



ON BODY POSITIVITY
 Emmy-nominated actor Maanvi Gagroo says with time she has become more comfortable with her body
LEISURE P2



24MW PROJECT NOW ON
 CM Naveen inaugurates a 24 MW hydroelectricity project on Baitarani river in Anandpur, Keonjhar
DOWNTOWN P3



UAE TO RELAX LAWS
 The UAE will allow unmarried couples to cohabit and eases restrictions on alcohol consumption
INTERNATIONAL P10

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



It's like this for past 3 days. He called up to know the result and they put him on hold!

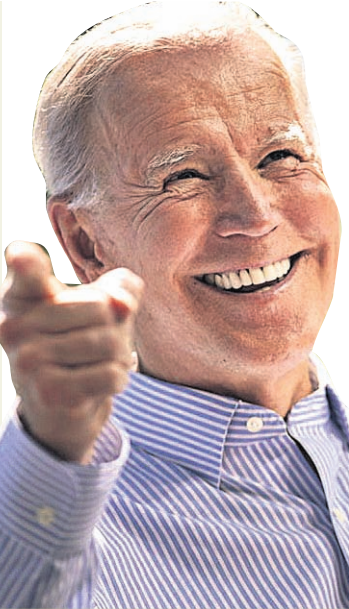
BIDEN TRUMPS

Exactly 160 yrs ago around this time, Abraham Lincoln was elected US President

AGENCIES
 New York, Nov 7: The moment has met Joseph R. Biden. The networks have called the US election for Biden.
 After four full days of waiting patiently for the slow march of vote counting to work itself out, Democratic vice presidential candidate Joseph R. Biden, 77, pulled off one of the great political turn-arounds in America by defeating Donald Trump in the US 2020 election and is now effectively the country's President-elect.
 Exactly 160 years ago around this time, Abraham Lincoln was elected US President.
 The current occupant of the White House continues to project a defiant public posture, though. White House insiders, although deflated, have been sending signals that Trump has no plans to concede until every last fight is finished. Five states are yet to report final results.
 For Biden, today's win caps a more than three decade hunt for the big prize. During that time, he has carried the burden of many personal sorrows in his winding path to America's highest office.
 Biden's victory comes amidst a most unusual terrain for a Presidential election. From coast to coast, mail-in ballots did the start for Biden and his VP pick Kamala Harris in an election transformed by the coronavirus pandemic. Biden is a sharp contrast to Trump, both in the personal and political realm. The last three days in particular have shown Americans glimpses of that very difference.
 Biden spent every day since November 3 trying to ease tensions and delivering his messages with little outward show of anxiety. The disciplined nature of the campaign extends to plans for the lame duck phase of the Trump presidency. Two full days before the final results came, the Biden campaign unveiled its transition website, underscoring its quiet confidence in what was to come.
 "I ask everyone to stay calm. The process is working," Biden has said repeatedly. "It is the will of the voters. No one, not anyone else who chooses the President of the United States of America."

TRUMP 'GOT THE HELL OUT'

Biden's big breakthrough came around 9 am Friday EST when he broke into the lead in Pennsylvania and initially overtook Trump by about 5,000 votes. Since then, that lead is only growing as votes continue to be counted. Oddly enough, this is the state where, in the week before Election Day, Trump told voters that he wanted to "get the hell out of here." That was a roundabout reference to the circumstances forcing Trump to campaign in places which he won comfortably in 2016 but the irony is not lost in the context of a Biden win here.



Amid 'no headway' in de-escalation talks, soldiers freeze at -20°C

AGENCIES
 New Delhi, Nov 7: The military talks between India and China at Chushul in Eastern Ladakh to resolve the border dispute and de-escalation of forces ended in stalemate. The soldiers of both the countries continue to remain exposed to minus 20 degrees Celsius.
 "There was no headway during the talks as China was not ready to withdraw from the disputed position. We had made it clear there is no going back an inch," said a government source.
 The eight Corps Commander level talks between both the countries began at 9:30 am and ended at 7 pm Friday. It was for the first time that Lieutenant General PGK Menon led the Indian military delegates.
 Earlier, he had attended two such rounds of talks but the delegation was led by then Lieutenant General Harinder Singh who was transferred last month to the Indian Military Academy (IMA) where he would be in-charge of training the future generations of Army officers.
 Joint Secretary from the Ministry of External Affairs Navin Srivastava was also part of the delegation.
 "We have firmly stated to China that disengagement will happen at all friction points and not at the selected locations as they want. Our stand is clear," the source said.
 While talks were on, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat Friday claimed that situation at Line of Actual Control remains to be tense and war with China cannot be ruled out.
 He said: "In the overall security calculus, border confrontations, transgressions, unprovoked tactical military actions spiralling into a larger conflict therefore cannot be discounted."



CDS BIPIN RAWAT HAS WARNED THAT WAR WITH CHINA CANNOT BE RULED OUT

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

Exit polls predict Tejayshwi triumph

Voters may not have bought the free Covid vaccine promise from the Saffron even when the pandemic is on a killing spree

| AGENCY | MAHAGATHBANDHAN | NDA |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Chanakya-CNN News18 | 180 | 55 |
| India Today-Axis My India | 139-161 | 69-91 |
| ABP-CVoter | 108-131 | 104-128 |
| Times Now-CVoter | 120 | 116 |
| Republic TV-Jan Ki Baat | 128 | 104 |
| TV9 Bharatvarsh | 120 | 115 |



The poll of polls predict 2-5 seats for LJP
 Several exit polls Saturday gave the RJD-led Opposition alliance in Bihar an edge over the ruling NDA while at least three of them predicted a clear majority for the 'Mahagathbandhan' which has projected Tejayshwi Yadav as its Chief Ministerial face.
 Most of the exit polls also predicted RJD to again emerge as the single largest party in the 243-member Assembly along with a clear dip in the seat tally of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar-led JD(U).
 Counting of votes for the three-phase Bihar Assembly polls, which ended Saturday, will be held November 10. Exit polls are typically based on feedback from a limited number of voters in select areas and none of them have a 100 per cent accuracy record. Today's Chanakya-CNN News18 projected 180 seats for the RJD-led Grand Alliance, 55 for the NDA and eight for others. The majority mark is 122.
 India Today-Axis My India poll showed the RJD-led block winning 139-161 seats, as against 69-91 for the NDA. It predicted 3-5 seats for LJP and also 3-5 for others.

ISRO'S LOCKDOWN BLUES ARE OVER

SRIHARIKOTA: India successfully launched its latest earth observation satellite EOS-01 and nine international customer spacecraft on board a Polar rocket from the spaceport here Saturday, in its first mission this year amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The Indian Space Research Organisation's workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C49) injected EOS-01, intended for applications in agriculture, forestry and disaster management support and other satellites, one by one in orbit around 20 minutes after lift-off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), about 110 km from Chennai, at 3.12 pm.

WEATHER

| | BHUB | CTK |
|----------|------------------|--------|
| TEMP MAX | 31.4°C | 32.0°C |
| TEMP MIN | 20.6°C | 19.0°C |
| Humidity | 94% | 79% |
| Rainfall | Nil | Nil |
| Forecast | Mainly clear sky | |

MAHANADI WATER DISPUTE

Odisha to Tribunal: Pass order in interim application

The Tribunal posted the matter for hearing December 5

POST NEWS NETWORK
 New Delhi, Nov 7: Odisha Saturday pleaded the Mahanadi Water Dispute Tribunal to pass order on merit in the interim application filed by the state. The government of Odisha sought directions to Chhattisgarh to maintain 1.74 million acre feet flow of Mahanadi water during non-monsoon months, starting from November to May. The Tribunal posted the matter for hearing December 5.
 During the hearing, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi appeared for Odisha and pleaded the Tribunal to pass order in the interim application filed by the state. Rohatgi apprised the Tribunal that both states, Odisha and Chhattisgarh, could not arrive on amicable settlement as directed by the Tribunal earlier. Rohatgi also argued that the Tribunal can hold hearing on the interim application in December to record arguments again as the matter is two years old.
 A three-judge bench of the Tribunal headed by Chairperson Justice AM Khanwilkar and comprising Justices Ravi Ranjan and Indermeet Kaur also asked both states to frame a specific timeline for early disposal of the main petition in Mahanadi water dispute and apprised the Tribunal on next hearing of the case. Tribunal affirmed that it does not want to drag the matter for a longer period and want to fast track it.
 State of Odisha also raised concerns with regard to preparation of common format. Senior advocate Mohan Katarki argued in the Tribunal that the assessor has done good job in preparation of common format but Odisha has some concerns. Katarki requested the tribunal to conduct Dam Break Analysis of barrages constructed in Chhattisgarh. The senior advocate said that it is important to know whether the barrages are constructed after a proper study. He further argued that if in case the barrages break down they may have huge impact on Hirakud dam and can create chaos in the state.
 In response, the Tribunal said that the assessor will consider conducting the Dam Break Analysis and if Chhattisgarh disagreed with the demand of Odisha, then the state can file an application in the Tribunal for the same.
 Significantly, the Dam Break Analysis involves the field data collection and computer simulation to evaluate the dam failure and the impact of dam break to downstream area.
 It is to be mentioned here that Odisha, in 2018, filed an interim application in the Mahanadi Tribunal seeking directions to Chhattisgarh to maintain 1.74 million acre feet flow of Mahanadi river water during the non-monsoon months, starting from November to May. The state had also urged the Tribunal to order stay on the operation and construction of barrages built by Chhattisgarh on Mahanadi river till the adjudication of main petition. The Tribunal completed arguments in the interim application in 2019 and reserved the judgment. The Tribunal had asked both parties to hold meetings and make mutual settlement with regard to interim application. However, despite repeated meetings, both states could not resolve the issue amicably.

dem. Biden is a sharp contrast to Trump, both in the personal and political realm. The last three days in particular have shown Americans glimpses of that very difference.
 Biden spent every day since November 3 trying to ease tensions and delivering his messages with little outward show of anxiety. The disciplined nature of the campaign extends to plans for the lame duck phase of the Trump presidency. Two full days before the final results came, the Biden campaign unveiled its transition website, underscoring its quiet confidence in what was to come.
 "I ask everyone to stay calm. The process is working," Biden has said repeatedly. "It is the will of the voters. No one, not anyone else who chooses the President of the United States of America."

IMMERSE IN COLOURS



An artisan gives finishing touches to a vase at 'Mruttika-2020', a terracotta exhibition, at Exhibition Ground in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

Is Odisha safe for human rights defenders

BETWEEN 2017 AND AUG 2020, ODISHA RANKS THIRD-WORST STATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

GYAN RANJAN MOHAPATRA, OP
Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: The role of human rights defenders is inextricably linked to the 'democratic' quotient of a nation. While 2020 has been a tumultuous year in terms of freedom exercise, the recent NHRC numbers presented at the country's Parliament, with state-wise data, paint a grim picture for Odisha.
 While one might perceive Odisha as a peaceful state with no restraint on dissenting voices, the NHRC data says otherwise.
 The rights defenders often come across serious threats to their lives and harassments while trying to defend the fundamental rights of a lay person belonging to the most vulnerable sections of the society. Lately, India too has come under severe criticism from several watchdog agencies over treatment meted out to human rights activists. But what comes as a surprise is that the state picture is much similar to the national picture.
 The defenders in the face of such attacks and harassments approach the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) or the rights bodies at their respective states seeking protection as the authorities are usually found standing behind the influential oppressors.
 Veteran Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader and MP, Pinaki Mishra recently, raised the issue in the Lok Sabha and sought details regarding the state-wise receipt of complaints received by the NHRC from the activists from 2017 till August this year. The data presented by the Union

- In UP, 52 complaints were filed by human rights activists with the NHRC
- While 33 defenders from Tamil Nadu complained harassment before the NHRC during the said period
- Odisha saw 26 complaints of harassment of human rights activists

activists from Uttar Pradesh while 33 defenders from Tamil Nadu complained harassments before the NHRC during the period. As many as 26 complaints of harassment of human rights activists in Odisha were lodged with the NHRC between 2017 to till August 2020.
 Similarly, as per information available with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), six RTI activists were murdered in the state from 2008 to till date. The Odisha Soochana Adhikar Abhiyan, a forum of RTI activists, claimed that as many as 54 cases of murderous assaults on activists occurred in Odisha between 2011 and 2019.
 Speaking to **Orissa POST**, rights activist and national core members of the NHRC, Manoj Jena said, "We have been repeatedly requesting the government to implement Whistleblowers Act to safeguard the human rights activists. Similarly, the dedicated focal point for receiving and examining complaints about alleged violation of Human Rights of the defenders at the earliest is lying largely defunct. The rights body in the state should also create a focal point in Odisha to hear and take stringent action against persons harassing human rights activists. The human rights activists are not anti-government but the defenders of constitution."
 Echoing the same sentiments, activist and advocate Biswapriya Kanungo said, "Human rights are universal and inalienable. So, if human rights are protected and promoted for all, activists shall not be harassed."

leisure



FANS FUME OVER DEPP'S FORCED EXIT FROM FANTASTIC BEASTS

Ever since Hollywood star Johnny Depp revealed that he has been forced to exit the *Fantastic Beasts* franchise, fans have united to seek justice for the actor. The actor announced on Instagram that he will no longer portray the dark wizard Gellert Grindelwald in the popular film franchise.

HAYEK UNVEILS HER VERSION OF THE ETERNALS TRAILER

Hollywood actress Salma Hayek is disappointed with the delay of *The Eternals*, and has shared inside pictures of the trailer that she had with her. The actress posted pictures on Instagram to reveal how she channeled her creativity.



FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshSpeaks.com
accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES
Today you will have to give in to your spouse's demands for improving the environment at home. In your own interest it will be advisable, says Ganesh, to hasten the measures needed to be taken and stay focussed on them as you are the one who is guilty of neglect.

TAURUS
Be prepared for taking instant decisions and acting promptly on them. Today you are likely to meet several such situations Ganesh is pleased to see that you have the acumen and experience to deal with such contingencies. You will have no trouble finding the right solutions and seeing things through. Your exemplary managing skills will be noticed, appreciated and admired. Others are likely to come to you for consultation and advice.

GEMINI
Your family members and your friends will have much higher expectations from you today, and trying to fulfill the same will make you irritable. However, you will figure out creative ways to juggle the many demands made upon you and come out on top at the end of it all, says Ganesh.

CANCER
Minor ailments like cough and cold may bother you, warns Ganesh. So avoid cold or sweet items. People admire your helpful nature. Take special care of your health, says Ganesh.

LEO
You need to curb down on your expenses. You need to moderate the risks you take on in the share market. It is a good day for financial gains though. You need to understand the value of compromise, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Ganesh foretells that your writing abilities will help you give vent to your emotions without hurting others. You will finish all your incomplete tasks successfully. Ganesh says that you will experience success in everything that you choose to do today.

LIBRA
Ganesh says that there are chances that today you might start some long-pending renovation project for your house. You may decorate your home with new paintings and items. There may be guests over in the evening that will make you very happy. You may also go out for dinner with your family and friends or, more probably, with your sweetheart.

SCORPIO
You are all set to paint the town red as you feel romance and love creeping into your life slowly. You may bump into 'someone special' today and see love blooming for you. There are also chances of marriage proposals and meeting prospective candidates, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
For you, appreciation and recognition for the efforts you put in may be delayed, but it's not denied. There's no point losing heart and getting disappointed. This may only affect your work, instead, wait for a better tomorrow, Ganesh says giving you hope.

CAPRICORN
You'll be popular today at your workplace. Your honesty and efforts will be recognised, which will be fulfilling for you. But, tomorrow will be a different day and times may not be favourable for you. It is, therefore, necessary for you to understand the importance of today and utilise it to the maximum, advises Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
Today is the day to turn dreams into reality and how! With your talent, wit, and intelligence you will make a great impression on everyone's mind, feels Ganesh. Icing on the cake will be the cash inflow. You know your cards and you play them well to your advantage. There may be a catch though, keep yourself guarded, advises Ganesh.

PISCES
You will communicate with your friends or relatives living abroad today. There is a chance that these communications could translate directly into substantial gain for you. You will find yourself in the mood for socializing. You will likely invite friends over to dinner at your place in the evening, says Ganesh.



Rashami wows fans with her weekend styling

MUMBAI: Actress Rashami Desai has amped her style quotient on social media with sultry Saturday vibes in white. "Weekend vibe," she wrote on Twitter along with the pictures.

In the images, she sits next to a bed in a white shirt that reveals laced innerwear. Her make-up is subtle and she keeps her hair open. Her fans loved her new image, and were asking for more.

"Dil mange more & more," shared one user, while one wrote: "One of your best ever photoshoots. Indeed you're going places." "Uff you are so hot and gorgeous," posted another user.

Rashami is currently all set to enter the digital world, and says her upcoming web project will help her break away from the regular television image.

The actress plays the lead opposite Tanuj Virwani in the web series *Tandoor*, an investigative thriller about a married couple whose lives take an unexpected turn after a murder.

Pic: @TheRashamiDesai

Ajay to direct Amitabh in *Mayday*



MUMBAI: Ajay Devgn is all set to direct Amitabh Bachchan in a film titled *Mayday* that will also see the two actors reunite before the camera.

Big B and Ajay have worked together in *Major Saab*,

Khakee, *Satyagraha*, and *Hindustan Ki Kasam*, and the new film, which belongs to the drama genre, sees the two stars collaborate after over seven years. Their last outing together, *Satyagraha*,

released in August 2013.

Mayday is being dubbed as 'a thrilling, absolute edge-of-the-seat human-drama'. It is said that Ajay will be seen playing a pilot. Details about Big B's character are being kept under wraps. The rest of the cast is still being finalised. The film is produced by Ajay Devgn.

"The project will go on floors this December in Hyderabad after Ajay completes his work on *Bhuj*. Bachchan senior is currently shooting for KBC," said a source close to the project.

Maanvi becomes more comfortable with her body

MUMBAI: Actress Maanvi Gagroo, who played one of the protagonists in the International Emmy-nominated show *Four More Shots Please!*, says that with time she has become more comfortable with her body and that in turn helped her in engaging in fashion evolution for herself.

Talking about body positivity, Maanvi said: "I never considered myself fat or 'not attractive' until I began working in the (film) industry. At the beginning of my career, many people told me how I am not skinny enough to play a lead ac-

triss or healthy enough to play a fat girl. You are in the middle so either put on weight or lose weight. I was always like, 'this is who I am, normal girls look like this'. Why does it have to be about weight at all?"

However, she added how the web series *Four More Shots Please!* changed her wardrobe for the better.



Leisure travel makes comeback breaking lockdown monotony

Gen Z is increasingly opting for staycations at hotels and alternative accommodations that offer early check-in, late check-out, discounts on in-room dining and safe pick and drop facilities among others

Travelling is innate to humans and the young Indian travel enthusiasts are eyeing the upcoming festive season to step out to celebrate the festive time at home or home away from home, suggests a study.

Travel bookings on the Goibibo, an online travel platform, indicates an uptick of 40 per cent in daily check-ins for this year's Diwali season when compared to the average bookings made in October this year.

For the young Indians, the one thing that tops the wish list is to hit the road or the sky or the trail or the waves again.

As travellers' sentiment shifts before the year ends, the travel platform shared some emerging trends: **Yearning for 'Just Us' time**

Having being deprived of taking



A REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

a leisure break over the past seven months or more, one in every two young Indian is now actively considering travelling in the coming weeks, as revealed a survey conducted by Consumer Insights team at Goibibo. This trend is largely driven by millennials and couples

who are eager to break away from the lockdown monotony and are looking to spend 'Just Us' time with their partners or close friends away from home. Since unlock 4.0, there has been a significant uptick in bookings for long weekends and a proportionate spike in staycations during

the week days. With people gradually getting comfortable with the idea of taking their first leisure flight for that much-deserved break post the pandemic there is a growing preference for bookings to distant destinations across Goa, Kerala, Coorg and Darjeeling among others.

Safety, hygiene top priority

Young travellers are willing to splurge on their next leisure trip while opting for travel options that promise high-safety standards, offer greater booking and payment flexibility and are clubbed with great deals, discounts and other value-adds. For the upcoming Diwali break more than 50 per cent of the stay reservations have been made for premium or mid-premium hotel properties. Amongst all travel groups, Gen Z is increasingly opt-

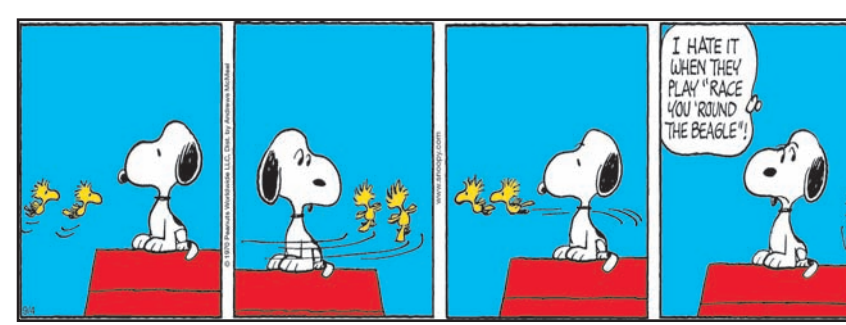
ing for staycations at hotels and alternative accommodations that offer early check-in and late check-out, deals & discounts on a la carte or in-room dining, and complimentary and safe pick and drop facilities among others.

More travelers from tier II and III cities

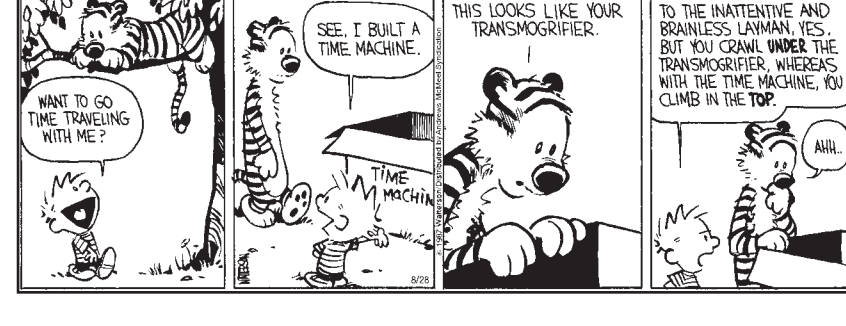
Travelers aged between 20 years to 30 years from tier II and III cities are actively stepping out to take their first break or holiday post the lockdown. The growth is largely driven by the availability of safe inter-city cabs and bus options to some of the popular tourist destinations including Goa, Udaipur, Manali, Jaipur and Darjeeling.

So whichever group you may fit in, you will find your reasons here to pack your bags, mask up and travel!

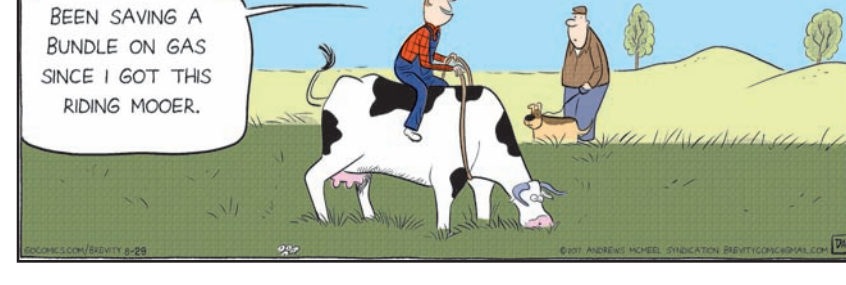
PEANUTS



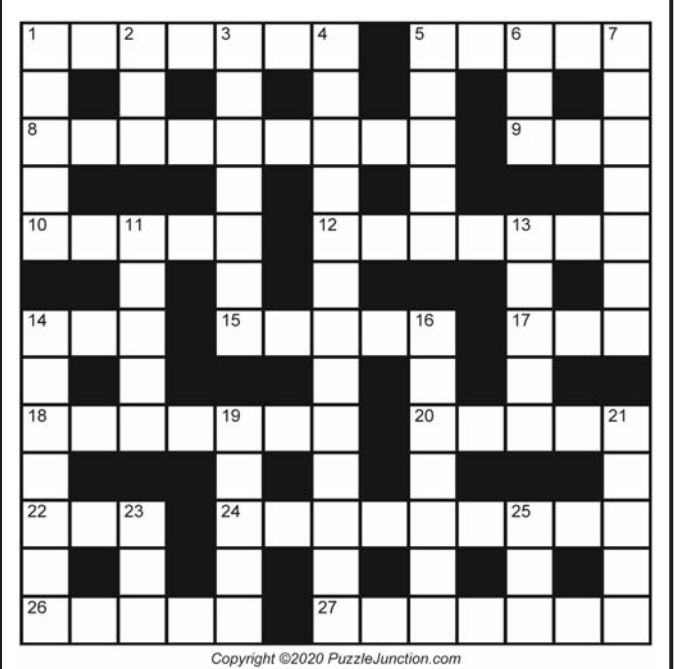
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY

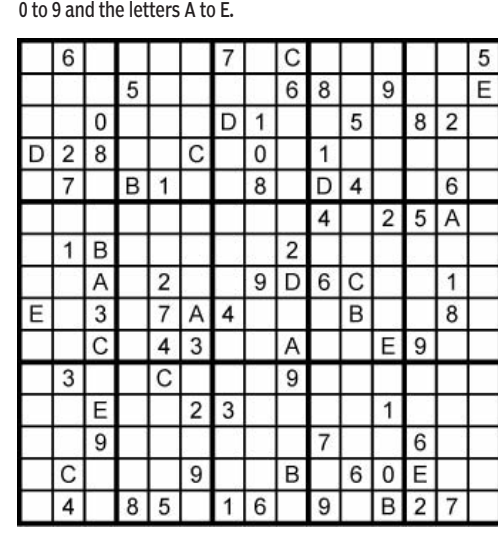


FUN post CROSSWORD

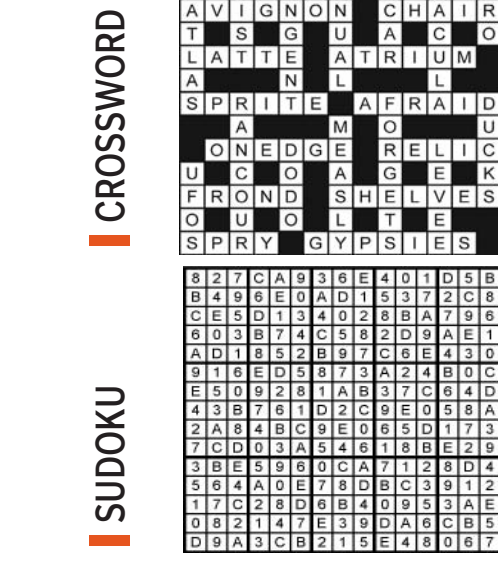


- Across**
- 1 Caribbean nation
 - 5 Coconut providers
 - 8 Bellyaches
 - 9 Honey maker
 - 10 "When pigs fly!"
 - 12 High point
 - 14 Combine
 - 15 Hibachi residue
 - 17 Farm female
 - 18 Exertion
 - 20 Shade of blue
 - 22 Outback runner
 - 24 Merchandise stickers (5,4)
 - 26 Intelligence
 - 27 Words to a pest (3,4)
- Down**
- 1 Breakfast sizzler
 - 2 Fashion line
 - 3 Sub-Saharan scourge
 - 4 Like horror movies (5-8)
 - 5 Old-hat
 - 6 Tennis ploy
 - 7 Disembodied spirit
 - 11 Russian drink
 - 13 Hostile force
 - 14 They're found on deer
 - 16 Viper
 - 19 Sufficient
 - 21 Hungarian composer
 - 23 Ornamental vase
 - 25 Brouhaha

SUDOKU



SOLUTIONS

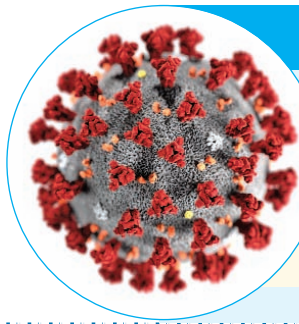


CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMOR-



SOFT TOYS

People buying soft toys from a vendor alongside the Ring Road near Matamatha in Cuttack, Saturday



COVID-19 TRACKER

| | INFECTED | RECOVERED | DEAD |
|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| World | 4,99,07,068 | 3,54,09,481 | 12,52,323 |
| India | 84,62,080 | 78,19,886 | 1,25,562 |
| Odisha | 3,00,140 | 2,86,857 | 1,410 |

24-MW power project turned on in Keonjhar

STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE ROADS IN THE DISTRICT WHILE WORK FOR A MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL IS UNDERWAY, SAYS CHIEF MINISTER NAVEEN PATNAIK

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Saturday, inaugurated a 24 megawatt (MW) hydroelectricity project on Baitarani river at Sinhanali in Anandapur block of Keonjhar district through videoconferencing.

The project came up through utilisation of District Mineral Fund (DMF) for the welfare of the people.

Patnaik said mineral-rich Keonjhar district has made significant contributions to the economy of the state and the country. He said that steps have been taken to improve all roads in the district while a medical college and hospital work is underway in Keonjhar.

Similarly, work is in progress to provide piped drinking water to all households in villages and towns of the district under the mega drinking water project scheme, he said.

The Chief Minister said the lower Baitarani small irrigation project



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurates the hydroelectricity project, Saturday. 5T Secretary VK Pandian is also seen

HYDROELECTRICITY BOOST

■ The project came up through utilisation of District Mineral Fund

■ The project built on the Baitarani River was set up by the Hyderabad-based Baitarani Power Project Pvt Ltd

■ The state grid can now generate 100 million units of electricity every year

is a milestone in the green and renewable energy sector. He expressed happiness that no one had been displaced by the project and that many such small-scale energy projects could effectively address the challenge of environmental change in Odisha.

The Chief Minister said the Lower Baitarani Small Irrigation Project is a milestone in green and renewable energy sector. Patnaik was happy that the project was environment-friendly and that no one

had been displaced by the project and that many such small-scale energy projects could effectively address the challenge of environmental change in Odisha.

The project, built on the Baitarani River, was set up by the Hyderabad-based Baitarani Power Project Pvt Ltd. The state grid can now generate 100 million units of electricity every year. This will allow the people of Anandapur area to get better electricity, Patnaik pointed out.

On the occasion, Skills

Development and Technical Education Minister, and Telkoi MLA Premananda Nayak said that the project has increased the state's capacity in the field of renewable energy. It will benefit the people of Keonjhar and Odisha in entirety.

Energy Minister Divya Shankar Mishra, who attended the meet from Bhawanipatna, said, "It would play an important role in supplying power to the grid during the peak hour."

SUNSET IN PURI



The sun sets on the backdrop of coconut trees at Grand Road in Puri, Saturday

OP PHOTO

Supplementary Budget to have livelihood thrust

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: The state government has started the exercise for preparation of Supplementary Budget for financial year 2020-21 which will be presented in Assembly November 20.

As the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have crippled the state economy, the Finance department is busy prioritising schemes and programmes which would need sufficient fund.

Finance Secretary Ashok Kumar Meena has recently written a letter to all the secretaries in this regard.

Covid-19 pandemic has posed a tremendous challenge to every sphere of governance, the state has been fighting the pandemic since March 2020 and the battle against the virus is likely to continue for some more time.

"While priorities of the state government in the medium-term still remain to achieve sustainable development goals, effective Covid management, saving lives and providing livelihoods to the people will remain priority," Meena said.

Keeping this in view, he has asked all the secretaries to prepare their proposals accordingly.

Due to pandemic, the state government's revenue generation and spending have taken a nosedive. Besides, fund flow from Union government including GST compensation has dried up. Therefore, the supplementary budget would be a revised one of the annual budget,

ABSORBING SHOCK

As the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have crippled the state economy, the Finance dept is busy prioritising schemes and programmes which would need sufficient fund



Due to the pandemic, the state gov't revenue generation and spending have taken a nosedive. Fund flow from the Centre including GST compensation has also dried up

The Supplementary Budget would be presented in the Assembly Nov 20

sources said.

As per state government's estimation, the economy is likely to contract by about 1-2 per cent in the current FY and it is expected to register a growth of about 7 per cent during FY 2021-22.

Considering the likely level of Central assistance and expected receipts from own revenue, the estimated shortfall in revenue during the current year would be of the order of 20-25 per cent. Therefore, the state may have to depend on higher borrowing during the current year to finance higher spending on pandemic management.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has recently said his government would give emphasis to credit to farmers, Mission Shakti, self-help

groups and MSMEs. Besides, sufficient fund is needed for execution of major projects taken up in Puri under Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture (ABADHA) scheme and Ekamra Kshetra Yojana. So, the supplementary budget would be prepared keeping all the above things in view, the source said.

Last year, the state government had presented a supplementary budget of Rs 8,126.32 crore in addition to the Annual Budget of Rs 1.39 lakh crore. For the current year, Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari had presented a Rs 1.50 lakh crore Budget in the Assembly apart from a separate Agriculture Budget of Rs 19,408 crore.

Aditi first Odia woman to top CDS-II exam

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Odisha-born Aditi Parida has topped the Combined Defence Services (CDS) II, 2019 examination (women), the results of which were published recently, official sources said.

The merit list carrying a total of 241 candidates includes 174 who cleared the exams for Officers Training Academy, Chennai for short service Commission Course (NT) (for Men) and 67 candidates who cleared the exams for Officers Training Academy, Chennai, Short Service Commission Women (Non-

THE DAUGHTER OF AN INDIAN ARMY BRIGADIER, ADITI ALSO HAS THE CREDIT OF BEING THE NATIONAL DEBATE CHAMPION

Technical) Course.

Aditi is the first woman from Odisha to top the CDS examination and selected for the training for Army Officer.

Aditi finished her graduation in mass communication from Symbiosis College, Pune this summer and she is also the topper of her batch 2017-2020.

The combination of intelligence, valour and elegance, the girl is also a good classical dancer having performed in stages both in Odissi and Bharatanatyam.

The daughter of an Indian Army Brigadier, Aditi also has the credit of being the national debate champion amongst the Army Schools in 2016.

She is a very good volleyball player having represented her uni-

versity, sources said.

When contacted, Aditi (20) said: "I was motivated to join the Indian Army since my childhood. I am born and brought up in an army atmosphere as my father serves as a brigadier. Serving Mother India is a dream of my life."

Aditi's mother Sujata Parida, who hailed from Nadhara village of Odisha's Dhenkanal district, said: "My daughter is trained in all aspects of life. She is a good orator, a topper in studies, a classical dance performer, a good sports person and above all a person who loves her country. I am proud of her."

Senior lawyer Ashok Mohapatra dies of Covid

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Senior

lawyer and Orissa High Court Bar Association's former president Ashok Mohapatra passed away after losing his battle against Covid-19 at a private hospital here Saturday.

He was 61. He was admitted to a private hospital after being infected with novel coronavirus a few days ago and had since been undergoing treatment there. Mohapatra was elected as the president of the Orissa High Court Bar Association in 2015.



Brown sugar worth ₹ 1cr seized; three arrested

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: In a major haul, the Special Task Force (STF) of Crime Branch along with Balasore police seized brown sugar weighing 1.105 kg during a raid at Sahadevkhunta area in Balasore Friday.

Three peddlers were arrested in this connection.

The value of the seized contraband in grey market is somewhere near Rs 1 crore.

The arrested were identified as Sk Jamir alias Chhotu of Masjid Gali, Arada Bazar; Prabhat Sethy of Nayabazar and Jasobant Bagh alias Sukuras of Kasimela, resi-

dents of Sahadevkhunta.

Acting on a tip-off, the STF and Balasore police conducted a raid at a place near Hotel Jyoti Sagar and apprehended the accused.

Besides the contraband, Rs 85,680 in cash and some incriminating materials were also seized from their possession. The accused were arrested after they failed to produce any valid evidence in support of the possession of such contraband material and forwarded to the court based on a case registered by the STF under Sections 21(c), 29 NDPS Act, 1985.

The STF has so far seized 23.273 kg of brown sugar and detected 25 cases this year.

SONEPUR RECORDS 11.8 DEGREES C

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Mercury started dipping in many parts of the state with Sonepur recording lowest minimum temperature of 11.8 degrees Celsius, Saturday.

As per records of Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre, Angul town has recorded the lowest minimum temperature of 12.6 degrees Celsius while it was 14 degrees C at Daringibadi, 14.1 degrees at Jharsuguda and 15 degrees at Keonjhar. Similarly, the minimum temperature at Baripada was 15.6 degrees, Phulbani and Bolangir 16 degrees each, Sambalpur & Talcher 16.4 degrees each and Bhawanipatna 16.8 degrees.

The Met Centre said night temperature will further fall by 2-3 degrees C over the districts of coastal Odisha.

FLESH TRADE

3 NABBED, FIVE WOMEN RESCUED FROM HOTEL

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Nov 7: Baliapanda police Saturday claimed to have arrested three persons and rescued five women from a hotel here in connection with flesh trade.

The arrested have been identified as Sapan Datta of West Bengal, Shubhansha Swain of Nimapara in Puri district and Devi Prasad Majhi of Erasama in Jagatsinghpur district.

"The trio has been booked under various Sections of the Immoral Trafficking Act. The rescued women were from Bengal," police said.

According to police, there was information regarding flesh trade at a hotel near the beach. A police team conducted surprise raid on two rooms of the hotel Friday evening and arrested three persons. Five women were also rescued during the raid, police said.

"We have seized several objectionable items from the two rooms," police added.

Earlier, police had arrested three persons and rescued two women from another hotel in Baliapanda area of Puri September 14.

BHUBANESWAR: Many Odias in the US feel that the Jo Biden administration would bring the Covid-19 pandemic under control while others decried the electoral system dubbing it 'outdated' and at the same time some others hope relaxation in visa policy and a strong anti-China stand.

Speaking to **Orissa POST**, Sarmishtha Satpathy from California in the USA, said,

"Trump has been making multiple false remarks about his victory in the states when counting was underway. Trump, however, is incorrectly claiming victory, whereas Joe Biden is asking people to be calm and patient, and is waiting for the results."

She said, "It's a close race, but with an impressive turnout. Trump's statements have incited multiple people to baselessly talk about voter

fraud and the process not having changed at all over the years."

Many criticised the Electoral College voting system saying under this system the voters do not elect the President, instead they choose presidential electors who then vote for the President.

"The system is pretty outdated and it seems like many Americans are also unhappy with it because it doesn't value each vote equally," Satpathy said.

Similar thoughts were shared by Sadyasnata Pattanaik of Chicago. She said that the Electoral College is incredibly outdated. "The reason we have it in the first place is only because of slavery. It has been controversial since its inception. We must come up with a better system," Pattanaik added.

She said that whosoever deserves to win is not important there re-



ally. "But if you look at the facts, one candidate is threatening our democracy, lies to the public constantly, uses racist, prejudiced and sexist rhetoric all the time. So, I would say that we are pro-Biden."

Talking about expectations from new president, Pattanaik said, "I hope the new president issues a national mask mandate and brings the virus to control here. He should address all the 'Black Lives Matter' protests and help to lessen police power nationwide. Lastly, priority should be given to addressing climate change issues."

Jayanta Rout of Texas, how-

ever, expects relaxation in US visa rules and healthy relationship with India. "We also expect some definite action against China from the new president," Rout said. Trump didn't handle the pandemic situation in exceptional way and also his response towards visa policy is not so

good, Rout added. About Biden, Satpathy said it would be nice to have an American president who believes in science and climate change, listens to scientists and takes steps to reduce global warming.

Some Odias believe that Biden will help heal a nation that has been divided by President Trump's racist rhetoric and irresponsible policies

Anya Rath of Indiana said, "Biden deserves a win because he not only has overwhelmingly received the

mandate, but I also believe that he will help heal a nation that has been divided by President Trump's racist rhetoric and irresponsible policies."

Pratyush Das from Oklahoma said that Trump has failed miserably in tackling Covid-19 pandemic. US now has the highest deaths in the world. "I don't have much faith in politics. The very fact that so many people in my country do not think that climate change is a real phenomenon and it leads me to believe we will not survive as a species for much longer."

Ranjan Panda, who hails from Naperville, Illinois, said, "The new president's focus should be on improving economy, health sector in the country which had suffered in a big way. Also, the relationship with India also should improve after looking at the role of China post Covid-19."



State's Covid-19 tally crosses 3 lakh-mark

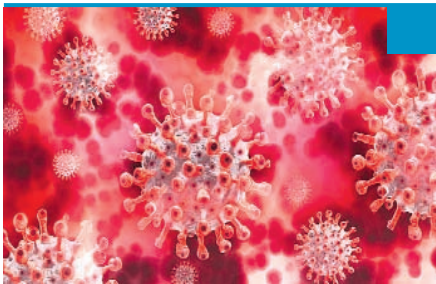
Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Odisha's Covid-19 tally crossed the three lakh-mark Saturday as 1,372 more people tested positive for the infection, while 17 fresh fatalities pushed the state's coronavirus death toll to 1,410, a health department official said.

The fresh infections reported from all the 30 districts have taken the state's caseload to 3,00,140, he said. Of the 1,372 new cases, 796 were detected from quarantine centres while the rest were found during contact tracing.

Khurda district, of which the state capital Bhubaneswar is a part, reported the maximum number of fresh cases at 145, followed by Cuttack at 121 and Nuapada at 108, the official said. Taking to Twitter, the Health and Family Welfare Department said, "Regret to inform the demise of seventeen #COVID19 positive patients while under treatment in hospitals."

Three fresh fatalities were reported from Khurda and two each from Cuttack, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur and Bargarh. One each died in the districts of Puri, Balasore, Koraput, Kalahandi, Kendrapara and Bhadrak.

Khurda has accounted for the highest number of fatalities so far at 245, followed by Ganjam at 231 and Cuttack at 118. Fifty-three Covid-19 patients have died due to pre-existing ailments. The positivity rate in the state stands at 6.14 per cent,



NO LET-UP

Khurda district, of which the state capital Bhubaneswar is a part, reported the maximum number of fresh cases at 145, followed by Cuttack at 121 and Nuapada at 108

KHURDA HAS ACCOUNTED FOR THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF FATALITIES SO FAR AT 245 FOLLOWED BY GANJAM AT 231 AND CUTTACK 118

DMs to take a call on crowd sizes at marriage

BHUBANESWAR: The state government has amended the earlier unlock guidelines for the month of November and empowered the Collectors to take decision on the sizes of crowds for marriage functions. Earlier, the government in their unlock notification had allowed 200 guests for marriage functions by expanding the ceiling from earlier allowed crowd. However, the amendment has given the power to Collectors to monitor the crowds with the new norms. The new norms, issued Saturday said, "Provided that the respective Collector/Municipal Commissioner shall take decision regarding the number of persons to be allowed in marriage related functions (within the overall limit of 200) keeping their local situation in mind in the interest of public health and issue specific order in that regard,"

the official said. Over 48.88 lakh sample tests have been conducted for Covid-19 so far, including 50,385 Friday, he added.

The Capital city of Bhubaneswar reported 64 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours taking the total tally in the state capital to 29,647. This information was shared by the Bhubaneswar Municipal

Corporation (BMC) in a tweet Saturday.

Among the fresh cases detected, 17 were reported from quarantine centres and the rest 47 contracted the virus locally. All the new patients have either been shifted to Covid-19 hospitals or asked to undergo treatment at their respective homes, BMC said.



A review meeting on Covid-19 chaired by Khurda Collector Sanat Kumar Mohanty is under way at the special circuit house in Bhubaneswar, Saturday. Senior officials attended the meeting

7-year prodigy creates learning app

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: A 7-year-old boy earned accolades as he created an app named Let's Reward Kids, a learning application. Venkat Raman Patnaik from Bolangir was inspired to create an app to inspire kids to develop in them positive habits, to make them more responsible and boost their self-confidence.

With this app, kids can customize a list of activities worthy of earning reward points. They could mutually decide how much reward each activity is worth. Both parents and kids can track the activities for completion. They could

maintain a log of reward points earned and redeem the points accordingly.

The state's whiz kid was also one of the 26 winners of Silicon Valley programme for creating the innovative app for the kids. Out of total winners, 22 were Indians while were from the US.

The program entailed getting kids to create an app to solve real-life problems. The kids were short-listed from a long list of over 7,000 entries from across the globe.

Venkat drew inspiration from Tanmay Bakshi, a young computer programmer, artificial intelligence expert and joined his coding class. He was inspired to create an app to



Venkat Raman Patnaik

inspire kids to develop positive habits, become more responsible and boost their self-confidence and self-esteem.

Silicon Valley is the epitome of innovation, a personification that nothing is off-limits. WhiteHat Jr crafted the Silicon Valley program to reinforce this idea in kids to make industry veterans accessible to them and help them understand that nothing is out of bounds if one dares to dream.

"The concept of getting these bright kids to interact with thought leaders was to reduce these conditional barriers that we have placed on our kids. When kids are equipped with the right set of tools to learn in environments that don't restrict their creativity, the results are always astonishing," said Karan Bajaj, Founder and CEO, WhiteHat Jr.

Cong slams govt for cut in size of SC/ST scholarship

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: The Youth Congress Saturday slammed the state government for reducing the post-matric scholarship amount being provided to SC and ST students.

Addressing reporters here Saturday, Youth Congress state president Smruti Ranjan Lenka said, "Both state government and the Centre are playing with the future of the SC and ST students by cutting down the post-matric scholarship. On the bypoll day (November 3), the State SC, ST Development Department has issued a notification reducing the post-Matric scholarship amount."

Showing a copy of the government notification, Lenka said the state government has slashed the scholarships being provided to B Tech students from Rs 60,000 to Rs 25,000 while the scholarship for M Tech students has been cut down from Rs 66,000 to Rs 25,000, Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS) from Rs 45,000 to Rs 25,000, MCA from Rs 40,000 to Rs 25,000, Bachelor of Homeopathic Medicine and



Surgery (BHMS) from Rs 40,000 to Rs 7,200 and B Pharma from Rs 45,000 to Rs 25,000.

Now, if a poor SC or ST student has taken admission in a technical institution in B Tech, as per the earlier course fee of Rs 60,000, he/she will not be able to complete the study due to this cut in the size of the scholarship, he said.

The Post-Matric scholarship scheme is a central sponsored scheme and started by then UPA government with 100 per cent funding. However, after the Modi government took charge, it reduced

the fund flow which is highly unfortunate, the Congress leader said.

He also sought a clarification as to why the state government hurriedly came up with a notification to this effect soon after the conclusion of the bypoll to Balasore and Tirtol constituencies November 3.

Alleging the BJD had supported each and every Bill of the Union government in recent past Lenka said, "In this case also, the BJD government has remained silent. If the government will not restore the earlier scholarship amount, we will hit the street."

Lower Indra dam: HC orders Nuapada LAO to compensate oustee

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: The Orissa High Court has directed the Nuapada Land Acquisition Officer (LAO) to consider the grievance of a land oustee who sought higher compensation at par with other

The petitioner sought higher damages citing examples of payments made to co-villagers following displacement

displaced villagers. This comes after Gaurang Sahoo was displaced in Lower Indra Dam project. The petitioner from Rajana village in Komana area of the district accused the local government of delaying giving him adequate compensation owing to his displacement due to government project.

He cited the examples of payments done to other villagers following their displacement and asked the HC for its intervention. The HC in its order asked the authorities to consider the grievance and pass an appropriate order within a three-month notice.

BDA CAGEY FOR ALLOTTING LAND FOR GAS FILLING HUBS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: Following the recent blast at an LPG gas filling station near Raj Bhavan here, the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) has been treading with caution while leasing out land for new stations largely in residential zones.

The 23rd DP&BP (Development Planning and Building Planning) Committee meeting held October 29, discussed a range of building and land approval plans. Amongst these was the issue of land demanded for lease by GAIL (Gas Authority of India Limited) at Sandhapur under Jatni tehsil for erection of a CNG filling station.

The committee observed that the land in question was a residential zone and that a special recommendation is required by the BDA committee that will seek approval of all consenting parties. Thus, it was decided that the NOC (No Objection Certificate) will only be provided after the party obtains clearance from all parties.

"Since setting up of a CNG station is equivalent to setting up of a petrol pump station, the certificate of approval will only be provided



PETROL PUMP BLAST

when all safety measures are met. Moreover, as the land concerned falls in a residential area the agency shall obtain prior approval of BDA under Sections 15 and 16 of the ODA Act before setting up the pump," the committee said.

As per BDA sources, officials have been instructed to strictly ensure safety norms for new approvals of gas filling stations. Consequently, the committee is said to have put on hold seven such approvals and have asked them for further safety clearances. The instructions have come after the city saw a powerful blast in an LPG station near Governor's House which saw two people dead and left about 10 people injured.

Cops still clueless after one month

BHUBANESWAR: Although a month has passed since the severe explosion at the fuel station near Raj Bhavan here that claimed two lives and left many injured, the agencies probing the mishap are yet to find the actual cause of the blast. Meanwhile, the State Forensic Science Laboratory recently confirmed the human body parts collected from the blast site. The body parts were of the missing engineer, Simanchal Parida. However, the SFSL is yet to submit the examination report of other materials seized from the scene and the CCTV footage of the spot.

NGT rules in favour of Nuahat water project

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has passed an order in favour of the state government on the Nuahat Mega Drinking Water Project. The order of the tribunal has come against a petition filed before the NGT seeking its intervention against extraction of water from the Kharasrota river for drinking water project.

The project was planned to serve drinking water in 91 saline gram panchayats in Bhadrak district. The petitioner alleged that despite the availability of other rivers, the Kharasrota river, a tributary of the river Brahmani, was used for extracting water for the project. It was alleged that this could lead to more stress on the water body and other alternatives could be seen by

the government.

It challenged the wisdom of the government on the issue. The NGT, however, based on the hearings and inspection report submitted by the government, ordered in favour of the Odisha government.

The order of the NGT said, "It would appear from the above that the concern expressed by the applicant appears to be unfounded as all relevant factors pointed out by the applicant have been taken into consideration while undertaking the project. The response to each of the queries put by the tribunal clearly indicates this fact."

It added, "We do not deem it necessary to continue further with this matter firstly, on account of the fact that the subject matter raised by the applicant is not a substantial question relating to environment that would attract provi-



sions of the NGT Act, 2010 and secondly, even in its merits, we do not find the applicant having made out any case for our interference in the light of the report of the committee reproduced,"

The inspection committee re-

port told the NGT that the feasibility of using water from Brahmani and other resources was also discussed and the best option for surface water supply for the saline areas of Bhadrak was chosen from the Kharasrota river.

The project as per the petitioner was said to have neglected the people of Kendrapada district, particularly those of Rajakanika and all blocks who are dependent on the river Kharasrota.

It was further alleged that the ground water of Bhadrak district is comparatively safer for drinking than the water of Kendrapada district and, therefore, the residents/farmers of the said district are dependent upon the river Kharasrota which according to the applicant is the only source of domestic and agricultural consumption.

Locals oppose land survey for ROB

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Nov 7: A group of locals and shopkeepers who are likely to be displaced by a proposed rail overbridge (ROB) at Siddhamahaveer level crossing here Friday opposed land measurement and survey for the project at Matiapada Square in the Holy City.

They pleaded for a change in the location of the proposed ROB to avoid the displacement of families from their ancestral lands. The locals claimed that more than a hundred shopkeepers would be affected by the ROB project. They urged the authorities concerned to construct the ROB on government land. The locals alleged that the land measurement and survey for the ROB project had been conducted without holding any Pallisabha.

On being informed, police reached the spot and held discus-

sions with agitating locals and shopkeepers. The residents of the Pilgrim City have been demanding construction of an ROB at Siddhamahaveer level crossing on Puri-Konark National Highway for last two decades. The Centre had given its nod to the project in December 2019.

The NHAI and the district administration had initiated the process for land acquisition for the project January 16 this year. The authorities had planned to acquire 2.66 acres for the 900-metre long ROB, sources said. It is learnt that at least 129 private plots at Balukhand, Kumutipatna, Matiapada and Siddhamahaveer revenue villages would come under the land required for the ROB project. "Around Rs 53 crore has been sanctioned for the proposed ROB. The final design of the project would be made after the completion of land measurement and survey work," said a source.

Land acquisition officer Prasanta Kumar Jena said the land measurement work was being conducted as per the National Highways Act-1956. "The survey is being done to fix the value of the landed properties. The value of the land would be made known to the households. They would have two months to put forth their grievances before the district administration," he added.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

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

Millers, civil supplies dept at loggerheads

Millers demand release of Rs 30-cr dues while the dept refutes the claim; farmers fear distress sale if procurement is delayed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatana, Nov 7: Even as the administration has been bracing up for paddy procurement for the current Kharif season in Kalahandi, the procurement programme is caught in a stalemate over payment of dues – a dispute between the civil supplies department and rice millers.

The administration allegedly shows no interest to resolve the issue. The millers have warned of not cooperating in the paddy procurement process. Farmers in Kalahandi are apprehensive of facing distress sale if the procurement is delayed or stalled. Besides, thousands of labourers who are part of the procurement process will be hit in the event the programme is stalled.

The report said the rice collection season from millers for 2019-20 has been over, but millers have claimed that Rs 25 crore to Rs 30 crores towards transport, unloading and maintenance of paddy in godowns has not been cleared. Besides, they said they are yet to get back 7 lakh empty gunny bags from mandis.

PROCUREMENT UNDER CLOUD



The report said the rice collection season from millers for 2019-20 has been over, but millers have claimed that Rs 25 crore to Rs 30 crores towards transport, unloading and maintenance of paddy in godowns has not been cleared. Besides, they said they are yet to get back 7 lakh empty gunny bags from mandis

Even though the cost of fuel has increased several times, reducing the transport fare has made things worse for us, some millers pointed out

empty gunny bags from mandis.

The millers made it clear to the Collector that unless their massive dues are cleared and their bags returned to them, they will not take part in paddy procurement process.

On the other hand, district civil supplies officer Ashok Das refuted

the claim of the millers, saying not a single penny of the millers is pending for clearance.

The tussle is expected to make life of farmers difficult as they may not dispose their produce in the season unless there is a solution in sight.

Delay in procurement will provide an opportunity to middlemen and trader to cash in on the difficulties of farmers.

Some millers alleged the civil supplies department is not following procurement guidelines as a result of which they have to incur

losses. "There is no transparency in the function of the department," millers lamented.

The civil supplies department used to pay Rs 22.50 per km as transport fare in 2018-19. The fee was reduced to Rs 18.50 per km in 2019-20. Owing to fare reduction, millers had to suffer the loss to the tune of Rs 6 crore.

"Even though the cost of fuel has increased several times, reducing the transport fare has made things worse for us," they pointed out.

Four gunny bags are needed for a quintal of rice. The civil supplies department is supposed to give two sacks while millers have to arrange two sacks.

Last year, the department had not given 7.5 lakh gunny bags to them, millers claimed, adding that they have been incurring losses.

Earlier, there were 119 rice mills in the district. Now, their number has come down to 72. 47 rice mills have closed due to losses.

They also said that more mills will face closure due to faulty policy by the civil supplies department.

Firecrackers worth ₹70L seized in Aska; 3 arrested

OVER 20 FAMILIES EARN THEIR LIVING FROM CRACKER-MAKING BUSINESS



POST NEWS NETWORK

Aska, Nov 7: Police seized a huge cache of firecrackers and other materials worth Rs 70 lakh during a raid on a cracker-making unit at Nalabanta under Aska police limits in Ganjam district Saturday.

Three persons were arrested on charges of illegal manufacturing and selling firecrackers despite a ban by the government. 12 others managed to flee when police raided the area.

The accused were identified as Laba Behera, Jitu Pradhan and Ranjan Pradhan.

A team of officials got a tipoff

about illegal manufacturing and selling of firecrackers for Diwali and raided the area with the help of police.

The team seized the firecrackers like bombs, kumpi, fataka, chakri, and other varieties in huge quantities as well as the raw materials such as gun powder, palm leaves, nitrogen powder, sulphur powder, charcoal, iron cylinder used in making of the crackers from the village.

Police transported the seized firecrackers in 8 mini-trucks to Aska police station. It is alleged that over 20 families are engaged in cracker-making business over years.

Land hurdle for Nalco pipeline

POST NEWS NETWORK

Koraput, Nov 7: About 36 years have passed since Nalco was set up in Koraput. However, some projects linked to its expansion have not been able to make headway for various factors.

One of its projects is water pipeline which has been facing opposition from locals.

The administration and the company are allegedly failing to sort out the issue so as to carry forward the project, a report said.

The report further said that the expansion work had been hit by intermittent protests by the land losers.

People who have lost their land to the Upper Kolab hydropower project have strongly opposed its water pipe line project.

Notably, Nalco has signed an agreement with the water resources department to draw the water from the Kolab reservoir for its use.



Earlier, Nalco had set up a pump house at Sunabeda and used to take water from Kolab reservoir through pipes. But gradually the water level in that part of the reservoir plummeted. As a result, Nalco faced water shortage.

In order to remove water crunch, Nalco wanted to change its place of water intake at the reservoir.

The central PSU signed another agreement with the state government to draw water of the Kolab reservoir near Puruna Kotiagunda, a low-lying area.

The water resources department had permitted Nalco to lay road and a pipeline in the low-lying area.

A construction agency of Andhra Pradesh was awarded the construction of the pipeline.

As soon as the work started Friday, locals opposed it and warned the staff of the construction agency of dire consequences if they continued with the work.

The pipeline is be laid from Puruna Kotiagunda to Damanjodi while its work from Chougan to Damanjodi is nearing completion. But the work from Zero Point to Ghatguda has been stuck due to resistance from residents of Puruna Dumuriput.

Locals were shown documents about the land acquisition for the Upper Kolab, tehsildar's permission and copies of the agreement papers with the water resources department, but the latter refused to budge from their stand. Due to stalled work, the agency faced loss. Saturday, some people detained the staff and their vehicle. A police complaint was filed in this regard.

EVICTED DRIVE



A family carries away its household belongings during an eviction drive at Similipada in Angul. OP PHOTO

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Students come out in support of accused principal



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sunabeda, Nov 7: Hundreds of students including day scholars and former pupils of Plus II Junior Women's College at Sunabeda in Koraput district came out Saturday in support of the principal who had earlier been arrested on charge of sexual harassment.

The sexual harassment allegation was framed against the principal by a female colleague of his college a few days ago.

According to sources, the students said principal Pabitra Kumar Bedanta has been victimised. The complainant has conspired to tarnish the image of Bedanta.

In order to unravel the truth, the students urged Koraput Collector Madhusudan Mishra and Superintendent of Police Mukesh Kumar Bhambho to order an investigation by the cyber police.

Notably, a 23-year-old staffer who works as a computer operator in the college had lodged an FIR against the principal November 3 alleging sexual harassment. She further alleged that the principal had shared inappropriate messages with her on mobile phone.

DOUBLE MURDER ACCUSED NABBED

POST NEWS NETWORK

Angul, Nov 7: In a major crack-down, Angul police arrested a youth named Sujan Kumar Senapati of Rantalei area Friday night on charge of double murder including illegal possession of firearm.

According to police sources, the accused had allegedly murdered two brothers identified as Dusasan and Dusmanta Senapati of the Rantalei village in Angul district November 4.

Acting on an FIR lodged by Dusasan's son Rakesh, police had registered a case and launched a manhunt. The accused was nabbed along with the seizure of weapons.

Police recovered a double-barrel gun and a machete from near Derjang reservoir in the district. Notably, the brother duo was shot dead Wednesday in the evening.

The accused had disposed weapons near Derjang reservoir after committing the crime. Further investigation is underway.

BSF jawans save two lives

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Nov 7: Not all heroes wear capes, sometimes they just wear camouflaged uniforms. The saying has become popular here after three BSF jawans saved the lives of two pregnant women in Mathili block in Malkangiri district.

They reached the Malkangiri district headquarters hospital (DHH) in the nick of time, donated blood and brought the lost smile back on the faces of the women's relatives.

The jawans did the noble act Friday and they have since been regarded as the real heroes who are not only saving people's lives and properties by fighting with Maoists in the region but also lending their names to various social causes.

Muye Sodi, a resident of Kaikigudda village of Temurupalli panchayat under Mathili block, went into labour pain Friday. She was immediately rushed to Malkangiri district headquarters hospital (DHH).

There the doctors asked her family members to arrange a unit of A + blood. The blood bank in the district has been running short of blood for months. Due to the COVID-



19 pandemic, the process of blood collection has been severely affected as no blood donation camp is being organised lately.

The family members ran from pillar to post to get a unit of the required blood group. All their efforts failed, leaving them in despair.

A jawan of 160 BSF Battalion stationed at MV-3, Rabindra Kumar Nayak, somehow came to know about Muye and came forward to help the family in distress.

He donated a unit of A + blood and saved the life of Muye.

On the same day, two other BSF

jawans - Sandeep Kumar and Indrajit Singh too came out as knights in shining armour and saved the life of another pregnant woman. Chhabi Nayak of Kansariput village under the same panchayat was experiencing labour pain and her family members as per the doctors' advice were frantically searching for a unit of blood. It was then Sandeep and Indrajit reached the DHH, donated blood and saved the life Chhabi.

Local residents have since been looking to these three jawans for what they did for Muye and Chhabi.

Job fraud: Three held in Nayagarh

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayagarh, Nov 7: Police arrested three people in Sarankul area of Nayagarh district for allegedly duping people on the promise of jobs at Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation Saturday.

The arrest was made following a police complaint by Monali Priyadarshini.

She alleged that her former classmate Abhijeet Pradhan took Rs 2 lakh from her in exchange of getting her an appointment at the BMC. Later, Abhijeet took Rs 1.5 lakh each from Monali's younger brother and a few others from the village with the same promise. She said sometime later they even received appointment letters for the same by post.

However, they did not receive their joining letters. Abhijeet later tried to convince her that the High Court has pronounced a stay order on the appointment, leading to delay in joining. Sensing something fishy about it, they were sure about a scam

The arrest was made following a complaint by Monali Priyadarshini, who alleged that her former classmate Abhijeet Pradhan took ₹2 lakh from her on the promise of getting her an appointment at the BMC

and later filed a complaint.

Sarankul IIC Bimal Mallick said Abhijeet Pradhan and his associates have managed to extract Rs 5 lakh from them. Police got enough evidence against him. He was arrested and produced in court. Two others are in custody.

However, the accused said that the mastermind of the racket managed to lure and trap him into their fraudulent activities.

Jute cultivation in Kendrapara on the wane

NOT LONG AGO, THE COASTAL DISTRICT WAS KNOWN FOR THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF JUTE IT PRODUCED

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Nov 7: Jute cultivation is on the wane in Kendrapara district due to lack of government support, a report said. Reports said decades back jute sticks known as 'Kauria Kathi' in local parlance was used as firewood. However, things have changed over the years as a piece of jute stick now sells for Rs 1 during Diwali festival.

The decline in cultivation of jute is blamed on the rise in the price of jute sticks. Observers said the district has favourable climatic conditions and land resources for jute cultivation but little government support led to a decline in its cultivation. Farmers are turning to other crops to earn a living.

Jute is a long, soft, shiny bast fiber that can be spun into coarse, strong threads. It is one of the most affordable natural fibers, and second only to cotton in the volume of production



and the variety of use. Its fibers are composed primarily of the plant materials cellulose and lignin.

Jute was cultivated on 2,152 hectares in 2005. The cultivation rose to 8000 hectare in 2010 as the climate and soil proved conducive for the cultivation. In view of the increasing prospects for jute cultivation,

the state government established a jute research centre over 46 acres at Jajanga in the district.

That encouraged farmers to use various types of seeds. As a result, jute cultivation rose to 14,000 hectares in 2014. However, the jute research centre soon got into problems and stopped selling jute seeds. Farmers

in the district require 30 quintals of seeds but the centre provided only two quintals in 2018.

The centre waded into more problems as it stopped getting seeds from 2019-20. Left with no options, farmers were forced to buy seeds from open market. However, they proved to be of sub-standard quality.

Banamabar Sahu, a senior resident, said the district lacks major or small industries and agriculture is the main occupation of people. The farmers are turning away from jute cultivation due to lack of sponsorship from the state government.

The Centre and the state government have imposed a ban on use of plastic bags and replace it with jute bags. However, the district is lagging behind in fiber cultivation.

Niranjan Parida, a farmer, of Kansar panchayat said he has cultivated jute on 12 acres and transports the harvest to Kolkata for sale.

Farmers also get decent earnings from selling jute sticks ahead of Diwali. However, this year they failed to get seeds due to failure of the agriculture department to supply them.

Saraswati Samal, a woman farmer, of Parapangara said the district has a jute based cottage industry which employs over 60 women belonging to self-help groups. The unit manufactures various jute based products but its profit margin is declining as it has to pay more for purchasing jutes from outside.

When contacted, Ashok Mahasuara, deputy director, agriculture department, said the department is trying to revive jute cultivation in the district from next year as per the plan of the Centre and the state government. The department is also making arrangements to provide subsidies on seeds and other agricultural implements for farming jute.

EAST COAST RAILWAY HIRING OF VEHICLE

Tender No. eTender-Optg-KUR-13-2020

Name of the Work: PROVISION FOR HIRING OF 1 NUMBER OF LIGHT MOTOR VEHICLE (TATA SUMO/MAHINDRA BOLERO) OR SIMILAR NON-AC ALONG WITH DRIVER ROUND THE CLOCK FOR OFFICIAL USE OF ARM/PARADEEP FOR PERIOD OF (03) THREE YEARS.

Advertisement Value: ₹ 16,17,386.84
EMD: ₹ 32,400.00
Cost of Tender Document: ₹ 2,360.00
Completion Period of the work: 36 Months.

Bidding Start Date: 09.11.2020
Date and time of closing of tender: At 1500 hrs of 23.11.2020

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete details of the tender document is available at <http://www.tenders.gov.in>.
Sr. Divisional Operations Manager (M), PR-337/L/20-21, Khurda Road

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R.W.S. & S. DIVISION, GAJAPATI

No.O-520- PARALAKHEMUNDI, ODISHA
Email: eerwsgjp@gmail.com, Ph.No.-06815224803

Invitation of Bid Through e-procurement

Identification No.EE/RWS&S/GPT/01 of year 2020-21

1. The Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Gajapati on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites quotations from the registered manufacturers/Authorised Dealers/Reputed Firms for supply of ISI marked steel tubes-MS ERW pipes (200 mm. dia. & 125 mm. dia.) in single cover system in ONLINE MODE as detailed in the DTCN to be hosted in the website www.tenderorissa.gov.in. The eligible manufacturers/Authorised Dealers / Reputed Firms may offer their quotations for e-procurement.

1. Name of work: "Supply of 8" (200mm dia) & 5" (125 mm dia) ERW MS Pipe for "SINKING OF BOREWELLS IN BOULDER FORMATION AREAS IN DISTRICT GAJAPATI".

2. Estimated cost: Rs.46.72 lakhs (Inclusive of GST) approx.

3. Period of completion of procurement : 01 (One) month.

4. Date & time of availability of bid in the website: 11.11.2020 to 17.11.2020 upto 5 P.M.

5. Last date & time for seeking tender clarification: 16.11.2020 upto 5.00 P.M.

6. Last date & time for receipt of bids: 17.11.2020 upto 5.00 P.M.

7. Date & time of opening of technical & financial bids : 18.11.2020 at 11.00 A.M.

8. Further details can be had in the website www.tenderorissa.gov.in only.

9. Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Enclosed: The details of the works in annexure attached here with for reference.
Sd./- Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Gajapati, Paralakhemundi
OIPR-25025/11/0016/2021

FOCUS DONALD TRUMP

TRUTH & DE-TRUMPIFICATION



Americans need to distinguish among three issues: crimes Trump may have committed before assuming office; corruption and cruelty committed by him and his cronies while in office; and behaviour that has exposed structural weaknesses within the broader US political system

succeeding his archrival John Adams in 1801, called “the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated, where reason is left free to combat it.”

The same cannot be said for the corruption and systematic cruelty that the Trump administration has exhibited in its response to the Covid-19 crisis, and in separating children from their parents at the border. As the Harvard law professor Mark Tushnet has suggested, a commission of inquiry should be established to investigate policies and acts that went beyond incompetence into the realm of politically motivated malevolence. It is critical that we establish a proper record of these events, perhaps by offering leniency in exchange for candid accounts. The latter should help thinking about structural reforms, making at least quid pro quo corruption and blatant human-rights abuses less likely.

Finally, Trump has broken plenty of informal presidential norms, from the relatively trivial — calling people names on Twitter — to the serious: hiding his tax returns. As many US jurists have argued, a prudent response would be to establish a separate commission to study the structural vulnerabilities of the presidency. Such an investigation may find that many informal norms — from financial transparency to relations with the Department of Justice — need to be codified. This three-pronged approach need not distract from more urgent tasks of governance. Although it might require spending some political capital, the costs of inaction or breezily “moving on” could be even higher, as was arguably the case following Gerald Ford’s pardon of Richard Nixon, and the leniency shown after the Iran-Contra scandal and the George W Bush administration’s extensive use of torture in pursuing its “global war on terror.”

The writer, a professor at Princeton University, is a fellow at the Berlin Institute of Advanced Study.

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Among Democrats and many Republicans, there is a great temptation to dismiss US President Donald Trump’s administration as a bizarre aberration. Just as Republicans may try to blame the many transgressions of the past four years on Trump, hoping that their enabling role is quickly forgotten, Democrats might want to make a show of observing democratic norms, by graciously refraining from litigating the past. If so, should Joe Biden prevail when all votes in the November 3 election are counted, Trump and his administration are unlikely to be held accountable for their egregious record of corruption, cruelty, and violations of basic constitutional principles.

Quite apart from political calculations, many observers — from former Democratic presidential contender Andrew Yang to distinguished jurists and historians — have argued that only tin-pot dictatorships pursue their vanquished opponents. With all-too-obvious motives of his own, US Attorney General Bill Barr has also opined that “the political winners ritually prosecuting the political losers is not the stuff of a mature democracy.” Yet these generalizations are too hasty. Trump’s “lock her up” slogan, directed against Hillary Clinton in 2016, should not be answered with “lock him up”; but “forgive and forget” is not the only alternative.

Americans need to distinguish among three issues: crimes Trump may have committed before assuming office; corruption and cruelty committed by him and his cronies while in office; and behaviour that has exposed structural weaknesses within the broader US political system. Each requires a somewhat different response.

Historically, plenty of other countries’ transitions from authoritarianism — or recovery from democratic degradation — has been characterized by a willingness to leave former power-holders unpunished. As the political scientist Erica Frantz observes, 59% of authoritarian leaders who have been

removed from power have simply gone “on to live their normal lives.” Nonetheless, in cases where new or restored democracies did not prosecute former officials, they often established truth commissions, offering amnesty in exchange for truthful information and confessions by the perpetrators of crimes. This approach was most famously pursued by post-apartheid South Africa.

The peculiarity of the current US situation is that Trump is already under investigation for possible crimes unrelated to his presidency. Both the Manhattan district attorney and the New York attorney general are investigating the Trump Organization for various forms of fraud. While ostensibly apolitical, Trump’s business practices foreshadowed — and overshadowed — the shameless cronyism and corruption of his presidency. Even if he did not succeed in fully transforming the United States into a mafia state along the lines of Viktor Orbán’s Hungary, that is largely beyond the point.

Moreover, if the investigations into the Trump Organization were simply to be dropped upon his departure from office, the charge that they were mere political machinations would appear to be justified, especially considering that the law-en-

forcement officials in question happen to be Democrats. On the other hand, if the investigations were to result in the incarceration of a former President, Trump’s gun-toting supporters might decide to take the law into their own hands; at a minimum, the country’s political divisions would deepen even further.

Bearing these risks in mind, there is no reason, in principle, why a political leader cannot be properly punished for a crime he has committed. Many leaders have been, and some have even returned to political life. Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was forced to perform community service following his conviction on charges of tax fraud. Today, he is sitting in the European Parliament, which makes it hard for anyone to claim that liberal judges simply wanted to silence the Cavaliere. But the point of enforcing the law was to send a clear signal that Berlusconi’s strategy of entering politics in order to gain immunity and distract from his shady business dealings would not become a precedent.

Then there is the question of Trump’s actual record in office. One can find plenty of deeply objectionable policies, but it would be a mistake to abandon what President Thomas Jefferson, upon



Jan-Werner Mueller

AMONG DEMOCRATS AND MANY REPUBLICANS, THERE IS A GREAT TEMPTATION TO DISMISS THE US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP’S ADMINISTRATION AS A BIZARRE ABERRATION



Aakar Patel

The Bharatiya Janata Party has invested a lot in doing what no other Indian government did before: meddle in US elections and try and get Trump elected again

“To be young is to be always ready to give up what we are in order to become what we must be. To be young is never to accept the irreparable.”

THE MOTHER

Changing scenario

An American from Chennai won reelection this week. Her name is Pramila Jayapal and she heads the Congressional Progressive Caucus. A few months ago, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar cancelled a meeting with the United States House Foreign Affairs Committee, which included its Republican chairman and Democratic members. Jaishankar refused to meet them because the group included Pramila Jayapal, who had pushed a resolution demanding that India end the communications black-out in Kashmir. Jaishankar told the Americans he would meet them only if they dropped Jayapal from the group. Of course, the Americans refused.

Jaishankar is paid by us to defend India abroad but chose instead to duck the meeting because it would involve a difficult conversation or perhaps just in case he is afraid of confrontation. After his running away was reported in the American media, Senator Kamala Harris of California tweeted: “It’s wrong for any foreign government to tell Congress what members are allowed in meetings on Capitol Hill.”

Jaishankar felt he could afford to do this because the US administration was headed by Republican Donald Trump who doesn’t care about human rights. It will not be possible for Jaishankar to do what he did in December 2019 again.

The Bharatiya Janata Party has invested a lot in doing what no other Indian government did before: meddle in US elections and try and get Trump elected again. A group called the ‘Overseas Friends of the BJP’ registered itself officially as a foreign agent in the US in September. After this was discovered, the party instructed these Indian Americans to help Trump in their “personal capacity” and to not use the BJP’s name, but it is clear that they are all BJP supporters.

Modi himself asked Indians in the US to vote for Trump at the Howdy Modi rally in September last year. Or at least that is one interpretation we can give to his line “*ab ki baar Trump sarkar*”.

What happens now that Trump is on his way out? The BJP has started to back-pedal from its recklessness. It trotted out in-house intellectual Ram Madhav to write in The Indian Express on Saturday under the headline ‘US-India ties stand on a bipartisan and strong footing’. Madhav wrote: “Some in India believe that Biden-Harris would be bad news for US-India relations.”

Actually nobody believes that. Madhav is confusing BJP with India. There is no question that US-India relations run deep and at times there is a civilisational connect between the two nations. This is not such a time. India has taken a turn towards majoritarianism. The Indian State is bullying and harassing its own citizens at a scale which has alarmed the world.

Pramila Jayapal and Kamala Harris did not casually take up the issues that they chose to. They will not stop taking them up now because the previously partisan BJP now pleads for bipartisan support.

Events in America have strengthened the hand of those leaders there who wish India well but think of India as being a collection of Indians. If Indians are mistreated, they will object.

The Democrats fought the current election on a very liberal platform. On the question of human rights, the most powerful message they were aligned with was Black Lives Matter. This part of the Democratic Party (which includes Jayapal) has become stronger inside because of the success of the human rights messaging.

Indians may not know that in April India was marked as a Country of Particular Concern by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. Its report said that “India took a sharp downward turn in 2019” because the Modi government “instituted national-level policies violating religious freedom across India, especially for Muslims”. It said of the Citizenship Amendment Act that “this law is meant to provide protection for listed non-Muslim religious communities — but not for Muslims — against exclusion from a nationwide National Register of Citizens and the resulting detention, deportation, and potential statelessness”. It said India had seen “nationwide campaigns of harassment and violence against religious minorities to continue with impunity, and engaged in and tolerated hate speech and incitement to violence against them”.

It names Amit Shah and Adityanath and reproduces their statements. Most importantly it has recommended that the US administration act and impose “targeted sanctions on Indian government agencies and officials responsible for severe violations of religious freedom by freezing those individuals’ assets and/or barring their entry into the United States under human rights-related financial and visa authorities, citing specific religious freedom violations”.

India was able to ignore this till now because Trump was running the administration and he was the one who would decide. India put out a statement which said: “We reject the observations on India in the USCIRF Annual Report. Its biased and tendentious comments against India are not new. But, on this occasion, its misrepresentation has reached new levels.”

This was also a form of running away. If you think you are friends with America you have to convince them that their findings are wrong. Refusing to engage with them is not a solution. It worked when Trump was in charge. It will not work now.

WISDOM CORNER

- “It’s no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then.” **LEWIS CARROLL**
- “Smart people learn from everything and everyone, average people from their experiences, stupid people already have all the answers.” **SOCRATES**
- “Do what you feel in your heart to be right — for you’ll be criticized anyway.” **ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**

WORDSWORTH

■ Bee’s knees

It’s sometimes explained as being from an Italian-American way of saying business or that it’s properly Bs and Es, an abbreviation for be-alls and end-alls. Both are without doubt wrong. Bee’s knees are actually one of a set of nonsense catchphrases from 1920s America, the period of the flappers, speakeasies, leather boas and the Charleston. Various writers have accumulated long lists of phrases of this type that you might have heard in that decade: elephant’s adenoids, cat’s miaow, ant’s pants, tiger’s spots, bullfrog’s beard, elephant’s instep, caterpillar’s kimono, turtle’s neck, duck’s quack, duck’s nuts, monkey’s eyebrows, gnat’s elbows, oyster’s earrings, snake’s hips, kipper’s knickers, elephant’s manicure, clam’s garter, eel’s ankle, leopard’s stripes, tadpole’s teddies, sardine’s whiskers, canary’s tusks, pig’s wings, cuckoo’s chin, and butterfly’s book. Plus many others. None of these made much sense — but then slang fashions often don’t — and their only common feature was the comparison of something of excellent quality to some inappropriate or non-existent part of an animal with, if possible, a bit of alliteration or rhyme thrown in. Another example was cat’s whiskers, which is sometimes said to have been the first of the bunch to arise, from the cat’s whisker that was the adjustable wire in crystal sets used to receive early radio broadcasts. Some researchers argue that it was the model for all the others.

SPECTRUM FREEDOM OF PRESS

Ending impunity for crimes against scribes



Christophe Deloire

IN MANY WAYS, THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A MORE DANGEROUS TIME FOR JOURNALISTS THAN THE PRESENT

In many ways, there has never been a more dangerous time for journalists than the present. With simultaneous crises threatening media freedom and sustainability, this decade will be decisive for the future of a vocation that is crucial for societies’ well-being. What would the world look like if there were no professional, ethical journalists to report the news? Worryingly, this question is no longer hypothetical.

The issue of reporters’ safety remains vitally important. Although killings of journalists have decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic, threats to their safety continue to evolve and increase. Last year, more journalists were killed in countries supposedly at peace than in war zones, and the percentage of reporters killed on the job who were deliberately targeted was higher than ever before. Many of the victims were working to expose corruption and report on other sensitive topics.

Just a few days ago, on October 29, reporter Arturo Alba Medina was killed in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, near the US border. He was the sixth journalist murdered this year in Mexico, which remains the dead-

liest country not at war. In the past decade alone, nearly 1,000 journalists globally have been killed in connection with their work. Many of these cases have never been properly investigated, and the vast majority of perpetrators have never been held to account.

This year’s International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, on November 2, is an ideal opportunity to start taking concrete action to end this endemic impunity for good. The United Nations should appoint a Special Representative for the Safety of Journalists, with the aim of enforcing international law and thereby finally reducing the number of reporters killed every year in the course of their work.

The Reporters Without Borders (RSF) campaign to establish a special representative has gained tremendous momentum in recent years, but one obstacle remains. Because the appointee would be a representative of the UN secretary-general, we need the secretary-general’s active support. Unfortunately, António Guterres has not yet lived up to the promise he made when we met one month after he took office in 2017: “It will take

time, but I will do it,” he told me.

Guterres now has a little more than a year of his current term remaining. That is more than enough time to ensure meaningful action to end impunity and protect journalists. Guterres’s appointment of a member of his staff as a contact person on this issue — the only concrete step he has taken so far — is not enough.

The mandate for a special representative would not be merely a paper-based exercise that generates more reporting. Rather, it would be a means of bringing together the relevant existing UN mechanisms, resolutions, and recommendations.

Tangible impact is desperately needed in many of the cases in which RSF is involved — including that of Saudi columnist Jamal Khashoggi, who was murdered and dismembered inside Saudi Arabia’s consulate in Istanbul in 2018. Many of the cases concern investigative journalists, including Daphne Caruana Galizia, assassinated in 2017 by a car bomb outside her home in Malta; Ján Kuciak, shot dead in 2018 along with his fiancée, Martina Kušnírová, inside their home in Slovakia; the

Belarusian journalist Pavel Sheremet, killed by a car bomb in 2016 in Kyiv; and the Ghanaian journalist Ahmed Hussein-Suale, shot three times in 2019 while driving his car in Accra.

There are many other cases. The young freelance journalist Christopher Allen was killed in 2017 while reporting on the civil conflict in South Sudan, and Kirill Raddtchenko, Alexandre Rastorgouiev, and Orhan Djemal were murdered in 2018 while making a documentary about Russian mercenaries.

Enough is enough. RSF calls for concrete action now to end violence against all journalists, wherever they live and work. We call on the UN secretary-general to support the establishment of a Special Representative for the Safety of Journalists, and for member states to enable and support the work of this crucial mandate. Finally, we call on the international public — and decision-makers — to join our campaign to end impunity for crimes against journalists once and for all.

The author is Secretary-General of Reporters Without Borders.

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

Stubble burning

Sir, Every winter, till the end of November or more, burning of stubble augments the pollution levels in Delhi. On an average, 23 million tonnes of rice straw are burnt in north India by farmers to make way for wheat production. A small gap between rice harvesting time and wheat sowing period means the farmers quickly burn the stubble to remove the paddy stubble. The particulate matters emitted by the burning of stubble tend to cause severe air pollution. Waxing and waning of “fire spots”, nothing but the number of stubble burning spots, and reduction in pollution due to increased wind speed, occasionally make sure the pollution relents, but only just. Agriculturists are piqued by the meager compensation offered by the government. Manual removal of stubble is not cost effective for them. Pusa bio-decomposer is being projected as the solution to stubble burning. It has been described as one that can change crop residue into manure in about 20 days. The decomposing technology makes use of fungal strains that rapidly decompose the paddy stubbles. Farmers will have to spray the paddy straws with the fungi strains and then decompose them in soil. Subsidised combined harvesters, provided by the government at subsidised rates, are helpful but again a farmer may have to shell out quite a considerable amount towards rent and fuel. Of all methods, the Pusa bio-decomposer looks the most promising because it is simple and cost-effective.

Ganapathi Bhat, EMAIL

Cry for justice

Sir, I am saddened to read that a minor boy in Delhi’s Kalindi Kunj area was thrashed and then killed by a group of five men after he refused to fetch snacks and serve them while they were drinking. The incident took place in Kalindi Kunj’s Madanpur Khadar area Wednesday evening. The family of the deceased protested against the murder and demanded all the accused be arrested. The family refused to let authorities take the body for post-mortem as they demanded action against the culprits. Finally, they let go of the body 12 hours later, but continued with the protests outside the residence, while a large police deployment in the area tried to calm them. I completely condemn the incident. The accused indeed committed a crime and they need to be punished so that such incidents don’t happen in the future. We hope justice will be provided them as soon as possible.

MN Qasmi, EMAIL

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.-33004/99 REGD. NO. D.L.-33004/99 भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, सितम्बर 25, 2020/आश्विन 3, 1942 NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2020/ASWINA 3, 1942

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 25th September, 2020 S.O. 3324(E). Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under subsection (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), vide S.O. No. 4689 dated 27th December, 2019, the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening/Four/Six-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of Newly Proposed Raipur Vishakhapatnam Economic Corridor on the stretch of land from Km 238.200 to Km 363.320 (O/o Tahasildar, Dasmantpur, Dist- Koraput) in the district of KORAPUT in the state of ODISHA.

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Orissa Post" and "Sambad" both dated 22nd January 2020; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act; And whereas objections have been received and the same have been considered and disallowed by the competent Authority;

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

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

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

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling within the Newly Proposed Raipur Vishakhapatnam Economic Corridor in the stretch of land from Km 238.200 to Km 363.320 (O/o Tahasildar, Dasmantpur, Dist- Koraput) in the district of KORAPUT in the state of ODISHA.

Table with columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/ Interested Person Part, Survey No. (Detailed schedule of land parcels for acquisition).

Table with columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/ Interested Person Part, Survey No. (Continuation of land parcels for acquisition).

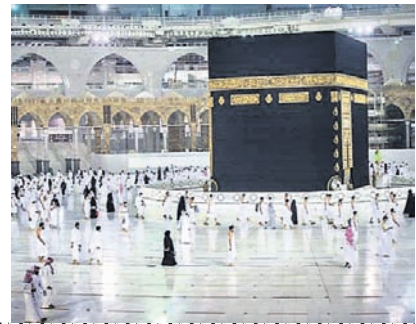
Table with columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/ Interested Person Part, Survey No. (Continuation of land parcels for acquisition).



Indian Space Research Organisation is gearing up for a series of missions, including launch of small satellite launch vehicles K SIVANI | ISRO CHAIRMAN

COVID NEGATIVE REPORT MUST FOR HAJ PILGRIMS

Haj pilgrims will have to submit COVID-19 negative report 72 hours prior to their journey to Saudi Arabia in 2021, Union minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said Saturday



No relief for Arnab Goswami

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 7: The Bombay High Court Saturday reserved its order on an interim bail plea of Republic TV Editor-in-Chief Arnab Goswami, arrested in an abetment of suicide case, without giving him any immediate relief.

After hearing arguments, a division bench of Justices S S Shinde and M S Karnik said they will pass the order at the earliest, without giving any date. "We will pass the order at the earliest. Pendency of this matter, however, does not preclude the accused persons from approaching the sessions court to seek regular bail," the court said.

Goswami was arrested by Alibaug police in Maharashtra's Raigad district November 4 in connection with the suicide of architect-interior designer Anvay Naik and his mother in 2018 over non-payment of dues.

Showik files fresh bail plea

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Nov 7: Arrested over two months ago on peddling charges, actress Rhea Chakraborty's brother Showik Chakraborty has moved a fresh bail plea in a special court in an NDPS case, his lawyers said here Saturday.

The special NDPS court is likely to hear his bail plea next week, which was earlier rejected by the same court, Metropolitan Court, and the Bombay High Court, his lawyer Satish Maneshinde said.

Showik, 24, was arrested on September 4 by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), which is probing the drugs angle to the death of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput at his Bandra home on June 14.

Rhea, who was arrested in the same case later, was granted bail by the Bombay High Court on October 7. Currently lodged in Talaja Central Jail in Raigad, Showik has pointed out how he had been falsely implicated in the case and that no drugs were seized from him during the investigations.

India's largest Covid hospital facing acute shortage of beds

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP) Hospital, India's largest Covid-19 hospital run by the Delhi government appears to be crumbling under the weight of soaring coronavirus cases, with only 6 per cent ventilator beds vacant in the hospital.

According to Delhi government's Corona application, only 19 per cent of the ICU beds with ventilators are vacant across the city, 22 per cent of ICU beds without ventilators are unoccupied, while only 50 per cent of normal Covid-19 beds are available. The patients are running from pillar to post just to occupy a single bed.

LNJP currently has only five vacant ventilator beds, 22 ICU beds without ventilators and 1,386 Covid-19 beds. LNJP Medical Director Suresh Kumar said, "If we run out of beds, we have central allocation. For example, if the beds are full, patients can be sent to Rajiv Gandhi, GTB or other hospitals."

The Medical Director further emphasised, "We are admitting majority of the patients, but a few stable patients, who require mere observation, are being referred to



other hospitals."

The Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital confirmed that it has been receiving patients from LNJP due to shortage of beds. Delhi has been witnessing a massive spike in daily Covid-19 cases for the last one week. It had witnessed its highest single-day spike on Friday, when it reported 7,178 cases.

Earlier this week, the increase in the number of cases had prompted Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to admit that a 'third wave' of infection has hit the national capital. Kumar said that admissions to city hospital have doubled in the last one week.

"The hospital used to admit over 50 Covid-19 patients every day, but

in the last one week, the admissions have gone up to at least 100 a day, but only serious patients or those with moderate disease are being admitted," Kumar said. He added, "Over the last one week, we are getting more and more elderly people because of the pollution. At one side, you have low oxygen in the air and then the Covid-19. These factors cause double harm to the lungs and people have low oxygen saturation."

"Before this, people from all age groups used to come, but now only those above 60 years of age are coming. Such patients are more critically sick and require more ventilator beds, oxygen support as they have more complications," Kumar said.

YASHVARDHAN TAKES OATH AS NEW CIC

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha took oath as the new Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) here Saturday, a Rashtrapati Bhavan statement said.

President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath to Sinha as the CIC at a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan Saturday morning. The post was lying vacant since the retirement of Bimal Julka on August 26. Sinha will have tenure of about three years as the CIC.

A former diplomat who had joined the Central Information Commission as the Information Commissioner on January 1 last year, the 62-year-old has served as India's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka. A three-member panel headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and including Union Home Minister Amit Shah and leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, had short-listed Sinha for the post.

The panel also selected journalist Uday Mahurkar, former Labour Secretary Heera Lal Samariya and former Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General Saroj Punhani as the Information Commissioners, officials said.

Gupkar alliance to contest DDC polls

The parties, including the National Conference (NC) and the PDP, are part of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), which was formed for the restoration of special status of Jammu and Kashmir

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 7: Seven mainstream political parties of Jammu and Kashmir, who are part of the Gupkar alliance, Saturday announced they would unitedly fight the upcoming District Development Council (DDC) elections in the Union Territory.

The parties, including the National Conference (NC) and the PDP, are part of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), which was formed for the restoration of special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. Elections to DDCs and vacant posts of sarpanch and panch will



be held in eight phases from December 1 to December 24 in Jammu and Kashmir, according to a notification issued by the J-K Election Commission on Friday.

The PAGD decided to participate in the DDC polls at its first meeting in Jammu, since its formation last month. The alliance's spokesperson, Sajad Ghani Lone, said, "One point of the agenda (for the meeting) was the upcoming DDC elections, and a unanimous decision was taken that we will fight these elections unitedly despite the abruptness of the timing."

"All of a sudden, they (government) sprung a surprise and are going to finish the task within a month," said Lone, who was flanked by NC leader and PAGD chairperson Farooq Abdullah and PDP chief and the alliance's vice chairperson Mehbooba Mufti.

TN's twin villages prepare for early Diwali celebration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Nagapattinam (TN), Nov 7: With Democratic candidate for the Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris confident of her victory, the people of two villages in Tamil Nadu, which are native to her maternal grandparents, are also equally convinced that she would emerge victorious and eager to celebrate her win, an early Diwali.

The mood is upbeat at Thulasenthrapuram and Painganadu, tucked away in a corner of Tiruvur district, a part of the fertile Cauvery delta region, and people are waiting only

for a formal declaration that Kamala has won alongside Joe Biden to start celebrations.

The villagers have now kept firecrackers ready to hail a win for Kamala Harris, also a US Senator. Women are also planning to draw a mega rangoli in front of the village temple. "We have collected Rangoli powders in different colours and are planning to draw the image of Kamala Harris. It is a matter of pride for the entire womenfolk," said Meenakshi, a housewife at Thulasenthrapuram.

The people feel proud that their villages happen to be the native place of the grandparents of Kamala Harris.

Goons trigger blast in Assam school

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Aizawl/Silchar, Nov 7: Amid the 11 day long Assam-Mizoram interstate border dispute, tension intensified along the border after miscreants triggered a blast at a government school in Cachar district of southern Assam, police said.

A senior Assam police official said that the miscreants "belonging to Mizoram" triggered a bomb blast at the Upper Painom Lower Primary school after Friday midnight causing massive damage to the school. However, there were no casualties as the incident took place at around 1.30 a.m. when the school was deserted.

Cachar district Deputy Commissioner Kirti Jalli and Superintendent of Police Bhanwar



Lal Meena Saturday went to the school and interacted with the locals. Southern Assam's Deputy Inspector General of Police Dilip Kumar Dey said that the matter was communicated to Mizoram police as the miscreants belong to the neighbouring state.

Meanwhile, normal life was disrupted Saturday in three southern Assam districts - Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi - as the All Cachar Karimganj Hailakandi Students Association called a 12-hour Barak Valley shutdown to protest against the abduction of a man from Lailapur border area of Cachar district along the Assam-Mizoram border and his

subsequent death in the Mizoram government's custody on Monday. While Assam police officials stated that he died at the hands of miscreants on the other side of the border, Mizoram Home Secretary Labiakangi said that 48-year-old Intyaz Ali was apprehended with drugs and he was found dead at a hospital on Monday after he was referred to the health centre for a medical checkup.

Police said that educational institutions, government offices, banks and various financial institutions, shops and markets remained closed and vehicles went off the roads due to the dawn to dusk strike, which passed off peacefully. Both the states have now decided to deploy Central Paramilitary Force (CPMF) personnel at the border.

Table with 6 columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part. Contains land records for villages Majhiguda and Purimunda.

Table with 6 columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part. Contains land records for Purimunda.

Table with 6 columns: Sr No, Survey Number, Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area in Hectare, Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part. Contains land records for Purimunda.

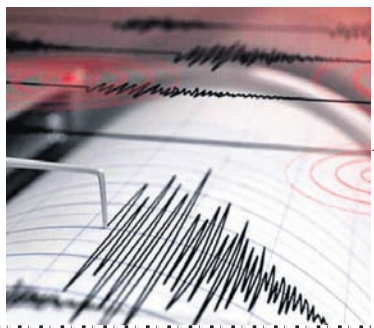


India is fully committed to give its youth ease of doing business so that the youth through their innovation can bring about a change in the lives of crores of people of the country

NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

QUAKE HITS SOUTH GUJARAT

An earthquake measuring 4.3 on the Richter scale rocked south Gujarat Saturday afternoon, an official from the Institute of Seismological Research said



of the day quote

The national capital is currently reeling under the third wave of the COVID-19 infection, but cases should begin to come down soon



SATYENDAR JAIN | DELHI HEALTH MINISTER

The atrocities on farmers in Uttar Pradesh, especially on the pretext of taking action against pollution, particularly caused by burning of crop stubble, is extremely condemnable. Before taking action in such cases, the Yogi Adityanath government needs to extend necessary help to farmers and also spread awareness among them about protecting the environment by saying 'no to stubble-burning'. This is the demand of the Bahujan Samaj Party



MAYAWATI | BSP CHIEF

India believes that cooperation, not competition should be the basis of international relations



S JAISHANKAR | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Two NSUI activists arrested

Nagaon (Assam): Two activists of the NSUI, the students' wing of the Congress, were arrested Saturday for allegedly assaulting policemen in Assam's Nagaon district, police said. The incident took place in Morikalong outpost on Friday evening when police personnel seized a scooter from one of the National Students' Union of India (NSUI) members for riding it without requisite documents, a senior officer said.

Man nabbed

Kolkata: Police have nabbed a man from Bihar for allegedly committing theft from a house in Rabindra Sarobar area here, where he was working as domestic help, an officer said Saturday. The accused was arrested from Bihar's Banka area. He had allegedly stolen 750g of gold ornaments from the residence of the owner of a famous sweet chain shop in the city, the officer said.

Youth held

Bulandshahr: A 22-year-old youth has been arrested for allegedly killing his friend by slashing his neck on being asked persistently by the victim to return his money, police said Saturday. Bharat, 22, a resident of Imliya village under Kotwali Dehat police station area in the district was arrested along with his accomplice Ankush, 19, on charges of murdering Rajendra, 30, said Bulandshahr Superintendent of Police Santosh Kumar Singh.

4 dead, 15 injured

Singrauli (MP): Four persons were killed and at least 15 others injured after a mini truck overturned at a village in Madhya Pradesh's Singrauli district early Saturday, police said. The incident occurred around 2 am at Bhalaiya Tola village, about 60-kilometers from the district headquarters, Sarai Police Station in-charge Shankhdhar Dwivedi said.

Naxal killed

Balaghat: A 25-year-old woman Naxal, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh on her head, was killed in an encounter with the police in Madhya Pradesh's Balaghat district, an official said Saturday. The encounter took place at Malkhedhi jungle under Baiher police station, Friday night. Balaghat superintendent of police Abhishek Tiwari said.

Over 57% polling in final phase

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, Nov 7: The third phase of polling for 78 seats in 15 districts in Bihar ended Saturday with some scattered incidents of violence.

The Election Commission of India recorded 57.70 per cent voting till 6 p.m. The calculation of the voting percentage is still underway in some of the polling booths. A person named Beni Singh, brother of RJD supporter Bittu Singh, was gunned down in Damdaha area of Purnea district.

Jitendra Kumar, ADG headquarters of Bihar police, said that the incident was reported in Purnea district and an investigation is currently underway. It has nothing to do with the election, he added. Beni Singh was working as an observer for the RJD candidate in Damdaha and was on his way to monitor election proceedings in Sarsi village. He was attacked by three to four persons, killing him on the spot.

Kumar said a firing incident took place at booth number 282 in Damdaha in Purnea at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday. He said the firing was resorted to by paramilitary forces in self defence after a large number of anti-social elements created a ruckus at a polling booth in Damdaha.



An FIR was registered against a candidate Sarfaraj Alam in Jokihat police station under sections 171F and 188. He was accused of violating the model code of conduct at a polling booth. Kumar informed that 439 illegal firearms were seized during the third phase and over 1,334 illegal firearms were seized in all the three phases. Besides, the police also asked the licensed arms holders to deposit their weapons and a total of 25,449 weapons were deposited.

The police also arrested 5,112 persons under the Crime Control Act in the run up to the elections and during all the three phases. A huge quantity of illegal liquor was also seized. The Bihar police registered 384 criminal cases in the third phase and 880 FIRs in all the three phases.

H R Srinivasa, the chief electoral officer of Bihar, expressed satisfaction over the generally peaceful polling in all the three phases. "This election has significant importance due to timing. It was held in the time of corona with Bihar being a densely populated state," Srinivasa said.

Compared to 2015, Srinivasa said there was a 45 per cent increase in polling booths in 2020.

ARTISTIC TOUCH



An artist gives finishing touch to a clay idol of Goddess Kali, ahead of Kali puja in Kolkata, Saturday

PTI PHOTO

82-year-old woman is Sikkim's oldest paraglider

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gangtok, Nov 7: An octogenarian, who is a grandmother of three, has become the oldest paraglider in Sikkim, the Paragliding Association of the state said Saturday. 82-year-old Dukmit Lepcha took to the skies October 28 from a paragliding point near Aangi monastery at Ranka, which is a small town 20 km from capital Gangtok, sources said.

The oldest paraglider registered by Sikkim Paragliding Association before Dumkit Lepcha was a 68-year-old man, sources in Paragliding Association of Sikkim said. "The 82-year-old woman will inspire many to make Sikkim tourism a new adventure destination," the Assistant Director,

Adventure at Sikkim Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Manoj Chettri, said Saturday.

Paragliding will be a totally new product for tourists and tour operators, he said. "It was such a pleasant experience. I enjoyed it and no I was not afraid. My granddaughter, who is 17 years old, went before me but she was a little scared. I did not tremble at all because I wanted to know what it feels like to fly," Lepcha said.

She flew for nearly six minutes at an elevation of about 4,500 feet as her family, on-lookers and the members of the Paragliding Association of Sikkim cheered on. Lepcha said this was not the first adventure sport she has participated in nor is it her last.

Delhi tops in new cases in last 24 hrs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 7: Delhi overtook Maharashtra and Kerala by reporting 7,178 COVID-19 cases in a span of 24 hours, becoming the largest contributor to the new 50,356 single day infections, according to Union Health Ministry Saturday.

Seventy-seven percent of these new cases of COVID-19 are from 10 states and union territories -- Delhi, Kerala, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Kerala recorded 7,002 new cases followed by Maharashtra at 6,870 new cases on Friday, the ministry said. A total of 50,356 new coronavirus infections were reported in a span of 24 hours, while 53,920 recoveries were being recorded during the same period, it said.

The trend of India's daily new COVID-19 recoveries exceeding the single-day cases for the last five weeks played a pivotal role in pushing down the active caseload which is presently pegged at 5.16 lakh cases and comprises 6.11 percent of total cases, the ministry said.



"This trend has been observed for the last five weeks. This also played a pivotal role in pushing down the active caseload which is presently pegged at 5.16 lakh," the ministry said. The last five weeks have seen a continuous decline in average daily new cases of COVID-19.

The average daily new cases have dropped to 46,000 cases from more than 73,000 average daily new cases in the first week of October. The active cases are on a sustained decline as a result of the aforementioned trend, the ministry said.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has surged to 78,19,886, pushing the national recovery rate to 92.41 percent.

Smog not only health hazard, but hits economy too: Experts

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: Smog, which for long is considered as a health and environment hazard, is quickly taking a toll on economic activities as well.

Industry experts contend that if unchecked, the issue of smog will assume a larger role in hampering economic activities in and around north India, especially Delhi-NCR. Among sectors, tourism, construction, aviation, insurance and real estate prices will be heavily dented due to this winter phenomena.

Besides economic disruption, the aspect of reputational damage associated with health risks also exists in Delhi-NCR. "Smog does impact economic activity, but its intensity is very low as a disruptor:

However, if left unchecked, it will definitely have a greater impact in the future," Sumil Kumar Sinha, Principal Economist, India Ratings & Research, said.

"There is also a reputational risk involved with smog and this impacts tourism and other travel related factors, when one considers visiting any place," he added. Given that most of these trends are witnessed year after year, this time around, the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated some of the downside risks.

"Environment externalities are expected to have a negative impact on growth," said Madhavi Arora, Lead Economist for Edelweiss Securities. "That is one of the reasons why the international community is so much focused on climate and environmental issues," Arora added.



As a case-in-point, travel app ixigo last year shared that bookings and travel searches for New Delhi from key international destinations, including Singapore, Thailand and Qatar, had fallen by 44 per cent owing to the deteriorating air quality.

"Tourists, including foreigners, had a tough time last year coping up with increasing air pollution in Delhi. With air quality dipping to 'severe' category every year around Diwali, there is a growing health concern, especially for the children

and senior citizens who are visiting or residing in the national capital," said Rajnish Kumar, Co-founder and CTO, ixigo. In 2020, when the pandemic has crippled international travel, Kumar said: "We are witnessing a trend of 'escape tourism' this year owing to an increasing level of pollution in metros like Delhi. Current AQI in the city is double of what it was last Diwali when the AQI peaked to 235. This has led to a spurt in outbound travel from Delhi to pollution free destinations like Goa, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh."

"We have seen a 35 per cent month-on-month increase in bookings for Goa from Delhi in October. Low airfares this year around Diwali are further encouraging the travellers to plan green getaways in search of fresh air," he added.

According to Skymet's Chief Executive Yogesh Patil: "It is another type of lockdown when people avoid going outside or even visiting Delhi-NCR for these months just to be safe from smog. The health cost for some people might come out to be as high as their other economic expenditure, so it does have an economic cost."

"However, pollution concerns have not gained the sort of prominence in India that they should have, but fortunately programmes are being started for plantations in urban areas. The pandemic too has triggered people's consciousness regarding the need for a safe and clean environment." The restrictions to curb pollution and smog also delay construction projects.

Woman ends life along with child

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Nov 7: In yet another case of suicide in Delhi's National Capital Region (NCR), a woman committed suicide along with her four-year-old child on Saturday in Noida by jumping from her 17th floor apartment. Both died on the spot.

The woman was alone in the house with her child when she took the extreme step while her husband was away for work in Moradabad. The Noida police has informed the family of the deceased and sent the bodies for post-mortem.

The police said, "As per the information received by the Birsakh police station, a mother along with her four-year-old child committed suicide by jumping off from her 17th floor Supertech Ecovillage-Phase I society apartment. Both are confirmed to be dead. The police officials are present at the spot and necessary inquiries are on."

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police, Noida, Ankur Aggarwal said, "The deceased woman was alone at her Noida apartment when she took her as well as her only child's life while her sister-in-law had gone to a hospital in the morning. The woman's husband had gone to Moradabad for some work. At present, the case appears prima-facie to be that of suicide. The family of the deceased has been informed and the woman's husband is on his way back."

"The reason behind the twin suicides will be revealed only after a further police probe. The bodies of the deceased mother-child have been sent for postmortem," Aggarwal added.

Pakistani troops shell villages

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 7: Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing and shelling on forward posts and villages along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch and Kathua districts in violation of the ceasefire, officials said Saturday.

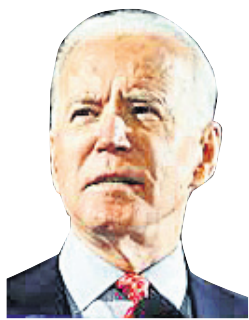
Mortar shelling in the Mankote sector along the LoC in Poonch started around 2.30 am, while the cross-border firing along the IB in the Hiranagar sector continued throughout the night, the officials said. They said there was no report of any casualty or damage on the Indian side.

"At about 2.30 am, Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling mortars along the LoC in Mankote sector. Army retaliated befittingly," a defence spokesman said. The officials said the firing and shelling between the two sides stopped around 4 am.

Pakistani Rangers started the firing on border outposts in Karol Krishna, Satpal and Gurnam around 10 pm on Friday, prompting strong retaliation by the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel guarding the border, the officials said.

The exchange of fire between the two sides continued till 5.10 am, they said, adding the Pakistani firing caused panic among the border residents who were forced to spend the night in underground bunkers.

international



We must put the anger - and the demonization - behind us. It's time for us to come together as a nation and heal
JOE BIDEN | DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

INDIAN-AMERICAN AMONG 14 WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS THIS YEAR

Indian American Pia Dandiya has been appointed the White House Fellow for the year 2020-21. Dandiya is the founding principal of Democracy Prep Endurance High School in Harlem, New York



of the day quote

Former premier Nawaz Sharif, describing him as a "jackal" who is trying to create "rebellion" in the Army by accusing it of involvement in the country's politics and calling for a change in the military as well as the ISI leadership



IMRAN KHAN | PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER

As we said on July 19th, the American people will decide this election. And the United States government is perfectly capable of escorting trespassers out of the White House



ANDREW BATES | BIDEN CAMPAIGN SPOKESMAN

Just as Lord Rama and his wife Sita found their way home after the defeat of the demon king Ravana, their way lit by many millions of lamps, so too we shall find our way through this (Covid-19 pandemic), and we shall do so triumphantly,



BORIS JOHNSON | UK PRIME MINISTER

Three states pass amendments that 'only citizens' can vote

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denver, Nov 7: Voters in Colorado, Florida and Alabama passed ballot measures Tuesday that codify what is already law: That only US citizens 18 and older can vote.

The passage of the largely-symbolic measures has triggered questions about why the pro-Trump group behind them spent time and money on the effort.

The amendments passed overwhelmingly in all three states, including by a nearly 8-to-1 ratio in Alabama and Florida. Before the 2020 election, North Dakota and Arizona were the only state constitutions that specified non-citizens could not vote in state or local elections. A former GOP state legislator from Missouri who led the effort said the ballot measures were needed to combat recent changes that allow non-US citizens to vote in some local elections.

Opponents counter that the measures are unnecessary and fuel anti-immigrant sentiment.

On the Colorado ballot, the question read: "Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution requiring that to be qualified to vote at any election an individual must be a United States citizen?" The Alabama and Florida ballots had similar language.

Had the measures failed, it would have kept Colorado's state's constitutional language of "allowing every eligible US citizen to vote in Colorado elections." Julian Camera, manager for a campaign that opposed the measure in Colorado and field organizer for the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado, said the ballot language is misleading.



The passage of the largely-symbolic measures has triggered questions about why the pro-Trump group behind them spent time and money on the effort

"They're giving voters the impression that there's not already a citizenship requirement to vote in almost all elections nationwide," said A Florida-based organization called Citizen Voters, Inc., funded a majority of the state campaigns for these amendments — including \$1.4 million towards Colorado's efforts, according to public filings to the Secretary of State.

The group's founder is John Loudon, a former Republican state senator in Missouri and past advisor to America First Policies, a group supporting President Donald Trump. Loudon said the ballot amendments were needed because the current constitutional language isn't strong enough.

"The language that we have now is objectively, probably not sufficient because of all the successful efforts to give legal voting rights to non-citizens, at least in local and school board elections all across the country," Loudon said.

Cities across the US have considered measures in varying degrees to allow non-citizens such as legal permanent residents, also

known as green card holders, or immigrants living in the US without legal permission and student visa holders to vote in local elections for school boards or town councils.

Many attempts have failed, including a New York City bill that aimed to grant green-card holders and immigrants with work visas the ability to vote in city elections.

San Francisco allows non-citizen residents of the city to vote in school board elections if the voter is a parent or legal guardian of a child in the school system. In Maryland, 11 municipalities allow non-citizens to vote in local elections.

"It seems like there's a lot of energy being expended to give these rights away and dilute the franchise, dilute the power of the vote to people who are fully committed," Loudon said.

In Alabama, the Republican leader of the state Senate, President Pro Tempore Del Marsh sponsored the measure in 2019. It was approved by both chambers of the Alabama Legislature without a dissenting vote and put on the ballot for voter consideration.

Learn from sanctions: Iran tells Biden

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Tehran, Nov 7: Iran's President Hassan Rouhani said Saturday he hoped the next US administration will have learnt that sanctions cannot make Tehran bow to American policy.

US President Donald Trump, who lost Tuesday's election to challenger Joe Biden, has applied a "maximum pressure" policy and punishing sanctions against Iran since his 2018 withdrawal from a landmark nuclear agreement with Iran. "We hope the three-year experience will be a lesson for America's next administration to abide by laws and regulations and return to its commitments," Rouhani said in a televised speech.

"Our people have faced economic terrorism for the past three years," Rouhani said Iran would "continue its resistance and patience until the other side bows before laws and regulations".

The Islamic republic hoped that "those imposing sanctions realise their path was wrong and that they will not achieve their goals in any way". Iranian officials have said they will focus on the policies of the next US administration rather than who becomes president.

Tehran has also stressed that a possible US return to the nuclear agreement would have to be accompanied by compensation for damages caused by the withdrawal and a "guarantee" it will not be repeated. Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Tuesday that the US election would have "no effect" on Tehran's policies towards Washington.

Biden has said he plans to embark on a "credible path to return to diplomacy" with Iran if he wins the presidency.

'US-China tensions could worsen'

If Trump takes his election grievances to court, it will be difficult for Beijing to establish communication with the Biden team before the matter is settled

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Beijing, Nov 7: With the battle for the US presidency likely to rage on for some time, regardless of the official result, observers say there could be a spike in tensions between the US and China on thorny issues like Taiwan and the South China Sea before the inauguration ceremony in January.

Wu Xinbo, director of the Centre for American Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai, said the Donald Trump administration was likely to continue to confront China on political, diplomatic and economic issues.

That might include labelling China's persecution of minority Uygur Muslims in Xinjiang as "genocide", imposing more sanctions on Chinese companies or providing more support for Taiwan.

"Trump has blamed China for the spread of the [coronavirus] pandemic and may think that has cost him the election," Wu said.

"People like (US Secretary of State Mike) Pompeo and (White House trade adviser Peter) Navarro will also seize their last chance to sabotage Sino-US relations."

In the months ahead of the election, several Chinese experts expressed concerns that Trump's China-bashing tactics heralded a dangerous period in the relationship between the two countries and that tension could reach a peak if the incumbent president lost the White House.

Two of the possible hotspots are



the South China Sea and Taiwan. There have been several furious exchanges between Beijing and Washington this year over the US sending aircraft carriers and surveillance planes to the disputed waterway, and Beijing stepping up its military exercises directed at Taiwan.

Liu Yawei, programme director at the Carter Centre China, said in August that China-US relations could enter their "most unstable period" between November 3 and January 20, and called on both sides to show restraint on the South China Sea and Taiwan.

Taiwanese officials said earlier that the People's Liberation Army — China's military — had conducted more than 1,735 air sorties and 1,032 maritime incursions into the self-ruled island's air defence identification zone since the start of the year.

Taiwan's Defence Minister Yen Te-fa warned that Beijing might step up its military deployment against the island during the US election, while Su Chi, the former head of its National Security Council, said the situation might become critical after the election race had been decided.

SHORT TAKES

Pak cops kill two al-Qaeda men

Multan: Pakistan's counterterrorism police said they killed two militants belong to an al-Qaeda subcontinent chapter in an overnight operation in eastern Punjab province. In a statement Saturday, police said the militants had plans to carry out "subversive activities" in the district of Dera Ghazi Khan. The intelligence-based operation was underway at the militants' hideout in Choti Bala area when they opened fire on the raiding party, triggering a shootout.

EU sanctions Belarus Prez

Brussels: The European Union (EU) has added Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko and his son to its sanctions blacklist, increasing the number of designated people from the eastern European country to 59. Under the new sanctions imposed Friday, travel visas will be blocked and any assets the designated persons might have in EU member states will be frozen. Also EU citizens and companies will be forbidden from lending to them.

UK bans travellers from Denmark

London: The UK has imposed an immediate for all travellers from Denmark amid concerns of a mutated Covid-19 strain found in minks that has been transmitted to over 210 people in the Scandinavian country. The new measure was announced by Transport Secretary Grant Shapps on Twitter Saturday morning and it came into effect at 4 a.m., the BBC reported. "The decision comes after Denmark reported widespread outbreaks of coronavirus in mink farms," Shapps said in the tweet.

Ex-Afghan TV presenter killed

Kabul: A former Afghan television presenter, along with two other civilians, was killed in a blast Saturday in Kabul, according to authorities. The blast took place at about 7 a.m., in the Makrorayan-e-Char area in the capital city's Police District 9, reports TOLO News. The police said that the explosion was caused due to the detonation of a magnetic IED that targeted a vehicle carrying the three victims.

UAE to relax Islamic laws for personal freedoms

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dubai, Nov 7: The United Arab Emirates announced Saturday a major overhaul of the country's Islamic personal laws, allowing unmarried couples to cohabit, loosening alcohol restrictions and criminalising so-called "honour killings."

The broadening of personal freedoms reflects the changing profile of a country that has sought to bill itself as a skyscraper-studded destination for Western tourists, fortune-seekers and businesses despite its legal system based on a hard-line interpretation of Islamic law.

The changes also reflect the efforts of the Emirates' rulers to keep pace with a rapidly changing society at home.

The announcement also follows a historic US-brokered deal to normalise relations between the UAE and Israel, which is expected to bring an influx of Israeli tourists and investment.

Changes include scrapping penal-

ties for alcohol consumption, sales and possession for those 21 and over. The legal reforms were announced on state-run WAM news agency and detailed in state-linked newspaper The National.

Previously, individuals needed a liquor license to purchase, transport or have alcohol in their homes. The new rule would apparently allow Muslims who have been barred from obtaining licenses to drink alcoholic beverages freely.

Another amendment allows for "cohabitation of unmarried couples," which has long been a crime in the UAE. Authorities, especially in the more free-wheeling financial hub of Dubai, tend to look the other way when it comes to foreigners, but the threat of punishment still lingered for such behavior.

The government also decided to get rid of laws protecting "honour crimes," a widely criticised tribal custom in which a male relative may evade prosecution for assaulting a woman seen as dishonoring a family.



The London Eye is pictured during sunset in London, Britain

WTO defers decision on new chief

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Geneva, Nov 7: The World Trade Organization (WTO) postponed a General Council special meeting on the appointment of the next Director-General slated for November 9, citing reasons including "health situation and current events."

"It has come to my attention that for reasons including the health situation and current events, delegations will not be in a position to take a formal decision November 9," General Council Chair David Walker of New Zealand said in a written statement to all members Friday, Xinhua news agency reported.

"I am therefore postponing this meeting until further notice during

which period I will continue to undertake consultations with delegations," Walker added.

On October 28, Walker told WTO members at a Heads-of-Delegation meeting that based on their consultations with all delegations, the candidate best poised to attain consensus and become the new Director-General was Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria.

"She clearly carried the largest support by members in the final round and she clearly enjoyed broad support from members from all levels of development and all geographic regions and has done so throughout the process," Walker said.

He added that a formal decision had to be taken by the members at

a General Council meeting, originally scheduled for November 9.

But the assessment was challenged by the United States, which said it would continue to support South Korea's Minister for Trade Yoo Myung-hee and could not back the candidacy of Okonjo-Iweala.

Since early October, Okonjo-Iweala had been facing off against Yoo in the final round of race to become the new director-general of WTO. If selected, Okonjo-Iweala would become the first woman and African to head the global trade watchdog in its 25-year history.

The WTO's leadership vacuum was created after its former chief Roberto Azevedo stepped down August 31, a year before the end of his official term.

Rapper King Von among 3 killed in Atlanta shooting

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atlanta, Nov 7: Chicago rapper King Von was among three people shot and killed in a shooting early Friday outside a nightclub in Atlanta that also left three people wounded, state investigators said.

"The preliminary investigation indicates that Dayvon Bennett, aka King Von, and a group of men left the Opium Nightclub and went to the Monaco Hookah Lounge," the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said in a statement.



Rapper King Von

"Once there, two men approached the group in the parking lot, and the two groups of men started to argue with each other. The argument quickly escalated to gunfire between the two groups."

The GBI said on- and off-duty Atlanta police officers responded and one of each fired shots.

"During the shooting incident, six men were shot during the group altercation and officer encounter. Bennett and two men died as a result of their injuries, and three were injured and are being treated at a hospital," the GBI said in a statement.

The Atlanta Police Department said in a statement that its officers did not kill the rapper.

Myanmar's election and Suu Kyi's expected victory

Myanmar holds national and state elections Sunday in which Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party will be looking to hold on to power

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yangon, Nov 7: Myanmar holds national and state elections Sunday in which Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party will be looking to hold on to power.

More than 37 million of Myanmar's 56 million people are eligible to vote. More than 90 parties are fielding candidates for seats in the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament. The NLD's landslide victory in the last election in 2015 came after more than five decades of military or mil-

itary-directed rule. Those polls were seen as largely free and fair with one big exception — the army-drafted constitution of 2008 automatically grants the military 25% of the seats in Parliament, enough to block constitutional changes. That proviso still holds true.

Overshadowing the polls is the coronavirus and restrictions to contain it, which are likely to lower turnout despite government plans for social distancing and other safety measures. Suu Kyi's party is heavily favoured to win again, though probably with a reduced

majority. Suu Kyi is by far the country's most popular politician, and the NLD has a strong national network, reinforced by holding the levers of state power.

Nevertheless the NLD has been criticised for lacking vision and adopting some of the more authoritarian methods of its military predecessors, especially targeting critics through the courts.

Suu Kyi's party has lost the co-operation of many ethnic minority parties, which are popular in their border area homelands. In 2015, those parties were tacit allies with



the NLD and arranged not to compete strongly where splitting the

vote might give victory to the military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party, or USDP.

Suu Kyi's failure to come through with an agreement giving ethnic minorities the greater political autonomy for decades has disenchanted them, and this year they will be working against the NLD rather than with it. The main Opposition USDP was founded as a proxy for the military and again is the NLD's strongest competitor. It is well-funded and well-organised. Whether voters still see it as tainted by its association with previous

military regimes is not clear.

To a large extent, the polls are seen as a referendum on Suu Kyi's five years in power, just as the 2015 election was seen as a judgment on military rule. There has been economic growth, but it benefited a tiny portion of the population in one of the region's poorest countries, and fell short of popular expectations.

Not only were ethnic minority groups disappointed by Suu Kyi's failure to grant them greater autonomy, but the well-trained and well-armed Arakan Army has risen to become the biggest military threat.



The economy is expected to bounce back from the next fiscal starting from April 2021. The next normal will see a paradigm shift and some of them will be permanent
DINESH KUMAR KHARA | CHAIRMAN, STATE BANK OF INDIA

CHINA SMARTPHONE MARKET DROPS 14.3%

The China smartphone market witnessed a 14.3% drop in the third quarter this year with 84.8 million units shipment, according to an IDC report, as the country faced soft demand, Huawei supply constraints and delayed flagship launches from both Huawei and Apple



of the day quote

Emerging markets in search of investment must show lasting reform agendas and that their planning extends beyond the immediate crisis

KARBY LEGGETT | GLOBAL HEAD (PUBLIC SECTOR & DEVELOPMENT ORG), STANDARD CHARTERED

The IT industry may not get back to the old style of working from office and around 75% of the workforce may continue to work from outside office going ahead

AJAY PRAKASH SAWHNEY | SECRETARY, MEITY

The governments of India and the African nations could come together and help in the global revival of the economy. Our mission is to enhance ties to 100 x 100 matrix by 2025, i.e. a target of \$100 billion of bilateral trade and \$100 billion of investment

RAJIV PODAR | PRESIDENT, IMC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

State MSEs demand EPM procurement system

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 7: State's Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) units expressed their concerns over state government's one-sided policy that mandates procuring materials from Government e-Marketplace (GeM) alone. The MSE association claims that the policies have discouraged these units and shut all doors from selling any products to government institutions in the state.

MSE bodies Orissa Young Entrepreneurs Association (OYEA), Utkal Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (UPMA), Orissa Small Scale Industries Association (OSSIA) and Odisha Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (OASME) gathered Saturday and asked state government to make amendment in the policy.

OSSIA president Smarajit Mohanty said, "To help MSEs in marketing their products, Directorate of Export Promotion and Marketing (DEPM) was created which was entrusted with registration of MSE manufacturing units and formulating a process of procurement for the state government called Rate Contract System".

Since then this time tested procurement system is followed for procurement of goods and services and has been incorporated in OGFR as one of the procurement processes for goods and services benefitting majority of MSEs of our state. "However, state finance department issued a new circular mandating all procurement through only GeM. This policy may lead over 1,000 industries to uncertain fate or disastrous situation," Mohanty said.

State government procures around 88 products from thousands of MSE units for a value of around ₹300 crore, on an average, through EPM. But this policy has shut their doors from their business.

It is mandatory to register in GeM to be a participant in the selling business. State's MSEs are unable to register in the portal as they don't have a trademark or proper brand.



GeM. This policy may lead over 1,000 industries to uncertain fate or disastrous situation," Mohanty said. State government procures around 88 products from thousands of MSE units for a value of around ₹300 crore, on an average, through EPM. But this policy has shut their doors from their business. It is mandatory to register in GeM to be a participant in the selling business. State's MSEs are unable to register in the portal as they don't have a trademark or proper brand.

The MSE associations claim that the state government's policies have discouraged these units and shut all doors from selling any products to government institutions in the state

In this regard, OASME Secretary General Satwik Swain said, "These are micro and small industries and they don't have proper brand names which is why, they are unable to register in GeM and sell their products. Sadly, they can't register as manufacturers but as retailers." MSE bodies stated that they

don't have any problem with GeM but asked state government to make a balanced policy that also mandates procurement of materials from these local industries through DPEM.

"We the MSEs of the state demand before the government that they involve the stake holders while formulating policies as mandated by IPR and continue with the old time tested mechanism of procurement through rate contract which will create wealth and resources for the state which probably no other sectors can," members of the bodies said.

The associations said that they will go for a peaceful sit-in dharama if their legitimate demands of livelihood are not addressed in its true perspective.

NCRTC, BEL sign MoU to develop platform screen doors

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: Taking a step forward towards realising PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India), the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) Saturday signed a memorandum



of understanding (MoU) with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for indigenous development of platform screen doors (PSDs).

The MoU was signed by NCRTC Director (Systems) Navneet Kaushik and Manoj Kumar, BEL's Executive Director (National Marketing).

The NCRTC and BEL, a government of India enterprise under the Ministry of Defence, will indigenously develop PSD system for the upcoming MRTS/RRTS/high-speed rail projects, both in India and abroad.

According to NCRTC, the PSDs act as a safety barrier between the passengers on the platform and the train.

The PSDs also help in crowd management and prevent any untoward incidents like jumping or falling on the track.

The NCRTC said that till date, the PSDs used in India were imported.

The NCRTC said in a statement that it will design and develop PSDs for different rail-based systems in India and abroad in collaboration with BEL.

"This will be a first and one of its kind initiative where indigenously developed PSD system will be used in India and will be exported globally as well," it said.

NCRTC Managing Director Vinay Kumar Singh said, "NCRTC is working continuously towards identifying items that are presently being imported for MRTS/RRTS/high-speed rail projects and make strategies to bring such technologies to India through RRTS project to trigger domestic capacity development."

ITI in talks with firms to offer 5G network gears

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 7: State-run electronics manufacturing firm ITI Saturday said it is in discussion with Indian companies to provide end-to-end 4G and 5G network gears in the country.

The company is also looking at manufacturing equipment for E and V band spectrum which are considered essential for 4G and 5G technologies, ITI said in its annual report released on Saturday.

"Our company with its efficient and innovative state-of-art facilities and capabilities for manufacturing telecom equipment plans to manufacture eNodeB and 5G NR (new radio) products in its various plants," ITI chairman and MD RM Agarwal said in the report.

ITI is also in talks with other Indian companies to provide end-to-end solutions for 4G and 5G networks across the country through an ecosystem of the local technologies, he added.

ITI has partnered with Tech Mahindra and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) for development of 4G and 5G technology.

"With these tie-ups, two streams of solutions for 4G upgradeable 5G can be worked out with ITI being the common manufacturing partner," Agarwal said.

The company is also planning



We have recently signed a T-o-T agreement with DRDO to manufacture portable ventilators at its manufacturing plants. The prototypes are ready for testing and once cleared, we intend to mass manufacture ventilators which will be supplied to defence forces

RM AGARWAL | CHAIRMAN AND MD, ITI

to manufacture enterprise grade routers, a segment dominated by foreign companies, for secure data transfer in the defence network as well as for the networks of telecom service providers.

"For this, ITI has already entered into a technology collaboration agreement with a Bangalore-based leading start-up company in this

area. On similar lines, our Company is also planning to tie up for manufacturing of E and V band radios which are very essential with the emerging technologies of 4G and 5G.

"The partnerships with these Indian companies and the products with Indian IPR not only help to reduce dependency on import of Telecom equipment but also address the concerns in building a strategic network for defence communication," Agarwal said.

The Defence Ministry has awarded ITI a ₹7,796 crore ASCON project for deployment of a strategic and secured communication network for the army across the country. ITI has planned to manufacture and supply 11,000 kilometre optical fibre cables against the mega ASCON phase IV order received by ITI.

SHORT TAKES

GHAC signs MoU with TSRTC

Hyderabad: GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo (GHAC), Saturday signed an MoU with Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) to jointly promote international export and import of cargo. As part of the MoU, GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo Terminal will be connected to other parts of Telangana and neighbouring states through first mile and last mile cargo bus feeder service, the GMR group said in a press release. GHAC specialises in handling sensitive cargo such as Pharma, Vaccines, Perishables, Aerospace, etc.

I-T dept unearths ₹1,000cr cash

Chennai: The Income Tax (I-T) department has conducted searches at five locations here and Madurai in the case of a Chennai-based group operating in the IT Infra sector and unearthed unaccounted cash of around ₹1,000 crore, according to a news release issued Saturday. The search conducted on 6 November led to the unearthing of evidence relating to investments in a Singapore registered firm, as per a statement issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

Future Retail moves Delhi HC

New Delhi: Kishore Biyani led-Future Retail Ltd (FRL) Saturday said it has approached the Delhi High Court seeking relief against an arbitration order passed by the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) with regard to ₹24,713-crore deal with Reliance Industries. The Future group firm has contended that Amazon is "misusing" the interim order passed by an emergency arbitrator of the SIAC October 25, 2020.

RBI Gov recovers from COVID-19

New Delhi: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das Saturday said he has turned Covid negative and will join office next week. Das was tested COVID-19 positive October 25. "I have tested COVID-19 negative. Will be back in office next week. Thank you everyone for your good wishes for my early recovery," Das said in a tweet.

EOW case against Radia's firm for ₹300cr fraud

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: The Economic Offences Wing of Delhi Police has registered a case and started probe against two firms, including the Nayati Healthcare, whose chairperson and promoter is Nirra Radia of the infamous Radia tapes controversy.

Along with the Gurugram health firm, the other one named in the EOW FIR is the Narayani investment private limited - both have been accused of misappropriating funds amounting to more than ₹300 crore that were obtained through a loan.

The firms - Nayati and Narayani - have been accused of siphoning, embezzlement and forgery of bank loan amounting to ₹312.50 crore in 2018-2020 in Primamed hospital projects of Gurugram and Vimhans Hospital Delhi.

The complaint was filed by Rajeev K. Sharma, a Delhi-based orthopaedic surgeon.

According to sources, the firms embezzled crores from bank loan by opening fictitious accounts in the name of various well-known contractors and directly transferred loan money to these accounts.

GOLDMAN SACHS INFUSES ₹1,125CR INTO BIOCON'S BIZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 7: Biocon Saturday said its subsidiary Biocon Biologics has approved a ₹1,125 crore investment from Goldman Sachs. This capital injection by Goldman Sachs will enable Biocon Biologics to make prudent investments in R&D, high-quality manufacturing, as well as, establish a global commercial footprint.

The board of Biocon Biologics has approved a ₹1.125 crore (\$150 million) capital injection from Goldman Sachs, Biocon said in a statement.

As per the terms of the proposed agreement, Goldman Sachs will be



issued Optionally Convertible Debentures at a post money equity valuation of \$3.94 billion, it added.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome a capital injection by Goldman Sachs at this inflection point of Biocon Biologics' journey in its quest for global leadership in providing affordable access through Biosimilar drugs," Biocon Executive

Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw said. This transaction is a part of the overall strategic plan of value creation for the company's shareholders through Biocon Biologics, she added.

Biocon Biologics CEO Christiane Hamacher said, "With three of our products commercialised in the US market, we continue to strive towards expanding access for our patients and unlocking value for our shareholders. This capital injection by Goldman Sachs will enable us to make prudent investments in R&D, high-quality manufacturing, as well as, establish a global commercial footprint."

'India likely to become fastest growing economy from FY22'

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 7: India is expected to become the 'Fastest Growing' major economy from FY22, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry said Saturday. According to Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the country's economy is "going to attain its fastest growth trajectory from the next financial year 2021-22 onwards".

In a recent growth estimate by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India is projected to become the fastest growing economy among the top 10 major economies in the world economic system from 2021 to 2025.

"The average GDP growth of Indian economy in next five years



from 2021 to 2025 will be at 7.8 per cent, highest as compared with top 10 economies including 6.2 per cent

of China, 3 per cent of France, 2.9 per cent of United Kingdom, 2.9 per cent of Canada, 2.4 of United States,

The size of the economy will increase from ₹203 tn in FY 2019-20 to ₹331 tn in FY 2025-26 at current prices, which becomes at around \$4.42 tn considering the exchange rate at 74.9

SANJAY AGGARWAL | PRESIDENT, PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

2.3 per cent of Germany, 2.3 per cent of Italy, 2.3 per cent of Brazil and 1.4 per cent of Japan," Aggarwal was quoted as saying in a statement.

"The size of the economy will increase from ₹203 trillion in FY 2019-20 to ₹331 trillion in FY 2025-26 at current prices, which becomes at

around US\$ 4.42 trillion considering the exchange rate at 74.9 (average of current fiscal year 2020-21; April-October)."

Besides, the industry body pointed out that percolation of more and more economic reforms at the ground level with effective implementation would be crucial to attain the potential trajectory of \$5 trillion in the next 6 financial years by FY 2026-27 (GDP at current prices; considering the exchange rate between 74-75).

"On the back of various reforms undertaken by the government, the economic recovery has become visible in the high frequency economic and business indicators of the recent months," he said.

Recently, PHD Chamber on the basis of PHDCCI Economic and

Business Momentum (EBM) Index, estimated that the GDP growth will be at around (-) 7.9 per cent for the current financial year 2020-21 as compared with the median forecasts of (-) 9.3 per cent by various national and international forecasting organisations.

"At this juncture, demand creation measures are needed to attain a positive growth trajectory sooner rather than later," he said.

"Demand creation along with increased spending on infrastructure will have multiplier effects on the economic growth trajectory by boosting private investments, creating new employment opportunities in the country, generating demand for commodities such as steel, cement and power."

SRH FACE CAPITALS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Nov 7: Peaking at the right time and with all their boxes ticked, Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) are certain to hold sway over a dishevelled Delhi Capitals (DC) in the second IPL qualifier here Sunday.

The past couple of weeks have been a picture in contrast for the two franchises. After an underwhelming first half, SRH started pushing the envelope with the mercurial David Warner marshalling his resources well.

Capitals, on the other hand, looked like serious contenders till their first nine games, winning seven in that phase before an inexplicable slump saw them lose five out of their next six matches with skipper Shreyas Iyer looking all at sea.

The current situation notwithstanding, young Iyer would want to lead the Capitals to their first summit clash in 13 editions while Warner wouldn't mind adding another silverware to his 2016 triumph.

In fact, if he can win the next two games, Warner could boast of guiding comparatively one of the more inexperienced teams in this IPL.

For Capitals, the biggest worry has been their top-order woes – especially the first three slots where Shikhar Dhawan (525 in 15 games) has shone the brightest.

Prithvi Shaw's (228 from 13 games) technique against top quality fast bowling has left a lot to be desired and Ajinkya Rahane (111 from 7 games) has had only one knock of note so far.

Something that would definitely worry coach Ricky Ponting is the number of ducks by the top order – nine. Dhawan has four, Shaw has three and Rahane didn't bother the scorers twice.

However, the bowling unit has done well save a few occasions like the first qualifier, where Mumbai Indians batting took them apart.

Kagiso Rabada (25 wickets), Anrich Nortje (20) and Ravichandran Ashwin (13) have done exceedingly well in most of the games.

Sunrisers' batting line-up, which has gathered momentum over the last few games, is well aware of that, and Orange Army's premier all-rounder Jason Holder acknowledged the fact.

"What we have done in batting is that we have been aggressive upfront. David has obviously led the charge, well supported by (Wriddhiman) Saha. Jonny (Baird) has done an outstanding job and Manish (Pandey) has kept the momentum going," Holder said



when asked about their strategy to face DC attack.

"And then we have the level-headedness of Kane (Williamson). Being good to come and finish games. So we don't play names, we see the ball and strike the ball," Holder said.

Saha's groin injury, which ruled him out of the eliminator, might also keep him out of the second qualifier.

"We have faith in (Shreevats) Goswami. He has been around for some time and we need to give confidence," said Holder, whose 13 wickets in six games along with crucial middle order contributions, has been the 'X' factor for his side.

Rashid Khan's parsimonious economy rate of less than six runs per over, the unheralded T Natarajan's subtle variations and Sandeep Sharma's ability to get some swing upfront only add to the strengths of Warner's team.

For the Capitals however, the



weak spots which they can exploit is the inexperience of two middle order players – Priyam Garg and Abdul Samad – who are playing some of the biggest matches of their nascent careers.

In the event Capitals make early inroads, it will be a test of character for the young but talented duo. Daniel Sams' poor show with the ball so far is a concern for the Capitals and they might explore the option of bringing back Shimron Hetmyer in place of the left-arm seamer, which will also add some batting firepower.

In that case, Marcus Stoinis might have to bowl his full quota of overs alongside Rabada, Nortje, Ashwin and Axar Patel.

Supernovas win thriller; enter final

AGENCIES

Sharjah, Nov 7: Supernovas nearly conceded the title before even reaching the final, but somehow managed to pull off a two-run win against Trailblazers to enter the final of Women's T20 Challenge here, Saturday.

Supernovas, Trailblazers and Velocity won a game each. However, better net run-rates helped Harmanpreet Kaur-led Supernovas and Smriti Mandhana-led Trailblazers seal the summit clash berths.

Chasing a challenging 147, Trailblazers were restricted to 144/5. Deepti Sharma (43 n o), Smriti Mandhana (30) and Deandra Dottin (27) and Harleen Deol (27) batted brilliantly for the losing side. Radha Yadav (2/30) and Shakera Selman (2/31) were stand-out with the ball for Supernovas.

Earlier, Sri Lanka's Chamari



CHAMARI ATAPATTU

Atapattu (67, 47b, 5x4, 4x6) continued her purple patch, smashing a quick-fire half century as two-time champions Supernovas posted 146/6 against Trailblazers in a must-win game.

Electing to bat, Supernovas rode on Atapattu's aggressive knock and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's big shots (31) in the slog overs to post a challenging total on board.

Supernovas were going strong at 80 for no loss in 10 overs but the Trailblazers spinners Harleen Deol (1/34) and Salma Khatun (1/25) pulled things back, giving away just 23 runs in next five overs. Experienced Jhulan Goswami (1/17) was the best bowler.

BRIEF SCORES

Supernovas 146/6 (Chamari Atapattu 67, Harmanpreet Kaur 31, Priya Punia 30; Jhulan Goswami 1/17) **beat Trailblazers 144/5** (Deepti Sharma 43 n o; Radha Yadav 2/30) **by 2 runs.**

Bruno brace scripts Man United's win

AGENCIES

Manchester, Nov 7: Bruno Fernandes scored twice and Edinson Cavani opened his Manchester United account in a 3-1 win at Everton that will ease the pressure on manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

After back-to-back losses to Arsenal and Istanbul Basaksehir, Saturday's Premier League clash at Goodison Park was viewed by some as a must-win match for Solskjaer amid increasing speculation over his future.

Things looked worrying for the Red Devils boss when Bernard put Carlo Ancelotti's side ahead, but Fernandes scored twice before half time and Cavani struck at the death to deliver three valuable points.

The visitors were behind 19 minutes in, though, as Bernard squeezed an effort into the bottom-left corner. Fernandes drew United level, powering a header beyond Pickford after running into the box to meet Luke Shaw's delivery. The Portugal international then put his side ahead, his cross at the end of a 20-pass sequence going in off the right-hand post after Marcus Rashford had tried to glance it in.

As Everton poured forward in injury time, Maguire's interception sent Fernandes away on the break, and he waited before teeing up Cavani to sweep home.

Messi strikes help Barca thrash Betis

AGENCIES



Lionel Messi (R) and Antoine Griezmann celebrate a goal

AGENCIES

Barcelona, Nov 7: Lionel Messi scored twice and played a key part in another goal in Barcelona's 5-2 La Liga win over 10-man Real Betis after being left out of Ronald Koeman's starting line-up. The Argentine started a league game on the bench for the first time since September 2019.

The mercurial forward was brought on at half time with the game poised at 1-1 after Ousmane Dembele's strike was cancelled out by Barca academy product Antonio Sanabria, either side of an Antoine Griezmann penalty miss.

Messi paved the way for Griezmann's goal, then scored a penalty after Aissa Mandi was dismissed for handling the ball on the

line and doubled his tally late on to kill off Betis following Loren Moron's strike.

Pedri then capped a much-improved display for Koeman's side with a fifth goal late on, as they secured a first league win in five Saturday.

Marc-Andre ter Stegen, making his first league appearance of the season, kept out William Carvalho's header before Ansu Fati and Griezmann wasted more presentable opportunities.

Mandi was sent off for intentionally handling the ball inside the box. After a lengthy VAR check, Mandi was deemed to have blocked Dembele's shot on the line with his arm and Messi had no trouble converting his fourth penalty of the season.

Nadal on course for maiden Paris Masters crown

REUTERS

Paris, Nov 7: Rafa Nadal stayed on track for a maiden Paris Masters title by beating fellow Spaniard Pablo Carreno Busta 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 Friday, a result that gave Argentine Diego Schwartzman the last spot at the season-ending ATP Tour Finals.

Spain's 20-time Grand Slam champion recovered from a wobbly start and revved up the engine near the end of the second set to clinch victory and progress to a clash with German fourth seed Alexander Zverev, who beat Swiss Stan Wawrinka 6-3, 7-6(7-1).

Carreno Busta needed to lift the trophy at Bercy, and at next week's Sofia Open, to deny Schwartzman a spot in the ATP Finals at the O2 in London after the Argentine was earlier thrashed 6-3, 6-1 by Russian Daniil Medvedev.



The ninth seed played with confidence early on as Nadal struggled to find his range but when the 13-time French Open champion hit his stride, there was no hope for Carreno Busta. Nadal bagged the second set to set the tone for the rout in the decider.

THIS FESTIVE SEASON ENJOY NON-STOP OFFERS, NON-STOP HAPPINESS.

BUY EDGE GLASS TOP GAS STOVE PEBS 03 (IU) WORTH ₹10 895.00

GET OMEGA DELUXE GRANITE BUILD YOUR KITCHEN 3pc COOKWARE SET (IU) + NAKSHATRA PLUS SVACHH ALUMINIUM PRESSURE COOKER 3L (IU) WORTH ₹4 900.00 FREE*

BUY ANY STAINLESS STEEL OR HARD ANODISED PRESSURE COOKER UP TO 5L (IU) (SELECT MODELS)

GET ELECTRIC KETTLE PKOSS 1.5 (IU) WORTH ₹1145.00 FREE*

BUY ANY ALUMINIUM PRESSURE COOKER UP TO 5L (IU) (SELECT MODELS)

GET VEGGIE CUTTER PVC 8.0 (IU) WORTH ₹695.00 FREE*

BUY OMEGA DELUXE GRANITE BUILD YOUR KITCHEN 3pc COOKWARE SET (IU) WORTH ₹3 500.00

GET INDUCTION COOKTOP PIC 20.0 (IU) WORTH ₹2 795.00 FREE*

BUY STYLO 550 V2 3 JAR MIXER GRINDER (IU) WORTH ₹3 795.00

GET NAKSHATRA PLUS SVACHH ALUMINIUM PRESSURE COOKER 3L (IU) WORTH ₹1 400.00 FREE*

BUY INDUCTION COOKTOP PIC 3.1 V3 (IU) WORTH ₹4 895.00

GET NAKSHATRA PLUS SVACHH ALUMINIUM PRESSURE COOKER (5L) (IU) WORTH ₹1 890.00 FREE*

KITCHEN HOODS

FLAT 45% OFF ON MRP AND INSTALLATION KIT (IU) WORTH ₹1 495.00 FREE*

BUY TATTVA COPPER WATER PURIFIER (IU) WORTH ₹4 495.00

GET PACK OF 4 BOTTLES (IU) WORTH ₹1 795.00 FREE*

BUY VACUUM CLEANER TYPHOON 05 (IU) WORTH ₹5 995.00

OFFER PRICE: ₹4 295.00*

SMALL APPLIANCES FLAT 20% OFF*

SHUBHUTSAV

TILL 28th NOV 2020

Jo apnon se kare pyaar, woh Prestige se kaise kare inkaar.

*Conditions apply. Offers valid on MRP only. No two offers can be clubbed together. Offers on selected models until stocks last. Offers not valid in the state of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat and Kerala.

For Franchisee Enquiry:- Call +91 7077721612. * For Trade Enquiries, Call +91 7077216102 * For Clean Home Products Trade Enquiries, Call +91 8826102361

BHUBANESWAR: Rabi Takies Chhak: opposite to Kedar Gouri Resort Mob: 7750925223; **Bapujinagar I:** 105, Post office lane; Near Yes Bank, Ph: 0674-2597141, Mob: 9937138998; **Bapujinagar II:** 237, Bapujinagar Pani Tanki Lane, Ph: 0674 2597685 Mob: 9777744071, **Satyangar:** 10, Janpath, Satyangar, Ph: 0674 2573408, Mob: 8280056821, **ID Market:** Shop No FG 3, I.D. Market, Near Reliance Fresh, IRC Village Mob: 9861404879, **RAGHUNATHPUR:** Shop no -S5, Manson Green, Raghunathpur, Nandanakanan road ph-7205876994 **CUTTACK, Dolomundal:** Hotel Akbari complex, Dolomundal, Haripur Road, Ph: 0671 2411580; Mob: 9348222581, **Baxi Bazar:** Manisahoo Chhak, Mob: 6371736954 **CDA:** Plot No. CM/3 (In front of Police Station), Market Nagar, Sector -7, Ph: 0671-2504833, Mob: 8917442506 **Rourkela:** Near Haryana Bhawan, Daily Market, Udit Nagar, Mob: 9777457774; **PURI:** Behind Gundicha Temple, Sarvodaya Nagar Road, Beside Suruchi Mandap, Ph-7978547991 **BALUGAON:** Chhika Road, Balugaon, Mob: 8984858783(opening soon) **KENDRAPARA:** Kakat Chhak, Ph: 06727 221241; Mob: 8598080544 **DHENKANAL:** I.G. Super Market, near SBI ATM; Mob: 9337477279/ 9348178750; **BOLANGIR:** A.B.S.S. Road, Near Samaleswar Temple, Ph: 06652 232419; Mob: 9437331171, 9437241863; **SEMILIGUDA:** Infront of RAM Mandir Gate, Main Road, Mob: 8328800974, **BARGARH:** C/o: New patra needs, infront of Gopal Goshala, NH-6, Main Road, Ph:9937171761, 06646230124; **SAMBALPUR Golbazaar:** Near Durga Temple, Mob: 9338194750, **Rayagada:** Main road, Near Old Station, Ph-8249517365 **JEYPORE:** Beside Usha Stores, Main Road, Ph: 9776701165, **Baripada- Aerovision- 9861828643, Umer Kote- Balaji Metal- 9777781003, Rayagada-7008429715, Gajapati-Panda General Store-8249162067; **AUTHORISED SERVICE CENTRE:** Cuttack: TTK Prestige Ltd (RSC) Plot No 864/2677, Near Pala Mandap, Near By Shilani Glass House Ph 0671-2367499; Bhubaneswar-Ph-9776322880, Rourkela- Ph. 9853522686, Berhampur-Ph. 0680-2228066, Sambalpur-Ph. 9861087802; Bolangir-Ph 06652-234443, Angul-Ph. 9437903195, Balasore: Ph. 9937393936, Jeyppore: Ph. 9438445339, 06854-233339; Jajpur Road: Ph9658464643; RAHAMMA: Ph-9437483032; KEONJHAR:7008589306; BARGARH: 9438015648; BHAWANIPATNA:- 8328805215, BHADRAK-7978740521**