



CRAZY FANGIRL

Actor Sharvari Wagh hopes that her dream of sharing screen space with Ranveer Singh will come true someday

LEISURE P2



'SLAVE ROOM' UNEARTHED

Pompeii archaeologists unearth remains of a 'slave room' at a Roman villa destroyed by Mount Vesuvius' eruption

INTERNATIONAL P10



WARNER LIFTS AUSTRALIA

A vintage David Warner show helps Australia overpower West Indies by eight wickets in ICC T20 World Cup

SPORTS P12



Oil tanker blast kills 98 in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN: An oil tanker exploded near Sierra Leone's capital, killing at least 98 people and severely injuring dozens of others after large crowds gathered to collect leaking fuel, officials and witnesses said Saturday. The explosion took place late Friday after a bus struck the tanker in Wellington, a suburb just to the east of Freetown. The mortuary at Connaught Hospital reported 98 bodies had been brought in by Saturday morning. About 30 severely burned victims were not expected to survive, according to Foday Musa, a staff member in the intensive care unit. Hundreds of people milled outside the main gates of the mortuary and near the hospital's main entrance, waiting for word of their loved ones.

MORE P10



Tripura cops book 102 under UAPA

AGARTALA: Tripura police Saturday booked 102 social media account holders under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), criminal conspiracy and forgery charges and served notices to the authorities of Twitter, Facebook and YouTube to freeze their accounts and inform all particulars of those persons to the police, a senior police official said. This comes on the heels of Tripura Police registering a case against four Supreme Court lawyers under the stringent act and various sections of the IPC for allegedly promoting communal disharmony with their social media posts on the recent violence targeting Muslims, a senior official said Friday.

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IRREGULAR by MANJUL



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8 dead in music concert stampede



Travis Scott performs during 2021 Astroworld Festival at NRG Park in Houston, Texas

Houston, Nov 6: At least eight people have died and scores of others injured in what authorities described as a 'mass casualty' incident on the opening night of a popular music festival here in Texas attended by some 50,000 fans of American rapper Travis Scott. The sold-out concert by Scott at the Astroworld Festival in Houston had to be cancelled immediately after people started falling after the massive crowd began "to compress toward the front of the stage" around 9:00-9:15 pm (local time) Friday, CNN reported. Multiple fans were trampled as hundreds rushed the event's perimeter. Once inside, some people began climbing onto portable toilets as security personnel worked to try and contain the crowd, ABC 13 news website reported. "We had scores of individuals that were injured," Houston Fire Chief Sam Pena said during a news conference early Saturday morning. More than 300 people were treated at the field hospital set up near the festival, Pena said, adding that the concert drew about 50,000 attendees. So far, eight people have died and hundreds of others have been injured.

11 Covid patients perish in ICU blaze



NOT THE FIRST TIME

- 13 Covid patients died as fire engulfed ICU of Vijay Vallabh Hospital in Virar, Maharashtra, April 23
- 10 Covid patients died in a fire in Dreams Mall, a designated Covid hospital, in Bhandup, Mumbai, March 26
- 24 Covid patients on life support died at the civic hospital in Nashik April 21 after a leak in the medical oxygen tank
- At least 16 Covid patients and two nurses were killed in a fire that engulfed the ICU of a hospital in Bharuch, Gujarat May 1
- 12 Covid patients, including a doctor, died without oxygen at Batra Hospital in south Delhi May 1
- 14 Covid patients died at the Government General Hospital at Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh, May 1 due to a snag in the oxygen supply pipeline

Parties for 7-day liquor ban ahead of panchayat elections

State Election Commission holds all-party meeting to discuss modalities for the smooth conduct of three-tier elections

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Ahead of the three-tier panchayat elections, the State Election Commission (SEC) Saturday held a meeting with the representatives of various political parties of the state. During the meeting, the political parties have suggested to the Commission to bring in a ban on liquor sale for a period of seven days ahead of the election for its smooth conduct. State Election Commissioner Aditya Prasad Padhi, who chaired the all-party meeting, said many parties have suggested banning liquor sale for seven days ahead of the elections. Voters who attained the age of 18 years on or before November 1, 2021, will be eligible



SEC Aditya Prasad Padhi chairs the all-party meet in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

to exercise their franchise during the panchayat elections, he said. The final voters' list will be prepared before the ensuing elections without any mistakes, Padhi said. The Electors Photo Identification Card ID number of the voters will be added along with their names to the list, said Padhi. A discussion on the extension of polling time was held during the meeting. Usually the voting time was from 7 am to 12 pm. As this time, there will be a central counting at the block-level instead of booth-level counting on the same day, parties have proposed to extend the timing, he said. A discussion on enhancing the limit on election expenditure by candidates was also held, the Commissioner said. Many parties have proposed to increase the election expenditure limit of Sarpanch and Samiti member candidates from ₹80,000 to ₹2 lakh. It has been proposed to increase the amount from ₹2 lakh to ₹5 lakh for Zilla Parishad candidates, said Padhi.

BUS FARE REDUCED

Reduction in excise duty on fuel by Centre and VAT cut by state government lead to lower fare for all categories of passenger buses

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: With the reduction of excise duty and VAT on diesel by Centre and Odisha, the state government has reduced the fare of all categories of passenger buses. According to an order issued by the State Transport Authority (STA), the fare of ordinary and express buses has been reduced by 5 paise per km whereas it has been decreased by 10 paise per km for deluxe and AC deluxe buses. Similarly, the fare of super premium buses was slashed down by 15 paise per km. The bus fare in Odisha was last revised October 16 following a spike in the diesel price. "Due to decrease in diesel price from ₹102.34 per litre October 16, 2021 to ₹91.61 per litre Saturday, the fare for stage carriages other than town buses plying within the state shall be fixed at decreased rate. It will be effective from the date of issue of order," said the STA. While the fare for ordinary buses has been reduced from 92 paise to 87 paise per km, express bus fare has been slashed down from 96 paise to 91 paise per km. Similarly, the fare of deluxe buses has been reduced to ₹1.25 from ₹1.35 per km and AC deluxe buses from ₹1.73 to ₹1.53 per km. Moreover, the travellers in super deluxe buses will now have to pay ₹2.38 per km instead of ₹2.53 per km. Recently, the Union government had cut the excise duty on diesel by ₹10 per litre while the Odisha government has reduced VAT on the fuel by 4 per cent (approximately ₹3 per litre). In view of this reduction, the loss of VAT revenue to the state exchequer will approximately be ₹1,400 crore per annum. This is in addition to loss in VAT collection of ₹1.60 per litre on petrol and ₹2.80 on diesel which the state is likely to incur in view of the reduction of excise duty implemented by the Centre. This loss will approximately be to the tune of ₹700 crore per annum. Hence the total loss to the state exchequer will be more than ₹2,000 crore.

Another woman involved in DRDO espionage case

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Crime Branch of Odisha police, which is investigating the DRDO espionage case, has detected the involvement of another woman and a Mumbai link in the sensitive case, a senior police officer said Saturday. Earlier, the Crime Branch had found the involvement of a female operative, suspected to be from Pakistan, in the espionage case at DRDO's Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Balasore district. Another female operative was in touch with one of the five arrested employees of the Chandipur ITR and money transaction has also been detected, said Additional Director General (ADG), Crime Branch, Sanjeeb Panda. Panda said the woman had come in contact with one of the accused identifying herself as a native of this area and presently working in

Ice on edge of survival: Warming is changing the Arctic

Between 1971 and 2019, the surface of the Arctic warmed three times faster than the rest of the world

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greenland, Nov 6: While conducting research in Greenland, ice scientist Twila Moon was struck this summer by what climate change has doomed Earth to lose and what could still be saved. The Arctic is warming three times faster than the rest of the planet and is on such a knife's edge of survival that the UN climate negotiations underway in Scotland this week could make the difference between ice and water at the top of the world in the same way that a couple of tenths of a degree matter around the freezing mark, scientists say. Arctic ice sheets and glaciers are shrinking, with some glaciers already gone. Permafrost, the icy



soil that traps the potent greenhouse gas methane, is thawing. Wildfires have broken out in the Arctic. Siberia even hit 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius). Even a region called the Last Ice Area showed unexpected melting this year. In the next couple of decades, the Arctic is likely to see summers with no sea ice. As she returns regularly to Greenland, Moon, a researcher with the US National Snow and Ice Data Center, said she finds herself "mourning and grieving for the things we have lost already" because of past carbon dioxide emissions that trap heat. But the decisions we make now

about how much more carbon pollution Earth emits will mean "an incredibly large difference between how much ice we keep and how much we lose and how quickly," she said. The fate of the Arctic looms large during the climate talks in Glasgow — the farthest north the negotiations have taken place — because what happens in the Arctic doesn't stay in the Arctic. Scientists believe the warming there is already contributing to weather calamities elsewhere around the world. "If we end up in a seasonally sea ice-free Arctic in the summer-time, that's something human civilization has never known," said former NASA chief scientist Waleed Abdalati, who runs the University of Colorado's environment programme. "That's like taking a sledgehammer to the climate system." What's happening in the Arctic is a runaway effect. "Once you start melting, that kind of enhances more melt," said University of

leisure



KRISTEN WANTS TO PLAY JAMES BOND VILLAIN

Actress Kristen Stewart has revealed that she would love to star in a 007 movie. "I would do a Bond movie, oh yeah! (I would play) the Bond girl who is the bad girl... who is the villain! I could play both parts," she told the *Daily Mail*.

MADONNA MAKES SURPRISE APPEARANCE AT AMFAR GALA

Queen of Pop Madonna made a surprise appearance at the star-studded *amFAR Gala*, Los Angeles, to present her longtime friend and collaborator Jeremy Scott with the Award of Courage in recognition of his work with the organisation and his commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You are a touchy one. People will rub you the wrong way today. But remember that getting needlessly annoyed will bring nothing but more complications. Contemplate in seclusion about the root cause of the problem. Ganesh's hint? It is closer than you imagine.

TAURUS
Today, says Ganesh, you will be likely to encounter someone who is bent upon provoking and getting on your nerves. You are urged not to retaliate and do things unbecoming of your good nature. Keep calm and unruffled. Respond and behave in a manner befitting your better nature. Do not allow the other to spoil your composure, your graciousness. Your goodness, decency will, ultimately, prevail.

GEMINI
Bosses will assign new responsibilities to you, predicts Ganesh. Your daytime distress, however, will transform into jubilation by the end of the day's work, as you will be able to produce brilliant results. Ganesh advises you to delay bidding for tenders by a few days.

CANCER
You may be in one of your more frivolous moods today, foresees Ganesh. Gossip, fun, laughter and some harmless flirting shall make your day interesting, yet these are not the pastimes you usually enjoy. Hence, as the day rolls on, you shall find yourself to your reserved, reticent self concentrating hard on getting the work done to make way for the early evening gym/ driving class. Good going, after all finding balance is just the right thing to do.

LEO
You will be busy on the work front today. It is a good day for those who are self-employed. Housewives will remain extremely busy with household matters. You will be able to work according to your desire though, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Close members of your family and friends will take up most of your time today. Students will have to pay more attention to studies as exams are upcoming, and they will have to learn to balance study and free time. Ganesh says today is a good time to buy property. All in all, it is a day when you can afford to relax and let your mind pursue its interests.

LIBRA
Ever heard of the phrase, "To stick one's foot in one's mouth"? Well, today you might be doing exactly the same, albeit unwittingly. You are likely to invite trouble, especially if some of those heated discussions get out of hand. A legal dispute does not seem unlikely. One can always get an out-of-court settlement, but why go through all that? Just remember to be cautious today in all that you do or say, hints Ganesh.

SCORPIO
Your rung in the social ladder just went higher today. But be wary of green-eyed monsters and ill words. Fight tooth and nail - if necessary - to protect our reputation, says Ganesh. But also learn to find your enemies' Achilles' heel and target it ferociously.

SAGITTARIUS
You are like a new hope for your company and you are assigned with many challenging projects, today. And your hard work and efforts are appreciated when you handle the projects successfully. If you are fortunate enough, you may also gain incentives very soon, predicts Ganesh.

CAPRICORN
During the wisest with your extraordinary power of convincing may have been your forte, but you may have to prove yourself all over again, for Ganesh says you will be tested today. This apart, you are likely to find answers to questions lingering in your subconscious mind for long. The outburst of creativity in the second half of the day will draw the attention of your peers, and this will also be the best time to seek their support, advises Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
For a moment, it seems that you're swamped with problems. But you are brave enough to deal with any ugly issue that crops up suddenly. Ganesh hints at a romantic evening, which may just be time together in a jacuzzi, or simply preparing a meal together. Pure ecstasy!

PISCES
All the dieting that you have been undergoing will finally begin to show results, with compliments galore coming your way from your friends. Your energy and enthusiasm levels are likely to be high. A bright and beautiful day waits, says Ganesh.



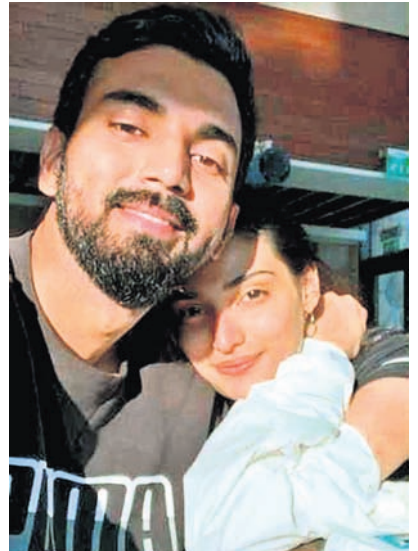
Sharvari shares her surreal moment

MUMBAI: Debutante Sharvari, who was an assistant director on the sets of *Bajirao Mastani*, was thrilled to be on the quiz show that actor Ranveer Singh is currently hosting. She says Ranveer inspired him and that she always wished for the day she would do a film with the livewire star. Sharvari said:

"Promoting my debut film *Bunty Aur Babli 2* on *The Big Picture* was a surreal moment not only because it was one of my first Television integrations but also the fact that I was on the same screen as Ranveer Singh. "In 2015, I was an AD on one of Ranveer's most iconic films *Bajirao Mastani*. I was a clap AD on the action unit and got to witness his mind boggling

performance so closely. "He absolutely inspired me and everyday was a learning being able to watch him in his element. I always wished for the day I would do a film with Ranveer Singh." Sharvari, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming comedy heist film *Bunty Aur Babli 2*, hopes that her dream of sharing screen space with Ranveer will come true someday. IANS

RAHUL-ATHIYA goes official with their relationship



MUMBAI: After Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor, it is the turn of actress Athiya Shetty, daughter of action star Sunil Shetty and Indian cricketer KL Rahul to make their relationship official now. On Athiya's 29th birthday, Rahul made it Instagram official with a loved-up post. Rahul shared two pictures posing with Athiya. In the image, the two are seen making a goofy face while in the second photo they are smiling at the camera. "Happy birthday my (love emoji) @athiyashetty," Rahul captioned the pictures, which currently has 1.9 million likes. Athiya and Rahul have often been spotted together. However, they have always remained tight-lipped about their relationship. On the other hand, Alia and Ranbir made their relationship official Friday. IANS

Brazilian singer Marilia killed in plane crash

Marilia Mendonca, one of Brazil's most popular contemporary singers and a Grammy winner, died in a plane crash at the age of 26, said officials. Her uncle, her producer and two crew members, also died in the crash in a rural area in south-eastern Minas Gerais state, reports the *BBC*.

An investigation has been launched to determine the cause of the crash. A Latin Grammy winner in 2019, Mendonca became famous for focusing on women's experiences with failed relationships.

One of the biggest names of Brazilian country music known as *sertanejo*, Mendonca started her career as a teenager, and became a national star in 2016 with a hit about infidelity.

In 2020, she was the most listened to artiste in Brazil on Spotify.

After her death was confirmed, Brazilian footballer Neymar said on Twitter: "I refuse



to believe, I refuse." Singer Anitta said: "I can't believe it. I want to believe that there is still hope." IANS

PUNEETH'S EYE DONATION TRIGGERS A MOVEMENT

Following the actor's gesture, families of 16 deceased people have donated eyes of their dear ones while 1,500 pledged eyes in last four to five days, which is a record by itself, said Dr Bhujanga Shetty, founder of Narayana Nethralaya

BANGALORE: Kannada super star Puneeth Rajkumar's noble gesture to donate his eyes has created a sort of movement of eye donation in Karnataka.

The eye donation which was badly hit by the Covid pandemic has gained momentum once again after the untimely demise of Puneeth, which was widely discussed in media and the good word has spread from mouth to mouth dispelling all hesitation regarding eye donation.

Dr Bhujanga Shetty, founder of Narayana Nethralaya, who collected the eyes of Puneeth and successfully transplanted them, informed that the gesture of the actor has created a lot of awareness among people about eye donation. "As many as 1,500 people have



come forward and pledged their eyes in four to five days. Families of 16 deceased people have actually donated eyes of their dear ones,

which is a record by itself," he said.

Dr Sujatha, Director of Minto Eye hospital said, the trend of eye do-

Puneeth's father, legend of Kannada cinema Dr Rajkumar after pledging his eyes, reminded family members and doctors to see to it that they are collected at the right time before going waste after his death

nation is steadily increasing all across the state. There is a rise of 20 to 30 per cent as far as eye donation is concerned after Puneeth and Sanchari Vijay donated their eyes, she said.

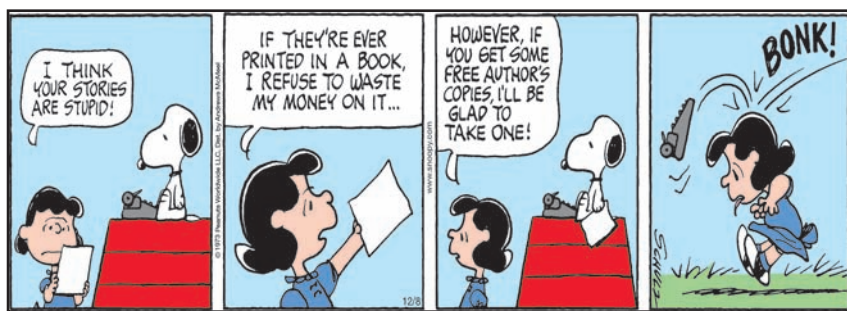
People started donating their

eyes after the death of National award winning Kannada actor Sanchari Vijay. The news of Vijay pledging his eyes for donation and helping the blind to see the world had moved the people to take a decision in this regard. The message of importance of eye donation has reached every household of Karnataka after the death of actor Puneeth, who had massive fan following in the state.

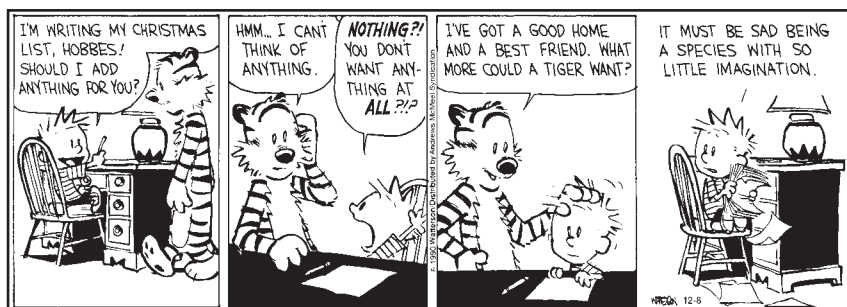
The family of Puneeth had promptly informed the doctors to collect his eyes amid the grief.

Puneeth's father, legend of Kannada cinema Dr Rajkumar after pledging his eyes, reminded family persons and doctors to see to it that they are collected at the right time before going waste after his death. IANS

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

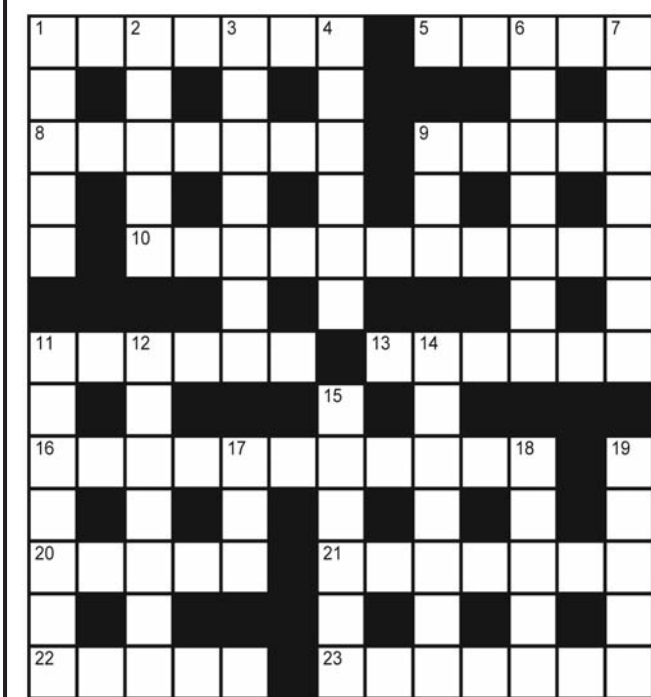


BREVITY



FUN post

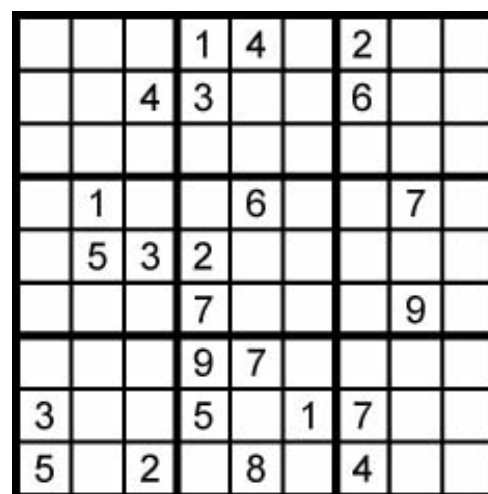
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 After social or rock
 - 5 Gymnastics apparatus
 - 8 Dogs
 - 9 Hopping mad
 - 10 Artist's medium (5-6)
 - 11 Songbird
 - 13 Harden
 - 16 It's allowed
 - 20 Flu symptoms
- Down**
- 21 Netherlands city
 - 22 Parachute material
 - 23 Pants, to some
 - 1 Coffee shops (2-3)
 - 3 Rocket type
 - 4 Vacation destination
 - 6 Pasta dish
 - 7 Long in the tooth
 - 9 Sign before Virgo
 - 11 Ship's officer
 - 12 Small Arctic swimmer
 - 14 Lena River locale
 - 15 Gave out
 - 17 Psyches
 - 18 Host
 - 19 Ballet skirts

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CROSSWORD

SUDOKU



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

NAS kicks off Nov 12 to assess school edu

ABOUT 1.24 LAKH SCHOOLS AND 39 LAKH STUDENTS IN 733 DISTRICTS ACROSS THE STATES AND UTs WILL BE COVERED BY THE NAS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: As many as 5,563 schools from Odisha will be participating in the National Achievement Survey (NAS), a large-scale survey to be rolled out November 12 to assess the effectiveness of school education.

NAS 2021 is being conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in collaboration with the respective state education departments, who have nominated state nodal officers, district nodal officers and field investigators for smooth conduct of the same.

State School and Mass Education (S&ME) department Secretary Satyabrata Sahu said that NAS is an important national level survey and its results will be used in the policy making for educational development at national and state levels. S&ME department will take all possible steps to ensure that this is done properly.

The department has made the Directorate of Teacher Education and State Council of Educational



NAS 2021 is being conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education in collaboration with the respective state education departments

Research & Training (TE&SCERT) as nodal agency of the survey in Odisha and each district's additional education officer has been

made the district nodal officer.

To oversee NAS 2021 in an impartial manner in all schools, around 8,937 independent observers are being trained. They are from District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) and Elementary Teacher Education Institution (ETEI).

NAS 2021 will cover the entire spectrum of schools - Central and state government-run schools, government aided schools, private un-aided recognised schools and Central government schools.

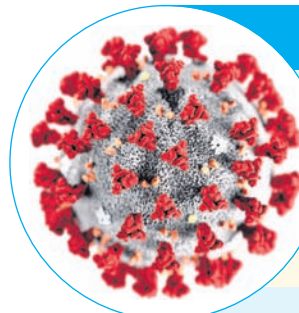
This national level survey will be conducted by CBSE as Assessment Administrator for Grade III, V, VIII and X students of state government schools, government aided schools, private un-aided recognised schools and Central government schools.

Approximately 1.24 lakh schools and 39 lakh students in 733 districts across 36 states and Union territories will be covered under the survey. NAS 2021 will assess the grade specific competencies achieved by students of grades III, V, VIII and X in the sampled schools.



MATTER OF FAITH

Women from Bihar apply vermilion on each other's forehead during Giri Gobardhan Puja in Mehendipeer area of Cuttack, Saturday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	25,00,70,059	22,63,56,778	50,57,576
India	3,43,44,683	3,37,37,468	4,60,265
Odisha	10,43,151	10,31,850	8,354

SKILLED HANDS



Women making handicraft items during an exhibition by Utkalika at Ekakra Haat in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

MAMITA MURDER

Cong calls 6-hr bandh Nov 12

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) Saturday called Odisha bandh November 12 demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for shielding the Minister of State (MoS) for Home Diba Shankar Mishra, who is allegedly involved in the murder of school teacher Mamita Meher.



OPCC working president Chiranjeevi Biswal said the bandh would be observed for six hours from 6am to 12pm. Biswal appealed to the people to make it a success.

Meanwhile, the Odisha Pradesh Youth Congress under the leadership of its president Smruti Ranjan Lenka Saturday started its day-night demonstration in front of the Raj Bhawan here demanding ouster and arrest of Mishra and an impartial inquiry into the murder.

Lenka said they would intensify and continue their agitation till action is taken against Mishra and all others involved in the murder case are arrested.

The Youth Congress would submit a memorandum to the Governor November 8 seeking action against the minister and a fair probe into the incident.

He said if no action was taken, the Youth Congress would hold demonstration in front of the office of the Resident Commissioner at Delhi November 10 and at Jantarmantar the next day.

The party would also submit a memorandum to the President November 11 in support of their demand, he added.

Independent agency to check impact of OMBADC projects

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: In order to assess the impact of various infrastructure and social development projects sanctioned under OMBADC fund, the state government has decided to conduct a ground level study through an independent agency.

This was informed by Development Commissioner PK Jena during a meeting of the Oversight Authority of Odisha Mineral Bearing Areas Development Corporation (OMBADC) held under the chairmanship of retired Supreme Court Judge AK Patnaik.

Jena said that the sanctioned projects of OMBADC brought new hopes and confidence among the people in mining areas.

Presenting the updates at the meeting, CEO of the Corporation, Uma Nanduri said the OMBADC has so far received ₹19,537 crore, including the interest accrued from the compensation money. On the other hand, projects worth ₹14,990 crore were sanctioned for the mineral bearing districts.

Projects worth ₹722.21 crore were sanctioned for supply of piped drinking water, ₹2,896.40 crore for quality education in primary and secondary schools, ₹2,943.53 crore for improving the health and nutrition service delivery at Anganwadi centers, ₹460.45 crore for enhancing livelihood options, ₹742.55 crore for connectivity, ₹24.75 crore for pollution control and ₹701.14 crore for water conservation and ground water recharge, she said.

According to sources, 95 per cent of drinking water projects, 73 per cent of solar power projects for schools, 66 per cent of infrastructure development projects in residential schools, 50 per cent of the upgradation of health infrastructure projects and 51 per cent of the rural connectivity projects were completed. The work for all other projects has been expedited to meet



A meeting of the Oversight Authority of OMBADC in progress

OP PHOTO

- 95% of drinking water projects, 73% of solar power projects for schools, 66% of infrastructure development projects in residential schools, 50% of the upgradation of health infrastructure projects and 51% of the rural connectivity projects were completed
- Six ambulances, nine life support ambulances and nine bike ambulances have been deployed in the mining affected areas

the tracks, sources said. Justice Patnaik expressed his satisfaction over the quality and progress of the projects under the OMBADC. He also expressed hope that the good initiatives taken under the umbrella of OMBADC would definitely make a difference in the quality of life of the people inhabiting the mining areas.

He directed the field-level officers to ensure that the projects must cater to the needs of the people. Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra said as many as 16 departments and seven districts implementing different projects under the OMBADC have been brought under a software-based MIS system for updating the field-level information on a real time basis.

An internal assessment system was put in place for fostering better performance among the departments and the districts, he said.

On this occasion, Sundargarh district was conferred with the Best Performing District award and Rural Development department was awarded the Best Performing Department under OMBADC.

Several documentaries on OMBADC, annual report of the corporation and monthly newsletter Srusti were unveiled during the meeting.

BJP to boycott meetings of CM

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The state unit of BJP Saturday announced to boycott all meetings of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in the state for his failure to give justice to Mamita Meher, a school teacher, brutally murdered by school president Gobinda Sahu.

BJP state general secretary Prithviraj Harichandan told newsmen here that the social boycott of the Chief Minister would start from Kalahandi during his proposed visit to the district November 8.

The boycott of the Chief Minister would continue till Minister of State (MoS) for Home Diba Shankar Mishra is dismissed from the post for his alleged role in the murder and a CBI inquiry is ordered into the incident. Harichandan said sen-

ior BJP leaders like Basanta Panda, KV Singh Deo and Suresh Pujari will lead the social boycott throughout Kalahandi district November 8.

He alleged that the government is trying to suppress the case somehow and appealed to all the people to boycott the Chief Minister, his meetings and programme for his insensitive attitude to the issue.

The BJP leader said the Chief Minister and his government think that the ongoing agitation demanding the dismissal of Mishra and a CBI inquiry into the case will die down after sometime but they are wrong, he remarked.

The BJP, he said, will intensify its agitation in the coming days in support of its demand.

On November 8 the effigies of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik,

Diba Shankar Mishra and other ministers involved in crimes like murder will be burnt in 314 places across the state simultaneously.

He alleged that the women were not safe during the BJD rule in the state as over 1 lakh women were tortured during the 21 year rule of Naveen Patnaik.

The BJP leader said many ministers were involved in the crime, but the Chief Minister instead of taking action, is shielding them.

The BJP and the Congress have been agitating across the state demanding the dismissal and arrest of the minister and CBI or SIT probe into the murder.

The BJP Saturday observed bandh in Gajapati and Jharsuguda district demanding the dismissal and arrest Mishra and a CBI probe into the Mamita murder case.

BIDDING ADIEU



Clay idols being immersed at an artificial pond on Kathajodi riverbank in Cuttack after the conclusion of Kali Puja, Saturday

NGT raps SEIAA for illegible documents

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Nov 6: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has criticised the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) of Odisha for submitting illegible documents along with an affidavit in connection with a sand mining case.

A bench of Judicial Member B Amit Sihalakar and Expert Member Saibal Dasgupta asked SEIAA to submit a fresh affidavit and legible copies of the documents in connection with the case within three weeks.

"We find that several documents filed with the affidavit of the SEIAA are absolutely illegible. The counsel representing the SEIAA has been directed to file a fresh affidavit along with legible copies of the required documents within

SAND MINING CASE

three weeks," the tribunal said. It is worth mentioning here that the tribunal was hearing an application filed over illegal sand mining at Subarnarekha river in Jaleswar area of Balasore district.

Earlier, the tribunal had expressed dissatisfaction with the district magistrate's response that he was unable to determine the amount of sand illegally excavated from the riverbed, the resultant revenue loss to the government and the damage caused to the environment.

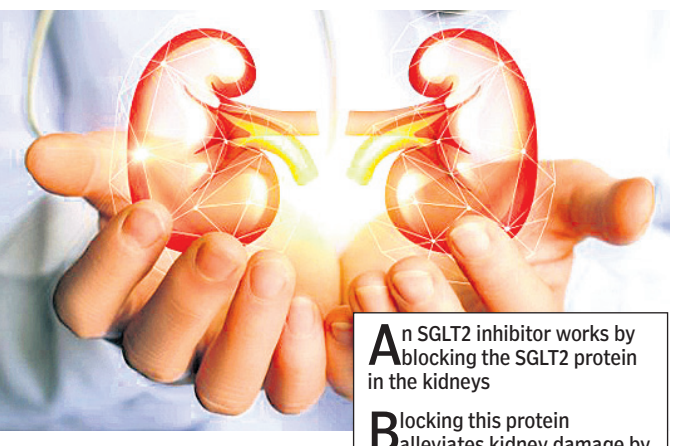
"We could not expect that the administration was unable to determine the amount of sand illegally excavated by the lessee, merely because the lease period has expired and the pillars are missing," the tribunal had said.

Diabetes drug can improve kidney function: Study

A clinical trial of 4,304 participants with CKD revealed that dapagliflozin reduces the rate of kidney function decline in patients with chronic kidney disease

A common diabetes drug can be used as an option for treating certain people with chronic kidney disease (CKD) in adults, claims a study published in the journal Lancet.

Dapagliflozin belongs to a group of medicines called "sodium glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors". An SGLT2 inhibitor works by blocking the SGLT2 protein in the kidneys. Blocking this protein alleviates kidney damage by reducing pressure and inflammation in



the kidneys. It also helps to stop protein from leaking into the urine, and reduces blood pressure and body weight.

A clinical trial of 4,304 participants with CKD revealed that dapagliflozin reduces the rate of kidney function decline in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD). The participants were divided

to standard care. Although participants without diabetes also experienced a slower rate of kidney function decline with dapagliflozin, the effect of dapagliflozin was greater in those with diabetes.

"The key conclusion is that dapagliflozin is an effective treatment to slow progressive kidney function loss in patients with CKD with and without type 2 diabetes," said lead author Hiddo Lammers Heerspink, from the University Medical Center Groningen.

"Therefore, in addition to reducing the risk of heart failure or mortality, dapagliflozin also slows the progression of kidney function decline," Heerspink added.

The findings will also be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2021 November 4-November 7. Making healthy lifestyle choices and controlling underlying conditions are important. CKD can get worse over time, but treatments

What is CKD? Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a long-term condition in which the kidneys do not work as they should. It is common, especially in older people. In the early stages, there are usually few symptoms and people can have the condition without knowing it. CKD is often caused by other conditions that affect the kidneys. These include diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and kidney infections.

can stop or delay this, and many people live for a long time with their condition well controlled. Adding dapagliflozin to current standard care has been shown to significantly reduce the risk of having declining kidney function, end-stage kidney disease, or dying from causes related to the kidneys or cardiovascular system.

Plea to rename Puri kicks up controversy

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Nov 6: The demand for renaming Puri city as Srijagannath Puri has kicked up a debate as several local organisations have vehemently opposed the proposal. Some intellectuals, religious scholars and members of a few social outfits had Friday gathered at a hotel here and pleaded for renaming the Holy city.

They claimed that the Pilgrim city has been described as Srijagannath Puri in Jayadeva's Gita Govinda and many official documents.

The meeting also decided to submit a memorandum to the Prime Minister, Odisha Governor and Chief Minister in this regard.

However, Gobardhan Peeth Shankaracharya Swami Nischalananda Saraswati has disapproved the idea.

The seer made it clear that Puri city is well-known across the globe due to its association with Lord Jagannath.

"The whole world knows that Puri is the abode of Lord Jagannath. There is no need to change the name of the city," Saraswati said.

Meanwhile, many locals and intellectuals have opined that any move to rename Puri would not solve various issues of the aged city.

The Puri District Youth Lawyers' Association Saturday organised a protest meet and alleged narrow political motive behind the plea to rename Puri.

"Puri is well-known as Jagannath Dham. There is no need to change the name. We all should focus on solving the real issues of the Holy city and its people," said association convener Anil Kumar Sahu.

Srijagannath Bhakta Parishad convener Surya Narayan Rath too opposed the plea.

"Lord Jagannath is the identity of Puri. Those who are raising voice for renaming the city have not consulted the locals on the issue. Before such a demand, they should have discussed the issue with researchers, historians, intellectuals, Gajapati King, Puri Shankaracharya and leaders of various political parties," Rath said.

Heritage expert Surendra Kumar Mishra said the Holy city has 42 names, including Niladri and Shankha Khetra, as per the religious texts.

"Every name has its own significance. There is no instance when the name of the city was changed by any ruler," he said.

448 held for narcotic trade between April & October



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Excise department arrested 448 persons involved in illegal trade of various psychotropic drugs and liquor between April and October of the current financial year.

During the previous financial year, the Excise department sleuths had arrested only 142 such criminals.

Similarly, the department registered 377 cases under Excise Acts as compared to 116 during 2020-21 financial year.

The sleuths seized 146 quintal ganja, brown sugar weighing over 8 kg and 519 litres of prohibited

cough syrup. During the same period in 2020-21, 34 quintal ganja and 607 gram brown sugar were seized by the Excise department officials.

In October, 1.5 kg brown sugar was seized by the sleuths in Balasore. Similarly, brown sugar weighing 2.1 kg whose market value would be around ₹3.60 crore was seized by the sleuths from Bidydharpur area in Basta as well.

The officials of Koraput Excise department seized 1250 kg cannabis worth over ₹60 lakh in the current financial year. The Koraput Excise sleuths also seized ganja worth ₹42 lakh from Padua police station area.



Activists of BJD youth and student wings hold a demonstration at Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar, Saturday, to protest against the alleged disrespect to Jagannath culture by BJP leader Sambit Patra

CBK Mohanty joins KIMS as Pro-VC

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences appointed renowned physician CBK Mohanty as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the institute Saturday.



Mohanty has a good reputation as a doctor in Odisha. Prior to this, he has served as the State Director of Medical Education & Training, Head of the Medicine Department and the Superintendent of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. He will also advise patients in KIMS OPD on particular dates.

Founder of KIIT, KISS & KIMS Achyuta Samanta expressed his happiness over the addition of Mohanty as the Pro-VC. Members of KIIT, KISS & KIMS family and staffers welcomed Mohanty.

No harm in reopening schools: Health dir

ODISHA CURRENTLY HAS 3,319 ACTIVE COVID-19 CASES WHILE 10,31,425 PATIENTS, INCLUDING 536 FRIDAY, RECOVERED FROM THE HIGHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) department Saturday said that the state government should now open schools for children as the Covid-19 situation has significantly improved in Odisha.

The Director of Health Services Bijay Mohapatra said that though the new variants of coronavirus have been detected in other countries, Odisha has no reason to be worried over it as the state has already experienced it.

Stating that children have better immunity power than adults, Mohapatra said the number of daily Covid positive cases is gradually going down. "There is no harm in reopening the primary and upper primary schools," he said.

Mohapatra, however, explained that the Covid-19 guidelines could not be relaxed despite improvement of the situation. "Even if all the schools are reopened, we must follow the guidelines like wearing masks, maintaining social distance



and washing hands to prevent the spread of the virus," he added

Meanwhile, Odisha Saturday logged 208 new Covid-19 cases, 38 more than the previous day, taking the state's tally to 10,43,151 while four fresh fatalities pushed the coronavirus death toll to 8,354, a Health department official said.

The 208 cases included 23 children and adolescents in the age group of 0 to 18 years. The rate of infection in this age group now stands at 11.05 per cent against the previous

day's 14.11 per cent.

The coastal state had reported 170 new cases Friday, the lowest in the last seven months, 351 Thursday, 322 Wednesday, 327 Tuesday and 316 Monday.

Of the new cases, 119 were reported from quarantine centres while the remaining 89 were local contacts. Khurda district, of which state Capital Bhubaneswar is a part, recorded the highest of 99 cases, followed by Cuttack (20). Nine districts reported zero cases.

Even if all the schools are reopened, we must follow the guidelines like wearing masks, maintaining social distance and washing hands to prevent the spread of the virus

BIJAY MOHAPATRA | DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, ODISHA

As 208 people tested positive for infection out of 51,830 samples tested Friday, the state's daily test positivity rate (TPR) stood at 0.40 per cent.

The H&FW department said four patients - two in Khurda and one each in Angul and Kendrapara districts, succumbed to Covid-19, taking the state's coronavirus death toll to 8,354. Besides, 53 other Covid-19 patients have also died due to comorbidities, he said.

The state currently has 3,319 active Covid-19 cases while 10,31,425 patients including 536 Friday, recovered from the highly infectious disease.

As winter sets in, state gears up for sheltering homeless

As per a survey conducted in three RDC zones, as many as 13,651 homeless persons have been identified, out of which 12,742 are permanent and 909 seasonal



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: With a fall in temperature marking the onset of winter in state, the government has directed the urban local bodies (ULBs) and municipal corporations to bring out an action plan to ensure that homeless persons do not languish under open skies.

Housing and Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena Saturday directed the Municipal Commissioners and District Collectors to prepare adequate temporary shelters for the urban homeless. He also said that focus should be on daily labourers who are roaming around the cities due to their job.

State Urban Development Authority (SUDA) Project Director Sarada Prasad Panda had earlier written a letter to all municipal commissioners and executive officers of municipalities and Notified Area Councils directing to start the campaign 'No one will sleep under the open sky & let us make

our city homeless free'.

The officials have been asked to take sincere initiative on winter action plan. "The shelters should have bedding and heating facilities, sanitisers, hand wash solution, drinking water, and toilets among other necessary amenities," he stated.

As per a survey in three Revenue Divisional Commissioner (RDC) zones of the state, as many as 13,651 homeless persons have been identified, out of which 12,742 are permanent and 909 seasonal.

The Central RDC zone, which comprises 10 districts including Khurda, Cuttack, Puri, Jajpur and Bhadrak, has the highest of 7,911 urban homeless people. The Southern RDC zone comprising Koraput, Malkangiri, Ganjam, Kandhamal and six other districts has 4,660 homeless persons.

Similarly, the Northern RDC zone comprising Sambalpur, Jharsuguda and eight other districts has 1,080 urban homeless.

WASSUP TODAY

CUTTACK

- Meet in memory of Gandhian SN Subba Rao, Gandhi Bhawan, Bakharabad, 6 pm
- Unveiling of portrait of litterateur Ganeswar Mishra by Utkal Sahitya Samaj, Sriram Chandra Bhawan, 6 pm
- Meet by Sarala Sahitya Sansad to commemorate Padmashree Sachhi Routray, Sarala Bhawan, Biju Patnaik Square, 6 pm

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.



HOMAGE TO SOCIAL REFORMER

Activists of Utkal Sammilani pay floral tributes to Pandit Nilakantha Das on his death anniversary near Rabindra Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

HOW FACE MASKS HINDER SOCIAL INTERACTION

While masks are essential in preventing the risk of Covid-19 infections, they can also have a detrimental effect on our ability to socially interact and share other people's emotions, a new research suggests.

The study, led by researchers at Cardiff University, found that people with facial paralysis, people seeing others who wear face masks or even children sucking on dummies could struggle to show empathy or detect positive social cues.

"People tend to automatically imitate others' facial expressions of emotion when looking at them, whether that is a smile, a frown, or a smirk. This facial mimicry, where the brain recreates and mirrors the emotional experience of the other person, affects how we em-

pathise with others and interact socially," said lead author Ross Vanderwert from Cardiff University's School of Psychology

"Our study suggests that when movements of the lower part of the face are disrupted or hidden, this can be problematic, particularly for positive social interactions and the ability to share emotions. Wearing a face mask continues to be vital to protect ourselves and others during the Covid-19 pandemic. But our research suggests this may have important implications for the way we communicate and interact," Vanderwert added.

For the study, published in the journal Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioural Neuroscience, the team recorded the brain activity of 38 individuals via an electroen-



cephalogram whilst the participants watched videos of fearful, happy, and angry expressions, as well as a collection of inanimate

everyday objects, as a control.

The participants were asked to watch the videos whilst holding a pen between their teeth for half

Wearing a face mask continues to be vital to protect ourselves and others during the Covid-19 pandemic. But our research suggests this may have important implications for the way we communicate and interact

ROSS VANDERWERT | SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY, CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

the videos and without the pen for the remaining videos.

The researchers were investi-

gating, for the first time, the effect this had on a process known as neural mirroring-activity in the motor system for our own actions that is also active while observing other's actions. Neural mirroring facilitates simple tasks such as hand-eye coordination and more complex tasks like understanding the emotions of others.

The results revealed that participants who could freely move their face showed significant neural mirroring when observing the emotional expressions, but not the everyday objects.

While the pen was held in their teeth, no neural mirroring was observed when looking at the happy and angry expressions where as it did show neural mirroring when looking at fearful expressions. IANS

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SHORT TAKES

Logs seized from police van: 4 OSAP men held

Paralakhemundi: Four personnel of the Odisha Special Armed Police (OSAP) were arrested Saturday morning in connection with teakwood logs having been seized November 3 from a police van in Gajapati district. According to official sources, the vehicle has been seized along with teakwood logs, the value of which is around ₹65,000 in open market. The arrested police personnel were directly involved in the alleged smuggling. Additional Director General (ADG) RP Koche has initiated a departmental probe into the incident. Six forest officials have already been interrogated by the ADG Koche. Statements of a few other officials will be recorded later in the day. Koche has been interrogating to ascertain from where the teakwood logs came from, where the logs were loaded on the police van and to whom it was planned to be delivered in Bhubaneswar. It is pertinent to mention, a team of forest officials had recovered more than 100 teakwood logs from the police van following a thorough inspection of the vehicle early Wednesday morning at a check gate near Ramasagar Square in Paralakhemundi town of the district. Forest officials had also detained the police van (registration number OD-05 AK-5733) in which the teakwood logs were being carried. Acting on a tip-off, the team had intercepted the police van leading to seizure of a huge quantity of teakwood logs. The van belongs to Paralakhemundi Reserve Police. A detained policeman said they were on their way to Bhubaneswar. The police van driver was from OSAP 3rd Battalion.

Open-air library at Bondaghat

Malkangiri: In a first, Bondaghat in Malkangiri district got its first open-air library, Friday. The library, an initiative of a voluntary outfit, has been established at Mudulipada under Khairput block of the district and was unveiled by a Bonda woman of the area. Bondaghat is Bonda hills which is home to the ethnic group of people living in Malkangiri district. The aim behind establishing the library is to provide a congenial atmosphere of study to the Bonda youths studying in various schools and colleges. These youths face problems in their studies due to non-availability of text books and drop from middle of their studies. The availability of books in this library will help them continue with their studies. Moreover, with schools and colleges closed due to Covid pandemic Bonda students face problems in attending their online classes due to lack of proper internet network facilities. The library housing various books including text books will be of benefit to the students and youths of area and can draw them towards studies. In coming days, more books will be available in the library, Jayanti Buruda of the outfit said.

BASKETBALL TOURNEY



A tense moment of a basketball match between VIMSAR, Burla and Sambalpur, Elite for the 13th John William Minz Basketball Tournament at St. John's School playground in Sambalpur, Saturday

Ex-Cong MP Pradeep Majhi joins BJD



POST NEWS NETWORK

Nabarangpur, Nov 6: Odisha's prominent tribal youth leader Pradeep Majhi Saturday formally joined the ruling BJD at a special function here.

Majhi is considered to have influence among the tribal population of four southern districts and his induction in BJD is expected to strengthen the party at the grass-roots level in Nabarangpur district ahead of the panchayat election in Odisha. He joined the BJD along with hundreds of his supporters in the presence of its organising secretary Pranab Prakash Das. A former MP from Nabarangpur and an ex-state Congress working president, Majhi had resigned from it October 22. Addressing the meeting, Das said Majhi's joining the BJD will strengthen the party's base in southern Odisha. He will get all liberty to work for the people under the party's banner.

Majhi said he is interested to work for the people and has resigned from Congress as this opportunity will be available in the ruling party.

Naveen Patnaik has a vision for overall development of the state as well as the people of undivided Koraput district comprising Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri and Nabarangpur, he said.

Before the function, Majhi along with a large number of his followers took out a big procession which marched to the main venue

Former Lanjigarh MLA Shivaji Majhi quits Cong

Lanjigarh: Former Lanjigarh MLA Shivaji Majhi resigned from the primary membership of the Congress party, Saturday. Majhi has sent his resignation to Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) president Niranjan Patnaik through an email. Majhi, a former MLA from Lanjigarh, was suspended from the party for violating party whip during the Rajya Sabha polls in 2010. However, he was reinstated into the party in 2016. Notably, Majhi accompanied by the then Rajgangpur Congress MLA Gregory Minz had abstained from voting during the 2010 Rajya Sabha polls. The absence of the two Congress legislators resulted in the victory of BJD candidate Baishnab Parida. Majhi was suspended from Congress in June, 2011 which was revoked in January, 2014. Later, Majhi joined BJP after the Congress did not give him a ticket to contest the Assembly polls.

Besides Das, ministers Padmini Diya, Tusharkanti Behera, MP Ramesh Majhi, legislators Manohar Randhari, Sadasiva Pradhani, Prakash Majhi, district president of the BJD women's wing Manjula Majhi and other local leaders of the party attended the function.

Groundwater level depleting in 6 blocks

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Nov 6: Groundwater levels have been depleting in six blocks of the state. The precarious condition was reflected in a recently published Groundwater Resources Assessment Report-2020.

A report was jointly prepared by Odisha State Level Committee (SLC) and the Central High Level Expert Group (HLEG), which stated the condition to be 'semi-critical'. The six blocks are Korei in Jajpur, Baliaal in Balasore, Garadpur in Kendrapara, Bhubaneswar and Bolagarh in Khurda and Nuapada district, the report stated.

According to the GWRA report, 18,79,150.53 hectare (HM) of groundwater gets recharged in Odisha every year. Out of which, 1,53,173.16 HM goes deeper into the ground and is wasted.

On the other hand, 7,01,866.01 HM (amounting to nearly 40.66 per cent) is used for different purposes, of which 5,57,330.55 HM is used in a year for irrigation, 15,684.44 HM is used by industrial units and 1,28,851.02 HM is used for household purposes.



Besides, 302 blocks in the state are in better condition in respect of groundwater level and six more have saline water, the report read.

At present, the Korei block in Jajpur has groundwater of 8,730.67 HM, of which 7,549.86 HM (amounting to nearly 86.48 per cent) is being used in a year for various purposes. Out of the total groundwater used in Jajpur district, 6,868.71 HM is used for irrigation of farmlands.

Out of the total resources available in respective districts, 86.30 per

Woman hangs self, toddler spends night with her body

POST NEWS NETWORK

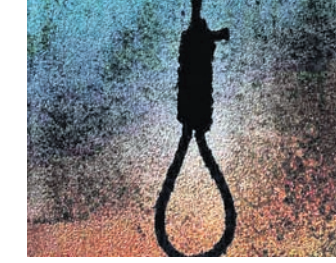
Bhawanipatna, Nov 6: In a heart-wrenching incident, a 2-year-old boy had to spend the whole night near the hanging feet of his mother after she allegedly hanged herself to death.

The bone-chilling incident has been reported from Bhawanipatna town in Kalahandi district. The heart-breaking incident has moved one and all, including the police who reached the spot after being informed of the incident.

The deceased has been identified as Rambha Rout, a native of Lanjigarh in Kalahandi district.

According to a source, Rambha lived with her son in a rented accommodation at Darpana Sagarapada in Bhawanipatna town. Nothing has been known as of yet about her husband.

Saturday morning, Rambha did not come out of the house at her usual time. Neighbours grew suspicious when no one answered the door and informed the police.



Upon reaching the spot, in the presence of Rambha's family members and a magistrate, the police broke open the door. The scene inside the house left all rooted to their spots.

Rambha committed suicide at night and her son, failing to understand what happened to her mother as she was not responding to his cries, stood at her feet all throughout the night.

Rambha's suicide has left many questions unanswered—not the least of which are why she took an extreme step, where is her husband and why she lived alone in Bhawanipatna.

Former Lanjigarh MLA Shivaji Majhi quits Cong

Lanjigarh: Former Lanjigarh MLA Shivaji Majhi resigned from the primary membership of the Congress party, Saturday. Majhi has sent his resignation to Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) president Niranjan Patnaik through an email. Majhi, a former MLA from Lanjigarh, was suspended from the party for violating party whip during the Rajya Sabha polls in 2010. However, he was reinstated into the party in 2016. Notably, Majhi accompanied by the then Rajgangpur Congress MLA Gregory Minz had abstained from voting during the 2010 Rajya Sabha polls. The absence of the two Congress legislators resulted in the victory of BJD candidate Baishnab Parida. Majhi was suspended from Congress in June, 2011 which was revoked in January, 2014. Later, Majhi joined BJP after the Congress did not give him a ticket to contest the Assembly polls.

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PUBLIC OUTREACH



Jawans of 27th battalion of CRPF participating in a cleanliness drive in Baliguda of Kandhamal district, Saturday

Newborn delivered by rape victim sold for ₹ 5K, rescued

POST NEWS NETWORK

Deogarh, Nov 6: Police arrested six people after they were allegedly trying to sell a newborn in Barkote area of Deogarh district, Saturday. A rape victim gave birth to the baby a few days ago.

Police rescued the baby. A couple had sold the newborn to another couple. Police arrested six people including the couple and his family members.

According to police, a 16-year old girl was raped by a youth months ago. The victim delivered a baby at the district headquarters hospital October 27. The accused had died in a road accident.

A couple identified as Basant Munda and his wife Anjali of Bonai area in Sundargarh district bought

the baby for ₹5,000 and sold it to another couple in Tensa area.

On being informed about the incident by an ASHA and an Anganwadi worker; officials of the district child protection cell filed a complaint at Barkote police station. Police started a probe into the matter and arrested the six people. Meanwhile, after rescuing the baby, police have sent it to a local adoption centre.

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Ganjam: NGT directs action plans for five water bodies



POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur, Nov 6: Five major water bodies in Ganjam have been polluted while the district administration has been directed to prepare action plans for these water bodies including Humuri Tampara lake, a report said.

According to the report, an order (OAN-325/2015) of the National Green Tribunal(NGT) is not being executed for the water bodies. Some guidelines set by the NGT are not being followed in case of these water bodies.

Humuri Tampara lake in Chhatrapur block is spread over 337.857 acres; Daha

reservoir in Bhanjanagar is spread over 96.71 acres; Jilundi pond in Bhanjanagar in 15.23 acres; Kendraghai pond in Khallikote block in 27.279 acres and Jagannath Sagar in Chikitti block in 20.895 acres.

The NGT had issued an order for protection, cleanliness and renovation of these water bodies.

Taking serious note of the issue, secretary of the water resources department Anu Garg has issued a letter to the Ganjam Collector November 5, directing him to prepare separate action plans for renovation of these water bodies. In the letter, it was stated that the Collector should hold a meeting with the chief engineer and the executive engineer of the water resources department and work out separate action plans by November 15.

The action plans would focus on aspects like expanse of the water bodies, their users, quality test of the water, causes of pollution and setting up of treatment plants.

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(For Immovable Property)

Publication of Notice regarding possession of property u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a Demand notice was issued and stated hereinafter calling upon to repay the amount 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 and the public in general that the undersigned has taken POSSESSION of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Act on the dates mentioned below. The borrower/guarantor and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of the STATE BANK OF INDIA for the amount stated 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.

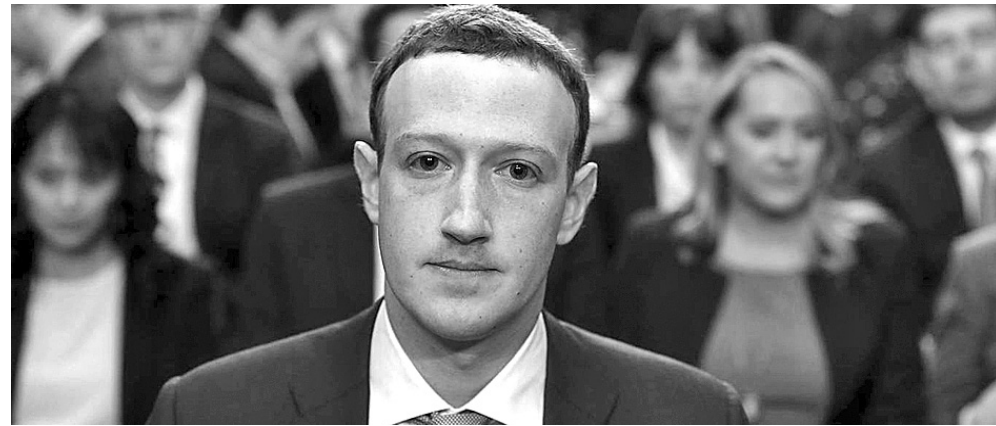
Name & Address of Borrower / Account No .	Name of the Guarantor/Owner of property	Description of the Property mortgaged/ charged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding
Borrower: M/s Addya Shakti Rubber Industries, Represented by its Prop.: Smt. Sunayana Sharma, W/o: Sri Kuldeep Sharma, Plot No.: 162/3525, Lahandabud, PO: H Katapali, Dist: Jharsuguda, Odisha-768202. CC A/c. No. 35518981633 TL-I A/c. No. 35419568016 TL-II A/c. No. 37192212773 WCTL A/c. No. 38359575312 WCTL A/c. No. 39607216639	Owner of Property-1: Smt. Sunayana Sharma & Owner of Property-2: Sri Kuldeep Sharma.	Property-1: All that part and parcel of the property Land & Building standing in the name of Smt. Sunayana Sharma, bearing Khata No.: 172/1096, Plot No.: 162/3525, Area: Ac. 0.26 dec., Kسام: Karkhana, situated at Mouza: Lahandabud, Dist: Jharsuguda, Odisha. Property-2: All that part and parcel of the property Land & Building standing in the name of Sri Kuldeep Sharma, bearing Khata No.: 172/1179, Plot No.: 162/3048, Area: Ac. 0.22 dec., Plot No.: 163/3049, Area: Ac. 0.04 dec., Kسام: Gharabari, Total Area: Ac. 0.26 dec. situated at Mouza: Lahandabud, Dist: Jharsuguda, Odisha.	07.08.2021	05.11.2021	₹55,73,485/- as on 19.07.2021 and further interest from 20.07.2021
Borrower: M/s Tarini Lubes, Represented by its Prop.: Smt. Manasi Das, W/o: Sri Bisweswar Das, At: Qr. No.: E/78, Block-E, Koel Nagar, Via/PS: Rourkela, Dist: Sundargarh, State: Odisha, Pin-769014. CC A/c. No. 38011176346 FITL A/c. No. 39604386728 (Closed)	Guarantor/ Owner of Property: Sri Biraja Prasad Das.	All that part and parcel of the property Land & Building standing in the name of Sri Biraja Prasad Das, bearing Khata No.: 171/540, Plot No.: 135/1179, House No.: E/78, E-Block, Koel Nagar, Area: Ac. 0.049 dec., Kسام: Gharabari, situated at Mouza: Rourkela Township, Unit No.: 27, Jhirpani, Dist: Sundargarh, Odisha.	07.08.2021	02.11.2021	₹71,85,690/- as on 06.08.2021 and further interest from 07.08.2021

Date: 06.11.2021, Place: Sambalpur

Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

FOCUS SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK'S DISASTERS



A long line of ugly Americans, mostly government officials, have believed that applying simple formulas based on idealised versions of US institutions could convert long-suffering places into Western-style consumer utopias. Today, the ugliest of all Americans is not a public official but a private citizen, Mark Zuckerberg

"The ugly American," the title of a novel published in 1958 by Eugene Burdick and William Lederer, entered the language to refer to boorish American officials abroad who sought to improve the lives of natives without taking the trouble to learn their language, culture, or needs. A long line of ugly Americans, mostly politicians and government officials from both parties, have believed that applying simple formulas based on idealised versions of US institutions – democracy, markets, and human rights – could convert long-suffering places like Afghanistan and Iraq into Western-style consumer utopias. Inevitably, these Americans caused more harm than good.



Eric Posner

LESS ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO FACEBOOK'S IMPACT ON FOREIGN MARKETS, WHICH ZUCKERBERG RECKLESSLY PENETRATED WITH NO EVIDENT CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF CONDUCTING MASSIVE SOCIAL EXPERIMENTS IN COUNTRIES WITH WEAK INSTITUTIONS

Today, the ugliest of all Americans is not a government official but a private citizen, the CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg. Zuckerberg has received an endless stream of criticism because of Facebook's lamentable impact on American politics and culture. Less attention has been given to Facebook's impact on foreign markets, which Zuckerberg recklessly penetrated with no evident concern about the possible consequences of conducting massive social experiments in countries with weak institutions and histories of instability.

Back in 2015, Zuckerberg teamed up with the musician Bono to advocate a human right to Internet access. The all-too-common belief among America's business elite that one's economic self-interest coincides with the global good appeared as a paean to cyberspace that the duo wrote for the New York Times.

In Ethiopia and Tanzania, for example, farmers connect to get better prices, track inventory and make mobile insurance payments in case of bad weather. In Nigeria, citizens use BudgetT, a mobile app, to assess whether governments keep their spending promises. In Guatemala, cellphones inform mothers how to have healthy pregnancies. In Kenya, women receive financial services via their cellphones thanks to the brilliant M-Pesa microfinance scheme.

Reality has turned out a bit different. In Ethiopia, Facebook posts "incite[d] mob violence, ethnic

clashes, and crackdowns on independent press or outspoken voices."

In Nigeria, Facebook users circulated grisly images of dead bodies, which were falsely presented to suggest that members of one ethnic group massacred members of a rival ethnic group, and sparked a wave of horrific killings. In a country with 24 million Facebook users, only four people were employed to fact-check Facebook posts. In Myanmar, Facebook accounts were used to stir up ethnic violence against the Rohingyas, tens of thousands of whom have been killed and many more driven into exile. In India, Facebook users stirred up sectarian violence, including lynching, against Muslims. Similar accounts of Facebook being used to inflame conflict and provoke massacres have been given for Sri Lanka, Yemen, Iraq, and Bangladesh. And in many other countries, from Vietnam to Poland, governments or their supporters have used Facebook to target, harass, and endanger dissidents, political opponents, and vulnerable minorities.

In the Times piece, Zuckerberg was touting Internet access, not Facebook itself. But by now we know that Internet access and Facebook are intertwined, both in Zuckerberg's plan and in reality. In many countries, Facebook and its properties, Instagram and WhatsApp, are the dominant social

media platforms, as they are in the United States.

Both the Internet and Facebook have done very well since that article was published. From 2015 to today, the percentage of the global population with Internet access increased from 41% to 66%, while Facebook's monthly active user base increased from 1.49 to 2.89 billion. While the extent of Facebook's contribution to the erosion of democracy and human rights over this period is unknown, the platform has clearly played a role in some of the worst atrocities around the globe, and in the coarsening of political life virtually everywhere.

But while Zuckerberg's goal of "building a global community," as he put it in 2017, resembles American foreign policy (or at least American foreign policy before it was reduced to ashes in Iraq and Afghanistan), Facebook is of course a private entity. It is subject to American jurisdiction and not the other way around. The chastened US foreign policy establishment, along with Congress and the President, might consider whether America owes it to the world to rein in Facebook, to the extent possible, in countries that lack the institutional capacity to rein it in themselves.

A few possible reforms suggest themselves. The US Congress could pass a law that requires American social media companies to devote

resources to monitor and fact-check content in foreign countries in proportion to the amount they spend on these activities in the US. (Facebook currently devotes vastly more resources in the US.)

Another possible law would allow foreigners to bring lawsuits in US courts when American social media companies spread misinformation and hate speech, as defined under local law. While such a law would be challenged under the First Amendment, courts may give Congress more latitude to regulate speech abroad than at home, especially when doing so shows comity with foreign countries. And Congress could enact a law that imposes penalties on social media companies that are shown to have recklessly contributed to, or failed to stop, major atrocities that were facilitated by their platforms.

The title of Burdick and Lederer's novel actually referred ironically to one of the few good Americans in the story. The negative meaning stuck because the shorthand was more useful: the bad type of American greatly outnumbered the good. And now, thanks in part to Facebook's foreign policy, the ugly American is everywhere.

The writer, a professor at the University of Chicago Law School, is the author of 'How Antitrust Failed Workers'.

PROJECT SYNDICATE

The first principle of true teaching is that nothing can be taught.
SRI AUROBINDO



BJP's incomplete Hindu Rashtra

For many years, I had the opportunity to visit and study Pakistan and also to write for its newspapers. My special interest was in the 20 years period just after the creation of Bangladesh till the exit of the President General Zia ul Haq. For the 30 years before that time, Pakistan had attempted to Islamise itself but had not been able to.

Even today, Pakistan's laws are the same as India's and the residents of Lahore and Karachi and Peshawar are familiar with things like Sections 420, 302 and 144. This is because the subcontinent's criminal laws were written by an Englishman named Macaulay in the 19th century. In Dhaka, as in Delhi, even today the Section invoked for promoting enmity is 153a.

In that two decade period of the 1970s and 1980s, Pakistan tried to change this. It introduced what was thought to be Quranic or Islamic punishment. This included public flogging (80 lashes) for those who drank alcohol, and at the other end it included stoning to death for adultery. The punishment for theft and robbery was chopping off of the right hand from the wrist. In case of a second offence by the same person, his foot from the ankle down was to be amputated. Pakistan's terrified doctors were given some training in how to do this, but these punishments were never implemented. Nobody has been stoned to death in Pakistan and nobody's hand or foot has been cut off. The punishments remained on the book but the State, which was a modern one with modern judges trained in common law just like India's judiciary, was unable to implement the new punishments. Indeed, as the years went by Pakistan actually secularised its law. Under President General Pervez Musharraf, some of the offences, including for rape, were returned back to the Pakistan Penal Code from Shariah.

Many of the more benign laws that were aimed at piety – such as forcing Muslims to contribute zakat and forcing them to fast in Ramzan – also were rolled back or pursued without enthusiasm.

The reason of course is that there is no alternative to the modern State with laws that are in alignment with freedom as the whole democratic world understands that word. The reason for talking about this here is that India is today going through the same sort of period that Pakistan did in those 20 years. India is today excluding its minorities from politics just as our neighbour did. There is no Muslim Chief Minister in India today and no Muslim Lok Sabha MP in the ruling party's 303 members. In 15 states there is no Muslim minister at all. Muslims cannot today pray in designated areas for their prayer in the capital of India. Their mosques are constantly targeted.

Several states that are ruled by the BJP have introduced after 2014 laws that specifically target minorities, especially Muslims. After the Prime Minister's encouragement, the then BJP-ruled state of Maharashtra and then Haryana criminalised the possession of beef, leading to a sequence of lynchings which continues, though it has dropped out of the news cycle. In Gujarat, the punishment for cattle slaughter is life imprisonment though it is supposed to be an economic crime.

Interfaith marriage between Hindus and Muslims has been criminalised in the BJP states of Uttarakhand (in 2018), Himachal Pradesh (2019), Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (2020) and Gujarat (2021). Madhya Pradesh said this week that it will replicate a 2020 law from UP aimed at seizing the property of protestors. The UP law came after the state killed several Muslims protesting against the Citizenship Amendment Act. The CAA of course is also a law targeting Muslims and, along with the National Register of Indian Citizens, is a pincer aimed at doing to minorities everywhere what has been done in Assam.

Those who studied Pakistan in that period that is being referred to will be familiar with the intent of such legislations as India has passed in the Modi years. They are not aimed at the betterment of Hindu society and do not seek to uplift those in that community who are marginalised or poor. These are laws that are written out of hate and intolerance. A judiciary that is frightened or complicit (or perhaps both) has refused to step in on these laws and has been truant even on the issue of habeas corpus for Muslims in Kashmir.

The question is: how long will this continue and what is the final destination that India is being led to? The answer is that it will not continue long. Pakistan's two decades of Islamisation was in another era. India's legal misbehaviour with its own citizens will last perhaps half that time. And of course the answer to the second question is that there is no final destination. One the venom has been expended, India will limp back to where it was before 2014. That may not have been an ideal time but things will get better from there. The modern world will not accommodate bigotry of the sort India is showing the world today. The Hindutva project will fail and just like Pakistan is an incomplete Islamic republic, India will remain an incomplete Hindu Rashtra.



Aakar Patel

The modern world will not accommodate bigotry of the sort India is showing the world today. The Hindutva project will fail and just like Pakistan is an incomplete Islamic republic, India will remain an incomplete Hindu Rashtra

WISDOM CORNER

- If you believe in yourself and have dedication and pride - and never quit, you'll be a winner. The price of victory is high but so are the rewards.** BEAR BRYANT
- Happiness is a butterfly, which when pursued, is always just beyond your grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you.** NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
- The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform, to love and to be greater than our suffering.** BEN OKRI

WORDSWORTH

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

LOL

Benefits of marriage
years with your wife?"
Joseph responds, "Well, I've learned that marriage is the best teacher of all. It teaches you loyalty, meekness, forbearance, self-restraint, forgiveness -- and a great many other qualities you wouldn't have needed if you'd stayed single."



SPECTRUM JOBS

Three steps for employment

The main reason for increasing unemployment today is technological change. This has happened many times in human history. The invention of automobiles led to the unemployment of horse-drawn cart runners. However, in course of time more roads were constructed for running cars, more jobs were created for manufacture and repair of cars and this led to higher growth rate and creation of more employment. The total employment in the transport sector in the age of automobiles would be more than the employment for runners for horse-drawn carriages. Similarly, we can see large number of jobs being lost to robots and artificial intelligence (AI) today. Whether these technologies will lead to generation of more employment as it was for the repair of cars, will depend on how much increase in growth rate will take place due to these technologies and whether new jobs are created in these new sectors. Unlike in the past, it is nevertheless possible that robots and artificial intelligence will lead to less increase in growth and less generation of employment leading to an increase in unemployment.



Bharat Jhunjhunwala

THE PRESENT POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT IS TO LET THE MARKET GENERATE EMPLOYMENT SPONTANEOUSLY. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT HAPPENING

The second reason for increased unemployment is that the manufacturing sector is increasingly being undertaken by large industries where production is undertaken by automatic machines. Thus, higher growth rate is leading to fewer employment opportunities. The production of jaggery, for example, required large number of workers previously. Only 10 per cent of those may be required in manufacturing the same amount of sweeteners in a sugar mill. The crucial point is that new technologies displace labour directly but may yet lead to an increase in employment if there is high increase in the GDP. We cannot hope that the market will generate sufficient employment in this situation.

The first step the government needs to take is to reform the educational system. The difficulty is that at present most youth are interested only in obtaining certificates that would enable them to get a government job. The wages of government employees are so high that a primary teacher with fewer

skills may earn ₹70,000 per month, while a more skilled nurse or a data entry operator without a government job may earn as little as ₹15,000 per month. As a result, the youth are not interested in obtaining skills like nursing and data entry operator. They only join educational courses for obtaining certificates. The only way to get the youth to obtain skills is to reduce the wages of the government servants so that the attraction of a government job is reduced and the youth get interested in obtaining skills that would enable them to earn in the private sector.

The second step is to loosen the labour laws in the organised sector. There is a huge tendency to use automatic machines and less labour because labour losses are rigid and it becomes very difficult for an employer to remove a worker even if he/she is undisciplined, inefficient or not required. A study undertaken by the World Bank in East Asian countries showed that more jobs were created in those countries where labour losses were flexible. Therefore, the government should reform the labour laws and

make it possible for businessmen to hire and fire workers as per their requirements. This will encourage the businesses to use workers instead of computers and machines.

The third step required is to provide fiscal incentives to the small industries. The cost of production of small industries is higher than the large industries because of economies of scale. They cannot face competition from big industries in a free market. Therefore, the government should reduce the GST on goods produced by small industries so that they can stand competition from large industries. This will enable small industries to grow and they will generate more employment.

The present policy of the government is to let the market generate employment spontaneously. However, this is not happening and I don't think economist of the Niti Aayog have any solution to provide jobs to the 120 lakh youths entering the labour market every year.

The writer is a former Professor of Economics at IIM Bangalore.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST
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Soft signals

Sir, Byelection results generally do not mean much, especially when they are spread over a few seats though many states. Elections were held for 30 Assembly seats and 3 Lok Sabha seats in 13 states recently, and the people's verdict is mixed. The Northeast region where the BJP had no base until the last few years is now its bastion. But the BJP lost both seats in Rajasthan to the Congress. In Karnataka, the BJP won Sindhgi, but lost in Hangal that falls in Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's home district. As foreseen, it has been a roller coaster ride for Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal; the Trinamool Congress party has swept the bypolls. BJP high command would be pleased by the party's performance in Madhya Pradesh but not by its dismal show in Himachal Pradesh. By and large, ruling parties, in the initial days of their regimes, have no reasons to worry in bypolls. Going by that logic, do the election results herald glad tidings for the Congress? One is not too sure but Rahul Gandhi can definitely walk with a spring in his step, so can other leaders. But there is a long way to go before the party can recoup to fight the might of the BJP on a national level.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

'Aache din' coming?

Sir, Bypoll results had a direct impact on both diesel and petrol prices and that is a welcome sign. Having tasted defeat in certain pockets including Himachal Pradesh, the Centre has the sight on upcoming state elections which will definitely bear a direct impact on Parliament election results and so it is trying to turn fuel sweetener. It is good news for people suffering from price rise getting some reprieve. Thus we get excise duty on petrol and diesel less by ₹5 and ₹10 as a Diwali gift. The reduction in excise on diesel is double that of petrol and will hopefully cheer up farmers during the upcoming Rabi season. The government was driven more by its own pragmatic reason and less by altruism. Spiraling inflation driven by fuel hike could upset the post pandemic economic momentum; it could send for a toss prices of other goods from daily essentials to luxury products and this, in turn, would have depressed consumer demand. We hope to see the clock back for an 'aache din'.

CKR Nathan, CHENNAI

SHORT TAKES

7 held for illegal tree felling

Koksara: Acting on a tip-off, forest officials arrested seven persons on charge of illegally cutting down trees from Sahajkhil reserve forest under South forest division in Kalahandi district, Saturday. The accused were identified as Padu Jhankar, 60, Gabar Majhi, 57, Chatur Bernal, 50, Minaketan Pujari, 65, Karuna Dharua, 45, and Lingaraj Bhartia, 60, of Podaguada village and Lakshmidhar Podha of Kulerghuda village under Koksara block of Kalahandi district. They were arrested after a team of forest officials led by Falguni Meher of Behera forest section conducted a raid at Dabachua in the reserve forest. The accused were caught red-handed and arrested. A case was registered in this connection and the accused produced in the JMFC court. They were remanded to judicial custody after the judge rejected their bail pleas.

12-hr BJP bandh in Gajapati district



POST NEWS NETWORK

Paralakhemundi, Nov 6: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) observed a 12-hour bandh in Gajapati district, demanding removal of Minister of State for Home Dibya Shankar Mishra for his alleged links with key accused Gobinda Sahu in Mamita Meher murder case. The saffron party has also been demanding a CBI probe into the Mamita Meher murder case. The bandh started at 6 am. The

party workers are seen picketing at different places. They are raising anti-government slogans and burning effigies of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Minister of State for Home Dibya Shankar Mishra.

While vehicles remained off the roads, shops, markets, business establishments, offices and educational institutions were closed in all the seven blocks of the district. However, medicine shops, ambulance, fire brigade and milk vans were kept out of the bandh purview.

The party also observed an 8-hour bandh in Jharsuguda district.

The party has already observed 12-hour and 6-hour bandhs in districts like Boudh, Balasore, Deogarh, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Nuapada, Subarnapur, Sambalpur, Bolangir and Kalahandi over the same demands.

IMMERSION CEREMONY



A Kali idol being taken out for immersion in Bhadrak, Saturday

OP PHOTO

ASI caught accepting bribe in Bhadrak

Bhadrak: Vigilance sleuths caught an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of Odisha Police red-handed while he was allegedly accepting ₹2,000 from a person Friday night. The arrested cop was identified as Kailash Chandra Khuntia, who was posted at Nayakanidhi police station under Basudevpur block. A person from Andola area lodged a complaint at Nayakanidhi police station



September 27, stating his daughter has been kidnapped from the village. The ASI had demanded ₹10,000 from the complainant to search and rescue his daughter. Even though the complainant had given the ASI ₹8,000, he had been demanding more. With no options left, the complainant sought the help of the Vigilance department. As per the plan, the Vigilance officials laid out a trap. It was when the cop was receiving the money, the officials swooped down on him and nabbed.

KANPUR MEGA IRRIGATION PROJECT

Oustees take up R&R issues with NCST

POST NEWS NETWORK

Joda, Nov 6: Problems related to rehabilitation and resettlement of project-affected people of Kanpur mega irrigation project continue to remain unresolved with the administration evicting one village after another in Keonjhar. The displaced people have taken up the issue with the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, seeking justice, a report said.

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has become active on the issue. Most of the project affected villages are inhabited tribals. A five-member delegation of the oustees led by member of the NCST Anant Nayak visited the project site in Basudevpur under Joda block Thursday.

The delegation first visited Murusuan and Chamakpur and took stock of the rehabilitation activities by the state government for the oustees.

Four families of Murusuan have moved the court seeking rehabilitation along with a provision of farmlands. The court had also ordered the administration to evict the families only after their rehabilitation and provision of farmlands. However, it was alleged that



MOST OF THE PROJECT AFFECTED VILLAGES ARE INHABITED BY TRIBALS. A FIVE-MEMBER DELEGATION OF THE OUSTEES LED BY MEMBER OF THE NCST ANANT NAYAK VISITED THE PROJECT SITE IN BASUDEVPUR

FOUR FAMILIES OF MURUSUAN HAVE MOVED THE COURT SEEKING REHABILITATION ALONG WITH A PROVISION OF FARMLANDS. THE COURT HAD ALSO ORDERED THE ADMINISTRATION TO EVICT THE FAMILIES ONLY AFTER THEIR REHABILITATION AND PROVISION OF FARMLANDS

the court order has not been carried out. The houses of these oustees have been pulled down to make space for project work.

Members of these four families had appealed to the NCST about their plight. The NCST member visited the village to look into the

matter. Nayak saw as houses of the four families have been demolished, they have been living under open sky for some months. One of the family members was a pregnant woman.

The delegation expressed its displeasure over the miserable condition these evicted families are living in. They live under polythene sheets. Women after delivery live in a deplorable condition along with her newborn.

The team also visited Dhubulabada rehabilitation colony. The team members saw that construction work of the colony has not

been completed while villages have not been provided land pattas for their homestead land.

The colony has not been made habitable for the oustees while basic infrastructure like road connectivity, drinking water, school building, club house, Anganwadi centre, a place of worship, and cremation ground have not been made.

The administration has identified the colony for rehabilitation of people displaced from Bikikala, Dadhuan and Gobindapur. It was said that as basic facilities have not been put in place at the colony, people are not keen to set up their houses.

Meanwhile, the administration told people of the three villages that police will carry out the eviction drive.

Project affected people alleged before the team that the Collector has been given a report about completion of all construction works at the colony in 2019, but in reality many works have been left incomplete.

Nayak later held a meeting with official of the irrigation project and local people and sought to know about the steps taken for their livelihood, economic and cultural development of the oustees.

Keonjhar: 2-yr-old crushed under wall

Keonjhar: In a shocking incident, a two-year-old boy was killed after a portion of wall collapsed, trapping him under it at Golabandh village under Telkoi police limits in Keonjhar district Friday. The deceased was identified as Sourabh Mahakud, son of Chhalu Mahakud of Golabandh Mahakud Sahi. According to a source, labourers were pulling down the walls of the old house of Chhalu. Unaware of the danger, Sourabh was playing near the house. The family members were busy otherwise. All of a sudden, a portion of the wall fell on him. He was rescued and immediately rushed to Jagamohanpur primary health centre (PHC). He was then shifted to Telkoi community health centre. The doctors there declared him received dead.

3 villages demand roads, bridge

Koraput: People of three villages under Bolpariguda block in Koraput have been suffering in the absence of basic facilities like road, bridges, healthcare and education. They have drawn attention of the district administration towards their plight. People of Atalguda, Janguguda and Jhalaguda have demanded immediate intervention of the district administration for development works. "As there is no bridge across a creek, we have to face commuting problems throughout the year. We appeal to the administration to build roads and a bridge in the area," they said.

Probe intensifies to weed out fake teachers

POST NEWS NETWORK

Boudh/Aska, Nov 6: The district administrations of Boudh and Ganjam has intensified vetting of certificates and documents of teachers in a bid to detect fake ones, following a directive from the school and mass education department.

Last year, 40 Gana Sikhnyaks had been sacked from their service in Boudh after their OTET certificates were found forged. However, it was alleged that many teachers are working in the district by furnishing forged documents.

Now, a junior teacher was sacked by Collector Lalatendu Mishra from service for furnishing a fake



OTET certificate. According to reports, S Truptimayee Pradhan was appointed as a Sikhnyasahayak at Khamar upper primary school in 2012. After six years of service, she furnished an OTET certificate. The district coordinator of the Samagra Sikhya has sent her OTET certificate to the Board of Secondary

Last year, 40 Gana Sikhnyaks had been sacked from their service in Boudh district after their OTET certificates were found fake

Education, Odisha for verification. On verification the certificate was found forged. Later, a show cause notice was served on her. The Collector has directed the authorities concerned to file an FIR against the teacher at Boudh Model police station. Various outfits said scores of

such teachers have been serving in schools in the district. They have demanded proper investigation to detect such teachers.

In Ganjam, another fake teacher was arrested on the charge of serving on the basis of forged certificates. The teacher was identified as Bayaman Panda of Pandiapatra Primary School under Aska block. An FIR had earlier been lodged against him after his BED certificate was found forged.

In Aska, eight fake teachers have been arrested till date. The officials of the education department have sent certificates of over 10 suspected fake teachers to universities and the BSE for verification.

High exodus in Kendrapara courtesy lack of job avenues

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Nov 6: Absence of employment opportunities, lack of farm work and low agricultural income have combined to trigger distress migration in this district, a report said.

The main economic activity of Kendrapara district is agriculture. There are no mines or industries to help the residents earn their livelihood. However, due to lack of farm productivity coupled with low agricultural income, youths in the district migrate to other states in search of greener pastures. As a result, the lands are lying uncultivated.

The problem of unemployment can be gauged from the fact that over 57,000 technically qualified youths and graduates have registered their names in the district employment exchange but they are yet to get any employment opportunities.

The claim is not unfounded after several youths were recently seen boarding a private passenger bus for Kerala at Gupti under Rajnagar block. Locals alleged that buses from Kerala and Tamil Nadu frequently visit the district and pick up youths to work in various units.

Moreover, many women and minor girls migrate to other states in search of jobs. A private estimate says that youths from 51 per cent of families living in Rajnagar, Mahakalpara, Aul, Pattamundai, and Rajnagar blocks have migrated to other states. They migrate to other states and end up being tortured and exploited in those firms where they are engaged.

Reports said youths migrating to other states have a sorry tale to tell. Sudarshan Rout of sea-erosion hit Satabhaya panchayat of Rajnagar block said he is forced to leave for other states to earn livelihood for him and his family.



A private estimate says that youths from 51 per cent of families living in Rajnagar, Mahakalpara, Aul, Pattamundai, and Rajnagar blocks have migrated to other states

ing for Kerala with a hope of better earning.

Sarojkanta Swain of Gupti said he works in a plywood factory at Perumvur in Ernakulam district while others work in cotton mills, fish farms in those states. He returns home during Ganesh Puja and leave for Kerala after Lakshmi Puja or Kali Puja.

He said back to back natural calamities have robbed the sheen of agriculture while people withdraw from cultivation due to lack of government incentives.

Moreover, youths leave for Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Surat due to lack of industries in the district. Industrial firms which were lying closed in other states due to Covid pandemic have opened now.

The respective firms have made arrangements for buses to pick them for other states. He said had there been any job opportunities in the district they would have never gone to other states. He said this problem could be resolved if the government establishes small and medium scale industries in the district and promote cultivation of disaster resistance crops.

PROTESTING FEE HIKE



Demanding withdrawal of fee hike and other demands, students of Gangadhar Meher University in Sambalpur staging a demonstration in front of their university, Saturday

OP PHOTO

'Waze, Singh extorted huge money from cricket bookies'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 6: Mumbai Police officer (now dismissed) Sachin Waze, along with the then city Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh extorted huge money from cricket bookies by threatening them with arrest, police told a court here while seeking an extension of Waze's custody in an extortion case registered at suburban Goregaon police station.

The Mumbai Police's Crime Branch had taken Waze's custody November 1 based on the complaint filed by builder-cum-hoteller Bimal Agrawal, in which Param Bir Singh is also named as an accused.

Waze was produced before a holiday court Saturday as his remand expired. Police sought an extension of his custody for seven days for further probe, which was allowed by the court till November 13. Police told the court that Waze and the wanted accused Param Bir Singh extorted a huge amount of money from cricket bookies by threatening them with arrest.

How this was done has to be investigated, the court was told.

The Crime Branch further said they wanted to probe whether Waze took money from anyone else at the instance of Singh and who else, apart from Singh, helped Waze in extortion.

The Crime Branch also wants to probe how many other such offences have been committed by the accused.

Waze is close to Param Bir Singh and the Crime Branch wants to question him on the current whereabouts of the senior IPS officer, it said, adding the complainant's (Agrawal's) voice samples have been sent for a forensic test and witness statements have been recorded.



ANTILIA BOMB SCARE CASE

Police sought an extension of Sachin Waze's custody for seven days for further probe, which was allowed by the court till November 13

Waze is close to Param Bir Singh and the Crime Branch wants to question him on the current whereabouts of the senior IPS officer

Mobile phones given to Sachin Waze by the complainant as part of the extortion have also been seized, police said.

Agrawal had alleged that the accused extorted ₹9 lakh from him for not conducting a raid on two bars and restaurants, which he ran in partnership, and also forced him to buy two smartphones worth around ₹2.92 lakh for them.

The alleged incident occurred between January 2020 and March 2021, police had said.

One of the absconding accused, Alpesh Patel, was arrested from Mehana railway station in Gujarat, the crime branch said.

Patel destroyed a mobile phone and a SIM card used during the offence. Hence, Section 201 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) has been invoked on the ground that possible evidence in the offence has been destroyed, it said.

According to the Crime Branch, Waze has volunteered to give his

The Crime Branch further said they wanted to probe whether Waze took money from anyone else at the instance of Singh and who else, apart from Singh, helped Waze in extortion

voice sample while in custody which was recorded in the presence of two.

It told the court that Waze is not cooperating and giving evasive replies when questioned about the extorted money. He is not giving relevant information, the crime branch said. Waze's lawyer Rounak Naik said they agreed to (extension) of Waze's custody as he "volunteered" to cooperate with the probe agency.

Waze, 49, was in judicial custody after his arrest in March by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in the 'Antilia' bomb scare and businessman Mansukh Hiran murder case. On Agrawal's complaint, a case was registered under Indian Penal Code Sections 384 and 385 (both pertaining to extortion) and 34 (common intention) against the six accused including Waze, Singh, Sumit Singh alias Chintu, Alpesh Patel, Vinay Singh alias Babloo and Riyaz Bhati.

Ready to 'relocate' evicted families: Assam

THE EVICTED FAMILIES OF DHALPUR VILLAGES IN GORUKUTI WILL NOT, HOWEVER, BE PAID ANY COMPENSATION AS THEY ARE "ENCROACHERS"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Nov 6: The Assam government said it has earmarked about 134 hectare for relocating the evicted families of Gorukhuti in Darrang district provided they are valid citizens besides a set of other requirements.

The evicted families of Dhalpur villages in Gorukuti will not, however, be paid any compensation as they are "encroachers", the government said in an affidavit to Gauhati High Court in response to a PIL filed by the Leader of the Opposition Debabrata Saikia.

"An area of about 1,000 bighas (about 134 hectares) of land in the southern part of No 1 & No 3 Dhalpur village has been earmarked for relocating the evicted persons subject to verification of the status of erosion affected and landless status in their respective original places and districts, citizenship and existing rehabilitation policy of the state," the affidavit by the government said.

Sipajhar Revenue Circle Officer Kamaljeet Sarma, representing

the Assam government, said in the affidavit that the occupants of the areas were encroachers and they were "liable to be evicted at any time" as per rules framed under Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886.

"The matter is related to encroachment and eviction only and is not at all related to acquisition of land. Therefore, the question of resettlement, rehabilitation and compensation etc as per Land Acquisition Act is irrelevant," he added. Besides Saikia's case, the Gauhati High Court had itself registered a suo motu PIL after the violent eviction drive at Sipajhar and both the matters were clubbed together.

The Gauhati High Court bench, headed by Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice Kakheto Sema, heard the matter Wednesday and granted one week's time to the state government for filing a detailed counter affidavit and fixed December 14 for the next hearing.

The court also noted the state government's assurance that as of now for the remaining alleged



CAA ISSUE

encroachers no coercive measure is being adopted as efforts are being made to convince them to move to the demarcated area on their own. "All the same, as and when such measures are adopted, the petitioner would be at liberty to move an application before this Court," the order said.

When contacted, Saikia's counsel Talha Abdul Rahman told PTI that there is a due process to detain foreigners. "You cannot just evict people from their homes on suspicion of being foreigners and later make their rehabilitation contingent on proof of citizenship. "NRC is not published and the state doubts the correctness of NRC drive. How does it then

rely on the same NRC to exclude people?" he asked. According to different accounts, around 1,200-1,400 houses were razed to the ground September 20 and September 23 at Dhalpur I, II and III villages in Gorukhuti, leaving over 7,000 people homeless. Village markets, mosques, kabrastans, madrassas and maktubs were also bulldozed.

The eviction drive had passed off peacefully on the first day but met stiff resistance by local people on the second instance and also left two dead in a police firing September 23. Among the dead was a 12-year-old boy who had got his first identity proof, an Aadhaar card, before he was shot dead. Over 20 people were injured, including policemen.

CRUISE DRUG CASE

NCB DDG Sanjay Singh starts probe

The NCB constituted an SIT headed by Singh to probe into the case and removed Sameer Wankhede from the investigating team

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 6: The newly constituted Special Investigation Team (SIT) led by Narcotics Control Bureau Deputy Director General Sanjay Singh Saturday started probe in six drug cases including of Aryan Khan lodged with Mumbai Zonal office.

Singh, a 1996 batch IPS officer, will take over the investigation of all six cases which were headed earlier by Zonal Director Sammer Wankhede including the sensational cruise ship party raid of October 2 in which Aryan Khan, son of Hindi film megastar Shah Rukh Khan, was arrested.

On Friday, the NCB constituted an SIT headed by Singh to probe into these cases and removed Wankhede from the investigating team a week after the agency initiated probe into the alleged allegations of bribery and extortion against him.

The NCB statement issued Friday said that an SIT comprising officers from Operations Branch of NCB headquarters has been constituted by the Director General, NCB to take over a total of six cases from NCB Mumbai Zonal Unit which has national and international ramifications, in order to conduct deeper investigation to find out forward and

backward linkages.

The statement also said that no officer or officers have been removed from their present roles and they will continue to assist the Operations Branch investigation as required until any specific orders are issued to the contrary.

It is reiterated that the NCB functions across India as a single integrated agency. However, Wankhede denied that he has been removed from the case and said, "I have not been removed from the investigation. It was my writ petition in the court that the matter be probed by a central agency. So Aryan Khan Case and Sameer Khan Case are being probed by Delhi Special Investigation Team. It is coordination between NCB teams of Delhi and Mumbai."

He has been under a cloud for a variety of reasons including allegations of corruption, fake caste certificate, a lavish lifestyle, and targeting high-profile individuals, especially from Bollywood and glamour industry with comparatively insignificant drug seizures, etc. Maharashtra Cabinet Minister Nawab Malik and Wankhede have been engaged in an unprecedented war of words for the past one month, with the NCP leader making a series of shocking exposes on the NCB.



NCB Deputy Director General Sanjay Singh

Nagaland to take up coffee cultivation

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kohima, Nov 6: To create employment and to stop unscientific farming of crops, Nagaland has taken up coffee cultivation in a big way with a target to expand its farming to 50,000 hectares by 2030 from the existing 10,000 hectares, Agriculture Production Commissioner Y Kikheto Sema said.

Sema said that the hills of Nagaland are now growing organic coffee, which is not only being sold locally but exported to the international markets.

He said that coffee was introduced to the farmers of Nagaland in the 1980s but lack of market linkages and other factors forced the farmers to give up the cultivation. The Land Resources department headed by Sema in 2016 again decided to revive coffee cultivation and learn about the new varieties of coffee seeds, how to plant and grow them in the cool and hilly climate of Nagaland.



Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio distributed 50 coffee pulping machines to coffee growers in Kohima district

"Nagaland currently cultivates coffee in nearly 10,000 hectares of land and it is taking steps to expand it to 50,000 hectares by 2030. The land resource department has exported 27.5 metric tonnes of coffee to a South African company, which earlier signed an agreement to buy Nagaland coffee for 30 years," he said. Sema said: "Our aim is to generate at least one lakh jobs as

Nagaland lacks industrial activities. Another aim is to prevent the impact of climate change by encouraging farmers to give up (slash and burn method of farming) cultivation and switch over to coffee."

Nagaland Chief Secretary J Alam accompanied by Sema and other officials on Thursday visited KAAS Coffee farm at Sendenyu village in Kohima.

The Chief Secretary said that the government could not focus on many developmental activities during the COVID-19 pandemic but learned how much the state is dependent on the outside world and how much requirement is there for the state to be self-dependent in terms of economic needs.

Alam stressed that the government employment has reached its saturation point, therefore the youths have to find and invest in other avenues and coffee being a very promising crop, he urged the youths to take up these kinds of activities which are labour-intensive and provide sustainable income, an official statement said.

The Chief Secretary said: "Potential has always been there, and we are blessed with very fertile land and huge resources. For the last decades we have been experimenting in different land-based activities for viable crops, unfortunately it failed because substantial activities were not taken into consideration."

India's cinemas recover from Covid blow

CINEMAS WERE SHUTTERED BACK IN MARCH 2020 UNDER A STRICT LOCKDOWN WHEN THE PANDEMIC FIRST HIT, ENJOYING A BRIEF REPRIEVE BEFORE CLOSING AGAIN AFTER A MASSIVE VIRUS SURGE IN APRIL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Mumbai, Nov 6: India's media and entertainment earnings fell by a quarter to \$18.7 billion last year, according to accounting firm EY, and most multiplex chains suffered major losses.

But the industry is anticipating a rebound with theaters now back in business across the country, most recently in Bollywood capital Mumbai.

Hindi film "Sooryavanshi" - starring top names Akshay Kumar and Ranveer Singh - is the first marquee Hindi film to be released on the big screen in 18 months.

Delayed since the start of the pandemic, Kumar stars as an anti-terrorism chief working to stop an attack in Mumbai.

Its performance at the box office will be seen as a litmus test of whether audiences will flock back to cinemas in the world's most prolific movie market.

"This film is very crucial for the film industry," Rajender Singh

Jyala, chief programming officer for the country's second-largest cinema chain INOX, told this news agency.

"The buzz is also very good."

"The biggest films" India is currently celebrating Diwali, the country's biggest Hindu festival, and traditionally what film distributor Akshaye Rathi said was a "very lucrative time" for the sector.

"Traditionally, it's when the biggest films release," he told AFP. Also debuting this week will be "Eternals," the latest installment in Hollywood's Marvel franchise and the colorful drama "Annaatthe" featuring Tamil superstar Rajinikanth.

Fans excited about "Annaatthe" sprayed milk on posters displaying Rajinikanth's face in Tamil Nadu's Madurai city Thursday as a sign of respect for the actor who inspires an almost god-like adulation in the state. As the industry gets back on its feet, India's largest multiplex operator PVR is also opening an open-



A cyclist rides past a cinema featuring a poster of the new film 'Sooryavanshi' in Mumbai

air, rooftop drive-in cinema - pegged as a world first - in Mumbai Friday.

Film trade analyst Komal Nahta said there was a "massive backlog" of films worth an estimated ₹50

billion (\$668 million) in production costs.

"We will have at least one major film released every week," he added. Christmas Eve sees the open-

ing of Reliance Entertainment's "83," a sports biopic charting India's first Cricket World Cup win, also delayed by more than a year.

"In 2019-2020 we estimated (\$40 million in) box office numbers, which was pre-COVID days," said Shibaish Sarkar, the former chief of Reliance Entertainment and current chairman of media firm IMAC.

"For the coming releases, we hope (and) wish for the best."

In a country where going to the movies has long been a central fixture of cultural life, the pandemic's theater closures prompted a surge in subscriptions to streaming platforms. US giants Netflix, Amazon's Prime Video and Disney's Hotstar have rushed to tap into the growth in online audiences as smartphone adoption rises.

But Jyala of INOX said cinema owners were unfazed by the competition.

"People are coming back to theaters... and there are several more big titles in the pipeline," he added.

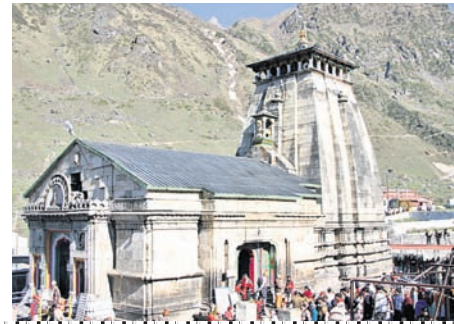
national



The Delhi government is alert and watchful of the Zika virus cases reported in UP
MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

KEDARNATH TEMPLE CLOSED

The portals of the Kedarnath temple were Saturday closed for the winter season, when the shrine remains snowbound



of the day quote

The news of fire in Ahmednagar hospital is painful. My condolences to the families of those who lost their lives. I appeal to Congress workers to help in the relief work

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

The Aam Aadmi Party government has decided to extend its free ration scheme by six months till May 2022

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CM

I have always fought elections. Will contest the polls from wherever the party says. We have the party's parliamentary board which decides who will be fielded from which constituency

YOGI ADITYANATH | UP CM

PENTAGON REPORT

PM must withdraw clean chit given to China, says Congress

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 6: Citing reports, the Congress Saturday said that China has intruded into Indian territory but the government is in denial mode.

Addressing a press conference Saturday, Pawan Khera, party spokesperson said, "It has now been confirmed by an annual report by the Pentagon to the US Congress. The report - 'Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China, 2021' confirms that China has intruded 4.5 km deep inside the Arunachal Pradesh Territory in our area."

Khera said China has constructed a village across the LAC, they have constructed several villages and these are dual purpose villages, dual use villages. What is a dual use village? It not only has civilian population residing there, but, these villages can also act as cantonments for the Chinese army.

The Congress spokesperson said, as per the Pentagon report, about 4.5 km within our territory China has constructed 101 structures, some of them multi-storey structures and this is a very serious issue.

"The Prime Minister must withdraw that clean chit first of all and give a deadline to the nation, when will the status-quo-ante of April, 2020 be restored across all our borders with China? Whether it's Depsang, whether it's Gogra Hot spring, or the



Pawan Khera said China has constructed a village across the LAC, they have constructed several villages and these are dual purpose villages, dual use villages

The Congress spokesperson said, as per the Pentagon report, about 4.5 km within our territory China has constructed 101 structures, some of them multi-storey structures and this is a very serious issue

DOB sector, whether it's Arunachal Pradesh, we need answers, we need deadlines, we need dates and we need an apology for misleading the world that China has not entered our territory," Khera said.

Pawan Khera said, in June, 2020, BJP Member of the Lok Sabha from Arunachal Pradesh (East) Tapir Gao had written to the Prime Minister, to the Defence Minister, to the Foreign Minister on the issue. He also raised this issue in the Parliament warning the Government, warning the entire country about transgressions made by China into Arunachal Pradesh territory. He kept warning them. They issued a clarification, they denied any such transgression.

The Congress said it has been 17 months since the Prime Minister gave a clean chit to China. "That clean chit is a dark chapter in our history, because that clean chit was issued, is being used by China across the world, because that clean chit came from none other than the Prime Minister of India, whose territories are being transgressed by China and China got emboldened by this clean chit," Khera said. "Not just in Arunachal Pradesh, not just in Ladakh, not just in Gogra-Hot Springs, not just in Depsang, also Uttarakhand, as we had discussed last month during a press conference, the PLA entered, destroyed our infrastructure and left," he added.

India, France to expand ties

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: In a significant move, India and France agreed to strengthen defence and security partnership by enhancing intelligence and information sharing, bolstering mutual capabilities, expanding military drills and pursuing new initiatives in maritime, space and cyber domains.

The two countries resolved to expand the defence ties at a meeting of India-France strategic dialogue in Paris Friday that was co-chaired by NSA Ajit Doval and Emmanuel Bonne, the Diplomatic Advisor to French President Emmanuel Macron.

The Indian embassy in Paris said France reiterated its commitment to fully support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and defence industrialisation, joint research and technology development in India across a wide range of advanced capabilities.

France's resolve to expand strategic cooperation with India came nearly two months after the unveiling of a new security alliance (AUKUS) by Australia, the UK and the US that had infuriated the French government. The Indian delegation at the dialogue was led by Doval while the French side was headed by Bonne.

The French delegation included Admiral Jean-Philippe Rolland, the Chief Military Advisor to the French President. Doval also met Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Florence Parly, Minister of Armed Forces, the embassy said in a statement.

It said the two sides discussed the global security environment, including current developments and long term challenges in the Indo-Pacific, the situation in Afghanistan, Africa, Southeast Asia and West Asia, the continuing challenge of terrorism and emerging threats in maritime, cyber and space domains.

SIGNIFICANT MOVE

SHORT TAKES

Hooch claims four more lives

Samastipur/Patna: Four more deaths, caused by illicit liquor consumption, were Saturday reported in dry Bihar, where hooch has claimed close to 40 lives in different districts since Diwali. The latest deaths have been recorded in Samastipur district. Earlier, at least 33 people died in Gopalganj and West Champaran districts upon consuming spurious liquor. According to Manavjeet Singh Dhillon, the Superintendent of Police of Samastipur, all four deceased, including an Army jawan and a BSF personnel, were residents of villages falling under Rupauli panchayat in Patori police station area.

Swapna Suresh walks out of jail

Thiruvananthapuram: Swapna Suresh, the first accused in Kerala's infamous gold smuggling case walked out of jail Saturday after she got bail in all the six cases filed against her. She came out of the prison after a period of one year and two months. She was released from the Attakulangara Women's prison at Thiruvananthapuram and her mother Prabha Suresh received her outside the jail premises.

Two burnt alive

Jaipur: Two people were burnt alive when a tanker filled with edible oil caught fire after getting overturned on the outskirts of Kudi village in Barmer district of Rajasthan. Police officials confirmed that a tanker overturned while attempting to save the animal which suddenly appeared in front of the vehicle on the Barmer-Jodhpur Highway near Kudi village.

Two injured

Mumbai: At least two people were injured after a fire broke out in a 15-storey residential building in suburban Kandivali (West) here on late Saturday evening, a civic official said. The fire started in a flat on the 14th floor of 'Hansa Heritage' on Mathuradas Road around 8:30 pm, he said.

Five workers die

Ahmedabad: Five workers died after inhaling toxic gas while cleaning an underground tank at a pharmaceutical unit in Gujarat's Gandhinagar district Saturday, an official from the fire department said. The incident occurred at an effluent treatment plant of the pharmaceutical unit in Kalol taluka in the afternoon, chief fire officer of Gandhinagar Mahesh Mod said.

Anil Deshmukh sent to 14-day judicial custody

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 6: A special holiday court here Saturday remanded former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh in 14-day judicial custody in connection with an alleged money laundering case.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED), probing the case, sought his remand for nine more days, but the court refused the probe agency's plea and sent him to judicial custody. Deshmukh was arrested by the ED late Monday night after 12 hours of questioning. A court had on Tuesday remanded him in the agency's custody till November 6.

He was produced before the special at the end of his ED custody. The money laundering case against Deshmukh and others was made out after the CBI booked him in a corruption case related to allegations of at least Rs 100 crore bribery made by former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh.

Besides, the ED had initiated a probe against Deshmukh and his associates after the CBI filed its FIR against the NCP leader on April 21 on charges of corruption and misuse of official position.

The ED's case is that Deshmukh, while serving as home minister, misused his official position and through dismissed cop Sachin Waze collected Rs 4.70 crore from various bars and restaurants in Mumbai.

Besides Deshmukh, the ED has arrested his two aides - Kundan Shinde and Sanjeev Palande - in connection with the case. The duo is currently in judicial custody.

'Sidhu spreading misinformation'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Nov 6: Punjab Advocate General A P S Deol Saturday attacked Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu, accusing him of obstructing the functioning of the state government and his office as well as "spreading misinformation to gain political advantage".

Deol's remarks came a day after Sidhu withdrew his resignation as Punjab Congress chief but declared that he will not re-assume charge till Deol is removed as AG and a panel set up for the appointment of the new director general of police (DGP). Sidhu had resigned from the post September 28.

In a statement, Deol said Sidhu's "repeated utterances seek to derail the earnest efforts of the state government to ensure justice in the drugs matter and the sacrilege cases". Navjot Singh Sidhu is obstructing the functioning of the government and the office of the advocate general," he alleged.

"Navjot Singh Sidhu is spreading misinformation to gain political advantage over his political colleagues. There is a concerted attempt by vested interests to malign the functioning of the Congress party in view of coming elections in Punjab for their selfish political gain by politicking the constitutional office of the Advocate General of Punjab," he added.

Sidhu, the Amritsar East MLA, has been opposing Deol's appointment as the state AG and Iqbal Preet Singh Sahota's as DGP. Both Deol and Sahota are considered Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi's choices.

Last month, Sidhu had said that the Congress would have "no face" if the AG and DGP were not removed. Deol had represented former Punjab DGP Sumedh Singh Saini in cases related to the 2015 sacrilege incidents and police firing on protesters, while Sahota was the head of the special investigation team formed by the previous SAD-BJP government to probe the sacrilege incidents.

BOND OF LOVE



Sisters perform rituals for their brothers on the occasion of Bhai Dooj in Mirzapur, Saturday

PTI PHOTO

Bangladeshi cattle lifter lynched in Tripura

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Agartala, Nov 6: Angry villagers lynched a Bangladeshi cattle lifter in western Tripura's Sonamura early on Saturday, the police said.

According to the police, several cattle lifters came to the bordering Kamalnagar village in Sepahijala district in the wee hours of Saturday, but the alert villagers apprehended one of them while the others managed to flee to the other side of the border. "Angry villagers hacked the Bangladeshi cattle lifter to death on the spot. The police have recovered the body and sent it for post-mortem," a police officer said.

The villagers told the police that the slain Bangladeshi intruder was a resident of Comilla district. Tripura shares 856 km border with Bangladesh and cattle theft is rampant in the bordering villages.

Over 90 per cent of the India-Bangladesh border with Tripura is fenced.

J&K's transition from 'terror capital' to tourism capital

THE UNFORTUNATE CIVILIAN KILLINGS IN KASHMIR LED TO SOME SORT OF PANIC IN THE INITIAL DAYS AND THERE WERE APPREHENSIONS THAT THE TOURISM INDUSTRY MAY TAKE A HIT, BUT SITUATION RETURNED TO NORMAL WITHIN A FEW DAYS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Nov 6: Jammu and Kashmir is all set to become tourism capital of India as the denizens of the newly carved out Union Territory are determined to foil the nefarious designs of militants to disrupt the process of peace, prosperity and development in the region.

The Pakistan sponsored ultras last month made a desperate attempt to push back Kashmir into uncertainty and chaos by turning the gun towards members of minority communities, including the non-local labourers. The militants killed eleven civilians within a few days and made an attempt to drive out minorities and tourists from Kashmir. But the counter offensive launched by the security forces left 15 militants dead and restored the sense of security within a few days.

The unfortunate civilian killings in Kashmir led to some sort of panic in the initial days and there were apprehensions that the tourism industry may take a hit, but situation returned to normal within a few days. Hotel bookings witnessed a few cancellations but the buzz came back within no time. The Jammu and Kashmir admin-



STRONG SIGNAL

istration played an important role to restore the normalcy by holding cultural and tourism events and by organizing "Iconic Week Festival" in October end.

Home Minister's J&K visit sent a clear message

The crucial J&K visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah boosted morale of the people and his assurance that the situation would not be allowed to deteriorate proved to be a turning point. After landing in Kashmir, the Union Home Minister flagged off the Srinagar-

Sharjah flight. It was a clear message to adversaries that the Government of India won't allow the handful of militants to take the Valley hostage.

Prior to commencement of Srinagar-Sharjah flight, the J&K Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Dubai government for development of real estate, industrial parks, and other infrastructure in the Union Territory.

Highlighting significance of the MoU, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal had said

that the world has started to recognize the pace with which J&K is traversing on the development bandwagon. "It is a strong signal to the entire world that the way India is transforming into a global power, Jammu & Kashmir is having a significant role in that as well," Goyal had said.

Leadership determined to pull J&K out

Efforts of the Central Government to convert the UT from 'terror capital to tourism capital' are clearly visible. The resolve of the country's leadership to bring

J&K out of the quagmire of uncertainty is evident. The new era of development that commenced on August 5, 2019 - when the Centre announced its decision to abrogate J&K's special status and divided it into two Union Territories - has led to the breaking out of a new dawn in the erstwhile State that has been a victim of Pakistan sponsored militancy for the past three decades. Recently, the Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department announced a 40 per cent discount on the room rents in hotels and houseboats to attract more tourists to Kashmir.

Vice-President of Houseboat Association Kashmir, Manzoor Ahmed Pakhtoon while talking to a news portal stated that the government did the promotions in different parts of the country and held many shows including a houseboat show to promote Kashmir as a safe tourist destination.

Pakhtoon said that these initiatives have helped and they are getting a lot of queries. "We are expecting a lot of tourists. We have special discounts, around 40 per cent of the discount for tourists staying in houseboats. The people around the world had a financial crunch and that's why we are giving such offers. It will help the

Kashmir tourism industry," Pakhtoon was quoted as having said.

Kashmir gears up for winter tourism

At present Kashmir is gearing up for winter tourism, famous resorts, Gulmarg in North Kashmir and Pahalgam in South Kashmir are packed with tourists and more are likely to arrive in the coming months to enjoy the winter in the Valley. People associated with the tourism industry in Kashmir are busy making future plans as they have sniffed that the Valley is set to witness bumper tourism season in the winter. Many hotels in Kashmir are full and the advance bookings are an indication that many tourists have planned to celebrate Christmas and New Year in Kashmir. In 2020, the early snowfall in Kashmir had led to a high influx of tourists into the Valley. Thousands of visitors from different parts of the country had visited Gulmarg to celebrate natural Christmas amidst snowfall. This year also upper reaches of the Valley have received early snowfall and it has multiplied the hotel bookings.

international



We welcome that physical presence of the US, being part of important talks in our region. And we have seen, we have seen that greater engagement in recent times

JACINDA ARDERN | PRIME MINISTER, NEW ZEALAND

DEMS END DEADLOCK

The US House approved a \$1 trillion package of road and other infrastructure projects after Democrats resolved a months-long standoff between progressives and moderates, notching a victory that President Joe Biden and his party had become increasingly anxious to claim



of the day quote

Another magnificent milestone, Australia. That's four out of five, how good is that? This has been a true Australian national effort

SCOTT MORRISON | PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIA

The unrest in this region will also affect the question of the difficult relationship between Serbia and Kosovo in the same or similar way. Serbia should have an interest in Bosnia-Herzegovina staying together

CHRISTIAN SCHMIDT | INT'L HIGH REPRESENTATIVE IN BOSNIA

Until today, we have seen no move at all from the UK side. I find this disappointing and once again I urge the UK government to engage with us sincerely

MAROS SEFCOVIC | VICE PREZ, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SHORT TAKES

Women's rights activist shot dead

Kabul: A 29-year-old rights activist and lecturer of economics has been shot dead in northern Afghanistan, in what appears to be the first known death of a women's rights defender since the Taliban swept to power almost three months ago. The Guardian reported. The body of the victim -- Frozan Safi -- was identified in a morgue in the city of Mazar-i-Sharif after she had gone missing October 20. We recognised her by her clothes. Bullets had destroyed her face, said Safi's sister, Rita, who is a doctor, as per the report.

Parliament nod to euthanasia

Lisbon: Lawmakers in Portugal voted to legalise euthanasia by approving a revised bill that fixed objections raised earlier by the Constitutional Court. The vote was 138 in favour, 84 against and five abstentions. The original bill was vetoed by President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa in March. The new law specifies the conditions under which medically assisted death is not punishable, thus changing the country's Penal Code. The rules are quite restrictive, and only people over 18, who are Portuguese citizens or foreigners legally resident in the country, can resort to euthanasia, the practice of intentionally ending life to relieve pain and suffering.

25 IS militants surrender in Af

Jalalabad: A total of 25 militants affiliated with the hardliner Islamic State (IS) laid down arms and surrendered to authorities in Jalalabad Saturday, head of intelligence agency in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province Mohammad Bashir said. The former militants were active in Spinghar, Pachiragam and Batikot districts, and the security forces would further stabilize the situation in Nangarhar and its vicinity, Xinhua news agency reported quoting Mohammad Bashir.

Flash floods kill 6

Jakarta: At least six people have been killed in flash floods that inundated houses, filling it mud and debris in the Indonesian city of Batu in East Java province. At least 140 locals have been evacuated following the disaster, Xinhua news agency quoted the National Disaster Management Agency as saying in a statement. A rescue operation is underway as three people are reportedly missing, the agency said.

2000-year-old 'slave room' unearthed in Pompeii

POMPEII WAS HOME TO ABOUT 13,000 PEOPLE WHEN IT WAS BURIED UNDER ASH, PUMICE PEBBLES AND DUST AS IT ENDURED THE FORCE OF AN ERUPTION IN THE YEAR 79 AD EQUIVALENT TO MANY ATOMIC BOMBS

REUTERS

Milan, Nov 6: Archaeologists have uncovered a room at a villa just outside Pompeii containing beds and other objects that shed light on the living conditions of slaves in the ancient Roman city buried by a volcanic eruption.

The room, in an excellent state of preservation, contains three wooden beds and a series of other objects including amphorae, ceramic pitchers and a chamber pot.

This new important discovery enriches our understanding of the everyday life of the ancient Pompeians, especially that class in society about which little is still



known," Italy's Culture Minister Dario Franceschini said.

Under Roman law slaves were considered property and had no legal personhood.

the walls of ancient Pompeii.

On top of the beds, archaeologists discovered a wooden chest containing metal and fabric objects that could have been part of the horses' harnesses while on one bed a carriage shaft was found.

Two of the beds were 1.7 metres long while the third was just 1.4 metres indicating the room might

The unique testimony into how the weakest in the ancient society lived... is certainly one of the most exciting discoveries in my life as an archaeologist

GABRIEL ZUCHTRIEGEL | DIRECTOR GENERAL, POMPEII ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK

COP26

Thousands rally in Glasgow for climate action

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Glasgow, Nov 6: Cheering and marching to the beat of drums, tens of thousands of climate activists paraded Saturday through the streets of the Scottish city hosting the UN climate summit, demanding that governments step up actions to reduce the use of climate-warming fossil fuels that damage the planet.

The mood in Glasgow was upbeat despite frequent bursts of rain and the crowd was peaceful.

Protesters condemned government leaders around the world for climate talks that activists say have so far failed to produce the fast action needed. Climate protests were also held in other cities across Europe, including London, Paris, Dublin, Copenhagen, Zurich and Istanbul.

"We're having these conversations, but there's no policy to actually back them," Daze Aghaji, a marcher from London at the Glasgow demonstration, shouting over the steady beat of the drums.

"And on top of that, the real people should be in the room, Aghaji said, echoing complaints from cli-

mate advocates that the Glasgow summit has too sharply limited participation by the public.

"How are we expecting to make decent policy when the people who are the stakeholders of this aren't even present in the room?"

Megan McClellan, 24, of Glasgow said she doubted that climate negotiators were listening "This is a very easy thing for them to ignore. They're nice and comfortable inside the summit conference centre. But her friend Lucette Wood, 30, of Edinburgh disagreed. "They might not actually do anything about it but they pretend that they do... And they will just put it off for 20-30 years," Wood said.

Marchers held signs with messages including "Code Red for Humanity," "Stop big polluters," "COP26, we are watching you" or simply "I'm angry." As marchers neared the climate summit, a rainbow arched through the sky.

Inside the huge UN conference venue, negotiators knuckled down for a seventh straight day of talks to finish draft agreements that can be passed to government ministers for political approval next week.



BURNING ANGER



An image of US President Joe Biden burns during the 42nd anniversary of the US expulsion from Iran, in Tehran, Iran

Pak HC acquits six JuD leaders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lahore, Nov 6: The Lahore High Court Saturday set aside a trial court's conviction and acquitted six senior leaders of Mumbai attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed's banned Jamat-ud-Dawah (JuD) in a terror financing case.

Saeed-led JuD is the front organisation for the proscribed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), the terror outfit responsible for carrying out the 2008 Mumbai attack that killed 166 people, including six Americans. The anti-terrorism court Lahore in April this year had handed nine-year imprisonment each to JuD senior leaders -- Prof. Malik Zafar Iqbal, Yahya Mujahid (JuD spokesperson), Nasarullah, Samiullah and Umar Bahadur -- and six months' jail term to Hafiz Abdul Rehman Makki (brother-in-law of Saeed) after an FIR was registered by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of the Punjab Police.

The trial court had found these leaders guilty of terror financing. They had been collecting funds and unlawfully financing the proscribed organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). It had also ordered the confiscation of assets made from funds collected through terrorism financing.

Oil tanker blast kills at least 98

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freetown (Sierra Leone), Nov 6: An oil tanker truck exploded near Sierra Leone's capital, killing at least 98 people and severely injuring dozens of others after large crowds gathered to collect leaking fuel, officials and witnesses said Saturday.

The explosion took place late Friday when the tanker collided with another truck as it was pulling into a gas station near a busy intersection in Wellington, just east of the capital of Freetown, according to the National Disaster Management Agency.

"Both drivers came out of their vehicles and warned community residents to stay off the scene while trying to address a leakage emanating from the collision," the agency said.

In this deeply impoverished country, however, crowds still rushed in to scoop up fuel, witnesses said.

It was not immediately known what caused the leaking fuel to ignite but a massive explosion soon followed. Video obtained by The Associated Press showed a giant fireball burning in the night sky as some survivors with severe burns cried out in pain. Charred remains of the vic-



The explosion took place late Friday when the tanker collided with another truck as it was pulling into a gas station

tims lay strewn at the scene, awaiting transport to mortuaries.

Nearly 100 injured people were taken to area hospitals, officials said. About 30 severely burned people at Connaught Hospital were not expected to survive, according to Foday Musa, a staff member in

the intensive care unit. Injured people whose clothes had burned off in the fire that followed the explosion lay naked on stretchers as nurses attended to them Saturday. Hundreds of people milled outside the main gates of the mortuary and near the hospital's main entrance, waiting for word of their loved ones.

Hospital officials called in as many doctors and nurses as they could overnight to tend to the wounded. President Julius Maada Bio, who was in Scotland attending the United Nations climate talks Saturday, deplored the "horrendous loss of life."

DOUG THE UGLY POTATO COULD BE WORLD'S BIGGEST

A New Zealand couple dug up a potato the size of a small dog in their backyard and has applied for recognition from Guinness World Records. They've named the potato Doug, because they dug it up

ASSOCIATED PRESS

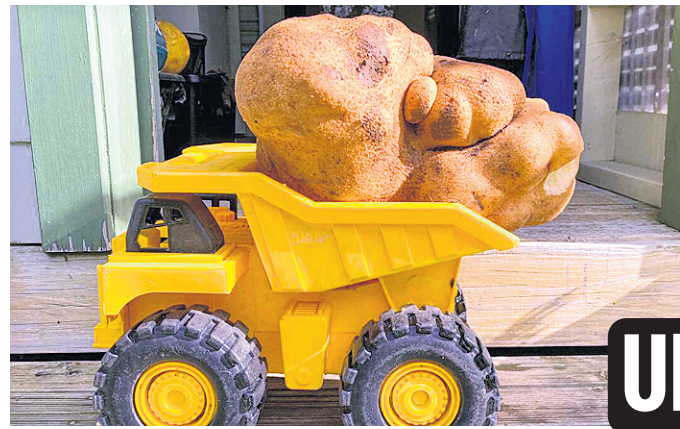
Wellington, Nov 6: Colin and Donna Craig-Brown were weeding their garden in New Zealand when Colin's hoe struck something huge just beneath the soil's surface.

As the couple knelt down and began digging around the object, Colin wondered if it was some kind of strange fungal growth, a giant puffball. After Colin pried it out with his garden fork, he scratched away a bit of the skin and tasted it.

A potato. "We couldn't believe it," Donna said. "It was just huge."

And not exactly pretty Donna describes its appearance as more of an ugly, mutant look.

But it's quite possibly the largest potato on record. When the couple



lugged it into their garage and put it on their old set of scales, it weighed in at a remarkable 7.9 kilograms. That's equal to a couple of sacks of regular potatoes, or one small dog.

In the weeks since their unusual find August 30, the couple's potato has become something of a celebrity around their small farm near Hamilton. They've named the potato Doug, after the way it was

unearthed, and Colin even built a small cart to tow Doug around. "We put a hat on him. We put him on Facebook, taking him for a walk, giving him some sunshine," Colin said. "It's all a bit of fun. It's amazing what entertains people."

A more official weigh-in at a local farming store put Doug at 7.8 kg. The Guinness World Records entry for the heaviest potato is a

Uber Tuber

2011 monster from Britain that weighed in at just under 5 kg. The couple say they've applied to Guinness to have Doug recognized and are waiting to hear back.

Guinness said it couldn't share information on the application



and that the British potato remained the record-holder, for now at least.

Colin said he doesn't have any secret gardening tips. Usually they throw a bunch of cow manure and straw onto their garden and see what happens. He said they'd been growing cucumbers in that area of

their garden before the weeds took over and hadn't planted any potatoes.

Doug must have been self-sown, and quite possibly growing for a couple of years or more.

"It's a mystery to me," Colin said. "It's one of nature's little pleasant surprises."

But Doug hasn't proved an easy charge to look after. As the couple showed the potato off, it began drying out and losing weight. Mold started growing from its wounds.

"He was getting a bit pongy," said Colin, referring to the potato's smell.

So Colin cleaned up Doug as best he could and put the potato in the freezer, where it remains.

But Colin may not be done with Doug yet. An amateur brewer, Colin said he's keen to turn Doug into a nice drop of potato vodka.

business



The government has been patting its back and boasting about record GST collection of pre-Covid times. You used Covid as an excuse to increase the price of petrol and diesel. Please withdraw that immediately now that Covid is over and GST collections have gone back to normal

PAWAN KHERA | CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON

IPO RUSH CONTINUES

Hectic fundraising through IPOs will continue next week, with three firms -- One97 Communications, owner of Paytm; Sapphire Foods India, which operates KFC and Pizza Hut outlets; and Latent View Analytics -- are set to launch their initial share-sales to collectively mop up about ₹21,000 crore



of the day quote

The government has done a wonderful job by continuing its focus on infrastructure investment, which has gone a long way in terms of giving a push to the core sectors of the economy. And with private corporate sectors coming with the investment, the economy will certainly move to the next orbit of development

DINESH KUMAR KHARRA | CHAIRMAN, SBI

After a weak first quarter, the real estate sector has rebounded strongly in the second quarter. We have a robust launch pipeline in the second half of the financial year and expect to build on the current momentum

PIROJSHA GODREJ | EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, GODREJ PROPERTIES LTD

Indian edtech sector has attracted huge capital investments and this will continue for the next few years. Education technology has not only helped maintain continuity for institutions but has also helped them become more efficient and better governed

SHANTANU ROOJ | CEO AND FOUNDER, TEAMLEASE EDTECH

SHORT TAKES

GDP to grow at 8-9% in Q2FY22

New Delhi: India's real GDP is expected to grow at 8-9 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in Q2FY22, Motilal Oswal Financial Services (MOFSL) said. The real GDP is the inflation adjusted figure of all the finished goods and services produced in a country within a specific time period. The second quarter GDP numbers have not yet been released. The macro-economic data points are slated to be released November 30.

SECL appoints new director

Bhubaneswar: Tankadhar Tripathy has been appointed as Director on Board of Directors of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), the largest coal producing company of the country. He has been appointed director for a period of three years. Ambika Prasad Panda, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of SECL said, "Tripathy will play a pivotal role in providing the strategic leadership to the policies of the company and your rich varied experience will certainly benefit in achieving the goals and objectives of the company." Tankadhar Tripathy has been working as Odisha State BJP secretary.

IndiGo to start 12 new flights in Nov

New Delhi: Airline major IndiGo said Saturday that it will commence 12 new flights in November 2021. The airline, which commenced flight service between Ahmedabad and Jodhpur from November 1 and in the Bengaluru-Rajkot, Kolkata-Coimbatore, Delhi-Trivandrum and Dibrugarh-Dimapur routes from November 2, will launch service between Ahmedabad and Ranchi from November 10. The airline said these flights are designed to cater to business and leisure travellers, who are constantly on the lookout for new and affordable flying options.

EV maker Rivian ups IPO price range

Washington: Rivian Automotive, backed by Amazon.com Inc, significantly raised the expected offer price of its shares, with the electric vehicle manufacturer aiming for a valuation of as much as \$65 billion in its initial public offering.

Indian cos skip 4th China expo

Despite robust growth in bilateral trade between the countries this year, no Indian company participated in 4th CIIIE that focuses on imports



While lingering tensions between the two countries might leave a trail of clues, there are no clear answers to India's shrinking profile at the major import expo, observers said

In the first three quarters of 2021, China's trade with India soared 49.3 per cent to \$903.75 billion, according to Chinese customs data

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 6: Even as more than 3,000 global businesses from over 120 countries and regions are keenly displaying their products and services at the China International Import Expo (CIIIE) in Shanghai and eyeing potential business deals, no Indian company is listed as participating in the world's largest fair that focuses on imports, the Global Times reported.

India's absence from the event that kicked off Thursday for unclear reasons, also contrasts with robust growth in China-India bilateral trade this year, a trend that is increasingly irresistible for the South Asian economy despite its growing political hostility toward China, experts said, as per the report. The number of Indian companies that attend the CIIIE has been decreasing progressively in recent years and dropped to zero at this year's CIIIE, according to an official catalog of participants for the event.

The catalog of 4th CIIIE exhibitors displayed at the exhibition halls showed that no Indian company is listed. A search for Indian exhibitors in the expo's digital catalogue, presented on the CIIIE's official website, also showed no results. At the second CIIIE, India was one of the 15 guest-of-honour countries.

The Global Times then saw around 10 small Indian pharmaceutical firms displaying their products at one of the expo venues. The booths were also crowded with visitors who asked about those products. Last year, the Global Times only found three Indian companies at the CIIIE, one of which was a manufacturer of gift products.

Border disputes and New Delhi's intention to follow in the US' footsteps could by no means suppress India's reliance on a variety of Chinese goods such as auto parts and various small commodities, Wang Dehua, a senior South Asian affairs expert in Shanghai, told the Global Times Thursday. In the first three quarters of 2021, China's trade with India soared 49.3 per cent to \$903.75 billion, according to Chinese customs data. The strong reading is believed to have paved the way for bilateral trade to top \$100 billion for the first time, achieving a target the two countries set in 2010, the report said.

Oil gains as renewed supply concerns loom

AGENCIES

Washington, Nov 6: Crude prices settled higher Friday fuelled by renewed supply concerns after OPEC+ producers rebuffed a US call to accelerate output increases even as demand nears pre-pandemic levels.

Brent crude rose \$2.20 to settle at \$82.74 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude (WTI) gained \$2.46 to \$81.27.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies including Russia, collectively known as OPEC+, agreed Thursday to stick to their plan to raise oil output by 400,000 barrels per day from December. US President Joe Biden had called for extra output to cool rising prices.

OPEC+ DEFIES BIDEN



"OPEC's decision to stay the course and the Biden administration's lack of a substantial response has the oil rally continuing," said Bob Yawger, director of energy futures at Mizuho. Only a coordinated effort, with China and others involved, would address the

lack of barrels in the market, Yawger added.

The White House said it would consider all tools at its disposal to guarantee affordable energy, including the possibility of releasing oil from strategic petroleum reserves (SPR).

"Markets know that the release of strategic reserves can only have a temporary bearish effect on prompt prices and is not a lasting solution for an imbalance between supply and demand," Rystad Energy head of oil markets Bjornar Tonhaugen said in a note.

Brent fell for a second straight week, slipping about two per cent, while WTI shed 2.7 per cent.

"While factors such as a very cold winter - which may drive the use of more oil for heating - could be supportive for prices, it will be tough for Brent to break above the \$87 mark," said Ann-Louise Hittle, vice president, oils research at consultancy Wood Mackenzie, noting a limited capacity for gas-to-oil switching despite the high price of the former.

Global telecom, Pay TV services to reach \$1.5tn

THE FASTEST EXPANSION IS STILL EXPECTED IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 6: Driven by remote working, collaboration and on-line media consumption, worldwide spending on telecommunications and pay TV services is forecast to reach \$1.5 trillion in 2021, representing an increase of 1 per cent over 2020.

According to an IDC report, while the value of fixed voice and mobile voice services segments will be gradually declining, the value of fixed data and mobile data services portions will be slowly growing.

The major driver in the mobile segment will be a gradual recovery of roaming revenues fuelled by the recuperation of the global tourist industry. The market for traditional pay TV services will continue to decline slowly due to migration of customers to over-the-top (OTT) video services platforms, the IDC report showed Friday.

The overall market's growth rates are expected to remain stable



during the entire forecast period and even speed up slightly in 2025.

5G will constitute 38.8 per cent of total mobile connections and 41.3 per cent of total mobile spending by the end of the forecast period in 2025.

"The troubles related to Covid-19 are still not in the rear-view mirror as the worsening pandemic dynamics in some low-income coun-

tries and the global supply-chain disruptions threaten to harm the fragile recovery of the market," said Kresimir Alic, research director, telecommunications at IDC.

"But because of the resiliency the industry showed during 2020, we are convinced that the market will remain in a positive mood for at least the next couple of years," added Alic.

Tracing Sreeleathers' footprints

Sreeleathers, one of the leading shoe brands of the country, is known for delivering durable products at an affordable price range for over 30 years. Now, it has not only become a household name in Bengal, but also a recommendation for tourists during their visit to Kolkata. Talking about Sreeleathers, we learnt about the humble beginnings of the brand from its Managing Director, Satyabrata Dey and his wife Shipra Dey

How was the beginning of the journey?

Mr Dey: I came to Calcutta with bare minimal possessions but a strong-willed ambition. I recognised two gaps in the footwear market. The first opportunity was that all the existing brands were grossly overpriced and the second was that all vendors/suppliers were receiving irregular orders and payments. So while I survived with the bare minimum, I made sure that my customers were receiving the best quality at the best price and my suppliers were content with regular orders and payments.



Sreeleathers MD, Satyabrata Dey with his wife & Director Shipra Dey

How were you introduced to the footwear market. The first opportunity was that all the existing brands were grossly overpriced and the second was that all vendors/suppliers were receiving irregular orders and payments. So while I survived with the bare minimum, I made sure that my customers were receiving the best quality at the best price and my suppliers were content with regular orders and payments.

What is the future of the brand?

Mrs Dey: My daughter has already joined the business as a full time director and my son is pursuing an education in mechanical engineering from Boston University. He is very passionate about the latest IT developments that we can incorporate in the organisation. Even though they bring different skill-sets to the table they work well together to introduce and execute innovative concepts.

What is the most important asset in your organisation? Mr Dey: We value the organisational culture in the workplace. My priority is to mould my people



into good human beings. Health has always been a priority for us. We hosted a vaccination camp at one of our properties and I'm happy to say that 100% of our employees are vaccinated.

Startup Odisha grants ₹92.76L to 12 firms

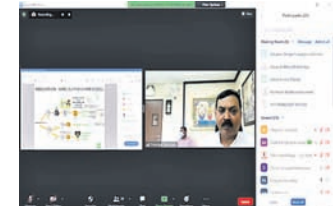
POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The state government's Startup Odisha, Saturday, has approved ₹92.76 lakh of monthly allowance to the startups for productions and marketing improvements.

The grant has been approved during the Task Force meeting organised under leadership of MSME Principal Secretary Satyabrata Sahu.

The Startup Odisha has allowed the grant to 12 startups of the state and it will be invested for their developments, says an official.

Moreover, the Task Force has also approved the applications of four incubators in the state. The incubators are — InTech IMMT (Bhubaneswar), Krishi Kalinga Innovation Council (OUAT), NRRI Agri Business Incubation Centre (Cuttack) and DBT-Institute of Life



Science, (Bhubaneswar).

Apart from these 12 startups, the state government has already supported financial assistance to 207 startups in the state so far. State's entrepreneurs have also not disappointed the government with their businesses.

Recently the state government's "Skilled-in-Odisha" campaign got a further boost as the state swept most of the skills in 'India Skills 2021 Eastern Region' competition held at Patna. Odisha dominated the competition by winning 23 gold medals and 20 silver medals.

NET-ZERO TRANSITION

Half of fossil fuel assets will be worthless by 2036

THE STUDY FINDS THAT RENEWABLES AND FREED-UP INVESTMENT WILL MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR THE LOSSES TO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 6: About half of the world's fossil fuel assets will be worthless by 2036 under a net-zero transition, The Guardian reported.

It highlights the risk of producing far more oil and gas than required for future demand, which is estimated to leave \$11tn-\$14tn in so-called stranded assets - infrastructure, property and investments where the value has fallen so steeply they must be written off, the report said.

Countries that are slow to decarbonise will suffer but early movers will profit; the study finds that renewables and freed-up in-

vestment will more than make up for the losses to the global economy.

The lead author, Jean-Francois Mercure of the University of Exeter said, "The shift to clean energy would benefit the world economy overall, but it would need to be handled carefully to prevent regional pockets of misery and possible global instability."

"In a worst-case scenario, people will keep investing in fossil fuels

until suddenly the demand they expected does not materialise and they realise that what they own is worthless. Then we could see a financial crisis on the scale of 2008," he said, warning

oil capitals such as Houston could suffer the same fate as Detroit

In a worst-case scenario, people will keep investing in fossil fuels until suddenly the demand they expected does not materialise and they realise that what they own is worthless. Then we could see a financial crisis on the scale of 2008

JEAN-FRANCOIS MERCURE | UNIVERSITY OF EXETER



after the decline of the US car industry unless the transition is carefully managed.

The challenge is evident at the ongoing Cop26 climate conference, where some of the nations most at

risk of being left with stranded assets such as the oil and gas exporters Russia and Brazil are likely to try to slow down the transition as they have done at previous climate meetings, while those most

likely to gain such as the fuel-importing EU are pushing for faster action, the report added.

The new paper, published in Nature Energy, illustrates how a drop in demand for oil and gas before 2036 will reshape the geopolitical landscape. Current investment flows and government commitments to reach net zero emissions by 2050 will make renewable energy more efficient, cheaper and stable, while fossil fuels will be hit by more price volatility. Many carbon assets, such as oil or coal reserves, will be left unburned, while machinery will also be stranded and no longer produce value for its owners.

Vintage Warner seals Oz win

SA end 2021 WT20 run with win over England

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Nov 6: Veteran opener David Warner produced a feisty unbeaten 89 (56b, 9x4, 4x6) as Australia recorded a facile eight-wicket win over the West Indies to stay alive in the semifinal race at the T20 World Cup, here Saturday.

The left-hander was at his vintage best as he anchored the 158-run chase in a match that was a swansong game for Dwayne Bravo and probably also for Chris Gayle. Warner got good support from Mitchell Marsh (53, 32b, 5x4, 2x6) who got out while trying to score the winning run. The duo stitched a match-winning 124-run partnership in 75 balls to seal the chase with 23 balls to spare.

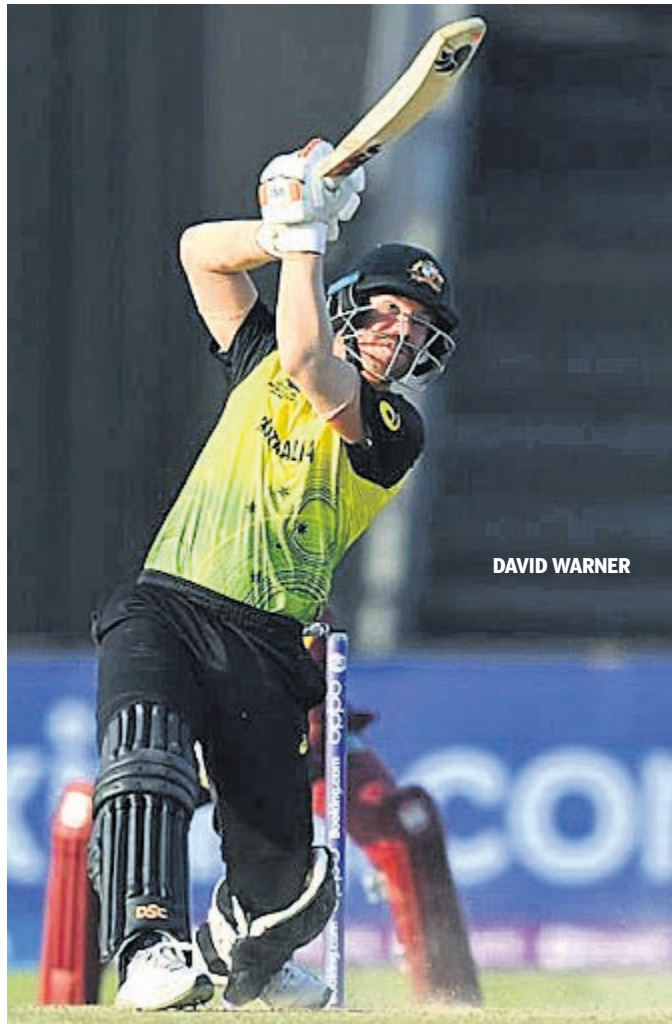
Australia would now have to wait for the result of South Africa and England match. The Proteas need to beat England by a big margin to crush the hopes of Aaron Finch's men who have a net run-rate of 1.216 with four wins from five matches.

The Aussie lefthander, who struggled to get going in the recently-concluded IPL here and lost his place at the Sunrisers Hyderabad, upped the ante in the third over, smashing Jason Holder two consecutive boundaries before finishing the over with a six.

Skipper Finch (9) got out in the next over after being cleaned up by Akeal Hosein but Warner maintained the run rate.

Warner raced to his 20th T20I half century in 29 balls, as Australia were never in a spot of bother and made it a run-a-ball equation at the halfway mark - 98/1 - needing 60 off 60 balls.

There was his trademark pull, sweep and switch hits as he toyed with the Windies attack. Marsh also followed suit with an equally



DAVID WARNER

aggressive half century - his fifth in T20Is as Australia made it a walk in the park.

Earlier, skipper Kieron Pollard struck a combative 31-ball 44 to lead West Indies to a fighting 157/7. Opting to field in a must-win match, Australia were taken to the cleaners by Windies opener Evin Lewis, who smashed Josh Hazlewood for

a hat-trick of fours en route to his 26-ball 29.

'Universe Boss' Gayle made a nine-ball 15 in what seemed his last International appearance as he enjoyed every bit of the moment and also signed off with a wicket of Marsh.

He also celebrated jumping on to Marsh while the Aussie would



Dwayne Bravo is given a Guard of Honour on his farewell match, Saturday

his way back. On a batting-friendly wicket that aided true pace and bounce, the struggling defending champions finally got their rhythm back.

Australia got three wickets for five runs but the Windies kept firing with Pollard holding the innings together. Pollard slammed one six and four fours while Shimron Hetmyer (27) and Bravo, who made a 12-ball 10 in his final International outing, also made useful contributions.

Finally it was Andre Russell who finished it off with two sixes (18 n o, 7b) to prop the total as the Windies put on 58 runs in the final five overs.

For the Aussies, Hazlewood was brilliant, returning with 4/39 as he bounced back brilliantly after being hit for 20 in his first over.

The loss also meant that the two-time World Champions West Indies have missed out on a direct qualification to 'Super 12' for the T20 World Cup 2022 in Australia.

According to the ICC T20 rankings predictor, if the Windies lose they would drop to No.9 and hence would

not get a direct qualification.

It was an emotional match for Bravo whose final innings in International cricket was over when he departed after getting caught at long-on. Bravo was hugged by Pollard on his way out as Russell and others too gave him a standing ovation, while Gayle also gave him an emotional hug in the dugout.

It also seemed a final match for Gayle. It's not official yet, but the Windies great was seen waving at the camera and raised his bat after crossing the rope as he was also seen distributing his cricketing gears to the fans in the stands.

Fresh from his career-best performance of 5/19, leg-spinner Adam Zampa dismissed the well-set Lewis in the 10th over with a googly when the left-hander hit a skier only to be taken by Steve Smith at long with a superb catch.

BRIEF SCORES

West Indies 157/7 (Kieron Pollard 44, Evin Lewis 29, Shimron Hetmyer 27, Josh Hazlewood 4/39) lost to **Australia 162/2** (David Warner 89 n o, Mitchell Marsh 53, Chris Gayle 1/7) by 8 wickets.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sharjah, Nov 6: England suffered their first defeat in the ongoing ICC T20 World Cup but still qualified for the semifinals on the basis of a better net run-rate, knocking out victors South Africa from the tournament here Saturday.

SA pacer Kagiso Rabada (3/48) produced a sensational final over to become the first from his country to bag a hat-trick in T20Is and help his side register a 10-run win.

The Proteas, who had scored 189/2 after being sent in to bat, needed to restrict England to 131 to overtake Australia in net run-rate and qualify for the semifinals.

England, Australia and South Africa ended on eight points each but the top two teams made it to the semifinals as they had better net run rate than SA (NRR +0.739) who were knocked out. England (+2.464) topped Group 1 while Australia (+1.216), who beat West Indies earlier in the day, finished second.

Rabada dismissed Chris Woakes

(7), Eoin Morgan (17) and Chris Jordan (0) in successive balls in the final over for the third hat-trick of the tournament.

Jason Roy was taken off the field, retired hurt on 20, as he suffered an apparent leg injury. Moeen Ali (37) was the top scorer for England. Dawid Malan (33), Liam Livingstone (28), Jos Buttler (26) also played handy knocks but it wasn't enough. For South Africa, Tabraiz Shamsi (2/24) and Dwaine Pretorius (2/30) took two wickets each.

Earlier, Rassie van der Dussen smashed an unbeaten 94 (60b, 5x4, 6x6) and Aiden Markram made 52 not out (25b, 2x4, 4x6) in a brilliant display of power hitting as they steered South Africa to 189/2. The duo shared 103 runs for the unbroken third wicket.

BRIEF SCORES: South Africa 189/2 (Rassie van der Dussen 94 n o, Aiden Markram 52 n o; Moeen Ali 1/27) beat England 179/8 (Moeen Ali 37, Dawid Malan 33; Kagiso Rabada 3/48, Tabraiz Shamsi 2/24, Dwaine Pretorius 2/30) by 10 runs.



SPLENDID SHOW: Rassie van der Dussen (L) gives Aiden Markram; (inset) Kagiso Rabada smiles after claiming the hat-trick against England, Saturday

Djoko enters Paris Masters summit clash

REUTERS

Paris, Nov 6: Top seed Novak Djokovic might be out of pocket after trashing the floor of a Roland Garros gym but there was little else troubling the Serb after he opened his French Open bid Monday by dismantling Poland's Hubert Hurkacz.

The 32-year-old, bidding for a second Roland Garros title and to become the first man in the professional era to hold all four Grand Slam titles on two separate occasions, mixed power and precision in equal measure to win 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.

Reigning champion Rafael Nadal, the man most likely to block Djokovic's path to a second "Nole Slam", had earlier launched his bid for a 12th title on the Parisian clay in sublime style.



But Djokovic more than matched the Spaniard's display with a near faultless performance in the afternoon sunshine on Court Philippe Chatrier to seal a 22nd consecutive win in Grand Slam play since losing in the quarter-finals here last year.

Djokovic is bidding for his second title at Roland Garros having beaten Andy Murray in 2016 to hold all four Slams together and match Rod Laver's 1969 feat.

Since his first, the French Open has undergone a huge makeover and Djokovic said he is impressed with the revamp of Chatrier, hinting that it could give him a subtle advantage.

Indians' 'priceless' visit to Scots' dressing room



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Nov 6: Indian cricketers including captain Virat Kohli and his deputy Rohit Sharma shared their "priceless" experiences with the Scotland team following their eight-wicket win in the Super 12 match of the T20 World Cup here.

Besides Kohli and Rohit, other Indian stars like Jasprit Bumrah and Ravichandran Ashwin were also seen interacting with the Scottish players in their dressing room after the match Friday night.

"Huge respect to Virat Kohli and co. for taking the time," Cricket Scotland tweeted. "Priceless," it wrote along with pictures of the interaction. India put up an all-round effort to pulverise Scotland and

keep their semifinal prospects alive. The entire match lasted a mere 24.1 overs as India skittled Scotland for 85 in 17.4 overs and then needed only 6.3 overs to knock off the runs.

The dominating win took India's net run-rate to +1.619, which is now best among all six teams, even better than top-placed Pakistan (+1.065). To surpass Afghanistan's current net run-rate of +1.481, India needed to score the required runs in 7.1 overs and KL Rahul (50, 19b) and Rohit Sharma (30, 16b) added 70 in five overs to make sure that they achieve it in style.

Scotland had won all their three matches in Group B to qualify for Super 12. But they crashed out after losing all their last four matches.

Bhaker-Foroughi pair bags mixed team gold

AGENCIES

Wroclaw (Poland), Nov 6: India's woman pistol ace Manu Bhaker and Iran's reigning Olympic champion Javad Foroughi won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the inaugural ISSF President's Cup here.

The Indo-Iranian pair got the better of the French-Russian duo of Mathilde Lamolle and Artem Chernousov 16-8 in the gold medal match Friday.

Bhaker and Foroughi were placed third in qualification with a combined score of 582/600 to qualify for the first semi-final where they topped the field of four pairs to make it to the final.

Among the other Indians in the field, Abhishek Verma paired up with Ukrainian Olena Kostevych to finish sixth while the pairing



of Saurabh Chaudhary and Swiss Heidi Gerber Diethelm also made it among the top eight semi-finalists to finish seventh.

Yashaswini Deswal, the fourth Indian in the fray and who was

paired with Slovakian Juraj Tuzinsky, ended 10th among the 12 teams in the competition.

International mixed teams were formed by the ISSF randomly in accordance with the draw. In the day's other medal event, China's Lihao Sheng and Romania's Laura Georgeta Ilie won the 10m air rifle mixed team competition.

The inaugural ISSF President's Cup is a rechristened version of the World Cup Finals, where the year's top 12 athletes according to world ranking are invited to determine the best individual athletes of the year in their respective Olympic events.

Individual winners will be awarded The Golden Target along with prize money. Cash awards will also be awarded to all athletes in the individual competitions.

Odisha lose to Maharashtra

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Odisha suffered their second loss in three matches in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 tournament going down by 27 runs against Maharashtra in their Elite Group A match at Lucknow, Saturday.

Chasing a challenging 184, Odisha could muster only 156 before losing last wicket. It was a complete performance from Maharashtra, who posted 183/8 in their 20 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat first.

The top six of the Odisha batters got starts but couldn't convert those into big ones. The only notable partnership was a 56-run stand for the second wicket between the top scorer

Anshy Rath (34, 26b, 5x4) and Subhanshu Senapati (27, 20b, 2x6).

Skipper Rajesh Dhuper (16, 11b, 1x4, 1x6) had an impressive start but failed to carry on. And the same goes for Abhishek Yadav (23, 14b, 2x4, 1x6), Govinda Poddar (17, 15b, 2x4) and Abhishek Raut (29, 14b, 4x4, 1x6). Odisha lost final four wickets fell in a span of only three runs. For Maharashtra, Divyang Himganekar (4/35) and Ashay Palkar (3/13) were excellent with the ball.

Earlier, Maharashtra had to suffer an early blow when Debabrata Pradhan (3/37) pegged back Yash Nahar in the second ball of their innings for a first-ball duck.

However, skipper Rituraj Gaikwad (81, 47b, 10x4, 3x6) and

experienced Kedar Jadhav (55, 35b, 7x4) took the game away with a 131-run second wicket stand. Jayanta Behera (2/36) broke the stand in the 13th over getting rid of Jadhav.

Gaikwad too got out shortly off Bikash Rout (2/29) with the score reading 145/3 in 14.4 overs. Maharashtra then lost wickets one after the other in search of quick runs, eventually posting 183/8.

BRIEF SCORES: Maharashtra 183/8 (Rituraj Gaikwad 81, Kedar Jadhav 55; Debabrata Pradhan 3/37, Bikash Rout 2/29, Jayanta Behera 2/36) beat Odisha 156 (Anshy Rath 34, Abhishek Raut 29, Subhanshu Senapati 27, Abhishek Yadav 23; Divyang Himganekar 4/35, Ashay Palkar 3/13) by 27 runs.

City pile more Old Trafford misery on Man United

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manchester, Nov 6: It took only seven minutes of the Manchester derby to be in no doubt about the parlous state of United. When Eric Bailly clumsily intercepted Joao Cancelo's cross to divert the ball into his own net, it was the start of another agonizing Old Trafford encounter with a now far superior rival.

The only surprise from Saturday's derby was United escaping with a 0-2 loss to Manchester City after Bernardo Silva met another delivery into the box from Cancelo, got ahead of Luke Shaw and beat goalkeeper David De Gea at his near post in stoppage time.

Humiliation was avoided, two weeks after being routed 0-5 by Liverpool here, but it was another encounter to reinforce just how

far United has slipped behind the Premier League's elite.

It was so serene that Pep Guardiola didn't even make a single substitution. This was City's first Premier League win over United since March 2019 but in that time Guardiola's side has won the title twice, while the trophy hasn't been on the red half of Manchester since 2013.

City and United do boast the world's most expensive football squads - each assembled for more than USD 1 billion - but that wouldn't be obvious watching in the lashing northern English rain.

On paper, six points now separate defending champion City in second from United in fifth. The gulf in quality, tactics and style looks greater, with City effortlessly cruising to victory.

It wasn't Guardiola's name City fans were singing at Old Trafford. They were mercilessly mocking Solskjaer: "Ole's at the wheel," they serenaded the United manager, sarcastically adopting the United fan song.

Solskjaer limps on in the job, with just one win from six league games. The only success came last Saturday against Tottenham, which acted swiftly to decide managerial change was required. And in firing Nuno Espirito Santo and hiring Antonio Conte.

Later in the day, Burnley denied Chelsea a home win at the Stamford Bridge. Kai Havertz put the league leaders in the lead on 33 minutes to put the fans in joy. However Matej Vydra (79th) struck the equaliser nine minutes after coming on as a substitute for Burnley.



BERNARDO SILVA