highest amount of GST collected since February 2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic broke out in India. With this, the total amount of GST collected during April-October 2020 stood at ₹5.6 lakh crore, a decline of 20.2 per cent year-on-

year (Y-o-Y). Additionally, as against the target of ₹13.8 lakh crore for FY21, the government has collected ₹5.6 lakh crore so far, which is 41 per cent of FY21 budget estimate (BE) as against 58 per cent (of FY20 BE) achieved last year by this time. Within the total GST collected

last month, CGST amounted to ₹19.190 crore. SGST amounted to

GST collections expected to be 30% lower in FY21

₹25,410 crore and IGST amounted to ₹52.540 crore.

Moreover, GST collection on imports also rose by 9 per cent YoY to ₹23.380 crore in October 2020. implying pure domestic collections at ₹81,780 crore (which saw growth of 10.6 per cent YoY) during the month

Notably, daily e-way bill generation in October 2020 (up to October According to the report by Motilal Oswal **Financial Services, GST** collections is expected to come in at ₹9-9.2L cr range in FY21

25) was 2 million units, the highest

of sustained pick-up in economic ac-

Growth in GST revenue in Sept-

Oct 2020 (vs the contraction seen in

Mar-Aug 2020) implies the trajectory

of the economy's recovery, and cor-

tivity, the brokerage said.

Covid levels.

in GST collection in October 2020 is definitely welcome. The uncertainty regarding the trajectory of GST collection under normal circumstances - post the nationwide lockdown and compliance related reliefs - seems to have reduced after last month's reading. "Going ahead how quickly do the collections revive and make up for the contraction witnessed in the first half of

respondingly, the government's revenues. Motilal Oswal said. Since the relaxation given for fil-

Saudi PIF to invest ₹9,555 cr

ing of returns has ended, the 8m GSTR-3B returns filed in October 2020 is for the economic activities conducted only in September 2020. The report highlighted that the level of returns filed has reached pre-

Overall, another monthly growth in eight months. This is indicative FY21 will be carefully watched," the brokerage report said.



ALIBABA GROUP BEATS QUARTERLY

SALES ESTIMATES

REUTERS

Beijing, Nov 5: China's Alibaba Group Holding Ltd beat estimates for quarterly revenue Thursday, as its core e-commerce business continued to grow following China's emergence from coronavirus lockdowns.

The results come on the heels of China's surprise suspension of Alibaba affiliate Ant Group's record \$37 billion Shanghai listing that was viewed by analysts and investors as an attempt to cut founder Jack Ma and his financial services empire down to size.

Alibaba's results also coincide with US presidential election results, with Democrat Joe Biden edging closer to victory.

Under Donald Trump's presidency, the world's top two economies have clashed often over trade, forcing many Chinese companies to put off US listings or return to exchanges close to home.

Revenue at Alibaba's cloud computing business, a focus area for the company, jumped 60% to 14.9 billion yuan.

Sales from Alibaba's core ecommerce business rose 29% to 130.92 billion yuan in the reported quarter.

Net income slumped 63% to 26.52 billion yuan, as the company had booked a one-time gain last year from its 33% equity interest in Ant Group.

Revenue rose 30% to 155.06 billion yuan in the quarter ended September 30, compared to estimates of 154.74 vuan. according to IBES data from Refinitiv.

The company's US-listed shares, which have gained about 39% this year, fell 1.8% in trading before the bell.

BIZ BUZZ Bezos sells more than \$3 bn of Amazon stock

San Francisco: Amazon Founder and CEO Jeff Bezos has sold more than \$3 billion worth of Amazon shares this week, according to new filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). This latest round of Amazon share sales on Monday and Tuesday take the worth of Amazon shares that Bezos has sold in 2020 alone to over \$10 billion. This marks a significant jump from last year when Bezos sold \$2.8 billion worth of shares, CNBC reported Wednesday. According to Forbes, Bezos now owns a 10.6 per cent stake in the e-commerce and cloud computing colossus Amazon. The latest stock sales are part of a predetermined plan in accordance with insider trading laws, according to the filings with the SEC. This is the third time this year that the world's richest person has sold Amazon shares worth billions of dollars.



VGIR 2020 was attended by 20 top institutional investors from the US, Europe, Canada, Korea, Japan, Middle East, Australia and Singapore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 5: Soliciting global investments, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said India is the best place for generating long-term returns. Addressing the Virtual Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020, he said the country has one of the lowest corporate tax rates in the world.

"If you want returns with reliability, India is the place to be. If you want demand with democracy, India is the place to be. If you want stability with sustainability, India is the place to be. If you want growth with a green approach, India is the place to be," Modi said.

India offers "democracy, demography, demand as well as diversity. Such is our diversity that you get multiple markets within one market. These come with multiple pocket sizes and multiple preferences. These come with multiple weathers and multiple levels of development", he said

The country's growth has the potential to catalyse global economic resurgence as "any achieve-



If you want returns with reliability, India is the place to be. If you want demand with

place to be. If you want stability with sustainability, India is the place to be. If you want growth with a green approach, India is the place to be

These pension and sovereign wealth funds have total assets under management of about USD 6 trillion, as per an official statement issued earlier.

in Reliance Retail Ventures INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE RelianceMART New Delhi, Nov 5: Reliance Industries Limited and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL)

announced Thursday that the Public Investment Fund (PIF) will invest ₹9,555 crore (approximately \$1.3 billion) for an equity stake of 2.04 per cent into RRVL, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries.

This investment values RRVL at a pre-money equity value of ₹4.587 lakh crore (approximately \$62.4 billion). It will further strengthen PIF's presence in India's dynamic economy and promising retail market segment. The investment in

The transaction is in line with PIF's strategy as a leading global investor with a proven track record of investing in innovative and transformative companies globally and develop strong partnerships with leading groups in their respective markets. India's retail sector is one

counts for over 10 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) which presents meaningful growth potential.

Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and MD of Reliance Industries, said: We at Reliance have a long-standing relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. PIF is at the forefront of the economic transformation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I welcome PIF as a valued partner in Reliance Retail and look forward to their sustained support and guidance as we continue our ambitious journey to transform India's retail sector for enriching the lives of 1.3 billion Indians and millions of small merchants.

Ready to attain production, dispatch

their sustained support and guidance as we continue our ambitious iourney to transform India's retail sector

a

MUKESH AMBANI I CHAIRMAN AND MD, RELIANCE INDUSTRIES Yasir Al-Rumayyan, Governor of PIF, said: "We are pleased to be furthering our trusted partnership

with Reliance Industries, the lead ing player in some of India's most exciting sectors. This transaction demonstrates PIF's commitment to investing and partnering for the long-term with innovative businesses around the world that lead and transform their sectors.

I welcome PIF as a valued

. Retail and look forward to

partner in Reliance

"This investment further demonstrates PIF's commitment to generating returns for the Saudi people and driving the economic diversification of Saudi Arabia.

The PIF is one of the largest and most impactful sovereign wealth funds in the world

RRVL follows PIF's earlier acquisition of a 2.32 per cent stake in Jio Platforms, the digital services subsidiary of Reliance Industries.

democracy, India is the

NARENDRA MODI I PRIME MINISTER

top institutional investors from the US, Europe, Canada, Korea, Japan, Middle East, Australia and Singapore.



of the largest in the world and ac-

zooms ₹2.78L cr

New Delhi: Investors wealth Thursday zoomed by ₹2.78 lakh crore as markets witnessed heavy buying, with the Sensex reclaiming the 41,000-mark. The 30-share BSE benchmark jumped 724.02 points or 1.78 per cent to close at 41,340.16. Helped by across-the-board buying, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies rose by ₹2,78,054.29 crore to ₹1,62,27,243.78 crore.

ABB India Q2 net profit up over 7 pc

New Delhi: Engineering firm ABB India Ltd Thursday reported a 7.60 per cent rise in net profit at ₹85 crore for the quarter ended September 30. ABB India had posted a net profit of ₹79 crore in the quarter ended September 30, 2019, a BSE filing said. The company follows January to December financial year. Total revenue from operations declined to ₹1.612 crore from ₹1.746 crore in the year-ago quarter.

ments by India will have a multiplier impact on world's development and welfare". the Prime Minister said. VGIR 2020 was attended by 20

The roundtable is being organised by the Ministry of Finance and the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund.

Vedanta holds hygiene campaign in 27 villages

POST NEWS NETWORK

tensive community sensitisation

campaign on the importance of

hand washing and hand hygiene in

collaboration with National Health

Mission (NHM) at Jharsuguda.

Starting October 15, 2020 on 'Global

Handwashing Day', the campaign

continued till October 30, reach-

ing out to 3,000 people in the process.

Mobile Health Unit (MHU) con-

ducted awareness sessions on the

importance of hand washing in

Members of the company's

Informational material and audio-visual guides were also Bhubaneswar. Nov 5: Vedanta. shared with community memthe largest aluminium producer bers and public for knowledge in the country, conducted an exand reference.

CN Singh, CEO - Vedanta Ltd., Jharsuguda, said, "Vedanta is on a mission to catalyse socio-economic development in the region through community development projects tailored to the needs of the local populace.

Health & sanitation is a focus area in our endeavours to fulfill social responsibilities. Our Mobile Health Unit brings doorstep primary healthcare services to nearly 37,000 people annually. We have conducted many

preventing diseases, especially given the current pandemic scemulti-specialty health camps, nario, as well as demonstrations of bringing in experts to address the proper way of hand washing in health queries and concerns of the public.'

targets: MCL MD

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 5: Chairmancum-MD of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) PK Sinha stated that the company is well prepared to boost its performance to achieve coal production and dispatch targets for the financial year 2020-21. Sinha hinted positive note as business environment now seems friendly.

MCL CMD visited Talcher Coalfields and held the General Managers' Coordination Meeting. He also reviewed company's performance during his maiden visitation to the site. General Managers of respective areas of the company briefed the CMD about progress made and future action plans.

Sinha reviewed coal production and dispatch operations at Hingula, Balram & Lingaraj mines in Talcher. He stressed that issues regarding environment clearances, land acquisition, R&R, forest should be taken up through cross-functional efforts for speedy resolution.

Sinha stressed on having greater operational synergy between areas and departments at headquarters



PK SINHA

to increase production and dispatch operations to achieve the set target. He also highlighted the company's coal production progress in the past six months of current financial year.

The CMD also said that MCL is a leading subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) and has a major role to play in the overall performance of CIL. Sinha also visited Bhubaneswari OCP, Ananta OCP, Jagannath OCP & Bharatpur OCP in Talcher Coalfields and inspected mining operations.

Sinha, recently took the additional charge as CMD of MCL.



IGI Airport handled 77K MT of cargo in Sept

New Delhi: The national capital's IGI Airport witnessed a significant surge in cargo movement during September, as it handled volume of



around 77,000 MT. Accordingly, both 'Cargo Tonnage' and Cargo Aircraft movements showed a pick-up in September on the back of gradual opening up of economic activities. "Gradua opening up of economic activities in the country over the past few months after the

lockdown period is showing positive signs of recovery," GMR Group-led Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said in a statement. "The 'Air Cargo' performance in the month of September 2020 came with a positive note for Delhi Airport, when it recorded largest ever cargo aircraft movement of 2,366 flights in a single month." As per the statement, Delhi Airport also witnessed highest ever monthly cargo volume of around 77,000 MT after April this year.

TKM announces buyback offer

Mumbai: Toyota Kirloskar Motor Thursday announced an assured buyback offer of 55 per cent on its mid-sized sedan Yaris and premium hatchback Glanza in a bid to perk up consumer sentiment amid the festive season. In addition, the car maker also rolled out various other schemes such as low EMI payment for the first six months across all Toyota models as well as a three months EMI holiday for all its customers, according to a release.

REUTERS Mumbai, Nov 5: Indian banks are loosening their purse strings and lending more as pent-up demand surfaces in the Indian festive season, though growth is still nearly half that seen last year.

27 peripheral villages.

Several lenders including State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest lender and HDFC Bank, India's most valuable bank by market capitalisation saw demand for housing and vehicle loans return to near pre-pandemic levels in the quarter ended September.

"Now that the loan moratorium is

over and we have a clearer view about repayments, we're feeling more comfortable about lending both on unsecured as well as secured retail loans," said the head of retail banking at a public sector bank, who asked not to be identified as the lender has yet to report its results. Hamstrung by the pandemic, banks had been more risk averse in lending, with credit growth slumping to around 5% in the first quar-

The uptick spells good news for the Indian economy that had contracted by 23.9% in April-June, during a stringent lockdown to stem the

ter of the financial year.



THOUGH RETAIL DEMAND HAS PICKED UP HOWEVER, CORPORATE CREDIT DEMAND CONTINUES TO REMAIN SLUGGISH

spread of the pandemic.

"After a complete standstill earlier, banks have now also started buying more retail loan securitisation pools from non-banking financial companies to boost their portfolio which has also helped credit growth pick up," said Anil Gupta, analyst at credit rating agency ICRA.

Even though retail demand has picked up however, corporate credit demand continues to remain sluggish. Analysts also noted that growth still remains slower compared to last vear. In September, retail loans grew by 9.2% compared to 17% in the same period last year, according to regulatory data.

"It's too early to start celebrating as a clearer picture around the bank's financial health will emerge only in January-February," said Jindal Haria, an analyst with India Ratings. Banks have also tightened their lending parameters so it is likely that retail loan growth may not go back to the highs of 20% plus growth witnessed in prior years, Haria added.

Sustaining the demand momentum beyond the festive season will depend on the containment of-COVID-19 and lender resilience, rating agency Emkay Global said.

OrissaPOST FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 6 | 2020 | BHUBANESWAR

<u>sports</u>

MISTORM INTO FINAL S







AGENCIES

Dubai, Nov 5: Mumbai Indians' (MI) domination in 2020 continues as the four-time champions stormed into the final with a 57-run win over a shaky Delhi Capitals (DC) in the Qualifier 1 here, Thursday.

Jasprit Bumrah (4/14) and Trent Boult (2/9), who were rested in MI's last match, did the damage, from where DC failed to recover. In the end, they managed 143/8 in 20 overs while chasing 201.

The score was possible only because of Marcus Stoinis (65, 46b, 6x4, 3x6) and Axar Patel (42, 33b, 2x4, 3x6) as the duo added 71 runs for the

sixth wicket after DC were reduced to 41/5 in the eighth over. It was

horrible start to the chase for DC as they lost the top three inside eight balls without scoring a run. They came down to 20/4 in the

fourth over after losing skipper Shreyas Iyer (12). DC will play the winners of the eliminator (SRH vs RCB) in Qualifier 2, Sunday.

Earlier, Suryakumar Yadav's (51, 38b, 6x4, 2x6) near flawless half century complemented by Ishan Kishan (55 n o, 30b, 4x4, 3x6) and Hardik Pandya's (37 n o, 14b, 5x6) deathover fireworks saw MI put up 200/5 on the board. Kishan and Hardik added 60 for the unbroken sixth



Starting with left-arm seam of Daniel Sams (0/44) badly backfired and even worse was Kagiso Rabada (0/42) and Anrich Nortje (1/50) also had a forgettable day at the office. In all, Mumbai Indians hit 15

fours and 12 sixes, a testimony to the number of bad balls bowled by the Capitals attack, especially their speed merchants, who were bowling short of length consistently. After losing Rohit Sharma early, Quinton de Kock (40, 25b, 5x4, 1x6) and Surya continued in full flow during the 62-run stand in only 6.1 overs. Ashwin dismissed De Kock to end the dangerous-looking partnership.

The veteran off-spinner was also accounted for Kieron Pollard's wicket. Then it was all Kishan-Hardik show.

BRIEF SCORES

MI 200/5 (Ishan Kishan 55 n o, Suryakumar Yadav 51, Quinton de Kock 40, Hardik Pandya 37 n o, R Ashwin 3/29) beat DC 143/8 (Marcus Stoinis 65, Axar Patel 42; Jasprit Bumrah 4/14, Trent Boult 2/9) by 57 runs.

SRH set for Royal challenge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Nov 5: With momentum on their side, a confident Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) would look for another complete performance to continue their forward march in the IPL when they face a struggling Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the Eliminator here Friday.

Pushed to the wall after a slow start to the tournament, SRH produced a lion-hearted effort in the second leg and peaked at the right time to qualify for the play-offs by finishing third in the league standings, just ahead of RCB.

It has been contrasting results for the two teams in the business end of the tournament. While RCB suffered four consecutive defeats to finish the league stage at the fourth spot, SRH registered a hat-trick of wins to edge past Virat Kohli's men in the standings.

The credit for SRH's success in the past few matches goes to the opening pair of Warner and Wriddhiman Saha. The duo has clicked upfront and has so far shared two century stands – 107 against DC and then 151 against MI.

While Warner has led SRH from the front, scoring 529 runs from 14 games to occupy the second spot in the scorers' list, Saha (184 runs from 3 matches) has proved that the SRH team management has erred in benching him for 11 ties. Such has been Warner and Saha's

performance that the likes of Manish Pandey, Kane Williamson, Priyam Garg and Jason Holder were hardly bothered.

On the bowling front, SRH have found the right combination in Sandeep Sharma, Jason Holder, Shahbaz Nadeem, T Natarajan and



d Rashid Khan and is expected to stick with them.

On the other hand, knowing very well that another blunder could send them packing, the Kohli-led RCB have a lot to ponder over. Coming into the match with four consecutive losses, RCB's confidence would be rock-bottom.

But skipper Kohli understands it is not the time to think about past results and what matters from here on is three wins on the trot to lift the IPL title. But it would be easier said than

done as RCB seem to have lost some of their steam. In their last match against DC, RCB's batting-heavy top-order failed to live up to expectations.

Josh Philippe, who has been

brought in place of Aaron Finch, has looked good in patches but hasn't been able to convert his starts and in all likelihood, Kohli might be tempted to bring back Finch Friday.

Young Devdutt Padikkal has been consistent at the top but Kohli needs to step up as of late, his strike rate has come under the scanner.

Kohli and AB de Villiers need to take responsibility in the big match for RCB, which also features the likes of Chris Morris, Shivam Dube and Washington Sundar and bats quite deep.

Navdeep Saini is expected to return to partner Mohammed Siraj, Isuru Udana and Morris. The spin department will be under the wings of Sundar and Yuzvendra Chahal.

Ecclestone fashions Trailblazers' victory



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

four-wicket haul helped Trailblazer dismiss Velocity for a paltry score. Ecclestone relentlessly attacked the stumps with her sliders to end with dream figures of 4/9 in 3.1 overs.

Barca scrape past Dynamo

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barcelona, Nov 5: Lionel Messi scored in his 150th European competition appearance as Barcelona beat Dynamo Kyiv 2-1 in the Champions League.

Messi converted a penalty in the fifth minute at an empty Camp Nou Wednesday after he had earned a foul when he was crunched between two Dynamo defenders while dribbling into the box.

It was goal No.121 for the Argentina forward in 146 Champions League games and four European Super Cup appearances combined. Gerard Pique added a second goal for the Spanish hosts with a header in the 65th. Dynamo forward Viktor Tsygankov pulled one back with 15 minutes to go.

Ronald Koeman's Barcelona lead Group G with nine points from three wins. Juventus has six points while, Dynamo and Ferencvaros have one point each. Dynamo played with a squad depleted by the coronavirus. The Ukrainian side said nine players including their two main goalkeepers — tested positive ahead of the team's trip to Spain. But the visitors held up thanks to the fine goalkeeping of 18-yearold Ruslan Neshcheret. He was playing just his second match for Dynamo's first team. Neshcheret could do nothing to stop Messi's spot-kick—his fourth goal of the season, all coming from penalties. He did, however, prove up to the task to turn back multiple shots by Messi, Ansu Fati, Pedri and Ousmane Dembele. Barcelona also got a stellar performance from goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen, who showed he had not lost his reflexes in his first



Morata scores two as Juve beat Ferencvaros-

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Budapest, Nov 5: On the night that Cristiano Ronaldo began his 18th consecutive Champions League campaign, it was Alvaro Morata who did the bulk of the scoring for Juventus.

Morata netted the first two goals in a 4-1 win at Ferencvaros, giving the Spanish forward four of Juventus' six scores in their opening three matches in the competition.

Ronaldo, who missed Juventus' opening two Champions League games after contracting the coronavirus, set up Morata's second.

Substitute Paulo Dybala got Juventus' third into an empty net after Ferencvaros goalkeeper Denes Dibusz failed to control a backpass. Lasha Dvali then scored an own goal following another error by Dibusz. Franck Boli pulled one back for Ferencyaros in the 90th.

Seven minutes in at Puskas Arena, Morata used one touch to redirect a cross from Juan Cuadrado, who had run onto a through ball from Leonardo Bonucci.

Celebrating his 100th game with Juventus in all competitions, Morata was just as efficient on the hour mark when he took a cross from Ronaldo and connected with a shot from the edge of the area.

Ronaldo was denied by an expert tackle late in the second half after being set up unselfishly by Morata, then missed wide after the break.

Sharjah, Nov 5: Left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone grabbed four wickets for just nine runs in a sensational bowling display to help Trailblazers beat Velocity by nine wickets in their Women's T20 Challenge match here Thursday.

Englishwoman Ecclestone, ranked No.1 in the ICC T20 rankings, was well supported by veteran Jhulan Goswami (2/13) and Rajeshwari Gaekawad (2/13) as Trailblazers dismissed Velocity in 15.1 overs.

Trailblazers then chased down the small target of 48 in just 7.5 overs with opener Deandra Dottin and Richa Ghosh remaining not out on 29 and 13 respectively.

Despite their win against Supernovas Wednesday, Velocity's net run-rate would take a beating after Thursday's loss and that could hit them hard.

Earlier, Ecclestone's sensational

Velocity put up a poor batting display with left-arm spin duo of Ecclestone and Gaekawad wreaking havoc. The innings folded up in 15.1 overs. Veteran Goswami ran through the Velocity top order.

Only three of the Velocity batters could reach double digits with Shafali Verma (13) being the top scorer. Velocity captain Mithali Raj's decision to bat first backfired as half of her batswomen were back in the dressing room inside

powerplay for just 22 runs. BRIEF SCORES

Velocity 47 (Shafali Verma 13; Sophie Ecclestone 4/9, Jhulan Goswami 2/13, Rajeshwari Gaekwad 2/13) lost to Trailblazers 49/1 (Deandra Dottin 29 n o; Leigh Kasperek 1/5) by 9 wickets. match of the season since undergoing right knee surgery in August.

The German goalie got his arm on a header by Vitaliy Buyalskiy to send it over his bar in the 36th before saving five more good chances for Dynamo. Ter Stegen rescued Barcelona twice more after the restart to foil tries by Tsygankov and Vladyslav Supryaha.

Then it was Neshcheret's turn to stretch and parry a free-kick by Messi that looked certain to end up in the net. Seeing his team struggle to finish the game off, Koeman sent on Dembele for Antoine Griezmann and Sergi Roberto for midfielder Miralem Pjanic with half an hour left.

Neshcheret blocked a chance by Roberto moments before Pique beat finally him a second time with a header after he joined the attack and glanced in a pass from Fati.

Tsygankov got a deserved goal for Dynamo from a series of counterattacks that exposed the same problems that Barcelona have had in the Spanish league, where they haven't won in four rounds.



Alvaro Morata (C) celebrates a goal with his teammates, Wednesday

Nadal joins rare lk-victory club Hoc

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, Nov 5: Becoming only the fourth man to reach 1,000 match wins should have drawn deafening cheers and a standing ovation for tennis great Rafa Nadal.

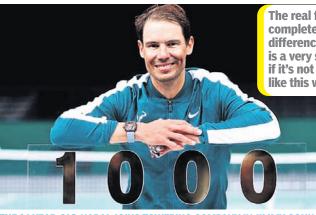
Instead, he reached his milestone amid a cathedral-like silence Wednesday in a 20,000-seater stadium left completely empty because of the coronavirus pandemic.

There was only a fist-bump from Feliciano Lopez, after Nadal beat him 4-6, 7-6(7-5), 6-4 in a subdued atmosphere more worthy of a library study area than a sports arena.

Nadal smiled as he posed at the net with the number 1,000 displayed on the court in a brief ceremony, and then walked off center court like after any other match.

It was the second milestone he reached in Paris this year, having won the French Open last month to tie Federer on 20 majors. But while 1,000

1



THE 34-YEAR-OLD NADAL JOINS TOWERING COMPANY IN JIMMY CONNORS (1,274), ROGER FEDERER (1,242) AND IVAN LENDL (1,068) AS THE ONLY MEN'S 1,000-CLUB MEMBERS SINCE THE OPEN ERA BEGAN IN 1968

fans cheered him at Roland Garros,
none were at the Bercy Arena.
The 34-year-old's first win came
in May 2002 at the age of 15, whenA year later, the 16-year-old Nadal
stunned the tennis world by beating
French Open champion Albert Costa
under floodlights in the second

in May 2002 at the age of 15, when he beat Paraguayan Ramon Delgado in the first round at Mallorca. Under floodlights in the second round at the Monte Carlo Masters. By the age of 24, he had already

The real feeling, the personal feeling is completely different. It makes a big difference that the court is empty. I know it is a very special number, one thousand. Even if it's not the same to celebrate something like this without a crowd - RAFA NADAL

OTHER RESULTS

Alexander Zverev bt Miomir Kecmanovic 6-2, 6-2 Andrey Rublev bt Radu Albot 6-1, 6-2 Stan Wawrinka bt Tommy Paul 4-6, 7-6(7-3), 6-2 Diego Schwartzman bt Richard Gasquet 7-5, 6-3

reached 500 wins. His career tally also includes 35 Masters titles and 86 tournament victories overall. Nadal, who has never won this event, next plays Jordan Thompson of Australia, who upset 15th-seeded Croat Borna Coric 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Hockey Pro League matches postponed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lausanne, Nov 5: The International Hockey Federation (FIH) Thursday postponed two upcoming FIH Pro League matches due to the COVID-19 related travel restrictions in the competing nations.

Britain and Germany (men) were due to clash next weekend, while China and Belgium were to go up against each other in the women's competition in January next year.

"With the travel constraints governed by the regulations in place in Germany, Belgium and China due to the COVID-19 global health pandemic, the International Hockey Federation (FIH), on request of the travelling teams involved, has decided to postpone the following FIH Hockey Pro League matches," the world body said in a statement. The FIH further said it will keep monitoring the global health situation closely and come out with new dates for these matches after consultation with the stakeholders.

"While it's always a pity to have to take such decisions, we fully understand the situation and this is the most appropriate course of action to date," FIH CEO Thierry Weil said.

"We do hope that the global health situation will improve soon and our thoughts are with all those who are affected at the moment. We're looking forward to enjoying international hockey matches next year again."

The second season of the FIH
Hockey Pro League – the annual
global League involving the world's
best international teams, both men
and women – started in January this
year and has been extended until
May 2021 because of the pandemic.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Leipzig stun PSG

Leipzig: RB Leipzig came from behind to defeat PSG 2-1, when the visitors finished with nine players. It was a game of two penalties Wednesday with Angel Di Maria missing in the first half for PSG, while Emil Forsberg scored the home team's winner from the spot in the 57th minute. Di Maria scored the opening goal in the sixth minute for PSG. Christopher Nkunku scored the equaliser against his former side in the 42nd. Later, Idrissa Gueye and Presnel Kimpembe were sent off.

Blues beat Rennes

London: Chelsea swept to a 3-0 win over 10-man Rennes after Dalbert was sent off for conceding two first-half penalties converted by Timo Werner. Tammy Abraham added the third goal in the 50th minute. Chelsea's second straight win in Group E kept the English team in first place over Sevilla.

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