

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)

Deemed to be University (Declared U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India | Website: www.kiit.ac.in | Email: kiit@kiit.ac.in



Slow and steady wins the race...

On the eve of 25 Years Celebration
1997 – 2022 Silver Jubilee



Academic Excellence

As KIIT is on the verge of the significant milestone of completing 25 years (1997 - 2022), it has become a trusted destination for professional education for students from all parts of India and over 64 countries. It has been consistently achieving academic accolades transforming itself into a world-class knowledge hub.



Winner of Times Higher Education Awards Asia 2020 in the category 'Workplace of the Year'

Ranked 501-600 in Computer Sciences, 601-800 in Engineering & Technology and 1000+ overall in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings

Ranked 801-1000 by Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022

Ranked No. 1 Deemed University in Odisha and Eastern India

India's Top Private University in Innovation (ARIIA Rankings, Govt. of India)

Ranked 24th among all Government and private Universities in India (NIRF India Rankings)

Ranked 301-350 in the Emerging Economies University Rankings by Times Higher Education

Ranked 201-300 by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021

Rated 5 Star institution by the QS Stars Rating System

Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award-2020 by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)

Quality Council of India - DL Shah Quality Silver Award

Ranked 21st among all Government and private Universities & among Top 10 Law Schools in India (NIRF India Rankings)

Ranked 251-300 in the Emerging Economies University Rankings by Times Higher Education

KIIT-Technology Business Incubator (TBI) granted 'Centre of Excellence' by Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India

Times B-School Survey 2020: KIIT School of Management Ranked 2nd in BBA

2020

'Institution of Eminence' tag by Govt. of India

Ranked 31st among all Government and private Universities in India (NIRF India Rankings)

Ranked 301+ in Times Higher Education Young University Rankings

Ranked 2nd in Innovation among Private Universities (ARIIA Rankings, Govt. of India)

Odisha's first self-financing university to enter QS BRICS University Rankings

Legal Education Innovation Award to KIIT Law School by Society of Indian Law Firms (SILF) and Menon Institute of Legal Advocacy and Training (MILAT)

Internationalization Strategies Advisory Service (ISAS) Badge from the International Association of Universities (IAU)

KIIT-Technology Business Incubator (TBI) Ranked No. 1 Bioincubator in private sector by BioSpectrum

2018

Ranked 42nd among all Government and private Universities in India (NIRF India Rankings)

2017

Ranked 49th among all Government and private Universities in India (NIRF India Rankings)

National Award for KIIT-Technology Business Incubator (TBI) from Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India

IET, UK Accreditation

2016

Ranked 52nd among all Government and private Universities in India (NIRF India Rankings)

2014

'Category A' Status by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India

Tier 1 Accreditation (Washington Accord) by National Board of Accreditation (NBA), AICTE

2012

Hosted 99th Indian Science Congress

2008

More Schools set up - School of Fashion Technology, School of Film & TV Production, School of Mass Communication

2007

New Schools set up - Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences (KIDS), Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences (KINS), School of Rural Management (KSRRM), School of Biotechnology (KSBT), KIIT Law School (KLS), Kiit International School (Among the best public schools in the country, offering CBSE as National and IBDP & IGCSE as International curriculum)

2006

Reaccredited in 'A Grade' by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), UGC

2004

Declared Deemed University by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India (Youngest Deemed University in the country - Limca Book of Records)

2002

Accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), UGC Accredited by National Board of Accreditation (NBA), AICTE

1997

Took shape as an Institution of Higher Learning Engg., MBA & MCA Programmes started

Academic Conferences

KIIT has been organizing academic conferences of national and international significance since its inception. It has also organized a few prestigious international conferences.

- 99th Indian Science Congress (2012)
- All-India Seminar on Global Legal Education (2015)
- 69th All India Commerce Conference (2019)
- 92nd Indian Economic Association (IEA) Conference (2010)
- World Congress of Poets (2019) and many more

Unmatched Exposure

Under Nobel Lecture Series, 22 Nobel Laureates have delivered lectures at KIIT.

KIIT has produced three Olympians (Tokyo Olympics 2020) and hundreds of international level sports talents.

Taking advantage of KIIT's academic collaborations, a large number of students take admission in top universities of the world every year.

Besides top-notch campus placement, KIIT students have a very successful track record in prestigious exams like IAS, Indian Engineering Services (IES), Odisha Judicial Services (OJS), GATE, etc.

Fully wi-fi, fully air-conditioned & fully residential campus

Global Recognition

KIIT has entered into academic tie-ups with 195 international universities and institutions to enrich the student experience, facilitate faculty growth and contributions, and enhance the impact of research. It is also a member of prominent national and international university networks such as:

International Association of Universities (IAU) | Association of Indian Universities (AIU) | Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) | University Mobility of Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) | International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) | Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific (AUAP) | International Institute of Education (IIE), New York | United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) | Eurasian Silk Road Universities Consortium (ESRUC)

Campus Placement

Placement is one of the key advantages that KIIT offers. KIIT has been maintaining a very successful track record in campus placement since inception. Despite the prevailing pandemic situation, placement of 2020 and 2021 batches has been excellent. In the ongoing campus placement drive for 2022 batch students, 1500 students have already bagged jobs on 'Day Zero'. The highest salary is Rs. 40 lakh p.a., while the average salary is Rs. 7 lakh.

University of Compassion & Humanity

Student-friendly Campus

Best Practices & Innovation

Best in Digital Teaching-Learning

Community-based University

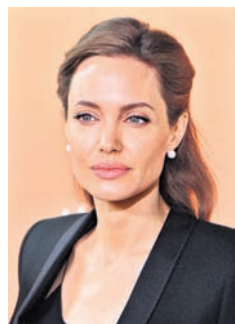
Fulfilling Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Multi-cultural University

Multi-disciplinary University

25 years as an institution, 18 years as a university





ANGELINA JOLIE PAYS EMOTIONAL TRIBUTE TO AMANDA GORMAN

Angelina Jolie struck a poignant and empowering chord Thursday night, presenting national youth poet laureate Amanda Gorman with Variety's Power of Women honour. The superstar, director and actor arrived at the Beverly Hills celebration presented by Lifetime with daughter Zahara Jolie-Pitt in tow, to hand the honour to Gorman.

SCARLETT, DISNEY SETTLE BLACK WIDOW PAY LAWSUIT

Scarlett Johansson and Disney have reached a settlement over her lawsuit that accused the studio of sabotaging the theatrical release of *Black Widow* to prop up Disney+. Terms of the settlement were not disclosed. Johansson had sought a \$50 million payout from the studio.



Deepika plays badminton really well: PV Sindhu

Mumbai: Ace badminton player PV Sindhu recently spent some quality time with Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh and the trio bonded over dinner. Speaking about the same in an interview with a magazine, Sindhu was reportedly all praise for Deepika. According to her, the actress is really sweet and very beautiful. She also revealed that Deepika plays badminton really well. Although she was surprised to see her play that well initially, Sindhu soon realised that it was obvious because it is in Deepika's genes. Her father was a legend in the sport.

She also revealed that they all went for dinner later and they both were really very sweet to her.

Last week, Deepika shared the video of the duo's game and said, "Guess who won?" In the video, Deepika said, "She is practising for world championship and she thought I was the best partner to prepare her."

Sindhu added, "If she would've played badminton, she would've become the top player." Deepika had also shared pictures from the ses-

sion with the caption, "Just a regular day in my life...Burning calories with Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh and the trio bonded over dinner."

PV Sindhu was all over the news after she won a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics 2020 earlier this year. She has reportedly become the first Indian woman to win two individual Olympic medals in a row.

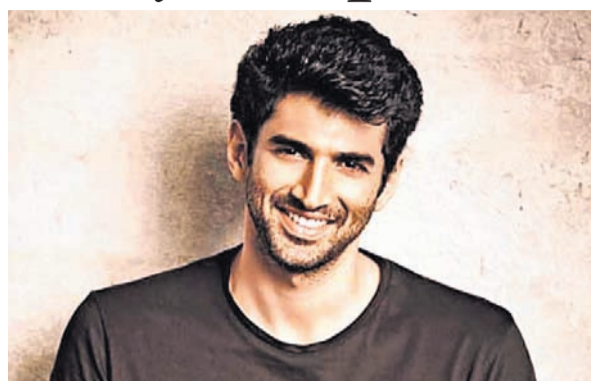
Meanwhile, on the work front, Deepika will next be seen in Kabir Khan's '33' which she has also co-produced. She has also

shared pictures from the ses-

Shakun Batra's untitled next co-starring Ananya Panday and Siddhant Chaturvedi.

AGENCIES

Aditya steps into Tom Hiddleston's shoes



Mumbai: After being seen in *Malang* and *Ludo*, Aditya Roy Kapur will now step into Hrithik Roshan's shoes for an ambitious OTT project. Sources suggest that the actor will headline the Indian adaptation of the British mini-series *The Night*

Manager. Incidentally, there was a buzz of Hrithik playing the lead in the show, but sources suggest otherwise.

A source revealed, "The Indian adaptation of

The Night Manager will have a larger-than-life set-up and is one of the most ambitious projects of the year. Owing to Aditya Roy Kapur's massive female fan following and back-to-back blockbuster projects, the makers have roped him to play the character essayed by Tom Hiddleston in the series. It will feature the suave actor in different avatar altogether."

While both, Hrithik and Aditya, are known for their drool-worthy looks, it will be interesting to watch how Aditya takes over from Tom Hiddleston. Sandeep Modi, the co-director of Ram Madhvan's Emmy-nominated series *Aarya*, will helm the show. The series is expected to go on floors in the first quarter of next year.

IANS

Saif reveals son Ibrahim is working with KJo

Mumbai: Actor Saif Ali Khan has revealed that his son Ibrahim is assisting filmmaker Karan Johar in a film to learn the nuances of filmmaking.

Saif spoke with host Siddharth Kannan in an interview for the latter's YouTube channel.

While Ibrahim is ready to enter Hindi film industry, Saif revealed that he is first understanding the filmmaking process by being behind the camera.

Talking about the different stages, his children Sara, Ibrahim, Taimur and Jeh are at, Saif said: "They are all different. Ibrahim

is assisting on a Karan Johar movie and sharing that, and talking about what his dreams and ideas are."

Further he said: "Sara is older and we have a very different equation and of course, Taimur is looking to you for guidance and all that, Jeh is just smiling and drooling (laughs), much more my mental age than any of them. He's the new-

born of course. They are different, but luckily and interestingly, as Sara said, every decade of my life has had a kid. From the 20s, 30s, 40s and 50s, so that's what it is. I'm different too." While it is unclear which film of Karan is Ibrahim assisting on, it is said to be the filmmaker's next *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani*.

IANS



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
An enterprising day. The stars say you may visit an ancient place. A museum, perhaps, or a historical place. But your health may require some attention, says Ganesh. If so, it's a good idea to spend an evening by yourself.

TAURUS
It will be a thought-provoking day with tidbits of success and rewards scattered here and there, says Ganesh. If you feel you got the short end of the stick, do not let it affect your morale. Every sunrise comes with a different promise and today is not the end of the world.

GEMINI
Your desire for a clean house will reach the level of obsession, predicts Ganesh. You may plan to wash your car, clean your yard and arrange your wardrobe. And you don't trust the housemaid with any of the chores, because no one can clean the house better than you.

CANCER
Though your thoughts and views may be quite radical, you will be largely restrained while acting on them, portends Ganesh. You will have no problems starting a new venture or love affair, and taking the required action to keep them afloat. You'll be a Pied Piper to the women, or le belle dame sans merci (the beautiful young merciless woman) to the men.

LEO
Time is one thing that you have in short change today, says Ganesh. There is every possibility that you shall remain extremely busy. The tasks may be small - like writing a letter to revive old contacts - but it is important that you do them. Chances are that you may also end up giving a few interviews over the phone.

VIRGO
Family affairs will predominate today. They will even control your thoughts to the exclusion of everything else. Things will look up on the business front. You may spend time relaxing in the evening, Ganesh says a trip to a place of worship is on the cards.

LIBRA
Of late, you have been very concerned about the health of one of your close friends. Take this day to lay your fears to rest by spending time with that friend. Work can wait, as today you must prove to yourself, if not to others, that 'a friend in need is a friend indeed'. Ganesh wishes you the very best.

SCORPIO
Your mind shall take over the proceedings today. And it shall, in all likelihood, draw you to the work bench and keep your nose to the grindstone. But your heart will flutter like a butterfly, and if you manage to strike the right balance, you may win over your special one and your boss too, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Tough times do not last, but tough people do, remember this fact and move ahead in life. Try to make the complicated life simpler by your optimistic approach. Speak up when it is required and don't get bogged down by unnecessary pressure.

CAPRICORN
You will have heard of many emotional fools who let sentiments rule their lives. Try not to be one of them, and if it's too difficult a task, at least pretend not to be one of them, for Ganesh says going by your feelings can leave you at a low ebb. In other words, your feelings can come in the way of your success.

AQUARIUS
Today, you will experience the harmonious balance between logic and emotion. You will consequently know how to mix business with pleasure. Money wise, you are content, but trivial issues may bother you today, says Ganesh.

PISCES
The focus is firmly on career advancement today. Business deals, which have been a long time in the making, will finally come through. Those pursuing a profession can expect pay rises or promotions. Make sure your skills are up to the mark to be able to tackle your new responsibilities satisfactorily, says Ganesh.

INTERNATIONAL COFFEE DAY

Celebs talk about their love for coffee



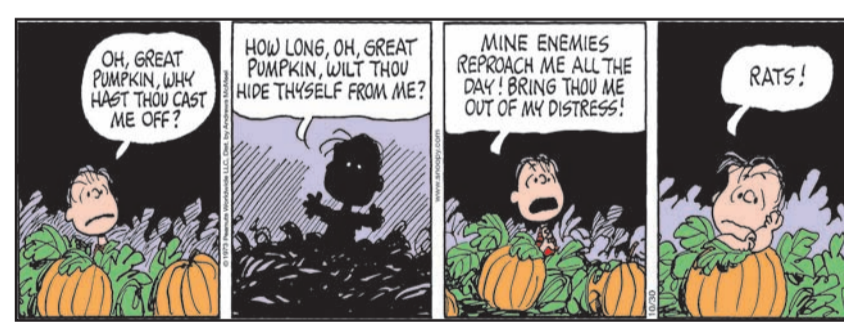
Mumbai: International Coffee Day is celebrated every year on October 1 to appreciate and celebrate the love for the beverage. It is also an occasion for coffee lovers to share their love for it. Since morning, stars have taken to their social media handle to share special posts.

See the actress enjoying a cup of coffee. The post was captioned as, "Coffee - Recharge - Work - Repeat - Happy #InternationalCoffeeDay."

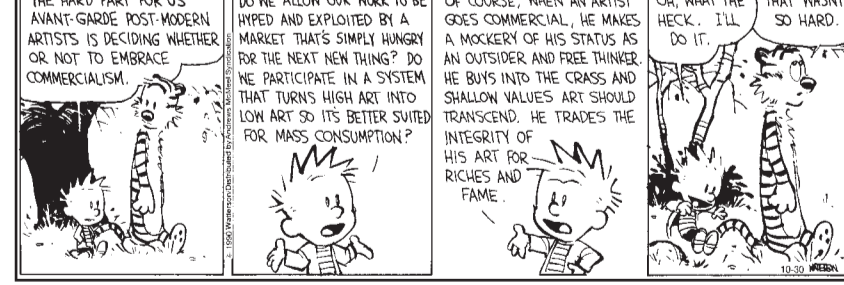
Sophie Choudry shared a picture in a cute sweatshirt. She wrote, "Happy #internationalcoffeeday Or in my case double shot, almond milk latte day".



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

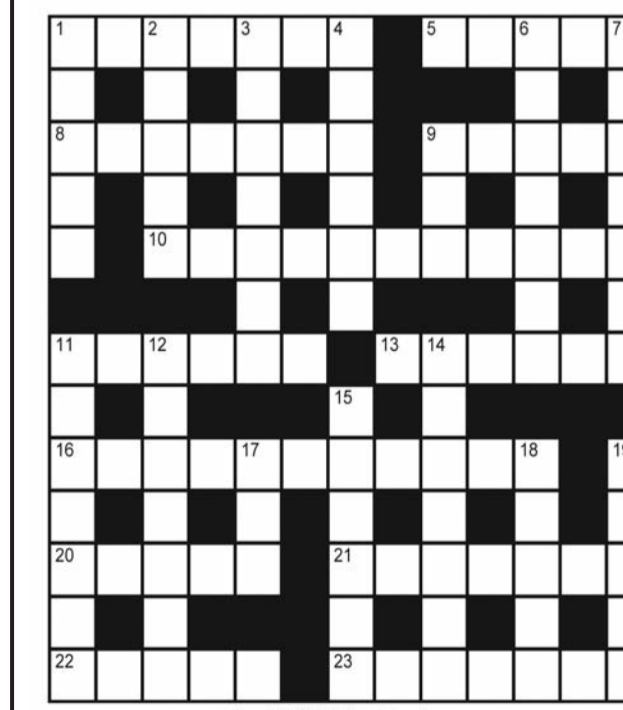


BREVITY



FUN post

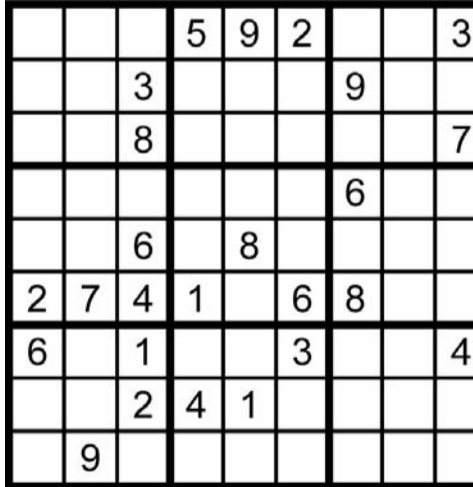
CROSSWORD



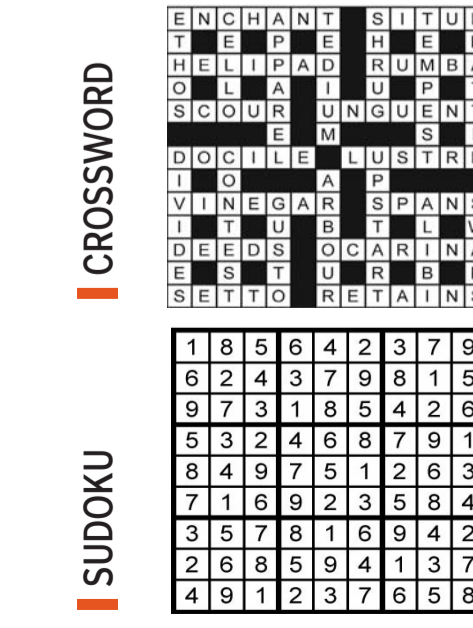
- Across**
- 1 Realtor's sign (3,4)
 - 5 Kingdom
 - 8 Way back when (4-3)
 - 9 Worth
 - 10 Like some health care
 - 11 Reserved
 - 13 Neutron star
 - 16 Wisenheimers (5,6)
 - 20 Explode
 - 21 Null and void
 - 22 Difficult trips
 - 23 Progress
- Down**
- 1 Bad move
 - 2 Ladder parts
 - 3 Unpaid rookie
 - 4 Like some holiday locales
 - 6 Collars
 - 7 One with a red cape
 - 9 Bag thickness
 - 11 Mousse, maybe
 - 12 Use a ruler
 - 14 Expose
 - 15 Friends
 - 17 Egyptian boy king
 - 18 Unwavering
 - 19 Commotions (2-3)

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



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



SINDHU PRAISES DEEPIKA

Ace badminton player PV Sindhu revealed that actor Deepika Padukone plays badminton really well

LEISURE



AUS TO END TRAVEL BAN

Australia has outlined plans to lift a pandemic ban on its vaccinated citizens travelling overseas from November

INTERNATIONAL P8



A MANDHANA FEAT

Smriti Mandhana becomes first Indian woman to score century in a D/N Test, achieving the feat against Aussies

SPORTS BACK PAGE

USHA TRAVELS
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BHUBANESWAR

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| KOLKATA | 2533/-* |
| HYDERABAD | 3533/-* |
| BENGALURU | 3533/-* |
| DELHI | 3633/-* |
| MUMBAI | 3733/-* |
| DUBAI | 10,333/-* |

9937438896

MERCK PILL COULD BE FIRST ORAL COVID DRUG

Washington: An antiviral pill developed by US drugmaker Merck & Co could half the chances of dying or being hospitalised for those most at risk of contracting severe COVID-19, with experts hailing it as a potential breakthrough in how the virus is treated. The drug, molnupiravir, is administered orally and works by inhibiting the replication of the coronavirus inside the body. This could be the first oral drug for the treatment of COVID-19.



YOU STRANGULATED CITY: SC TO FARMERS' BODY

New Delhi: "You have strangulated the entire city and now you want to come inside and start protest here again," an irked Supreme Court Friday told a farmers' body protesting against the three new farm laws and seeking directions to authorities to allow it to stage Satyagraha at Jantar Mantar here. What was the point in continuing with the protest once it has moved the court challenging the farm laws, the apex court asked the farmers' body, and said the citizens have equal rights to move freely and without fear and there has to be some "balanced approach".



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IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Of course, he's still relevant to us, whenever we go outside India!

MARKET WATCH

| INDEX | VAIATION |
|--------|-------------------|
| SENSEX | 58765.58 ↓ 360.78 |
| NIFTY | 17532.00 ↓ 86.20 |
| DOLLAR | 74.11 ↓ ₹0.38 |
| EURO | 85.93 ↓ ₹0.04 |
| GOLD | ₹46,283 ↓ ₹40 |
| SILVER | ₹60,341 ↑ ₹724 |

WEATHER

| | BHUB | CTK |
|----------|------------------------|--------|
| TEMP MAX | 34.6°C | 34.0°C |
| TEMP MIN | 25.2°C | 25.2°C |
| Humidity | 76% | 84% |
| Rainfall | Nil | Nil |
| Forecast | Light rain very likely | |



FIGHTING GALE
People struggle with rain and strong wind as Typhoon Mindulle travels off the coast of Japan in Tokyo, Friday. AP / PTI PHOTO

Fuel prices at all-time high

FUEL PRICES IN STATE

| CITY/TOWN | PETROL | DIESEL |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| BHUBANESWAR | ₹102.77 | ₹98.34 |
| KALIMELA | ₹108.45 | ₹104.05 |
| JATNI | ₹102.57 | ₹98.14 |

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Petrol and diesel price soared to an all-time high across the country Friday after rates were hiked again by 25 paise and 30 paise a litre, respectively.

The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest ever level of ₹101.89 a litre and to ₹107.95 in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. Diesel rates too touched a record high of ₹90.17 in Delhi and ₹97.84 in Mumbai. Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes. In Odisha, petrol cost ₹102.77 in Bhubaneswar, while it cost the highest ₹108.45 in Kalimela in Malkangiri district. Similarly, diesel cost ₹98.34 in Bhubaneswar, while it cost the highest ₹104.05 in Kalimela.



Petrol prices are responsible for the record-breaking inflation. The central government is responsible for the record-breaking petrol prices. One person is responsible for breaking all the wrong records

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

petrol price rise to ₹113.73 a litre and diesel to ₹103.9 per litre. State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) resumed daily price revisions September 24 after international oil prices neared a three-year high. Global benchmark Brent crude is trading above USD 78 per barrel. In six price increases since September 24, diesel rates have gone up by 1.55 paise per litre. Petrol price has increased by 75 paise per litre in three instalments this week.

India's retaliatory travel curbs on UK nationals

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: British nationals arriving in India, irrespective of their vaccination status, will have to undergo 10 days of mandatory quarantine from October 4 as part of the reciprocal actions initiated by the government following the vaccine certification row between the two countries. India has decided to impose reciprocal actions on British nationals arriving in India, official sources said as the issue relating to the UK not recognising Indian vaccine certificates could not be resolved. They said India's new regulations will come into effect from October 4 and they will be applicable to all British nationals arriving in India from the UK. Under the norms, all British na-

Govt shoots down rumours on Tatas flying with Air India

AGENCIES

Union finance ministry rubbishes reports of salt-to-software conglomerate Tata Sons winning the financial bids for the debt-ridden state-run airline



New Delhi, Oct 1: Finance ministry said Friday reports suggesting the government has picked a winning bid for debt-laden state-run airline Air India were incorrect. Earlier Friday, media reported that a panel of ministers accepted a proposal from officials recommending salt-to-software conglomerate Tata Sons ahead of an offer from Ajay Singh, promoter of India's airline operator SpiceJet Ltd. "Media reports indicating approval of financial bids for Government of India in the AI disinvestment case are incorrect,"

the ministry said in a tweet. "Media will be informed of the Government decision as and when it is taken." Air India and Tata Sons declined to comment. Earlier this month the finance ministry said it had received bids for the airline, but did not name the bidders. A possible sale would come at a time the airline industry is trying to recover from the slump in travel caused by restrictions aimed at containing the coronavirus pandemic. This would also be seen as a relief to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, which has been pushing to sell its entire interest in the loss-making airline. The winning bidder would win control of Air India's 4,400 domestic and 1,800 international landing and parking slots at domestic airports, as well as 900 slots at airports overseas, including London's Heathrow Airport. It would also get 100% of the low-cost arm Air India Express and 50% of AISATS, which provides cargo and ground handling services at major Indian airports. The government loses nearly ₹200 million every day to run the national carrier, which has accumulated losses of over ₹700 billion, officials have said. An effort to auction a majority stake almost three years ago drew no bids, forcing the government to ease the terms. It had also extended the deadline multiple times during the pandemic. P9

Nobel Peace: Is this Greta Thunberg's year?

While the winner often seems a total surprise, those who follow it closely say the best way to guess is to look at the global issues most likely to be on the minds of the five committee members who choose.

guess is to look at the global issues most likely to be on the minds of the five committee members who choose. With the COP26 climate summit set for the start of November in Scotland, that issue could be global warming. Scientists paint this summit as the last chance to set binding targets for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions for the next decade, vital if the world is to have hope of keeping temperature change below the 1.5 degree Celsius target to avert catastrophe. That could point to Thunberg, the Swedish climate activist, who at 18 would be the second youngest winner in history by a few months, after Pakistan's Malala Yousafzai. "The committee often wants to send a message. And this will be a strong message to send to COP26,



which will be happening between the announcement of the award and the ceremony," Dan Smith, director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, told Reuters. Another big issue the committee may want to address is democracy and free speech. That could mean an

award for a press freedom group, such as the Committee to Protect Journalists or Reporters Without Borders, or for a prominent political dissident, such as exiled Belarus opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya or jailed Russian activist Alexei Navalny. A win for a journalism advocacy group would resonate "with the large debate about the importance of independent reporting and the fighting of fake news for democratic governance," said Henrik Urdal, director of the Peace Research Institute Oslo. A Nobel for either Navalny or Tsikhanouskaya would be an echo of the Cold War, when peace and literature prizes were bestowed on prominent Soviet dissidents such as Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

State urges Jharkhand not to neglect Odia edu

AGENCIES

S&ME Minister Samir Ranjan Dash wrote to his Jharkhand counterpart after the neighbouring state decided not to include Odia in the curriculum of teachers' training course

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Odisha's School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash has urged his Jharkhand counterpart Jagannath Mahto not to exclude Odia language from the curriculum of the teachers' training course meant for primary teachers in the neighbouring state. Dash in a letter to Mahto said that exclusion of Odia language from the teachers' training course by the Jharkhand government has created an "atmosphere of dissent, distrust and discomfort fanning controversies among the Odia speaking people in Jharkhand and border districts." The Odisha minister said that an advertisement published September 20 by the Jharkhand Academic Council has created doubt in the minds of Odia speaking people in the state. In this advertisement, which is meant for primary school teachers' training, Odia language has been excluded from the 7th paper while languages like Sanskrit, Bengali, Urdu, Ho, Mundari,

Pradhan writes to neighbouring states

Bhubaneswar: Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has written letters to Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren seeking their intervention for promotion of Odia-based education in their states. In his letter to Soren, Pradhan urged for implementation of the values enshrined in the New Education Policy 2020. MORE P2

Sanathali and Kudmali have been included, Dash said. "It is therefore, requested that your government should take needful action in this regard to restore and regain the trust and faith of Odia people. Hopefully, the action under your able leadership will prove that the policy of a welfare state not only shows a human face, but palpably animates itself with the emotive rhythm of a human heart," Dash said in the letter to Mahto. Dash said considering the homogeneous cultural heritage and identity of the two states, the Jharkhand government has recognised Odia as the second state language. The people of both the states had fought valiantly against the oppression of the British Rule, he said.

Naveen inaugurates Koraput Coffee Cafe

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the Koraput Coffee Cafe at Koraput and Puri on the International Coffee Day Friday through videoconferencing and dedicated e-commerce platform - Koraputcoffee.org - to promote Koraput Coffee across the globe.

The state government is also planning to set up a number of such cafes across the country, which will help in establishing the brand and transforming the lives of the local coffee cultivators.

Koraput, located at a height of 3,000 feet above sea level, is ideal for coffee cultivation due to its cool climate and rainfall.

This home-grown coffee, a single origin 100 per cent Arabica coffee, will be competing with the specialty coffee market in near future.

Inaugurating the coffee cafe, the Chief Minister said, "I am glad, in just two years Koraput coffee

has carved a niche for itself. For the benefit of tribal livelihood, my government has undertaken multiple initiatives for the promotion of Koraput Coffee, in addition to marketing of Koraput coffee by Tribal Development Cooperative Cooperation of Odisha Limited. This year Coffee Development Trust at Koraput has taken up to 300 hectares of new and old coffee plantations."

Tribal Development Cooperative Cooperation of Odisha Limited (TDCCOL) Managing Director Mansi Nimbhal said the new product line Tiger Bright is already catching the eyes of everyone.

"International buyers are approaching us for bulk purchases. I am sure this will help our tribal growers to fetch competitive prices," she said.

In a major boost to the home-grown coffee brand, recently, Tata Coffee has agreed to market coffee grown in the Koraput district in national and international markets, TDCCOL said.

Nod to 9 industrial projects worth ₹1,411cr

The initiatives in seven sectors would create employment opportunities for 2,846 persons

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: The State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA), led by Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Friday approved nine industrial projects in seven sectors worth ₹1,411.58 crore that would generate employment opportunities for 2,846 persons.

The SLSWCA approved a proposal by Bio-WMS Private Limited to set up biomass plants at Angul, Bargarh, Jajpur, Jharsuguda and Sambalpur with an investment of ₹319.25 crore. The plants would provide employment opportunities to at least 1,250 people.

A proposal by MGM Biofuels Private Limited to set up a food processing unit in Boudh with an investment of ₹225.24 crore also



got the SLSWCA go ahead. The food processing unit will provide jobs to more than 120 people, it was learnt.

A unit for production of 200 KLPD Ethanol along with a 6MW Co-generation Power Plant (CPP) by TPS Breweries and Distilleries Private Limited to be set up at Junagarh in Kalahandi was also approved by the state government. With an investment of ₹235 crore, the initiative is expected to create employment opportunities for 200 people.

The SLSWCA cleared a proposal of Indian Farmers Fertiliser

Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) to set up a Nano Urea unit with bottling facility at Paradeep with an investment of ₹225 crore. The unit is expected to provide jobs to more than 200 people.

A proposal to set up a seawater desalination plant by Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited at a cost of ₹107 crore at Gopalpur SEZ in Ganjam also got the state's nod. The seawater desalination plant would give employment to at least 29 people.

A manufacturing unit by Sahyadri Industries Limited pro-

posed to be set up in Balasore with a total investment of ₹100 crore was approved by the SLSWCA. It would provide employment opportunities to 200 persons.

Seascope Infrastructures and Hospitality Private Limited would set up a hotel-cum-resort with an investment of ₹100 crore near Konark in Puri which is expected to generate over 173 employment opportunities.

A proposal to set up a smart city advanced drainage and sewage system products manufacturing plant at Barang in Cuttack with an investment of ₹54.42 crore by Odisha Concrete (OPC) Private Limited also got the state government approval. The initiative would generate employment for at least 106 people.

The state also approved an expansion proposal by New Modern Technomech Private Limited to set up a 70,000 MT Hot Dip Galvanized Steel Structure in Baripada of Mayurbhanj with an investment of ₹55 crore. It would generate employment opportunities for 568 persons, it was learnt.

Journo attacked

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 1: In yet another incident of armed robbery in the Capital city, a senior journalist of an Odia daily was assaulted and robbed by bike-borne miscreants when he was on morning walk Friday.

The victim, Satya Sundar Bhanja, was on morning walk at Delta Square under Nayapalli police limits when the miscreants intercepted Bhanja and threatened him to surrender his mobile phone. The pillar rider attacked Bhanja with an iron rod upon facing resistance from the latter, and fled the spot with his cellphone.

The journalist sustained severe injuries on his head and was subsequently rushed to the Capital Hospital by locals.

Speaking to Orissa POST, the IIC of Nayapalli police station said, "We have initiated an investigation into the matter after registering a case (40/21) in this regard. Following the incident, several teams of Commissionerate Police, including the officials of special squad, have been engaged to catch the accused."

Earlier in May, a woman was attacked by a snatcher in Nayapalli area.

Won't quit Congress, says Pradeep Majhi

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 1: Putting all the speculations to rest, Congress leader Pradeep Majhi Friday said that he would not quit the age-old party. Sources also claimed that Majhi is likely to get an important role in the party.

Majhi's statement came after he met former All India Congress Committee (AICC) president Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi. Sources said that Majhi took up several state specific issues with Rahul.

"I'm in Congress and I will continue to work for the Congress party," Majhi said. Senior Congress leader Bhakta Charan Das said that many issues of the state have been discussed in the meeting with Rahul. The discussion was mainly on strengthening the organisation in Odisha, Das said.

Das also said Majhi would be given an important role in the party. The Congress leader, however, said that there has been no discussion on changes in the Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee.

Earlier, speculations were doing the rounds that Majhi may join Biju Janata Dal (BJD).

ART EXPO



Girls admire a painting on Mahatma Gandhi on the inaugural occasion of an art expo organised by Odisha Lalit Kala Akademi at Buddha Art Gallery in Niladri Vihar area of Bhubaneswar, Friday

Secure edu in Odia language: Pradhan to J'khand, AP CMs

PNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan wrote to the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand Friday seeking their intervention into the non-supply of Odia textbooks to Odia students and appointment of Hindi-speaking teachers in Odia medium schools in bordering villages.

Pradhan, who hails from Odisha, has stressed upon the need of "securing" Odia language education for its Odia speaking population in his letters to Andhra CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy and Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren.

"It is noted that requisite support is not being extended to the students of Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts who wish to learn Odia. In Odisha, support is extended to the students opting to learn Telugu as a language subject in schools, including recruiting teams from the same. A similar support to Odia minority students in Andhra Pradesh



is the need of the hour," Pradhan said in his letter to Reddy.

"The government of Andhra Pradesh is yet to supply textbooks to the Odia medium students in class 10. Schools have reopened in AP, but Odia textbooks are yet to reach the students. Srikakulam district has many Odia students in high schools who have not yet received Odia books for the current academic year. This will adversely affect education of the Odia-minority students in AP and the cause of maintenance of linguistic diversity in the state," he added.

In his letter to Soren, the Union Minister stated that around 20 lakh

Odia-speaking people live in Jharkhand today and that during the formation of the state, it was ensured that Jharkhand shall recognise Odia-speaking people as linguistic minorities.

After a series of struggles and agitations, the Jharkhand government recognised Odia, along with five other regional languages, as the state's second official language in 2011, he said.

The Education Minister also highlighted five major issues faced by the Odia students in the bordering villages of Jharkhand, including appointment of Hindi-speaking teachers in Odia medium schools. He said, despite being given the copyright, the state has not taken up publication of Odia books based on NCERT curriculum framework.

In his letter, Pradhan noted that Odia medium schools were being merged with the Hindi medium schools in the regions with substantial groups of Odia-speaking communities.

NGT NIXES 'REPETITIVE' PETITION AGAINST CMC

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 1: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has dismissed a review application seeking quashing of the action of the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) in undertaking the housing project for slum dwellers in Mahanadi river bed.

A bench of Judicial Member B Amit Shalekar and Expert Member Saibal Dasgupta ruled that the review application is repetitive of the original application and does not contain any new facts or ground.

"It has been disclosed by the government that the land in question is not a river bed and that relocation of the encroachers is also temporary, and the tribunal has also given directions that the temporary relocation be removed to a permanent place or a location which is not environmentally sensitive. The grounds taken in the review application are simply repetitive. Therefore, we do not find any error of fact or law in the order of the tribunal," the NGT said.

Significantly, it was submitted in the review petition that the overcrowding due to rehabilitation of encroachers in housing colonies to be set up by the state for slum dwellers is causing huge environmental pollution. Earlier, it was alleged in the original application that the proposal to build a housing project for slum dwellers had been approved in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as the land in question was Gramya Jungle.

However, the tribunal had disposed of the petition while relying on the averments made by the Collector-cum-District Magistrate, Cuttack.

HC orders ₹10 lakh aid to kin of 2 drowned girls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cuttack, Oct 1: The Orissa High Court has directed the state government to pay compensation of ₹10 lakh each to the families of two girls who drowned in a waterlogged pit inside the compound of a school in Angul district nine years ago.

A division bench headed by Chief Justice S Muralidhar said the tragic deaths were entirely avoidable and would not have oc-

curred if barricades had been erected around the excavated pit.

Monalisa Naik and Priyanka Das, both aged four, went to the Anganwadi centre that was operating on the premises of Tentulihata Project Upper Primary School in Banarpal block September 7, 2012.

They had accidentally fallen into the waterlogged pit, which was excavated for the construction of new classrooms.

The court said there was a complete absence of any standard of



care or even anticipation of the likely danger posed by an unguarded excavated pit having a depth of over four feet.

The lack of barricading of the pit or any warning sign appeared to be the reason why they met with a tragic death, the bench noted in its order Thursday.

Therefore, there can be no doubt that there was 'gross negligence' on the part of the school management and also the district administration in not barricading the pit, it said.

"A clear case is made out for grant of compensation for violation of the constitutional right to life of the two young children," the court said.

The compensation will have to be paid by the district administration within four weeks and compliance affidavits should be filed by November 1.

The court also told the Collectors of all 30 districts to ensure strict compliance with the Supreme Court directives regarding measures for the prevention of fatal accidents of small children at construction sites and other places. The order came on a writ petition filed by the fathers of two children.

In Sept, cyber crooks dupe citizens of ₹60L

Bhubaneswar: Cyber fraudsters have duped the denizens of the Capital city of more than ₹60 lakh in September. The Commissionerate Police that shared the monthly data regarding cybercrime Friday revealed that the help desk received 485 complaints from across the state including 231 from the Capital city. The help desk received 136 calls related to UPI fraud while 30 callers complained about losing their hard-earned money in credit and debit card related frauds. The city police refunded ₹17, 45,614 out of ₹60, 48,453 siphoned off by the cyber criminals in September.

22-yr-old arrested for throwing acid on wife

Bhubaneswar: The Commissionerate Police has arrested a man who was on the run after allegedly throwing acid at his wife at Dhauli August 11. The accused, Papuni Rout, 22, of Chanarpada in Puri, had fled to Gujarat and was arrested by a special team of twin city police September 30. Police claimed that Rout and the victim were in a relationship and later tied the knot before Notary at Puri in August 2019. The lady is resident of Bantalsingha area in Puri. However, they used to stay apart in their respective paternal houses after the marriage. On August 11, 2021, the man asked the lady to come to Dhauli along with the documents for some discussions. "At about 4 pm, during their discussion, Papuni denied taking her to his house as the victim belongs to Bauri caste and the accused belongs to general caste. The situation escalated and the accused threw some acid like substance on her face," police said.

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₹66cr to be spent on fixing cracks on Rengali canal



POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 1: The left bank canal of Rengali multi-purpose project across the Brahmani river has developed cracks between RD 71.313 km and 100.49km. As a result, water is seeping through the cracks along the 22 km-long stretch from Odisha village under Bhuban block in Dhenkanal district to Madhapur village under Sukinda block in Jajpur district.

This was known from the minutes of the Rengali Project's second project coordination committee (PCC) meeting.

At the meeting, chief engineer of the water resources department Deeptiranjana Panda said construction of the canal lining is the only option left to stop water seeping. And to carry out the canal lining work, ₹66 crore from Canal Lining and System Rehabilitation Programme (CLSRP) fund will be utilized, it was learnt.

It has been alleged that the necessity of spending extra ₹66 crore has arisen due to the contractor's lackadaisical attitude and use of low quality construction materials.

The Rengali multi-purpose project was envisioned in the eighties. The objective of the project was to control flood, generate electricity and irrigate farmlands.

It has been alleged that the necessity of spending extra ₹66 crore has arisen due to the contractor's lackadaisical attitude and use of low quality construction materials

As per the report, a loan agreement was signed between Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the state government March 30, 2015. Of the total budgetary outlay of ₹2,225.30 crore, JICA's share was ₹1,787.30 crore. A period of eight years from 2015-16 to 2022-23 was fixed for completion of the project.

From the present state of the work, the progress can be termed as unsatisfactory. While only 36 per cent of the work has been completed, the concerned department has estimated that the project would be completed by the end of July, 2024.

While it was estimated to irrigate 39,416 hectares of farmlands under six blocks in three districts like Dhenkanal, Jajpur and Keonjhar, it now irrigates 9,558 hectares.

It would irrigate 9,000 hectares,

5,000 hectares and 15,828 hectares by July, 2022; July, 2023 and July, 2024 respectively. For this, construction of two canals - right bank canal (RBC) and left bank canal (LBC) - is underway.

In the second project coordination committee meeting, the members pointed out that issues relating to land acquisition and forests have been affecting the construction work. Hence, the chief secretary directed that a monthly meeting with the contractor on its progress should be held to expedite the construction work.

Notably, the length of the left bank canal is 141 kilometres. A total 2,129 hectare is required for the canal. Only 1,700 hectare has been acquired. The rest 429 hectares are yet to be acquired.

As of now, seepage of water at different places of the canal from Odisha to Madhapur has been a cause of headache for the officers of the concerned department.

However, the canal from RD 71.313km to RD 100.49km has got weakened. Farmers have blamed the use of substandard materials in the construction work for the present condition of the canal. As per the information available, Biraja Construction, DD Builder, GVV Construction and Durga Construction were then carrying out its construction work.

This apart, a nexus between the concerned contractors and the engineer has also been responsible for it, some alleged.

If no immediate repair is carried out, it is feared that the canal may collapse and destroy thousands acres of farmlands.

Chief engineer Deeptiranjana Panda said, "The allegation of low quality work is baseless. The water is seeping because the canal is constructed on laterite stone zone. Canal lining is the only option to fix the problem. For this, it has been decided that the work will be carried out spending ₹66 crore, at a rate of ₹3 crore per kilometre."

BEACH SANITATION



Podampeta beach in Ganajm is being cleaned of plastic and other waste material during a sanitation drive, Friday

OP PHOTO

Pest attacks worry Kalahandi farmers

POST NEWS NETWORK

Karlamunda, Oct 1: Scanty rainfall has played spoiler for paddy crop in most parts of Kalahandi district. On top of this, low pressure-induced rain has damaged crops in some parts.

Whatever crops were spared are bearing the brunt of pest onslaught, leaving farmers worried in Karlamunda block. They alleged that the pests keep on spreading while pesticides are ineffective to check their spread, a report said.

According to reports, pest attack on paddy has been spreading in Rinjha, Sargul, Malpada, Putigaon, Siletpada and Sishakhil panchayats.

Besides, farmers of Terchapalli, Sirabahal, Budhipadar, Kansil, Risida, Rajpur, Borpadar,



FILE PIC

Karnikhunti, Joradabara, Banjhipadar, Sapalhora, Kandara, Bijapati and Teresinga panchayats have expressed concern over the spread of pest.

"Paddy plants are affected by a number of diseases like leaf wilting, stem borers, mahisa and rot decomposition. We are applying pesticides, but they are not working.

There is no hope for saving the crops," farmers lamented.

They pointed out that when Kharif season started this year, all activities got delayed in the area due to erratic rainfall and shortage of fertilisers.

"Despite this, we managed to raise paddy, but pest attack has become a major concern for us," they

added. Basant Bag of Sargul, Gurekh Patel of Rinjha, Drona Sahu of Siletpada said, "We have been making all-out efforts to save the crops by applying pesticides. The agriculture department should come to our rescue and help us contain pests at this critical time."

"If pest attack is not checked, all our efforts and money invested in paddy cultivation will go in vain," lamented many farmers.

Farmers were disheartened to see the condition of paddy plants with leaves drooping and blighted.

Asked about the problem, assistant agriculture officer Monalisa Jena said paddy has been affected by pest in some areas. "I am making field visits and advising farmers to do what is necessary" she added.

CROP INSURANCE CLAIMS UNSETTLED

Govt dy-chief whip talks to DM to settle claims

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Oct 1: Farmers of four panchayats under Jujumara block in Sambalpur district have been awaiting settlement of their insurance claims for the crop loss in the 2020 kharif season. Taking note of farmers' plight, deputy chief whip of the government Rohit Pujari met Collector Subham Saxena over the issue Friday.

He demanded that the administration take immediate steps to ensure crop insurance claims of the farmers in four panchayats are settled as they have been running from the pillar to post.

Drought situation has broken their backbone, he said. Crops of the current kharif season will be harvested in a few days and farmers in other panchayats have got their insurance claims, a report said.

Paddy crop in Jaykuda, Lipinda, Gadluisingh and Kesapalli pan-

chayats was damaged due to natural disasters in 2020. The insurance company, the revenue, statistics departments had conducted joint survey on the crop damage. A list of affected farmers was prepared with assurance that they will be compensated through insurance.

However, hundreds of farmers of these four panchayats were deprived of their insurance claims. Farmers of other panchayats have got their compensation.

They were upset over unavailability of crop insurance money. They had appraised the Collector, the tehsildar, the BDO, agriculture officials and the insurance company about their plight. But it yielded no results.

The farmers alleged that though they frequented the insurance company and tehsil offices for claims, the company and the administration took no steps to settle the pending crop insurance claims.

CBI case against ex-CMD, others of Maa Tarini, PEC

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against then CMD and other officials of PEC Ltd and M/s Maa Tarini Industries Ltd, a private company based at Sundargarh district and its two directors for allegedly defrauding public money.



The case was registered against Piyush Sengar, Bhupendra Das and Mayank Dhar, Directors of M/s. Maa Tarini Industries Ltd, AK Mirchandani, then CMD of PEC Limited, Rajiv Chaturvedi, then Chief General Manager

of PEC Limited, DK Gupta, ex-GM of PEC Limited and several other officials of PEC Ltd.

According to CBI officials, it was alleged that the accused and others entered into a conspiracy, allegedly cheated and usurped the public money to the tune of ₹56.89 crore being principal and interest due as June 20 this year in financing domestic procurement of iron ore and coal to Maa Tarini Industries which causes loss to PEC Limited, New Delhi.

The CBI also conducted searches at the office and residential premises of the accused at 11 places Friday including in New Delhi, Thane (Maharashtra), Guwahati & Ghaziabad (UP) which led to recovery of incriminating documents and articles.

Padmasambhava Mahavihara, a huge draw of tourists in south Odisha

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paralakhemundi, Oct 1: Padmasambhava Mahavihara, a famous Buddhist monastery in Labarsingh panchayat under Mohana block in Gajapati district, has turned out to be a major draw of tourists in southern Odisha. The picture postcard natural setting has been its main asset from the tourism point of view, a report said.

The monastery is ensconced in the verdant surroundings dotted with Khasada waterfall at Jirang near Chandragiri. The beautiful Padmasambhava Mahavihara monastery is said to be the largest in the south Asia.

In winter, a large number of tourists through the area. However, over the last one and a half years, the monastery had been closed due to Covid-induced restrictions. The Buddha Vihar was reopened for tourists from Monday. Scores of Buddhist Tibetans



reside in the Buddha Vihar, popularly known as a mini Tibet in Odisha. It spreads over 10 acres.

The monastery is named after Acharya Padmasambhava, who was born in Odisha and believed to have spread Buddhism to Tibet in 7th century.

It was in 2010, Buddhist seer Dalai Lama had inaugurated the monastery. The Vihar has been built with an aim of study-

ing Buddhism and propagating it.

Driving through the roads of Jirang, visitors are welcomed to this Buddha Vihar with Buddhist flags on both sides of the road.


The monastery has been built as per the Atanpuri style of Nalanda. It has an assembly hall with a 17-foot-high idol of Lord Buddha. Idols of his two disciples have been installed on both sides.

On the right side of the Buddha's idol is the 1000-armed, 1000-eyed Avalokiteswar.


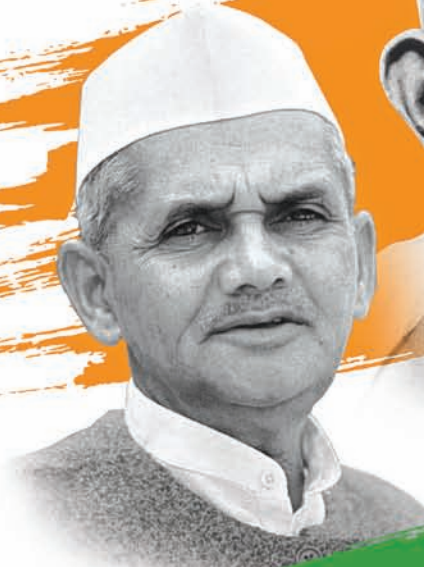
The five-storey monastery and its interiors richly decorated with traditional religious paintings reflects Tibetan culture. ₹8 crore has been spent for the 70-ft-high monastery capable of housing over 200 Lamas.

There are also small temples for Buddhist monks to do prayers. A school has been set up for Tibetans.

In 1959, China occupied Tibet. Then, scores of Tibetans came here seeking refuge. The Odisha government had made arrangements for their settlement and rehabilitation between 1963 and 1967. Over 3000 Tibetans live here. They eke out their living by raising maize, pearl millets and other crops. Besides, they earn handsomely from selling winter clothes. A cooperative society has been opened for Tibetans for their welfare.




Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

2 October
Nation pays tributes to Gandhi ji and Shastri ji on their birth anniversary

There is much to learn from Babu's life and noble thoughts. His Ideals keep guiding us in creating a prosperous and compassionate India. Similarly, Shastri ji epitomised simplicity and lived for the welfare of our nation. **-Narendra Modi**



Perfect health, sincerity, honesty, straightforwardness, courage, disinterestedness, unselfishness, patience, endurance, perseverance, peace, calm, self control are all things that are taught infinitely better by example than by beautiful speeches.



SRI AUROBINDO

Kerala's point man for diaspora

In a first, the Kerala government has named Venu Rajamony, a former Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, as its point man to deal with the Malayali diaspora, especially in the Gulf States. Unlike many other states, Kerala has a large diaspora spread across the world. Given the strong links between the global Malayali community and the homeland, the government felt the need to have a seasoned person to deal with the needs of the wider Malayali community abroad. Rajamony has been hired on a year's contract as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) for External Cooperation.

Sources say that Rajamony was chosen by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan based on his long innings as a career diplomat. His experience, the state government believes, can be used to advantage in dealing with diaspora issues in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and also to promote cultural, economic and academic alliances with foreign governments. In particular, Rajamony will explore collaboration opportunities for the state government in overseas education, financial skill development and employment.

The task seems to be much bigger than one person can handle. But it is certainly an idea that Punjab, which also has a large diaspora, can take a cue from.

Breaking the endless waiting game

The bureaucracy in India moves at a slow pace is a truth that needs no explanation. The public knows it as do the politicians. But now Haryana's Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar is getting impatient with the inordinate delays by officials who are conducting inquiries against Class I and II officers who are facing disciplinary action. He has reportedly directed the state Chief Secretary Vijai Vardhan to set a deadline for the completion of the pending inquiries.

The CM has further ordered that the inquiry officer who is found to be shielding the guilty officers by delaying the inquiry will face 'deterrent disciplinary action' if it is discovered that there has been an unjustified delay in completing the inquiry.

Disciplinary proceedings for a major penalty have to be finalized within six months, but it has been found that these are routinely delayed by the inquiry officer. Now Vardhan has issued an order putting the onus on administrative secretaries to ensure that all pending inquiries against Class I and II officers be finalised before November-end. To twist their arm further, the government has said that officers who are facing inquiries of this nature will be barred from field postings and all posts that require dealing with the public.

Strong words, but we'll have to wait and see whether this directive can snap the administration's inertia into meaningful action.

Reading between the lines

The government has finally moved and filled the 13 secretary-level vacancies (reported here earlier September 22) and also calmed the nerves of some 1989-batch officers who had been empanelled back in February but were dependent about not being appointed to fill the vacancies. The 22 new appointees are from this batch, except for three - PK Tripathi, Rajiv Bansal and Anuradha Prasad. Among these, 13 have been appointed as regular secretaries, while the remaining nine have been elevated as special secretaries in the rank and pay of secretary.

Clearly, the government hopes to achieve several things here, besides plugging critical gaps, but mainly it wants to tilt the balance in favour of domain specialists. Steel Secretary Tripathi has been appointed Secretary of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) since he has worked there earlier as an establishment officer. Similarly, Air India CMD Rajiv Bansal is the new Secretary for Civil Aviation.

With time running out, the Centre realizes that any further delay in critical appointments would harm its claims about good governance. Each of these appointees will be critical for implementing the Modi sarkar's key policies. As Secretary of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Anurag Jain, a Madhya Pradesh cadre officer, for instance, will be critical for the government's FDI and startup policies and ease of doing business. Sunil Barthwal, who is the new Labour Secretary, will lead the implementation of the four labour codes and put in place a mandatory national minimum wage.

But, sources inform DKB, more needs to be done. Several critical vacancies still need to be filled, and any further delay could prove costly.

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WISDOM CORNER

- How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. **ANNE FRANK**
- If you hire people just because they can do a job, they'll work for your money. But if you hire people who believe what you believe, they'll work for you with blood and sweat and tears. **SIMON SINEK**
- If you believe it'll work out, you'll see opportunities. If you don't believe it'll work out, you'll see obstacles. **WAYNE DYER**

WORDSWORTH

Cantrev

A cantrev - the word has been spelled in numerous ways, including cantref and canthrif - turns out upon enquiry to have been a medieval legal division of Wales (from the Welsh cant, a hundred, plus tref, a town or place). It's closely similar in sense to the English hundred, a division of a county or shire for administrative purposes. In fact, in medieval England yet another form of the word, cantred, was used almost synonymously with hundred. The word has long had only historical interest. But it has enjoyed a minor revival in SF and fantasy - as in Lloyd Alexander's Prydain Chronicles - as an unfamiliar term with which to communicate a quality of being different or elsewhere. The revival is most probably due to modern interest in the medieval Welsh epic 'The Mabinogion', in which cantrev often appears.

LOL

EVOLUTION OF HUMANS

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race appear?" The mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and so was all mankind made." Two days later the girl asked her father the same question.. The father answered, "Many years

ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved." The confused girl returned to her mother and said, "Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

FOCUS MIGRANT ISSUE

Since the first days of Joe Biden's presidency, his administration has insisted that the growing number of migrants being apprehended at the US-Mexico border is not a "crisis," but rather a normal, seasonal spike. US officials have even argued that the controversy was concocted entirely by former President Donald Trump and other Republicans.

While the Biden administration was not totally wrong about Trump, reality has since rebutted its claims. The situation on the border today is indeed a crisis, both for the United States and Mexico. As of late September, some 150,000 migrants and asylum seekers, most of them Haitian, are sheltering from the sun under the International Bridge in Del Rio, Texas. They have brought the migration issue roaring back to the fore.

All summer, US immigration authorities waited for the numbers at the border to fall, but they kept rising, even as the excruciating heat kicked in. Monthly apprehensions topped 200,000 in July and again in August - their highest level since 2000. The sudden appearance of thousands of Haitians on the American side of the border (rather than in the Mexican towns of Matamoros, Reynosa, or Tijuana to the south) demonstrates that the flow is not easing.

This was all foreseeable. The situation in Haiti, terrible even in good years, became catastrophic with the chaos that followed the assassination of the country's president in July. The subsequent political turmoil was soon followed by an earthquake and a series of hurricanes and tropical storms that have left the country as battered as it has ever been. Haitians have been departing for years, first to Brazil and then to Chile. But as the economic and legal situation in each of those countries has grown less hospitable, they have begun to drift toward the US. And owing to the events of this summer,



All summer, US immigration authorities waited for the numbers at the border to fall, but they kept rising, even as the excruciating heat kicked in. Monthly apprehensions topped 200,000 in July and again in August - their highest level since 2000

their numbers have surged.

The crisis on the US border is only part of the story. Tapachula, a Mexican city of 350,000 along the Guatemalan border, now shelters (in squalid conditions) 50,000-100,000 asylum seekers, roughly half of whom are Haitian. Mexican authorities are forcing migrants to remain there while their claims are processed. But that process can take over a year, and migrants are increasingly seeking to break out and travel north. Several caravans, each comprising hundreds of refugees and migrants, have departed in recent weeks, leading Mexican immigration officials to herd them back to Tapachula. There have been reports of family separation, extortion, and beatings.

Despite such brutality, asylum seekers of several nationalities have continued to amass on the US-Mexico border, demonstrating that containment is not so simple. Although Mexico's defense ministry says that it has deployed more than 14,000 troops to "stop

all migration," the truth is that the country lacks the financial resources and manpower to carry out a sustained mission of that kind.

When US President Barack Obama asked Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto for help blocking migrants in 2014, Mexican authorities complied willingly, but only for a couple of years. By 2017, Mexico's deportation numbers had declined again, and America's apprehensions and deportations had begun to rise - a trend that is reaching its peak today.

The same pattern is likely to be repeated. Mexican efforts are obviously insufficient, even if they are significant and often humiliating. The US cannot simply turn away the Haitians in Del Rio. Nor are the solutions on offer devoid of costs. To resolve the latest border crisis, Biden will have to turn a blind eye to Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's disastrous mismanagement of the economy and the pandemic,

as well as his subversion of the rule of law and Mexico's incipient democracy.

The best immediate fix is to grant temporary protected status to the Haitians who have already entered the US. (Though TPS is theoretically temporary, it would probably last indefinitely in practice.) Biden also should ask the transit countries - mainly Chile, Mexico, and Panama - to furnish migrants with proper asylum and work papers and allow them to remain under humane, hospitable conditions.

Such a request obviously must come with resources to help these countries foot the bill for hosting the remaining Haitians. The only question, then, is where the money can best be spent - on Haitian migrants in the US, or in Chile, Panama, and Mexico?

Granting TPS to the Haitians at the border would probably encourage others to come. But the trend would not last forever. As with the Haitian boat people in the 1990s, such flows eventually stop for various economic, social, and cultural reasons. And while this approach might also encourage Cubans, Hondurans, Salvadorans, and others to travel north and try their luck, the overall numbers would be on a scale that the US, a rich country with 330 million inhabitants, could easily manage.

As for the political fallout and the Democrats' electoral prospects in 2022 and 2024, a more humane approach is certainly no worse than the alternative of forcing Haitian children onto planes and flying them back to a country in the throes of discord, destitution, and despair.

The writer, a former Foreign Minister of Mexico, is a professor at New York University and author of 'America Through Foreign Eyes'.

PROJECT SYNDICATE

SPECTRUM GANDHI JAYANTI

Revisiting Khadi for sustainable fashion



Prof Binaya Bhusan Jena

KHADI, BEYOND ITS SYMBOLIC MEANING, IS UNDOUBTEDLY A TRUE REPRESENTATIVE OF SUSTAINABLE FASHION. IT HAS GOT THE POWER TO TRANSFORM THE FASHION INDUSTRY AND THE INDIAN ECONOMY

It is no secret that fashion industry is the second largest polluting industries in the world after petrochemicals. It accounts for about 10% of global carbon emissions, and 20% of freshwater pollution. More than 85% of fashion goods go into landfills each year; an equivalent of one truckload of garbage is dumped in a landfill every second. The industry consumes large amount of water, synthetic raw materials, fossil fuel and toxic chemicals in various stages of manufacturing, thus causing massive damage to the environment. Further to it, washing clothes releases 500,000 tons of synthetic microfibers into the ocean each year - the equivalent of 50 billion plastic bottles. The fashion industry has already caused an irreparable damage to the environment, and it continues to do so.

For quite some time, the global fashion industry has been looking for ways and means to reduce the devastating impact of fashion industry and reduce carbon footprint in the fashion value chain. Many promises, pacts and resolutions have been made at different international and national levels in this regard. But in reality, we are far from finding and offering a robust solution. The prevailing structure and function of the global fashion industry is extremely exploitative

and violent in terms of its environmental and social cost. It disregards the fundamental principles of sustainable practices.

Today, when we are celebrating the 152nd birth anniversary of the Mahatma Gandhi, we relook at his legacy to save us from the possible climate catastrophe. The Gandhian doctrines throw plenty of opportunities to overcome the crisis. He was one of the earliest environmentalists who believed in and preferred prevention to cure. Khadi was a symbol and panacea for all problems. Khadi is not just a fabric but a statement and a symbol - the symbol of peace, non-violence, environment, sustainable clothing, freedom struggle, self-reliance, conflict resolution, equitable society, rural employment, women's empowerment, gender equity and a symbol of our socio-political and cultural identity.

Today is also the International Day of Non-Violence. Gandhiji's approach to non-violence was metaphorical and includes environmental violence caused by the fashion industry. To counter attack the menace of non-violent fashion we cannot have any better instrument than Khadi. The young generations have well understood the impact of the present business model of the fashion industry, particularly the fast fashion. They know the environ-

mental and social cost of fast fashion and also strongly believe that fast fashion is devastating their future. Their gossips, debates, awareness, concern and perceptions for environment are well visible on social media.

Khadi is an epitome of sustainable fashion. It has got the power to change the world. Once, on the call of Gandhiji, millions of Indians became minimalists like Gandhiji himself in their clothing and attire, sacrificed their mill-made colourful cheap fashion for their homemade Khadi. Time has come again for the entire world, to discard fast, colonial, violent and non-sustainable fashion in favour of sustainable fashion. Khadi is definitely the most important instrument to fight fast fashion globally. In order to make Khadi the epicenter of eco-friendly fashion we need to pull all our strings and reorganise our Khadi industry. The Prime Minister has reiterated many a times beginning with his first-ever programme "Maan Ki Baat" October 3, 2014 about buying and promoting Khadi. Khadi, beyond its symbolic meaning, is undoubtedly a true representative of sustainable fashion. It has got the power to transform the fashion industry and the Indian economy.

In order to consider Khadi as a mainstream sustainable fashion, it

should get a bigger consideration from the government. It has got massive potential for green employment generation and export earnings, probably more than what the present textile and clothing industry together could do. Khadi can be fashionable and appeal to every age group across the gender. With use of different types and blends of natural fibres like cotton, wool, ahimsa silk, jute, linen, banana and the like along with application of various natural dyes, we can create a new economy around Khadi. With interventions in materials, designs and processes we can create a carbon neutral fashion business model that can play a pivotal role in reorienting the global fashion industry. In order to give Khadi a contemporary identity, requisite impetus and appropriate promotion, it should become of a part of the Ministry of Textiles as a separate entity to symbolise sustainable fashion. India should take leadership and advantage out of Khadi as a rich heritage and a Gandhian tool to become a global leader in non-violence (ahimsa) and sustainable fashion.

The writer is a Professor at National Institute of Fashion Technology, Bhubaneswar, and a global expert on sustainable fashion.

Will sharia be the yardstick?

Sir, The Taliban plan to rule Afghanistan in accordance with sharia. During its previous stint in power, the militant group was known for its strict interpretation of Islamic jurisprudence, banning music and forcing women to wear a full burqa in public. But many countries besides Afghanistan - among them Saudi Arabia, Iran and parts of Indonesia and Nigeria - also use sharia without such strictures. So what is sharia, and how is it applied? Sharia means "path" in Arabic, indicating the conduct that pleases God. It covers criminal, commercial and family law but is much more holistic than secular legal systems: it also sets out the ethical rules that Muslims should aim to live and worship by. Sharia is based on the Qur'an. There are some very harsh punishments for crimes deemed against God, including death by stoning or 100 lashes for adulterers. But the standard of proof for conviction is extremely high, making these punishments rare. In the case of adultery, four witnesses must testify. Retribution for serious crimes against people, such as murder, can also be severe, based on the principle of *qisas*, or "an eye for an eye". But Islam encourages victims to be merciful and pay *diya*, blood money, instead. Last Saturday, another cruel face of the Taliban has come to the light. The bodies of four people killed by the Taliban in Herat have been found hanging in various parts of the city. The democratic-minded people of Afghanistan must resist this medieval thought.

Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR

Highway blockade

Sir, Highway blockades by farmers has rightly piqued the Supreme Court. Political adversaries of the ruling party are instigating the farmers for relentless agitation. The Supreme Court has pointed out that the redressal of problems can be through judicial forum, agitation or parliamentary debates. The three 'contentious' farm laws have not been passed without debates in Parliament. When the Opposition parties could not thwart the passing of the Bill from finally becoming Acts, malicious propaganda against the farm laws is being launched. Now the judiciary is seized of the matter. The protesting leaders should exercise restraint and wait for the outcome of the court ruling. Organising road blockades does not pay electoral dividends to the parties who are the brain behind the 'protesting farmers'. Inconveniences to the public put the organisers of the protests in poor light. The only course of action for the agitators is to wait for the court verdict.

KV Seetharamaiah, BANGALORE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

ORISSA POST
B-15, Russagarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Row rages over efficacy of lift irrigation project



Executive engineer Sushant Samal and members of the panipanchayat said the project is completed and the allegation made by farmers is baseless

But farmers have claimed that the project work is still incomplete. "Motor has not been fitted while pipes have not been laid. We demand an investigation into efficacy of the project," farmers complained to the executive engineer.

However, executive engineer Sushant Samal said the project is completed and the allegation made by some farmers is baseless.

Even members of the panipanchayat have dismissed the allegation of farmers unfounded. They have told the district administration that the project is working and irrigating farmlands.

gation project-2 at Telipalli village is yet to be operational. They have apprised the executive engineer of Sonepur lift irrigation division. However, members of the local Panipanchayat have claimed that the project has been completed and it irrigates farmlands. They have written about it to the sub-collector.

Sonepur lift irrigation division set up the lift irrigation project-2 in 2020-21 at a cost of ₹9.20 lakh at Telipalli. The project is capable of irrigating 20 hectares.

Amarpalli, Oct 1: The state government has been implementing a lot of schemes to promote irrigation and farming. But some projects have failed to make progress for various factors. A lift irrigation project has remained incomplete in Kenjhiripalli panchayat under Birmaharajpur block in Subarnapur district. A controversy has broken out over its status and efficacy. Locals alleged that the lift irri-

COMMUTING WOES



Bikers and commuters negotiating with a crater on a road in Padmapur area of Bhadrak district. Locals are sore over bad shape of the road while the authorities concerned have failed to repair it, Friday

LOCALS PROTEST AGAINST EVICTION

Sambalpur, Oct 1: Expressing displeasure over evictions, people affected by the Samaleswari Temple Area Management and Local Economy Initiatives (SAMALEI) project in Sambalpur staged protests at the Collector's office Friday.

The agitating people warned that they would not allow their eviction and resolved to fight against the administration.

"We were sleeping in our homes when the administration bulldozed our houses. If the government has guts, then we are ready to face bulldozers again," they shouted.

They also alleged that details of the Samalei project are not being shared with them. The administration first announced to acquire land in 30-meter periphery of the Samaleswari temple. Now, land is being acquired in larger area - within one and a half km periphery till Balibandh from the temple, they alleged.

"We doubt the intention of the government in execution of Samalei project. By acquiring land around the temple, the government wants



SAMALEI SCHEME

to hand over it to the traders. Land on the Mahanadi bank will be acquired and private players will be invited to make hotels and resorts," they said.

They said some political leaders are involved in this project while the administration is not giving any info on how much land is required for the project.

"We want development of Samaleswari temple. We don't want displacement of people in the name

of Samalei project. We don't want compensations," they observed. Actually, the state government has adopted the Samalei scheme for business purposes. It is going to establish hotels and bars in larger interests of some businessmen at the cost of poor residents. Once displaced, we will lose our livelihoods and shelter," alleged protesters.

They said hundreds of families in Ghunagutipada, Rajmandirapada, Badabazar, Kamibazar and Balibandh will be displaced. Residents of these areas had staged Jal Satyagraha in the Mahanadi river against displacement by the Samalei scheme earlier.

Under the scheme, announced February 17, the state government would implement various projects worth ₹200 crore. Development of approximately 108 acres around the 16th century shrine will be taken up under the plan.

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Residents of Ghunagutipada, Rajmandirapada, Badabazar, Kamibazar and Balibandh had earlier staged Jal Satyagraha in the Mahanadi river against displacement by the Samalei scheme

Kamibazar and Balibandh will be displaced.

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Fund for guard walls 'bungled', locals stir

Nayagarh, Oct 1: Fund to the tune of ₹7.50 lakh has been misappropriated without constructing the guard walls along a 300-metre long road in Baunsabati panchayat under Bhapur block of Nayagarh district.

According to an RTI report, villagers of Baunsabati Harijan Sahi of Baunsabati panchayat have long been demanding guard walls along the 300-metre long road from Baunsabati Harijan Sahi of Baunsabati panchayat to Natabarpur village.

But the money meant for the guard walls was misappropriated without constructing them through false bills. Demanding an enquiry and action against the persons involved, tribal villagers, including women, staged a demonstration in front of the panchayat office Thursday.

"We have been demanding construction of guard walls along the 300-metre long road for a long period. Later, from the RTI reply, we learnt that the money meant for the walls was embezzled through false bills January 7," said the agitating

villagers including Prabhakar Nayak, Narendra Nayak and Sanjay Pradhan.

"In this regard, we met sarpanch, samiti member and the block development officer and submitted our written complaints, seeking action. It was when nothing was done in this regard we decided to launch a strike. And we will continue our strike as long as no action against the persons involved is taken," they added.

The villagers also alleged that two panchayat level people's representatives have taken ₹5,000 as bribe from tribal people of Baunsabati Harijan Sahi, telling them to award work orders under the cow shed yojana and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

They also demanded action against the people's representatives. They urged the administration to change the name of their village.

"The village is inhabited by 230 people of 40 families, belonging to Bishwabasu Sabar community. And there is only one Harijan family in the village. Naming our village as Harijan Sahi is inappropriate," they fumed.

Bank cashier, cook held for loan fraud

Koraput, Oct 1: Police arrested a cashier of a bank and a cook on charge of misappropriating loans of famers in Koraput district Friday. The accused were produced in court, IIC Dhiren Patnaik said.

According to police, four farmers of Mahadevi panchayat had filed a complaint at the Town police station that ₹75,000 was sanctioned as bank loan in their names. However, their money was embezzled with their forged signatures.



Following complaints, police started an investigation and detained three people. The accused were identified as Laxman Silpada of Punjab National Bank (Koraput branch) and cook Ram Khil.

Cement firm 'sells' murrum from its site

Kalinganagar, Oct 1: Sagar Cement that has acquired land through the Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO) in Kalinganagar industrial area in Jajpur district and has started construction has allegedly been selling the murrum and soil excavated from its site without permission from the revenue department.

The company's cement grinding unit with a capacity of 1.5MT per annum is under construction at an estimated outlay of ₹400 crores in Kalinganagar industrial area. The company has promised to spend ₹2 crores for the peripheral development.

At the same time, the plant has proposed to employ 250-300 people during construction period and only 58 people during the production period. For the plant,



lands measuring 26.50 acres of Tangarasahi, Arasahi, Kacherisahi, Gola Gaon, Baligotha, Manatira, Dakrapada and Pankapala villages have been acquired through IDCO.

The public hearing conducted before the land acquisition was made successful with the company promising proper value for the acquired land, job opportunities and engagement of local youths as contractors. As of now, it seems the company has forgotten its promises it made to the villagers who gave away their lands. While the construction

work is presently going on, affected people have been demanding employment as the company had promised jobs to 250-300 during the construction period.

In this regard, a tripartite meeting between Kalinganagar ADM, Kalinganagar additional SP, plant authorities and the affected people was held December 27, 2019. In the meeting it was decided that the plant would give compensation to land losers, employment to local youths during construction period and production period, drinking water to the villagers

and preference to local youths to work as contractors.

Affected people alleged that the company has not honoured even a single promise as yet.

Far from giving employment to affected youths, it has been over a month since the company has been selling the murrum and soil excavated from the site illegally and earning lakhs of rupees, causing losses to the government exchequer.

When contacted, Danagadi tehsildar Namrata Modi said revenue inspector Phulamati Murmu has already done an enquiry into the allegation and submitted a report. "Similarly, Manatira revenue inspector has also been asked to conduct an enquiry and find out how much murrum and soil has been excavated. After getting the report, action as per law would be initiated against the plant," added Modi.

Govt to develop Panijhar waterfall

Khaira, Oct 1: The state government has begun efforts to develop Panijhar waterfall in Sarisua hill under Khaira block of Balasore, bringing cheers among people in the area.

A special technical team led by general manager of OTDC Shantanu Kumar Mohanty visited the site recently. The team took stock of the condition around the waterfall. The team members took a glimpse of the map from Khaira tehsildar. In the map, they saw various stone mines around the waterfall and its origin.

The technical team held talks with officials of the revenue department and advised close watch on the stone mining so that the waterfall will be protected in the greenery.

People living in surrounding villages have been demanding development of the scenic place into a tourist site.

After MLA Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi became the minister of tourism, a plan to develop this place was taken up. ₹1-crore has been sanctioned for the project. The administration is planning for foundation-laying of the project October 7.

Brown sugar seized in Jaleswar, 5 held

Balasore, Oct 1: A joint team of personnel from excise department and the local police station conducted raids on three separate locations in Jaleswar and Basta localities of Balasore and seized huge quantities of brown sugar Thursday night, sources said.

The 20-member team got information from a reliable source that five smugglers were separately negotiating with different parties to sell the contraband item.

The team raided the house of Sheikh Jamaluddin in Jhadeswarpur. However, Sania managed to give a slip to police. Officials then arrested Sania's three sons in this connection. The quantity of brown sugar seized during the raid has not been ascertained so far.

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, RAYAGADA

Pin Code - 765001, ODISHA Tel. No./Fax No. 06856-235067, E-mail ID: rayagadam.hud@nic.in

QUOTATION CALL NOTICE

No. C-1056: Sealed quotations are invited from engineering work shops/fabricators those who deal with fabrication works for the specification given below upto 3.00 PM, on 08.10.2021 at Rayagada Municipality office and the same day at 4.00 PM. Opened in the office chamber of the undersigned the quotationer should submit the GST Certificate along with the quotation. The quotations received after the due date shall not be acceptable. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Name of the Work, Specifications, and Materials. Item 1: Fixing of steel fabrication with painting and labour charge at the Back side Od DALLAACE a long with ceiling sheet structure Table-1 Foot Stand, Table-2 Sliding Seating Bench all materials will be used JINDAL STEEL 304 Grade.

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Name of the Work, Specifications, and Materials. Item 2: Fixing of stand with sliding structure for carrying of dead body by removing of one side sit of EECO CARGO BSVI STEEL VEHICLE, will be used JINDAL STEEL 304 Grade.

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Name of the Work, Specifications, and Materials. Item 3: Using Jindal Steel Material Grade 304. Lists various steel grades and their prices per kg.

Advertisement for TPWODL (TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited). Includes logo, contact information, and a quote by Mahatma Gandhi: "A customer is the most important visitor on our premises, he is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him."

Advertisement for EAST COAST RAILWAY. Includes tender notice details, work scope (execution of works like soil exploration, viaducts, bridges), and contact information for the Chief Administrative Officer.

Advertisement for ITI LIMITED. Includes details about recruitment for various positions, application process, and contact information for the Chief Manager.

Advertisement for GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Re-advertisement for Appointment of Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi. Includes details about the application process and deadline.

Channi meets PM, asks to withdraw farm laws

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi Friday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discussed farmers issues. The meeting was held at the Prime Minister's official residence at 7 Lok Kalyan Marg here.

It is learnt that Channi in his first meeting with the Prime Minister after becoming Chief Minister of Punjab requested that the Centre take back its decision to postpone paddy procurement by 10 days. The Centre has postponed the procurement of paddy by 10 days due to rain in Punjab and Haryana. Earlier the procurement was supposed to start from October 1 but now it will start from October 11.

"The Chief Minister has raised the issue of postponement of paddy procurement and requested to withdraw the order and immediately start the procurement," sources said. The sources said that the Punjab Chief Minister also discussed issues concerning the development of the state.

It is learnt that Channi discussed the three new farm laws against which farmers have been protesting for almost a year. "Punjab Chief



The Punjab unit of the Congress is in turmoil after Amarinder Singh was removed as Chief Minister and its chief Navjot Singh Sidhu resigned from his post ahead of the Assembly elections next year

'Talk more in private, less in public'

Amid the ongoing crisis within the Congress in Punjab, its National spokesperson Supriya Shrinete Friday expressed the hope that its leaders "talk more in private and less in public." With veteran leader and former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh deciding to quit the party, she hoped that he would reconsider his decision, calling him a "soldier" of the Congress. "Amarinder Singh is an extremely respected Congressman. Speaking to reporters here, Shrinete claimed that Congress created "history" by making Charanjit Singh Channi the first Dalit CM of Punjab with the support of MLAs, and challenged the BJP, which has governments in 17 states, to "show one Dalit CM".

Minister Channi has requested the Prime Minister to repeal the three new farm laws or find a solution to end the farmers' protest," sources said.

Last month, the Congress high command made Channi the Chief Minister of Punjab replacing Amarinder Singh. Channi reached the national capital Friday afternoon around 3 p.m. and later went to meet the Prime Minister.

There is speculation that Channi will meet former Congress President Rahul Gandhi and other senior party leaders before returning to Punjab. Channi is likely to discuss the ongoing crisis in the Punjab Congress unit with the party central leadership after the resignation of Navjot Singh Sidhu from the post of state unit chief. Before coming to the national capital, Channi met Sidhu Thursday.

UP to have network of storage facilities for farmers

IN UTTAR PRADESH, 15 TO 20 PER CENT OF THE CROPS ARE WASTED EVERY YEAR DUE TO THE LACK OF PROPER STORAGE FACILITIES

LUCKNOW, Oct 1: In a major attempt to save crops from going to waste and increase the income of farmers, the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to establish a network of godown and cold storages in every district across the state.

According to the plan, the Primary Co-operative Societies (PACS) will build as many as 2,000 godowns with support from the Centre's Agriculture Infrastructure



Fund (AIF). Besides, construction of godowns and cold storages will be encouraged in every district.

According to a state government spokesman, it will help preserve farmers' produce for longer periods and allow them to sell it as per their convenience with more profit.

Apart from this, loans will be provided to interested farmers and agricultural institutions for setting up e-marketing platforms, warehouses, silos, pack houses, sorting and grading units in all the districts of the state.

Uttar Pradesh is one of the leading states in agricultural production in the country plagued by poor infrastructure.

When he took office, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, had directed the officials of the Agriculture Department to prepare a foolproof plan to preserve the agricultural produce in the state.

Electric train in UP begins from Gorakhpur to Nautanwa

GORAKHPUR, Oct 1: Electric trains have started running in Uttar Pradesh between Gorakhpur and Nautanwa.

Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO), Pankaj Kumar Singh said the train service began from Thursday. "The preparations were made Saturday after inspection and approval of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, and Thursday the first electric train 05105 Chhapra-Nautanwa Intercity left Gorakhpur railway station for Nautanwa railway station at 10.30 a.m.," he added.

This train will run daily. Weekly



express train Durg-Nautanwa Express 082201 through Bhatni, Varanasi and Prayagraj left for Nautanwa at 8 p.m. Thursday.

Another weekly train Durg-Nautanwa express will depart from Gorakhpur Friday through Mankapur and Ayodhya.

"A total of three trains -- one

daily and two weeklies, will now run between Gorakhpur and Nautanwa. With electrification of the railway track, time and money would be saved. The efficiency of the trains will be increased and the electrification of the 42-km track between Gorakhpur and Anand Nagar station has already been completed," the CPRO said.

With the introduction of the first electric train, it will make the transportation of goods to Nepal easier.

The electrification work on the Anand Nagar-Badni-Gonda route is also expected to be completed by March 2022.

Pb police steps up vigil along Indo-Pak border



CHANDIGARH, Oct 1: Punjab officiating Director General of Police (DGP) Iqbal Preet Singh Sahota has directed all border district police chiefs to daily start night domination operations along the Indo-Pak border from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m.

The border districts include Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Batala, Amritsar rural, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur and Fazilka.

The DGP directed the border Senior Superintendents of Police (SSP) to divide the districts into sectors and depute gazetted officers in each sector, who will be personally out for the night domination operation.

"Interstate nakas, especially on the Jammu and Kashmir border should also be strengthened and all vehicles should be thoroughly checked," an official statement quoting the DGP said.

The SSPs have been directed to prepare weekly deployment plan showing the checking points and patrolling that would be approved by the range Inspector General of Police.

Also directions have been issued to give special attention to movement of drones from across the border.

Punjab shares a 553-km long international border, with a barbed wire fence, with Pakistan.

Gayadeen Anuragi crosses over to SP

LUCKNOW, Oct 1: As the Congress looks to regain lost ground in Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, the party received a jolt Friday with its state unit vice-president Gayadeen Anuragi switching over to the Samajwadi Party (SP).

Anuragi joined the SP in the presence of its national president Akhilesh Yadav at a press conference here.

The development comes close on the heels of another UP Congress vice-president, Lalitesh Pati Tripathi, grandson of veteran party leader Kamalapati Tripathi, resigning from all posts and primary membership of the party.

This came a few months after ex-Union minister Jitin Prasada, the son of former Congress leader Jitendra

The development comes amid a crisis in Punjab and other state units of the Congress

Prasad, crossed over to the BJP. Prasada, a prominent Brahmin leader, was inducted in the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet Sunday.

When asked about his joining the SP, Anuragi, a former MLA from Rath in Hamirpur, claimed that he was not feeling comfortable in the Congress as he was not being heard.

This came on a day when Vadra completed a five-day visit to the state to review the party's poll preparedness. In the 2017 state elections, the Congress managed to win only seven seats in the 403-member legislative assembly.



Labourers collect paddy at a grain market in Jalandhar

STUBBLE BURNING

Farmers can generate hydrogen for EVs

THE PROCUREMENT AND MILLING PERIOD FOR KHARIF MARKETING SEASON (KMS) 2021-22 FOR PUNJAB WAS OCTOBER 1 AND HARYANA WAS SEPTEMBER 25

NEW DELHI, Oct 1: With the count-down to the monsoon withdrawal officially started, apprehension of bad air quality days has started. And, amongst the many sources that cause pollution is 'parali' (stubble burning) by farmers in Punjab.

Now, the farmers can look forward to not just earning from this agri-waste but also help in the generation of hydrogen.

Researchers from Pune have developed a unique technology for direct generation of Hydrogen from agricultural residue. This innovation can promote eco-friendly hydrogen fuel-cell electric vehicles by overcoming the challenge of hydrogen availability.

Of the several steps that India has promised the world community as part of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), the action to be taken to limit carbon emissions to restrict global temperature rise, India has set a target of 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030.



Researchers all over are working towards renewable energy solutions which should be sustainable with a limited carbon footprint. One of the most economical ways to achieve this is to produce hydrogen from a cheap, abundant, and renewable source.

Agricultural waste, which faces a great challenge for disposal, could be one of the sources of hydrogen production, and this could solve the dual problem of energy generation and waste disposal.

A team of researchers from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), government of India, in collaboration with Sentient Labs of KPIT Technologies, have developed the technology at lab-scale to extract hydrogen from agricultural residues.

The developers of the technology explained that the hydrogen fuel gen-

Paddy procurement from October 11

With maturity of the paddy crop delayed due to recent heavy downpour in Punjab and Haryana, the Centre announced that paddy procurement in the two states will commence from October 11. "Keeping in view the interest of farmers and to avoid any inconvenience to them, the Department of Food and Public Distribution under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has decided that the procurement of paddy under minimum support price (MSP) would commence from October 11 in the states of Punjab and Haryana," a Ministry release said.

eration process comprises the use of a specially developed microbial consortium that facilitates biodegradation of cellulose- and hemicellulose-rich agricultural residues, such as biomass of paddy, wheat, or maize, without thermo-chemical or enzymatic pre-treatment.

Use of electronic devices in jails now cognisable offence

LUCKNOW, Oct 1: The Uttar Pradesh government has now made the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices inside jails by inmates a cognisable and non-bailable offence.

Offenders will face rigorous imprisonment of three to five years and a fine of ₹20,000-50,000, if they violate the rule. A Home Department official said that the new rule has been implemented by amending the provisions of the Prisons Act-1894 for prisoner discipline across the jails of the state.



Several inmates on occasions more than one have been found to be using mobile phones from inside the jails.

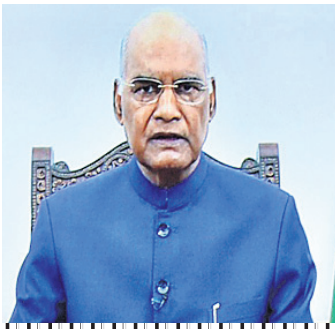
Offenders will face rigorous imprisonment of three to five years and a fine of ₹20,000-50,000 if they violate the rule.

"If any prisoner in the jails of the state is found using any type of wireless communication device inside or outside the prison premises and as a result of which a crime is committed, then on conviction, he is liable to be punished with rigorous imprisonment of three to five years and a fine from ₹20,000-50,000," the official statement said.

With this rule, mobile phones, WiFi, Bluetooth, Near Field Communication (NFC), tablet, personal computer, laptop, palmtop, internet, GPRS, e-mail, MMS, or any other device such as mobile SIM cannot be used by inmates inside or outside the jail premises in any way.

Several inmates on occasions more than one have been found to be using mobile phones from inside the jails.

The punishment for violating the rules will now prove to be a deterrent," said a jail official.



Gandhi Jayanti is a special day for every Indian. This is an occasion for us to remember Gandhiji's struggles and sacrifices. This occasion inspires us to resolve to work for the prosperity and development of our fellow citizens and the country

AMARINDER TO FORM 'PUNJAB VIKAS PARTY'

Former Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh is soon going to announce a new party. According to sources, the name of Captain's new party will be 'Punjab Vikas Party'



of the day quote

Our senior citizens are a highly vulnerable group and therefore, we need to provide an easy and efficient grievance redress mechanism to protect them. In this regard, the (Social Justice and Empowerment) ministry's decision to launch the national helpline (Elder Line) to resolve the grievances of senior citizens is commendable

VENKAIHA NAIDU | VICE PRESIDENT

Due to excessive rains, the standing crop got ruined and now the farmers have to face the delay (in procurement). The weather still remains a challenge for the farmers who are sitting with paddy under the open sky in the market. There is a constant danger that the paddy crops may be damaged if it rains

BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA | LEADER OF OPN IN THE HARYANA ASSEMBLY

There is a general perception throughout Punjab that Singh and the Badals (opposition SAD) are helping each other and have a secret understanding

HARISH RAWAT | PUNJAB CONGRESS IN-CHARGE

Can't force anyone for DNA test, says SC

DNA IS UNIQUE TO AN INDIVIDUAL (BARRING TWINS) AND CAN BE USED TO IDENTIFY A PERSON'S IDENTITY, TRACE FAMILIAL LINKAGES OR EVEN REVEAL SENSITIVE HEALTH INFORMATION



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Supreme Court on Friday said forcing a person to undergo a DNA test, would impinge on his personal liberty and his right to privacy, as it emphasised that Indian law leans towards legitimacy and frowns upon bastardy.

A bench of Justices R. Subhash Reddy and Hrishikesh Roy said: "When the plaintiff is unwilling to subject himself to the DNA test, forcing him to undergo one would impinge on his personal liberty and his right to privacy."

It added that the court's decision, on the aspect of DNA test, should be rendered only after bal-

ancing the interests of the parties - the quest for truth, and the social and cultural implications involved.

The bench noted that in circumstances where other evidence is available to prove or disprove the relationship, the court should ordinarily refrain from ordering blood tests. "This is because such tests impinge upon the right of privacy of an individual and could also have major societal repercussions. Indian law leans towards legitimacy and frowns upon bastardy," it said in its judgment. It further added that the presumption in law of legitimacy of a child cannot be lightly repelled.

DNA is unique to an individual (barring twins) and can be used to

identify a person's identity, trace familial linkages or even reveal sensitive health information. "The possibility of stigmatising a person as a bastard, the ignominy that attaches to an adult who, in the mature years of his life is shown to be not the biological son of his parents may not only be a heavy cross to bear but would also intrude upon his right of privacy," the bench observed.

Against the backdrop of these observations, the top court set aside a high court judgment, directing a plaintiff in a suit to undergo DNA test. The plaintiff had filed a suit seeking declaration of ownership of property, which was left behind by Trilok Chand Gupta and Sona Devi. He claimed to be the couple's son and arrayed their daughters as the defendants in the suit, who disputed his claim and denied his being son of their parents.

The daughters filed an application direction for the plaintiff to undergo DNA test to establish his biological link with their family, which was objected by him. He cited documentary evidence to establish his claim. The trial court said he cannot be compelled to undergo the test, which was challenged the high court. The high court directed the man to undergo DNA test, which he challenged in the top court.

Mamata criticises DVC for WB flood



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Oct 1: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Friday held Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) responsible for the current "man-made" flood in South Bengal which she claimed was a result of unplanned and increased discharge of water from upstream dams and barrages.

The Chief Minister said the lack of dredging of dams and barrages controlled by the central government-run DVC has led to increased silting in reducing the holding capacity of dams such as Maithon, near Dhanbad.

This, she claimed, led to excessive discharge of water into Bengal whenever there was heavy rains in upstream states such as Jharkhand, causing floods in vulnerable low lying districts of southern Bengal, and urged authorities controlling the dams to dredge their reser-

voirs. Banerjee warned of "massive protest" if steps were not taken to prevent recurrence of floods. Two persons including a child died after a house collapsed in Ghatal in Paschim Medinipur district as flood waters breached embankments and overnight rains added to people's woes. Chief Secretary H K Dwivedi separately told a press meet Friday that 22 lakh people were affected in five districts by floods as the mighty Damodar and Rupnarayan river were flowing above extreme danger level.

The top official who held meet with PWD and irrigation department officials, said one lakh houses were damaged, four lakh people were evacuated while 2 lakh people were taken to relief camps. He said a total of eight army columns have been deployed in three districts - three columns in Paschim Bardhaman, three in Hooghly and two in Howrah.

PM Modi launches Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday launched the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, asserting that these missions were aimed at making cities garbage free and water secure.

Under the new phase, it will be ensured that no untreated drain waste is discharged into any river of the country, Modi said after launching SBM-U 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 at the Ambedkar International Centre here.

He said that the new phases of these missions are also an important step in fulfilling dreams of B R Ambedkar.

"It's our privilege that today's programme has been organised at the BR Ambedkar Centre. Babasaheb believed that urban development was pivotal to removing inequality," he said.

Noting that many people from villages come to cities with the aspiration of a better life, he said they get employment but their living standard is often worse than in villages. "This is like a double whammy as they are away from home, and stay in such a situation, Modi said adding that Babasaheb's great emphasis was on changing this situation.

India is processing about one lakh tonne of waste every day, he



said, asserting that garbage mountains in cities will be processed and removed completely under the new phases of the two missions.

The Prime Minister said that in 2014, people took a pledge to make India open defecation free and they fulfilled this pledge with the construction of more than 10 crore toilets.

Now, the goal of SBM-Urban 2.0 is to make the cities completely free of garbage, he said and underlined the scope of the country's target in the next phase of AMRUT as 'improving sewage and septic management, making our cities water safe cities and ensuring that no sewage drains anywhere in our rivers'.

Modi noted that the young generation has taken the initiative to strengthen the clean-

ness campaign.

"Toffee wrappers are no longer thrown on the ground, but kept in pockets. Small children now urge the elders not to litter," he said.

"We have to remember that maintaining cleanliness is not just for a day, a fortnight, a year or for a few people, it is a mega campaign for every day, every fortnight, every year, for everyone and a continuous programme from one generation to another," the prime minister said.

The journey of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and AMRUT Mission so far makes every citizen proud, he said, adding "In this, there is a mission, there is respect, there is dignity, there is also the ambition of a country and there is also unmatched love for the motherland."

SHORT TAKES

Prez Ram Nath Kovind turns 76

New Delhi: President Ram Nath Kovind turned 76 Friday and with wishes pouring in from fellow citizens, he thanked them saying their blessings give him the strength and inspiration to serve people and the nation with more vigour and dedication. Kovind was born October 1, 1945, at Paraunkh village in Kanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. He was sworn in as the 14th President of India July 25, 2017.

LeT terrorist gunned down

Srinagar: A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist was gunned down by security forces in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district Friday, police said. A cordon-and-search operation was launched at Rakhama village in the district in the morning following information about the presence of militants in the area, a police spokesperson said.

Court asks Anil Deshmukh to appear

Mumbai: A court here Friday asked former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh to appear before it November 16, saying that he willfully ignored summons by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering case. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate R M Nerlikar Deshmukh 'issued process' against Deshmukh under IPC section 174.

7 killed in MP road mishap

Bhind: Seven persons including a woman were killed and 16 others injured after the driver of a dumper, in an inebriated condition, rammed the vehicle into an Uttar Pradesh-bound bus in Madhya Pradesh's Bind district Friday, police said. The incident took place on the national highway near Hargovindpura near Gohad town around 7 am.

NCB seizes drugs

Mumbai: The Narcotic Control Bureau has busted yet another international narcotic smuggling racket, seizing a drugs consignment from Hyderabad bound for Australia via Mumbai, a top official said Friday.

Govt to launch online job portal for senior citizens

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 1: The Union government is all set to develop a job portal for senior citizens.

The portal named, 'Senior Able Citizens for Re Employment in Dignity' (SACRED), will bring the employment seeking senior citizens and providers on one platform. The aim is to devise ways to ensure senior citizens live healthy, happy, empowered, dignified and self-reliant, says the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

An amount of Rs 10 crore would be provided for funding for the platform development along with maintenance grant of Rs two crore per year for five years.



The portal named, 'Senior Able Citizens for Re Employment in Dignity' (SACRED), will bring the employment seeking senior citizens and providers on one platform

Similarly, an amount of Rs 10 crore would be spent annually for publicity about the portal in various business enterprises.

According to the ministry, an individual senior citizen will get

himself registered on the portal with his relevant education, past experience, skills and the areas of interest.

The person will also select keywords regarding expected tasks,

which will enable the job providers to find them automatically.

"Any job provider - individual, firm, company, partnership, and voluntary organisation- can also register on the portal. The job provider will specify the task involved and the number of senior citizens that are required to complete it," the ministry said.

Voluntary organisations will help the senior citizens in applying for these jobs and no user charges will be taken from any of the senior citizens by any voluntary organisations.

"Therefore, the Employment Portal will serve not only the senior citizens seeking employment, but also the employers, the Self

Help Groups (SHGs), the senior citizens gaining skills, and other agencies or individuals," the ministry said.

The ministry, however, clarifies that the 'Employment Exchange Portal' will not be a guarantee for getting a job or employment or selling of the products of the SHGs, or for any other activity.

"It will act as an interactive platform where stakeholders meet each other virtually and decide on the course of action with mutual respect, consent and understanding. Web portal will be developed through NIC. There will be adequate publicity both among elders and enterprises to enroll on the portal," it said.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



A worker cleaning the statue of Mahatma Gandhi on the eve of the 152nd birthday of the Father of Nation in Agartala

AVALANCHE HITS UTTARAKHAND

5 Navy personnel go missing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gopeshwar/Uttarkashi, Oct 1: Five mountaineers of the Indian Navy and one porter went missing early Friday after getting caught in an avalanche when they were about to reach the peak of Mount Trishul in Uttarakhand's Bageshwar district, officials said.

A rescue team from Uttarakhi-based Nehru Institute of Mountaineering led by its principal

Colonel Amit Bisht has left for the avalanche-hit area in search of the missing, a statement from NIM, quoting Col Bisht, said. A combined team of Indian Army, Air Force and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) assisted by a helicopter are engaged in rescue operations, it said.

Mount Trishul which means trident, a weapon associated with lord Shiva, is a group of three Himalayan peaks located in

Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand. The adventure wing of the Indian Navy had informed NIM authorities about the incident around 11 am and sought the help of the institute's search and rescue team.

According to information available, a 20-member team of mountaineers of the Indian Navy had embarked on an expedition to the 7,120 metre Mount Trishul 15 days ago and the avalanche hit the area around 5 am Friday.

'Search on for Param Bir Singh'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 1: A lookout notice has been issued against former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh following inputs that he might have left the country, Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil has said.

He told this to reporters on the sidelines of a function late Thursday. "There are inputs that Singh may have left the country. But there is no concrete information yet," he said.

"Being a government officer, there are restrictions on travelling abroad. You can't leave the country without the government permission. Still if he has left, it is not good," Walse Patil added.

He said the state government was in touch with the Centre to find Singh, who had levelled allegations of bribery against former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.



The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are probing the allegations made against Deshmukh by the senior IPS officer. Days after he was shunted out as Mumbai police commissioner and transferred to the Home Guards in March this year, Singh had claimed in a letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray that Deshmukh used to ask police officers to collect money from restaurant and bar owners in Mumbai.

The state government had formed a one-member commission of Justice (retd) Kailash Uttamchand Chandiwal to conduct a probe into the corruption allegations levelled by Singh. The commission had issued summons to Singh multiple times to appear before it, but he failed to do so. After that, the panel had also issued a bailable warrant against him.

Singh has been booked in multiple cases of extortion. He is also facing a case under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act registered in April this year on a complaint lodged by a police inspector.

international



The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in the light of national circumstances is a pillar of the Paris Agreement
ANTONIO GUTERRES | UN SECRETARY GENERAL

JAPAN ENDS EMERGENCY

Japan fully came out of a coronavirus state of emergency for the first time in more than six months as the country starts to gradually ease virus measures



of the day quote

The Taliban government in Afghanistan should ensure fundamental rights to its citizens
JEPPE KOFOD | MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK

I have directed the lifting of the ban on Twitter's operations in Nigeria but only if certain conditions are met including Twitter's "positive" use and registration in the West African nation
MUHAMMADU BUHARI | NIGERIAN PRESIDENT

The Russian government has no plans to impose a lockdown
TATYANA GOLIKOVA | DEPUTY PM OF RUSSIA FOR SOCIAL POLICY, LABOUR, HEALTH AND PENSION PROVISION

Quad's existence isn't just to counter China: US

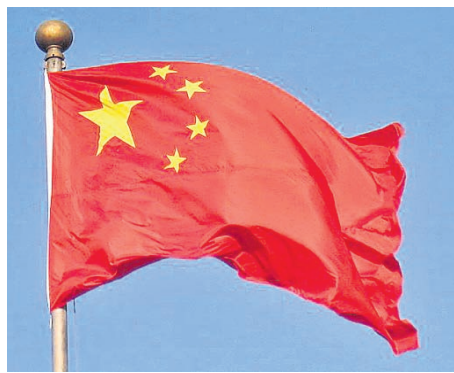
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Oct 1: China's aggressiveness and coercive nature in the strategic Indo-Pacific region is a "frequent topic of discussion" among the Quad nations but not all of it has to do with Beijing as there are lots of outcomes, the Pentagon has said.

On September 24, US President Joe Biden hosted the first-ever in-person summit of Quad leaders that vowed to strive for an Indo-Pacific region that is free, open, inclusive, anchored by democratic values and unconstrained by coercion, sending an apparent message to China.

At President Biden's invitation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterparts Scott Morrison from Australia and Yoshihide Suga from Japan attended the Quad summit during which they announced a slew of new initiatives to take on common challenges, amidst muscle flexing by an assertive China in the strategic region.

Pentagon Press Secretary John



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Kirby, at a news conference here on Thursday, told reporters: "there are lots of outcomes to the Quad relationship. And they don't all have to do with China... It's not that the Quad exists simply to counter China or their influence". "Obviously, what China's doing in the Indo-Pacific region, the ag-

gressiveness, the coercive nature with which they try to press their claims, certainly is a frequent topic of discussion with all our allies and partners, and certainly inside the Quad. "What the Quad arrangement gives us is another terrific opportunity to work multilaterally on all kinds of initiatives that can

help create what we really want here, which is a free and open Indo Pacific region. And there's a lot that goes into that, and not all of it has to do with China," Kirby said.

In November 2017, India, Japan, the US and Australia gave shape to the long-pending proposal of setting up the Quad to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the resource-rich Indo-Pacific free of any influence, amidst China's growing military presence in the strategic region.

India, the US and several other world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the resource-rich region.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. China also has territorial disputes with Japan in the East China Sea.

RESTRICTIONS TO BE EASED

Australia to end Covid travel ban



Australia introduced some of the toughest travel restrictions of any democracy in the world on people entering and leaving the island nation on March 20 last year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canberra, Oct 1: Australia has outlined plans to lift a pandemic ban on its vaccinated citizens travelling overseas from November. But no date has yet been set for welcoming international tourists back.

Travel restrictions that have trapped most Australians and permanent residents at home over the past 18 months would be removed when 80 per cent of the population aged 16 and older were fully vaccinated, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Friday.

Australia introduced some of the toughest travel restrictions of any democracy in the world on people entering and leaving the island nation on March 20 last year. Most Australians have had to argue for rare exemptions from the travel ban to leave the country. There are exceptions from the ban including government employees and essential workers. Tourism is never accepted as a reason to cross the border.

Hundreds of thousands have failed to reach relatives' death beds, missed funerals or wed-

dings and have yet to be introduced to grandchildren because of restrictions aimed at keeping COVID-19 out of Australia.

New South Wales would likely become the first state to reach the 80 per cent vaccination benchmark and Sydney's airport the first to open to international travel, Morrison said. "We've saved lives. We've saved livelihoods, but we must work together to ensure that Australians can reclaim the lives that they once had in this country," Morrison said.

Sydney-based Qantas Airways announced international flights would resume from November 14 to London and Los Angeles. Morrison offered no clue to when other nationalities would be welcome to visit Australia.

"We'll be working towards complete quarantine-free travel for certain countries, such as New Zealand, when it is safe to do so," he said. Australia has its closest relationship with New Zealand, whose citizens are considered Australian permanent residents. The neighbours allowed quarantine-free travel across the Tasman Sea before the delta variant outbreak began in Sydney in June.

The Australian Tourism Export Council, which represents a sector that made 45 billion Australian dollars (\$33 billion) a year from international tourists before the pandemic, said the end of the travel ban paved the way for visitors from around the world returning by March.

SHORT TAKES

Lockdown ends

Colombo: Sri Lanka Friday lifted the nationwide lockdown which was imposed 40 days ago to arrest the rising number of COVID-19 cases, but restricted the non-essential travel as a precautionary measure, health officials said. The third wave of the coronavirus pandemic hit the country in mid-April when healthcare services started running out of their capacity. Following weeks of persuasion by the medical professionals, the government decided to impose the lockdown on August 20 after the health facilities came under strain due the raging third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Man gets lifer

San Diego (US): A 22-year-old white supremacist was denied a chance to address a courtroom before a judge sentenced him Thursday to life in prison without the possibility of parole for bursting into a Southern California synagogue on the last day of Passover in 2019 with a semiautomatic rifle, killing one worshipper and wounding three others. An agreement with prosecutors that spared John T Earnest the death penalty left little suspense about the outcome, but the hearing provided 13 victims and families a chance to address the killer and gave a sense of finality to a case illustrating how online hate speech can lead to extremist violence.

Boy injured

Memphis: A boy was shot and critically wounded Thursday inside a school in Memphis, Tennessee, and police detained a second boy believed to be the shooter. The K-8 school was placed on lockdown and students were taken by bus to a nearby church to be reunited with frantic parents. Memphis police identified both the victim of the shooting at the Cummings School and the alleged shooter as 13-year-old boys, Assistant Police Chief Don Crowe said. Both were students at the school.

Kavanaugh Covid positive

Washington: US Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who is fully vaccinated, has tested positive for the coronavirus, the apex court said Friday, the first publicly known case of COVID-19 among the top court's justices. Kavanaugh, 56, tested positive for the contagion Thursday night and has no symptoms, the CNN news channel quoted as saying in a statement by the Supreme Court. The court said Kavanaugh's wife and daughters are also fully vaccinated, and they tested negative Thursday.

Japanese princess to marry October 26

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo, Oct 1: Japanese Princess Mako and her fiancé are tying the knot next month but no wedding ceremonies are planned.

Their marriage is not fully supported by the public because of a financial dispute involving her future mother-in-law, the palace announced Friday. The controversy involving Mako fiancé Kei Komuro's mother is an embarrassment for the imperial family and led to public rebuke that delayed their marriage for more than three years.

Komuro, 29, returned to Japan last week from New York, where he was studying to become a lawyer. His hair, tied in a ponytail, was considered a bold statement for someone marrying a princess in the tradition-bound family and only added to the criticism.

The couple will register their marriage October 26 and will have a news conference together, the Imperial Household Agency said. They are expected to start a new life together in New York later this year. There will be no wedding banquet and other rituals for the couple "because their marriage is not celebrated by many people," the agency said.

Mako has also declined the 150 million yen (USD 1.35 million) she is entitled for leaving the imperial family, palace officials said. Mako would be the first female imperial family member since World War II to not receive the payment when marrying a commoner.

She was recently diagnosed with a mental condition that palace doctors described as a form of traumatic stress disorder, according to the agency. Mako, who turns 30 three days before the wedding, is a niece of Emperor Naruhito. She and Komuro were classmates at Tokyo's International Christian University when they announced in September 2017 their intent to marry the following year, but the financial dispute surfaced two months later and the wedding was suspended.

JOY IN THE AIR



Dancers perform in front of a huge Chinese national flag during a ceremony to mark China's 72nd National Day in Hong Kong

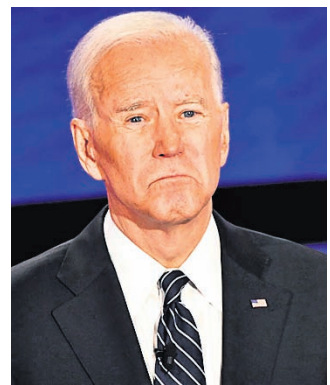
Biden immigration agenda suffers blow

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Oct 1: US President Joe Biden's ambitious immigration agenda suffered another blow after a key Senate parliamentarian rejected Democrats' plan that could have created a pathway to citizenship for millions of undocumented immigrants by updating a decades-old immigration registry.

The decision is a major setback for Democrats, who have promised to overhaul the immigration system as part of their sweeping USD 3.5 trillion budget reconciliation bill to remake American social programmes.

Democrats had pitched parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough on legalising millions of undocumented immigrants by making a change to the date for when undocumented immigrants within the United States can apply to ad-



just their legal status. The immigration registry was created under the Registry Act of 1929, which created a process for immigrants to apply for a Green Card. A Green Card, known officially as a Permanent Resident Card, is a document issued to immigrants

to the US as evidence that the bearer has been granted the privilege of residing permanently.

According to an analysis by FWD.us, changing the registry date to 2010 — allowing any migrants who've been in the country since that date to apply for residency — would make around 6.7 million people eligible for legal permanent residency. Those who currently qualify for the registry must have maintained a continuous presence in the United States and were of "good moral character" before January 1, 1972, according to USA Today.

Democrats presented a plan to the parliamentarian to change the immigration registry date to 2010. But MacDonough told Democrats that the option was a non-starter, The Hill reported.

Democrats are pursuing other backup plans with the Senate ref-

eree, according to a source familiar with Democrats' strategy. Because of the special fast-track procedure, the Democrats are using to pass their social spending bill, all parts must conform to Senate rules. The process, called reconciliation, allows Democrats to pass their bill with only 50 votes plus the tie-breaking vote of Vice President Kamala Harris.

The parliamentarian is the arbiter of whether policies comply with the rules. Changing the registry date is a "weighty policy change and our analysis of this issue is thus largely the same" as for Democrats' previous proposal to provide legal permanent resident status to some immigrants, MacDonough told Democrats in her guidance. "It's unfortunate. I disagree with her... But we'll go to Plan C," said Senator Bob Menendez from New Jersey.

Hospital fire kills 7

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bucharest, Oct 1: A fire at a hospital in the Romanian port city of Constanta killed at least seven COVID-19 patients, authorities said Friday.

All the victims were in the intensive care unit of Constanta's Hospital for Infectious Diseases, said Constantin Amarandei, head of the city's emergency inspectorate. Interior minister Lucian Bode said Friday that the early official figure of nine dead was "wrongly" reported. "We are talking about seven people... five in hospital and two after being transferred to other hospitals," he said.

The health ministry said in a statement that 113 patients were in the medical unit of the hospital and all the survivors have now been evacuated.

The fire was extinguished by mid-morning but its cause is not yet known.

Climate change causing drop in brightness of Earth: Study

THE STUDY, PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, USED DECADES OF MEASUREMENTS OF EARTHSHINE -- THE LIGHT REFLECTED FROM EARTH THAT ILLUMINATES THE SURFACE OF THE MOON

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Oct 1: Warming ocean waters have caused a drop in the brightness of the Earth, according to a study which found that our planet is now reflecting about half a watt less light per square metre than it was 20 years ago.

The study, published in the journal Geophysical Research Letters, used decades of measurements of earthshine -- the light reflected from Earth that illuminates the surface of the Moon. The researchers also analysed satellite measurements, finding that there has been a significant drop in Earth's reflectance, or albedo, over the past two decades.

They found that Earth is now reflecting about half a watt less light

per square metre than it was 20 years ago, with most of the drop occurring in the last three years of earthshine data.

That is the equivalent of 0.5 per cent decrease in the Earth's reflectance, according to the researchers. Earth reflects about 30 per cent of the sunlight that shines on it, they noted.

"The albedo drop was such a surprise to us when we analysed the last three years of data after 17 years of nearly flat albedo," said Philip Goode, a researcher at New Jersey Institute of Technology and the lead author of the study.

Goode was referring to the earthshine data from 1998 to 2017 gathered by the Big Bear Solar Observatory in Southern California. When the latest data were added to the previous years, the dimming



trend became clear, the researchers said.

They noted that two things affect the net sunlight reaching the Earth:

changes in the Sun's brightness, meaning changes in Earth's reflectiveness are caused by something on the Earth. There has been a reduction of bright, reflective low-lying clouds over the eastern Pacific Ocean in the most recent years, according to satellite measurements made as part of NASA's Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System (CERES) project. That is the same area where increases in sea surface temperatures have been recorded because of the reversal of a climatic condition with likely connections to global climate change, according to the researchers. The dimming of the Earth can also be seen in terms of how much more solar energy is being captured by Earth's climate system,

they said. Once this significant additional solar energy is in Earth's atmosphere and oceans, it may contribute to global warming, the researchers explained.

This is because the extra sunlight is of the same magnitude as the total anthropogenic climate forcing, or a number of human-induced factors, over the last two decades, they added.

"It's actually quite concerning," said Edward Schwietzman, a planetary scientist at the University of California at Riverside who was not involved in the study. Many scientists had hoped that a warmer Earth might lead to more clouds and higher albedo, which would then help to moderate warming and balance the climate system, he said. "But this shows the opposite is true," Schwietzman added.

of the day **QUOTE**

The reason why billions of people choose Google as their search tool every day is not because of an abuse of dominance. It's because it's the best

MEREDITH PICKFORD | GOOGLE'S LAWYER

I am happy to note that several global brands are entering India, as well as several local entrepreneurs are setting up large facilities to mass-produce electric vehicles

NITIN GADKARI | UNION MINISTER

Karnataka and Germany share a strong relationship, especially in areas of trade and FDI. We both focus on major industries like auto and auto components, engineering and machine tools, chemicals, innovation and R&D

MURUGESH NIRANI | KARNATAKA LARGE AND MEDIUM INDUSTRIES MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Equity indices, realty stocks down

Mumbai: Weak Asian cues along with profit booking dented India's key equity indices - S&P BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 - during Friday's mid-afternoon trade session. In the initial trade hours, the market struggled at lower levels after a gap down opening October 1. Globally, Asian markets after opening lower are languishing at low levels. Furthermore, European markets have opened lower on growth and inflation fears. On the domestic front, realty, telecom, auto and FMCG are the main losers so far, whereas metals are the main gainer.

Maruti Suzuki sales decline 46%

New Delhi: The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India Friday reported 46.16 per cent decline in sales at 86,380 units in September. The company had sold 1,60,442 units in September last year, MSI said in a statement. Domestic sales slipped 54.9 per cent to 68,815 units last month as against 1,52,608 units in September 2020, it added. "Sales volume of the company in September 2021 was adversely impacted due to shortage of electronic components. The company took all possible measures to limit the adverse impact," the auto major stated.

Forex reserves up by \$34.1 bln

New Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India has released Sources of Variation in Foreign Exchange Reserves in India during April-June 2021. The country's foreign exchange reserves in nominal terms, including valuation effects, increased by \$34.1 billion during the June quarter compared to \$27.9 billion in the year-ago period, RBI data showed Thursday. The valuation gain, reflecting the depreciation of the US dollar against major currencies and increase in gold prices, amounted to \$2.2 billion during the April-June 2021 period.

India's external debt rises to \$571 bn

Mumbai: India's external debt for the quarter ended June 2021 increased on a year-on-year as well as on sequential basis. The external debt during the period under review rose to \$571.3 billion from \$555.2 billion reported for the quarter ended June 2020. On a sequential basis, at end-June 2021, the external debt recorded an increase of \$1.6 billion over \$569.7 billion reported for end-March 2021 period.



It is not only most unfortunate to sell Indian Airlines, but also goes against the interest of people and the nation

AMARJEET KAUR | GENERAL SECRETARY, AITUC

ELON MUSK'S STARLINK TO START BROADBAND SERVICE IN INDIA

Elon Musk-led SpaceX's satellite broadband arm Starlink aims to start broadband service in India from December 2022, with 2 lakh active terminals subject to permission from the government, a top company official said Friday



RRVL extends deadline to complete Future buyout

RELIANCE RETAIL VENTURES LIMITED EXTENDED THE TIMELINE FOR LONG STOP DATE FROM SEPT 30, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2022

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Oct 1: Reliance Retail Ventures Limited has extended the date for completion of its deal with Future Group by another six months to March 31, 2022 owing to the protracted legal battle with Amazon.

"Reliance Retail Ventures Limited ("RRVL") extended the timeline for Long Stop Date from September 30, 2021 to March 31, 2022, which has been duly acknowledged by Reliance Retail and Fashion Lifestyle Limited, wholly owned subsidiary of RRVL," Future Retail said in a stock exchange filing Friday. A long stop date is a date that is agreed upon for all deal conditions to be met and the transaction is completed.

In August last year, Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) had said it will acquire the retail and wholesale business, and the logistics and warehousing business of Future Group for \$24,713 crore.

The deal has been contested by Amazon; an investor in Future Coupons that in turn is a shareholder in Future Retail Ltd.

In August 2019, Amazon had agreed to purchase 49 per cent of one of Future's unlisted firm, Future Coupons Ltd (which owns 7.3 per cent equity in BSE-listed Future Retail through convertible warrants), with the right to buy into the flagship Future Retail after a



In August last year, RRVL had said it will acquire the retail and wholesale business, and the logistics and warehousing business of Future Group for \$24,713 crore

In August 2019, Amazon had agreed to purchase 49 per cent of one of Future's unlisted firm, Future Coupons Ltd, with the right to buy into the flagship Future Retail after a period of 3 to 10 years

After Future's deal with RRVL, Amazon had dragged Future into arbitration at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre

period of 3 to 10 years.

After Future's deal with RRVL, Amazon had dragged Future into arbitration at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC).

In October, an interim award was passed by the Emergency Arbitrator (EA) in favour of the US e-commerce major that barred Future Retail from taking any step to dispose of or encumber its assets or issuing any securities to secure any funding from a restricted party

Amazon and Future have also filed litigations in Indian courts, including the Supreme Court, on the issue. The apex court had recently ruled in favour of Amazon by holding that the EA award was valid and enforceable under Indian laws.

Notably, Future Retail Ltd, August 28, said it has approached the Supreme Court against an order passed by the Delhi High Court to maintain status quo in relation to the deal and directing it to enforce the order of the Singapore-based EA.

GST collection grows 23% to ₹1.17 trn in Sept

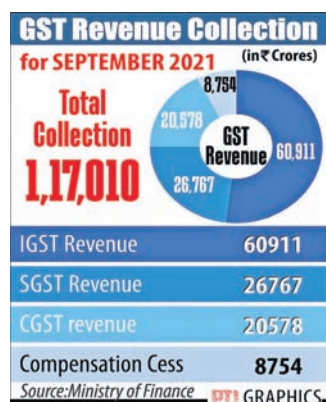
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 1: India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection remained above the ₹1-lakh-crore mark for third straight month in September at over ₹1.17 lakh crore, the finance ministry said on Friday.

The revenues for the month of September 2021 are 23 per cent higher than the GST revenues in September 2020.

"The gross GST revenue collected in the month of September 2021 is ₹1,17,010 crore of which CGST is ₹20,578 crore, SGST is ₹26,767 crore, IGST is ₹60,911 crore (including ₹29,555 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is ₹8,754 crore (including ₹623 crore collected on import of goods)," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

CGST refers to Central Goods and Services Tax, SGST (State Goods and Service Tax) and IGST (Integrated Goods and Services Tax).



During September, revenues from import of goods were 30 per cent higher and revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) were 20 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

Ministerial panel to approve Air India sale

The panel comprises FM Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia as members



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: Amid buzz of the Centre approving Air India sale to Tata Sons, two government officials said that the highest decision-making body constituted for the national carrier's divestment is yet to meet to grant its nod for the transaction.

The Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) headed by Home Minister Amit Shah is yet to meet to approve the sale of Air India, an official said. The panel is expected to meet soon to grant a final nod to the sale of national carrier. The panel has Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia as members.

The Core Group of Secretaries headed by Cabinet Secretary has held several rounds of consultations, and is learnt to have suggested Tata Sons as the suitable candidate for taking over the na-

tional carrier. However, Ajay Singh had placed a "competitive bid" for the airline, the second official said.

Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) Tuhin Kanta Pandey Friday tweeted "Media reports indicating approval of financial bids by Government of India in the AI (Air India) divestment case are incorrect."

The government has considered the future cash flow projection of Air India, its brand value and intangible assets like bilateral rights and slots in foreign airports to set the reserve price for the airline. The indicative reserve price for Air India would be in the range of ₹15,000-20,000 crore, sources said earlier.

The government expects the final bid to at least match the reserve price. But, it may still go ahead with the divestment process even if the bid quoted is lower than the reserve price. The government is looking to complete the sale of Air India as early as this month.

Manufacturing activity grows in Sept: PMI

The IHS Markit PMI for manufacturing rose to 53.7 in Sept from 52.3 in August, highlighting a stronger expansion in overall business conditions



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 1: Manufacturing activity in September grew with strengthening demand conditions amid the easing of Covid-19 restrictions even as pricing pressure intensified due to raw material shortages and rising fuel costs.

The IHS Markit Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for manufacturing rose to 53.7 in September from 52.3 recorded in August, highlighting a stronger expansion in overall business conditions. A reading above 50 indicates expansion and one below that shows contraction. The PMI reading was 55.3 in July.

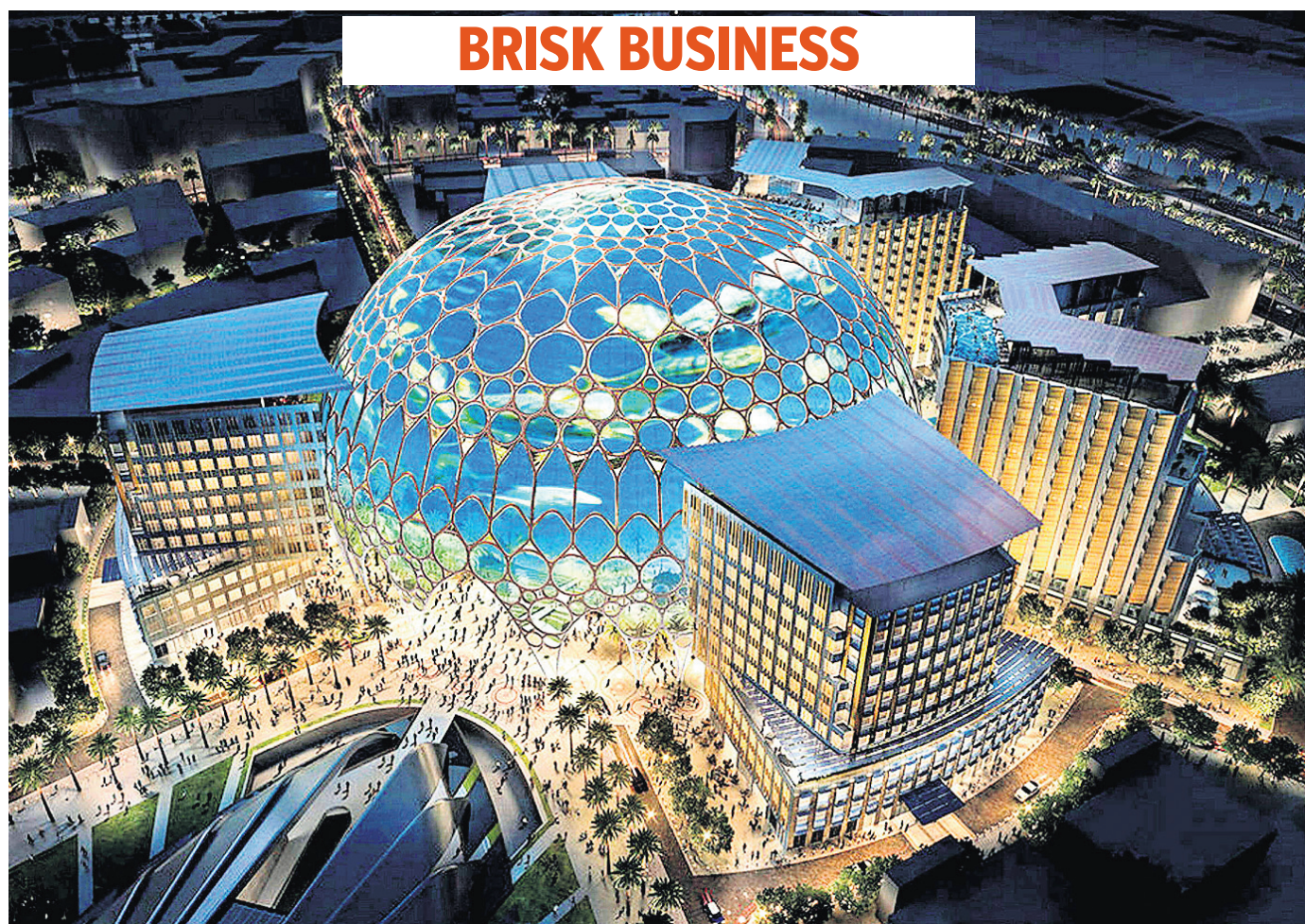
"Indian manufacturers lifted production to a greater extent in

September as they geared up for improvements in demand and the replenishment of stocks. There was a substantial pick-up in intakes of new work, with some contribution from international markets," said Pollyanna De Lima, Economics associate director at IHS Markit.

The growth in September was backed by stronger new order inflows, and companies scaling up input buying to accommodate rising sales and progress with production schedules. The uptick in input buying came on the back of anticipation that production would increase in the year ahead.

International demand for Indian goods also strengthened in September, although some firms saw the Covid-19 pandemic restricting international sales. New export orders expanded at a faster rate than in August, the survey showed.

Manufacturing sector employment saw little change as government guidelines surrounding shift work prevented hiring for firms.



The glittering Dubai Expo 2020 venue in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, which was inaugurated by Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Thursday

WHY IS INDIA FACING A MASSIVE COAL SHORTAGE?

COAL ACCOUNTS FOR OVER 70% OF INDIA'S ELECTRICITY OUTPUT, AND UTILITIES ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 75% OF INDIA'S COAL CONSUMPTION

REUTERS

Chennai, Oct 1: Indian utilities are scrambling to secure coal supplies as inventories hit critically low levels.

Here is a brief summary of the factors that have led to the country's coal shortage.

Current stock levels
As at September 29, 16 of India's 135 coal-fired power plants had zero coal stocks, according to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Over half of the plants had stocks that would last fewer than three days, while over 80% had less than a week's stock left.

Coal accounts for over 70% of India's electricity output, and utilities account for about 75% of India's coal consumption.

Coal shortage

India's industrial power demand has surged after the second coronavirus pandemic wave. On top of

that, a widening price gap between lower domestic prices and record global coal prices has led buyers to shun imports.

State-run Coal India, which produces over 80% of India's coal, Wednesday said an increase in global coal prices and freight costs had led to a curtailment in power production by plants using imported coal, adding to the pressure on utilities using domestically mined coal to ramp up output.

Widening prices

Domestic coal prices in India are largely decided by Coal India. An increase in coal prices generally has a knock on effect on power prices and inflation, making a hike a politically sensitive decision.

Coal India has kept prices steady over the last year despite global coal prices rising steeply in the same period. While the company's chairman has said the miner will increase prices, it is not immedi-



ately clear when it will happen.

Meanwhile, Asia's coal price benchmarks have hit record highs in the recent times, buoyed by global demand for power generation fuels as economies open up. A major power crisis in China is the

latest event driving global demand for the fuel.

Utilities' problems

India's power tariffs, set by the respective states, are among the lowest in the world, according to the website globalpetrolprices.com, as

state-run distribution companies have absorbed higher input costs to keep tariffs steady.

This has left many of these companies deeply indebted, with cumulative liabilities running into billions of dollars.

The companies' strained balance sheets have consistently triggered delayed payments to power producers, often affecting cash flows and disincentivising further investment in the electricity generation sector.

Indian power producers locked in long-term agreements with distribution utilities often cannot pass on higher input costs unless clauses are included in their contracts.

Impact of crisis

India is the second largest importer; consumer and producer of coal, and has the world's fourth largest reserves. It mainly imports from Indonesia, Australia and South Africa.

CRISIL, a unit of ratings agency S&P, said it expects Australian and Indonesian thermal coal prices to increase over the remainder of this fiscal year, due to supply constraints and high demand from China and elsewhere.

Winners and losers

Shares of Indian power producers NTPC Ltd, Tata Power and Torrent Power; and Coal India have been rising strongly in recent weeks, spurred by rising power demand. An official at a large utility operator said many traders who bought coal at the domestic spot auctions sold the fuel at steep premiums.

Many non-power consumers of coal and import-based power plants have curtailed production due to high foreign prices. While large scale outages like those in China seem unlikely in the immediate future, some pockets of the country might face power outages, officials say.

Mandhana props India

Rain plays spoilsport again after opener's historic feat on the second day of their D/N Test against Australia Women



Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to hit a century in D/N Tests and also the first from the country to reach three figures in the game's traditional format on the Australian soil

play could not resume as the outfield needed more than a few hours to dry, even after the super-soppor was employed by the proactive ground-staff.

The umpires inspected at 8.30 pm local time before arriving at the decision to call off the remaining day's play, the second time after a similar experience during the opening day's play Thursday.

Deepti Sharma was batting on 12 and Taniya Bhatia was yet to open her account as the players walked off the field and covers were brought on. There will be 108 overs bowled on each of the last two days of the match.

India lost two wickets in the second session, including that of skipper Mithali Raj for 30 and debutant Yastika Bhatia for 19. Mithali, who was looking good for a big one, was run out after playing a few lovely shots.

Earlier, flamboyant opener Mandhana shattered a few records en route to slamming a magnificent Test century as India progressed to 231/3 in the second day's opening session.

At the dinner break, India were strongly placed, having started the proceedings at 132/1. The 25-year-old Mandhana became the first Indian woman to hit a century in day-night Tests and also the first from the country to reach three figures in the game's traditional for-

mat on the Australian soil.

Mandhana, at the Carrara Oval, added an Indian record of 102 runs in Australia for the second wicket with Punam Raut (36), continuing the good work after putting on 93 with Shafali Verma on the opening day.

She brought her century with a short-arm pull shot off Ellyse Perry in the 52nd over; Mandhana wouldn't have added to her overnight score of 80 in the second over of Day 2 but Perry overstepped. Replays showed that the catch too might have been debatable.

The India opener, however, overcame the early jitters and went about her business in a professional manner while playing some lovely shots, including a magnificent straight drive off Annabel Sutherland.

She looked set for more but was caught at short mid-off off the bowling Ash Gardner, after playing an uppish drive. Raut walked off after a caught behind appeal despite the umpire not entertaining Alyssa Healy and Meg Lanning's loud shouts. Mithali though got into the job straightaway, sweeping and driving Gardner for scores.

BRIEF SCORES

India Women 276/5 (Smriti Mandhana 127, Punam Raut 36, Mithali Raj 30; Sophie Molineux 2/28, Ashleigh Gardner 1/26) v Australia Women. Match to continue.



TERRIFYING VIEW: Lightning and hail stopped the second day's play

BOWLERS, RAHUL LIFT PBKS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Oct 1: Punjab Kings (PBKS) boosted their chances of making the IPL playoffs with a five-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) as effective death over bowling and smart batting by skipper KL Rahul (67, 55b, 4x4, 2x6) and Shahruxh Khan (22 n o, 9b, 1x4, 2x6) shaped their crucial victory in the Indian Premier League here Friday.

Rahul shared a 70-run stand with fellow opener Mayank Agarwal (40, 27b, 3x4, 3x6), knocking off a 166-run target with three balls to spare. Shahruxh produced an impactful knock when it mattered and finished the match with a six.

Venkatesh Iyer hit a fluent 67 (49b, 9x4, 1x6) while Nitish Rana produced a fiery 31 (18b, 2x4, 2x6) before Punjab Kings managed to stop KKR at 165/7.

Invited to bat, the in-form KKR batsmen controlled the proceedings for a major part of their innings and had it not been some excellent death over spells by Mohammed Shami (1/23) and Arshdeep Singh (3/32), KKR would have got a bigger score on the board.

Iyer and Rahul Tripathi (34, 26b, 3x4, 1x6) raised a 72-run stand, stroking the ball around with ease while Rana's cameo was also crucial for KKR since the run-rate had taken a hit at that time after two quick wickets.

The Punjab batsmen did not set the field on fire at the start of the chase as all they could manage 46 runs in the powerplay but did not lose a wicket.

Of the two batsmen, it was Agarwal who was hitting the ball at a good a strike rate while Rahul was going a-run-a-ball. Varun Chakravarthy (2/24) separated the openers by having Agarwal caught at in extra cover by Eoin Morgan, though it was a fierce shot.

Nicholas Pooran (12) was dropped at 1 by Tripathi in the same region but Chakravarthy ensured that it wasn't a costly miss as he dismissed the West Indian soon after.

Gripping the ball had become difficult for the bowlers due to the dew but Punjab batsmen were still happy working the ball around and getting an odd big shot in between.

Rahul raised his half century with one such shot off a slower one from Southee when he cleared the square leg region.

PBKS needed 45 runs from the



KL Rahul (R) and Mayank Agarwal are having a conversation during their crucial partnership that set the tone for Punjab Kings' victory over KKR

final five overs. Aiden Markram (18) hit a gigantic six off Sunil Narine (1/34) but was caught in the same over while Deepak Hooda (3) also perished soon.

Rahul seemed to have hit one straight to fielder but the third-umpire ruled him not out. He got out in the first ball of the final over but Shahruxh finished the job to calm a nervous dugout.

PBKS moved to fifth in the table with 10 points while KKR stayed in fourth with same number of points

Earlier, left-arm pacer Arshdeep has been a top performer for Punjab this season and he delivered again by cleaning up Shubham Gill (7) with a peach of delivery that breached the defence of the batsman in the third over.

Iyer continued his good run with some fluent drives on both sides of the wicket despite that the ball was

stopping a bit before coming on to the bat.

The partnership was finally broken by spinner Ravi Bishnoi, who had Tripathi caught in the deep. Two quick wickets fell when Bishnoi got rid of Iyer, who went for a big shot, and Shami trapped rival skipper Eoin Morgan (2), who shuffled a bit towards the off side but missed the line of the dipping ball that caught him in front of the wicket.

BRIEF SCORES

KKR 165/7 (Venkatesh Iyer 67, Rahul Tripathi 34, Nitish Rana 31; Arshdeep Singh 3/32, Ravi Bishnoi 2/22, Mohammed Shami 1/23) lost to **PBKS 168/5** (KL Rahul 67, Mayank Agarwal 40, Shahruxh Khan 22 n o; Varun Chakravarthy 2/24, Venkatesh Iyer 1/30) by 5 wickets.

CSK EYE TOP-2 FINISH DC look to bounce back against MI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Oct 1: A play-off berth already sealed, former champions Chennai Super Kings would look to ensure that the momentum remains intact when they take on a struggling Rajasthan Royals in their IPL match here Saturday.

CSK, led by the talismanic MS Dhoni, became the first team to seal a play-off berth with a six-wicket win over Sunrisers Hyderabad Thursday. They are currently leading the standings with 18 points from 11 games, followed by Delhi Capitals (16 points), Royal Challengers Bangalore (14) and Kolkata Knight Riders (10).

With eight points from 11 games, RR are placed second from bottom in the eight-team table and a loss Saturday will end their slim chances of qualifying for the knockout stage. The equation is simple for RR - win the remaining three games handsomely and stay in contention for the fourth play-off spot.

But it would be easier said than done as CSK, a formidable opponent await them first up against



whom they lost by 38 runs in the first leg of the tournament in Chennai.

With four consecutive wins under their belt, CSK are on a roll. The yellow brigade beat defending champions Mumbai Indians by 20 runs, followed by victories over Royal Challengers Bangalore (by 6 wickets), Kolkata Knight Riders (by 2 wickets) and SRH.

And the Dhoni-led side would



be keen to stay in good form as the tournament approaches its business end.

On the other hand, nothing is going right for RR as they suffered a hat-trick of defeats - against DC by 33 runs and against bottom-placed SRH and RCB by 7 wickets respectively. It's now or never for the Sanju Samson-led side as it fights to arrest the slide and stay afloat.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sharjah, Oct 1: Delhi Capitals will look to bounce back after a blip in the last match, while a struggling Mumbai Indians unit will hope to hold on to their newfound momentum in the first of Saturday's IPL double headers here.

Having virtually sealed their playoff berth with eight wins, Delhi were done in by the sluggish conditions of Sharjah, as an all-round Kolkata Knight Riders trumped them by three wickets in a low-scoring affair.

Lying second with 16 points from 11 games, the target for the last season's runners-up would be to finish in top-two, which will give them two shots at reaching the final.

For a team that looked at ease all along, it was their first defeat in the UAE leg - and three from 11 matches this season - as Delhi struggled to get going against KKR bowlers who made full use of the slow surface after opting to bowl. That none in the star-studded



Rishabh Pant-led Delhi batting lineup managed to get a six in their stipulated 20 overs, highlighted how difficult stroke-making was. The outing was an aberration for the Delhi batsmen who have done well so far and they would hope that Shaw is fit and back in the playing XI.

With the sluggish conditions on offer, DC's spin trio of Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav would look to make



inroads. Mumbai, on the other hand, would look to stay in the race after securing their first win from four matches in the second phase of IPL.

Batting has been a big letdown for the record five-time IPL champions as Suryakumar Yadav is horribly out of form with scores of 0, 8, 5, 3 in the UAE leg. Star openers Rohit Sharma and Quinton de Kock also have not been able to

convert their starts, putting pressure on the middle-order.

The silver lining for the IPL heavyweights was the struggling middle-order turning it around with Saurabh Tiwary (45) and Hardik Pandya (40) securing a six-wicket win over Punjab Kings. The big-hitting Kieron Pollard also looked in the groove with a seven-ball 15 not out to play the finisher's role.

In bowling, Jasprit Bumrah has consistently delivered, returning with 10 wickets so far in the UAE leg, at a time MI's spin bowling has flopped. On conditions aiding slow bowlers, it remains to be seen how the likes of Rahul Chahar and Krunal Pandya make it count.

TODAY'S MATCHES

| | | | |
|----|---|-----|----------------|
| MI | v | DC | Time: 03:30 pm |
| RR | v | CSK | Time: 07:30 pm |

TELECAST
Star Sports channels & Hotstar

Deepika, Atanu lose bronze medal ties in World Cup Final



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Yankton (USA), Oct 1: Star archery couple Atanu Das and Deepika Kumari lost their respective bronze medal matches as India capped a poor show, returning empty-handed from the World Cup Final here. In the absence of an Indian recurve coach, the couple struggled under cold and overcast

conditions here Friday.

Das lost a lopsided bronze play-off to reigning Olympic champion Mete Gazoz of Turkey 6-0 (27-29, 26-27, 28-30). He doubled up as Deepika's coach when the world number two lost in the shoot-off to Olympic team bronze-medallist Michelle Kroppen. Making her eighth WCF appearance, world number two Deepika misfired a six to lose 5-6 (6-9) in the shoot-off.

A winner of four silver medals and a bronze in the tournament, Deepika started off by defeating Olympic team silver-medallist Svetlana Gomboeva of Russia 6-4 in the quarterfinals. In the semi-finals, she lost to double Tokyo Olympics silver-medallist Elena Osipova of Russia 6-2.

Das began his campaign with a 6-2 win over Germany's Maximilian Weckmueller, only to go down to USA's world number one Brady Ellison 2-6.

Napoli lose despite early goal; Roma, Spurs win

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Oct 1: Taking the lead after just 11 seconds wasn't enough for Napoli to avoid a loss in the second round of Europa League group-stage matches.

Eljif Elmas Thursday netted the early goal for Napoli - the second-quickest ever in UEFA's second-tier competition - but Spartak Moscow rallied to a 3-2 victory after both teams were reduced to 10 men.

Lazio, Lyon and West Ham also earned wins, while fan unrest led to the game between Marseille and Galatasaray being halted for about 10 minutes in the first half.

In the new third-tier Europa Conference League, Harry Kane netted a hat-trick despite coming on as a substitute in a 5-1 victory over Slovenia's FC Mura.

Stephan El Shaarawy scored seven minutes into the game to put Roma on course to a 3-0 away win at Ukraine's Zorya Luhansk.



Quincy Promes (R) celebrates a goal against Napoli

Elmas' goal was the fastest in the Europa League since Jan Szykora of Czech side Liberec scored 10.69 seconds into a game at Qarabag in 2016. But Mario Rui was shown a red

card after a video review following a rough foul on Victor Moses in the first half and the visitors turned the game around after the break with two goals from Quincy Promes and

substitute Mikhail Ignatov.

Spartak also finished the game with 10 men after Maximiliano Caufriez was sent off after receiving his second yellow card 10 minutes from time, but Promes added a second goal to extend the lead before Victor Osimhen pulled one back for Napoli in stoppage time.

In the same group, Mahir Emreli scored his eighth goal of the season for Legia Warsaw to beat Leicester 1-0 and give the Polish team a second straight win. Leicester and Napoli have one point each.

Fans were banned at Sparta Prague's stadium during the Czech club's 1-0 victory over Rangers due to their racist behavior but the hosts still had the support of some 10,000 children aged 6-14 who were allowed by UEFA in the stands.

In the second consecutive loss for the Scottish powerhouse, the young Sparta fans repeatedly booed Rangers midfielder Glen Kamara. The incident came after Ondrej

Kudela from Sparta's archival, Slavia Prague, received a 10-match ban from UEFA after being found guilty of racially abusing the Finnish player.

Kamara was sent off after picking up his second yellow in the second half. Also in Group A, Lyon beat Danish club Breendby 3-0.

West Ham beat Rapid Vienna 2-0, with Declan Rice hitting the post before scoring the opening goal off a cross from Michail Antonio. Said Benrahma added the second in stoppage time.

Defender Chris Smalling and substitute Tammy Abraham added a couple of second-half goals for Roma in the span of two minutes. Roma has won eight of 10 matches across all competitions under Jose Mourinho.

Tottenham bounced back from three straight losses in the Premier League with its first victory in the Conference League after a 2-2 draw at Rennes in the competition's opener.