HERE. NOW Orissa Po

TRYST WITH SINGING

Odia actor Sivani Sangeeta has done playback singing for a music video for the first time DEISURE



UN OPTIMISTIC

UN is optimistic that a dialogue can happen between India and Pakistan despite sour relations on display at the UNGA

INTERNATIONAL



KKR BEAT DELHI

Kolkata Knight Riders script a narrow 3-wicket victory over Delhi Capitals in a thrilling IPL encounter SPORTS P12

12 PAGES | ₹5.00

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 180 | www.orissapost.com

BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 | 2021

KOLKATA HYDERABAD BENGALURU DELHI MUMBAI DUBAI

GOVT DISSOLVES ORDNANCE FACTORY BOARD

New Delhi: The Defence Ministry has dissolved the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) with effect from October 1 and transferred its assets, employees and management to seven public sector units (PSUs), according to an official order released Tuesday. "Government of India has decided to transfer, with effect from October 1, 2021, the management, control, operations and maintenance of these 41 production

units and identified non-production units to seven government companies. All employees will also be transferred to the seven units," said the order.

LATA MANGESHKAR TURNS 92



Mumbai: Singing legend Lata Mangeshkar turned 92 Tuesday and and kept her birthday a simple, quiet family affair. Known as the 'Queen of Melody' and the 'Nightingale of India', Lata Mangeshkar started her career at the age of 13 in 1942. She has sung over 25,000 songs in different languages. Her younger sister Usha Mangeshkar said there are no elaborate plans for Lata didi's birthday. Wishes poured in from all quarters including President Ram Nath Kovind and PM Narendra Modi.



No casualties in Balanga PS blast

9937438896

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Sept 28: A massive explosion inside the Balanga police station in Puri district. Monday night damaged the building severely. Luckily however, there were no casualties. the police said Tuesday. A portion of the roof and walls of the police station building caved in due to the high intensity blast which led to cracks on the walls all over the structure.

"There was no casualty though a policeman was present in the police station when the explosion occurred," said Pipli sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) Debabrata Baral.

Police suspect explosive materials seized earlier and stored at the 'Malkhana' (store) inside the station may have triggered the explosion. Puri SP Kanwar Vishal Singh and other senior police officials reached the spot and took stock of the situation.

PROMOTING TRIBAL CULTURE: Men and women perform a Sambalpuri dance routine Tuesday to the tune of drums at a district level competition for the Mukhya Mantri Lokakala Trophy in Sambalpur

SIDHU QUITS AS **PPCC CHIEF**

into a fresh crisis just months ahead of

the Assembly elections in the state. In

a letter to Congress president Sonia

Gandhi, he said he will continue to

serve the party, "The collapse of a

compromise on Punjab's future." Sidhu

president of the PPCC. Will continue to

Amarinder Singh called Sidhu 'unsta-

ble' and 'not fit' for Punjab. MORE P-9

been wooing Amarinder. Rumours

are doing the rounds that he may

also be included in the Narendra

Modi-cabinet as Agriculture

Minister. After his resignation,

BJP leaders including Haryana

Home Minister Anil Vij and party

national general secretary Tarun

Chugh had invited 'Captain' to join

man's character stems from the

compromise corner, I can never

said in his letter to Sonia Gandhi

serve the Congress," he added.

"Therefore, I hereby resign as the

Chandigarh: Navio

resigned Tuesday

Punjab Pradesh

Congress

as the chief of the

Committee (PPCC)

plunging the party

PETROL, DIESEL PRICES START INCREASING AGAIN

■ Petrol price had remained stagnant since July 17. However, diesel price has increased 4 times since Sept 24

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 28: Petrol price was hiked Tuesday by 20 paise per litre and diesel by 25 paise as international oil prices neared USD 80 per barrel mark for the first time in three years.

The price of petrol was hiked to ₹101.39 a litre in Delhi from ₹101.19 and to ₹107.47 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. Diesel rates increased to ₹89.57 a litre in Delhi and ₹97.21 in Mumbai.

This is the first price increase in petrol in more than two months and the fourth in case of diesel Before this hike, the rate of petrol was increased for the last time

The increase followed international oil prices rising for the fifth consecutive day and global benchmark Brent heading for USD 80 per barrel.

FULE PRICE

₹102.27 (+0.21) **PETROL DIESLE** ₹97.68 (+0.27)

This incidentally is the fourth time diesel rates have been increased since September 24. In four increases, diesel price has shot by 95 paise for litre to negate threefourths of the ₹1.25 a litre cut in prices that happened between July 18 and September 5. Before September 5, diesel price had been last increased on July 15.

The recent price will certainly pinch the pockets of the common man. Petrol prices in most cities have now crossed the ₹100/litre mark.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



The leader we picked from a party into a comedy show

SENSEX **59667.60** 🖊 410.28

17748.60

86.25

₹45,986

VARIATION

1 ₹0.13

Light rain

MARKET WATCH

DOLLAR **73.94**

EURO

GOLD

WEATHER

INDEX

Rumour mills agog



■ *Since his resignation as* Punjab CM September 18, Amarinder Singh has asserted that his political future is open

Chandigarh, Sept 28: Less than a fortnight after he was 'unceremoniously' asked to quit as Puniab chief minister in the run-up to the Assembly polls, Congress veteran Amarinder Singh has set the rumour mills agog. Speculation is rife that the 'Captain' may join the BJP after meeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president JP Nadda. The meeting is expected to take place late Tuesday evening.

However, Amarinder's media advisor denied Tuesday that the former CM has appointments with BJP leaders. He said Amarinder is on a personal visit to the national capital.

'Too much being read into @capt_amarinder's visit to Delhi. He's on a personal visit, during which he'll meet some friends and also vacate Kapurthala house for the new CM. No need for any unnecessary speculation," Raveen Thukral informed in a tweet.

The proposed 'meeting' assumes significance in the context that Amarinder has been saving that he stepped down as he felt 'humiliated'. He also had said that the 'future political option is always there' and he will use those if necessary.

hands with BJP. However, Amarinder is keeping cards close to his chest. He has Since his resignation, the BJP has also not ruled out joining the BJP.

Quick disposition of financial aid promised

■ All families with Covid-related deaths in Odisha including those who died by suicide will be entitled to ₹50,000 compensation

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: The Odisha government said Tuesday that it will provide financial assistance of ₹50,000 to the kin of each of those who died of Covid-19 as quickly as possible as per the Supreme Court's directive. This was informed by chief of the Directorate of Medical Education and Training (DMET) Prof CBK Mohanty here Tuesday.

Mohanty also informed that the next of kin of any Covid-19 patient, who died by suicide, and those who died in accidents, are also entitled to financial assistance. The amount will be paid from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), according to norms.

"To implement the order of the apex court, the Odisha government will issue a special standard operating procedure (SOP) for providing financial assitance,' Mohanty said.

Odisha till September 28, 2021, has reported 8,187 Covid-19 deaths besides 53 fatalities in which the coronavirus patients had different comorbidities. For re-audit of



coronavirus-related deaths, a district-level committee will be formed very soon, Mohanty informed.

Earlier the Centre in an affidavit filed before the Supreme Court had said the compensation will be paid by the respective state governments, sourced from their respective disaster response funds. The families concerned will

submit their claims through a form issued by the state authorities along with specified documents, including those certifying the cause of death as Covid-19.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Home Affairs in a letter to the Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra said: "₹50,000 per deceased person, including those involved in relief operations or associated with preparedness activities, subject to the cause of death being certified as Covid-19 should be paid."

The letter added: "The ex-gratia assistance will be applicable from the date of the first Covid-19 case reported in India.'

HEIGHTENED **SECURITY FOR** PIPLI BYPOLL POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: All arrangements and machinery are in place for the Pipli Assembly bypoll set to take place Thursday. Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Odisha, SK Lohani said Tuesday that approximately 2.29 lakh voters will exercise their franchise at 348 booths in the constituency between 7.00am to 6.00pm

About 2,200 polling personnel will be engaged for the bypoll including staff deployed to ensure implementation of Covid-19 appropriate behaviour at the polling booths informed Lohani. Close to 2,000 policemen will be on duty including three companies of BSF. Thirty two mobile police patrols will also be pressed into service. The entire contingent will be under the supervision of Puri SP, Kanwar Vishal Singh. Three additional SPs and seven DSPs will be working with him, Lohani informed.

There are 201 sensitive (critical) polling stations in the constituency. where central armed police, microobservers, and web cameras will be deployed, Lohani added.



Pak a terror 'haven': US CRS report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 28: Pakistan is home to at least 12 groups designated as 'foreign terrorist organisations' by the United States (US). Five of these groups are India-centric like the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), according to the latest Congressional report on terrorism.

US officials have identified Pakistan as a base of operations or target for numerous armed and non-state militant groups, some of which have existed since the 1980s, the independent Congressional Research Service (CRS) said its report titled 'Terrorist and Other Militant Groups in Pakistan'.

The report said that these groups operating in Pakistan can be broadly categorised into five types globally-oriented, Afghanistan-oriented, India-and Kashmir-oriented, domestically- oriented, and Sectarian (anti-Shia).

The terrorist groups that mainly carry on activities in India are the LeT, JeM, Harakat-ul Jihad Islami (HUJI), Al Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS) and Hizb-ul Mujahideen (HM).

The LET was formed in the late 1980s in Pakistan and designated as a foreign terrorist organisation (FTO) in 2001. On the other hand, (JeM) was founded in 2000 by Kashmiri militant leader Masood Azhar and was designated as an



FTO in 2001. JeM also has openly declared war on the United States, the report said. It also said that HUJI, formed in 1980 was designated as an FTO in 2010. Other than concentrating on India, it also supplies fighters to the Afghan Taliban. HM was formed in 1989 – re-

THE REPORT HAS BLAMED THE PAKISTAN **GOVERNMENT FOR FAILING TO COUNTER TERRORISM FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES**

portedly as the militant wing of Pakistan's largest Islamist political party. It was designated as an FTO in 2017. It is one of the largest and oldest militant groups oper-

ating in Jammu and Kashmir. Among other terrorist groups operating from Pakistan is the Al Qaeda, the report noted. It also has the backing of several other mil-

itant organisations in Pakistan. CRS said according to the US State Department's 'Country Reports on Terrorism 2019' Pakistan has 'continued to serve as a safe haven for certain regionally focussed terrorist groups', and has 'allowed groups targeting Afghanistan and India to operate from its territory.

Major terror plot

Srinagar: Officials of the Indian Army said Tuesday that seven terrorists have been killed and one captured alive during the last seven days along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Uri sector. Major General Virendra Vats, GOC, 19 Infantry Division, said that 19-year-old captured militant Ali Baba Batra has confessed that he is a resident of Punjab Pakistan. The GOC said that a large group of militants had tried to infiltrate September 18 into Kashmir. With their neutralisation, the army had foiled their plot to do something

sensational in Srinagar.

foiled in Srinagar The CEO said 348 EVMs and

VVPATs have been deployed for the bypoll. As per ECI guidelines, all polling and police personnel working in the booths have undergone double vaccination. Similarly, election and counting agents nominated by candidates will also have to be

fully vaccinated. "All arrangements have been made to ensure a Covid safe election by providing hand gloves, masks, sanitisers, thermal scanning etc. Special Covid-19 kits for polling personnel have been arranged," the CEO informed. Four cases have been registered for violations.



leisure



KELLY FOUND GUILTY IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASE

Singer R Kelly has been found guilty of leading a decades-long scheme to recruit women and underage girls for sex in New York, with the jury declaring him guilty of all nine counts of racketeering and sex-trafficking charges, the New York Times reported.

WOMEN ARE SUPERIOR TO MEN: GYLLENHAAL

Hollywood star Jake Gyllenhaal has said that women are 'superior to men' and paid tribute to the 'incredible' females in his own family, which includes his actress sister Maggie Gyllenhaal. He said: "(Women) are superior to men."



FORTUNE **FORECAST**

GaneshaSpeaks.co™

Today you will have an eye for beautiful and outlandish things. There is a possibility that you may even contemplate starting a business related to these things. Ganesha feels, though, that you will not be able to reach any conclusion about it. But you will keep the option open.

TAURUS

This day is meant for taking some time out from your busy schedule, and seeking some fun and relaxation. So says Ganesha. It is possible that you wil be getting together with your friends and family members for a fun filled evening followed by a great dinner and

GEMINI

You face a hectic and demanding day today. You will spend your entire day wondering how best to channelise your energy and enthusiasm. You may be prone to extreme mood swings as well. Meditative techniques should help you keep your mind calm, says Ganesha.

CANCER

Lack of support from family members will disable your efforts. Children also disap point you. Discord or difference of opinion in family is indicated. Beware of neighbours. Yet, says Ganesha, face circum-

LEO

You will be filled with extraordinary self-confidence and will be able to take on huge risks. Sportspersons will be able to make a lot of progress in their fields. You will square off against any obstacles in your way using your entire might. While it is a good day for you, keep a curb on you speculations, says Ganesha

VIRGO

There will be dirt on your shoulder today, so dust it off, says Ganesha, because every time you fall you will get up stronger than before. Your logic and analytical skills will help you find the necessary precision to accomplish tasks at work. You may spend the evening with a close friend or your beloved, engrossed in

Ganesha says the inner artist in you will come to the surface today and you will showcase your imagination powers too. You will be able to focus on topics of interest today. Those of you in the field of interest will find themselves moving ahead. There may be signing of beneficial legal deals today for you.

SCORPIO

You may be in a mood to build castles in the air today, says Ganesha. You may be caught up in a whirlpool of thoughts and nostalgia. However, you will soon realise that the time once gone, never comes back and so, you make up for the lost time by beginning the new chapter of your life from today itself.

SAGITTARIUS

Suddenly, you discover that you are fully dedicated to your family. Kith and kins form the crux of your life, says Ganesha. Showing your love and affection to your kids will give you a feeling of satisfaction Spend some quality time with your partner!

CAPRICORN

You can't bear the weight of the heavy work load any more. Very cleverly, you will complete your tasks and slowly but steadily you take the load off your shoulders, predicts Ganesha. Attentive and observant, you meticulously plan your actions and minimise the chances of errors.

AQUARIUS

You are talented, hard working, confident and down to earth. These fou characteristics are the pillars of success. Now. it is time build the building. Your curiosity and desire to achieve your goals will help you with it, feels Ganesha.

PISCES

The day will be exceptional for working people as the planets seemed to be aligned perfectly, portends Ganesha. You will achieve all the expected results in the office and/or at work today. Those looking to pursue further studies in foreign countries will also make progress and come closer to fulfilling their dreams.



was my first love:

BHUBANESWAR: Odia actress Sivani Sangita,

known for her memorable roles in movies like

Sister Sridevi, Babu Bhaijan and Prem Kumar,

has turned to playback singing for a music video

for the first time. The actress has sung a song ti-

tled Prema Heigala Janili which has been com-

posed by renowned music director Premananda.

was my first love, not acting. From my childhood, I had a dream to make a name and fame in

singing. But destiny had stored something

She continues: "Lockdown situation

turned out to be a blessing in dis-

guise for me as it gave me enough

time to hone my singing skill. I got into

online singing classes. It was then that

many of my friends advised me to go

for playback singing for films or music

videos. I had approached Premananda sir asking him to compose a song for me. And after listening to my voice,

he offered me this song which is sched-

On the work front, she is gearing

uled to be released in Dussehra."

up for the release of her movie

Bidyarana opposite

Babushan.

else for me.

About her tryst with singing, Sivani says, "Singing

Given a choice, I can work 24x7: Kanika

Mumbai: Writer Kanika Dhillon has an interesting line-up of upcoming films. But even with a packed schedule, Kanika says can very well work round the clock if she has to.

The writer's works Manmarziyaan, Judgementall Hai Kya, Kedarnath and Haseen Dillruba have earned her much acclaim.

"Doing good work is not only an adrenaline booster for me, but it also keeps me in a state of flow. Also, being a workaholic explains the large number of films in a short span of time. Given a choice, I can work 24 hours a day," says Kanika.

Giving an update about her upcoming projects, Kanika says: "I am very excited about my upcoming projects. While Rashmi Rocket is gearing up for release, the shooting of Raksha Bandhan began in June. Also, Raju sir (Rajkumar Hirani), Abhijaat and me have locked the script for our project together. The film will go on floors sometime soon.'

While Taapsee Pannu starrer Rashmi Rocket is slated for release October 15, the Akshay Kumar and Bhumi Pednekar starrer Raksha Bandhan directed by Anand L Rai and co-written by Himanshu Sharma is scheduled to release August 11, 2022.

Rajkumar Hirani's next, along with Abhijaat Joshi, will star Shah Rukh Khan. IANS



Mumbai: Back in 2001, September 28, when the film Chandni Bar hit the big screen, Madhur Bhandarkar, who was just two films old, could not imagine that this film would change his career. It went on to get four National Film Awards and eventually, Madhur found his signature style of realistic storytelling in the Hindi film industry.

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of *Chandni Bar*, in a conversation, Madhur recalled the journey of the film and now, 13 films and two National Awards later, what still motivates him to make a new film. "It has been quite an in-

teresting journey for me. I have seen struggle, success, stability. I have gained the respect of audiences and of the film fraternity. I have got a certain amount of criticism, I have had creative blocks in between the films." Madhur

"Yes, there was a time when I was not making films because there was a creative block," the Page 3 director said, adding, "And you see, I am a creative human being, not a machine. Twenty years with 15 films is fine with me. I have been making films without being a part of any lobby or group in Bollywood. I was an independent filmmaker, I am and I will remain the same. Lam more focused on telling stories that matter to me and eventually to my audience, because for me, my film is the mirror of society.



Visva Bharati to be part of UNESCO World Heritage Site

A total of 24 buildings and architectural renovations that have the potential to be collectively listed as World Heritage are going through entire renovation

Kolkata: A 30-member delegation team from UNESCO is likely to visit Santiniketan between September by October 3 brightening up the prospect of Rabindranath Tagore-envisioned prestigious university Visva Bharati being included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Site.

This comes 11 years after the Union Culture Ministry appealed for the second time to secure the status of UNESCO World Heritage Site for Santiniketan to get recognition for Tagore's cultural ark in the run-up to his 150th birth anniversary in 2010.

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) with the help of Viswa Bharati University has prepared a fresh dossier and has already submitted it to UNESCO. An ASI team. led by its Director General Vidya Vidyanathan camped at the university in January to prepare the report, finding answers to the questions that were raised the last time. External heritage conservation experts were roped in to assist them.

"The visit of the team is significant because previously they had sent the application to the tentative list. We are making all sorts of arrangements so that this time the university gets the honour of the World Heritage Site," a senior official of Visva Bharati University

The ASI team surveyed the 'original' parts of the university, including the Kanch Mandir Upsana Griha, Santiniketan Bari (the first building that housed Debendranath Tagore and his family after Bhubandanga was bought by him), Uttarayan complex, Kala Bhavana, Sangeet Bhavan and all other structures built by Tagore as part of his dream university.

The team also scanned thousands of documents and videographed paintings, sculptures and artwork by Tagore and Bengal School stalwarts like Nandalal Bose, Ramkinker Baij and Benode Bihari. Accordingly, renovation of various traditional buildings and invaluable sculptures scattered all over Visva Bharati is underway and the central government sanctioned about Rs 3 crore for this

A total of 24 buildings and architectural renovations that have the potential to be collectively listed as World Heritage are going through entire renovation. The Visva Bharati authorities have also formed their own committee for this purpose.

PEANUTS



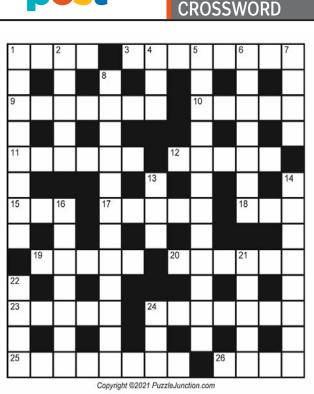
CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



FUN



23 Safari sight

24 Backache

26 Lawyers'

charges

25 Semisoft pale-

yellow cheese

Across 1 Mouselike

animal

3 Enlightening

9 Chinese herb 10 Highly skilled

11 Shanghai

12 Blender setting

17 Male duck

15 Hanoi holiday

1 Drifters

2 Like notebook 18 Starter's need

paper

<u>Down</u>

19 Whimsical 4 Archaeological 20 Mum site

5 Theatre

offerings (7,5) 6 Titanic's

undoing 7 Fence part

8 Indiscretions

13 Water holder

14 Oily 16 White ant

21 Fill with joy

22 Baby buggy

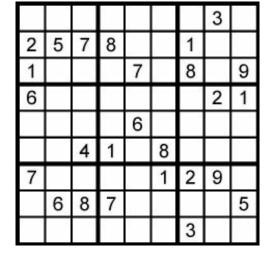
24 Tell a whopper

3 6 4 9 8 9 8 1 7 5 2 9 4 6 6 5 7 1 4 9 2 3 8

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any



SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

downtown



IN MEMORIAM

Members of Utkal Sahitya Samaj pay homage to litterateur Sk Matlub Ali at Sriram Chandra Bhawan in Cuttack, Tuesday

202	COV	/ID-19 '	
		INFECTED	
	World	23,32,59,500	21
	India	3,36,97,581	3,
	Odisha	10,25,309	
		: 	

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		INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
	World	23,32,59,500	21,00,30,426	47,72,932
	India	3,36,97,581	3,29,58,002	4,47,373
	Odisha	10,25,309	10,12,116	8,187
	11111111	: 	: 	:

POLITICKLE by MANJUL





Heavy rain in 9 districts today

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: Some places of north Odisha will experience heavy rains till September 30 under the influence of a fresh low pressure area that has formed over northwest Bay of Bengal, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said Tuesday.

In a special bulletin, the Bhubaneswar centre of the IMD said, "Under the influence of the cyclonic circulation over northeast and adjoining east central Bay of Bengal, a low pressure area was formed over northwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining coastal areas of West Bengal.'

The associated cyclonic circulation extends up to mid tropospheric levels. It is likely to become more marked during the next 24

Under the impact of the low



Heavy rains are forecast till Sept 30 under the influence of a fresh low pressure area formed over northwest Bay of Bengal

pressure area, heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at one or two places of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak, Jajpur and Kendrapada districts Tuesday. Similarly, heavy to very heavy

rainfall would occur in some Keonjhar, places οf Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Deogarh, Angul, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Balasore and Dhenkanal districts Wednesday. The MeT centre has warned that

problems like waterlogging in low lying areas, temporary disruption of municipal services, traffic congestion in urban areas and rise of water level of Burhabalang and Subarnarekha may occur due to the heavy rainfall.

Some damages to horticultural crops may also occur, it said.

Moreover, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda and Bargarh districts would experience heavy rain September 30, the IMD said.

The Orissa High Court's

observation came while

Act against M/s Z-Infra

Construction Private

hearing a case registered

under Section 6 of the OPID

MBA graduate held for duping jewellers, hoteliers

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: The lure of leading a lavish lifestyle often tempts youths, even highly educated ones, to embrace various illegal means to fulfill their dream. In a similar case, an MBA graduate reportedly defrauded several jewellers and hoteliers across the country, including Odisha, of lakhs

of rupees by faking UPI payments. A special squad of the twin city police has nabbed the accused in Kolkata recently.

Sources in the Commissionerate Police said that the accused, identified as Rajiv Prabhas Gupta, 37, is a resident of Risikesh Apartment in Andheri area of Mumbai. However, the police are yet to verify the address, which it suspects also to be wrong. Gupta claimed that he completed MBA degree from South India Educational Society. Navi Mumbai.

The matter came to the fore when the owner of Nimantran Jewellers at DN Regalia Mall near Patrapada recently lodged a complaint with the Commissionerate Police alleging that the accused purThe matter came to the fore when the owner of Nimantran Jewellers at **DN Regalia Mall near Patrapada recently** lodged a complaint with the Commissionerate Police alleging that the accused purchased gold ornaments worth ₹1 lakh from his

chased gold ornaments worth ₹1 lakh from his shop and sought the owner's permission to pay through UPI. However, the accused reportedly duped the shop owner by showing him a fake screenshot of a successful payment of ₹1 lakh through the pay-

The police later came to know that Gupta had cheated another jeweller in Puri following the sim-

shop fradulently ilar modus operandi. He also reportedly used to cheat hoteliers in

the similar fashion. The fraudster, living as a vagabond after the death of his parents, has reportedly duped several jewellers and hotel owners across the country through fake UPI payments.

"After purchasing the jewellery the fraudster would ask the shop owner's permission to make online just ₹10 to the owner's account via UPI pretending to check whether the payment was deposited in the correct account. Once he gained the confidence of the shop owner, he would prepare a fake screenshot of ₹1 lakh in his mobile and show that the payment was successful. As the payment of ₹1 lakh would not reflect in the owner's account, the fraudster would tell the latter that this was due to network issues. In reality, the owner would receive only ₹10 in his account," claimed the twin city police.

The victims failed to suspect him due to his suave and sophis-ticated demeanor. "The fraudster was travelling to different cities by flights, was staying in star hotels and spending lavishly," the police added.

The special squad arrested the accused at Netaji Subash Chandra Airport in Kolkata upon his arrival from Imphal Monday evening. The accused was sent to judicial custody Tuesday and is likely to be taken on remand for interrogation.

DRDO spying: PIL in HC seeks high-level probe

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 28: A public interest litigation (PIL) was filed with the Orissa High Court Tuesday seeking a high-level probe, preferably by CBI, NIA or SIT, into the alleged spying at Defence Research and Development Organisation's Integrated Test Range (ITR)

In his PIL, lawyer Arun Kumar Budhia said that the incident relates to national security, hence it should be probed by agencies like CBI, NIA or SIT.

Union Home Secretary, Defence Secretary, state Home Secretary, DGP, CBI director, NIA director and ITR director were made par-

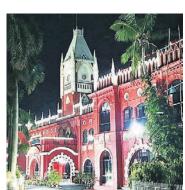
Real estate offences don't fall under OPID Act: HC

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Sept 28: The Orissa High Court has observed that offences related to real estate transactions cannot be prosecuted under the Odisha Protection of Interests of Depositors (In Financial Establishments) Act, 2011, and advocated application of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 to such cases.

A bench of Justice SK Panigrahi ruled that the OPID Act was aimed at protecting the interest of gullible depositors who were fraudulently conned into participating in a scheme with unscrupulous financial establishments involved in the business of receiving such deposits.

The bench said that the OPID Act relates to a company whose primary dealing under its memorandum or articles of association would be doing business of accepting or receiving 'deposits' and it cannot be allowed to govern the field of real estate transactions.



The HC's observation came while

hearing a case registered under

Section 6 of the OPID Act against

M/s Z-Infra Construction Private

Limited in 2018 by the EOW for dup-

ing around 600 people to the tune of

₹12 crore. The court, however, did

not interfere with the proceedings under Section 482 CrPC in so far as Limited by the EOW in 2018 for duping around 600 people to the tune of ₹12 crore

Sections 420/406/467/468/471/120-B of the IPC are concerned. "In so far as prosecution under Section 6 of the OPID Act is concerned, an offence thereunder is not made out as the OPID Act cannot be allowed to govern the field of real estate transactions as the consideration paid for the transfer of immovable property do not fall under the definition of 'deposit' as defined under Section 2(b) of the OPID Act and as a sequitur, the proceedings under

Section 6 of the OPID Act stands quashed," the HC ruled. Justice Panigrahi asserted that by no stretch of the imagination could the provision of the OPID Act be contemplated to mean that the intent of the state legislature was to bring simple transactions pertaining to the sale or transfer of immovable property within the purview of the Act.

"Section 5 of the OPID Act envisages that every financial establishment which carries on its business in the state shall mention the details pertaining to its authority to carry on such business. This provision envisages that financial establishments which carry on 'such business' shall be mandatorily required to register under the provisions of the Act," the court said.

The HC held that the relevant law, tailor-made for property-related frauds would be the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, which cat-

egorically caters to such situations. "The RERA Act was enacted to achieve three main purposes - increase investments in the real estate sector by ensuring security, fairness and transparency; protecting buyers and regulating developers,' the bench said



DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

National Office: DHFL, HDIL Towers, B-Wing, 6th & 8th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051.

Regional Office: 41, Shakespeare Sarani, 1st. Floor, Duckback House, Kolkata - 700 017

APPENDIX - IV, [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY) Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED (DHFL) under the Securifisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice (s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to rfepay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower (s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the

Name of the Borrower (s) & Co-borrower (s)	Description of the Secured Assets	Date of Demand Notice & Amount	Date of Possession
Loan App No. 01116096 Loan Code No. 00001304 Branch : Bhubaneswar Branch Srikant Das & Sujata Das	All that piece and parcel of the property being Khatian No. Flat No. 404, 4th Floor, Khata No. 359/112, Plot No. 35, Chandralok, Mouza - Atala, Bhubaneswar, Puri, Orissa, Pin - 751010.	12.05.2021 & Rs. 13,15,241.00	23.09.2021

पंजाब एण्ड सिंध बैंक

Place: Bhubanes

Date: 29.09.2021

Place: Kolkata

Punjab & Sind Bank

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Authorised Officer Punjab & Sind Bank

Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited

Where service is a way of life

ZONAL OFFICE: KOLKATA, 14/15, OLD COURT HOUSE STREET, KOLKATA - 700 001 Tel.: 033 2248 5957 / 5867, e-mail: zo.kolkata@psb.co.in

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY LAST DATE AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS: 29.10.2021 upto 5.00 P.M.

EMD Deposit Account: A/c Name - E Auction, A/c No. 05621100000890, IFS Code: PSIB0000562 In exercise of power conferred in the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security

Interest Act, 2002, the Authorized Officer has taken possession of the under-mentioned Secured Assets, in respect of credit facilities granted to the below mentioned Borrower SI. No. (hereinafter referred to as "Borrower/s"), it has been decided to sale on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 30.10.2021, through E-Auction of the properties mentioned hereunder for realization of the secured debts due to Punjab & Sind Bank amount mentioning below

SI. No.	a) Name of the Borrower b) Name of the Guarantor c) Branch Name, Ph. No. & E-mail ID d) Name & Contact No. of Authorised Officer	Description of the Property	a) Demand Notice Date b) Outstanding Balance as per Demand Notice c) Status of Possession	a) Reserve Price b) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) c) Bid Increase Amt
1.	a) Keshab Pradhan b) 1. Thubru Pradhan 2. Tankadhar Pradhan c) Chhendipada (Angul) Mob.: 80188 88828 E-mail: c1249@psb.co.in d) Sagar Kumar Behera Mob.: 90880 14691	Residential Land & single storey Building situated at Plot No. 4333, Khata No. 241/84 at Mouza - Changudia, P.S Chhendipada, Dist Angul.	a) 15.02.2018 b) Rs. 5,86,064.50 c) Symbolic Possession	a) Rs. 14.50 Lakh b) Rs. 1.45 Lakh c) Rs. 10,000.00

Date & Time of Inspection: 28.10.2021 (between 10.00 A.M. to 3.00 P.M.)

Date of E-Auction: 30.10.2021 (02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M.) with an extension of 5 Minutes for unlimited times till closure of E-aud

For Detailed Terms and Condition of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in 1. https://www.bankeauctions.com 2. https://www.psbindia.com/module/sarfaesi-list The Sale will be conducted through https://www.bankeauctions.com

DEFT HANDS

An artisan gives finishing touches to the clay idol of Goddess Durga in Old Town area of Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

PHOTO: MAUSAM NANDA

Sainik School begins admission process

Bhubaneswar: The online application process for the All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam (AISSEE) 2022 started Tuesday, an official said. According to Sainik School Bhubaneswar principal Group Captain S Dominic Rayan, candidates can apply for AISSEE 2022 only on online mode by visiting https://aissee.nta.nic.in. Online applications will be accepted till October 26, 2021 (up to 5:00 pm), he said.

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before the Notary Public, Purushottampur, Ganjam, I Bebismita Behera, D/o Brajkishor Jaly. I have married to one Jugunu Kumar Behera of Village Balia, PO- Khajipalli, District Ganjam. That after my marriage the surname has been changed from Jaly to Behera. I shall know as Bebismita Behera for all purpose.

By virtue of an affidavit before Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar, on dated 28.9.2021 I Anuj Anshuman, Son of Sri Sushil Kumar Agrawalla, resident of Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, has changed my name to Anuj Agrawal. Henceforth, I will be known as Anuj Agrawal for all purposes in future.

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Secondary Examination of Year 2011 and Roll No. 6109478 issued by CBSE where the name of my father is Bira Jagat instead of Birakishor Jagat and which is entered in my senior secondary (CBSE), Graduation, Post Graduation & B.Ed. Certificates and I have been using my father's name Birakishor Jagat in all purposes. Name of the candidate - Truptismita Jagat, Full Address- At-Gatibeda, PS-Komna, Dist.- Nuapada, Odisha,

I, Smt. Sharmistha Pattnaik, aged 33 years, W/o- Durga Prasad Dash of Harachandi Sahi near Mahiprakash Math Lane, Puri Town, Puri on 5.8.21 have shown an affidavit before the Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar to the effect that prior to my marriage I known as D/o- Prakash Chandra Pattnaik, Markandeswar Sahi, Puri Town, Puri, but after my marriage my surname has been changed to Dash though both Sharmistha Pattnaik and Sharmistha Dash is same and one person. So henceforth, I shall be known as Sharmistha Pattnaik @ Dash for all purposes.

I, Sri Harihar Baral, IRCVillage, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, do hereby inform that I lost my land lease deed-7156 last month. If anyone finds the documents kindly contact Nayapalli PoliceStation/ 0674-2360547.

Covid caseload rises in state

The number of positive cases rose from 444 Monday to 545 Tuesday

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: Odisha registered 545 new Covid-19 cases Tuesday and 74 of them are in the age group of 0-18 years, the state health department said.

The state also reported seven fresh fatalities taking the total number of coronavirus deaths to 8,187, while its caseload has gone up to 10.25 lakh. The number of active cases is

now 5.587, as 653 more recoveries took the number of cured people to 10.11 lakh, the department said in a report

Khurda district where state capital Bhubaneswar is situated, recorded 218 new cases, followed by Cuttack (73) and Balasore (47). The number of fresh Covid infections in 17 districts is in single digits, it said.



Two out of the seven new fatalities were reported from Jagatsinghapur district. The other five deaths were registered in Khurda, Cuttack, Jajpur, Kendrapara and Ganjam districts. Fifty-three other Covid-19 patients have also died so far due to comorbidities, according to the department.

STANDS AT 5.17 PER CENT

As many as The state has so 2.17 crore first far tested over doses have been administered till now and 81.57 people

1.98 crore samples for coronavirus, including 52,675 Monday with a positivity rate of have been fully 1.03 per cent

The state has so far tested over 1.98 crore samples for coronavirus. including 52,675 Monday with a positivity rate of 1.03 per cent. The overall positivity rate stands at 5.17 per cent.

As many as 2.17 crore first doses have been administered till now and 81.57 people have been fully vaccinated, the department said.

CS holds meet for school devpt

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Sept 28: The School and Mass Education (S&ME) department held a meeting with the Odisha Mineral Bearing Areas Development Corporation (OM-BADC) Tuesday and discussed transformation of schools in the mineral-bearing districts.

The meeting was attended by state Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Development Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Jena, S&ME Secretary Satyabrata Sahu and OMBADC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Uma Nanduri

In the preparatory meeting, the officials discussed allocation of budgets from the sanctioned ₹533.40 crore for different projects, with the aim to bolster the education sector in the mineral-bearing districts.

In the meeting, ₹9.60 crore was allocated for 16 schools in Angul district. Similarly ₹28.20 crore was allocated for 47 schools in Deogarh, ₹10.20 crore for 17 schools in Dhenkanal, ₹117 crore for 195 schools in Jajpur, ₹48 crore for 80 schools in Jharsuguda, ₹203 crore for 339 schools in Mayurbhanj, and ₹117 crore for 195 schools in Sundargarh.

The Chief Secretary asked the

officials to provide world-class education and exposure to the students under the school development programme. Since the smart classroom, e-library, science lab and ICT lab would be developed as part of the new project, teachers must focus on providing the best education to students along with global exposure, he said.

He informed that the school alumni will be encouraged to share their views for all development activities. "Such facilities should enable our children to compete with others at the national and global level," he added

WORLD HEART DAY 'Heart attack cases rising among the youth in state'

Dr Prasant Kr Sahoo, Director of Interventional Cardiology at Bhubaneswar Apollo Hospitals, expressed his concern over rising heart attack cases among the youth in recent times. During an interaction with Dipchand Bihari of **Orissa POST** on the eve of the World Heart Day, Dr Sahoo advised young people to follow a healthy lifestyle to avoid heart disease. Excerpts...

- What, according to you, is the reason behind the rise in heart attack cases among the youth?
- We are surprised that the younger people are suffering from heart attack in recent times. This is really an area of concern. There are various reasons for this. The first reason is stress. The level of stress has increased as everyone wants to achieve instant success, leading to increased stress level. The habit smoking is also increasing among the youth in a significant way. They are getting addicted to drugs that lead to heart attack. Today's youth are leading an unhealthy lifestyle.
- What precautions should they take?
- First and foremost they need to adopt a healthy lifestyle. This apart, if any of their family members have heart disease, they need to be cautious. There is also a need to identify whether they have high blood pressure,



diabetes or cholesterol as all these are risk factors. If you suffer from any of these diseases, you should essentially follow a healthy lifestyle. Moreover, after the age of 40, one needs to undergo cardiac checkup once a year.

- What are the early symptoms of heart attack?
- Fatigue and breathlessness are major symptoms. Some may experience chest pain and the pain radiate to arms while walking or doing any routine works. Such symptoms indicate that a person may have heart disease.

People, especially smokers and diabetics, should seek medical attention.

- What is your advice to such vouths?
- I suggest that the youth should follow a healthy lifestyle and have a good diet. They should also avoid stress and not smoke.
- What is the scenario in Odisha vis-à-vis heart disease?
- Cases of heart disease are increasing in Odisha compared to the national level. We are attending to a large number such cases here these days. Over 30 per cent of such cases are in the 20 and 40 age group.
- Do we have better facilities in Odisha for the treatment?
- Yes, we have improved facilities in the state both in government and private sectors. They don't need to go outside the state for the treatment. We have good infrastructure and doctors here.



A meeting, chaired by Revenue Divisional Commissioner (Central) Anil Kumar Samal, in progress at CMC conference hall in Cuttack, Tuesday

AMRI Hospitals launches Cardiac Support Group

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: AMRI Hospitals-Bhubaneswar launched a first-of-its-kind patient engagement forum in the form of a Cardiac Support Group in the region Tuesday. This group will provide information and create a network for those needing cardiac treatment, besides raising awareness on maintaining a healthy heart.

The hospital group has been providing a wide range of treatment protocols and offering exemplary clinical excellence backed by advanced technologies to patients not just from Odisha, but also from other states and neighbouring countries.

"Heart diseases can strike anybody, any time. It is recommended to get your cholesterol checked every five vears, starting at the age of 20". said JK Padhi, Director of Cardiology

Department at the hospital.

CP lauds Madhyam for helping women

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: The Commissioner of Police (CP), Saumendra Priyadarshi Tuesday praised Madhyam, the women's support center functioning from the office premises of DCPs in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, for its help to the twin city police in providing justice to women who are victims of domestic and forms of violence.

Lauding the services rendered by these centers, Priyadarshi said, "The Commissionerate Police successfully dealt with many domestic violence cases with the help of the Madhyam, which is a part of Institute for Social Development (ISD), as victims of domestic violence, dowry and non-dowry torture need counseling. Madhyam has been successfully resolving such cases through in twin city and

today it completed seven years.' Priyadarshi also released a special report highlighting the volume of cases referred to Madhyam and number of cases it resolved successfully through counseling. As per the report, as many as 4,103 women victims approached the counseling centers seeking help to resolve various family disputes. Madhyam accepted 3,114 complaints for counseling during the period.

DENV-2 EXPLAINED

What you should know about dangerous dengue strain

With monsoon nearing its end, the emergence of a potent dengue virus is rattling Odisha, with close to 2,000 cases recorded in Bhubaneswar alone by the end of August, 2021. The Union government, earlier this month, had instructed as many as 11 states reporting DENV-2 infections to keep in place countermeasures such as timely detection of the infected, issuance of helpline numbers, awareness drives, and stocking up adequate testing kits and medicines. With the festive season ahead, the spread of DENV-2 amidst the prevailing Covid-19 may become a cauldron of chaos for health officials as well as the commoners, it is feared

What Is DENV-2?

It is one of the four dengue virus serotypes i.e. DENV-1, DENV-2. DENV-3, and DENV-4, which implies that a person can be attacked by dengue up to four times. The virus is transmitted by female Aedes aegypti also known as Yellow Fever Mosquitoes, and Aedes albopictus, commonly called as Asian Tiger mosquitoes

Among the four serotypes, DENV-2 is the most dangerous as it can escalate an acute flu-like illness up to severe dengue. Apart from fever, other typical dengue symptoms can decrease the patient's chances of survival

States reporting DENV-2:

According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, these are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh,



Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana **Diagnosis**

Virological and serological tests (RT-PCR) on the samples collected from suspected patients in the first week of illness can reveal the pres ence of the infection.

Treatment

Unfortunately, apart from symptomatic treatment, there has not been any specific treatment for dengue so far. WHO prescribes maintaining a healthy body fluid volume ratio as an effective treatment for severe dengue. Global Burden

As per World Health Organization data, dengue infects as many as 390 million individuals every year. Although 19 countries face the infection, 70 per cent of the burden is shared by Asia.

Dengue in Odisha In 2021, Bhubaneswar registered more than 2,300 dengue cases, surpassing the total tally of the entire state of the previous year. The

The symptoms have been listed by the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme for two kinds of infection i.e. dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic fever.

Dengue fever

Abrupt onset of high fever Severe frontal headache

Eye, muscle and joint pain Loss of appetite and sense of taste

Rash over chest Nausea and vomiting

Hemorrhagic fever

Symptoms similar to dengue fever Severe and continuous stomach pain

Pale, cold, or clammy skin Bleeding from nose and frequent

Dryness in mouth and thirst Breathing difficulty

ization (WHO), flu-like symp

City, which accounted for more than 90% of the state's cases this year, saw spread of the disease in

each ward here with the civic authority miserably failing to control its spread amidst the pandemic.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488,

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

IIT, Hyd denies report on Kharasrota water project



POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Sept 28: The mega drinking water project on the Kharasrota river in this district was pushed into a bigger controversy after IIT, Hyderabad refused to have given any report on environmental and social impact of the project, a report said.

The matter came to the fore after Pratap Chandra Mohanty, a resident of Talasanga village under Marshaghai block sought details from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad under the Right to Information Act, August 27.

The information available under RTI says that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has not given any report on the environmental and social impact of the project. Sayeed Ali Sabir, deputy registrar of IIT, Hyderabad in an e-mail addressed to Mohanty denied IIT had

given any report on the project. The deputy registrar said IIT has not received any letter from Odisha government seeking a survey on the project. Earlier, Professor Dr Sashidhar of IIT whom the district administration had claimed

nformation available under RTI says that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has not given any report on the

he water lifting point on Kharasrota river is being constructed on a land owned by an individual of Rajkanika block

environmental and social

impact of the project. Sayeed

Pratap Chandra Mohanty, a

resident of Talasan, denied it

Ali Sabir, deputy registrar of IIT,

to have given the report had denied to have visited the project site. In the e-mail. Dr Sashidhar also denied sending any other person in his place to the project site for a survey.

Dr Sashidhar only admitted to have submitted a report by using secondary data on environmental and social impact of the project. He even denied having made any survey on the environmental and social impact of the project on Bhitarkanika National Park.

However, the district administration is bent on implementing The water lifting point on Kharasrota river at Barunadiha lies in the eco-sensitive zone of Bhitarkanika while the project site is at Nuahaat in Bhadrak district.

The district administration is laying stress on implementation of the project on the basis of the said IIT report. Even Anu Garg, the then Principal Secretary of Water Resources department had filed an affidavit in the National Green Tribunal on the basis of the

Khitish Kumar Singh, educationist, Bhuban Mohan Jena, president of a social outfit Jan Adhikar Abhiyan, Sanjay Kumar Behura, social activist, Bidhan Das, secretary of Kharasrota Nadi Banchao Sangram Samiti said that the IIT report which the district administration claims to have given clearance for the project is questionable. They smelled a rat in implementation of the project which is being built with government assistance. They warned not to tolerate any wrongdoing while exploring for legal recourse against the project.

Notably, the water tank and treatment plant of the mega drinking water project is being constructed at Nuahaat under Chandbali block in Bhadrak district. The project will supply drinking water to residents of four blocks and 3 townships in Bhadrak district.

The water lifting point on Kharasrota river is being constructed on a land owned by an individual at Barunadiha under Rajkanika block in Kendrapara district. The administration has filed two cases against 800 persons representing Kharasrota Nadi Banchao Sangram Samiti while 24 persons have been jailed in this regard.

FOLK CHARM



Artistes performing at a competition for Mukhyamantri Lokakala Trophy at Koshala Kalamandal ground in Bolangir, Tuesday

red-handed by Vig

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Sept 28: Bolangir district agriculture officer (DAO) was caught red-handed while taking illegal gratification from a person Tuesday. Officers

of the Vigilance department caught the officer Himanshu Sekhar Padhi while he was taking ₹7,000 from the complainant.

According to sources.

Durjyodhan Barik, a resident of Pandakital village, owns a fertiliser shop. He is entitled to get a point of sale (POS) machine free of cost to sell fertiliser at his shop. For this, he had met Padhi. To issue a machine for his shop, the latter had demanded ₹7,000 as bribe.

Barik had sought the intervention of the Vigilance department in this connection. Subsequently, a plan was chalked out. As per the plan, Barik gave Padhi the chemical-laced currency notes at the latter's office and the Vigilance sleuths caught him red-handed. Padhi is learnt to have denied the allegations lev-

Following this, separate Vigilance teams carried out simultaneous raids on his properties at three places in Bolangir and Khurda districts. The exact value of his movable and immovable properties is yet to be ascertained as the raids are underway.

TELUGU SIGNAGES APPEAR IN KOTIA

PNN & AGENCIES

Koraput, Sept 28: Telugu signages have cropped up in the disputed Kotia panchayat area claimed by both Odisha and Andhra Pradesh as the interstate boundary dispute continued to simmer. The incident is the latest among a series of happenings in the border re-

gion in the last few months. "Access to three-four villages in Kotia got cut off due to heavy rain Monday under the impact of cyclone Gulab. Anti-social elements took advantage of the situation and crossed over to this side, putting up two signboards in Telugu,'

Koraput District Collector Abdaal Akhtar said. "A team has been sent to the spot Tuesday and it will submit a report. Our goal in Kotia is very clear: all development work will continue. People of Kotia are fully cooperating with the Odisha government and getting benefits of the

BJD leader Debi Mishra said Tuesday that the panchayat election was null and void, and did not hold any legal standing.

Bolangir DAO caught ₹25L fine on jewellers for tax evasion

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Sept 28: Acting on a tip-off, commercial tax (CT) and goods and service tax (GST) departments slapped a fine of ₹25.27 lakh on two Mumbaibased jewellers here on charge of evasion of GST, Tuesday.

The team led by their deputy

commissioner Deba Kalyan Behera raided an apartment at Jaura Sahi under Bada Bazaar police limits in Silk City and seized gold ornaments worth 3kg from the two jewellers visiting the city.

During interrogation, the traders failed to produce papers regarding the gold ornaments. The ornaments were verified and later the team slapped a fine of ₹25,26,958 on them. The ornaments were returned to the jewellers after they paid the necessary fine. Preliminary inquiries suggested the jewellers had brought the ornaments from Mumbai by not paying GST.

रजिस्टी सं: डी. एल.-33004/99

REGD. NO. D. L.-33004/99 भारत 🖁 राजुपत्रा The Gazette of India

सी.जी.डी.एल.-अ.-17082021-229084 CG-DL-E-17082021-229084

असाधारण **EXTRAORDINARY**

भाग II- खण्ड ३ - उप-खण्ड (ii) PART II - Section ३ - Sub-section (ii) प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY नई दिल्ली, मंगलवार, अगस्त 17, 2021/श्रावण 26, 1943

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021/SHRAVANA 26, 1943

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 17th August, 2021 S.O. 3355(E).--In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 A of the National

being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Km. 123.21 to Km. 238.2 (O/o Tahasildar, Raighar) in the district of NABARANGPUR in the state of ODISHA, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land. Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this

Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after

notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under subsection(I) of section 3C of the said Act. Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Tahasildar cum Land Acquisition

Officer ,Raighar in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall

be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Km. 123.21 to Km. 238.2 (O/o Tahasildar, Raighar) in the district of NABARANGPUR

District : NABARANGPUR State : ODISHA

SI.No.	Survey/ Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Local Unit)	Area (in Hectare)
Taluk:	Raighar				
Village	: Biripur				
1	390	Government	Bada Jungle	3.5070000(Hectare)	3.5070000
2	391	Government	Bada Jungle	1.3765000(Hectare)	1.3765000
3	392	Government	Bada Jungle	0.2346000(Hectare)	0.2346000
Village	Kaskonga				
1	1	Government	Patra jungle	1.1474000(Hectare)	1.1474000
2	134	Government	Nala	0.0005000(Hectare)	0.0005000
3	29	Government	Patita	0.2964000(Hectare)	0.2964000
4	30	Private	Dangar-2	0.1839000(Hectare)	0.1839000
5	31	Government	Basti	0.0157000(Hectare)	0.0157000
6	32	Government	Basti	0.0080000(Hectare)	0.0080000
7	33	Government	Patita	0.0118000(Hectare)	0.0118000
3	34	Government	Patita	0.0143000(Hectare)	0.0143000
9	35	Government	Rasta	0.0332000(Hectare)	0.0332000
10	38	Private	Dangar-1	0.0405000(Hectare)	0.0405000
11	39	Government	Basti	0.0108000(Hectare)	0.0108000
12	40	Government	Basti	0.0086000(Hectare)	0.0086000
13	41	Government	Basti	0.1007000(Hectare)	0.1007000
14	42	Government	Basti	0.0016000(Hectare)	0.0016000
15	43	Private	Dangar-1	0.0001000(Hectare)	0.0001000
16	45	Government	Patita	0.0821000(Hectare)	0.0821000
17	48	Government	Hata Padda	0.3526000(Hectare)	0.3526000
S	49	Government	Basti	0.0007000(Hectare)	0.0007000
19	50	Government	Gochara	1.5410000(Hectare)	1.5410000
20	52	Private	Dhana-3	0.0109000(Hectare)	0.0109000
21	53	Private	Dhana-2	0.0011000(Hectare)	0.0109000
22	69	Private	Dhana-2	0.2107000(Hectare)	0.2107000
23	70	Private	Dhana-3	0.1928000(Hectare)	0.1928000
24	72	Private	Dhana-2	0.3367000(Hectare)	03367000
25	74	Private	Dhana/3	0.2212000(Hectare)	0.2212000
26	77	Government	Patita	0.0726000(Hectare)	0.0726000
27	78	Private	Dhana/3	0.1181000(Hectare)	0.1181000
28	79	Private	Dhana/2	0.0039000(Hectare)	0.0039000
29	80	Private	Dhana/2	0.5282000(Hectare)	0.52S2000
30	81	Private	Dhana tini	0.278 IOOO(Hectare)	0.2781000
31	96	Government	Patra Jungle	0.1006000(Hectare)	0.1006000
Village		Government	ratia Juligie	0.1000000(nectare)	0.1000000
1	12	Private	Dangara/2	0.686 IOOO(Hectare)	0.6861000
2	13	Private	Dangara/2	0.0043000(Hectare)	0.0043000
3	14	Private	Dhana/3		
4	15	/ 40 12 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Patra Jungle	0.6975000(Hectare	0.6975000 1.7160000
4 Village		Government	ratra Jungie	1.7160000(Hectare)	1.7 160000
rillage	: Sargiuda 105	Government	Dotro Junglo	0.5254000(Hectare)	0.5254000
			Patra Jungle		
2	106	Private	Dhana/3	0.2199000(Hectare)	0.2199000
3	107	Private	Dhana/3	0.2467000(Hectare)	0.2467000
4	142	Private	Dhana/3	0.0190000(Hectare)	0.0190000
5	143	Private	Dhana-2	0.1540000(Hectare)	0.1540000
3	144	Private	Dhana/3	0.0974000(Hectare)	0.0974000
			Total	15.4092	15.4092

[F. No. NHAI/11013/LA/PIU-Sambalpur, Odisha/Newly Proposed/Notif.(3a)/Koraput/3A3] RAJESH GUPTA, Director



Two antique stone sculptures of Lord Buddha were recovered from Baitarani riverbed near Mudhipada village under Bhandaripokhari in Bhadrak district

Youth rescued from jaws of python

POST NEWS NETWORK

Anandapur, Sept 28: A youth was rescued from the jaws of a huge python by Tulasipur villagers under Anandapur police limits in Keonjhar district Tuesday.

According to sources, Gadu Majhi, the victim, was grazing cattle on the bank of the Kusei river. A python attacked him taking him by surprise. The huge reptile first caught his legs and then tried to



strangulate him by coiling its tail around his neck before dragging him to the river.

A frightened Gadu then cried

frantically for help. Hearing his cries, villagers rushed to the river bank only to see Gadu caught in the coils of the reptile in the middle of the river.

The villagers however managed to rescue Gadu. He was unconscious at the time of his res-

development work," he said. cue. The villagers immediately rushed him to a nearby government hospital. His condition is stated to be stable now.

OVER 50 PATIENTS TURN UP AT THE FREE OF COST CT SCAN FACILITY ON ANY GIVEN DAY

INCE THE MACHINE IS OUT OF SINCE THE MACHINE IS SOME ORDER, PATIENTS HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO VISIT PRIVATE

ONE PVT HOSPITAL ALLEGEDLY GIVES COMMISSIONS TO VIMSAR DOCTORS FOR SENDING PATIENTS

tioning the name of the particular private hospital in the town.

After coming to know about the CT scan machine lying defunct, the family members didn't want to take risk and took their patient to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. His health condition is stated to be better now.

Swami Agnivesh Bichar Manch has already taken the matter up with director of VIMSAR Prof Lalit Meher. The outfit proposed that either the

state health department should procure a machine for VIMSAR or VIM-SAR should buy it from its own fund. The outfit also drew the attention of the Chief Minister, health minister and secretary of the Health department to the situation.

When contacted, the director of VIMSAR said the CT scan machine is not working. Even though it was repaired a few days ago, it has developed faults once again. The company that installed the machine has already been asked to repair it.

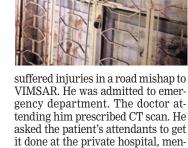
The company is learnt to have made an agreement with VIMSAR to repair the machine whenever required. "One month has passed since the machine went out of order. But the company has not repaired the machine as yet. In such case, the VIMSAR authorities can take legal action against the company on the basis of the agreement. But it is vet to be understood why no action has so far been taken against the supplier," asked some local people.



and ₹5,000. There is only one private hospital in Burla town. According to some town dwellers, the private hospital allegedly gives commissions to doctors at VIMSAR for sending patients to it. A few days back, a person of Putiapali village had to rush his nephew who

visit the private hospitals or clinics,

coughing up something between ₹1,500





A smile acts upon the difficulties as the sun upon the clouds - it disperses them.

THE MOTHER



End of an Era

he positive decision of Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel not to seek another term signals the end of an era. The fractured mandate Germans gave Sunday, 26 September to find her replacement shows an uncertain future and an unpredictable politics that lie in store for the country. The political instability that could grip Germany, as is being predicted by analysts, in the wake of the election results is likely to cast a shadow on the leadership role in Europe that Merkel's Germany has played during the past decade of her 16-yearlong tenure. She proved that under her administration, Germany did become the leading voice of the European Union (EU).

According to official results announced so far, the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) has secured 25.7 per cent votes against the Christian Democratic Union's (CDU) 24.1 per cent, the Green Party's 14.8 per cent, the pro-business Free Democrats' (FDP) 11.5 per cent and the ultra-right Alternative for Germany's (AfD) 10.3 per cent. This is the CDU's worst performance in its history. The Green Party has managed to cash in on the people's sentiments for better climate change management. Now, it, along with the FDP will together play kingmakers' role as no government can be formed without their support, unless the SPD and CDU join hands again as they have been ruling the country. However, the alliance between the SPD and CDU is very unlikely as they have indicated before the polls that they want change. The ultra-right AfD created some consternation for its rise in recent times, but this time it has slipped from its previous tally of nearly 13 per cent votes, bringing some relief to those who condemn its rightist ideology. No party in Germany wants to work with it. The right losing popular support and the centre-left gaining ground is also an indication of changes taking place globally.

The election results have caused such uncertainty for government formation that it seems it would take weeks of hard bargaining before it would become clear which coalition would rule the country. One thing that looks certain is that the duopoly of SPD and CDU is going to end and instead a three-party rule is set to be the new order. The uncertainty of the coming weeks will cause difficulties for Europe as a whole as Germany is the biggest democracy of the continent that has taken a lead under Chancellor Merkel in the fight against COVID-19. Germany's economy is

the strongest among European countries.

Merkel leaves behind a legacy of politics of pragmatism and compromise. Her style of functioning was averse to innovations and change. For this she has coined the German expression which is a replica in a different context of the clarion call of former US President Barack Obama - "Yes, We can". Confronted with the refugee crisis, she deviated from her European allies and opened the country's doors to refugees with the famous expression - "We can manage". Managing the situations at hand has been the legacy she is handing over to her successor. So much so that the SPD's front-runner Olaf Scholz has gone to the voters as her finance minister in the coalition government promising his work would be to go beyond what Merkel has achieved, instead of changing her agenda, though his party is ideologically opposed to hers. This shows the maturity of democratic values of that country. It should never be blaming and undoing of the past that should be the sole agenda of a democratic government. To enlarge and build on the existing policies and programs is the smart way forward. Unfortunately, we do not see such democratic values in a country like India.

The stability provided by Merkel is likely to be under severe strain once the new government is installed. The CDU has ruled Germany for 52 of the 72 post-war years with the help of a smaller party. But this time around, as was clear during the campaign, it would be tough to maintain that tradition. For, Armin Laschet, the candidate of Merkel's Christian Democrats, who was seen as the front-runner, made a series of blunders that virtually queered the pitch for him and his party. On the other hand, Olaf Scholz cultivated the image of a steady hand which would continue the work done by Merkel. This eventually helped the SPD make a spectacular comeback. The Greens initially showed greater promise, but finally belied the expectations, though its performance is the best ever. The FDP with a share of 11.5 per cent has already announced it would play a key role in government formation. The fractured mandate has created a situation where both the SPD and CDU are vving with each other to seek the support of the Green Party and the FDP. Traditionally the Green Party is a natural partner of the SPD and the FDP closes ranks with the CDU. But both have declared they may change their usual tactic, meaning they may be supporting the party they are normally opposed to. What is even funnier is that the two small parties have indicated they would talk to themselves first before spelling out their options to either of the two big parties.

The result is an unprecedented situation where no one knows who talks with whom on whose invitation and about what. One thing that is clear is that whoever ends up donning the mantle of Chancellor might have to devote more time to keep the allies in good humour than concentrate on ensuring Germany's leadership in Europe. With France getting ready for next year's Presidential polls and the UK mired in Brexit chaos, the leadership of European democracies may move south to Draghi of Italy.

WISDOM CORNER

Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind.

In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it

It is better to be hated for what you are than to be loved for what

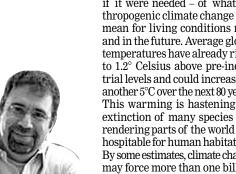
WORDS**WORTH**

Perverb

he idea behind perverbs developed in the French experimental literary group Oulipo (Ouvrir de Littérature Potentielle), which applies various algorithmic constraints to creating playful and whimsical works of literature. One example is a book of ten sonnets with the 14 lines cut into strips so that any line can be combined with any other to make 100,000 billion new ones. Another is the ancient form called the lipogram - a text written without using a letter of the alphabet - such as La Disparition, a Frenchlanguage novel by George Perec, a member of the group, which omits the letter e throughout. Another member of Oulipo was the American Harry Matthews, who popularised perverbs in his Selected Declarations of Dependence in 1977. You create one by snapping a couple of existing proverbs in half and joining the end of one to the beginning of the other: A rolling stone gets the worm A bird in the hand waits for no man. Don't count your chickens before you can walk, The devil takes the sailor's delight, and The road to Hell wasn't paved in a day. The trick has since gained a small but respectable niche among aficionados of wordplay. Matthews, in an article in The Paris Review in Spring 2007, credits the invention of the name to Maxine Groffsky. It's a blend or portmanteau from perverted proverb. The adjective also occasionally appears: The internet may also be a good way to generate many other sorts of wordplay, in particular what Harry Mathews calls perverbs, the combining of two proverbs into one. Combining two news headlines or two disparate celebrities would also result in perverbial nonsense: "Putin to testify at molestation trial of imprisoned oil tycoon Michael Jackson' (The Guardian, 14 April 2005).

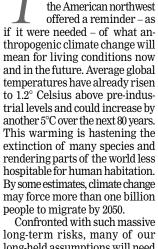
FOCUS SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMICS & CLIMATE



Daron Acemoglu

EXISTING APPROACHES IN ECONOMICS STILL DO **NOT PROVIDE THE RIGHT FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGING THE PROBLEMS THAT WILL CONFRONT US OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DECADES**



√his summer's record-

breaking heat wave in

long-held assumptions will need to be revised, and the economics discipline is no exception. If we are going to avoid misguided policy pathways such as those that would abandon economic growth completely (even though billions of people around the world are still in poverty), we need to adapt mainstream economics to new climate realities. True, the discipline has long recognised the importance of environmental issues. . William D. Nordhaus, the recipient of the 2018 Nobel prize in economic sciences, introduced the costs of greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions into standard economicgrowth models in 1991, and this work has shaped how economists and many policymakers think about climate change.

But existing approaches in economics still do not provide the right framework for managing the problems that will confront us over the next several decades. As with most early works, Nordhaus' seminal contribution can be improved in many ways. For example, his framework does not recognise the endogeneity of technology, and its assumptions about the future costs of climate change do not reflect the severity of the problem.

When we account for endogenous technology, we find that the transition to cleaner energy is much more important than simply reducing energy consumption, and that technological interventions need to be redirected far more aggressively than they have been. Similarly, when one incorporates more realistic as-



Although the economics discipline has evolved over time to acknowledge environmental risks and costs, it has yet to rise to the challenge of climate change. A problem as massive as this one will require a fundamental reconsideration of some of the field's most deeply held assumptions

sumptions about the costs of global warming - including the possibility of climate tipping points one's conclusions about how to approach the problem tend to change substantially. But these improvements alone will not suffice. Economics will need to undergo even deeper changes, for at least two reasons. The first concerns the bedrock of most dynamic economic analysis: the utility function, which represents the trade-off between current and future consumption. This device helps us determine how much consumption a decision-maker should be willing to sacrifice today to realise more value at some point in the future. It has proved its uses in many domains of analysis: individual consumption, investment decisions, public spending, innovation, tax policy, and more.

The key question for a climate policy utility function is: How much current consumption do we need to sacrifice to avoid the damage that global warming will cause in the future? The answer will depend on how we approach the problem of discounting. When thinking about individual or corporate decisions whose consequences will play out within the next decade or so, it makes sense to start from the premise that one dollar will be less valuable 10 years from now than it is today. But when applied to decisions whose effects will be felt 100 years from now, this kind of discounting has some unpleasant implications.

Suppose we apply a discount rate of 5 per cent, which is common in analyses of individual or corporate decision-making and implies that a dollar a year from now is worth 95 cents today. But this discount rate would also mean that a dollar 100 years from now is worth only about half a cent and that a dollar 200 years from now is worth about 0.003 cents. At this rate, we should sacrifice one dollar today only if it will yield benefits equivalent to about \$200 a century from now - a benefit-cost analysis that lends itself to climate inaction in the present.

Economists have recognised this inconvenient implication of discounting for climate policy at least since the 2006 Stern Review. In that report, Nicholas Stern and his colleagues dispensed with the hard discounting approach and thus arrived at policy recommendations that were more aggressive than those supported by the economic consensus at the time. But because the Review did not offer a philosophical justification for its chosen method, it was criticised by other economists, including Nordhaus.

Still, there is a plausible economic (and philosophical) case to be made for why future essential public goods should be valued differently than private goods or other types of public consumption. Reconciling these distinctions with other aspects of our economic models, not least those dealing with risk and uncertainty,

is an urgent task for the economics profession. After all, we also need a proper framework for evaluating the role of geoengineering in combating climate change. Many promi nent voices, including Bill Gates (in his new book) and the inventor/venture capitalist Nathan Myhrvold, are increasingly calling for such an approach. But schemes like solar radiation (whereby sulfates or calcium carbonate dust would be sprayed into the atmosphere to block sunrays) would seem to come with nontrivial catastrophic risks of their own. Does it make sense to combat one existential risk with another? I don't think so, but we must come up with a more systematic way to evaluate such questions.

The second area that is due for a fundamental rethink is the theory of optimal economic policy Here, the standard approach harks back to the seminal work of Dutch economist Jan Tinbergen, who articulated a powerful principle. The best way to neutralise a market failure or negative externality, according to Tinbergen, is with a policy instrument designed specifically for that purpose (which implies that an intervention that is not focused on a well-defined problem may not be justified).

If preventing catastrophic climate change requires a rapid transition to cleaner technologies, a carbon tax must be complemented with subsidies or other incentives to drive innovation and deployment in the right direction. In fact, we may also need to develop a more holistic assessment of economic policy in general.

The climate crisis demands that we consider more radical ideas. If we can reach a consensus on the need for massive investments in the clean-energy transition, perhaps we can also agree to orient that spending around the creation of good jobs. That may well violate the Tinbergen principle. But if it helps to prevent the deepening of social, economic. and political fault lines that have appeared in many Western advanced economies, it will have been well worth it.

> The writer is Professor of Economics at MIT. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

IN JEST THIS

Four-day workweek could benefit employees



Melvin Durai

THERE'S AN OLD **SAYING THAT WORK EXPANDS TO FILL THE TIME ALLOTTED TO IT**

olt, a San Francisco-based financial technology company, announced recently that it would be switching to a four-day workweek.

"It's all about keeping standards of execution high, while still putting the team's health and wellbeing first," Bolt CEO Ryan Breslow told FastCompany.com.

Meanwhile, TAC Security, a cybersecurity firm that's also headquartered in San Francisco, revealed that it has been closing its Mumbai office Fridays for the past seven months to implement a fourday workweek.

"It's all about keeping standards of execution high, while still putting the team's health and wellbeing first," TAC Security's founder and CEO Trishneet Arora said in a press release.

That's the problem with the four-day workweek—the marketing department doesn't have enough time to come up with orig-

inal quotes for the CEO. The marketing team probably worked on the press release

Thursday afternoon. Marketing assistant: "The release is done, boss.'

Marketing director: "Did you get a good quote for the CEO?" Assistant: "Yes, I did. Thank God it's Thursday. And thank God for copy-and-paste.

Both CEOs, Breslow and Arora, seem to believe that they can keep their "standards of execution high" while cutting the work week to four days. Is this really possible?

Well, apparently it is, especially if you ask people in Iceland, where trials of a four-day workweek have been "overwhelmingly successful," according to BBC News. Just google "Iceland workers" and you will see lots of smiling workers. Their favourite question: "Is it Thursday yet?'

Actually, a four-day workweek does not necessarily mean a Monday-to-Thursday workweek. It depends on the type of work that's being done. The "Closed on Fridays" sign may be appropriate in many workplaces, but probably not at the hospital.

At Bolt, workers who serve customers directly will have to arrange their schedules to ensure that there's always someone to help customers. The company has suggested that employees use this outof-office message: "I'm out of the office today because Bolt is experimenting with a four-day workweek. If this is an emergency and you need to reach me urgently, just look for me at the nearest beach!"

Actually, the out-of-office message that they want employees to share is this: "I'm out of the office today because we're working consciously here at Bolt and are currently experimenting with a fourday workweek. I'll be back in touch with you [Monday].'

Yes, they're "working consciously" at Bolt. As many studies have shown, working consciously makes you a lot more productive than working unconsciously.

There's an old saying that work expands to fill the time allotted to it. If you have five days to complete a project, you'll probably take five days, but if you have four days, you'll get it done sooner by "working consciously." You'll spend less time on unproductive tasks such as visiting your coworker's cubicle to discuss the IPL (Indian Premier League), EPL (English

Premier League) or BPL (Bangalore Pokémon League).

In Iceland, where the trials of a four-day workweek took place between 2015 and 2019, with more than 2,500 workers participating, productivity stayed the same or improved in a majority of workplaces, according to researchers. Instead of working 40 hours per week, the workers received the same pay for 35 or 36 hours, which they completed in four days, instead of five.

The benefits to the Icelandic workers included feeling less stressed and having more time for their families, hobbies and household chores. At TAC Security, the four-day workweek has allowed a lot of employees to sign up for 'various courses and activities,' according to the press release.

If I were offered a four-day workweek, this is how I'd answer questions about the extra day off: Will you be taking any courses? Of course. At least three courses at Taj Palace restaurant.

What activities will you be participating in? Lots of activities: playing sports, watching sports, discussing sports.

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, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Boost tourism

Sir, Tourism is one of the hardest hit sectors by the COVID-19 pandemic as no country has escaped the decimation of its tourism sector. Now, many countries are reopening their borders for international travel, however the cost of travel has increased manifold. To multiply the problems of the most affected industry, the government introduced a 5 per cent TCS (tax collected at source) on overseas tour packages with effect from January 10, 2020. Further a 5 per cent GST is charged on tour packages, resulting in a major chunk of travel cost retained by the government. To boost tourism, the government should focus on approval of India's vaccine recognition for foreign travel and constitute a committee to review reduction of TCS and GST.

Sagar Gambhir, LUDHIANA

Game-changer

Sir, The launch of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission by Prime Minister Narendra Modi could be a game-changer. Under the mission, every Indian citizen can generate a health ID having a medical history and records. Personal health records can be linked to the ID and viewed with the help of a mobile application. The new health mission envisages a Universal Health Interface on the lines of UPI for seamless access to healthcare. The scheme was an nounced by Modi August 15 last year and has been operational in six Union Territories since then on a pilot mode.

> NJ Ravi Chander, BANGALORE

Right ruling

Sir, The Supreme Court has rightly overruled the Madras High Court direction to the Centre to seek SC approval for implementing the EWS quota. The Bill on EWS quota has been passed by both the Houses of the Parliament followed by Presidential assent. The direction from the Madras High Court had come while disposing of a contempt petition of the DMK on OBC reservation. A bench of Supreme Court Justices DY Chandrachud and BV Nagarathna has termed that the HC order was 'unnecessary' and was 'alien' to the subject matter it was adjudicating upon. The SC has categorically mentioned that the HC was not passing the order on merit of the case and also not expressing any view on reservation policy.

KV Seetharamaiah, HASSAN

Contractors use idle cards for MGNREGS work Biju Setu delayed; locals suffer

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Sept 28: Given the difficulties due to lockdowns and shut downs, the government is taking every step to ensure work to rural people under MGNREGS. However, scamsters have allegedly grabbed job cards of idle beneficiaries and used them in projects in Balasore. The beneficiaries are sitting idle, a report said.

On the other hand, the administration is making initiatives to create scope of more workdays for rural people. Reports said, the administration has set a target to create 39 lakh workdays in 2020-21 while in the current year the target is 61.50 lakh workdays.

Till date, only 29 per cent of the target has been met. Such slow pace of work stands in sharp contrast with the government's emphasis on expediting MGNREGS projects.

In many cases, job cards have been prepared in the names of senior citizens, differently abled and kin of government servants. Their names are put in muster rolls while carrying out projects.

It was learnt that job cards have



been issued to 3,78, 761 families while the per cent of active job cards is less than 50 per cent in the district. For years together, most of the job cards remain idle.

The administration and different departments have made strategies to broaden the scope of the rural job scheme through small projects vermin compost making, multipurpose garden, grass carpeting, farm ponds and compost ponds.

It was also seen that some job card holders are not interested to work under MGNREGS. This provided an opportunity to un-

scrupulous contractors, engineers panchayat representatives and vendors to use idle job cards while doing work with machines. This is how they make their own benefits, it was alleged.

In some cases too, wages have been misappropriated in the names of labourers from other areas.

Various quarters have demanded a high level probe into such irregularities which have marred

successful execution of MGNREGS. There is a need for awareness drive to make people aware against such frauds and raise their voice.

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Till date, only 29 per cent of the target has been met. This slow pace of work stands in sharp contrast with the government's emphasis on expediting MGNREGS projects

n many cases, job cards have been prepared in the name of senior people, differently abled and kin of government servants. Their names are enrolled in muster rolls while carrying out projects

When contacted, PD, Rabindra Kumar Sahu said wherever such allegations are received, investigations are carried out. The administration has been carrying out audits of job card holders. If someone does such frauds and violates guidelines, there is a provision of penalty and action against them, he added.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayagarh, Sept 28: Five years have passed since construction of a bridge under the Biju Setu Yojana at Rayat Odasara under Dasapalla block in Nayagarh district. But it is nowhere near completion, leaving thousands of people in the locality to suffer commuting woes. They have to wade through the waters of Kuaria river over years and their problems get complicated in the monsoon.

Though locals have been drawing attention of the administration, the rural development department and the Chief Minister for quick completion of the bridge, nothing is being done in this regard, it was alleged.

Reports said, Khurda-Bolangir NH-57 passes through Rayat Odasara. The ground-breaking ceremony of the bridge project was done in 2016 at a cost of ₹311.92 lakh. Its work was started May 11, 2016 and supposed to be completed in August 10, 2017. The project has already passed the deadline, but the contractor has been delaying the work, locals said.

"We have been suffering in monsoon. We are eagerly waiting for



early completion of the bridge. The contractor was given 15 more months to complete the work after its deadline expired. Still, he is doing the work at a snail's pace. Given the slow pace, the project may not be completed in next 15 years," fumed Bikash Pradhan, a local resident.

He also pointed out that the area is a tribal-dominated one and hence the contractor does not care for its early completion.

According to reports, seven bridges under the Biju Setu Yojana have been sanctioned for Dasapalla Assembly constituency for which ₹3025.09 lakh has been sanctioned.

The work on four bridges at a cost of₹2079.30 lakh has been completed while the work of three bridges at Kumbhari Khani and Sariguda is

Amaresh Nayak, executive engineer of the rural development division-II explained that after he joined this division, the work of these projects has been expedited.

"The contractor of the said project has stopped the bridge work. His contract was to be cancelled. However, he has started the work after a lot of persuasion. By March, 2022, the project work of Kumbira Khani and Siriganda will be completed," he added.

Miscreant kills woman with axe, husband critical

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sundargarh, Sept 28: A woman was killed while her husband sustained grievous injuries after a miscreant attacked them with an axe over suspected past enmity late Sunday night while both were sleeping in their house at Junadihi under Sadar police limits in Sundargarh

The deceased was identified as Bachi Oram and her husband as Madhu, police said. The couple was asleep at their home when a miscreant entered inside and hacked them with an axe.

Bachi succumbed to her injuries on the spot while neighbours admitted Madhu to the Sundargarh district headquarters hospital.

Subsequently, the injured was shifted to VIMSAR in Burla after his condition deteriorated

SORE OVER WATER LOGGING



Students, miffed over water logging on premises of Shailendra Narayan College in Rajkanika block of Kendrapara, stage protests оррното

Woman dies, one hurt in wall collapse

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkanal, Sept 28: A woman died and her daughter-in-law was critically injured after a portion of a wall of their house collapsed on them at Tarajanga village under Kankadahada block in Dhenkanal district late Monday night. The identities of the deceased and

the injured woman were yet to be ascertained.

According to sources, this was a thatched house will all its walls



being rain-soaked. After having dinner, they went to sleep. In the

night, a portion of the wall caved in, trapping the women. The mud walls had weakened due to incessant rainfall under the impact of cy-

clonic storm Gulah. On being informed, police reached the spot, recovered the body and sent it for post mortem. They also rescued the deceased's daughter-in-law, who was critically injured and rushed her to a nearby government hospital. The police have launched an investigation, it

Foreign cigarettes worth ₹5 lakh seized, 4 held

PARADIP: The Odisha Police Monday seized foreign-origin cigarettes worth ₹5 lakh in Jagatsinghpur district and arrested four persons in this connection. Personnel of the Paradip Model Police Station apprehended the four while they were loading consignments of UK-made cigarettes in a Kolkata-bound bus at Jagannath Cology in the port town, a senior officer said. "The cigarettes were being smuggled to Kolkata," he said. An investigation has been initiated to ascertain how the accused procured the foreign cigarettes, Pardip Model Police Station inspector-in-charge R K Mishra said. Locals demanded a thorough probe into smuggling of banned items.

22 yrs on, tribals await rehabilitation facilities

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonihar. Sept 28: Families of Bhuyan tribals residing in Kanjiajharan Sahi village Tamanga

Sibanarayanpur Goda panchayat under Telkoi block of Keonihar district alleged they have been victims of the local administration's neglect.

The tribals in the village face a plethora of problems every day. Prominent among them is an acute crisis of drinking water. They said the only tube-well in the village has been lying defunct for several years now. Having no option, they are forced to drink water from an open pit.

The tribals were once promised that they will be provided with the basic amenities, which eluded them over the years. Some villagers – Faguni Dehuri, Kamala Dehuri, Gurubari Pradhan, Deba Dehuri and Sukuta Pradhan - informed that they have even

lost their ancestral houses. Earlier, the tribals had been residing on a nearby hill. They were depending on shifting cultivation and minor forest produces. However, on the pretext of development, the local administration brought them to the foothill and tried to rehabilitate the tribals near Tamanga village in 1999.

At present, more than 30 Bhuyan families reside in Kanjiajharan Sahi.

The locality is just four kilometres away from the Sibanarayanpur Goda panchayat office and 13 kilometres away from Telkoi block headquarters.

When contacted, Telkoi block development officer (BDO) Dillip Kumar Bara said, 'We are unable to take up development work due to poor road connectivity. Recently, construction work has begun under MGNREGS for an allweather road. However, forest and private lands are coming in the way. As a result, the construction work has slowed.'

OFFICE OF COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, ANGUL

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTILL LIQUOR SHOPS FOR ANGUL DISTRICT

Applications are invited for settlement of two outstill liquor shops i.e Lodhabandha & Anadipur of ANGUL DISTRICT for the year, 2021-22 nwards by way of lottery. The persons interested to participate may apply online in "From-B" through

the portal https://stateexcise.odisha.gov.in/ from Dtd.29.09.2021 to 12.10.2021 (by 5.00 P.M.). Lottery will be held on Dtd.18.10.2021 (Monday in the office Chamber of Collector (Place) Angul from 11.00 A.M

The details of the shops to be settled and the terms and conditions applicable hereof are available in the said website and the notice boards of the Distric Excise Office, Angul and Collectorate, Angul.

N.B.: The TOLL-FREE Number for the service is - 155335 or 18003456770

and Operation Hours - All days of week except Sunday, 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. Sd./- 28.09.2021 Collector, Angul

ODISHA LIFT IRRIGATION CORPORATION LTD (A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, L.I. DIVISION, KEONJHAR

E-Procurement Notice - 06/2021-22

E-mail: olickjr@gmail.com

Dated: 27.09.202

No. 2865 Name of the Tender Inviting : Executive Engineer, L.I. Division,

Keonjhar Revival/Re-installation Name of the Work

energisation of 34 Nos. L.I. Project in different blocks under Keoniha

district.

No. of Packages Varies from 12.769 lakhs to 25.204

lakhs Date and time of availability From 10.00 hrs. dated 04.10.2021

to 17.00 hrs. dated 18.10.2021. of bid documents in the portal for online bidding

Last date and time of receipt 17.00 hrs. Dated 18.10.2021 of bids in the portal upto : 17.00 hrs. Dated 16.10.2021

Last date and time of

clarification upto Date of opening of tender at : 11.00 hrs. Dated 21.10.2021

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal of Govt. o Odisha i.e. www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Subsequent corrigendum/addendum if required shall be available in

the above portal Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders, increase of

decrease the quantities without assigning any reason thereof. Sd./- Executive Engineer, L.I. Division, Keonjha

OIPR-32156/11/0007/2122

Bodies of Chhattisgarh couple found

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nuapada, Sept 28: The bodies of a couple who jumped into Godhas waterfall under Dharambandha police limits in Nuapada district and went missing September 26 were recovered Tuesday. The deceased have been iden-

tified as Dhaniram Anti and Demati Sori of Thuhapani village under Pipalchhedi police limits of Gariaband district in Chhattisgarh.

They reached the waterfall



site on a bike September 26. Later, they jumped into the water. There were local people who immediately informed Dharambandha police station.

Later, police and fire personnel reached the spot and

launched a rescue operation but failed in their attempt to find them. The police seized the bike, clothes and a suicide note from the spot.

The local people spotted two bodies floating in the water Monday night and immediately informed the police.

The police reached the spot Tuesday morning and fished out the bodies. After the completion of the inquest, the police sent the bodies for post mortem. A detailed probe is underway, it was learnt.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER **RURAL WORKS DIVISION, JEYPORE** e-Procurement for Road works

Bid Identification No: EERWJYP - Online -04/2021-22 No.O-777:- 01. Name of the work: Procurement & Fixation of road signboard & road furniture of 22 Nos. of

R.D roads of R.W. Division, Jeypore for the year 2021-22. 02. Total Number of works: 3 (Three) Nos. 03. Approximate Estimated cost: Rs. 6.15 lakhs to Rs.11.12 lakhs (approximately). 04. Class of contractor: "C' & "D" Class. 05. Period of completion: Within 1 month. 06. Other details: Procurement Office

08.10.2021 upto Executive Engineer, R.W. Online Tender / 04/ RWD-Division, Jeypore JYP/2021-22 Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in/nicgep/app All amendments, time extension, clarifications etc. will be uploaded in the website only. Bidders should

regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated *N.B. : Any Addendum or Corrigendum will be available in the Website only. OIPR-25160/11/0003/2122 Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Jeypore



SUNDARAM HOME Regd Office: No. 21, Pattulos Road, Chennai - 600 002. Corporate Office: Sundaram Towers, No. 46, Whites Road, Chennai - 600 014.

Branch Office: A/108, 1st Floor, Banadev Bhawan, Saheed Nagar, Khurda Dist,

Bhubaneshwar - 751 007. Phone: 0674 - 254 4677

POSSESSION NOTICE Rule 8(2) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Whereas the authorized officer of SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LTD., formerly known as SUNDARAM BNP PARIBAS HOME FINANCE LTD., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the Borrower and Co-Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the notices. The Borrower & Co-Borrower having failed to repay the amount in full, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Co-borrower and the public in general that the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Ordinance read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower and Co-Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LTD.

SI. No.	File Nos.	Borrower's & Co-Borrower's Name and Address	Date of Demand Notice/ Publication	Notice Amount	Date of Possession	Total Outstanding
1	6620 0276	Mr. SunilKumar Das, (Borrower AT Dilvanapur, PO Vanapur VIA Balanga, Balanga, Puri-752104 Mrs. Prabhasini Das (Co-Borrower)	01 December 2016	Rs. 7,37,494/-	24th Sept., 2021	Rs. 6,39,479/-

Schedule of Property: All that piece and parcel of the property comprised in Khata No.589/456, Plot No.1378/1875, admeasuring an area Ac 0.080 dec having Sub-Plot No.03 (Ac 0.050 dec) & Sub-Plot No.04, (Ac o.030 dec) out of total area of Ac 0.180 dec (Homestead) which correspondence to Sabak Khata No.589/393 Sabak Plot No.1378, which further correspondence to Sabak Khata No. 11. Situated at Mouza/Revenue Village: Pipli Sasan, P.S.Pipli No.84, under the jurisdiction of District Sub-Registrar: Khurdha at Bhubaneswar, Tahasil: Pipli, District : Puri, in the State of Odisha. Bounded on the: North: Khitish Ch Mohanty, South: Pravashini Das Property, East: Proposed Road, West: Mobarak Khan Property.

						La Company of the Com
2	6620 0007	Mr. Sunil Kumar Mohanty (Borrower) AT - Madhapur, PO: Kendrapada, Dist: Kendrapad, Bhubaneswar - 754211	01 March 2019	Rs. 8,74,408/-	27th Sept., 2021	Rs. 12,06,117/-

Schedule of Property: All that piece and parcel of the property admeasuring 1241 Square Feet of super built - up area, comprised in Khata No. 108 & 110, Plot No. 336, 337 & 338. Situated at Unit No.103, Block - A, on First Floor & Car - parking No.103, in "Akruti Lifestyle", District Khurda, Tahasil - Bhubaneswar, Mouza-Kalarahanga.

3	6620 0149	Mr. Madan Mohan Swain (Borrower), AT- Deulatangi, PO- Dadhimachha Gadia, Khrda - 752056 Mrs. Sundari Swain	02 March 2020	Rs. 17,82,650/-	27th Sept., 2021	Rs. 22,40,257/-
	1	inis. Sundan Swain	1	1		1

Schedule of Property: All the piece and parcel of immovable property under khata no.22, plot no.319 area Ac0.063 dec out of Ac 0.158 dec and plot no.323 Area Ac0.095 dec out of Ac 0.284 dec total area Aco. 158 dec. Kissam: Gharabari (homestead) situated at mouza/Revenue village: Somanathpur under Tahasil: Khordha, PS. Khordha no-134, District: Khordha in the state of Odhisha.

Date: 24-09-2021 & 27-09-2021

for SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LTD **Authorised officer**















TWOSTATES





WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 29 | 2021 | BHUBANESWAR

Heavy rain lashes parts of Maha

Mumbai, Sept 28: Heavy rains lashed Mumbai and suburbs Tuesday but no major water-logging is reported so far and public transport services, including suburban trains, also remained unaffected, officials said.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an "orange alert" indicating "thunderstorm with lightning, gusty winds, and very heavy rainfall at isolated places" for Mumbai and neighbouring areas for Tuesday.

Bombay HC, varsity

to open for tourists

Mumbai, Sept 28: Iconic Bombay

High Court and Mumbai University

buildings will now be open for tourists as part of Heritage Walks

during weekends as the

Maharashtra Tourism Department

Monday inked an agreement with

The Maharashtra Tourism

Department signed a heritage tour

memorandum of understanding

(MoU) with the Bombay High Court

and Mumbai University to allow

tourists to visit these iconic build-

ings on non-working days - Saturdays

and Sundays, MTDC said on the oc-

casion of the World Tourism Day.

While Mumbai University will be

open for tourists Sundays and pub-

lic holidays, and the tour will be

conducted by TOGA (Tourist Guide

Chief Minister Uddhav

Thackeray has launched a re-

vamped multilingual website on Maharashtra tourism. It is available

in 9 languages, including English,

Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Gujarati,

Telugu, French, Japanese

and Spanish. Speaking on the oc-

casion, state Tourism, Environment

and Protocol Minister Aaditya

Thackeray said the emphasis on pol-

icy reforms and infrastructure de-

velopment will put Maharashtra at

the forefront of the world tourism

map in the next few years.

Association) guides, it added.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

respective authorities.

The Mumbai Regional **BUS WASHED AWAY, 4 KILLED**

Yayatmal (Maharashtra): In a shocker, at least four persons were killed when state transport bus with at least 8 passengers on board was washed away while crossing a submerged bridge in Umerkhed in Maharashtra's Yavatmal Tuesday morning. Apparently ignoring warnings by locals, the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) Nanded-Nagpur bus drove ahead in the flood waters which had submerged the bridge.

Meteorological Centre had issued a newcast warning of "likely moderate to intense spells of rain at isolated places" in the districts of Mumbai and neighbouring Palghar, Thane, and Raigad during the next

"Possibility of thunder/lightning accompanied with gusty winds in some areas. Take precautions while moving out," the warning stated. Mumbai has been receiving heavy showers since this afternoon, but no major untoward incident was reported in the city and suburbs so far, according to officials. A civic official said no incident



FOR A BIG CATCH

of a major water-logging was reported despite heavy showers in Mumbai. Public transport services are also running normally, he added. "It's raining heavily in suburban and ghat sections. But, local and long-distance trains are running as per time table," Shivaji Sutar, chief public relations officer,

Central Railway said.

Central Railway provides suburban train services connecting south Mumbai to western and eastern suburbs, along with Navi Mumbai

The IMD has issued a "yellow alert" for Mumbai indicating "thunderstorm accompanied with light10 dead in Marathwada

neavy rains and floods in Marathwada region of Maharashtra over the last 48 hours, officials said Tuesday. Besides, more than 200 cattle were washed away and number of houses were also damaged in the rain fury in the region, which comprises eight districts -Aurangabad, Latur, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Nanded, Beed, Jalna and Hingoli. Excessive rainfall (over 65 mm) was recorded in over 180 circles falling under these eight districts, a release issued by the divisional commissioner's office said.

ning, gusty winds, and heavy rainfall at isolated places for Wednesday.

HC gives go-ahead for Bhabanipur by-poll



Kolkata, Sept 28: In a huge relief to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the Trinamool Congress, the Calcutta High Court has refused to interfere into the date of the Bhabanipur by-election and subsequently allowed the polls in the Assembly constituency

The court however, criticised the state's Chief Secretary HK Diwedi for writing to the Election Commission of India (ECI) seeking to expedite the bypolls else it might lead to a constitutional crisis.

"We have dismissed the petition. Election will be held. But we have commented on the conduct of the Chief Secretary. It was not appropriate for him to have written such a letter," Acting Chief Justice Bindal said while pronouncing the verdict. The election schedule announced by the Election Commission of India (ECI) says that the pending bypolls are scheduled October 30 and the results will be announced November 3.

According to a notification released by the ECI September 28, the pending by-elections for Dinhata in Coochebehar district, Shantipur in Nadia district, Khardaha in North 24 Parganas and Gosaba in South 24 Parganas will be held October 30.

The court passed the order in response to a public interest litigation filed by a man named Sayan Banerjee. The petitioner had challenged the decision of the Election Commission to prioritise the bypolls in Bhabanipur, where Banerjee is among the candidates.

FIR LODGED TO PROBE 'ASSAULT

Kolkata Police have lodged on their own an FIR against unknown people in connection with the incident where BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh was pushed and heckled while campaigning in Bhabanipur, an officer said Tuesday

Acting Chief Justice Bindal and Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj, however, recorded adverse findings against the Chief Secretary

The official had written to the Election Commission seeking to expedite the by-poll at Bhabanipur in order to avoid a vacuum in the state. "The court has allowed the election but has taken exception to the remarks of the Chief Secretary because being a public servant he was trying to secure the personal interest of an individual," an advocate appearing for the petitioner said.

The controversy regarding the announcement of the polls in Bhabanipur arose when the Commission in their notification mentioned that the by-election is being treated as a special case because of the request from the state government.

In the West Bengal Assembly elections held earlier this year, Banerjee had contested from the Nandigram seat in an apparent bid to challenge Suvendu Adhikari, who had defected to the BJP ahead of the polls. Banerjee had lost to Adhikari by a margin of 1,956 votes, though she alleged fraud in vote counting.

HC rejects bail pleas of Rana Kapoor's wife, daughters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 28: The Bombay High Court Tuesday refused bail to Yes Bank founder Rana Kapoor's wife Bindu and daughters Roshini and Radha Kapoor in a case involving home finance firm DHFL, noting that the offenses they were accused of made a "serious dent" to the country's "financial health"

Justice Bharati Dangre also rejected the bail plea of Rajiv Anand, group president and business head of Yes Bank, who is a co-accused in the case.

"It is apparent that all the applicants are alleged to have indulged in the commission of offenses which have resulted in serious dent to the financial health of the State as well as defrauding (of) the public at large," the court said in the order.

"Such offenses are occurring in plenty and have resulted in stultifying the overall growth of the nation and also have caused tremendous impairment to the economy of the nation. These crimes are more heinous in nature as they destroy the economic fabric and financial edifice of the State," it added.

Such crimes have the tendency to degrade the public's faith in the law and order situation as it is tantamount to a serious blow to its economic and financial condition, the high court added.

Bindu Kapoor and her daughters approached the high court last week challenging a special CBI court's order of September 18 refusing them bail. The CBI court had noted that on the face of it, a loss of Rs 4,000 crore was caused to Yes Bank through the alleged illegal acts.

BJP sending over 40,000 letters to Bhabanipur voters seeking support

Fishermen cast their net in river Hooghly to catch fish in Nadia district, West Bengal

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 28: Ahead of Bhabanipur bypoll on September 30, the BJP West Bengal unit is sending personalised letters to voters of the assembly constituency seeking support for its candidate Privanka Tibrewal.

Union minister of state for education, Dr Subhash Sarkar is leading the program to reach out to the voters through letters.

According to sources, letters will be delivered to voters before the polling on September 30 and will appeal to them to vote for the party candidate to save Bengal from misrule of chief minister Banerjee. "Through the inland letter, we will tell the voters that Mamata di is destroying West Bengal with each

It is learnt that over **40K** inland letters will be sent door-to-door in support of BJP candidate Tibrewal

passing day. They must defeat her in Bhabanipur bypoll to save the state from her misrule. People of Nandigram had done it, now it is time for Bhabanipur voters," a

party leader said. The letter will also tell voters about BJP candidate Tibrewal and her fight to get justice for victims of post poll violence.

We will tell the voters that Tibrewal is a daughter of West Bengal and how she fought for the

victims of post-poll violence," another BJP leader said.

Tibrewal had played a crucial role in the recent incidents of post poll violence in West Bengal and had taken the cases to the Calcutta High Court to seek justice for the murder of Abhijeet Sarkar. She has been successful in getting court order for CBI investigation and also constitution of a Special

Investigation Team (SIT). BJP West Bengal co-incharge Amit Malviya told IANS that BJP will defeat Chief Minister Banerjee in Bhabanipur this time. "BJP will create another history by defeating Chief Minister Banerjee for the second consecutive time within a five months period. We are contesting the Bhabanipur bypoll to win and will win," Malviya said.

SC notice to Centre on WB plea against CBI probe

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 28: The Supreme Court Tuesday sought a response from the Centre and others on a plea by the West Bengal government challenging the Calcutta High Court decision to order a CBI probe into cases of murder and crimes against women, which took place during post-poll violence in the state.

However, the top court declined to pass any directions to the CBI to not lodge any more FIRs in the

After hearing detailed arguments by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing the West Bengal government, a bench of Justices Vineet Saran and Aniruddha Bose said: "You have made out the case for issuance of the notice. Let us see.

We will give a short time for re-



spondents to file counter.' As Sibal urged the bench to pass a direction to CBI to not register any more cases in the matter, the bench

replied: "It is only a week, noth-

ing will happen.'

On his submission that the CBI is issuing notice to police officers in the cases, Justice Saran said: 'You have argued about natural justice, we should not pass any order without hearing the other side.'

The top court has scheduled the matter for further hearing October 7. After the hearing concluded, Sibal sought an observation from the bench that the CBI probe into the matter will be subject to the outcome of the case in the top court.

The bench replied: "It is understood so even without passing a specific order... We don't need to say that." The Mamata Banerjee-led state government has challenged the high court order in the

Bengal to also go in for lateral entry in bureaucracy

The lateral entry scheme could see these officials posted in different departments as advisors. The details of their exact job profile and responsibilities have however not yet been "chalked out", according to the official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 28: The Mamata Banerjee government is mulling following in the footsteps of the BJP-led central government by opting for lateral entry into the bureaucracy in senior positions such as Special Secretary and Joint Secretaries, a senior official said Tuesday.

The lateral entry scheme could see these officials posted in different departments as advisors. The details of their exact job profile and responsibilities have however not yet been "chalked out", according to the

"All these appointments will be contractual for a specific period only. Their eligibility criteria will be equivalent to an IAS official," the IAS officer

According to plans the minimum eligibility for such lateral entrants would be 15 years of relevant experience, he added.

The pay and perks of these lateral entry officers would be worked out by the state Home Personnel and Administrative Reforms department.

Another highly-placed source, who declined to be named, said that the government would advertise for the appointments for



lateral recruitment.

"Anyone with a minimum experience of 15 years in the fields of civil aviation, commerce, economic affairs will be eligible for the positions. As of now, it has been decided that the age of the candidate should not be less than 40 years," he

The proposal may be sent to the chief minister's office for a final nod of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the senior officer added.

However, despite several attempts a confirmation from state home secretary BP Gopalika could not be gained.

In 2018, the Centre had stated that the lateral entry scheme would fulfil the twin purpose of bringing in domain expertise in the civil services and address the problem of shortage of IAS

officers they have been facing. This February, the central government had advertised 30 posts at the level of joint secretaries and directors for lateral recruitment.

The UPSC advertisement made that month sought online applications for ministries, departments, PSUs, autonomous bodies for positions that were on contract for a period of three

national



Till the time the Centre withdraws the three laws, farmers should not back down. If the Delhi protest fails, no such agitation will be held in future RAKESH TIKAIT | BHARATIYA KISAN UNION

RUCKUS IN MANDOLI JAIL

As many as 25 inmates have deliberately injured themselves at the Mandoli Jail in the national capital, officials said Tuesday. The incident happened at Jail No. 11 Monday evening when two inmates wanted to go out of their ward without any reason and were subsequently stopped by the policemen as there was an existing gang rivalry between inmates

AGENCIES

cases again.

New Delhi, Sept 28: The Centre

Tuesday extended the nationwide

Covid-19 containment measures till

October 31 in view of localised

spreads of the virus in a few states

and the disease continuing to be a pub-

lic health challenge in the country.

retaries of all states and union ter-

ritories, Union Home Secretary

Ajay Bhalla also cautioned against

the possibility of Covid-appropri-

ate behaviour not being adhered to

strictly during the upcoming fes-

tival which may lead to a surge in

Despite a decline in Covid-19

cases, it is critical to enforce guide-

lines that allow regular festivities

in a cautious, safe and Covid-ap-

He said the daily Covid-19 cases

and the overall number of Covid-

19 patients in the country are de-

creasing steadily but there are still

localised spreads of virus in a few

states and Covid-19 continues to

be a public health challenge in the

country. "Utmost vigil has to be

maintained in respect of mass

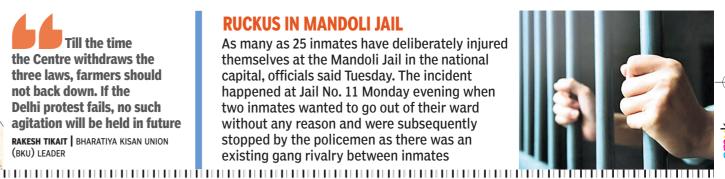
gathering events, so as to avoid

any possibility of a surge in

"Consequently, large scale gath-

propriate manner, he asserted.

In a communication to chief sec-



Covid containment

measures extended



from the RSS or the BJP die or sacrificed their life for the freedom of India? The people in BJP do not



SIDDARAMAIAH KARNATAKA OPPOSITION LEADER

Sacking employees on grounds of terror links only to cause more problems FAROOQ ABDULLAH NATIONAL CONFERENCE





paddy field. The family has expressed suspicion of murder after rape. This incident is very serious and sad. The government must give justice to the victim's family by getting the matter investigated properly, this is the demand of the BSP

MAYAWATI | BSP PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

POCSO court gives death rap to rapist

Jaipur: The POCSO Special Court in Sirohi district of Rajasthan announced death sentence to the convict of rape and murder of an 8year-old girl. During the hearing, the court lent ears to 24 witnesses and studied the DNA test report of the girl. After that, based on all the evidence and statements of witnesses, the judge announced death sentence to rapist 26-year-old Nokaram alias Dharma

Speeding car mows down 2

Patna: Two elderly persons were killed and four others injured when a high speeding car with Jharkhand registration number mowed them down in the Patna Sahib area Tuesday morning. The deceased, Krishna Rai (60) and a 65-year-old person, died on the spot while four others are battling for their lives in hospital. The road mishap occurred in the Krishna Nagar area on Patna city bypass road.

Another building collapses in B'lore

Bangalore: A day after the building collapse in Lakkasandra area here, a three-storey staff quarters of Bangalore Milk Union Limited (BAMUL) came crashing down near Dairy Circle Tuesday. Three people escaped with minor injuries in the latest incident within the BAMUL campus, police said. The dilapidated building. said to be about 40 to 50-yearold, was allotted to some families who were residing there, they said.

Congress stages protests across UP

Lucknow: The Congress staged demonstrations across Uttar Pradesh Tuesday demanding the revocation of FIRs registered against its leaders in connection with the assault of BJP MP Sangam Lal Gupta and its workers during a function in Sangipur block of Pratapgarh district.

Man kills self

New Delhi: A 27-year-old man allegedly killed himself by jumping in the gap between two coaches of a moving Delhi Metro train at a station on the Blue Line Tuesday, leading to a brief delay in services, officials said. The Delhi Metro's Blue Line connects Dwarka Sector 21 in the national capital and the Noida City Centre.

Sidhu resigns, minister quits in solidarity

Chandigarh/New Delhi, Sept 28: Navjot Singh Sidhu Tuesday quit as the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee chief, triggering other resignations and plunging the party into a fresh crisis just months ahead of the assembly elections.

Hours after his resignation, Razia Sultana, a part of the new 18-member ministry led by Charanjit Singh Channi, too put in her papers, expressing solidarity with the former cricketer.

Punjab Congress general secretary Yoginder Dhingra and treasurer Gulzar Inder Chahal followed with their resignations. Amid a flurry of political activity, several state Congress leaders visited Sidhu at his home in Patiala.

Sidhu, 57, who announced his resignation shortly after the allocation of portfolios to the new ministers. said he remains with the party.

He was appointed the party's state unit president July 18 amid a bitter power tussle with Amarinder Singh, who stepped down as the Chief Minister 10 days back while accusing the party high

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bhopal, Sept 28: At least nine

people were killed due to lightning

strikes in Dewas and Agar Malwa

districts of Madhya Pradesh. Six

people died in Dewas and while

three lost their lives in Agar Malwa.

mation, six people belonging to

Tonkkhurd, Khal, Gagankheda

and Bamnibujurg villages in Dewas

district were killed by lightning

strikes Monday. District Collector

Chandramouli Shukla immedi-

ately sanctioned financial assis-

tance of Rs 4,00,000 each to the

families of those who died under

According to the official infor-



Harish Rawat and senior leader Hours after his resignation, Razia Sultana, KC Venugopal have been asked to a part of the new 18-member ministry help resolve the issue led by Channi, too put in her papers

The abrupt resignation took place on a day Amarinder Singh was headed to Delhi, and the day before Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal was scheduled to visit Puniab to make some "big announcements"

command of humiliating him. Sidhu didn't elaborate why he has quit. But speculation in party circles ranges from his displeasure over the allocation of the home portfolio to Deputy CM Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa to the appointments of the acting police chief

and the state advocate general by

the new Chief Minister. "The col-

9 lightning deaths in Madhya Pradesh

the Revenue Book Circular 6-4 of

Madhya Pradesh Government

Revenue Department (Relief

Branch). Some people were also

Border village girls undertaking physical exercise at a specia 3-month camp to prepare them for joining defence

lapse of a man's character stems from the compromise corner, I can never compromise on Puniab's future and the agenda for the welfare of Punjab," he said in his letter to Congress president Sonia Gandhi

"Therefore, I hereby resign as the president of the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee. Will continue to serve the Congress," the let

injured in the lightning strikes

They were rushed to a hospital in

Similarly, in Agar-Malwa dis-

trict three people belonging to

Manasa, Pilwas and Lasuldia Kelwa

villages were killed due to lightning.

MP Chief Minister Shivraj Singh

Chouhan has expressed grief over

the death of citizens. He has di-

rected the district administrations

to help the affected families.

Chouhan also said that financial re-

lief will be also be provided to fam-

ilies of those injured. However,

the amount has not been specified

by the government.

WOMEN POW

Five people were also injured.

considered a Sidhu lovalist, claimed he was not aware of his resignation. "I have not received such information," he told reporters. Pargat Singh, Razia Sultana, PPCC working presidents Kuljit Nagra, Sukhwinder Singh Danny, MLAs Bawa Henry and Inderbir Singh Bolaria, and MP Amar Singh were among the party leaders who arrived at Sidhu's Patiala home.

Punjab AAP chief Bhagwant Mann accused the Congress of "insulting" Punjab and its people in their "fight for the chair"

In Delhi, the AAP claimed that Sidhu resigned because a Dalit was made the Chief Minister. The Congress is in a firefighting mode in Punjab. According to sources in the Congress, the resignation of Sidhu has not been accepted yet, and Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and senior leaders have been asked to sort out the differences. Congress' Punjab in charge Harish Rawat and senior leader KC Venugopal have been asked to help resolve the issue as the party does not want to open two fronts in the state which goes to the polls next year.

Issue of security

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 28: The Delhi High Court Tuesday said the issue of security in district courts of the national capital is "urgent" as lawvers too may become victims of incidents such as the Rohini court shootout which left three people dead.

The high court asked the police to file a status report on a plea seeking to ensure adequate security in district courts here in the wake of recent shootout inside the crowded Rohini court-

Justice Rekha Palli issued notice to Delhi Police and Bar Council of Delhi (BCD) on the petition filed by a woman advocate and said the report be filed within five days.

further hearing October 11.

Advocate Robin Raju, appear-

in district courts urgent: Delhi HC

This is something urgent. We don't want to lose lives. Lawyers could also become victims of incidents like this one. We don't want that," the court said and listed the matter for

ing for petitioner Deepa Joseph, said the woman advocate was relatively new to the profession and soon after the firing incident, videos and photos were circulated on social media which had a jolting impact.

Delhi government standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi assured the court that the police has been taking steps to ensure adequate security at district courts. Jailed gangster Jitendra Gogi and his two assailants posing as lawyers were killed inside the Rohini courtroom September 24 in a dramatic shootout that also saw the police fire bullets in retaliation, the officials

7-11 yr-olds in vax trial Bangalore: The country's drug regulator Tuesday allowed vaccine

SI allowed to enroll

maker Serum Institute to enroll kids aged 7-11 years for its trial of US drugmaker Novavax's Covid-19 vaccine. Serum Institute is already conducting a trial of its Covid-19 vaccine Covovax, a domestically produced version of Novavax's shot. in the 12-17 age group and has presented safety data for an initial 100 participants. The Novavax vaccine is yet to be granted approval by the health authorities.

erings in fairs, festivals; and religious events and functions may lead to afresh surge in Covid-19 cases in the country," the communication said.

The home secretary said states and UTs, on a regular basis, should closely monitor case positivity, hospital, ICU beds occupancy of every district falling under their juris diction. A total of 18,795 fresh Covid-19

cases were registered in a span of 24 hours, while the death toll due to the viral disease climbed to 4.47.373 with 179 more fatalities, the lowest in 193 days, according to the ministry's data updated at 8 AM.

Gadkari announces 31 tunnels for J&K, Ladakh

PNN/AGENCIES

Covid-19 cases

Gulmarg, Sept 28: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari Tuesday reviewed the construction work of strategically important Zojila and Z-Morh tunnels on the Srinagar-Leh highway.

Morh tunnel site, Gadkari said his ministry is also building 20 tunnels of a total length of 32 km in Jammu and Kashmir and 11 tunnels of a total length of 20 km in Ladakh. Gadkari said that once completed

the connectivity between Srinagar-Kargil-Leh National Highway will improve reducing distance from 40 km to 13 km and travel time from 1.5 hour to 15 minutes. The minister also said J&K and

Ladakh will get 31 tunnels of about 52 kms with an investment of Rs 1.4 lakh crore in the next couple of

While 20 tunnels will be complete with a cumulative length of 32 km in Jammu and Kashmir, another 11 will be built with a total



length of 20 km in Ladakh. Gadkari noted that tourism is the sector where 49 per cent of capital expenditure happens on the employment generation.

'When Ladakh and Kashmir get good roads, good tunnels, it will kickstart the socio-economic progress of this area. It is going to create employment," the Union statement said.

It can be mentioned that Megha Engineering Infrastructure Limited (MEIL) is executing this project in the EPC mode (Engineering, Procurement and Construction).

Can't infringe right to life of citizens: SC

HEARING A PLEA BY THE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF FIRECRACKERS, THE SUPREME COURT SAID ON TUESDAY THAT IT CANNOT INFRINGE THE RIGHT TO LIFE OF OTHER CITIZENS "UNDER THE GUISE OF EMPLOYMENT OF FEW"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 28: The Supreme Court Tuesday said it cannot infringe the right to life of other citizens "under the guise of employment of few" while considering a ban on firecrackers

forces, at Flymandal on the outskirts of Jammu

A bench of Justices M R Shah and A S Bopanna said its prime focus is the right to life of innocent citizens.

'We have to strike the balance between employment, unemployment and the right to life of the citizen. Under the guise of employment of few we cannot permit others to infringe the right to life of other citizens.

"Our prime focus is the right to life of innocent citizens. If we find green crackers are there and accepted by the committee of experts we will pass suitable orders," the bench said, adding that in our country, the main difficulty is implementation. "Laws are there but



ultimately implementation has to be there. Our order should be implemented in true spirit," the bench said. Senior advocate Atmaram Nadkarni, appearing for manufacturers' association of firecrackers, said that Diwali is approaching on November 4 and they want Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) to take a de-

cision on the issue of firecrackers.

He said the government should decide the matter as lakhs of people

are unemployed in the industry. The senior advocate said contempt must be heard and taken to a logical end but the plight of lakhs of people who are working in the industry should also be looked into. Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan appearing for the petitioner Arjun Gopal, said se-

Strict rule in Delhi

he Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) Tuesday ordered a complete ban on the sale and bursting of firecrackers in the national capital till January 1, 2022. Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal had announced a ban on firecrackers September 15, saying it was "essential to save lives". According to the DPCC order, several experts have indicated a possibility of another surge of Covid-19 and largescale celebrations by bursting of firecrackers will result not only in agglomeration of people in violation of social distancing norms but also a high level of air pollution leading to serious health issues in Delhi. The bursting of firecrackers under the prevalent pandemic crisis is not favourable for the cause of larger community health given the significant relationship between air pollution and respiratory infections, it said.

ries of orders have been passed by the top court and directions have been given that PESO will give final clearance to firecrackers which are safe.

When Nadkarni interrupted Sankaranarayanan, the bench in a lighter vein said, "We don't want any bursting of crackers in the courtroom. Everybody will get a chance. Also, I'm afraid of firecrackers." Sankaranarayanan said, "My Lord, we assure there'll be no only work." Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Ministry of Environment and Forests, said an affidavit was filed by the ministry in October 2020 and if the top court takes note of it all the interim applications will be covered in that. All the experts have come together and suggested formulations on the issue of green crackers.

Kanhaiya joins Cong



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 28: Former JNU students' union president Kanhaiya Kumar joined the Congress Tuesday in the presence of Rahul Gandhi, saying the oldest party has to be strengthened to "save" the country.

Kumar addressed a press conference at the Congress headquarters here along with independent Gujarat MLA and Dalit leader Jignesh Mevani who too extended his support to the Congress ideology.

Asserting that it is detrimental to a country's interests if the Opposition is weakened, Kumar described the Congress party as a "big ship" and said the small shipswill be saved only when the Congress is saved.



international



friendship with both neighbours, India and China. remains of "paramount importance" in the conduct of its foreign policy NARAYAN KHADKA FOREIGN MINISTER OF NEPAL

SINGAPORE POPULATION SHRINKS

Singapore's total population shrank by 4.1 per cent to 5.45 million in June this year, largely due to a fall in non-resident numbers amidst the COVID-19 travel restrictions, according to official figures





must boost plans and make



FRENCH PRESIDENT



cooperation, trade and investment, space and scientific potential, cultural exchanges and consular issues. Shared perspectives on governance challenges and global narratives

S JAISHANKAR | MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF INDIA





SHORT TAKES

Lockdown may end

Colombo: Sri Lanka is planning to end the nationwide lockdown on October 1 as the health authorities feel the current COVID-19 situation in the island nation has improved and is conducive to lift the curfew, the government spokesperson said Tuesdav.

The Sri Lankan government imposed a nation-wide lockdown on August 20 and extended it thrice as health authorities grappled with the crisis of the raging third wave since mid-April.

Volcano erupts

Madrid: Seismic activity at the Cumbre Vieja volcano on the island of La Palma, part of the Spanish Canary Islands archipelago, has reactivated strongly after a brief lull. The Geological Mining Institute of Spain (IGME) said that the volcano was not extinct, it was just a "normal" pause in its activity, reports Xinhua news agency.

20 injured

Helsinki: A powerful explosion in an apartment building in the Swedish city of Goteborg injured up to 20 people Tuesday, three of them seriously, and forced the evacuation of hundreds more, police and rescue workers said. Police spokesman Stefan Gustafsson told The Associated Press that eight people were taken to the hospital and the cause of the explosion was not yet known. The explosion took place just before 5 a.M. In the Annedal district in central Goteborg. Sweden's second-largest city. Fires spread to several apartments, and crews from the local fire department were still working to extinguish the flames as of 9 a.m

Toll rises

Beijing: The toll from a passenger boat capsize in China's Guizhou province on September 18 has increased to 12, while three others remained missing as of Tuesday, according to local authorities. The accident took place at 4.50 p.m. on September 18 in Zangke River in the city of Liupanshui, reports Xinhua news agency.

Man dies

Beirut: A Lebanese man who was critically injured in the massive explosion at Beirut's port last year has died, nearly 14 months after the blast, his family said Tuesday. Ibrahim Harb, a 35-year-old accountant, was at his downtown office near the port when the explosion occurred, wiping out the port and devastating nearby neighbourhoods. He died at his parents' home on Monday night, his brother, Mazen Harb, told The Associated Press.

DIALOGUE: UN



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

United Nations, Sept 28: Despite the "tone and the content" of the remarks made by India and Pakistan against each other during the UN General Assembly, "we always remain hopeful" that dialogue can happen between the two nations, a spokesperson for UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres

India slammed Pakistan at the UN after Prime Minister Imran Khan raked up the issue of Jammu and Kashmir in his address to the 76the UN General Assembly session on Friday.

"We heard the remarks, and I think, despite the tone and the content of the remarks, we always remain hopeful that dialogue can happen, maybe in a place that is not under the spotlights," Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesman for the Secretary-General, said at the daily press briefing on Monday.

Dujarric was responding to a question that in the wake of the heated exchanges witnessed between India and Pakistan during the high level UN General Assembly session last week, is the UN concerned about peace in the region and if the Secretary General is planning to speak to leaders of the two countries.

Exercising the Right of Reply. First Secretary Sneha Dubey said in the UN General Assembly that Pakistan, where terrorists enjoy free pass, is an "arsonist" disguising itself as a "fire-fighter",

ndia slammed Pakistan at the UN after Prime Minister Imran Khan raked up the issue of Jammu and Kashmir in his address to the 76the UN General Assembly session Friday

Exercising the Right of Reply, First Secretary Sneha Dubey said in the UN General Assembly that Pakistan, where terrorists enjoy free pass, is an "arsonist" disguising itself as a 'fire-fighter", and the entire world has suffered as it nurtures dreaded terrorists like Osama bin Laden in its backyard

and the entire world has suffered as it nurtures dreaded terrorists like Osama bin Laden in its "We exercise our Right of

Reply to one more attempt by the leader of Pakistan to tarnish the image of this august Forum by bringing in matters internal to my country, and going so far as to spew falsehoods on the world stage," Dubey had said. "While such statements de-

serve our collective contempt and sympathy for the mindset of the person who utters falsehood repeatedly, I am taking the floor to set the record straight, the young Indian diplomat said.

Khan, in his address, had spoken about the August 5, 2019 decision of the Indian government on the abrogation of Article 370 as well as the death of pro-Pakistan leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani.

HOPEFUL OF China electricity crunch forces blackouts

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 28: A growing power supply crunch in China is triggering blackouts for households and forcing factories to cut production, threatening to slow the country's vast economy and place even more strain on global supply chains, CNN reported.

Companies in the country's industrial heartlands have been told to limit their energy consumption in order to reduce demand for power, state media reported. And supply has been cut to some homes, reportedly even trapping people in elevators, the report said.

An "unexpected and unprecedented" power cut hit three northeastern provinces on Monday, according to the Global Times, a state-run tabloid. The newspaper re-

ported Tuesday that power rationing in Heilongjiang, Jilin, and Liaoning provinces has "resulted in major disruptions to the daily lives of people and business operations."

Power shortages have also hit the southern province of Guangdong, a major industrial and shipping hub. Local officials that many firms are trying to reduce demand by working two or three days per week. China's State Grid Corporation said Monday that it

Companies in the country's industrial heartlands have been told to limit their energy consumption in order to reduce demand for power, state media reported

Power shortages have also hit the southern province of Guangdong, a major industrial and shipping hub

Major international suppliers are bracing for impact on businesses already confronting delays caused by shortages and global shipping delays, the report added

would "go all out to fight the tough battle of power supply," making every effort to secure residential consumption. China was hit by a similar power crunch in June, but the

situation is getting worse because of a perfect storm. Its industries are facing huge pressure from soaring energy prices, and from Beijing to tackle carbon emissions.

The world's biggest polluter is trying to meet a pledge that its carbon emissions will peak before 2030. That requires its provinces to use less fossil fuel for each unit of economic output, for example by burning less coal to generate power.

At the same time, demand for Chinese-made goods has surged as the global economy emerges from the pandemic. The result: not enough power to go round, the report said.

Major international suppliers are bracing for impact on businesses already confronting delays caused by shortages and global shipping delays, the report added.



Drivers queue for fuel at a petrol station in London, Tuesday. Long lines of vehicles have formed at many gas stations around Britain since Friday, causing spillover traffic jams on busy roads.

FUEL CRISIS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kathmandu, Sept 28: The Nepal Democratic Youth Association Tuesday staged a protest in Kathmandu against alleged Chinese land encroachment in the Himalavan nation.

Some media reports in Nepal suggested that China has encroached in Humla district and erected new boundary pillars. The leaders and activists affiliated to the Association staged the protest at Maitighar in Kathmandu.

Nepal's Ministry of Home Affairs in August formed a six-member panel to probe and report the land encroachment in Humla. The panel

CHINESE LAND ENCROACHMENT

submitted the report to the Home Minister Bal Krishna Khad Sunday.

The Home Ministry said that the panel headed by Joint Secretary Jay Narayan Acharya suggested the government to deploy a joint inspection group, inspection committee and formation of an expert team to resolve the boundary issue with China. The Nepal government has not said anything about publicising the report prepared

by Joint Secretary Acharya. A similar kind of issue was

raised by the Nepali media last vear too but the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu declined having any disputes on the border. They also demanded to make public the report of the committee formed to study the Nepal-China border from Limi

Lapcha to Hilsa. 'The government should make public the Acharya-led report,' Mukesh Kumar Jha, President of the Democratic Youth Association said. "Why is the government silent over Chinese land encroachment in Nepal?" Jha said that Nepali students who had completed MBBS in China should get a chance to do an internship in Nepal.

Shooter who injured Ronald Reagan to be freed soon

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, Sept 28: John Hinckley Jr., who shot and wounded then US President Ronald Reagan in 1981, is set to be freed from the strict conditions of release that he's been living with for several years, local media reported.

A federal judge has approved the 'unconditional release" of Hinckley, who is now 66 years old, next year, Xinhua news agency reported on Tuesday citing NPR

According to NPR, the Justice Department agreed to a settlement

but wanted to monitor Hincklev for the next nine months because of two big changes in his life: he's living on his own for the first time in about 40 years; and because one of his primary doctors is preparing for retirement and disbanding Hinckley's therapy group.

However, the JDepartment would file a motion with the court before June if it had fresh concerns about Hinckley, said the NPR report. Barry Levine, a longtime lawyer for Hinckley, said his client has followed the rules and the law for years.

"There is no evidence of danger whatsoever," Levine said.

US diplomat to visit India, Pak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 28: A top American diplomat will visit India next month to hold talks with her Indian counterpart on bilateral and regional issues, the US State Department has said, days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a successful bilateral summit here with President Joe Biden.

Deputy Secretary of State Wendy R Sherman will travel to New Delhi on October 6 and to Mumbai on the next day, the State Department said on Monday. "Sherman will be in New Delhi on October 6 for a series of bilateral meetings, civil society events, and the India Ideas Summit. On October 7, she will travel to Mumbai for her engagements with business and civil society," it said.



From Mumbai, she will fly to Islamabad to meet with senior officials in Pakistan, the department_ said. Before arriving in Delhi, Sherman will also visit Switzerland and Uzbekistan, beginning September 29.

India and the US are scheduled to hold their first 2+2 summit under the Biden administration in November. According to a report in Pakistan's The Nation newspaper, Sherman's visit from October 7-8 will be one of the first high-level official visits under President Joe Biden to visit Pakistan after CIA chief Bill Burns visit to the country on September 9.

Sherman will meet senior officials in Islamabad during her visit, the report said. The visit comes days after Prime Minister Imran Khan blamed the US for the situation in Afghanistan.

ANIL K SINGH

√he much-hyped recent threeday visit of Prime Minister Modi to the United States coincided with the convening of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, in-person meeting of the Heads of Government of the Quad countries and concretization of friendly relations between New Delhi and Washington. Nevertheless, Indo-US relations enjoyed pre-eminence over the other two momentous events.

The focus of Modi was seemingly on practical issues pertaining to Indo-US relations, Afghanistan and the Af-Pak region, the Quad, COVID-19 vaccination, climate change and the issues related to the UN. Unlike the Indian media where PM Modi's visit hogged headlines, the response of the American media was almost lukewarm. Some critics have opined that Modi's recent US visit under the Biden administration lacked the theatrical flavour it had during the Trump administration.

Address to UNGA

The 76th session of the UN General Assembly assumes significance because of a suite of global developments that have taken place in the wake of COVID-

19 and availability of vaccines for developing and least developed countries, situation in Afghanistan, forthcoming COP-26, developments in the Indo-Pacific and other issues. PM Modi's address to the 76th session of the UNGA did dwell on some of the burning problems confronting the global community, especially vaccine availability and India's decision to export/donate over seven million COVID vaccine doses has been welcomed. However. Modi's allusion to personal biographical details at the global platform seldom augurs well for either India's traditions or performance of previous prime ministers who happened to address such sessions of the UNGA.

Quad Meeting

Quad was formed in 2004 with Australia, India, Japan and the United States as its founding members with a view to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of Indo-Pacific. Over the years, Quad members have been engaged in various military exercises in the Indo-Pacific region and some analysts also call it 'Asian NATO.' September 24, Washington hosted the first in-person Quad summit and it was structured around four main themes; Climate, Technology and Cyber Security; COVID-19 response; and Afghanistan and re-

gional security. President Biden reiterated the common vision of the 'democratic partners" to the "key challenges of our age, from COVID-19 to climate to emerging technologies.

The Quad leaders agreed to launch a Semiconductor Supply Chain Initiative, support 5G deployment and diversification; launch a Quad Senior Cyber Group; sharing satellite data to protect the Earth and its waters; and launching of the Quad fellowships for 100 students every year. India's decision to export vaccine was welcomed by all members. All Quad members pledged to ensure "free" and "inclusive" Indo-Pacific.

Outcome of the Visit The first bilateral dialogue be-

tween Biden and Modi covered a wide range of issues including Afghanistan, counter-terrorism, COVID-19, defence cooperation and other issues of mutual interests. In his talks with Biden, Modi was reportedly in a posture and delivery that seemingly appeared restrained and devoid of any kind of informality. Modi spoke extempore with a bit of gushing praise for his host, while Biden read off his statement from cue-cards sans any effusive touch to his remarks. According to one analyst, Biden reading off from cue cards was probably indicative of his lack of familiarity with issues pertaining to India and it was also indicative of the "lower priority" that Biden "assigns to New Delhi notwithstanding the public postures.

From the American side, the focus was on the pandemic, climate change and the Indo-Pacific. Nevertheless, in his exchange of views with Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris, Modi had put across Indian point of view on bilateral and global issues along with India's desire to become a technology and trade partner. Some critics have described Harris' statement, to what they call a "sermon", when she said that as democracies around the world were under threat, "it is imperative that we defend democratic principles and institutions within our respective countries.'

Construed in a broad spectrum in the wake of ongoing global developments, especially at a time when the Biden administration is trying to seek to nuance its relationship with Beijing to one of 'extreme competition', India affords ample opportunities and alternative markets for US companies that are disinclined or barred from trading with China and also provide a vast consumer market and skilled labour as well. Unmistakably, the US is the leading player in terms of its defencerelated, technological and soft power capabilities and India is destined to gain from its cordial and friendly relations with Washington. Interestingly, Modi during the course of his US visit has tried to redefine the contours of Indo-US relations in terms of 5Ts -Tradition, Talent, Technology, Trade and Trusteeship. Economic ties between New Delhi and Washington have witnessed an upward trajectory of growth and the US has remained India's top trading partner for the second time in 2019-2020.

Way Forward

No major breakthrough in Indo-US relations in terms of transfer of defence technology or signing of a major trading or investment deal has been achieved as a sequel to Modi's visit to the US. Intermingling of domestic policies and foreign policy that has been the hallmark of Modi's speeches either in the US or UNGA since 2014 are bound to raise eyebrows and invite advice or sermon from foreign leaders or media. There is dire need for India to demonstrate its statesmanship and not mere leadership.

> The writer is a Delhi-based senior journalist. Views are personal

business



Safeguard of client data is something which I think is the backbone to bringing trust. Unless my data is safeguarded well I wouldn't want to get into a scheme of things. So, that is the guiding principle

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN | UNION FINANCE MINISTER

UK ROYAL MINT'S 'LAKSHMI' GOLD BAR

The UK Royal Mint's first bullion bar range featuring Goddess Lakshmi as a celebration of Diwali went on sale Tuesday. The 'Lakshmi' bar, a 20 gram gold bar with the Hindu Goddess of Wealth engraved into the precious metal, was designed by Emma Noble and follows a close collaboration with the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Cardiff on its design





significant lithium-ion batteries energy sources like internal combustion engines or lead-acid, there are key gaps in the supply chain - namely lifecycle and recycling - that are only now being addressed in the early markets in developed nations

PANKAJ DUBEY | CEO OF POWER GLOBAL INDIA

I wish all the private sector together to focus on the Sustainable **Development Goals** and become green companies of the future. Those companies will grow and prosper. their valuation will rise, and they will get capital at low rates if they

become green and digital AMITABH KANT | CEO OF NITI AAYOG



and lacks a smartphone T RABI SANKAR RBI DEPUTY GOVERNOR

SHORT **TAKES**

LIC may appoint **CFO before IPO**

New Delhi: State-backed Life Insurance Corp of India (LIC) is seeking to appoint a chief financial officer, according to a notification on its website. ahead of an initial public offering slated before the end of the fiscal year. The move to hire a CFO follows a decision to re-designate LIC's top job to chief executive officer from chairman earlier this year, LIC is currently undergoing a valuation exercise for an IPO that could be India's biggest ever as the government seeks to raise around ₹90,000 crore by selling 5%-10% stake in the company by the end of the fiscal year that runs through March. Recently, government appointed ten investment banks including Goldman Sachs, Citigroup and SBI Capital Market to handle the offering.

Amazon launches global CS edu

Bhubaneswar: Amazon announced the launch of Amazon Future Engineer, its global Computer Science (CS) education programme, in India. The programme will enable access to quality CS education and career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities. In the first year of its launch, Amazon aims to enable and deliver CS learning opportunities to more than 1 lakh students from 900 government and aided schools across seven states in India. Amazon Future Engineer, the comprehensive childhood-tocareer community programme, aims to address this gap by bringing early exposure and access of CS education to students through in-person, online and blended learning formats.

Renovated premises of UBI inaugurated



Bhubaneswar: Union Bank of India (UBI), Budheswari Colony Branch's renovated premises was inaugurated by . Field General Manager-Bhubaneswar Ramakanta Pradhan. Deputy Regional Head RO Bhubaneswar. Pabitra Mohanty, Branch Head, Alok Kumar Mishra along with Senior Officials of the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar and valued customers of the branch were present to grace the occasion.

Sebi board clears gold exchange framework

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 28: Sebi's board Tuesday cleared a proposal for setting up a gold exchange wherein the yellow metal will be traded in the form of electronic gold receipts and the bourse will help in having a transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism.

The instruments representing gold will be called Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) and will be notified as securities, Sebi Chairman Ajay Tyagi said at a press conference after the board meeting.

"EGRs will have the trading, clearing and settlement features akin to any other securities,

Any recognised stock exchange, existing as well as new, can launch trading in EGRs in a separate segment. The denomination for trading of EGR and conversion of EGR into gold can be decided by the stock exchanges with the approval

The gold exchange, encompassing the entire ecosystem of trading of EGR and physical delivery of gold, is expected to create a vibrant gold ecosystem in India, Sebi said.

According to the regulator, the exchange would be a national platform for buying and selling EGRs with underlying standardised gold in India and also create a national pricing structure for gold. "The gold exchange is expected

to offer a host of benefits for the value chain participants as well as for the entire gold market ecosystem such as efficient and transparent price discovery, investment liquidity, assurance in the quality of gold etc," Sebi noted.

The clearing corporation will settle the trades executed on the stock exchanges by way of transferring EGRs and funds to the

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 28: Corporate

and Asian peers by a wide margin

when it comes to the presence of

women on their boards, with just

17.3 per cent of the large compa-

nies having them on their key de-

cision making bodies, an inter-

However, this is a near 6 per-

centage points improvement be-

tween 2015 -- when it was only

11.4 per cent -- and 2021, Swiss

brokerage Credit Suisse said in the

report, which covered over 33,000

executives from more than 3,000

companies across 46 countries.

including over 1,440 firms across

boards of large Indian compa-

nies has increased by 5.9 per-

centage points from 11.4 per cent

in 2015 to 17.3 per cent in 2021.

Female representation on

12 Asia-Pacific markets

national report said Tuesday.



The instruments representing gold will be called Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) and will be notified as securities

Any recognised stock exchange. existing as well as new, can launch trading in EGRs in a separate segment. The denomination for trading of EGR and conversion of EGR into gold can be decided by the stock exchanges with Sebi approval

The EGR holder can continue to hold the EGRs as long as intended since EGRs will have perpetual validity. Such holder at his discretion can also withdraw the underlying gold from the vaults upon surrender of EGRs.

To lower the costs associated with withdrawal of gold from the vaults. Sebi said EGRs will be made 'fungible' and 'interoperability between vault managers' will be

managers, Sebi said vault manager should be a body incorporated in India and should have a net worth of at least ₹50 crore.

cent, said the report by Credit

The country also saw a marginal 2 percentage point im-

provement in management di-

versity over the past two years,

rising from 8 per cent in 2019 to 10

per cent in 2021, based on the un-

matched data-set, which did not

specify how many Indian com-

panies and executives were con-

third-lowest spot in the Apac re-

gion in terms of female repre-

sentation at a senior management

level, slightly ahead of South

Korea at 8 per cent and Japan at

7 per cent. Similarly, the per-

centage of female CEOs are 5,

while CFOs are even lesser at

According to the report, the

Sebi mandate of having an inde-

pendent female board member

instead of simply having a female

At 17.3 per cent, India holds the

tacted for the survey.

4 per cent.

Suisse Research Institute.

MCL CMD reviews Ananta, Balram opencast projects

Bhubaneswar; Sept 28: Chairmancum-Managing Director, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) PK Sinha, Tuesday, reviewed the progress of the mega-potential Ananta (13 MTPY) and Balram (6 MTPY) opencast projects of the company in Talcher coalfields of Odisha.

Sinha visited Jagannath area and Hingula area to inspect the mega-potential coal mines and the Railway Siding No 5 and No 6.

The Ananta OCP has the potential to increase capacity to 20 MTPY and capacity of Balram OCP can be enhanced to 15 MTPY.

Similarly enhancing the potential of Ananta Railway Sidings No 5 and No 6 from 10 rakes a day to 15 rakes is also under consideration in view of the increased demand for coal. The CMD also reviewed the progress of the mega project Bhubaneswari OCP (28 MTPY) and Lingaraj OCP (13.5 MTPY) in

"We have the responsibility to ensure thermal power plants get adequate coal supply," the CMD said, emphasising on the need to optimise production and dispatch performance in view of the rising coal demand.

Sinha appreciated spirited efforts by teams at both the projects, which have registered more than 125% growth in coal production as on date during the current financial year.

He also inspected the newlycommissioned Lingaraj Railway Siding, which has enabled dispatch of three to four additional rakes to power plants.

Despite unprecedented heavy rains, the company has ensured double-digit growth in coal production and dispatch during the current fiscal, maintaining growth in coal production and dispatch to meet the rising fuel demand

American Airlines, IndiGo enter into codeshare pact

New Delhi, Sept 28: American Airlines and IndiGo Tuesday announced that they have entered into a codeshare agreement which allows the former to sell seats on the Indian carrier's flights operating on 29 routes.

"The codeshare, which will require U.S. and Indian governments' approvals, is expected to begin in October, as American launches new service between New York (JFK) and Delhi October 31 this year and between Seattle (SEA) and Bengaluru January 4, 2022," the ioint statement mentioned. The oneway codeshare agreement will place American's code on 29 of IndiGo's domestic routes, providing a convenient option for American Airlines customers to travel within India after landing in Bengaluru or Delhi.

This means that once the one way codeshare agreement comes into force, American will be able sell seats -- on its distribution system -- of IndiGo flights on the 29 selected routes. In a two-way codeshare agreement, each airline on its distribution system can sell seats of other's flights. Currently, IndiGo has a twoway codeshare agreement with Turkish Airlines and a one-way codeshare partnership with Qatar Airways.

Vasu Raja, Chief Revenue Officer, American Airlines, said: "Whether our customers are traveling for business or pleasure, this new partnership makes it easy to reach all four corners of India.

Big players to join _ **Odisha Agri Conclave**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 28: The State government is all set to organise the Agri Conclave October 8, 2021 and it is expected to have participation from big players in the agriculture sector. The one-day conclave will showcase the availability of surplus of various agricultural produce and create market linkages for agricultural and allied sector produces in the state.

According to officials, the prospective buyers like Horlicks, Patanjali, Britania, Dabur and Nuddles are expected to make their presence in the conclave to explore the possibilities in Odisha for their

To chalk out the details of the event, a preparatory meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Principal Advisor to Chief Minister and Chairman WODC Asit Kumar Tripathy.

The state has also decided to invite exporters, as they play a major role in exporting sea-food and various agricultural products. This initiative will help the local farmers to double their income and open up new horizons in agriculture sector to boost their business and production in the state and catch-up the attention of producers, officials stated

A small video will be displayed during the conclave specially to highlight produce specification and the region-based surplus availability of agricultural production and various schemes of the Odisha government along with success

Spelling out the criteria for vault

'At 17.3 pc, India Inc badly

lags women board members'

services meant for gold deposited to create EGRs. The obligations of the vault

istered and regulated as a Sebi in-

termediary for providing vaulting

exchange would be a national

India and also create a national

pricing structure for gold

seller respectively

platform for buying and selling EGRs

with underlying standardised gold in

The clearing corporation will settle

the trades executed on the stock

exchanges by way of transferring

EGRs and funds to the buyer and

manager include accepting deposits, storage and safekeeping of gold, creation as well as withdrawal of EGR, grievance redressal and periodic reconciliation of physical gold with the records of depository.

Presenting the Budget for 2021-22, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said that Sebi will be the regulator for gold exchange and Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) will be strengthened to set up the commodity market ecosystem.

Gems & jewellery exports grow to record ₹24,239.81cr

Mumbai, Sept 28: Gems and jewellery exports rose to a record ₹24,239.81 crore in August on strong demand for the coming festive season and the removal of entry restrictions, the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) said Tuesday.

The overall gems and jewellery exports stood at ₹13.160.24 crore in August 2020 while in August 2019 the total shipments stood at ₹20,793.80 crore, according to GJEPC data. The year 2020 was a near washout for exports due to closure of borders and other Covid-19 related disruptions. "So far 2021-22 has been showing a healthy recovery. Thanks to the gradual opening of the markets, the removal of entry restrictions, and the forthcoming festive season, India's gem and iewellery exports will witness consistent growth in the near future," GJEPC chairman

to offset rise in input costs

New Delhi, Sept 28: Automaker Tuesday said it will increase prices of its entire model range by up to 2 per cent with effect from October 1 in order to partially offset the impact of rise in input costs.

The company, which is a joint venture between Japan's Toyota Motor Company and Kirloskar Group, sells a range of vehicles including Innova Crysta and Fortuner in the domestic market.

The company will realign the prices of its models, with effect from October 1, 2021, TKM said in a statement. All company models except Vellfire would see an upward increase in prices from next month. "This hike is necessitated to partially offset the increase in input costs. The overall price increase has been tapered down considering the impact on our valued customers," the automaker noted.



Toyota to hike vehicle prices

a gradual increase in the prices of various essential commodities like steel and precious metals. It has led to increased input costs for the automakers.

Already various companies have announced to increase prices from next month. Last week, Tata Motors said it will increase prices of its commercial vehicle range by around 2 per cent with effect from October 1. Similarly, the country largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) has increased prices of its entire product range, except Celerio, by up to 1.9 per cent. The company had noted that it has taken the decision to hike prices due to an in-

However, it is still significantly family member will go a long way below the global average of 24 per Colin Shah said. In the last one year, there has been stories as promotional outreach. in pioneering a change. crease in various input costs. Oil will be world's No 1 energy source for decades: OPEC

As the world's less-wealthy countries seek higher growth and standards of living, crude will continue to be leading source of energy, says the oil cartel

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Frankfurt, Sept 28: As the world's nations prepare to gather for another climate summit next month in Glasgow, the OPEC oil cartel is reminding that, in their view, crude will continue to be the leading source of energy for decades, especially as the world's less-wealthy countries seek higher growth and standards of living

OPEC says that more electric vehicles on the road and the push for alternative and renewable energy will indeed usher in an era of declining demand for oil in rich countries.

But the energy needs of expanding economies in other parts of world will still leave oil as the world's No. 1 source of energy through 2045, OPEC said Tuesday

in its annual World Oil Outlook. 'What is clear in this year's WOO is that energy and oil demand have

picked up significantly in 2021, after the massive drop in 2020, and continued expansion is forecast for the longer-term," the report said.

"Global primary energy demand is expected to increase by 28 per cent in the period between 2020 and 2045, with all energies required, driven by an expected doubling in size of the global economy and the addition of around 1.7 billion people worldwide by 2045.

Only coal will see less use, while other sources of energy will see increasing demand, though the share will shift to include a bigger proportion for renewables, nuclear and natural gas, according to

The 340-page report sketches out a future of declining demand for oil in wealthier countries that belong to the 38-member Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation, as



efforts to fight climate change take hold in the form of renewables and alternative fuels in cars, air planes and ships.

It forecasts that the world's vehicle fleet would grow by 1.1 billion to 2.6 billion by the end of the report's time frame in 2045 — and that 500 million of those would be

electric powered, or 20 per cent of all vehicles

But growing populations and expanding middle classes in the rest of the world including China and India will mean increased demand for oil between 2020 and 2045. although much of that increase will take place in the earlier part

of that period, the report produced by OPEC's secretariat in Oil will satisfy 28.1 per cent of the

world's energy demand by 2045, down from 30 per cent in 2020 — but ahead of natural gas with 24.4 per cent and coal with 17.4 per cent. Hydroelectric, nuclear and biomass energy sources and other renewables such as wind and solar make up the rest.

A key reason cited for declining energy use in the more-developed world was demography: shrinking and aging populations usher lower that economic growth.

The report noted that growing awareness of the need to accelerate actions to address climate change have resulted in ambitious new policy intentions to reach net zero emissions by 2050.

The European Union, the United States, Japan, the UK, Canada and Brazil have proposed roadmaps to meet new goals.

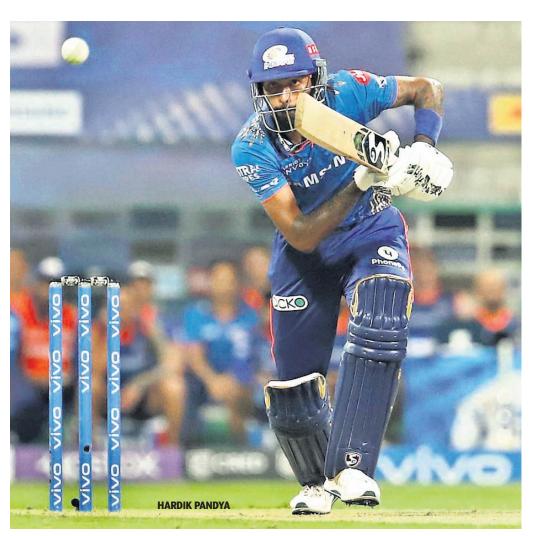
OPEC, however, noted "considerable doubts as to whether all these ambitious climate-mitigation commitments will be met in the proposed timeframe.

For example, the European Union in July spelled out its Fit for 55 package, in which the 27-country bloc vowed to reduce emissions by

55 per cent from 1990 levels by 2030. OPEC said that the plan "remains exactly that for the time being, a plan, which still needs to be negotiated and agreed by all EU Member States, leaving ample scope for exceptions and

watering-down. The UK will host the 26th UN climate change conference October 31-November 12 in Glasgow, Scotland, where national leaders will seek wavs to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and limit the rise in global temperatures.

HARDIK HELPS MI BEAT PBKS Knights edge past Capitals



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Sept 28: Hardik Pandya (40 n o, 30b, 4x4, 2x6) finally showed glimpses of his destructive self as he brought Mumbai Indians back in play-off contention with the defending champions beat Punjab Kings by six wickets in an IPL encounter Tuesday.

Hardik smashed two fours and a six in the penultimate over bowled by Mohammed Shami as his knock saw MI snap a three-match losing

streak successfully chasing down a target of 136 in 19 overs.

Saurabh Tiwary (45, 37b, 3x4, 2x6) and Kieron Pollard (15 n o) also played their part as MI survived some anxious moments before ending on winning note.

Pollard who took two wickets in Punjab innings hit a six and four off young left-armer Arshdeep Singh taking 13 off the 18th over which helped Hardik go for the jugular against Shami. It only helped that his final shot which

ended as a maximum was a regulation catch which Deepak Hooda dropped at the fence.

After this victory, MI reached the fifth spot with 10 points from 11 matches, while Punjab slipped to sixth spot.

Defending the total, leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi got rid of Rohit Sharma (8) and Suryakumar Yadav (0) in successive deliveries to leave MI tottering at 16 for two. Tiwary and Quinton de Kock (27) took the team to 30/2 in the powerplay.

Tiwary eased the pressure with a boundary at the cover-point area, before picking up another four off Nathan Ellis. Dropped by Aiden Markram at the boundary line in 8th over, Tiwary deposited Harpreet over mid-wicket for a maximum to bring up the 50.

De Kock, who was looking good, lost his bearing in the 10th over as he dragged one on to his stumps as MI slumped to 62/3.

Tiwary and Hardik kept MI in hunt but runs dried up with Arshdeep taking the pace off but Harpreet dropped the India allrounder to add to his frustration.

Needing 52 off 36, Tiwary clobbered Bishnoi over mid-wicket but he was soon removed by Nathan Ellis. Hardik then unleashed a four and six in two balls off Shami to keep MI in the hunt.

Needing 29 in the last three overs, Pollard blasted one across the extra cover and then deposited the next one over long-off. Hardik then exploded in the 19th over bowled by Shami as he sent a wide delivery across the boundary and then pulled one across the midwicket before heaving one over long-on to end the contest.

Earlier, Markram (42, 29b, 6x4) shared a 61-run partnership with Deepak Hooda (28) to lift their score after they were reduced to 48/4 in 7.3 overs. However, once the South African was back in the hut in the 16th over. Punjab couldn't score a single boundary, managing a meagre 23 runs in the last four overs.

Pollard (2/8) and Bumrah (2/24) were the pick of the bowlers but they were supported well by Krunal Pandya (1/24), Rahul Chahar (1/27) and Nathan Coulter-Nile (0/19).

BRIEF SCORES

PBKS 135/6 (Aiden Markram 42, Deepak Hooda 28; Kieron Pollard 2/8, Jasprit Bumrah 2/24) lost to MI 137/4 (Saurabh Tiwari 45, Hardik Pandya 40 n o, Quinton de Kock 27; Ravi Bishnoi 2/25, Nathan Ellis 1/12) by 6 wickets.

KOHLI'S RCB LOOKS TO BUILD WINNING MOMENTUM AGAINST STRUGGLING RR

Virat, Sanju meet in Royal face-off

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sharjah, Sept 28: Nitish Rana (36 n o, 27b, 2x4, 2x6) kept his calm in a tricky chase as Kolkata Knight Riders kept their playoff hopes alive with a three-wicket victory over Delhi Capitals in a low-scoring IPL contest, here Tuesday. The KKR bowlers made optimum use of the slow Shariah track to restrict Delhi Capitals to 127/9.

Rana and seasoned Sunil Narine (21, 10b, 1x4, 2x6) went after inexperienced Lalit Yadav in the 14th over and also attacked seasoned Kagiso Rabada in the 16th over to tilt the game in KKR's favour.

The loss would be a nice wakeup call for DC, who remain second in the table with 16 points even as KKR consolidated their fourth spot with 10 points.

On a relaid Sharjah track where run-scoring was difficult, DC did well enough till the 13th over when KKR were struggling at 76/4.

However Rishabh Pant had by then finished Ravichandran Ashwin's (1/24) quota and had to rely on Lalit's fast off-breaks. Rana used the long handle with two huge sixes as 20 came off that over.

In the 16th over, it was Narine, who launched into Rabada and got 21 runs which put KKR in the driver's seat and despite some late jitters, Rana with a slashed boundary

off Anrich Nortje finished the

match in style.

Earlier, the KKR bowlers justified skipper Eoin Morgan's decision to put Delhi into bat as the ball was stopping before coming onto the bat.

For Capitals, only Steve Smith (39) and skipper Pant (39) could cross the 30-run mark as run-scoring looked a difficult task. Not a single six was hit during the entire innings.

Capitals opener Shikhar Dhawan (24) hit five boundaries in quick time as he converted a lot of balls into half volleys before Venkatesh pouched him at point of Lockie Ferguson.

After the Powerplay, DC were

NITISH RANA



as Narine (2/18) castled Shreyas Iver (1) in the seventh over. Then Pant joined Smith and both found scoring difficult as there was no pace off the track and the balls were not really coming onto the bat.

Varun Chakravarthy (0/24) as usual was steady while Narine also played his part. Smith tried changing gears and hammered successive fours in the 10th over off Chakravarthy. However, Ferguson pegged back Delhi by castling Smith as they slipped to 77/3.

Kolkata then grabbed three quick wickets, as Shimron Hetmyer (4), Lalit (0), who was trapped in front by Narine, and Axar Patel (0) too perished cheaply as Delhi was teetering at 92/6.

With Pant failing to up the ante, Venkatesh (2/29) bowled really well in the back-10 which is certain to keep Hardik Pandya on tenterhooks, if not in coming days, then definitely in coming months. Pant became the leading run-scorer for Delhi Capitals surpassing Virender Sehwag.

BRIEF SCORES: DC 127/9 (Steve Smith 39, Rishabh Pant 39; Lockie Ferguson 2/10, Sunil Narine 2/18, Venkatesh Iyer 2/29) lost to KKR 130/7 (Nitish Rana 36 n o, Shubman Gill 30, Sunil Narine 21; Avesh Khan 3/13) by 3 wickets.

WARNER 'WON'T BE AT STADIUM AGAIN'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 28: Sunrisers Hyderabad's big-hitting opener David Warner, who has been dropped from the playing XI because of poor form, has said that he won't be seen at the stadium "again", hinting that his stint with the struggling franchise could be over.

Warner was axed last night from the game against Rajasthan Royals, which SRH won by seven wickets. That win aside, the franchise has battled a poor run with only two wins from 10 matches. which has left them at the bottom of the points table and out of contention for a playoffs berth.

Warner's absence from the team dugout did not go unnoticed and fans wondered about his whereabouts underneath an instagram post by SRH.

Responding to the queries, Warner posted, "Unfortunately won't be again but keep supporting, please.

Warner has been woefully out of form this season, having accumulated just 181 runs in eight matches so far at an average of 24.37. His strike rate, at present, is the lowest in all his IPL stints, making it his worst season in the league.

The 34-year-old joined SRH in 2014 and captained the side to its maiden IPL title in 2016. Dropped from the leadership role after the 2018 ball-tampering scandal, he came back as skipper in 2020.

He was again removed as captain during the first leg of this season due to the team's poor run and differences with Team Director Tom Moody and head coach Trevor Bayliss. "We can't make the finals, so we

made a decision that we want the youngsters to experience not just the matches, but time at the ground and around the set-up," Bayliss had said at the post match press conference on Monday when asked about Warner staying back at his hotel room. IPL sources have revealed that

he will be released at the end of the season and go back to the auc-



Star Sports channels & Hotstar

Dubai, Sept 28: A thumping win over defending champions Mumbai Indians boosting their confidence, Royal Challengers Bangalore would look to build on the momentum when they take on a struggling Rajasthan Royals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

in their IPL match here Wednesday. The Virat Kohli-led RCB are currently at third spot with 12 points from 10 matches and a win over RR will virtually put them in



the playoffs. On the other hand, with eight points from 10 matches, it will be a make-or-break outing for RR as a loss Wednesday can put them in a tight situation in their

bid for a last-four berth. RCB did not have the best of starts after the IPL's resumption as they lost two consecutive matches, including the forgettable nine-wicket defeat to Kolkata Knight Riders where they made just 92 runs.

They were then outplayed by

Chennai Super Kings though Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal came good with 53 and 70 respectively.

The previous match against MI, however, gave them their first win after the IPL's resumption with Kohli hitting his second consecutive fifty and Maxwell also coming good. Kohli, who is stepping down from RCB captaincy after this season, would look to continue his good form.

South African legend AB de Villiers, on the other hand, needs a big one after scores of 0, 12, 11 while Maxwell will be keen to stay in good touch with the T20 World Cup not far.

On the bowling front, Harshal $\,$ Patel is the star with six wickets from three matches, including a hat-trick in the last match, and Yuzvendra Chahal is also in fine form with five dismissals

Rajasthan, on the other hand, have been outplayed by their respective opponents in their last two matches after winning their first game by two runs. Except for captain Sanju Samson and Yashasvi Jaiswal, most of the RR batsmen are struggling.

Among bowlers, Kartik Tyagi (3 wickets), Chetan Sakariya (4 wickets) and Mustafizur Rahman (3 wickets) have done reasonably well for the side.

CLASH OF TITANS

Defending champions Chelsea take on Italian giants Juventus



Romelu Lukaku (Chelsea)

AGENCIES

Turin, Sept 28: Champions League holders Chelsea will be looking to bounce back from last weekend's defeat against Manchester City, when they travel to face Juventus Wednesday night.

The Italian giants, meanwhile, are aiming to claim their fourth victory in five matches across all competitions as well as extend their unbeaten record against the Blues to four games.

After failing to win each of their opening four Serie A matches, with Massimiliano Allegri overseeing one of the club's worst starts in 60 years, Juventus have since bounced back with successive 3-2 league victories against Spezia and Sampdoria.

In the midst of their disappointing domestic start, Juventus won their opening Champions League match in Group H earlier this month, securing a comfortable 3-0 victory away against Swedish outfit Malmo.

Their next opponent in Europe's elite club competition could arguably not be any tougher, as they face holders Chelsea, who have lost only three of their last 32 Champions League group stage games.

Juve did, however, win their most recent meeting against the Blues, claiming a 3-0 home victory during the 2012-13 group stage, the vear after Chelsea claimed their first ever Champions League crown.

In fact, the Italians have an impressive record against holders of the Champions League or the European Cup as it used to be known. Juve have won seven times, including four of their last five on home soil, with only Real Madrid



(11) winning more in the competition's history.

Juventus lost their last Champions League game against English opposition, suffering a 2-1 defeat at home to Manchester United in November 2018. The Old Lady have never lost successive games against English teams and if they avoid defeat Wednesday, then they will have a good chance of topping Group F by the end of this year.

Thomas Tuchel's Chelsea side headed into their mouth-watering clash against Manchester City last weekend confident that they could secure their fourth successive win against the reigning Premier League champions.

However, the Blues were brought back down to earth as Pep Guardiola's side produced an excellent performance at Stamford Bridge, coming away with a 1-0 victory.

The German head coach will not need to go back to the drawing board, though Sunday's defeat is a gentle reminder of the task his side face in not only retaining their European crown, but also challenging for the Premier League title against such strong opposition. Chelsea began their defence of the Champions League with a slender 1-0 victory over Zenit St Petersburg earlier this month, with Romelu Lukaku heading in the only goal of the game and his fourth of the campaign.

Chelsea travel to Turin Wednesday after losing each of their last four Champions League away games against Italian opposition, with all four defeats against a different opponent. Losses to Inter Milan in 2009-10 and Napoli in 2011-12 were followed by defeats against Juve in 2012-13 and Roma in 2017-18.

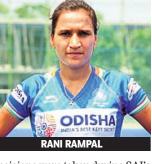
Out of turn promotion for 5 Tokyo stars



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 28: Women's hockey team captain Rani Rampal and goalkeeper Savita Punia, along with Paralympic medal-winners Mariyappan Thangavelu and Sharad Kumar were Tuesday given out-of-turn promotions by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for their impressive performances in this year's Tokyo Games.

Besides, hockey coach Piyush Dubey, who was part of the men's hockey team's support staff during the bronze-winning effort in Tokyo, was also offered a promotion. The

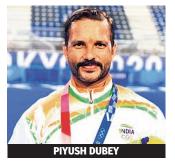


decisions were taken during SAI's 55th Governing Body meeting.

Apart from this, SAI also decided to allocate a one-time grant of Rs 6.87 lakh to the family of former Asian Games gold-medallist and Arjuna award winning late boxer Dingko Singh. Dingko, aged 42, died of liver cancer in June this year.

While Savita was promoted to coach from assistant coach, Rani and Dubey were made senior coaches. Rani and Savita were a part of the Indian squad that finished fourth at the Olympics.

Mariyappan, who won his second successive Paralympic medal in



high jumping Tokyo, was promoted to chief coach from senior coach. Sharad, who was an assistant coach, was made coach for his bronze.

"As a gesture of appreciation for the spectacular efforts of our Tokyo Olympians and Paralympians, the 55th SAI GB has approved out-of-turn promotions to SAI coaches - Rani Rampal, Savita Punia, Mariyappan Thangavelu, Sharad Kumar and Piyush Dubey. I congratulate them all," Sports Minister Anurag Thakur later tweeted.

Among other decisions, the meeting also decided to start cadre re-



structuring of SAI and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) secretariat in a bid to strengthen the support system of sportspersons keeping in mind the $2\overline{0}24$ and 2028

The restructuring emphasises on increasing the number of Sports Science experts, High Performance coaches and other professionals within SAI to achieve results through its National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs).

The SAI GB approved and ratified approximately 300 additional posts of scientific staff, including High Performance Analysts (138),



High Performance Directors (23), Sports Medicine Doctors (23), Physiotherapists (93) and Masseur (104).

Besides, the SAI will also hire additional High Performance Analysts like strength and conditioning experts, sports performance analysts, biomechanists, psychologists, video analysts, physiologists etc.

The SAI also decided to create 50 posts of High Performance Coaches for training at its NCOEs. In the meeting, it was also decided to rope in corporate support to build the "sporting ecosystem in the country, particularly at NCOEs as part of their CSR initiatives.