



### SC allows declaration of NEET results

New Delhi: The Supreme Court permitted Thursday the National Testing Agency (NTA) to declare the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) results for admission to undergraduate medical courses across India. A bench comprising Justices L Nageswara Rao, Sanjiv Khanna and BR Gavai stayed the Bombay High Court's recent order asking the NTA not to declare the NEET results and conduct reexamination for two aspirants whose question papers and OMR sheets had got mixed up at a centre in Maharashtra. "We stay the high court judgement. NTA can announce the results," the bench said.



### Facebook rebrands itself as 'Meta'

**Oakland (US):** Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said Thursday his company is rebranding itself as 'Meta' in an effort to encompass its virtual-reality vision for the future. Sceptics point out that it also appears to be an attempt to change the subject from the 'Facebook Papers', a document trove that has revealed the ways Facebook ignored internal reports and warnings of the harms its social network created or magnified across the world. The announcement regarding the change in name came on a day when Facebook officials were grilled by UK lawmakers over online safety rules.



### OERC ASKS RIL TO PAY ₹4K CR DISCOM DUES

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: The Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC) ordered Thursday Reliance Infrastructure Ltd (RIL) to pay dues of over Rs 4,000 crore accrued by its three power distributions companies (discoms), the licences of which were revoked six years ago.

In a petition to the OERC, GRIDCO-a state-run firm for transmission and bulk supply of electricity-had submitted that licences of the three discoms were revoked by the Commission in 2015 for violating licence conditions, shareholder agreements, the Electricity Act and other regulations.

GRIDCO, formerly Grid Corporation of Odisha, claimed that Rs 4,234 crore is recoverable from RIL and the discoms. The Anil Ambani-controlled RIL

submitted that the discoms were separate legal entities and, therefore, any amount, if at all recoverable from them, cannot be recovered from the parent firm.

"We hold that besides the three RIL-managed DISCOMs, (the) RIL itself is squarely liable for settling the above claim of the petitioner," OERC said after hearing both sides.

The Commission held that the liabilities accrued prior to revocation of licences were to be borne by the erstwhile licencee – the discoms – and in turn, their managing investor, which is the RIL.

Ing investor, which is the RIL. Nesco, Wesco and Southco were privatised through a bidding process and the BSES, whose successor is the RIL, took over their management in 1999 after being the successful bidder. A bulk supply agreement was executed between the GRIDCO and the discoms. INNOVATIVE PROTEST

'Gaon Sathis' sweep a stretch of road near PMG Square in Bhubaneswar, Thursday, as a mark of protest and to press for fulfilment of their five-point charter of demands, including wage hike and regular employment

ARYAN GETS BAIL

■ 26 days after he was arrested for his alleged involvement in cruise drugs case, there was finally some relief for Shah Rukh Khan's son AGENCIES



## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Pune, Oct 28:** Pune Police arrested Thursday Kiran Gosavi, an independent witness of the



Raids have disclosed that the sacked police personnel had amassed properties worth crores in different parts of Bhubaneswar as well as in Nuapada district of Odisha

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Vigilance sleuths Thursday unearthed properties worth around several crores during simultaneous raids at different places associated with dismissed constable Prasanna Kumar Behera. He was earlier arrested by Commissionerate Police for running the South City Bar in Patraparda flouting all norms.

Separate teams of the Vigilance department carried out raids at five places including the residential quarter and native house of Behera who is accused of illegally amassing properties disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Sources revealed that the Special Vigilance Judge here had earlier directed the anti-corruption sleuths to conduct the searches in connection with a case (No 9/2021) against Behera.

The searched places include a residential quarter (No-G/12-Police) near Kalpana Square and its extension building, M/s Spark Furniture Private Limited at Dumduma, a furniture workshop at Santha Vihar in Lingipur, South City Bar and a double storey build-



Vigilance officials at the Spark Furniture showroom in Bhubaneswar

ing at Behera's native village in Nuapada of Khurda district. Five teams led by two Deputy SPs, six inspectors and several other Vigilance officials were engaged in the searches.

The total value of Behera's movable and immovable assets is yet to be ascertained. Police said Behera has a flat at Sundarpada (₹24 lakh), Spark Furniture (more than ₹2 crore including land and furniture) and four four-wheelers (several lakhs). Officials reportedly traced receipts related to the payment of premiums worth around ₹50 lakhs for insurance in the name of the accused cop and his family members.

During investigation into the murder case of Manish Anurag, senior journalist Navin Das's son,\_ the Commissionerate Police came to know that the South City Bar, where the deceased and accused met before the murder, was being run sans a valid license and in violation of the Covid-19 guidelines.



GRIDCO used to hold 49 per cent stake in the companies, while RIL owned 51 per cent share in these.

### **IRREGULAR** by MANJUL



I make lots of money in intraday trading. No. not in share market. I trade in petrol and diesel!

N	ARKE	T WAT	СН	
IN	DEX		VARI	ATION
IRSES	SENSEX	59984.70	₽	1158.63
BOL	NIFTY	17857.30	₽	353.70
CURRENCY BOURSE	DOLLAR	74.94	₽	₹0.02
CURR	EURO	86.93	₽	₹0.05
ION	GOLD	₹47,831	₽	₹131
BULLION	SILVER	₹64,816	₽	₹349

W	EATI	IER		
		BHUB	СТК	Carl
ЧΡ	MAX	28.6°C	29.2°	C
Ē	MIN	23.8℃	23.6°	C Forecast
Hur	nidity	82%	74%	
Raiı	nfall	Nil	Nil	Light rain very likely

Mumbai, Oct 28: In a major relief, the Bombay High Court granted Thursday bail to Aryan Khan, Arbaaz Merchant and Munmun Dhamecha who were nabbed in the cruise ship rave party raided by officials of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). While granting a conditional bail to the trio, Justice NW Sambre passed the operative order and the detailed one is expected Friday.

"All three applications are allowed bail. I will pass detailed orders by tomorrow (Friday) evening," Justice Sambre said even as Aryan's counsel Mukul Rohatgi was putting forth his arguments.

The accused trio – along with five others – were detained October 2 when the NCB swooped on the alleged rave party aboard the cruise ship. The following day (October 3) they were arrested.

Aryan's advocates then sought permission to submit cash bail to which the court refused and said

IIMELINE

OCTOBER 2: Aryan Khan, Arbaaz Merchant and Munmun Dhamecha detained by NCB

• OCTOBER 3: NCB arrests Aryan, Merchant and Dhamecha. Magistrate remands the trio to NCB custody till October 4.

• OCTOBER 6: NCB arrests four persons who were allegedly part of the organising team for the event/party on the cruise.

- OCTOBER 8: First bail plea of Aryan rejected on account of non-maintainability. Aryan, Merchant and Dhamecha file bail pleas in special NDPS court.
  OCTOBER 20: Special NDPS court
- rejects bail pleas of Aryan, Merchant and Dhamecha. — OCTOBER 26: Bombay High Court
- ) commences hearing on bail pleas of Aryan, two others. • OCTOBER 28: Aryan, Merchant
- ail to and Dhamecha granted bail

NCB who was apparently present during an alleged drug bust on a cruise ship involving Aryan Khan, in a cheating case registered in the city. A local court later remanded Gosavi in police custody till November 5.

Gosavi did not surrender but was arrested while being on the run. He had been moving from place to place in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana, a senior police official said.

Recently, another witness in the drugs case, Prabhakar Sail, had claimed that he had overheard Gosavi telling one Sam D'Souza over the phone – after Aryan was taken to the NCB office October 2 – about a demand of ₹25 crore,

surety is to be given. Hearing on the bail applications of the trio started Tuesday. "I could have given the order tomorrow also. But I gave it today," Justice Sambre said.

The legal team of the 23-year-old



and 'to settle at ₹18 crore as they have to give ₹ 8 crore to Sameer Wankhede', the zonal director of the NCB who supervised the raid on the cruise ship.

Gosavi had Monday refuted Sail's claim. Pune police commissioner Amitabh Gupta said they had arrested Gosavi in a 2018 cheating case from a lodge in Katraj area here at 3.00am. Gosavi was the main accused in this case and chargesheet had been filed in 2019, he said.

Aryan will now try to complete the formalities for his release by Friday or Saturday. Rohatgi, appearing for Aryan was speaking when the judge stopped him and granted bail to the trio.

### Fuel continues to be on fire

### AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 28: The price of petrol and diesel were increased 35 paisa per litre each by oil marketing companies for the second consecutive day Thursday. The price of petrol in the national capital went up to ₹108.29 per litre with the latest hike while diesel was being sold for ₹97.02 litre. It seems that there is no respite to consumers as fuel continues to be on fire with both petrol and diesel rates being increased 19 times in the month of October.

Mumbai's petrol cost is still the highest across metro cities, standing at a staggering ₹114.14 per litre. Diesel in the country's financial capital costs ₹105.12 per litre. Petrol has crossed the ₹100-a-litre mark in

### CITY PRICES PETROL ₹109.25 (+0.35)

DIESEL ₹105.85 (+0.38)

Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Ladakh, and some cities of Bihar and Punjab.

State-owned fuel companies revise the fuel prices daily in line with benchmark international price and foreign exchange rates.

In the international market how-<br/>ever, oil prices fell after US crude<br/>oil stockpiles rose more than ex-<br/>pected, even as fuel inventories<br/>dropped and tanks at the nation's<br/>largest storage hub emptied further.

## 10 UN sites harming environment: Report

■ 257 forests are classified as World Heritage sites. However, some of them are turning out to be sources of large quantities of carbon dioxide emission

AGENCIES

Geneva, Oct 28: Sites containing some of the world's most treasured forests, including the Yosemite National Park and Indonesia's Sumatra rainforest, have been emitting more heat-trapping carbon dioxide than they have absorbed in recent years, a UN-backed report said.

According to the report released Thursday, factors like logging, wildfires and clearance of land for agriculture are to blame. The excess carbon turns up from just 10 of 257 forests classified among UNESCO World Heritage sites. The Switzerland-based International Union for Conservation of Nature and UNESCO said their



report provides the first-ever assessment of greenhouse gases produced and absorbed in UNESCOlisted forests. The study was based on information collected through onsite monitoring and from satellites.

"All forests should be assets in the fight against climate change," said Tales Carvalho Resende, a co-author of the report who works at Parisbased UNESCO. "Our report's finding that even some of the most iconic and best protected forests, such as those found in World Heritage sites, can actually contribute to climate change is alarming." The 10 sites that were net sources of carbon from 2001 to 2020 were the Tropical Rainforest in Sumatra; the Río Platano Biosphere Reserve in Honduras; Grand Canyon National Park and Yosemite National Park in the United States; Waterton Glacier International Peace Park in Canada and the US; the Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains in South Africa; Kinabalu Park in Malaysia; the Uvs Nuur Basin in Russia and Mongolia; the Greater Blue Mountains area of Australia; and Morne Trois Pitons National Park in Dominica.

The 10 sites account for nearly 5.5 million tonne of net carbon emissions. The most impactful was the Tropical Rainforest in Sumatra, which removed about 1.2 million tonne from the atmosphere, but released another 4.2 million tonne – making for net emissions of about three million tonne. This is due to a combination of logging and wood harvesting, as well as the impact of agriculture, the study found.







### **RUST AD ADMITS HE DIDN'T CHECK** GUN BEFORE GIVING IT TO BALDWIN

David Halls, the first assistant director on Rust, has admitted to investigators that he should have checked a weapon before giving it to actor Alec Baldwin, said an affidavit. Baldwin fired the weapon that killed cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and injured director Joel Souza.

### **SPENCER IS NOT A BIOPIC OR A DOCUMENTARY: STEWART**

Actress Kristen Stewart wants people to know that Spencer, where she stars as Princess Diana, is not a biopic or documentary. It is a fictional take on what happened when Diana decided during a family Christmas that she wanted out of her marriage to Prince Charles, adds Stewart.



FORTUNE FORECAST



With your substantial interpersonal abilities, you will accomplish a great deal today, says Ganesha. Your power of expression will impress many people. Financial rewards are on the cards, but be cautious about minor accidents and illnesses

### TAURUS

You have a very pleasant day ahead. Though you are by nature, restless and excitable you will be very steady and focused in whatever you do today. So says Ganesha. Later you will desire to enjoy the company of your friends and will call them over to chat and gossip with them. The evening will provide you lots of fun and laughter.

### GEMINI

There is a possibility of conflicts brewing at your home today. The demands made by your family members will increase and you may struggle to cope to meet them. This could make you ill-tempered You will encounter large expenses in meeting these demands. You need to cut down on your expenses and increase your savings, says Ganesha.

### CANCER

A wondrous beginning of the day! A unique vibrations in romantic life. Ties with life partner will be cordial. Blissful moments of married life are indicated Peace and happiness prevail in the family The whole day will be blooming and iovial, savs Ganesha.

### LEO

You may have arguments with your family members today. You need to adopt an accomodating attitude today, since it is not a very promising day for you. Otherwise nothing may go in your favour You will have to work harder than usual in the office, says Ganesha

### VIRGO

Family matters will matter today. They hold more weight in your thoughts than everything else, says Ganesha. Business will be good today. Spend the evening relaxing and chilling out. On the cards is a visit to a place of worship

### LIBRA

Ganesha says you shall pay more attention to your family and family issues. You

### Why Bunty Aur Babli 2 is special for Sharvari

Mumbai: Young actress Sharvari Wagh, who is making her debut with the film Bunty Aur Babli 2 and sharing screen space with Rani Mukherjee, Saif Ali Khan and Siddhant Chaturvedi, says one of the reasons the film is special is that she even got a chance to mouth dialogues in her mother tongue

Maharashtrian. I added a few

Marathi dialogues and I re-

member I was thrilled

to shoot this sequence

Sharvari also

for obvious reasons."

Marathi.

added, "Bunty Aur Babli 2 is a hilarious war between two sets of con-artists who are generations apart. Being a con heist film, it allowed both pairs of con-couples to be in fantastic/unrecognisable disguises

As she has got a chance to work with two of her favourite actors that she has grown up watching on-She said, "Sid and I characterised screen, she said, "I have been forall our cons, gave them a persontunate enough to be cast as the ality, character traits and tried to quintessential Hindi film heroine. capture the essence of different I'm sharing screen space with big dialects. I took the identity of a screen icons like Saif sir and Rani ma'am and got an opportunity to senior authority who happens to be learn so much from

> them. Bunty Aur Babli releases November 19. IANS



### I have grown up watching Amitabh, Aamir, Shah Rukh: Pak-origin Hollywood actor

Los Angeles: Pakistan-origin actor-comedian Kumail Nanjiani, who plays a Hindi film star and a superhero named Kingo in Marvel's upcoming film Eternals, says he has watched Hindi films his whole life and his favourite actors are Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir Khan and Amitabh Bachchan.

Eternals is the 25th movie in the Marvel Cinematic Universe and is releasing November 5.

Nanjiani has said that it is the "most exciting, fun, epic, thrilling, hilarious and moving project" that he has ever been a part of. He also heaped praise on director Chloe Zhao.

"I have grown up watching Bollywood and am a massive fan of Bollywood films. I have watched Bollywood movies my whole life. My favorite stars have been Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir Khan and Shammi Kapoor. I have seen many pictures of all these. Mr Amitabh Bachchan... That's a dream come true! That's dreaming too big!' The movie also stars Gemma Chan, Kit Harington,

Salma Hayek and Angelina Jolie.

## **Support pours in for Aryan**

Mumbai: Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan has been granted bail by the Bombay High Court in a drug probe case which was levelled against him by the NCB. Although the full court order with reasons and bail conditions

will be released by the court Friday, the support for SRK and his son started pouring in from all corners.

Members of the fraternity took to social media to lend their support to Aryan and rejoiced at the serving of justice by the court.

Director Sanjay Gupta tweeted, "I'm very happy that Aryan has got bail but also very upset with a system that kept a young man behind bars for more than 25 days for something he never did. That has to change!!! God bless you and be strong Aryan Khan.'

Ranvir Shorey followed by tweeting, "Der hai, andher nahi. #justice.'

Scam 1992 director Hansal Mehta took a dig at NCB as he posted, "I want to have a blast tonight!"

Sonu Sood wrote in Hindi, "When time serves justice, it doesn't call for witnesses.

Ram Gopal Varma said, So if it just took Mukul Rohatgi's argument to get bail for Aryan, does it mean his earlier lawyers were so incompetent that he had to spend so many days in

IANS

jail needlessly? Actor Madhavan tweeted, "Thank God. As a father I am so relieved. Mav all good and positive things happen."

## Film on Ray wins big at Boston fest

AVIJATRIK, A TRIBUTE TO SATYAJIT RAY, RAVI SHANKAR AND SOUMITRA CHATTERJEE, TAKES OFF FROM APUR SANSAR, WHERE THE TRILOGY ENDED IN 1959

Mumbai: Bengali film Avijatrik, that pays tribute to the iconic Satyajit Ray and Soumitra Chatterjee, has won Best Film, Best Music and Best Production Design awards at 2021 Caleidoscope Indian Film Festival of Boston. The film is directed by Subhrajit Mitra, produced by Gaurang Jalan and co-produced by Madhur Bhandarkar.

Avijatrik, a tribute to Satyajit Ray, Ravi Shankar and Soumitra Chatterjee, takes off from Apur Sansar, where the trilogy ended in 1959. The film is based on the last one-third of Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay's novel Aparajita.

The film earlier traveled to IFFI (International Film Festival of India - selected in Panorama) and KIFF (Kolkata International Film Festival) and later to prestigious international film festivals like



Montreal Independent Film Festival and Seattle Film Festival, among others.

Madhur said, "We are happy to hear about adding more awards in our kitty with Avijatrik's jour-

The story is the journey of a father and his son and how the father relives his entire childhood through the eyes of his son. The story revolves around a sublime bond be-

birth. Apu finally bids farewell to his village, his city, his motherland and embarks on a spirited journey with Kajol and friend Shankar. They go in search of new beginnings, to unexplored terrains in a faraway land.

Talking about the awards at CIFFB, producer Gaurang Jalan said, "This year has been remarkable for Avijatrik. We set out to make a film that would be a befitting tribute to maestros Satyajit Ray, Soumitra da (Soumitra Chatteriee) and Pandit Ravi Shankar. As a producer, I am very happy with such a heartwarming response from film festivals all over the world.'

The music of the film is given by Bickram Ghosh while the title track is a variation by Anoushka Shankar, of her father Pandit Ravi Shankar's iconic Pather Panchali theme. Avijatrik stars Arjun Chakrabarty, Ditipriya Roy and Arpita Chatterjee in key roles. IANS

will want to renovate and change the interior of your house or go in for purchasing new gadgets and décor for the home. You will spend time today with your family members. Ganesha says his best wishes are with you always.

Shanghai International Film Festival(selected in Panorama), Miami International Film Festival,

BITTER

FUN

nev at CIFFB. As a filmmaker, there is no better reward than seeing your film resonating with au-

tween a father, Apu, and his 6-yearold son Kajol who lost his mother to an unpropitious fate during his

diences all across."

### **SCORPIO**

It's time to influence people and win their hearts whether it's your crush, love or your boss. You may be eager to express your feelings for them. At work, you are likely to work actively and kick start the projects in the pipeline. Ganesha, advises your to keep your eyes and ears open.

### SAGITTARIUS

The way you keep your interests alive will keep your mind occupied. Leisure activities and by-lines will bypass the mundane routine today, foretells Ganesha. Pamper vourself by doing what you like, be it gardening, cooking or even plain old reading.

### CAPRICORN

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

### AOUARIUS

Flash warning signals to your arch rivals as you will be in a mood to prove you metal and give them a run for their money. Doubts and inhibitions - all will vanish in the air and you will be determined to make your mark, feels Ganesha

### PISCES

There is a thick chance that your day will be profitable on the monetary front. Money may pour in from business or even through overseas investments. Your knack for good public relations and networking will work to your benefit and good deals will come from far and unexpected sources as well Reap the benefits and make the most of vour contacts, savs Ganesha.



### **CALVIN AND HOBBES**



### BREVITY





CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

### SUDOKU

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

9					3		
				3			7
$\sim$	8		6		4		
		7	8	1		Ĩ	9
			7				
5		4					
	6					1	
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2	7			8			5

### SOLUTIONS

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## downtown



### FOR A BRISK BIZ

A woman gives finishing touches to terracotta lamps at an exhibition at Ekamra Haat in Bhubaneswar, Thursday



### **COVID-19 TRACKER**

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
/orld	24,60,03,142	22,29,23,855	49,92,099
dia	3,42,31,809	3,36,14,434	4,56,386
disha	10,40,230	10,27,654	8,322

## Justice far cry unless Mishra is removed: Cong



AICC general secretary Randeep Surjewala addresses the media in presence of party's Odisha in-charge A Chellakumar, OPCC president Niranjan Patnaik and Congress Legislature Party leader Narasingha Mishra in Bhubaneswar OP PHOTO

#### PNN/AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Drawing a parallel between the Nirbhaya case in New Delhi and the kidnap and murder of Kalahandi lady teacher Mamita Meher earlier this month, the opposition Congress Thursday demanded death sentence for the culprits and booking of Minister of State for Home Dibya Shankar Mishra in a criminal conspiracy case, besides sacking him.

The demand was raised by AICC general secretary Randeep Surjewala, who led a Congress team to Bolangir to meet the parents and family members of the teacher at their village during the day.

Neither Odisha nor the country can accept the brutal killing of the 24-year-old teacher which is reminiscent of the Nirbhaya incident and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik must dismiss the minister to pave way for a fair probe, he told reporters on his return from Bolangir.

The police cannot investigate the case when the 'protector' of the prime accused is walking in the corridors of power in Bhubaneswar, Surjewala said.

"The BJD government cannot give justice to the deceased teacher's family unless the minister is removed and booked under section 120 (B) of IPC (deals with criminal conspiracy). How can the family get justice when the minister is supervising the investigation of the case? ... The prime accused will get proper punishment if the minister is immediately removed from his seat of power," he said.

Alleging that the protector of the law has turned out to be its breaker in Odisha, Surjewala told reporters here, "This holy state of Lord Jagannath has become a province of crime. The killers are enjoying power and privilege. Not only in this case in which the victim was kidnapped and killed, there is also a big question mark on the safety and security of all girls The police cannot investigate the case when the 'protector' of the prime accused is walking in the corridors of power in Bhubaneswar RANDEEP SURJEWALA | AICC GENERAL SECRETARY

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in the state." The prime accused can be given his due punishment if the minis-

ter is immediately removed from his seat of power, he iterated. "Is it not a fact that the minister was closely linked to the prime accused? Is it not a fact that BJD ministers spent nights in the educa-

ment job for her brother and strin-

tional institutions run by the prime accused? Is it not a fact that girls and women were subjected to sexual exploitation in the prime accused's institutions?" he asked. The Congress delegation sought a compensation of Rs 1 crore for the deceased teacher's family, govern-

the 10 feet deep in the school playground October 19. The manner in vestigation

which the prime accused escaped from the policy custody appears to be the story of a film."

The victim, he said, belonged to the poor weaver community and the Congress delegation assured her family that party president Sonia Gandhi and leader Rahul Gandhi will stand solidly by them till the prime accused is given capital punishment.

Surjewala also compared the minister's link with the prime accused in the murder with the Lakhimpur Kheri incident in which the son of the Union minister of state for Home had allegedly run his car on protesting farmers. "Here the MOS is linked with murder and so it is Uttar Pradesh too," he said.

The Congress leader was accompanied by the party's Odisha in-charge A Chellakumar and Congress Legislature Party leader Narasingha Mishra during his visit to Bolangir to meet the deceased teacher's family.

"In the fight for justice, if required, I'll don the black coat again. The DIG said the probe is almost over. Then, why there is no investigation into the conspiracy behind Mamita's murder?" asked Mishra, a lawyer-turned-politician. Commenting on the issue, BJD

legislator Kishore Mohanty said, "The Opposition parties have been seeking Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's resignation from the very day he assumed office. There is nothing new in their demand."

Responding to the allegations of the involvement of Dibya Shankar in the murder case, Mohanty said, "It is not appropriate to accuse somebody of any crime before completion of the investigation."

### **POLITICKLE by MANJUL**



## SC: Firecracker ban not against any community

### PNN/AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 28: The Supreme Court Thursday made it clear that it is not against any particular festival or community and said that bursting of firecrackers can't be allowed at the cost of people's lives.

A bench of Justices MR Shah and AS Bopanna made it clear that it wants full implementation of its orders.

"Under the guise of enjoyment you (manufacturers) cannot play with lives of citizens. We are not against particular community. We want to send strong message that we are here for the protection of fundamental rights of citizens," the bench said.

The apex court said the earlier ban order on firecrackers was passed after giving elaborate reasons.

"All firecrackers were not banned. It was in larger public interest. There is a particular impression being created. It should not be projected that it was banned for particular purpose. Last time we said that we weren't coming in way of enjoyment but we cannot come in way of fundamental rights of people," the bench said.

The top court said there must be some responsibility entrusted to authorities who have been given the right to implement the order on

### jumps off Mundali bridge, missing POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayapalli man

1001 NEWS NETWO

**Barang, Oct 28:** A 35-year-old man went missing after jumping off the Mundali bridge over Mahanadi under Godi Sahi police outpost here in an attempt to commit suicide, an official said Thursday.

The man identified as Chandramani Tripathy, who hails from Berhampur, was residing in a rented accommodation in Bhubaneswar's Nayapalli area, added the official.

According to a few eyewitnesses, it was in the afternoon when Tripathy reached the bridge on his scooter (OD07-P-1286), parked the vehicle and loitered around for a few minutes.

"Suddenly, he (Tripathy) kept his helmet and cellphone on the vehicle before jumping into Mahanadi. A few of the locals there informed the Barang police," said a police official, quoting the eyewitnesses.

Barang police officials along with Fire Services and ODRAF personnel reached the spot and launched a search operation.

Meanwhile, police received a call on Tripathy's cellphone to establish his identity and inform his family about the mishap.

"According to Tripathy's family, the 35-year-old was working with a private firm and was under

### BJP workers' bid to barge into DCP office

It is not appropriate to

accuse somebody of

any crime before

completion of the

KISHORE MOHANTY | BJD MLA

gent action against the minister. It

also demanded that the case be

fast tracked and the trial be com-

pleted within 90 days to give speedy

Making an impassioned plea for

a special investigation team to probe

the case under the watch of the

chief justice of Orissa high court,

justice to the victim's family.

investigation

Meanwhile, the activists of BJP youth wing tried to gherao the office of Bhubaneswar DCP as part of their agitation seeking removal of MoS, Home DS Mishra from the Council of Ministers. The Yuva Morcha activists had a scuffle with the police when they tried to barge into the DCP office breaking the police cordon and the police deployed in strength to prevent them. Police took hundreds of activists into custody. The agitators sought Mishra's arrest

agitators sought Mishra's arrest in connection with the case. BJP youth wing state president Irasis Acharya said, "No action has been taken against Mishra even though there are proofs with regard to his proximity to the prime accused." Acharya warned that they would intensify their



Police personnel restrict agitating BJP workers from entering the DCP office at Vani Vihar in Bhubaneswar OP PHOTO

State gets ₹1,779cr loan as GST compensation

The top court said there

must be some responsibility entrusted on authorities who have been given the right to implement the order on the ground

rights of people. We have not put 100 per cent ban on firecrackers," the bench said.

The SC had said it cannot infringe the right to life of other citizens under the guise of employment while considering a ban on firecrackers and its prime focus is the right to life of innocent citizens.

The apex court had earlier refused to impose complete ban on sale of firecrackers and said that sale can happen through only licensed traders and that only green crackers can be sold. Online sale of firecrackers has been completely banned.

The verdict had come in response to a plea seeking a ban on manufacturing and sale of firecrackers across the country to curb air pollution. The court observed that it

even agitation if the minister was not dismissed and arrested by the state government. A threewarned member central team led by BJP heir National Mahila Morcha president

V Srinivasan is scheduled to visit Odisha Friday for an on-spot inquiry into the incident. The team will submit its report to the party president JP Nadda. the ground.

The bench said even today firecrackers are openly available in market.

"We want to send a message that we are here to protect the

(CBI) against the manufacturers selling fake green crackers. The court also observed that even QR codes are found fake in the country. The matter will be taken up for

may order an enquiry by the

Central Bureau of Investigation

extreme mental pressure for workrelated issues," said the official. Tripathy could not be traced till the last report came in.

till the last report came in, sources said.

## 1st CoE of robotic surgery in state

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: A robotic surgery centre of excellence (CoE) called 'Robotic Sx system (Versius) of CMR (UK)' became operational Thursday at Shanti Memorial Hospital, a leading healthcare provider of Odisha.

This is the first ever state-of-art centre of excellence on robotic surgery in the state.

The hos-The cost of pital besurgery will be lieves that it marginally would be a higher than lap great relief for the peosurgery, but <sup>ple</sup> of Odisha as would be one they can third of the avail this op portunity cost as here itself compared to The cost of the procedures surgery will be margindone in metros ally higher than lap sur

gery, but would be one third of the cost as compared to the procedures done in metros.

In robotic surgery, the surgeon operates with a higher magnification in 3D mode with miniature precision. The robotic arms have the ability to reach inaccessible & small operating spaces. There is less contact of robotic instruments to the interior organs of the abdominal cavity, therefore reducing the surgical site infection. The endowrist features of the robotic instruments move or rotate 720 degree compared to human wrists which rotate only 180 degree.

### POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 28: The Union government Thursday released 1779.45 crore to Odisha under the back-to-back loan facility in lieu of Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation. The Centre released Rs 44,000 crore to all the states and Union Territories (UTs) with legislatures taking the cumulative

amount to Rs 1.59 lakh crore. "After taking into account ear-

lier release of Rs 1,15,000 crore, total amount released in the current financial year as back-to-back loan in lieu of GST compensation is Rs 1,59,000 crore. This release is in addition to normal GST compensation being released every two months out of actual CESS collection," the Union Finance Ministry said.

The ministry also said that subsequent to the 43rd GST Council meeting held May 28, it was decided that the Centre would borrow Rs 1.59 lakh crore and release it to states and UTs with assemblies on back-to-back basis, to meet the resource gap due to the short release of compensation on account of inadequate amount in the Compensation Fund.

"For effective response and management of Covid-19 pandemic, and a step-up in capital expenditure, all states and UTs have a very important role to play. For assisting the states and UTs in their endeavour, Ministry of Finance has frontloaded the release of assistance under the back-toback loan facility of Rs 1,59,000 crore during FY 2021-22. The release of Rs 44,000 crore being made now is funded from borrowings of Union government in 5-year securities issued in the current financial year, at a Weighted Average Yield of 5.69 per cent," the ministry said.

### ITIs to repair equipment at ULB wealth centres

The income generated through the partnership will help the ITIs, their trainers and students

hearing Friday.



### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: In a bid to boost solid waste management in urban areas, the state government has decided to strengthen the wealth centres (WCs) in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) by imparting training and education on equipment operations.

As per the decision, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was Thursday signed between the Directorate of Municipal Administration, Directorate of Technical Education and Training (DTET), 114 ULBs and 33 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) for repair and maintenance of sanitation vehicles and equipment of WCs.

It can be mentioned here that the WCs, which comprise micro composting centres (MCCs), material recovery facilities (MRFs), are operated by Mission Shakti groups.

The wealth centres are involved in the collection, segregation, transportation, treatment, and reuse of wet and dry waste across all the 114 ULBs. However, the need of constant repair and maintenance of equipment along with untimely breakdowns of machine has resulted in the demand for building technical capacity of the human resource engaged at the WCs.

"The signing of the MoU will result in a partnership where ITIs will undertake repair and maintenance of equipment and vehicles at the WCs. This will also build the skill and capacities of students and trainers at the ITIs," said Housing and Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena.

Skill Development and Technical Education minister Premananda Nayak said his department is planning to start a new trade on motor vehicle in ITIs, through which the partnership between the ULBs and ITIs would be strengthened. The income generated through this partnership will help the ITIs, their trainers and students.

H&UD department Principal Secretary Mathi Vathanan said, "The MoU will ensure timely repair and maintenance of equipment at the WCs and bring income opportunities for the ITIs. This is a win-win situation for both parties. It will also provide field-level training and exposure to master trainers."



The beautification work of Barabati moat in Cuttack going on at full pace, Thursday









OP PHOTO

## downtown

## **State sees 21% jump in suicides** State logs 412 fresh nCoV cases

#### OST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Odisha registered a 21 per cent jump in cases of suicides during 2020 as compared to 2019. As many as 5,546 persons committed suicide in 2020 as against 4,582 in the previous vear, as per data revealed by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

The data was revealed through the annual report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India-2020' by the NCRB.

The report also revealed some worrying facts regarding Odisha. As per the available data, family problem is stated to be the reason behind maximum number of suicide deaths in the state last year.

In 2020, as many as 4,506 (81.2 per cent) persons out of the total 5,546 committed suicide in the state



due to various family related problems. Odisha tops the list of all the states on the basis of the percentage of family problem as the cause of suicide in 2020.

As per the data, as many as 3,311 men and 1,195 women have ended their lives in the state for family related issues during the year 2020. The data revealed that 554 housewives died by suicide in Odisha last year.

### NCRB DATA

FAMILY PROBLEM IS STATED TO BE THE REASON BEHIND MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SUICIDE DEATHS IN THE STATE DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR

IN 2020, AS MANY AS 4,506 (81.2%) PERSONS OUT OF THE TOTAL 5,546 COMMITTED SUICIDE IN THE STATE DUE TO VARIOUS FAMILY RELATED PROBLEMS

The state ranks second in suicides by students during the previous year. The state witnessed the death of 1,469 students (1,042 male and 427 female students) in 2020. Maharashtra, with 1,648 student

suicides, tops the country. The state witnessed around 300 per cent rise in suicides by students as 379 students committed suicide in 2019 against 1,469 in 2020.

The number of suicides committed by persons engaged in various business activities in the sate stood at 753. As far as suicide by unemployed people is concerned, Odisha is among the top five states which reported the maximum number of suicides owing to the trauma caused by joblessness. The annual report reveals that 1,398 unemployed persons committed suicide in the state during 2020-the fourth highest in the country.

Speaking to Orissa Post, women rights activist Namrata Chadha said, "Last year, due to Covid-19, our routine life was completely thrown out of gear and many failed to cope with it. The number of males committing suicide is high as compared to females who often vent their frustration, anger openly. However, male persons in familial tension fail to share their problem."

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Odisha Thursday registered 412 new Covid-19 cases, 137 less than the previous day, which pushed the coastal state's caseload to 10,40,230, while the toll mounted to 8,322 after four more patients succumbed to the infection, a Health department official said. Of the 412 new cases, 63 are child

dren and adolescents below the age of 18 years. The rate of infection among them stands at 15.29 per cent, the official added.

Khurda district, of which state Capital Bhubaneswar is a part, reported the highest number of fresh cases at 189, followed by Cuttack at 46. Two fatalities were reported in Khurda and one each in Kendrapada and Mayurbhanj, the official said.

Odisha currently has 4,747 active cases, while as many as 10,27,108 patients, including 334 Wednesday,



have recovered from the highly infectious disease

Over 2.17 crore sample tests have been conducted so far, including 70.194 of them Wednesday. The state's positivity rate stands at 4.77 per cent. As many as 1,10,71,664 people in the state have received both the doses of Covid-19 vaccine. Meanwhile, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has

issued show cause notice to a private diagnostic centre in City for al-

legedly issuing fake Covid positive reports without collecting samples.

'You are called upon to show cause within three days (72 hours) of receipt of this notice as to why the license issued by competent authority will not be cancelled for violating the provision of relevant statutes/license conditions, and action as per Epidemic Diseases Act will not be taken against you (sic)," the BMC said in its notice to the private firm Wednesday.

### Release NTPC fly ash for Biju ₹30cr OMBADC fund sought for NOU infra **Expressway: State to Centre THE UNIVERSITY** the university, said Mishra **CATERS TO THE**

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; Oct 28: The Odisha government has urged the Union Ministry of Power to allow the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) unit at Lara in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district to supply fly ash for construction of the Biju Expressway. Special Secretary, Works department, Manoranjan Misra has written a letter to deputy secretary, Ministry of Power, in this regard.

The Odisha government is constructing the four-lane Biju Expressway connecting eight western districts of the state. The expressway will connect Rourkela to Jeypore and will finally extend to Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh. With a total length of 650 km, the ex-

### Talks held to sort out industry issues

Bhubaneswar: A team of senior state government officials headed by Chief Minister's principal advisor Asit Kumar Tripathy visited Paradip and held meetings for two days with over 44 Jagatsinghpur-based industries. The officials formally engaged with the industrial units to address their issues on priority basis. The officials also met the senior officials of the PPT and IOCL as a part of the industry aftercare initiative.

### WASSUP TODAY **BHUBANESWAR**

Press meet by State Progressive Mandir, Unit-III, 11:30am

THE ODISHA GOVERNMENT IS CONSTRUCTING THE FOUR-LANF BUU EXPRESSWAY CONNECTING EIGHT WESTERN

DISTRICTS OF THE STATE THE EXPRESSWAY WILL CONNECT ROURKELA TO JEYPORE AND WILL FINALLY EXTEND TO JAGDALPUR IN

pressway will give a huge boost to trade and commerce, Misra said in his letter. It will also be a boon for the agricultural sector, he added.

CHHATTISGARH

The development of the expressway will be taken up in phases. In the first phase, the construction of a four-lane divided carriageway from Ghatipada in Nuapada district to Ampani in Kalahandi district will be done. Work on the 174.500 km stretch will be done in four different contract packages, the first of which

has started October 1 this year. Of these four packages, two in Nuapada district are close to the fly ash generation point at NTPC Lara, Mishra pointed out. After a joint site visit by both NTPC and Odisha government of-

ficials, the NTPC had agreed inprinciple to supply17 lakh cu/m of fly ash for these two packages. However, the approval of the Ministry of Power has not been

given till now. sources said. As a result, the Odisha government has written to the Ministry of Power urging them to provide

permission at the earliest.

**HIGHER EDUCATION NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM MAYURBHANJ AND KEONJHAR** DISTRICTS

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: The Higher Education (HE) department Thursday wrote to Odisha Mineral **Bearing Areas Development** Corporation (OMBADC) seeking fund for infrastructure develop-



Bhanja Deo University also known as North Odisha University (NOU) in Baripada.

In a letter to CEO of OMBADC, HE department secretary Saswat Mishra said the North Odisha University had started functioning at Baripada July 13, 1998 as a state public university, established under the Odisha Universities Act 1989. The university caters to the

ment of Maharaja Sriram Chandra higher education needs of the students of Odisha, especially those belonging to Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts.

The Vice-Chancellor of the NOU has submitted a proposal to the tune of ₹30.89 crore for seven infrastructure development projects/works at the main campus of the university at Baripada. These proposed projects are extremely important for the development of

The projects include construction of post office, dispensary, library building, Centre for Similipal Studies, quarters for non-teaching staffers, new academic building of Anthropology, Tribal Studies, Business Administration, Wildlife & Bio-diversity, B Ed, M Ed, Computer Science departments, ATM counter and other infrastructure.

"Therefore, the department of Higher Education requests you to kindly take necessary steps for approval of the proposal and sanction of fund to the tune of ₹30.89 crore under OMBADC for undertaking these projects/works in the University at Baripada," the letter read.

The NOU at Baripada was renamed after the erstwhile king of the princely state of Mayurbhanj on Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo's 150th birth anniversary in December last year.

## panchayat polls

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Ballot papers instead of electronic voting machines (EVMs) would be used in the three-tier panchavat elections sched uled for early next year.

The counting of votes for the rural polls would continue for three days. For the first time, the counting would be conducted at the block level.

The State Election Commission has recently directed the district Collectors to send the list of vote counting centres by November 15. According to sources, the SEC has issued a set of guidelines for

### SUDA: ENROL HOMELESS KIDS IN PVT SCHOOLS, ENTITLEMENT SCHEMES

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: The state government Thursday instructed Women and Child Development (W&CD) department to enrol children residing in Shelters for Urban Homeless (SUHs) into private schools and various child protection schemes run by the department. In a letter to the W&CD. Project

Director of State Urban Development Agency (SUDA) Sarada Prasad Panda requested to

### About 43 SUHs are functional in 23 districts across the state under the Deen **Dayal Upadhyaya** Antyodaya Yojana (DAY-NULM) programme

children belonging to homeless category, he also pointed out that such children are entitled to admission in private educational institutions. "Necessary action needs to be taken towards the inclusion of children residing in SUH in the category of socio-economic weaker sections and ensure enrollment of eligible children in the neighborhood private educational institutions as per the 12 (c) of Right To Education Act," he added.

Management Agencies (SMA). These Notably, about 43 SUHs are fu children need to be enrolled in various child protection schemes run by W&CD department. Thus, it is further requested to conduct a meeting for discussion in this regard, and identify and produce such children before child welfare committees and link them with relevant support schemes." Panda wrote.

launches Adya, Aadra

from the customers, the brand has been offering over 10, 000 designs

## **Ballot** papers for

Press conference on World Stroke Day 2021, Utkal Hospital, Niladri Vihar, 4pm

Programmes/announcements for wassup today may be sent to opwassup@gmail.com for record it must also carry the sender's mobile number for our verification, but not for publication.

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: Odisha's leading jewellerv brand Arundhati Jewellers has launched its latest and unique jewellery collections 'Adya' and 'Aadra' at its flagship store in the Capital city.

POST NEWS NETWORK

In view of festive and wedding season, the jewellery brand has designed the latest collections 30 per cent lighter in weight than regular jewellery. Considering the demand coins on certain purchases.

**Arundhati Jewellers** 

in its portfolio.

Arundhati Jewellers has also announced various offers on the occasion. Under the scheme, the customers buy gold jewellery by paying ₹399 as making charge. For the first time, the brand has also announced zero making charges on ornaments for the ongoing festive season. The customers can get gold and silver

the Collectors for conduct of the rural polls The guidelines deal with all aspects of the panchayat polls including polling booths, strong rooms, counting of votes, polling staff, security arrangements and transport of ballot boxes.

KIIT, KISS pact with UNESCO for emotional intelligence training

issue necessary instructions to the District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) to pay frequent visits at different SUHs and ensure protection and care of Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP).

"During mobilisation and rescue of homeless, a large number of children are found in vulnerable conditions and are rehabilitated in the SUH centers by the Shelter

In his speech, Duraiappah said,

"SEEK is about finding yourself,

being comfortable with yourself

and being kind. With this, all else

in your journey will fall in place.

Furthermore, highlighting a reservation of 25 per cent for the

tional in 23 districts across the state under the Deen Daval Upadhyaya Antyodaya Yojana (DAY-NULM) programme. In a separate letter to Municipal Commissioners and executive officers of different districts, SUDA also instructed to carry a special drive for facilitating linkages of SUH inmates to different entitlement schemes run by the state government.

13 scholars from

SOA in Stanford varsity's new list

POST NEWS NETWORK

## ASSIFIED

Maheswar Mallick, S/o. Late Narendra Mallick of Vill.: Alingi, P.O.- Kasarda, P.S.- Govindpur. Dist.-Cuttack solemnly affirm before the Executive Magistrate, Kantapada on dated 27.10.2021 and declare that the original Khatiyan of Mouza-Alingi, Khata No.- 352, Plot No.-722, A0.4 dec. has lost while I was moving my village Alingi to Govindpur Bazar on date 22.10.2021 and it is beyond recovery. This affidavit is made submitted before the concerned authority regarding lost of original RoR.

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Oct 28: The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) signed a partnership agreement with the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) Thursday to provide on-

line self-directed Emotional Learning for Empathy and Kindness (SEEK) course for KIIT-KISS staff and students in a phased manner. KIIT and KISS will be among the first batch of institutes to implement the MGIEP SEEK

course, which has also been endorsed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) The course, based on compassionate integrity training, is de-

veloped by UNESCO MGIEP and Life University, USA. It seeks to



your journey will fall in place. I hope the students find it useful for cultivating greater self-compassion and contributing to the development of more peaceful and sustainable societies

ANANTHA DURAIAPPAH I DIRECTOR, UNESCO MGIEP

build 21st century emotional intelligence skills and contribute to fulfilling the goals of the National Education Policy (NEP) of imparting social and emotional learning to create engaged global citizens. The course takes approximately



40 hours to complete and is made Satya Tripathi and representatives of 10 skills in three series. from many embassies in Delhi and UN offices.

The signing ceremony was attended by eminent dignitaries, including UNESCO MGIEP Director Anantha Duraiappah, KIIT & KISS founder Achyuta Samanta, KISS-Deemed to be University Chancellor

I hope the students find it useful for cultivating greater self-compassion and contributing to the development of more peaceful and sustainable societies.

Samanta said, "We are glad to partner with UNESCO MGIEP to equip our students and staff with emotional intelligence skills that help in building emotional resilience, especially when humanity is passing through testing times."

Tripathi said, "The SEEK course will be deployed for 1,000 faculty and staff and 11.000 students in Phase-1. with all future students undertaking the course for credits in 2022.

UNESCO MGIEP focuses on achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4.7 towards education for building peaceful and sustainable societies by developing programmes that promote social and emotional learning.

Bhubaneswar. Oct 28: Thirteen eminent researchers from Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) Deemed to be University, have made into the world ranking of top two per cent scientists drawn up by Stanford University of USA on the basis of a subject-wise analysis.

SOA had 11 researchers in the last year's list, of which nine have found place again in this year's roll. They are are Ashok Kumar Mahapatra, Pradipta Kishore Dash, Kulamani Parida, Lala Behari Sukla, R.N.P. Choudhary, Goutam Rath, Niharbala Devi, Manoj Kumar Nayak and Satya Ranjan Mishra.

Four researchers - Manohar Mishra, Rajashree Dash, Akhyay Kumar Patra and Sulagna Patnaik - have made it to the prestigious list for the first time this year.

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## state

## **DEE wants quick action** against 'fake' teachers

Odisha is plagued by the problem where aspirants produce fake certificates and marksheets to get the job of a teacher. Now the government wants to eradicate the problem completely



**OrissaPOST** 

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 29 | 2021 | BHUBANESWAF

#### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 28: The Directorate of Elementary Education (DEE) has directed the district and block education officers to provide reports at the earliest on the alleged fake teacher issue as it wants action initiated against the culprits as soon as possible.

As per the notification, the DEE has asked the officers to sent reports after verifying certificates and marksheets of those under the scanner by October 30. This direction has been given after allegations of using fake certificates to get lucrative teachers' jobs have once more surfaced.

In a letter, the DEE has said that a detailed updated list of the alleged fake teachers and staffs based on the petition must be provided immediately. "Though you have been repeatedly re-

guested to look into the allegation/s categorically of your respective teacher/staffers, by examining the genuineness/equivalency of their certificates, mark sheets of academic and training (originally produced at the time of verification/selection process of their initial recruitment/ engagement), obtaining from the authorities

### Edu dept cracks whip on errant teachers



BHADRAK: Teachers who have been playing truant are going to face departmental action in Bhadark district. Officials of the school and mass education department have toughened their watch on the teachers neglecting their duties

In a related development, Pitambar Barik, the Block Education Officer (BEO) of Dhamnagar, made surprise visits to some schools for two days. During his visits, he was shocked to find that many teachers and four cluster resource

Sambalpur varsity starts e-cert service

concerned of the respective board/ University/CHSE, service records, no steps have been taken," stated the DEE letter.

The letter added that if, any of teacher is found to be engaged/appointed by producing fake certificate/manipulated marksheets, then immediate steps must be taken at your end to disengage and terminate the teacher from his engagement/service and FIR be lodged in the police station concerned. "But neither you have responded nor complied the allegations till date," the letter stated. The letter also states that the Odisha High Court has expressed serious displeasure because of non-action and has directed to file an affidavit indicating the present status.

"In view of the above, you are hereby requested to explain as to why, proposal against the defaulting officials shall not be transmitted to Government for Inaction of Departmental Proceeding because of dereliction in duty for not providing the called for report/information, positively by 30 October 12021,' the letter further said.

centre coordinators (CRCCs) were absent at their place of work. The BEO has taken disciplinary action against 23 er-

rant teachers and CRCCs. Notably, all schools have been reopened since October 25 after a gap of

about 18 months following a directive from the state government. The BEO made surprise visits to Bhagbanpur Nodal School, Palikiri Nodal School, Chudakuti Durgadevi School, Dehudi Anandapur Jagannath School and Nadigaon Gothini Nodal School. As many as 23 teachers and CRCCs were absent in these schools.

The BEO has held up one month's salary of 19 teachers while show cause notices have been issued to four CRCCs.

The disciplinary action against the teachers has struck fear among other teachers in the district.

Contacted, the BEO said that some teachers do not come to school in time while others go on leave without giving any application. Such conduct of the teachers is violative of the official guidelines, he added.



PV Ramashastri, ADG of Border Security Force, on a visit to Maoist-hit Malkangiri district to review the counter insurgency policy and security situation in the district. Thursday

### Breach in Indravati canal floods farmlands



riparian areas have been af-

Meanwhile, local farmers al-

leged that low quality work had

resulted in the precarious con-

dition. The authorities did not

supervise the project when it

was being constructed

SI. No

fected, the source informed.

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatna, Oct 28: The south canal embankment of the irrigation project over Indravati river breached Thursday morning. As a result, hectares of farmland were inundated and crops washed away in Kalampur block of Kalahandi district.

According to a source, a 10-ft long breach developed on the south canal. Later, heavy flow of water snapped a portion of its embankment near Pajen village under Jayapatna tehsil of Kalahandi. Farmlands in the

### COAST RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No. ETCPMIBBS2021058

Dated : 26.10.2021 MAME OF WORKS CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE IN LIEU OF EXISTING LEVEL CROSSING NO. 186 (KM 430/14-15) BETWEEN MANCHESWAR-BHUBANESWAR RAILWAY STATIONS ON HOWRAH CHENNAI MAIN LINE IN EAST COAST **RAILWAY : EXECUTION OF RCC OPEN** FOUNDATION & SUPERSTRUCTURE WITH COMPOSITE GIRDER (STEEL ' GIRDER WITH RCC DECK SLAB) AND OTHER ALLIED WORK

Approx. Cost of the Work (₹) : 507.45 Lakhs, Completion Period of the Work : 12 (Twelve) Months ler Closing Date & Time : At 120 Hrs. of 17.11.2021.

LOCAL FARMERS ALLEGED THAT LOW QUALITY WORK HAD RESULTED IN THE PRECARIOUS CONDITION OF

AUTHORITIES DID NOT SUPERVISE THE WORK WHEN IT WAS BEING CONSTRUCTED

THE CANAL EMBANKMENT PAST. IT IS NOT ABLE TO VILLAGE ALLEGED

> TWO OFFICIALS OF THE IRRIGATION PROJECT

canal embankment has often breached in the past. It is not able to withstand heavy flow of water;

a resident of Pajen village alleged. Two officials of the irrigation project reached the spot and took stock of the situation. THE EMBANKMENT. THE "We will take the issue to the

knowledge of our higher-ups. Necessary steps will be taken at our end to soon repair the DUE TO SUBSTANDARD WORK, snap caused on south canal embankment," one of the two of-

HAS OFTEN BREACHED IN THE WITHSTAND HEAVY FLOW OF WATER, A RESIDENT OF PAJEN

REACHED THE SPOT AND TOOK STOCK OF THE SITUATION

mega lift irrigation project January 14. It was then targeted that local farmers would bene fit from the project in irrigating their rain-fed lands

ficials said. It is pertinent to

mention here that acres of farm-

land were earlier inundated in

July, 2021 as a breach developed

in the Indravati mega lift irri-

gation canal at Majhiguda village

Patnaik had inaugurated the

Chief Minister Naveen

under Koksara block.

Due to substandard work, the DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, SUBARNAPUR No.5479 / Date: 27.10.2021

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SELECTION OF REGISTERED FIRMS/SERVICE PROVIDER AGENCIES FOR PROVIDING MANPOWER FOR **DPMU & BPMU UNDER DRDA, SUBARNAPUR** 

District Rural Development Agency, Subarnapur invites sealed tender from intending reputed and experienced Manpower Service Providing Agencies to provide services of different categories of manpower for DPMU & 06 BPMUs under Rural Housing schemes for a period from 11.11.2021 to 31.03.2023, the details of the bidding process are as follows:

).	Bidding Schedule	Date and time	
	Date of issue	27.10.21	
	Bid due date and time	10.11.21	
	Opening of technical bid	10.11.21	
	Opening of financial bid	10.11.21	

Bidders are required to submit the technical and financial bids separately. The bids in ealed Cover-I containing "Technical Bid" and sealed Cover-II containing "Financia Bid" should be placed in third sealed cover superscribed "Bid for outsourcing of manpower services for DPMU & 06 BPMUs under DRDA, Subarnapur" must reach the undersigned on or before 10.11.21 by 3.00 P.M. through Speed Post / Regd. Post only. The bid documents containing eligibility criteria and details terms and conditions of the tender can be downloaded from the website https://subarnapur.nic.in.

for admission in other institutions as an online service has been launched to enable them to apply for it while sitting at home.

Sambalpur. Oct 28: Students study-

ing in colleges under the Sambalpur

University no longer need to run from

pillar to post to get migration certificates

POST NEWS NETWORK

The varsity is the second educational institution in the state after the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology in Bhubaneswar to start the online service under the Centre for Modernising Government Initiative.

The service for the students has been started under the Odisha Right to Public Service Act (ORTPSA) Wednesday, the university said in a release.

Vice-Chancellor Sanjib Mittal said

POST NEWS NETWORK

this district, a report said.

mating from the month of

a conducive climate.

November.



the students of the affiliated colleges under the varsity seeking migration

Sea erosion threat looms

large on Rushikulya estuary

MASS NESTING OF OLIVE RIDLEYS

of western Odisha are there under the university. Around 25.000 students pass out from these colleges every year.

would not have to come to the institute

for the certificate as they could apply

As many 222 colleges in 10 districts

online and get it.

Many students who pass out take admission in other universities and seek migration certificates. It will be easy for those students to get the migration certificates now.

To apply online, one has to visit the Sambalpur University website and click on the 'Apply for Migration' menu, following which it will redirect to the ORTPSA migration, an official said.

Registrar Nruparaj Sahu said the students would get some more services online as the university was now laying focus on more and more digitisation.

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier Fax or in person shall be accepted again such e-tenders even if these are submitte on firm's letter head and received in time All such manual offers shall be consid valid and shall be rejected summar vithout any consideration Complete information including e-tende

documents of the above e-tender is available in website :http://www.ireps.gov.ir Note : The prospective ter dvised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen days before the date of closing of tende to note any changes / corrigenda issue for this tender.

The tenderers should read al instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of al structions including check lists, par 3.1 (additional check-list) of Tender form nd sheet) Annexure-I of chapter 2 of Tender documents, submission of Annexure-C duly verified and signed by Chartered Accountant.

**Chief Administrative Officer (Con)** PR-77/CE/21-22

The sealed tender proposal shall be submitted along with non-refundable application fees of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees five thousand only) in shape of Bank Draft drawn in favour of the Project Director, District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Subarnapur.

The last date and time for submission of tender document is 10.11.21 by 3.00 P.M. The authority shall not be held responsible for postal delay, if any, in case of nonreceipt of the same in time.

Complete address for submission of bid:

The Project Director, District Rural Development Agency (D.R.D.A.), Subarnapur, Pin- 767017.

The authority reserves every right to reject any or all the Tender without assigning any reason thereof.

### Sd./- Collector, Subarnapur

Bank of India BOI

POSSESSION NOTICE Bank of India Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015 [Rule-8(1)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Concerned Branches under the Securitisatio and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the Borrower/Guarantor in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **possession** of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Concerned Branches for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrower / Guarantor	Liabilities due as per Notice	Date of Demand Notice/ Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Properties
SAILASHREE VIHAR BRANCH / Borrower: Mr. Gunanidhi Nayak / Guarantor: Mr. Raj Kishore Nayak, S/o: Lokanath Nayak, Both are at Plot		24.08.2021 / 22.10.2021	Equitable Mortgage of all that part and parcel of Land and Building situated over Khata No.: 459/879, Plot No.: 385 1583, Mouza: Koradakanta, P.S.: Sahid Nagar, Tahasil/SRO Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, Area: Ac.0.027dec., Kissam
No.:L-234, GGP Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, PIN-751010			aj Kishore Nayak, Bounded by North: Balance area of Plot No t No.: 385, East: Road, West: Balance area of Plot No.: 385
PARADEEP BRANCH / Borrower: Mr. Ajit Senapati, S/o: Balunkeswar Senapati, Co-Borrower: Mrs. Priyadarshini Senapati, W/o:	expenses	26.07.2021 / 27.10.2021	All that part and parcel of property consisting of Land and Building in the name of <b>Mr. Ajit Senapati</b> situated over Khata No.: 755/499, Plot No.: 2000/2547, Kissam: Gharabari Mouza: Talapada, SRO: Tirtol and Measuring Area
	anjali Senapati,		ituate within the Sub-Registration District of Jagatsinghpu rth: Suresh Senapati, South: Gochara, East: Gochara, Wes ak
PARADEEP BRANCH / Borrower: Tapan Kumar Bhol, S/o: Anam Charan Bhol, B/22, Market Building, Badapadia, Paradeep,	expenses	04.08.2021 / 27.10.2021	All that part and parcel of property consisting of Land an Building in the name of <b>Tapan Kumar Bhol and Trilocha</b> <b>Bhol</b> situated over Khata No.: 285/65, Plot No.: 436, Area Ac.0.15dec. and Khata No.: 286, Plot No.: 437, Area
Jagatsinghpur-754142 / Guarantor: T	rilochan Bhol,	the Sub-Registr	sam: Gharabari, Mouza: Napanga, SRO: Kujanga situate withi ation District of Jagatsinghpur, Bounded by North: Satrugha takrushna Mohanty, East: Akshaya Biswal, West: Road
Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 29.10.2	2021		Authorised Officer, Bank of India



has seriously affected their

mating and mass nesting on

the sea beach. Similar fear on

mass nesting of the turtles

mass nesting of turtles but

the fishermen of Podampeta

The beach erosion has not only affected the mating and

also exists this year.

Aryapalli to the south has eroded to a great extent.

Environmentalists said, As a result, the Rushikulya mass nesting of the turtles is estuary is constantly getting likely to begin from the eroded due to the constant month of December with the lashing of the tidal waves. onset of southward blowing Things have come to such a of the wind and presence of pass that the sea coast from Rushikulya sea beach to Bateswar Shiva temple has It is seen that the tidal waves are often crossing the been completely washed away

sea coast and eroding the sea and merged with the sea. beach. The stretch of beach This is the reason for from Gokharkuda to Prayagi which the Olive Ridley turin Ganjam block and tles failed to turn up at

Rushikulva coast for mass nesting last year. The sea beach has eroded to such an extent that the marine creatures are

experiencing the pinch. The erosion of the sea beach has deprived the fishfinding it difficult to climb up to the beach from sea. This

ermen of parking place for their boats and fishing nets. The constant lashing of tidal waves has also destroyed the thick Casuarina cover on the Podampeta beach.

and nearby areas are also

Environmentalists demanded the district administration to intervene and do the needful in saving the beach from sea erosion.







patience, endurance, perseverance, peace, calm, self control are all things that are taught infinitely better by example than by beautiful speeches.

Perfect health, sincerity, honesty, straightforwardness, courage, disinterestedness, unselfishness,

**SRI AUROBINDO** 

Climate Diplomacy

limate change is the ultimate test of whether it is possible for coun-

tries both to compete for global dominance and collaborate to save

the world. If the United States and China cannot work together on

this issue, they cannot work together anywhere. Together, the two powers

Hence, many worry that without Sino-American cooperation to reduce emis-

sions, no meaningful progress will be made. We will all be doomed. Even though

both sides know that they must act rapidly to prevent a climate catastrophe,

In the first US-China meeting of the Biden era, in Alaska in March,

China's senior Foreign Affairs official, Yang Jiechi, launched a tirade against

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken after Blinken called out China's

human-rights record. Then, in April, Biden's climate envoy, former Secretary

of State John Kerry, became the first senior administration official to visit

China, where he met with his counterpart, Xie Zhenhua. The two have

talked more than a dozen times since, yet it is not clear that they have

It is becoming increasingly obvious that there is little chance of one side

the latest evidence suggests that conventional diplomacy is not working.

are responsible for over 40% of carbon dioxide emissions.

matic channels. The US strategy has three fun-

For starters, the international community

has factored into its own strategic calculus

the possibility that Donald Trump - or at least

Trumpism – will return to power in the US.

Second, the Biden administration is insisting

that climate policy be separated from other is-

sues (hence Kerry's forceful rejection of the idea

that China can buy America's silence on human

rights). But China insists that "climate coop-

eration cannot be separated from the wider

environment of China-US relations." That

Even before the Afghanistan debacle, American

power - hard and soft - was no longer what

it used to be. US exhortations to China and

other countries simply do not have the ef-

For all the attention being paid to high-

level diplomacy in the run-up to next month's

United Nations Climate Change Conference

(COP26) in Glasgow, the truth is that the drive

ers of meaningful change lie elsewhere. The

world's response to climate change will suc-

ceed or fail on the basis of national self-interest.

The question for the coming decades is which

The third problem is the most intractable.

leaves the two at loggerheads.

fect they once did.

achieved anything.

damental problems

### FOCUS CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

## **RAPE, POLITICS & RESISTANCE**

t is repugnant to the nature of a civilized society that men should rape women. In fact, rape of men or women, to take a liberal stand, is always abominable and can only be attributed to a monstrous regime. As a heinous act, rape is not only an unredeemable sin, but also an audacious travesty of our modern law and governance. Our systemic indifference and strategic silence on rape are detrimental to both the comprehension and annihilation of rape in our political times. In both these conditions, rape only incarnates itself as the rape of the State and Humanity. It acts as a deadly boomerang not only to the civil society, but also to the custodians of State and citizens.

Having said so, it is also of paramount importance to focus and diagnose the nature and function of civil society's response to rape, particularly their protests and activisms. Unfortunately, the protesters of rape have also mistaken rape as a mere political event, while demanding to expose the political nexus or governmental failures. Though it is intellectually effective to subscribe to the idea that rape is political, it is a moral fallacy, on the other hand, to reduce rape as a mere physical and political barbarity. In fact, rape is more than a physical crime! It is not an action, rather a demonic idea, and an intricate dystopian fantasy of patriarchy. This is something that our rational society is blissfully ignorant of!

Therefore, protesting rapes with or under political banners is an obliteration of the enormity of the monster called rape. Let us take the example of two women protestors of a rape incidence; one justifying the stance of the reigning political party, and the other blaming the ruling party as the representative of the Opposition party. Both these women fail to understand how they have innocuously fallen prey to the patriarchal design of party politics. In other words, instead of being cognizant of rape as violence against their own gender, these women allow themselves to



Our systemic indifference and strategic silence on rape are detrimental to both the comprehension and annihilation of rape in our political times. In both these conditions, rape only incarnates itself as the rape of the State and Humanity

on "Phallicism". Moreover, the gravity of rape does not depend on how big or powerful the offender is. A rape is a rape, no matter how big is the offender and how weak is the victim. To understand rape in our contemporary times, we need to demystify the idea that rape is only committed by rapists or so called 'bad people'. A good many of gentlemen have fallen prey to this carnal sin. In fact, there are several common myths surrounding rape which need to be dispelled. Until and unless we decode the patriarchal engineercure the rape culture. Similarly, while we stand with

emotional empathy and support to the victim and her family, but we also need to translate such emotional outbursts into radically meaningful and intellectual conditions for eradicating such an evil called rape. "Certainly emotions can cloud one's judgment,

but ... to leverage those emotions into meaningful intellectual activity is all the more important to their education", says Yorie Hong. What are necessary to eradicate rape culture are not any po litical or bureaucratic interventions but solutions that would emanate from good education, ethics and culture. We need to question ourselves why, even after the Nirbhaya incidence, there have been recur rences of brutal rapes in our country. Though the politically educated society is trying to find a solution of rapes in laws, punishments and prisons, the actual ray of hope to fix this carnal sin lies in the moral ethics and humanity. Unfortunately, the most rational and educated people in our times have failed to realise this "wisdom"

If rape has appeared to be a widespread culture, it is because we have reduced our estimations of rapes to patriarchy, system of justice, culture of punishments, media representation and public protests. Rational trial of rape may deter rapes in our society, but it is not a foolproof or permanent solution. The monstrous manifestations of rapes in our times, on one hand, and the increasing number of prisons, courts and police, on the other hand, are most conspicuous examples of our failures in understanding rape, rapists and rape culture. It is an irony, which we the people fail to comprehend, despite repeated instances of brutal and sensational rapes. Read how William Shakespeare hyphens rape between court and

conscience in his tragedy 'Titus Andronicus' (1593-94): Sat: Traitor, if Rome have law

or we have power, Thou and thy faction shall repent

this rape. Bas: Rape, call you it, my lord, to seize my own.

My truth-betrothed love and now mv wife?

> The writer is Associate Professor, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University. Views are personal.

### SPECTRUM KASHMIR

A battle laid off for far too long

'toxic-masculinity',

the victim of rape, we should also

focus on the culture of female sex-

ual violation and victimisation.

rather than subscribe to political

ideologies and or affiliation to set

it right. Let us remember that the

politics of rape is entrenched in the

culture of politics, deeply erected

INTELLECTUALLY **EFFECTIVE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THAT RAPE IS POLITICAL, IT IS A MORAL** 

Dr. Panchanan

**THOUGH IT IS** 

**THE IDEA** 

**FALLACY, ON** 

**REDUCE RAPE** 

**PHYSICAL AND** 

**THE OTHER** 

HAND, TO

**AS A MERE** 

POLITICAL

BARBARITY

Dalai

John Kampfner

Many worry that without Sino-American cooperation to no meaningful progress will be made. We will all be doomed

country - which system - will seize the mantle of the green global citizen. Who will be first to harness the economic benefits arising from green technologies?

The race for green tech will initially be about great-power rivalry. But self-preservation also will become a key factor. At what point will populations begin to see that climate inaction endangers them? How bad will conditions have to become before people demand radical change even in authoritarian states?

China's national response so far has been a mixed bag. In September 2020, Chinese President Xi Jinping told the United Nations that his country would reach peak emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2060, putting it ahead of the US in formally committing to a target date for achieving net-zero emissions. But Chinese announcements since then have been less impressive.

In Xi's UN speech this year, he broke new ground in only one area, by pledging to end China's support for coal-fired power projects abroad. Following similar promises by South Korea and Japan, China was under growing pressure to end overseas coal financing (those three countries together have accounted for 95% of such financing since 2013). But this concession represents low-hanging fruit, considering that recipient countries have already grown wary of starting new coal projects.

Nonetheless, what matters in the Green Great Game is the choreography. China is keen to show that its announcements are issued entirely on its own terms. As Mikko Huotari, the executive director of the Mercator Institute for China Studies, explains, "The Chinese won't be pushed around. This is a game of waiting - and hoping for the signals." China also has recognised the economic opportunities on offer. Already, seven of the world's top ten wind turbine manufacturers are Chinese. The Chinese economy is now so large that it produces more renewable infrastructure than the rest of the world combined, bringing down the cost of solar, wind, and other resources. But China also generates 53% of the world's coal-fired power, and it is still increasing capacity. Experts say it must shut down more than 500 plants within ten years to have any chance of reaching its climate targets. So far, that is not happening. Instead, China is in the throes of a post-pandemic "smokestack recovery." Worse, ten of its provinces recently were forced to ration energy owing to a slump in production, triggering alarm and pleas for more coal-power generation.



be used as shields to protect the toxic patriarchal politics. They fail to decode that protesting under any political organisation is a mere assertion of patriarchy, as politics itself is a patriarchal reality. To me, this itself is a rape of ideology! What they should do, instead, is to rise above political rivalries and perceive rape as a patriarchal instrument of violence, domination and barbarity against women. Rape is an organised crime committed with masculine volition and violation. It is a 'masculine hegemony' that can be fought by women conscious and free of such

ing of rape, no single justice can It is quite natural to vent out our



attacked the state of Jammu going round in circles. At the time of Partition of the and Kashmir. It was the be-

Had the Nehru government not

pushed across the River Poonch. Kashmir issue is removed from under her sole. I



reduce emissions,

These issues are a front in a wider culture war taking place in China, where climate change is dismissed by nationalists as "Western pseudo-science" and denounced as a conspiracy to curtail the country's growth.

As COP26 approaches, the bidding war for green credentials will intensify amid virtue signaling and admonishments. It will be important to remember that this is a proxy battle taking place within a wider cold war. China and America's competitive instincts will propel them to outshine each other in new technologies and surprise announcements. Ultimately, more would be achieved if suspicions were reduced and collaboration increased. But in today's new world, the old diplomacy is dead.

The writer is a consulting fellow at Chatham House.

### WISDOM CORNER

We must be willing to let go of the life we planned so as to have the life that is waiting for us.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL

If we have the attitude that it's going to be a great day it usually is. CATHERINE PULSIFIER

Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work.

STEVE JOBS

### WORDS**WORTH**

### Candent

hough only large dictionaries include it and the Oxford English Dictionary says it is obsolete or archaic, candent has retained a toe-hold on usage in the sense of something glowing, as if with white heat, largely in SF and fantasy novels whose authors delight in obscure language. It was almost completely replaced by incandescent in the first decades of the nineteenth century. Both are relatives of candour, candid and candidate, the linking thread being the concept of whiteness. The last three are from Latin candidus, white (Roman candidates for public office wore togas rendered white so they could be easily seen in the Forum, which had nothing at all to do with white then being figuratively the colour of innocence and frankness). Candent is from the verb candere, to be white or to glow, and incandescent derives from the related verb incandescere, to become white-hot.

Dr Amjad Ayub Mirza **THE CHANGE OF SEAT OF POWER IN KABUL HAS DIMINISHED THE CHANCES OF A COLLABORATED PINCER ACT OF** 

**SMOTHERING OF PAKISTAN BY AFGHANISTAN AND INDIA** 

ginning of a conflict that would leave thousands dead and maimed and scar the lives of millions. It was also the start of a feud between India and Pakistan that continues to this day.

Attempts, thenceforth, made by India to try to resolve the issue of Kashmir peacefully through the corridors of international diplomacy have each time ended in a stalemate at the floor of the United Nations forcing India to start attempts to seek a resolution, all over again.

Meanwhile, religious terrorist outfits, working in unison with Pakistani military establishment and its spy agency the ISI, have kept the riot alive, which Pakistan presents to the world community as evidence of an ongoing imaginary mass separatist movement in Kashmir.

Today, as battle hardened LeT and other jihadi terrorists returning from Afghanistan have once again managed to infiltrate our territory and an all-out Indian military operation in Poonch is under way, which, by the way, has already cost the lives of 10 of our iawans and 15 infiltrators, the occasion begs to seek a new approach towards solving the seventy odd

Indian subcontinent in 1947 guidelines for the future of the 560 plus Princely States were stated in the 1935 Government of India Act according to which, The Indian (princely) state's...accession to a Federation (Pakistan or India) ... cannot take place otherwise than by the voluntarv act of the Ruler of each State.

The government of Pakistan entered into a bilateral agreement (Stand-Still Agreement, August 15, 1947) with the State of Jammu Kashmir according to which Pakistan was obliged to accept the independent status of the State. However, on October 22 of the same year Pakistan army, along with tribal mercenaries that it had hired from northwestern parts of the newly established country launched an attack on the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Due to its surprise nature, the attack caught Maharaja Hari Singh unprepared. Soon Pakistani troops were calling at the gates of Srinagar. It was then that the Maharaja made a wise decision and acceded to India. The Instrument of Accession was thus signed on October 26, 1947. Next morning Indian jawans began to land at the Srinagar airport. Soon the Pakistani intrud-

made the mistake of seeking a ceasefire from the United Nation Security Council (UNSC), we, the people of Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan would have been free citizens of Bharat as well.

According to the UNSC resolution of August 13, 1948, the first step in the direction of restoring peace in the region demanded a total withdrawal of Pakistani troops and all (non-resident) tribal invaders. Did Pakistan comply? No. not to this day. Instead of following the conditions for restoration of peace laid down by the UNSC, Pakistan conducted Operation Grand Slam and Operation Gibraltar (1965), and the Kargil war (1999).

In 1990, Pakistan conducted one of the most outrageous terrorist campaigns in the Valley that we now know as the genocide of the aborigines of Kashmir the Kashmiri Pandits. They were targeted killed, raped and persecuted which led to the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley of Jammu Kashmir. Hundreds of thousands of Kashmiri Pandits remain internally displaced to this day.

so it seems, that a totally new treatment to a chronic ailment is found for the following reasons.

Firstly, the UNSC has not been able to make Pakistan follow its resolution thus undermining the authority of the institution to enforce its decisions. Secondly, numerous efforts made by various Indian governments to negotiate a settlement for Kashmir issue by peaceful means has always ended up in emboldening Pakistan, which has taken our restraint in wake of terrorist attacks on our motherland (such as the current one), as our weakness. And, finally, the change of seat of power in Kabul has diminished our chances of a collaborated pincer act of smothering of Pakistan by Afghanistan and India.

So, under the prevailing actuality what choices are we left with? What we should realise is that old choices we had so far available to us have become obsolete.

The writer is an author and human rights activist from Mirpur in POJK. He currently lives in-exile in the UK. Views expressed are personal.

India cannot sprint into becoming

### Landmark decision

Sir, In a major jolt to the Central government, the Supreme Court has constituted an expert committee to probe the alleged use of Pegasus for surveillance on certain people in India. The Supreme Court's much-awaited directive in the Pegasus case is an important landmark in the fight for the fundamental rights of citizens. It is especially important because these rights are being challenged in the country in various ways and Pegasus symbolises one of the most serious such challenges. Revelations in the international media had pointed to extensive surveillance and hacking of citizens' phones for the past many years with the help of the software from an Israeli company. The expert committee will hopefully bring out the truth and fix responsibility for the wrong decisions and actions that may have taken place. An important feature of the apex court's decision is that it has rejected the government's offer to set up a committee recommended by the latter. The government has been evasive and was unwilling to provide information that the court wanted on the pretext of national security. The court has done well to reject this, and it should be a precedent in other cases where the government has tried to curb the rights of the citizens.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

### Fuel price rise

Sir, Due to the incompetence of the Central as well as state governments and thier greedy mindset, the general public today is suffering a lot. Everyone is worried about the excess price hike of petroleum products. There needs to be a review of the price rise of petroleum products in the international market and the proportion in which our government is increasing their prices. The Central and state governments are collecting crores of rupees in taxes from petroleum products. They are happy because revenue is rising, and are least bothered about the problems faced by the public. The governments are completely incapable of controlling the fuel prices. The bus owners' association has called for a strike against increase in fuel prices, which will add to the people's hardships. The general public would benefit if the tax on petroleum products is reduced by ₹10 per litre. The overall market price depends on the transport system of the country and the transport system is dependent on prices of petroleum products. Hence, we are requesting both the Centre and state governments to reduce the taxes to solve the problem.

Bishnu Prasad Das, CUTTACK



are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 101 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

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



## state

### Bandh in Subarnapur, Nuapada

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Sonepur/Nuapada, Oct 28: Demanding the scalp of Minister of State for Home Dibyashankar Mishra for his alleged nexus with prime accused Gobinda Sahu in the Mamita Meher murder case, the district unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) observed a 12hour Subarnapur Bandh starting at 6 am Thursday. The saffron party also sought a CBI probe into the murder case.

According to a district-level BJP spokesperson, hundreds of workers and supporters of the party staged agitations in all five blocks, two notified area councils (NACs) and a municipality in the district. Earlier, a 12-hour bandh was observed October 25 in Birmaharajpur subdivision of the district. The bandh that started in the morning continued till 6 pm.

"The Subarnapur Bandh began



at 6 am and vehicular movement was not allowed. However, emergency services like ambulance, milk, water, medicines and fire brigade were not disrupted during the bandh," a distric- level leader of the party told the media.

Party workers were instructed to ensure that marketplaces, roadside shops, malls and commercial establishments including government and private organisations remain closed, the local leader added. With same demands, a 12hour bandh observed by the district unit of the saffron party threw normal life out of gear in Nuapada district Thursday.

The bandh began at 6 am and continued till 6 pm. The local party workers were seen picketing at several key locations in the district. Vehicular movements came to a standstill in the district. Hundreds of vehicles were seen stranded on both sides of the road. Similarly, markets, shops, and business establishments downed their shutters. Educational institutions also remained closed. However, essential services like ambulance, fire brigade, milk van and medicine shops were kept outside the bandh purview.

Earlier in the month, BJP had observed dawn-to-dusk bandhs in Sambalpur: Bolangir and Kalahandi. Bhulia Sangha of Barpali had observed a six-hour Bargarh bandh October 26, demanding stringent action against the culprits.Moreover, hundreds of party workers staged a gherao at the district SP office in Boudh

### CREATING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



A cluster level study cum training programme for Red Cross Youth volunteers is under way at Paikamal in Bargarh district, Thursday

ОР РНОТО

## **Central team to probe irregularities**

A BLACKLISTED CONTRACTOR HAS BAGGED ROAD PROJECTS WORTH ₹65 CRORE

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Oct 28: Union Minister of Jal Shakti and Tribal Affairs, Bishweswar Tudu alleged that a blacklisted contractor had been carrying out projects worth crores of rupees awarded by DRDA in Mayurbhanj. Involving a blaclisted contractor has raised questions on the tender process of the DRDA.

"Quality of projects is being compromised. Officials of the DRDA deliberately award works to blacklisted contractors. As a result, successful implementation of the projects has been hampered. A central team will visit the district to look into the alleged irregularities." the Union Minister said.

According to reports, DRDA had floated tenders vide letter-237/5th August, 2021, for construction of 77 road projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the district. The contractor concerned was found eligible for carrying out the road projects and has bagged tenders worth over ₹65 crore.

PMGSY MESS IN MAYURBHANJ **REPRESENTATIONAL PIC** 

It was alleged that the contractor was blacklisted five years ago. Giving licence again to the contractor has raised many eyebrows. The minister and locals alleged that since the contractor had no credentials for its efficiency, how he could be involved in the several tenders and allowed to get away

with projects worth crores. As per information available about the tender process, a bidder needs to have hot mixer plant with 60-90 TPH capacity, but the contractor has 40-60 TPH hot mixer plant. This was stated by another contractor on condition

of anonymity. As per rule, a blacklisted contractor is allowed for his participation in any tender process if he/she was found having no cases pending against him in five years. A screening committee will scrutinise various parameters of a contractor. It was alleged that all such norms have been thrown to

winds in Mayurbhanj. Locals had

DRDA had floated tenders vide letter-237/5th August, 2021, for construction of 77 road projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the district

The contractor was blacklisted five years ago. Giving licence again to the contractor has raised many eyebrows. The minister and locals alleged that since the contractor had no credentials for its efficiency, how he could be involved in several tenders and allowed to get away with projects worth crores

taken up the irregularities with the Union Minister.

Meanwhile, the Union Minister Tudu had held a special meeting with top officials of the Rural Development Ministry and discussed the progress of PMGSY projects across the country and their guidelines governing road construction projects.

It was learnt that a central team will visit the district to investigate the alleged irregularities in tender process.

## Rourkela gets new cold storage facility

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rourkela, Oct 28: In a bid to support small vegetable and fruit vendors in Rourkela, a cold storage facility with a five-tonne capacity has been made operational in Sundargarh district, an official said Thursday.

The project at Chhend Colony was inaugurated by Rourkela MLA Sarada Nayak and local civic body commissioner Dibyajyoti Parida Wednesday.

The legislator appealed to au thorities of the Rourkela Municipal Corporation to use renewable energy by installing solar panels to reduce running cost of the facility.

"Small fruit and vegetable vendors will be benefited from the storage unit as they can keep their perishable items in the facility," Parida said. Farmers and small traders in the Steel City will benefit from the facility. Over 250 vendors have already registered with the authorities of the facility, which will be managed by self-help groups, the RMC commissioner said

### Bizarre! Woman's anus stitched instead of birth canal



perhaps top them all.

Doctors at the Keonjhar district headquarters hospital (DHH) stitched the anus of a woman instead of the birth canal.

Munda (18), wife of Chingudu Munda of Khasapita Sahi of Badapatana panchayat under Patana block in Keonjhar district, rushed her to Patana CHC following her labour pain Tuesday. She was shifted to the Keonjhar DHH Wednesday.

### Loan workshop by UCO Bank

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkanal, Oct 28: A loan linkage workshop organised by the lead office of the UCO Bank was held at the mini stadium here, Thursday. Joining as chief guest, Dhenkanal MLA Sudhir Kumar Samal inaugurated the workshop. He said the workshop has been organised to disburse loans over ₹30 crore to various sectors. Over 890 bene-

women self-reliant. DRDA, PD Rabi Narayan Tripathy, NABARD DDM Gyanendra Rout also joined as guests of honour and called to make the district free of non-performing assets. Sanoj Kumar Singh, lead bank manager of UCO Bank, Chandrama Girem, deputy zonal head of Sambalpur zone, P Prabhakar Rao, GM, DIC attended the workshop as guests. Soubhagya Kumar Sahoo, BM, Dhenkanal branch of UCO Bank conducted the programme.



Sambalpur, Oct 28: Residents of RR Colony at Ludhapali in this district staged a demonstration against the alleged discharge of fly ash from JSW Bhushan Power and Steel Ltd plant at Thelkuli and subsequent pollution arising out of it outside the main gate of the plant late Wednesday night. They withdrew after the company officials rushed to the spot and assured to look into their demands. Later, the residents and company officials joined a meeting Thursday where the residents warned to lock up the plant if their problems are not resolved at the earliest. Former sarpanch Chandra Sekhar Rout said the pollution from the dumping of ash has turned life a hell for them. They remain in a thick blanket of ash covering their houses, food and other materials. The ash causes respiratory problems and irritation in eves forcing villagers to stav indoors most of the times. The blow-



ing of ash also restricts the movement of vehicles and pedestrians and contaminates drinking water sources in the area, an anguished villager said. The villagers complained that the areas in close proximity to the steel plant have been covered under a blanket of smoky dust and fly ash. Normalcy prevailed after the company authorities reiterated their assurance to look into their demands. Later, a fire brigade vehicle was provided by the company to spray water on houses, roads and trees to wash away the dusts. DK Sinha, the administrative head of JSW, said the ash was discharged as the power plant became operational after remaining closed for four days. The complaints of the villagers have been received and will be resolved in coming days, he added.

# RR Colony displaced hit by pollution woes Sambalpur, Dhenkanal

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur. Oct 28: In separate incidents, two elephants were found dead in Sambalpur and Dhenkanal districts Thursday.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Patana, Oct 28: You may have heard of several kinds of wrong or faulty surgeries. But the one performed at Keonjhar DHH will

experienced pain in defecating. Finding discharge of faeces in urine, Chingudu with the help of ASHA activist rushed his wife to Patana CHC. There they came to

Family members of Sasmita know that Sasmita's anus had been stitched instead of birth canal. They were then shifted to the Keonjhar DHH. Her wife and ASHA activist Asha Lata informed that she was admitted at surgery ward Thursday. She is receiving treatment at bed No-81 of the

She gave birth to a baby girl

to people is a welcome step.

Guest of Honour and Collector Saroj Kumar Sethi said the main objective behind organising the workshop is to make

delivery, she was discharged 48

cacy waiting at home, they re-

turned. Reaching home, Susmita

Unaware of another compli-

hours after the delivery.

surgery ward of the DHH.

The carcass of an adult elephant was found in a partially decomposed state in a forest under Kisinda Khalasuni Sanctuary Range in Rairakhol sub-division of Sambalpur district. A few local people first spotted the carcass and immediately informed the forest department about the incident.

Later, a forest department team and officials from Bamra Wildlife Division reached the spot and recovered the carcass. According to locals, the pachy-

derm had not been in a very good condition over last couple of days. It had been limping due to a leg injury. The injury had eventually restricted its movement.

The Bamra Wildlife Division officials have launched an investigation to find out how the elephant sustained the injury.

Notably, a seven-year-old elephant suffering from septicemia breathed its last while under treatment inside Lahada Reserve Forest under Sarangi range in Dhenkanal district October 23. The same day, a decomposed carcass of a tusker was found from a farmland under Pallahara forest division in Angul district. It had

a deep wound on its head A report from Dhenkanal said, a female elephant was found dead in Ramei reserve forest under Kapilash range in the district Thursday. Forest officials, while patrolling in the forested area, spotted the decomposed carcass of the elephant aged etween 15 and 20.

The forest officials believe that the animal had died two days ago, but the cause of its death has not been ascertained

Veterinary doctors from Gondia conducted post-mortem of the carcass. DFO Dr Prakash Gogineni said there were 17 elephants in the jungle. The deceased elephant is believed to be one of them.

The DFO said that an investigation into its death is underway. A few days ago, a tusker died in Sadangi range in the district. Two elephants have died within five days, it was learnt.

ficiaries were given away loans worth ₹34.97 crore by 21 banks in this workshop.

Samal said the pandemic has dealt a heavy blow to the livelihood of people and banks coming forward to give loan

			DIVISION, CUTTAC
e-			om, sephdctc521@gmail.co for Bid Identification
			CTC - 93 of 2021-22
1.	Name of the Work	2	1 No. of P.H. Work
2.	Estimated Cost	:	Rs.8.85 lakhs to 17.70 lakhs
3.	Period of Completion	:	1 Month
4.	Date & time of availability	:	From 11.00 A.M. of 30.10.2021 to 5.00 P.M. of 09.11.2021
	of bid document in the portal		to 5.00 P.M. of 09.11.2021
5.	Last date/time of receipt of bids in the portal	:	5.00 P.M. of 09.11.2021
6.	Date & time of opening of	bids :	11.00 A.M. of 10.11.2021
7.	Name and address of the	:	The Superintending Engineer,
	Officer Inviting Bid		P.H. Division, Cuttack - 7530
	•		Odisha, Ph. (0671) 2979063
	e-mail	:	eephctcii@gmail.com
			sephdctc521@gmail.com
Fu	rther details can be seen	from	e-procurement portal https://ww
ter	ndersodisha.gov.in.	~	0
-			Superintending Engineer
0	IPR-13009/11/0036/2122		P.H. Division, Cuttack

### **GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, UPPER KOLAB IRRIGATION DIVISION, BORIGUMMA, DIST.- KORAPUT <u>e-Procurement Notice</u>

Bid Identification No. SEUKID-02/2021-22 Dated: 22.10.2021 No. A-549: Bid documents consisting of work, Estimated Cost, Cost of bid document. Time of completion. Class of Contractors and the set of erms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be

se	en in Govi. website i.e. www.te	110	dersodisna.gov.in.
1.	Name of the Work	:	Civil Works
2.	No. of Works	:	47 Nos.
3.	Estimated Cost	:	Rs.4.40 lakhs to Rs.11.62 lakhs
4.	Period of Completion	:	Three Calendar Months
5.	Date & time of Bidding	;	From 11.00 hours of 01.11.202 upto 17.30 hours of 11.11.2021
6.	Last date & time for receipt of bids in portal	;	11.11.2021 upto 17.30 hours
7.	Bids received online shall be opened on	:	11.00 hours of 12.11.2021
8.	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	:	Superintending Engineer, Upper Kolab Irrigation Division, Borigumm
Fu	rther details can be seen from t		
			uperintending Engineer
	Upper Kolab	Ir	rigation Division, Borigumma (K)
			OIPR-32054/11/0004/212

## Similipal to open for tourists from Nov 1

#### PNN/AGENCIES

Baripada, Oct 28: The authorities of Similipal National Park have decided to open Asia's second-largest biosphere reserve for public from November 1, an official notification said.

The Similipal National Park comprising the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) located in Mayurbhanj district is spread over 2,750 sq km, which remained closed for tourists in view of the monsoon. However, the park remained closed in May 2021 in view of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, said Field Director of STR M Yogajayanand.

The notification said tourists will be allowed entry into the national park area through two check gates at Jashipur and Pithabata. While 35 four wheelers will be allowed entry into the national park at Jashipur, another 25 similar vehicles will enter through Pithabata check gate between 6 and 9 am. People will be allowed to visit the national park after verification of neces sary details, the notification said.

The authorities also discouraged people from carrying any sort of plastic during visits. Tourists will have the opportunity to witness some of the major waterfalls like



Barehipani and Joranda

Tourists can make night halts at camp cottages and bamboo cottages at Gudugudia, Jamuani, Ramathirtha, Kumari. They can

book tickets to visit the national park online on a first come and first serve basis by logging into www.Similipal.Com and odishatourism.Gov.In. This year, the authorities of the national park have also decided to allow visitors to sightsee the picturesque and rich biome of flora and fauna on cycles.

A total of around 43,400 tourists had visited the national park last year while a total of ₹2.35 crore of revenue was collected, said the STR director. The Similipal National Park houses 1,076 species of plants belonging to 102 families and 96 species of orchids. It also boasts of innumerable medicinal and aromatic plants, which provide a source of earnings for the tribal people.

This apart, a total of 42 species of mammals, 242 species of birds and 30 species of reptiles have been recorded in Simlipal National Park. The other mammals include tiger, leopard, asian elephants, sambar, barking deer, gaur, jungle cat, wild boar, four-horned antelope, giant squirrel and common langur.

The 231 species of birds include red junglefowl, hill mynah, peafowl, alexandrine parakeet, creted serpent eagle, grey hornbill, Indian pied hornbill, Malabar piped hornbill and Indian trogon.

The park also has a sizeable population of reptiles, which includes snakes and turtles. Besides Mugger crocodile are seen on the bank of river Khairi.





## **Sedition charges against those celebrating Pak victory**

FIVE SUCH CASES HAVE BEEN REGISTERED IN AGRA, BAREILLY, BUDAUN AND SITAPUR AGAINST SEVEN PEOPLE FOR ALLEGEDLY USING INDECENT LANGUAGE AGAINST THE INDIAN CRICKET TEAM

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Oct 28: People in Uttar Pradesh who praise arch rival Pakistan's victory in a recent cricket match could face sedition charges, authorities said Thursday, a day after arresting three college students over jubilant social media posts.

Similar celebrations have aroused the ire of Indian politicians in the past, as the nucleararmed neighbours are at loggerheads over the Himalayan territory of Kashmir, which both claim in its entirety, although each controls only a part.

Pakistan resoundingly beat India at the Twenty20 World Cup Sunday, for its first cricket win against its bigger neighbour in such a match, triggering celebrations at home and in Muslim-majority Kashmir.

"Those celebrating Pakistan's victory will face sedition," the office of Yogi Aditvanath. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, said on Twitter, with an accompanying screenshot of a news report.

The offence, if proved, carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

Adityanath's office had ordered state police to take action depending on the circumstances of each case, said state information official Navneet Sehgal, adding that police would decide on the charges based on their investigations.

Posts on social media hailing



Agra, according to a police complaint Tuesday.

The three were arrested late Wednesday, said city police official Saurabh Singh, on charges of promoting enmity between different groups and causing public alarms.

### **OBLIVIOUS OF DANGER**

### UP man held in sedition case

BUDAUN (UP): A man has been arrested here in a sedition case for allegedly celebrating Pakistan's victory against India in the T-20 World Cup match, police said Thursday. At least nine other people have been arrested and detained in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan on similar charges in the last couple of days.

Niaz, a resident of Faizganj Behta area, posted the picture of Pakistani flag and wrote objectionable comments in support of Pakistan on Facebook after the match, according to a complaint filed against him by Punit Shakya of Hindu Jagran Manch. In his complaint, Shakya said

In the restive Kashmir valley, authorities said police had received complaints over celebrations at two medical colleges after Pakistan's victory

Authorities said six people had

Niaz's post was going viral, leading to outrage among netizens. **Budaun Senior Superintendent** of Police OP Singh said Niaz posted a picture of Pakistan's flag on his Facebook account and captioned, "I love you Pakistan; I miss you Pakistan, Jeet Mubarak Pakistan". Niaz was booked for sedition and under relevant sections of the Information Technology Act Tuesday and sent to jail Wednesday, the SSP said. Five such cases have been registered in Agra, Bareilly, Budaun and Sitapur against seven people for allegedly using indecent language against the Indian cricket team

been detained in adjoining Jammu, where social media posts showed more than two dozen people celebrating after India's loss.

"The investigation is going on," said local official Anuradha Gupta.

### WCD Ministry invites suggestions on draft amendments PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, Oct 28: The Women and Child Development Ministry

has invited suggestions from all stakeholders on draft amendments to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 which include provisions for increasing the role of district magistrates and additional district magistrates on issues concerning child care and adoption.

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules are being revised according to the recently passed Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of

Children) Amendment Act, 2021. The amendments include au thorising district magistrate, additional district magistrate to issue adoption orders under Section 61 of the JJ Act in order to ensure speedy disposal of cases and enhance accountability.

The district magistrates have been further empowered under the Act to ensure its smooth implementation, as well as garner synergised efforts in favour of children in distress conditions. According to the amended provisions of the Act, any Child Care Institution shall be registered after considering the recommendations of the district magistrate.

The DM shall independently evaluate the functioning of District Child Protection Units, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards, Specialised Juvenile Police Units, Child Care Institutions, etc.

According to the draft amendments, when any offence under the Act is committed by a Child Care Institution including a Specialised Adoption Agency, the Committee or the Board may pass appropriate orders for placing the children in any other institution or agency and recommend the cancellation of the registration and

withdrawal of recognition of such

JUSTICE J<u>UVENIL</u>E

**JUVENILE JUSTICE RULES** 

institution or agency to the DM.

"The DM including ADM may ensure transfer of children and closure of guilty institution within 7 davs under intimation to state government," it said.

In earlier rules, the provision of 7 days time frame was not there. The draft amendments also pro-

pose that "Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System", an online system for facilitating and monitoring the adoption programme, may be deleted to give flexibility to the Centre to create a new portal in near future.

The amendments also propose that the DM shall maintain oversight on actions taken with respect to child marriage cases and facilitate action for education and awareness regarding impact of child marriage on children.

The person-in-charge of a child care institution has been termed as "home manager" under the draft amendments.

The amendments also call for necessary orientation/training of staff to make it aware of what constitutes abuse, neglect and maltreatment, and their early indication and how to respond to these abuses.

The amendments also propose that the DM shall maintain an oversight and may direct police to make special arrangements to prevent children from getting associated/ affected by drug peddlers.

The WCD Ministry has invited suggestions and all the stakeholders are requested to offer their comments on the rules by November 11.

### **Speeding truck kills 3 women farmers** –

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 28: Three female

### **DELHI RIOTS CASE MOBILE DATA HAS** PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL: COURT

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 28: A court here Thursday said the mobile data which has been collected from several accused in the Delhi riots conspiracy case cannot be provided to the co-accused as it allegedly

contains pornographic material and would hamper their privacy. Former JNU student leader Umar Khalid, JNU students

Natasha Narwal and Devangana Kalita, Jamia Coordination Committee member Safoora Zargar, former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain and 13 others are the accused in the case and have been booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). In the hearing conducted through video conferencing. Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat orally made the remarks

in response to the applications under Section 207 of the CrPC filed by the accused, which said that they are supplied with a copy of all the evidence and material relied upon by the prosecution in the charge sheet.



He further that the prosecution showed him certain photographs and details which is a sample of what is contained in the mobile phones of the accused persons.

"From the look of those photographs and videos, it cannot be made available to anyone," the judge said.

He added, "I am told that there are certain audio and video of accused persons which cannot be supplied. Perhaps it appears even to their counsels because it is pornographic material and video of self."

The judge orally said, "There are some porn videos, it appears that accused persons have made of themselves. So, I guess you would understand that it would hamper the privacy and lives." He, however, clarified that not everything is pornographic.

REUTERS PHOTO

A child plays during a fumigation drive conducted by the municipal corporation as dengue cases surge in New Delhi

97% people in Delhi have Covid-19 antibodies

POSITIVITY IN VACCINATED PEOPLE IS 97-98%. WHILE IN NON-VACCINATED. IT IS 90%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SIXTH SERO SURVEY** 

sero positivity has increased slowly in Delhi. When the prevalence was 56 per cent, we thought it was a



positivity of 97 per cent for Covid-19 antibodies, the sixth serological survey conducted in the city has revealed, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said Thursday. Every district has a sero-positivity of above 95 per cent, he said.

Samples for the survey were collected in the last week of September. A total of 28,000 samples were collected - 100 each from 280 civic wards. This was the first such survey conducted after the deadly second wave hit the national capital in April and May.

A survey planned in April had to be abandoned midway because of the soaring case count.

'The sero-positivity in women is slightly higher than that in men. In children below the age of 18.



the sero prevalence is 88 per cent. while it is 97 per cent to 98 per cent in adults. The survey included vaccinated and unvaccinated people. The unvaccinated have a prevalence of 90 per cent, and those who have been vaccinated is above 97 per cent." said Jain.

The minister said that a large part of Delhi's population has been affected by Covid-19 and the rest have been vaccinated. He, however, declined to comment on whether Delhi has now achieved herd immunity.

'The data shows clearly that

sign that a lot of people have got antibodies. Now it has increased to 97 per cent," he said.

Speaking about the status of vaccinated people, Jain said that sero prevalence was high in both vaccinated and unvaccinated people, but it was higher in those who have been vaccinated.

Sero surveys in other cities, conducted after the second wave and vaccination drives, also show high sero prevalence.

In the survey conducted in Mumbai in August this year, the prevalence of Covid-19 antibodies was 86.64 per cent. It was 80.2 per cent in a survey started in Chandigarh in July, and 78.3 per cent in the survey conducted in Gurgaon in September.

farmers from Punjab died on Thursday after a speeding truck rammed into them near the protest site at Tikri border, police said.

Two other women farmers were also injured in the accident which took place at around 6 a.m.

The speeding truck ran over a divider and hit the women as they were waiting for an auto to return to their villages.

According to the police, two of the victims were killed on the spot, while the third died in a hospital. The truck driver managed to es-

cape following the accident. With the death of the three

women farmers, a total of 700 farmers have died so far in the farmers protests that started in September 2020.

## BJP not going anywhere, problem is with Rahul: Kishor

THE STATEMENT COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE TMC IS SPREADING ITSELF OUTSIDE BENGAL, AND IS ALSO A PROOF THAT THE TALKS OF KISHOR'S ENTRY INTO THE CONGRESS HAVE ENDED

and they will throw away (Prime

Minister Narendra) Modi," he said.

Modi, but BJP is not going any-

where. They are going to be here,

they are to fight it out for the

"Maybe they will throw away

#### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi/Panaji, Oct 28: Poll strategist Prashant Kishor has said that the Bharatiya Janata Party 'is not going anywhere for many decades and the problem with Rahul Gandhi is that he thinks that the BJP will be overthrown by people'.

Kishor said this in Goa Wednesday and a clip of his Q and A session has been shared in social media.

The statement comes at a time when the Trinamool is spreading itself outside Bengal, and is also a proof that the talks of Kishor's entry into the Congress have ended. He said that the BJP will be at

the centre of Indian politics for years, it wins or loses, much like the Congress in the first 40 years after Independence.

"BJP is going to be the centre of Indian polity, whether they win, whether they lose, like it was for the



first 40 years for Congress. BJP is going nowhere. Once you secure 30 per cent plus votes at the national level you are not going away in a hurry. So do not ever get into this trap that people are getting angry

next many decades. It is not going in a hurry," Kishor answered when asked

He added: "Unless you examine, understand and take cognizance of strength, you will never be able to put a counter to defeat him (BJP & Modi's strength)". He said the problem with Rahul Gandhi is he does not realise this but thinks people will overthrow the BJP.

Earlier, he had said that the Congress party's fortunes in Uttar Pradesh, which goes to the polls next year, would not be revived despite all the "hype" generated around the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, and the subsequent arrest of party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

"People looking for a quick, spontaneous revival of GOP-led opposition based on #LakhimpurKheri incidents are setting themselves up for a big disappointment". "Unfortunately there are no quick fix solutions to the deep-rooted problems and structural weakness of GOP," Kishor, who played an instrumental role in propelling Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress back to power in the West Bengal Assembly polls held in March-April this year, wrote on Twitter.

The remarks have come amid "strong speculation" that Kishor would join the Congress and the party was deliberating on the issues raised by him. Even as no one in the party is averse to the idea of Kishor joining the Congress, the party leaders have said that he should not be given sweeping powers regarding elections.

The Congress is preparing for the upcoming Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh along with a few other states which are going to polls next year.

In the politically crucial north Indian state, the Congress is pitted against the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party.

### **BJP** sends Diwali gifts to its 30 lakh workers

**2022 UP POLLS** 

#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Oct 28: The BJP in Uttar Pradesh has sent Diwali gifts to its 30 lakh booth-level workers, emphasising on the importance of booth management in the run-up to the 2022 Assembly polls.

There are 1.63 lakh booths in the state and the BJP has constituted 20-20 member committees on more than 1.5 lakh booths.

"A booth-level worker is the most important link in the BJP family in which we all work together. It has been a tradition to give gifts on Diwali so the party has sent gifts to more than 30 lakh booth workers this time," BJP state vice president and legislative council member Vijay Bahadur Pathak said.

The gift boxes consisting 'Toran Dwars' (door hangings) and an earthen lamp in the shape of a lotus have been sent to all the members of the booth committees.

When asked whether the gifts were part of the election campaign, Pathak said, "The main focus of the party is the Assembly polls to be held in 2022 and it is a natural process to take the election symbol among the people."

"When people will light the lotus lamp, not only the darkness will disappear, but the belief that development schemes started by (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi and (Chief Minister) Yogi Adityanath will be reinforced," Pathak said.

In the 2017 assembly elections, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who was then the national president of the BJP, implemented the booth management formula and visited booth workers' homes. Shah hadalso addressed booth meetings in different parts of the state.



## national



**Our Muslim** brothers are being brutalised in Tripura. Those who perpetrate hatred and violence in the name of Hindus are not Hindus but hypocrites RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

### **UNIQUE PROGRAMME**

In a bid to promote the Kannada language, the Karnataka government Thursday organised a musical programme wherein five lakh people from across the state sang three songs simultaneously



**HATE SPEECH ALLEGATIONS** 

### uote

History is witness to the fact that India and ASEAN have had relations for thousands of years.

India-ASEAN relations are reflected in everything, including in our shared values, traditions, languages, scriptures, architecture, culture, food

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER

Starting any conflict is against the values of a peace loving India but it is always prepared to face any challenge

RAJNATH SINGH DEFENCE MINISTER



to be wiped out from Uttar Pradesh in 2022

AKHILESH YADAV SAMAJWADI PARTY (SP) PRESIDENT

### SHORT TAKES

### Vinod apologises to Sanjay Nirupam

New Delhi: Former CAG Vinod Rai Thursday tendered an unconditional apology to Congress leader Sanjay Nirupam for "wrongly mentioning" him as one of the MPs who had pressured him not to name former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in the CAG report on 2G spectrum allocation Nirupam had filed a defamation case against Rai after the former CAG in his book in 2014 made the allegation against him and repeated it in interviews to the media.

### **Elephants stop** traffic on highway

Erode (TN): A fight between two elephants over a lorry load of sugarcane held up traffic on the Dindigul-Bangalore highway for more than 25 minutes, forest officials said Thursday. The incident happened at Karapallam near Hasanur in Sathyamangalam Tiger Wednesday night, the officials said. According to the officials, the fight broke out after the driver of a lorry carrying sugarcane stopped upon seeing a female elephant with its calf on the side of the road.

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 28 : Amid allegations of Facebook's system fuelling hate speech and fake news. the government has asked the USbased social media giant to provide details of algorithms and processes used by it, sources aware of the matter said.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeITY) is learnt to have sought a clarification from the platform following recent revelations by whistle-blower Frances Haugen.

These revelations have led to concerns that Facebook has done little to shed its 'growth at all costs' culture that turbocharged its rise to capture 2.91 billion monthly active users globally, including over 400 million in India.

According to the sources privy to the development, MeitY has written to Facebook asking for information around the algorithms and added processes used by the platform.

Wankhede's wife seeks



also asked Facebook to provide details of steps taken to safeguard users, sources said

The government has also asked Facebook to provide details of steps taken to safeguard users, they

When contacted, Facebook de-

clined to comment. Haugen, an employee of the Facebook integrity team until May 2021, leaked tens of thousands of internal documents. including many from employee discussion sites, company presentations and research papers, that have unveiled the inner workings of Facebook.

She has suggested that Facebook made changes to its "dangerous" algorithms that contributed to divisiveness in society, and realised

acebook is once again under the scanner by the Indian aovernment

he Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has started a probe into the company's algorithm

A letter has been sent to Facebook India, seeking information on its moderation process

these tweaks kept people returning to the platform. She has also filed eight complaints against the company with US securities regulator.

The latest revelations assume significance as the social media giant has been under the lens for the past many years for not doing enough to curb hate speech on its platform and to safeguard data of its users. Facebook, in turn, has sought to portray Haugen as a junior employee cherry-picking to fit

### FROM LEAF TO CUP

her own narrative, with little knowledge of some of the issues on which she has taken a view.

On Saturday, The New York Times said that in February 2019, a Facebook researcher created a new user account to look into what the social media website will look like for a person living in Kerala. For the next three weeks, the account followed all the recommendations generated by Facebook's algorithms to join groups, watch videos and explore new pages on the site. The result was documented in an internal Facebook report that showed a struggle with misinformation, hate speech and celebrations of violence in the country, the company's biggest market, as per the NYT report.

As per data cited by the Indian government earlier this year, there are 53 crore WhatsApp users, 41 crore Facebook subscribers and 21 crore Instagram account holders in the country.

MHA EXTENDS **COVID CURBS TILL NOV 30** 

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 28: The Centre Thursday extended the Covid-19 containment measures till November 30.

**Referring to the daily** cases and overall number of patients in the country were declining steadily

The order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and signed by the Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla said, "In exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(1) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the Union Home Secretary undersigned hereby directs that the Order of the Ministry of Home Affairs of even number, dated 28 September, 2021, to ensure compliance with the Prompt & Effective Containment Measures for Covid-19, as conveved vide Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) dated 21 September, 2021, will remain in force up to the 30 November, 2021."

In a letter written to all Chief Secretaries of the States and union territories (UTs). Bhalla said that the existing protocols for curbing the spread of Covid-19 will continue till November 30. Referring to the daily cases and overall number of patients in the country were declining steadily but there were localised spread of virus in a few states, Bhalla further said that Covid appropriate behaviour during the festive seasons must be adhered to as the this pandemic continues to be a public health challenge in the country.

### SC grants bail to 2 students arrested over Maoist links

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 28: The Supreme Court Thursday granted bail to two students arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities Prevention\_ Act (UAPA) for their alleged Maoist links saying mere association with a terrorist organisation is not sufficient to attract the stringent provisions under the Act.

Observing that the acc have been fascinated by CPI (Maoist)



A women picker plucking tea leaves at Bokakhat tea garden in Assam

### **'ONLY 28,535 TEACHERS FOR SPL SCHOOLS'**

SC directs states to appoint more

### support from Maha CM PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

CRUISE Mumbai, Oct 28: Kranti Redkar Wankhede, the wife of NCB's

lowest level of politics. I trust you and feel that there will be no injustice against me or my family,' she said in her letter to the CM. On Wednesday, she had said her husband was born as Hindu and he

She had also contested the claim Kranti Redkar who married Sameer Wankhede in 2017, had also slammed

### **DRUGS CASE** Sameer Wankhede is in the Seye of a political storm following allegations of extortion in the high-profile cruise drugs case he officer is facing the She posted the letter on her

"The personal attacks reflect the

never changed his religion.

Malik for playing "low level" politics by making various allegations

### Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede, wrote a letter to Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray Thursday, seeking justice in the wake of the "attack on her family and her per-

departmental vigilance probe

understand politics and is not interested in it.

made by the Qazi, who performed the first marriage of Sameer Wankhede in 2006, that he was Muslim at the time of the 'nikah'.

The government has

### 5 ostriches, 1 lioness die

Chennai: Five ostriches and one lioness in the Arignar Anna Zoological Park, popularly known as Vandalur Zoo died in recent times. In a statement issued here, the Zoo Director said five ostriches died all of a sudden Wednesday (October 27). According to the official, samples were collected for bacteriology, virology and toxicology examination which is being carried out. Blood smear and organ impression was examined Wednesday ruling out fowl cholera.

### Maha Police nab 2 Maoists

Gadchiroli (Maharashtra): Marking another achievement,

the Gadchiroli police have nabbed two most wanted Maoists -- carrying a reward of Rs 2,00,000 each -- disguised as civilians, during a covert operation, an official said.

### Man kills mother

### Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh): A

young man allegedly bludgeoned his mother to death with an iron rod when she denied him money to buy liquor. The accused, 28, also attacked his sister Kanchan as she tried to save their mother Savita Devi, 47. The incident took place Wednesday night. The girl has been admitted to a hospital while the body has been sent for post-mortem.

of Uddhav Thackeray) been alive today, he would not have tolerated such personal attack on a woman's dignity.'

Twitter handle and tagged it to the

Maharashtra CMO. State minis-

ter and NCP leader Nawab Malik

had levelled a string of allegations

against the NCB official, including

He had also alleged Sameer

Wankhede was born as a Muslim,

but forged documents, including a

caste certificate, to show that he be-

longed to the Hindu SC category to

get a job under quota after clearing

NCB official's wife, said, "Being

a Marathi person. I expect some

justice from your side as my per-

sonal life is unnecessarily being

dragged into a controversy. Had

late Balasaheb Thackeray (father

In her letter to the CM, the

illegal phone tapping.

the UPSC examination.

sonal life".

"I see you as the torch-bearer of his teachings and leadership. The dignity of a woman has become a ioke in the regime that draws inspiration from the tenure of 17th century king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj," she said. Kranti Redkar, who is a Marathi actress, further said she is an artist and does not

against her husband. Meanwhile, Mumbai Police as-

sured the Bombay High Court Thursday that it will not arrest the NCB's zonal director Sameer Wankhede without giving him three days' notice after he moved the court seeking protection. Wankhede filed a petition and sought an urgent hearing, saying he feared arrest by police over allegations of extortion against him in the case related to the alleged drug bust case.



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi. Oct 28: In an important verdict to protect the rights of Children with Special Needs or suffering from disability (CwSN), the Supreme Court Thursday directed the Centre to forthwith notify the norms and standards of pupil-teacher ratio for special schools and separate norms for special teachers who alone can impart education and training to CwSN in the general schools.

The top court emphasized that only 28,535 special teachers are available for children with special needs/CwSN and directed the state governments to initiate the appointment process.

A bench headed by Justice AM Khanwilkar and comprising Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and CT Ravikumar pointed out there is a dearth of rehabilitation professionals or special teachers recognized and registered by the council concerned, who alone can impart education and training to handicap



persons/CwSN.

The bench noted that as per the available data with the Unified District Information for Education, there are 22.5 lakh CwSN in the country. "Further, only 4.33 lakh general teachers have been trained to teach CwSN in addition to teaching general children and only 28,535 special teachers are available for children with special needs/CwSN," the bench noted in its 100-page verdict.

Passing a slew of directions in the matter, the bench directed states to "initiate appointment process

to fill in vacancies for the posts so created for rehabilitation professionals/special teachers for being appointed on regular basis". It further added, "The same shall be completed within six months from the date of this order or before the commencement of academic year 2022, 2023, whichever is earlier". The top court directed the Centre to forthwith notify the norms and

standards of pupil-teacher ratio for special schools and separate norms for special teachers who alone can impart education and training to CwSN in the general schools.

Fasal and Shuaib were held November 2, 2019, from Kozhikode, causing widespread criticism in the Left-ruled state

at a formative young age, a bench comprising justices Ajay Rastogi and A S Oka granted relief to Thwaha Fasal and Allan Shuaib who were apprehended on November 1, 2019. "Mere association with a terrorist organisation is not sufficient to attract Section 38 (Offence Relating to Membership of a Terrorist Organisation) and mere support given to a terrorist organisation is not sufficient to attract Section 39 (Offence Relating to Support Given to a Terrorist Organisation).

The association and the support have to be with intention of furthering the activities of a terrorist organisation," the bench said.

## India refuses to set net zero carbon emission target

#### AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 28: India Wednesday refused to announce a net zero carbon emissions target ahead of the COP26 climate conference in Scotland's Glasgow city October 31, Reuters reported. Environment secretary RP Gupta said that setting a net zero target was not the solution to

the climate crisis.

"It is how much carbon you are

going to put in the atmosphere

before reaching net zero that is

India is the third-biggest emit-

ter of greenhouse gases in the

world after China and the United

States. Countries like the United

States and the United Kingdom

have been urging India to share its

plan to become carbon neutral

more important," he said.

Uddhav Thackeray

WAKE-UP CALL

Countries like United States and United Kingdom have been urging India to share its plan to become carbon neutral by 2050.

ndia lost \$87 billion last year due to natural disasters such as tropical cyclones, floods and droughts, according to the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) "State of the Climate in Asia" report said

fter 2050, the US, AUK and the European Union have vowed to only emit an amount of greenhouse gases that can be absorbed by nature and "carbon capture technology"



by 2050. After 2050, the US, UK and the European Union have vowed to only emit an amount of greenhouse gases that can be absorbed by nature and "carbon capture technology". Union

Minister of Environment Bhupendra Yadav Wednesday said that rich countries should understand their "historic responsibility" for emission and protect nations that could be vul-

nerable to climate change, The Guardian reported.

The minister added that India would soon achieve the net zero carbon emissions target set during the 2015 Paris conference. He claimed that India had achieved its climate targets so far without the funds that the rich nations had promised. Yadav said that the world needs to be careful of how much carbon it puts in the atmosphere before 2050. "Developing nations need space to grow, and [they need] assistance - and without it, they are faced with a choice of compromising on development or relying on dirty fuels," he said.

The Union minister said he would measure the success of the Glasgow climate conference on October 31 by "how much it delivered on climate finance to help the developing world cut their emissions while ensuring economic growth", Reuters reported. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to attend the conference.

India and China suffered the most in absolute value from extreme events \$26.3 billion and \$23.1 billion, respectively. Japan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh and the Republic of Korea too suffered severe damage. Japan has recorded loss at \$83bn and South Korea on \$24bn due to natural disasters last year.

For some countries, the impact was significant when translated into percentage of gross domestic product (GDP), which was the case for India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh and Pakistan,where damages exceed 0.5 per cent of GDP.



international 



## **CHINA DEFENDS NEW LAND BORDER LAW**

The Syrian Constitutional Committee should continue its work with urgency and purpose

GEIR PEDERSEN UN SPECIAL ENVOY FOR SYRIA

We suggest that a regional mechanism for anti-pandemic collaboration be established under the aegis of the East

Asia Summits, and we will shortly submit specific considerations on this score via the expert channels VLADIMIR PUTIN RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

At present almost half of Australia's annual methane emissions come from the agriculture

sector, where no affordable, practical and large-scale way exists to reduce it other than by culling herd sizes

ANGUS TAYLOR AUSTRALIAN POLITICIAN

### SHORT TAKES

### Imran calls **NSC** meet

New Delhi: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan summoned a meeting of the National Security Committee (NSC) Friday to discuss the situation in the country pertaining to the protests launched by the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), Geo News reported. Protests by the members of the proscribed group entered their seventh day on Thursday with protesters camping out in Kamoke since Wednesday night. Initially, the group staged sit-ins in Multan and Lahore, after which a march towards Islamabad was announced. Security forces had cordoned off major roads to prevent the protesters from reaching Islamabad. The protesters have been staging sit-ins on GT Road for the past several days, disrupting

### Gas stations

transport services

China's national legislature - the National People's Congress (NPC) - on October 23 adopted the new law on the protection and exploitation of the land border areas which drew sharp reaction from India as it was passed amid the protracted military standoff between the two sides in eastern Ladakh region PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Oct 28: China said Thursday that its new land border law will not affect the implementation of existing border treaties and urged relevant countries to avoid making "undue speculation" about a "normal legislation". China's national legislature - the

National People's Congress (NPC) - on October 23 adopted the new law on the protection and exploitation of the land border areas which drew sharp reaction from India as it was passed amid the protracted military standoff between the two sides in eastern Ladakh region.

Wednesday, India hit out at Beijing for bringing out the new land border law and said it expects China to avoid taking any action under the "pretext" of the legislation that could "unilaterally" alter the situation in the border areas. **External Affairs Ministry** Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi described China's decision to bring out the law as a matter of "con-

cern" as it can have implications on the existing bilateral pacts on the management of the border and the overall boundary question. "China's unilateral decision to bring about a legislation which can have implication on our existing bilateral arrangements on

the boundary question is of concern to us." he said. "Such unilateral move will have no bearing on the arrangements

border management as well as on

### France fines British boats

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Oct 28: French authorities fined two British fishing vessels and kept one in port overnight Thursday amid a worsening dispute over fishing licenses that has stoked tensions following the UK's departure from the European Union. Britain's government warned France that it would it retaliate if French officials followed through on threats made late Wednesday to block British boats from some French ports and tighten checks on UK vessels.

France also suggested it might restrict energy supplies to the Channel Islands, British Crown dependencies that lie off the coast of France. "We believe these are disappointing and disproportionate. and not what we'd expect from a close ally and partner," UK **Environment Secretary George** Eustice told lawmakers



that both sides have already reached earlier, whether it is on the boundary question or for maintaining peace and tranquillity along the LAC in India-China border areas,' he said. Responding to questions on the Land Border Law, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said, "It is a normal domestic legislation that serves our realistic needs and also confirms to international practice". "This law has clear stipulations on China's cooperation with its neighbouring countries and the handling of the land border issues," he said at a regular foreign ministry briefing here.

In an apparent response to India's concerns, Wang said, "it will not affect China's implementation of existing border treaties nor will it change existing practice in our cooperation with neighbouring countries.""It does not mean that there is a change in our position on the border development issue." he said. To a specific question about

India's criticism of the law, Wang said, "I just briefed you on the considerations behind the law. We hope relevant countries can avoid making undue speculation about the normal legislation in China." Earlier, elaborating on the pro-

visions of the new law adopted by the NPC last week, Wang said President Xi Jinping signed a decree No. 99 on the same day announcing that the law will come into effect from January 1, 2022.

"The Article 62 of the law identifies the leading mechanism and duties of departments of military and localities in implementing the law. It sets the rules for the demarcation procedures and also covers the areas of defence and management of borders as far as international cooperation," he said. "China has 22.000 kms of land borders. It has 14 land neighbours. The promulgation of the law is to

All countries of the world must

GOTABAYA RAJAPAKSA SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT

come together to address

climate change urgently

and decisively

coordinate and have unified standards for strengthening border management and advance relevant cooperation," he said.

'This is an important measure in advancing the rule of law. It is a normal domestic legislation that serves our realistic needs and also confirms to international practice," Wang said. India and Bhutan are the two countries with which China is yet to finalise the border agreements, while Beijing resolved the boundary disputes with 12 other neighbours.

While India-China border disputes cover 3,488-km along the Line of Actual Control, the China-Bhutan dispute covers about 400 km. India and China have already held over 20 rounds of border talks under the framework of the Special Representatives dialogue which was set up to find an early solution to the border dispute.

Both sides have been maintaining that pending the final resolution of the boundary issue, it is necessary to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. In his statement, the MEA Spokesperson had also said that India expects that China will avoid undertaking action under the pretext of this law which could unilaterally alter the situation in the

### Taiwan must defend itself: Defence minister

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

**KIM JONG-UN LOSES 20 KG** 

Jong-un has lost around 20 kg

after previously weighing about

140 kg, but he appears to have

no health issues, South Korea's

spy agency said Thursday

North Korean leader Kim

Taipei, Oct 28: Taiwan's defence minister said Thursday that the island must defend itself and not depend entirely on others for help if China were to launch an attack, even as Taiwan's President said she had faith the US would defend it.

"The country must rely on itself, and if any friends or other groups can help us, then it's like I said before, we're happy to have it, but we cannot completely depend on it," the minister, Chiu Kuo-cheng, said after being questioned in the legislature as part of a session on national defence.

Tensions between Taiwan and China have risen to their highest level in decades, with China sending record-breaking numbers of fighter jets toward international airspace close to the island, and stepping up a campaign of military harassment. Taiwan's Defense Ministry has said that China would have "comprehensive" capabilities to invade the island by 2025.

China claims Taiwan as part of its national territory although the island has been self-ruled since it split from the communist-ruled mainland in 1949 after a long civil war.

Chiu has called the rising tensions between China and Taiwan the most "severe" he has seen in

Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen said in an interview with CNN that aired Thursday that she was confident the US would defend



China claims Taiwan as part of its national territory although the island has been self-ruled since it split from the communist-ruled mainland in 1949 after a long civil war

Last week, US President Joe Biden seemingly contradicted the decades-long US policy toward Taiwan when he said the US was committed to protecting the island if China attacked it

Taiwan if China made a move against the island.

"I do have faith given the long term relationship we have with the U.S. and also the support of the people of the U.S. as well as Congress," Tsai said.

Tsai also confirmed the presence of a small number of U.S. troops on the island to help train their Taiwanese counterparts.

Although the US has no formal diplomatic relationship with the Taiwanese government, it has strong unofficial ties.

### **'US conducted** over 2,000 spying missions on China'

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Oct 28: US warships and planes carried out over 2,000 close spying missions aimed at China this year as the rivalry between the two countries heightened. a PLA researcher has told an annual Chinese military conference, asserting that the high frequency of such close reconnaissance endangers the country's sovereign security which will "undoubtedly increase the risk of gunfire"

The targets of these missions included the Chinese controlled islands and reefs in the disputed South China Sea (SCS) as well as the coastal area of the Chinese mainland, said Cao Yanzhong, a researcher with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Academy of Military Science. 'The high frequency of such close reconnaissance endangers China's sovereign security and heightens regional tensions, which will inevitably trigger firm opposition from China and undoubtedly increase the risk of gunfire," Cao told a panel at the 10th Xiangshan Forum, an annual Chinese military conference. The relations between the US and China are at an all-time low. The two countries are engaged in a bitter confrontation over various issues, including trade, Beijing's aggressive military moves in the disputed South China Sea and human rights in Hong Kong, Tibet and Xinjiang region.



### resume service

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Tehran: Eighty per cent of gas stations in Iran were back in service after a major cyberattack caused widespread disruption, an official said. By Wednesday, 3.000 gas stations in the country have been linked to the Iranian distribution network and are filling tanks at the standard price. Xinhua news agency quoted Fatemeh Kahi, the spokesperson for the National Iranian Oil Product **Distribution Company** (NIOPDC), as saying.

### Assange lawyer dismisses promises

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London: US government promises that WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange would not face harsh prison conditions if he is extradited to face American justice are not enough to address concerns about his fragile mental health and high risk of suicide, a lawyer defending him argued Thursday. Assange's lawyer, Edward Fitzgerald, said during a two-day hearing at Britain's High Court that the Australian was too mentally ill to be extradited to the United States to face trial on espionage charges.

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### Poland fined

Brussels: The top court of the European Union (EU) has fined Poland 1 million euros (\$1.16 million) per day for ignoring a ruling of the bloc that called for the suspension of the country's Supreme Court disciplinary chamber. The decision by the Court of Justice of the EU (ECJ) is the latest episode of a clash between Poland and the EU institutions over the rule of law, reports Xinhua news agency.



Hellenic Air Force F-16 takes part in the annual military parade at the northern port city of Thessaloniki, Greece

AP/PTI PHOTO

## UK lawmakers grill Facebook over online safety

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

London. Oct 28: British lawmakers grilled Facebook Thursday over how it handles online safety as European countries move to rein in the power of social media companies, with the tech giant's head of safety saying the company supports regulation and has no business interest in providing people with an "unsafe experience."

Representatives from Google, Twitter and TikTok also will be questioned by a parliamentary



#### committee scrutinizing the British crack down on harmful online government's draft legislation to content. It comes days after the

companies testified before American lawmakers and provided little firm commitment for US legislation bolstering protection of children from online harm, ranging from eating disorders, sexually explicit content and material promoting addictive drugs.

Governments on both sides of the Atlantic want tougher rules aimed at protecting social media users, especially younger ones, but the United Kingdom's efforts are much further along.

UK lawmakers are question-

ing researchers, journalists, tech executives and other experts for a report to the government on how to improve the final version of the online safety bill. The European Union also is working on digital rules.

Antigone Davis, Facebook's head of global safety, defended the company's handling of internal research on how its Instagram photosharing platform can harm teens, including encouraging eating disorders or even suicide, amid questioning from UK lawmakers.

## World faces shortage of syringes as Covid vaccine doses rise

THE UN CHILDREN'S AGENCY SAID THE SHORTFALL WOULD AFFECT UP TO 2.2 BILLION AUTO-DISPOSABLE SYRINGES THAT LOCK AUTOMATICALLY TO PREVENT FROM BEING USED AGAIN

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Nairobi, Oct 28: African health officials and the United Nations are warning of a looming shortage of more than 2 billion syringes for mainly low- and middle-income countries around the world as the supply of COVID-19 doses rises, and routine vaccinations could be affected, too.

The UN children's agency said the shortfall would affect up to 2.2 billion auto-disposable syringes that lock automatically to prevent them from being used again.

"We are not anticipating a significant supply shortage of the more standard syringes used in high-income countries," the agency said in a statement. It blamed "significantly higher demand," sup-

ply chain disruptions, national bans on syringe exports and an unpredictable supply of vaccines.

The threatened shortage comes as the flow of COVID-19 vaccine doses increases after months of delays to the African continent, the world's least protected region with less than 6% of its population of 1.3 billion people fully vaccinated. Just five of Africa's 54 countries are expected to reach the target of fully vaccinating 40% of their populations by year's end. 'The scarcity of syringes could

paralyze progress," the World Health Organization's Africa director, Matshidiso Moeti, said Thursday. Already, some African countries including South Africa, Kenya and Rwanda have seen delays in receiving syringes, the WHO said.

Routine childhood vaccinations "are going to be impacted." said Sibusiso Hlatjwako of the health organization PATH, which forecasts that the problem could persist "way into 2022." PATH looked at data from manufacturers and said more than 100 countries around the world use the auto-disposable syringes affected. Overall, the modeling "shows a sizeable gap now," he said.

The syringe shortage is already complicating COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Rwanda, which has been receiving COVID-19 vaccines with a "very short shelf life" of sometimes a month or two before expiration dates, Sabin Nsanzimana with the Rwanda Biomedical Center told reporters.

"You have to get these syringes in a short timeline," he said, "oth-



erwise you have vaccines expiring in your hands."Health officials said another complication is that the

Pfizer vaccine for COVID-19, used widely across Africa, requires a new and different syringe. There is

no global stockpile for the new autodisposable syringe, and the market for them is "tight and extremely competitive," the WHO said.

The African continent has few syringe manufacturers and none that make the Pfizer one, the WHO said. COVID-19 vaccine donations to African countries are now surpassing syringe availability, and countries in some cases are having to source syringes separately, WHO vaccination official Phionah Atuhebwe told reporters. "Without a plan, we should be in big trouble." African health officials say the

African continent is seeing a downward trend in new COVID-19 cases and deaths over the past month, but Moeti warned that another increase could come around the approaching holiday season.



## business



If we can say 2010-20 was for Asia at large, China and Japan and for other countries. 2020-30 is 100 per cent for India. This is the age of India. Whether you are a private company, young startup or potentially to list or a listed company. This is the time that the world is going to give you money VIJAY SHEKHAR SHARMA | FOUNDER & CEO OF PAYTM 

### **ACKO GENERAL JOINS THE BILLIONAIRE CLUB**

Joining the billion dollar valuation club raising \$255 million, non-life digital insurer Acko General Insurance Company Ltd will now focus on the health insurance segment, said a top company official. After selling vehicle insurance products directly, Acko General plans to focus on the health insurance segment



uote



a phenomenal 1.5x more than that of new car sales over the next five years AMIT KUMAR CEO, OLX

Flexible working has emerged as a top priority in the new world of work and business leaders see this as an opportunity to hire more diverse

talent and improve business performance ASHUTOSH GUPTA COUNTRY MANAGER,

Infosys shares bp's ambitions for a net zero carbon future. Our collaboration with bp further strengthens our long-standing

LINKEDIN

commitment towards sustainability and supports our ambitious ESG goals

PRAVIN RAO CEO, INFOSYS

### SHORT TAKES

### FM to attend G-20 meet in Rome today

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will attend the G-20 joint Finance and Health Ministers meeting in Rome October 29, which among other things will discuss Covid pandemic prevention and response. Finance and health ministers will discuss how to keep momentum in response to the pandemic and build on further coordination arrangements between the ministries.

### Maruti to widen CNG portfolio

New Delhi: With rising petrol and diesel prices driving up demand for its CNG vehicles. the country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India plans to widen its CNG portfolio by offering the fuel option in four more models 'very shortly', according to a senior company official. The company is also

Sept coal imports at over 7 yr-low

Imports by Indian utilities fell to 1.08 million tonne in September compared with 4.03 million tonne in

the same period in 2020 and 5.23 million tonne in September 2019

AGENCIES

Chennai, Oct 28: Indian utilities' coal imports fell more than 73% in September to their lowest in more than seven years due to high prices, government data showed, despite a call by the federal government to boost shipments to arrest a crippling coal shortage

India had urged utilities to import coal in late August as coalfired electricity generation surged after coronavirus-related curbs were eased, with several power plants being pushed to the verge of running out of fuel.

However, data from the Central Electricity Authority showed state government-run coastal power plants, which are dependent on imported coal, had cut supplies as global prices surged, increasing pressure on state-run Coal India to produce more.

Nearly three-fifths of India's coal-fired capacities currently have coal inventories that would last three days or less, federal power ministry data shows.

Imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by utilities during the September quarter also slumped



36%, the data showed, hitting their lowest levels in three years. The drop represented the steepest monthly decline in at least three and a

half years. Coal imports by power plants fell 55% during the quarter, making it the biggest fall in at least six and a half years. Overall gas consumption by utilities fell by about a fifth during the quarter, with power plants increasing reliance on long-term contracts with global

Of this, ₹9,700 crore was hidden

nology company involved in mov-

The money lost annually by

Indians grew to ₹26,300 crore in

2020, as compared to ₹18,700 crore

in 2016, the study commissioned by

Wise, a London stock exchange

listed company, and done by Capital

Economics in August 2021, said.

have spent on transaction fees for

sending money abroad have de-

creased over the past five years,

the fees paid to exchange rate mar-

While the overall amount Indians

ing money, found.

and domestic firms, and cut down on spot buying as prices surged, the data showed.

India mainly imports natural gas from Qatar, while Indonesia, Australia and South Africa are key suppliers of coal to the world's second-largest importer of the fuel. Imports of coal could, however, rise in the coming months as state-

run NTPC Ltd has issued a tender to import 2 million tonne of coal, nearly double the quantity it has

### **Crude imports** hit 5-month high NEW DELHI: India's crude oil

imports in September hit a fivemonth high, government data showed Wednesday, as a pick-up in economic activity and mobility led to higher fuel demand. Crude oil imports in the world's third largest oil consumer and importer rose 16% to 17.61 MT from a year earlier, according to data on the website of the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell. Indian refiners see crude demand roaring back as driving picks up and on expectations for a strong return of international travel in November. Reliance Industries Ltd, the operator of the world's biggest refining complex, imported nearly 12% more oil in September than in August. Earlier this month, data showed fuel consumption and refiners' crude oil throughput ticked higher in September from the preceding month.

imported so far this year. It was not immediately clear when the coal would be delivered.

## TERRIBLE THURSDAY Sensex slumps 1,159 pts, worst day in 6 months



### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai. Oct 28: Posting its biggest one-day rout in over six months, the BSE Sensex nosedived 1,159 points Thursday as investors unwound long positions on expiry of monthly derivative contracts amid a string of lacklustre earnings and cautious sentiment overseas

Banking, FMCG and energy shares came under heavy selling pressure, while midcap and smallcap counters also suffered hefty losses.

this year, when it had plunged

plummeted 353.70 points or 1.94

ITC was the top loser in the

Sensex pack, tumbling 5.54 per

cent, a day after reporting a lower-

than-estimated 10.09 per cent in-

crease in consolidated net profit

ICICI Bank, Kotak Bank, Axis

Bank, Titan, SBI and HDFC Bank

were among the other major lag-

gards, shedding as much as 4.39

Resident Indians to be part of FPIs

for the second quarter.

per cent to finish at 17,857.25.

Similarly, the broader NSE Niftv

1,708 points.

Sliding for the second straight session, the 30-share BSE benchmark tanked 1,158.63 points or 1.89 per cent to close at 59,984.70. This was its biggest drop since April 12

Of the share of total fees paid on inward remittances to India in 2020, Saudi Arabia ranked first at 24 per cent, followed by the United States (18 per cent), the United Kingdom (15 per cent), Qatar (8 per cent), Canada (6 per cent), Oman (5 per cent), the United Arab Emirates (5 per cent), Kuwait (5 per cent) and Australia (4 per cent).

per cent. Only six Sensex counters managed to close in the green. IndusInd Bank topped the gain-

ers' chart with a jump of 2.94 per cent after clocking a 73 per cent rise in Q2 net profit. L&T, UltraTech Cement, Asian Paints, Maruti and Bajaj Finance were the other winners.

Investors lost ₹4.82 lakh crore in Thursday's session, with the market capitalisation of all BSElisted companies standing at ₹2,60,48,949.80 crore

"In our view, in addition to weak global cues, unwinding of long positions especially in financials on F&O expiry, which had seen sharp rally in recent period were the prime reasons for sharp market correction today,' said Binod Modi, Head - Strategy at Reliance Securities.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said, "Bears continued to dominate domestic indices tracking cues from weak Asian and European markets ahead of a policy update from the European Central Bank."

"Globally investors are on the edge awaiting the US GDP data releasing later in the day along with the outcome of the Fed meeting scheduled for next week," he added.

### SC rejects ₹923 crore **GST refund to Airtel** PRESS TRUST OF INDIA INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Oct 28: Indians sending New Delhi, Oct 28: In a major money to other countries have ended setback to Sunil Bharti-led Bharti up paying ₹26,300 crore as foreign ex-Airtel, the Supreme Court Thursday change fees in 2020, despite the pandeclined to entertain the telecom demic, a report said Thursday. company's claim seeking refund of ₹923 crore, by rectifying its GST as exchange rate mark-ups alone, the study commissioned by a techreturns for July to September 2017.

A bench comprising justices AM Khanwilkar and Dinesh Maheshwari said, "The direction issued by the High Court being in the nature of issuing writ of mandamus to allow the writ petitioner to rectify Form GSTR-3B for the period from July to September 2017. in the teeth of express statutory dis-

pensation, cannot be sustained." The top court allowed the Centre's appeal and set aside the Delhi High Court order, passed May 5, 2020, which allowed Airtel to rectify Form GSTR-3B for the period.

gins are growing. This highlights a lack of trans-The bench added, "The law perparency in remittance fee strucmits rectification of errors and omissions only at the initial stages



While technology and internet has eased some of the issues related to the convenience and speed of foreign funds transfers, the age-old practice of hiding fees in the exchange rate results in people spending too much on hidden foreign currency fees – money which should rightfully stay

in their pockets RASHMI SATPUTE

COUNTRY MANAGER, WISE

tures, putting consumers at risk of hidden fees as they unknowingly pay more than advertised for the remittance service in the form of a marked up exchange rate, an official statement said.

"The Indian diaspora, which is the largest remitter in the world, is also not spared. Over the past five years, money lost to exchange rate margins on inward remittances has grown from ₹4,200 crore to ₹7,900 crore," the statement said.

Fees paid to transaction costs have grown from ₹10,200 crore in 2016 to ₹14,000 crore in 2020.

"A significant portion of these fees paid on remittances to India come from people in Gulf countries where most people are employed in blue-collared jobs to support their families back home in India," the study said.

₹26,300cr forex fees paid in 2020

currently keeping a close watch on the country's EV ecosystem "to find out what is the best way of evolution" to be able to offer affordable EVs with hassle free charging infrastructure in order to clock high volumes for a sustainable business.

### Truecaller partners with Indian Railways

### New Delhi: Caller

**DSP unveils** 

unique ETF

identification app Truecaller Thursday said it has partnered with Indian Railways to provide passengers with greater trust in communication, wherein people will see a green verified business badge logo while making calls to the 139 Helpline, Additionally, verified SMS message headers will ensure that the customers know that they are receiving the communication about their bookings and other travel details from IRCTC only, a statement said.

of Forms GSTR-A1 and GSTR-A3, but in the specified manner. It is a different dispensation provided than the one in pre GST period, which did not have the provision of auto populated records and entries."

The bench said an assessee cannot be permitted to unilaterally carry out rectification of his returns submitted electronically in Form GSTR-A3B, which inevitably would affect the obligations and liabilities of other stakeholders, because of the cascading effect in their electronic records. "There would be complete uncertainty and no finality could ever be attached to the self assessment return filed

electronically," added the bench. The bench also upheld the circular issued by the commissioner (GST) which had restricted the rectification of Form GSTR-A3B in respect of the period wherein error had occurred.

Coal min reviews PPT, MCL projects POST NEWS NETWORK Bhubaneswar; Oct 28: Union Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi, Thursday, visited the Paradip Port Trust (PPT) and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited's (MCL) Hingula area and reviewed various activi-

ties and projects of both entities. The Union Minister inspected the coal loading system at Paradip Port along with Minister of State for Coal and Mines Raosaheb Patil Danve. Joshi directed the officials to fully utilise the port facilities to increase coal transportation through the sea route and asked officials to explore possibilities of using Paradip port as a coal hub. He also visited Balram opencast project site in Hingula area of



MCL. The minister said, with an annual capacity of 8 MT, this mine is operated by an all-women crew for mine blasting work.

Moreover, Joshi laid the foundation stone of 'Shramik Gaurav Jal Udvan' near Balram opencast project. "Established beside the beautiful lake which is built over reclaimed land of a coal mine, this site has potential to be developed as a major tourist spot," said the minister.

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Oct 28: Markets regulator Sebi Thursday allowed resident Indians, other than individuals, to become constituents of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) that are registered as alternative investment funds (AIFs) in IFSCs.

This will facilitate investment in Indian securities markets through the FPI route by AIFs set up in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs). Such resident Indians will be sponsor or manager of the FPI and their contribution in the FPI will be subject to certain conditions.

In a notification, Sebi said resident Indian, other than individuals,

may also be constituents of the applicant. This is subject to the conditions that the applicant should be an AIF set-up in the IFSCs and regulated by the International Financial Services Centres Authority.

The contribution of such resident Indian in the FPI will be up to 2.5 per cent of the corpus of the applicant or \$7,50,000 (whichever is lower), in case the applicant is a

Category I or Category II AIF, while for Category III AIF it will be 5 per cent of the corpus or \$1.5 million (whichever is lower). To give effect to this, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has amended the FPI rules.

In a separate notification, the regulator said it has amended depositories and participants rules that allow authorising practising cost accountants to carry out share capital reconciliation audit of issuer companies.

This would be in addition to qualified chartered accountants or practising company secretaries. The notification comes after the board of Sebi approved proposals in this regard.

## Inflation to singe consumers as manufacturers hike prices

AS THE ECONOMY SWINGS INTO GEAR AFTER PANDEMIC CURBS CURTAILED MANY ACTIVITIES OVER THE LAST YEAR, SUPPLY **CHAIN DISRUPTIONS ARE ALSO HELPING TO DRIVE UP PRICES** 

#### AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar: DSP Investment Managers announced the launch of DSP Nifty 50 Equal Weight ETF, India's First Exchange Traded Fund based on the Nifty 50 Equal Weight Index. In an equal weight index, each stock in it gets equal weight. Thus, if the strategy is applied to Nifty 50, the equal weighted index will own the same 50 companies as Nifty 50 and will have 2% weight to each company unlike the current market cap weight design where some stocks get large weights like 9-10% and many stocks in the lower tail get only 0.3%. This gives all companies in the index an equal chance to contribute to returns rather than being overly dependent on the top 10.

Bangalore, Oct 28: Indian manufacturers are raising prices to pass on to consumers some of the burden of costlier energy and raw materials, which threatens to dent demand as well as a recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, business

leaders and economists say. Prices of items from tea, coffee and biscuits to toothpaste and electric components have risen 4% to 10% in the last quarter, while construction supplies, such as cement and sanitary ware, have added as

much as a fifth, they said. Big companies such as Hindustan Unilever, Nestle, Procter & Gamble, Ambuja Cement and Kajaria Ceramics, have blamed the increases on higher costs of oil and

### other raw materials.

"This is a challenge, as India's economic recovery is still not broadbased and the rising prices will hurt consumer sentiment," said Kapil Gupta, chief economist at Mumbai brokerage Edelweiss Securities.

After keeping above the central bank's target range of 2% to 6%, annual retail inflation eased in September to 4.35%, helped by a softening of food prices, which make up nearly half of the consumer price index.

But core inflation, excluding volatile prices of food and energy, has remained near 6% for the last few months, reflecting the rising manufacturing prices.

"Consumer goods maker Hindustan Unilever, which mar-



kets more than 400 brands of food and beauty products, is struggling with the prices of palm oil, tea, crude and skyrocketing costs of shipping," said its chairman and managing director, Sanjiv Mehta.

The next few months will be critical to assess the underlying market demand and determine

Firms facing increases of 20% to 30% in transport costs could raise prices further to maintain margins, say analysts, if the government offers no relief on energy costs

Until now, PM Narendra Modi's administration has declined to cut fuel taxes that are the highest among the major economies, at more than 100% of the base price

Private economists have warned that rising manufacturing and energy prices could dent the recovery from a record contraction of 7.3% in the fiscal year that ended in March 2021

whether these are transient or structural, Mehta said after un-

veiling quarterly results last week. Rural demand has slowed over the last two months, inspiring further caution, he added.

Consumer spending, which contributes nearly 55% of GDP, would be hurt by the rising prices, said Radhika Rao, a senior economist at DBS Bank.

"This might hold back consumption beyond the spurt on account of re-opening gains and festive demand, with employment gains yet to fully percolate to the  $\rightarrow$ unorganised sectors," she said, referring to celebrations around Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.

Worried by rising prices, some private economists, including ratings agency Fitch, have cut growth forecasts to 8.7% for the current fiscal year, down from nearly 10% earlier.











Koeman coached Barcelona in 67 matches in his 15 months in charge, with 39 wins, 16 losses and 12 draws

Barca last season finished third in the Spanish league and were eliminated by PSG in the quarterfinals of the Champions

league



EXPRESSIONS SAY IT ALL: Man City players, including Phil Foden (L), look dejected after losing the penalty shootout

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manchester, Oct 28: Manchester City's four-year reign as English League Cup titleholder is over. City lost 5-3 to West Ham in a penalty shootout in the last 16 Wednesday after the game finished 0-0 after 90 minutes at the London Stadium.

Phil Foden struck City's first penalty wide and it proved costly as West Ham converted all of their spot kicks, with Said Benrahma scoring the decisive fifth.

That condemned City to their first elimination in the League Cup since losing to Manchester United at the same stage five years ago. Pep Guardiola's deep squad had won the competition every season since the 2017-18 campaign, with six of the last eight editions going to City.

It marked a brilliant Manchester double for West Ham, who eliminated Man United at Old Trafford in the last 32.

City might have rested a slew of key players including Ederson, Ruben Dias and Bernardo Silva, but stars like Kevin De Bruyne, Ilkay Gundogan and Raheem Sterling were in the team while Foden and Jack Grealish were among the substitutes who entered in the second half.

Now the competition is open, with Liverpool, Tottenham and Leicester joining the quarterfinal lineup Wednesday that also contains Chelsea and Arsenal.

Liverpool continued their unbeaten start to the season in all competitions by beating secondtier Preston 2-0, with Takumi Minamino and Divock Origi scoring in the second half.

Origi's goal in the 84th minute was the highlight. The Belgium striker reacted to a loose ball just outside the six-yard box by flicking it with his heel over the goalkeeper and into the net.

In another penalty shootout, Leicester beat Brighton 4-2 in an all-Premier League encounter at King Power Stadium taking place on the three-year anniversary of a helicopter crash that killed the club's chairman, Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha. There was a minute's silence before kickoff. The game finished 2-2, with

Leicester going ahead twice through Harvey Barnes and Ademola Lookman — only for Adam Webster and Enock Mwepu to score equalizers. While Leicester scored all of

their penalties in the shootout, Neal Maupay struck a spot-kick against the crossbar for Brighton before Mwepu's shot was saved by Danny Ward.

Lucas Moura scored Tottenham's goal in a 1-0 win at Burnley, and Ivan Toney scored one goal and set up another for Brentford in a 2-1 win at second-tier Stoke.

Lopez late goal

helps Sassuolo

shock Juventus

Madrid, Oct 28: After another poor performance and yet another loss, Ronald Koeman couldn't hang on any longer as Barcelona coach.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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It took less than three months after Lionel Messi's departure for Koeman to finally succumb as the pressure kept increasing and the Catalan club's struggles continued.

Barcelona announced Koeman's firing shortly after the team's 0-1 loss at Rayo Vallecano in the Spanish league Wednesday. The loss followed a 1-2 loss to Real Madrid in the "Clasico" at the Camp Nou Sunday.

Koeman had said in a post-match interview Wednesday he didn't know if his future with the club was at risk. He soon found out. Club president Joan Laporta informed the Dutch coach of his decision after the loss.

Koeman has been under constant pressure after a poor start to the team's first season without Messi in nearly two decades. The Argentina star joined PSG in August.

Barcelona said Koeman "will say goodbye to the squad Thursday." Koeman leaves with the club in ninth place in the Spanish league standings with 15 points from 10 matches. Among the team's five losses this season were 0-3 results in the Champions League against Bayern Munich at home and at Benfica. The loss to Rayo marked the team's fifth away match without a win, something that hadn't happened to the club in nearly two decades.

Barcelona won five matches and drew three this season under the Dutch coach who took over shortly after the team's embarrassing 2-8 loss to Bayern in the Champions League last year. His only title with the Catalan club was last season's Copa del Rey. Koeman had been publicly at odds with Laporta, though the club had recently expressed its support for the coach, including after he was harassed by a small group of fans outside the stadium after the home loss to Madrid last weekend.

Koeman had also upset some of his players after saying Barcelona would not realistically contend for much this season as it continued to deal with serious financial difficulties.

The club also lost Antoine Griezmann to Atletico Madrid and was relying mostly on youngsters who have been hastily promoted from their youth squads. The coach reportedly agreed to let go of striker Luis Suarez after he arrived in a bid to help the team financially. Suarez went on to help Atletico win the league title last season

## Bayern get taste of own medicine

**GLADBACH HAND THE BAVARIANS THEIR** HEAVIEST GERMAN CUP DEFEAT



MAN OF THE NIGHT: Breel Embolo, who scored twice and set up one for Gladbach, is challenged by Bayern's Josip Stanisic while going for a goal

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Berlin, Oct 28: Bayern Munich usually deal out the thrashings in Germany not the other way around.

ning the league, cup and Champions League treble the following year and every league title since.

Gladbach raced into an early three-goal lead with Kouadio Kone

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milan, Oct 28: Massimilano Allegri's 200th match in charge of Juventus ended in defeat as Sassuolo scored late to snatch a 2-

1 victory in Turin in Serie A. Maxime Lopez struck in the fifth minute of stoppage time to hand Sassuolo their first-ever victory at Juventus. American Weston McKennie had canceled out Davide Frattesi's first-half opener.

Juventus are 13 points behind Serie A leaders AC Milan after 10 matches. Third-placed Inter Milan closed the gap to their city rival to seven points with a 2-0 win at 10-man Empoli. Sassuolo moved up to ninth, just a point behind Juventus.

After a rocky start to Allegri's second spell in charge, Juventus had appeared to be back on track. But it was Sassuolo who took the lead a minute from halftime when Frattesi fired Gregoire

### **XAVI FRONTRUNNER** Barcelona: With their coffers depleted and a critical Champions League match right around the corner, Barcelona was looking for a new coach Thursday after Ronald Koeman suffered one too many painful losses. Former midfielder Xavi Hernandez,

who for years has been linked to a return to the club he helped lift to their greatest heights as a player, appears to be the leading candidate. First, howev-

> old Xavi would have to free himself from his job coaching Qatari club Al Sadd. An imme diate and possibly short-term

## Tough draw for India women

team," India's head coach Thomas Dennerby said after the draw. "I don't consider any particular atch as a key one. All three matches are key matches for us in the group stage. We need to do our job over 90 minutes every time we enter the field," the coach maintained. The Indian team is currently camping in Jamshedpur with logistical and infrastructural aid from the government of Jharkhand since September.

BERWAL, MOR IN PRE-QUARTERS AT **BOXING WORLDS** PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

er, the 41-year solution could be for Barcelona to promote eithe reserve team coach Sergi Barjuan or Albert

Capellas, director of their youth teams, to lead the squad for Saturday's Spanish league match against Alaves

The Bavarian powerhouse got a taste of their own medicine on Wednesday when Borussia Monchengladbach knocked Bayern out of the German Cup with a fully deserved 5-0 victory.

It was Bayern's biggest-ever defeat in the competition and their heaviest loss in 43 years, since a 1-7 Bundesliga defeat at Fortuna Dusseldorf December 9, 1978.

Bayern conceded five goals in the German Cup for the first time since the 2012 final, when Borussia Dortmund wrapped up a domestic league and cup double with a 5-2 win. Bayern responded by win-

opening the scoring in the second minute, Ramy Bensebaini adding another goal in the 15th and then converting a penalty in the 21st. It could have been more with the home team also missing two good chances in between.

Breel Embolo made it 4-0 in the 51st and grabbed his second goal six minutes later with Manuel Neuer preventing worse as he saved from Dennis Zakaria.

The home fans sang "Oh, wie ist das schon! (Oh, how wonderful this is!)" and can now look forward with optimism to the draw Sunday for the third round.

Defrel's through ball into the bottom left corner.

Juventus appeared more determined after the break. After a couple of missed opportunities, the Bianconeri did get the equaliser when McKennie headed a Paulo Dybala free-kick into the top right corner.

Juventus pushed hard for the winner and all the Bianconeri players were at the other end, leaving them wide open at the back when Lopez sprinted onto a long ball and managed to evade McKennie's last-ditch tackle and win the match with a chipped effort over Perin.

Teams allowed to retain 4 players

New franchises to get 3 picks each ahead of 2022 IPL auction

tough draw at the 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup as they were clubbed alongside eight-time champions China, two-time winners Chinese Taipei and Iran.

ursdav handed a

Kuala Lumpur, Oct 28: Hosts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India, ranked 57th in the FIFA charts, are the third-highest ranked side in the group behind China (17th) and Chinese Taipei (40th) and ahead of Iran (72nd). The draw was held at the Asian Football Confederations (AFC) headquarters in the Malaysian capital.

India are scheduled to host the tournament from January 20 to February 6 at venues in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, and Pune.





"It is an exciting group. We respect all our opponents as all of them are strong teams who have qualified for the AFC Asian Cup India 2022. But we are ready to play any

The team had also gone on an exposure tour to UAE, Bahrain and Sweden, where they played against international teams like UAE, Tunisia, Bahrain and Chinese Taipei. India will face Iran in the opening match of the tournament Belgrade, Oct 28: Indian boxers Narender Berwal (+92kg) and Rohit Mor (57kg) stormed into the prequarterfinals of the AIBA Men's World Championships after outclassing and intimidating their opponents in lopsided second-round contests here Thursday.

While Berwal stopped Sierra Leone's Mohamed Kendeh, Mor proved too good for Bosnia and Herzegovina's Alen Rahimic, winning 5-0.

Berwal thoroughly dominated his imposing rival. Kendeh's sluggish footwork, inability to either defend himself or launch any attack of note eventually forced the referee to hand him a standing eight count a minute and a half into the third round. The bout was then stopped in Berwal's favour. He will face Tajikistan's Rakhimov Khusravkhon.

Next up in the ring for India was Mor and he was equally relentless against Rahimic, who struggled to keep his head up. The bout went the full distance but Mor quite literally had his rival scurrying for cover for the entire three rounds.

However, late last night, another debutant Varinder Singh (60kg) was forced to give a walkover to Karen Tonakanyan of Armenia as he was in no position to fight due to high fever.

India protested against the RSC loss of Lakshya Chahar (86kg) on Wednesday but it was rejected by the jury. Chahar lost to Korea's Kim Hyeongkyu, after the bout had to be stopped in the second round when a forehead cut sustained by the Indian opened up.

The injury was caused by a head butt from Hyeongkyu in the first round. Chahar won the opening round 4-1 and was the dominant one in the second round as well but the judges ruled in favour of the Korean after the bout was stopped.

India appealed against the verdict, asserting that the referee should have attributed the end of the bout to the Korean's head butt instead of the cut reopening despite medical attention.

### Lakshya sails into quarters, Verma retires

#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, Oct 28: India's Lakshya Sen advanced to the men's singles quarterfinals with a straight game win-21-17, 21-13-over Singapore's Loh Kean Yew but Sameer Verma retired midway due to an injury at the French Open Super 750 tournament here Thursday.

Lakshya will clash with either Korea's Heo Kwanghee or Chinese Taipei's Wang Tzu Wei next.

Sameer won the first game 21-16 but couldn't complete his match against Indonesia's Shesar Hiren Rhustavito, retiring after losing the second game 12-21 due to an injury.

The Indian had also retired at the Denmark Open quarterfinals last week after suffering a calf muscle injury

Mixed doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa put up a gallant fight before losing 21-15, 17-21, 19-21 to second seeded Indonesian pairing of Praveen Jordan and Melati Daeva Oktavianti



### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 28: The Indian Premier League 2022 will see the eight existing franchises being allowed to retain a maximum of four players. Whereas, the two new teams - Lucknow and Ahmedabad -will be able to acquire three players from the rest of the player pool

ahead of the auction, a report said. However, the official date for the IPL 2022 auction is yet to be announced by the Indian cricket board (BCCI). According to

'ESPNcricinfo', these rules were clarified by the IPL in informal discussions this week with the franchises.

"The purse for the IPL 2022 auction is likely to be Rs 90 crore (USD 12 million approx), it was Rs 85 crore in the 2021 auction. In the 2018 mega auction, the teams had then allowed to buy back five play-

Rs 80 crore, of which they could spend a maximum of Rs 33 crore on retained players, the teams were

ers through a combination of retention and two right-to-match

HARDIK PANDYA IS LIKELY TO BE SENT BACK INTO THE IPL AUCTION POOL BY MUMBAI INDIANS AS THEY ARE LIKELY TO **RETAIN FOUR AMONG ROHIT** SHARMA, JASPRIT BUMRAH, KIERON POLLARD, SURYAKUMAR YADAV AND ISHAN KISHAN

**DAVID WARNER WILL PUT** HIMSELF BACK INTO THE IPL **AUCTION POOL AS HE DOESN'T** EXPECT SUNRISERS HYDERABAD **TO RETAIN HIM** 

#### (RTM) cards.

"There will be no RTM cards next year. The franchises will be able to apply two different combinations while picking the four players they want to retain: three Indians and one overseas, or two Indians and two overseas," the report further read.

Retention will ultimately be the player's choice, as he can decide to go back into the auction pool or a change in franchise, even if his current team wants to retain him. The deadline for retaining players is likely to be the end of November, it added.

### Warner back in form as Australia crush SL

January 20.

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Oct 28: Vintage David Warner (65, 42b, 10x4) answered his critics with a sizzling knock as Australia cruised to 7-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in a Super 12 game of the ICC T20 World Cup here Thursday.

Warner, who has gone through a lean patch, was back in his element to make it easy for Australia to chase down the target of 155 in only 17 overs. It was Australia's second win in as many Super 12 games and they look like a strong contender apart from England in the group to move into the semifinals.

Warner was involved in two solid partnerships-70 in 6.5 overs with skipper Finch (37, 23b, 5x4, 3x6) and another 50 in 6.3 overs with Steve Smith (28 n o).

But a lot of credit should also go to Mitchell Starc, who bowled the 'ball of the tournament' as Australia engineered a mid-innings collapse which went a long way in restricting the islanders to 154/6.

Starc (2/27) bowled a brilliant comeback delivery in the form of



a vicious inswinging yorker after being hit for a six which saw the end of Kusal Perera (35) as Sri Lanka lost four quick wickets for 16 runs to slump to 94/5 from a relatively strong 78/1 in little under three overs

Bhanuka Rakaspakse (33 n o) helped Sri Lanka somewhat back on track. However, Perera and Charith Asalanka (35) added 63 runs in little over seven overs to set up the platform. Adam Zampa (2/12) bowled beautifully.

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