



BIG LAUNCH

Actor Manushi Chhillar, set to start her acting career in *Prithviraj*, says she couldn't have asked for a better debut

LEISURE P2



DIGITAL VEHICLE DOCUMENTS

State govt decides to issue vehicle documents including DLs and RCs digitally from Jan 1, 2022

DOWNTOWN P3



NEW ERA BEGINS

New era begins Wednesday for Indian cricket with Rahul Dravid and Rohit Sharma at the helm

SPORTS P12



Unable to repay loan, farmer ends life

Jaleswar: A farmer committed suicide by consuming poison after he allegedly failed to repay his farm loan in Shalikothe village under this block in Balasore district. The deceased farmer has been identified as Laxmi Narayan Jena. According to reports, he had taken a loan to grow paddy on two acres of land. However, his crop was heavily damaged owing to pest attack and Jena incurred huge losses. Apparently under acute depression, Jena consumed poison in a bid to end his life. He was rushed to Jaleswar Hospital. He succumbed on the way while he was being shifted to the SCB Hospital in Cuttack after his condition worsened. In August, a farmer had killed himself allegedly over distress sell of paddy.



Police arrest 3,488 fugitives in 10 days

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Police in a special drive has arrested 3,488 fugitives in 10-days, official sources said Tuesday. The police launched a special warrant drive between November 5 and November 14, during which the non-bailable warrants were executed. This includes 2,392 warrants/arrests in GR cases, 400 warrants/arrests in sessions trial cases and 696 warrants/arrests in other cases. Maximum 592 warrants were executed by arrests in Balasore district followed by 551 in Ganjam district and 516 in Khurda district. During this warrant drive, 2,648 non-bailable warrants (NBWs) were otherwise disposed of.

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IRREGULAR by MANJUL

He has brought non-veg food today!

State eyes 100 pc vaccination by Dec

■ This will be at least a single dose coverage of all beneficiaries aged above 18 and, not all double jabs

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: In a bid to protect every individual from the coronavirus, the state government is eyeing to cover all people above 18 years in the Covid-19 vaccination programme by December.

Holding a high-level meeting with all Collectors, in presence of senior officials of the health department, Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra directed officials to achieve the target by administering at least first jab to all eligible population of the state.

Taking a district wise review of the progress, Mahapatra said, "We are now in a transitional phase of the pandemic."

There has been a substantial reduction in the number of infected cases. At this point of time, we have to intensify the vaccination drive before a possible third wave of the pandemic hits us."

He asked the Collectors to prepare a village and GP-level micro plan for vaccination. He directed to ensure cent percent implementation of the micro plans on a campaign mode through door to door surveys.

The districts were further asked to intensify the campaign and open more vaccination centers at village and GP level. The vaccination rate in Odisha has gone above the national rate with least procedural wastage of vaccine doses.

Attending the meeting, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Health and Family Welfare, Raj

Kumar Sharma said the total vaccination in Odisha crossed 4.03 crore by November 13. Out of this, 2,68,04,755 persons received the first dose, and 1,34,96,059 received the second jab.

About 82.4 per cent of the above 18 years population have received their first dose in the state against the national average of 79.8 per cent. Similarly, 41.5 per cent of the population have got second dose against the national average of 38.4 per cent, Sharma said.

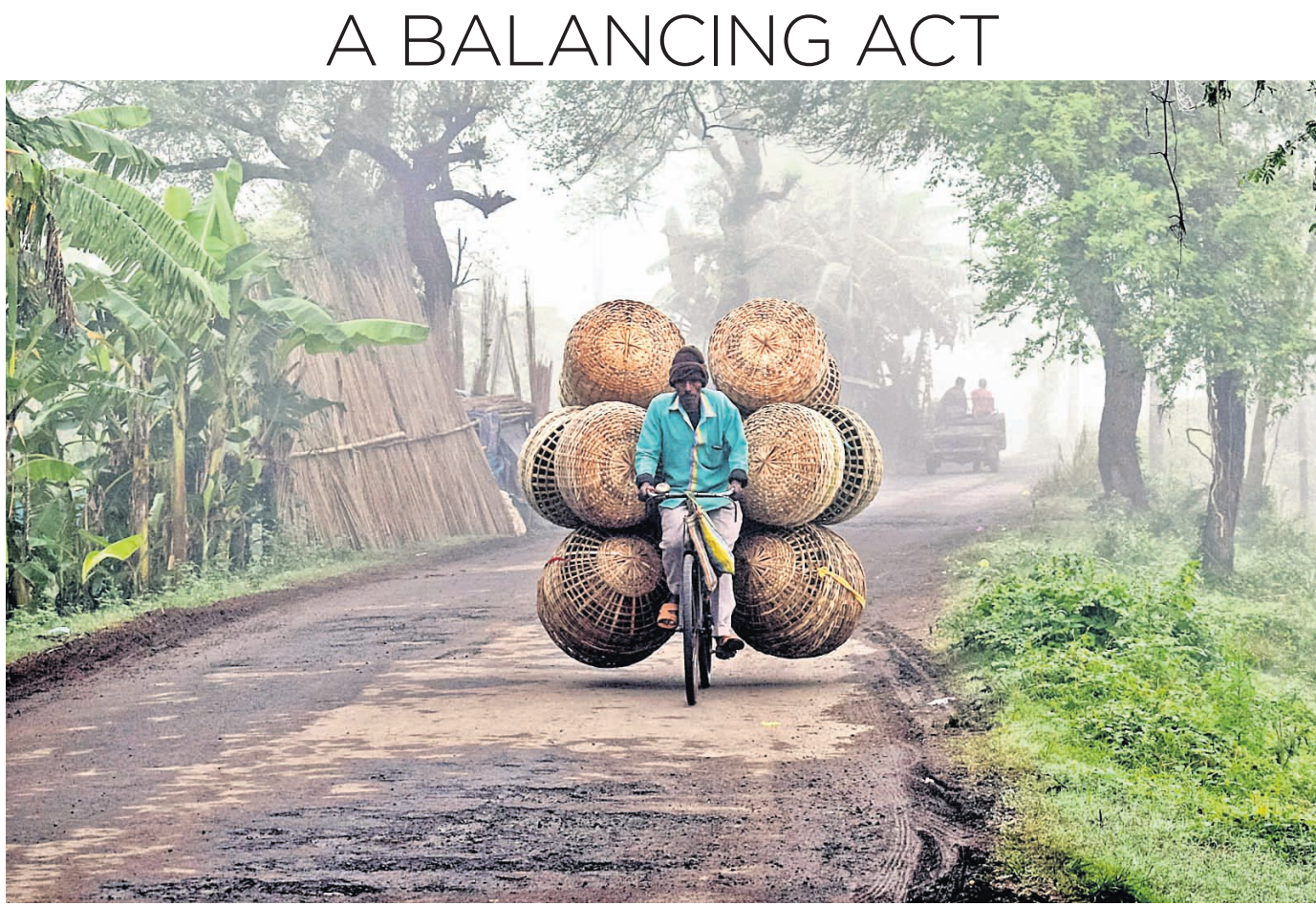
A target was set to accomplish 90 per cent administration of the first dose by November 30. The Chief Secretary directed to step it up to cent per cent by the end of December.

Presenting the updates, director, National Health Mission, (NHM) Shalini Pandit appraised that because of the proper care in storing, transportation and administration of the vaccine, the wastage of the doses was least in Odisha. The vaccine wastage dipped to -5.3% in the state thereby saving around 20 lakh of doses, Pandit said.

She also said that there was sufficient supply of the vaccine and syringes. Districts would be supplied more as per their demand.

The director sought to ensure that the second dose of the vaccine should always be of the same brand of the first dose without fail. There should not be intermixing of the type of vaccines between the first and the second dose.

She also directed to ensure administration of the second dose within the specified time limit of the first dose. The Collectors of all districts appraised their field level preparation for scaling up the vaccination and covering of all left out cases.



A basket vendor pedals his cycle on way to work during a foggy morning in Nadia district Tuesday

PTI PHOTO

A BALANCING ACT

Dhenkanal: CBI team beaten

■ Locals attacked a CBI team during its raids on a house as part of a nationwide crackdown on online sexual abuse of children

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Dhenkanal, Nov 16: A Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) team was attacked by slum dwellers in Dhenkanal during its raids as part of a nationwide crackdown on an alleged racket of online child sexual abuse Tuesday. The searches were conducted at 76 places in 14 states.

The CBI team was attacked by locals while it was conducting searches in the house of Surendra Nayak at Colony Sahi of Dhenkanal town. The CBI reached Nayak's house in the morning and as they were trying to take him with them, the locals attacked the sleuths.

The mob dragged them out of Nayak's house. Several women surrounded the team and beat them up. Later, Town police staff rescued the CBI officers.



CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

BHUBANESWAR: Child pornography has been a menace for Odisha as it topped the list among states in the country on registration of cases related to the use and storing of child pornography materials in 2018 and 2019. As per the data released by the National Crime Records Bureau, 333 cases under Sections 14 and 15 of POCOA Act were registered in the state in 2018. In 2019, the state police registered 542 cases for child pornography. Though it came down to 33 in 2020, Odisha still remains among the top ten states in the country in child pornography.

Senior officials at Town police station said the CBI officials had not intimidated about their visit. Sources said Nayak was part of a social

media group and used to share links containing adult content.

"I had joined a group named Desi MMS. I had joined the group through a link on the internet and was sharing the links of adult contents from one website to other and groups. I had received 21 USD. The CBI officials asked me about the number of members in the group and when I had joined. They took away my mobile phone," said Nayak. The CBI also conducted searches in Bhadrak district on the house of an auto driver. The auto driver is facing charges of circulating pictures of minor girls on internet. The sleuths also carried raids in Jajpur too.

UGANDA TWIN BLASTS PARA-SHUTTLER PRAMOD BHAGAT AND TEAM SAFE

AGENCIES

Kampala, Nov 16: Two explosions occurred in the centre of Uganda's capital, where the Indian para-badminton team has gone to take part in an international tournament, but the shuttlers are safe.

The blasts, which are reported to have occurred just 100 meters from the hotel the Indian team is staying in, have killed at least two people and set several cars on fire.

However, Para-Badminton India took to social media and said that players are safe.

"Indian Team is Safe! There is multiple bomb blast 100 mtr away from the official Hotel," it said in a tweet.



Coach Vikash Khanna also mentioned that the team is safe and there is nothing to panic.

"Nothing to panic. We all are safe here and the organisers and respective agencies are taking utmost care. Nothing to worry," tweeted Khanna.

The Indian para-badminton team featuring Tokyo Paralympics medallists Pramod Bhagat, Manoj Sarkar and others had travelled to Uganda and reached Kampala a couple of days ago to compete at the Uganda Para-Badminton International 2021.

As per BBC report, one blast took place near Parliament, with the other close to the city's police headquarters. The cause of the blasts was not immediately clear.

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	60322.37 ↓ 396.34
NIFTY	17999.20 ↓ 110.30
DOLLAR	74.49 ↑ ₹0.12
EURO	84.51 ↓ ₹0.02
GOLD	₹49,348 ↑ ₹50
SILVER	₹66,760 ↑ ₹197

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	27.0°C	28.0°C
TEMP MIN	21.4°C	20.4°C
Humidity	89%	96%
Rainfall	14.4mm	5.6mm
Forecast	Partly cloudy	sky

China overtakes US as richest country in world

■ China has accounted for almost one-third of gains in global net worth over the past two decades. Its wealth skyrocketed to \$120 tn from a mere \$7 trillion in 2000

AGENCIES

Beijing, Nov 16: Now, China is the richest country in the world, surpassing the US. While global wealth tripled over the last two decades, China led the way and overtook the US for the top spot worldwide, Bloomberg reported.

A report by McKinsey & Co. that examines the national balance sheets of ten countries representing more than 60 per cent of the world's income. China accounted for almost one-third of gains in global net worth over the past two decades, the report said. "We are now wealthier than we have ever been," Jan

Mischke, a partner at the McKinsey Global Institute in Zurich, said in an interview. Net worth worldwide rose to \$514 trillion in 2020, from \$156 trillion in 2000, according to the study. China accounted for almost one-third of the increase.

Its wealth skyrocketed to \$120 trillion from a mere \$7 trillion in 2000, the year before it joined the World Trade Organization, speeding its economic ascent, the report said. The US, held back by more muted increases in property prices, saw its net worth more than double over the period, to \$90 trillion.

In both countries - the world's biggest economies - more than two-thirds of the wealth is held by the richest 10 per cent of households, and their share has been increasing, the report said. As computed by McKinsey, 68 per cent of global net worth is stored in real estate. The balance is held in such things as infrastructure, machinery and equip-



ment and, to a much lesser extent, so-called intangibles like intellectual property and patents, it added.

The report, however, also highlighted the massive inequality in wealth in the world's top two rich countries. In both China and the US, more than 67 per cent of wealth is owned by the richest 10 per cent of households. Additionally,

that proportion of wealth ownership is showing an upward trend.

The report also warns that, despite what the numbers are showing, China's economy risks being overwhelmed by property debt. One way to avoid this crisis, not just in China but worldwide, would be to ensure productive investments that contribute to global GDP.

Xi warns of 'playing with fire' over Taiwan

BEIJING/WASHINGTON: Striking a tough posture at the much-awaited virtual summit with his US counterpart Joe Biden Tuesday, President Xi Jinping said that China will "certainly defend" its sovereignty and security interests as he warned that whoever plays with fire over Taiwan will "get burnt".

Xi pointed Beijing's "red lines" on a host of issues, including Taiwan, and said China's rise is an "inevitable trend of history" and cannot be stopped. On Taiwan, where China has pressed over 200 military jets into the estranged islands air defence zone ratcheting tensions, Xi ascribed the tensions to the repeated attempts by the Taiwan authorities to look for US support for their independence agenda. "Such moves are extremely dangerous, just like playing with fire. Whoever plays with fire will get burnt."

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Today, you will show every one what you're capable of. You are likely to come up with great ideas and work strategies, which will prove productive. However, if appreciation doesn't come your way, Ganesh says you must learn to take disappointment in your stride.

TAURUS
You will be feeling listless, lazy and out of sorts today, and will tend to ignore and neglect important tasks scheduled for the day. Ganesh urges you to guard against this tendency as you could miss out on opportunities that others could then benefit from.

GEMINI
A crucial social event at home is on the anvil, and it will demand most of your attention. Intense business negotiations, which were going on for a long time, will come to a logical conclusion. The results are likely to be stacked in your favour. This, coupled with after-office parties, will ease out the stress.

CANCER
You will make new friends. You will have a jolly time with them, but some worry or tension will nag you. But Ganesh says that all worries will go away by evening, when you relax with friends.

LEO
You will be seized by a desire to do something new for a change today. Your mood will be bright throughout the day. You will be able to achieve success owing to your energy and enthusiasm. The planets are in your favour, hence you can accept the challenges coming your way and prevail over them, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Ganesh predicts that you will be rewarded today for all the good work done earlier. You will prefer to manage things in your own way, rather than taking orders from others. However, Ganesh advises you not to throw your weight around, but to stay calm and composed.

LIBRA
Ganesh says today is the right day to get closer to your loved one. You will spend the evening with your beloved. Today you will be mentally very energetic too. Make the most of the day.

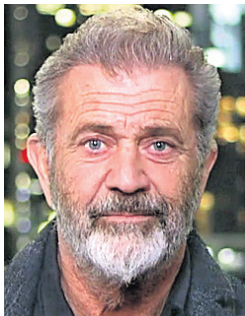
SCORPIO
Yet another mundane day in your life, as nothing exciting is on the cards. However, be cheerful and keep trying hard to bring in some spice in life. You never know when the planets change their mood and make an exciting future. Keep the hope alive, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Your leadership qualities are likely to bag compliments today. As you follow law and order and also make others follow it. You leave no stone unturned to get the work done, and that too systematically. However, make sure you also give them space and freedom to express themselves. It would earn you brownie points, says Ganesh.

CAPRICORN
If at first you don't succeed, try again. Many people underestimate the power of perseverance and patience. But, these qualities will lead you success. Rather than exploding with anger and anxiety, keep your faith in your plans intact, especially when the results are not as per your plans, advises Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
You are in for a challenging day today. But, luck is by your side and you will be able to come out of the storm hale and hearty, assures Ganesh. If you are a businessman, you may enter into some major business venture, sign important contracts and take up new projects.

PISCES
Your patience and capabilities will be on trial today and will be put to test with every work you undertake. Even simple tasks and common goals will seem hard to achieve and will require a considerable amount of effort to complete. Due to the unfavourable position of the planets, Ganesh suggests that it is best to steer clear of trouble unless you wish to step on already sore toes.



GIBSON TO DIRECT LETHAL WEAPON 5

Actor Mel Gibson will be starring in and directing the fifth installment of *Lethal Weapon*. Gibson, who appears as Martin Riggs in the franchise, announced his involvement in the project at an event in London, reports aceshowbiz.com.

HALLE BERRY: HELMING BRUISED WAS MY TOUGHEST CHALLENGE

Oscar-winning star Halle Berry, who has gone behind the camera for the first time with *Bruised*, has revealed that directing the upcoming film was her toughest challenge. Berry also plays a disgraced MMA fighter who decides to return for an unsanctioned bout in the movie, reports femalefirst.co.uk.



BAFTA picks 3 new Indian experts for mentorship

Mumbai: British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) announced three new industry experts - Oscar-winning film producer Guneet Monga, veteran actress Ratna Pathak Shah and gaming entrepreneur Vishal Gondal - who will share their knowledge with the talents who take part in the mentorship programme *BAFTA Breakthrough India*.

The programme aims at increasing global opportunities for people to pursue careers in the arts. Talking on the occasion, Guneet said, "The power of mentorship is the most crucial part for any talent to grow and even though earlier such structure was not there in our industry, it is interesting to notice

how things have evolved in the recent time." She added: "I think there is a power of great mentorship that we often ignore and from the beginning of our career, with the right kind of exposure and mentorship, we actually can empower a lot of raw talent."



Ratna Pathak Shah



Guneet Monga



Vishal Gondal

Guneet is known for producing and co-producing some of award-winning films like *The Lunchbox*, *Masaan*, *Gangs of Wasseypur*, *Pagglait* and *What Will People Say*. The last date for applications for *BAFTA Breakthrough India* is November 30. The participants can visit the official website of BAFTA to apply.

IFFI to pay special tribute to Sean Connery

The five films of the legend, who passed late last year, to be screened at the event are - *'From Russia with Love'*, *'Goldfinger'*, *'You Only Live Twice'*, *'The Hunt For Red October'*, and *'The Untouchables'*

The 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will pay special tribute to Hollywood legend Sean Connery, the first actor to portray iconic British spy James Bond, by screening five of his most loved films.

The five films that are to be screened as part of the special tribute to the legend are - *From Russia with Love* (1963), *Goldfinger* (1964), *You Only Live Twice* (1967), *The Hunt For Red October* (1990), and *The Untouchables* (1987) which won him an Oscar in 1988.

The Scottish actor who was known for his portrayal of 007, passed away in his sleep late last year. Connery, who is remembered as the original James Bond, was the first to utter one of the classic movie catchphrases of all time - the name's Bond... James Bond. His acting career spanned seven decades during which he appeared in seven of the Bond films. His definitive performance as Agent 007 in Ian Fleming's Bond movies cemented his position as one of the most confident actors in Hollywood.

Connery is also known for his performances in *Diamonds are Forever* (1971), *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974), *The Man Who Would Be King* (1975), *Outland* (1981), *Never Say Never Again* (1983), *Rising Sun* (1993), *Dragonheart* (1996) and *The Rock* (1996). In 1999, Connery starred in and produced *Entrapment*. IANS



'Couldn't have asked for a bigger debut'

Mumbai: The freshly released teaser of Yash Raj Films' first historical epic action drama *Prithviraj* has grabbed eyeballs.

The film, based on the life and valour of the fearless and mighty Rajput king Prithviraj Chauhan, stars Akshay Kumar in the titular role alongside Miss World 2017 Manushi Chhillar as Princess Sanyogita. The actress is over the moon as she gears up for her debut with one of India's premier studios.

The debutante expressed her gratitude as she said, "I'm eternally grateful to YRF and my director Dr Chandraprakash Dwivedi for not only believing in me but also for making me believe that I could play the role of the legendary princess Sanyogita. I couldn't have asked for a bigger debut and I'm deeply honoured that I could play her on screen." The actress

Prithviraj set for January release

added, "I am extremely positive about *Prithviraj* and I know that it will entertain audiences worldwide with a story of iconic love, legendary valour and unflinching courage."

The film directed by Chandraprakash Dwivedi also stars Sanjay Dutt and Sonu Sood and will be released worldwide January 21, 2022. IANS



Manushi Chhillar



Nora shares her 'worst' experience on set

Mumbai: Actress Nora Fatehi almost choked because of her costume for the number *Kusu Kusu*, which features in the upcoming film *Satyamev Jayate 2*. She called it her worst experience on set.

The second look of the song, which features Nora in a veil cape attached to her bodysuit. The cape was tied to her necklace. However, due to the weight of the heavy veil, the necklace choked Nora and even left bruise marks.

Talking about the experience, Nora said: "On sets we often have minor incidents like scraping of knees, bleeding of feet, or something like that, but this definitely has been my worst experience on set."

She added: "It almost felt like someone has tied a rope around my neck and dragged me across the floor, but because we had limited time for the shoot, I continued to film the song and only took a break after we completed the sequence."

Satyamev Jayate 2 directed by Milan Milap Zaveri is a sequel to the 2018 vigilante action film *Satyamev Jayate* and stars John Abraham in his fight against systematic corruption. The film is all set to release November 25. IANS

FUN post

PEANUTS



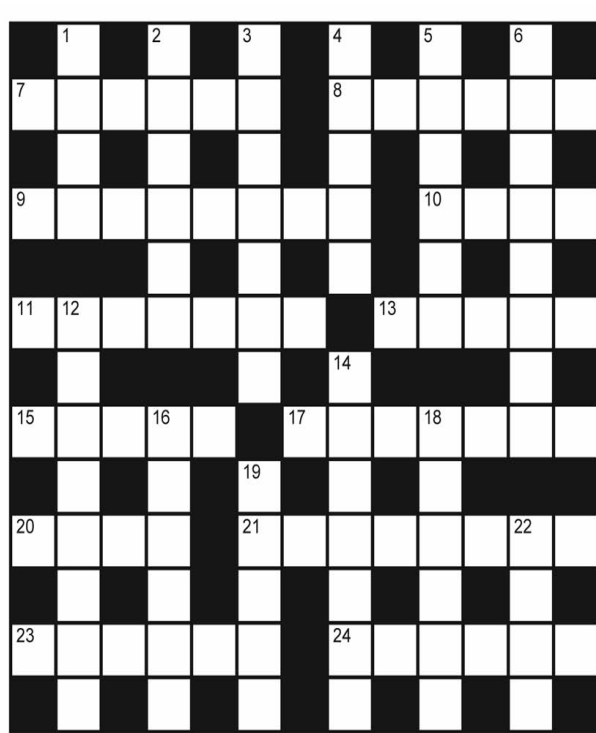
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



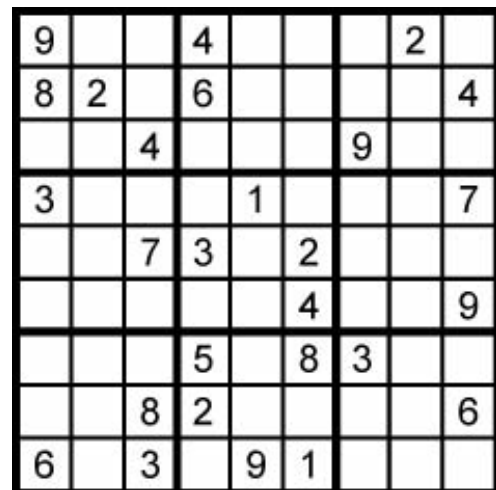
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Unmask
 - 8 Tropical American lizard
 - 9 Links group, maybe
 - 10 Glimpse
 - 11 Deceive
 - 13 Mountain lions
 - 15 Act like a freeloader
 - 17 Heyerdahl's conveyance (3,4)
 - 20 Verdi heroine
 - 21 Thrives
 - 23 Motley fool
 - 24 Chinese tea
 - 3 Loser (4-3)
 - 4 Toys with tails
 - 5 Capital of Alaska
 - 6 Kit bag
 - 12 Worships
 - 14 Kind of cocktail
 - 16 Maps
 - 18 Overturn
 - 19 Bizet work
 - 22 Litter member
- Down**
- 1 Stepson of Claudius
 - 2 Auto mover

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

Onerous conditions tantamount to denial of bail: SC

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Supreme Court has set aside a bail order of the Orissa High Court wherein the latter had asked the appellant to deposit ₹20 lakh in cash and security of immovable property to the tune of ₹20 lakh as conditions for bail.

A two-judge bench of the apex court comprising Justices L. Nageswara Rao and BR Gavai observed that imposition of onerous conditions for bail is tantamount to denial of bail. The bench quashed the HC order in this regard.

"We set aside the order of the High Court directing the petitioner to provide cash security of ₹20 lakh and to furnish security of immovable property for ₹20 lakh for bail," the bench ordered.

Significantly, petitioner Mithun Chatterjee was arrested for committing crime under Sections 467, 468, 471, 420 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 4, 5 and 6 of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act.

He had filed a bail application in the High Court which allowed the bail application subject to the petitioner depositing ₹20 lakh in cash and providing security of immovable property to the tune of ₹20 lakh.

Aggrieved by the conditions imposed by the HC, the petitioner filed a special leave petition in the SC.

HC seeks info on safety of turtles

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 16: Hearing a petition on safety of Olive Ridley turtles, the Orissa High Court Tuesday directed the Centre and the state government to submit information on installation of transponders in fishing boats and trawlers.

A bench of Chief Justice S. Muralidhar and Justice AK Mahapatra posted the hearing to December 23.

Earlier, the state government had informed the HC that transponders would be installed in 1,740 fishing boats and trawlers.

It had told the court that the process has been initiated after detailed discussions with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

In another development, the HC Tuesday directed the Puri Collector and SP to deposit before it virtually Wednesday on a case pertaining to conservation of wetlands.

Earlier, the court had directed the Collectors of Kendrapara, Khurda, Ganjam and Puri to submit affidavits on the removal of prawn enclosures from near Bhitarkanika National Park and Chilika lake.

SATH-E boost to learning outcomes

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Implementation of 'Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital-Education' (SATH-E) in Odisha has improved the learning outcomes as far as school education is concerned.

This was revealed at a webinar on SATH-E organised by Niti Aayog in association with Odisha, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh governments, Tuesday.

Project SATH-E was launched in 2017 to identify and build three 'role model' states for school education sector. Jharkhand, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh were chosen after an elaborate selection process.

The webinar was chaired by Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant in the august presence of the education ministers of the three states.

A report on 'Systematic Transformation of School Education - The SATH-E Experience' was released on the occasion.

Addressing the webinar, School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash said, "Quality education to children is top priority of the state government and with the help of SATH-E project in the first phase we have strengthened the state education system."

The minister said that there is an average improvement of 10-15 per cent in learning outcomes due to the 'Ujjwal-Uttam' learning enhancement programs in the first phase of SATH-E implementation in Odisha.

State tops in child porn in '18, '19

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Child pornography has turned out to be a menace for Odisha as the state topped the relevant category in the country in connection with registration of cases related to use of children in pornography and storage of such materials during 2018 and 2019.

As per data revealed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), as many as 333 cases under Sections 14 and 15 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act were registered in the state for using child for pornography or storing child pornographic material during 2018. While Bihar was in second spot with 177, Rajasthan was in third position with 54 such cases in 2018.

In 2019, the state police registered 542 cases for child pornography related POCSO sections. Bihar was in second position in 2019 by registering 164 cases, while Rajasthan, with 157 cases, was in third spot. Though the cases declined dramatically to 33 in 2020, Odisha still remains among the top 10 states in the country under this category, as revealed by the annual crime data of NCRB for 2020.

However, Odisha held the second spot among the states in connection with the registration of the cases related to publishing or transmitting of sexually explicit images and videos of girls in 2020. As many as 292 such cases were registered by state police in 2020. Only Uttar Pradesh had witnessed more cases (325) than Odisha under this category.

Similarly, Odisha topped the list regarding cybercrime against women with 526 cases last year.

Meanwhile, a study published last year by a Delhi-based NGO, revealed that the demand for child porn on various pornographic sites was the highest in Bhubaneswar among all cities across the country during the first phase of the Covid-induced lockdown.

"The demand for generic child pornography content on pornographic platforms like Pornhub was the highest in Bhubaneswar and Chennai," concluded the NGO.

Come Jan, vehicle papers download at your ease

The move would reduce both time and cost, and give the convenience of generating a copy of the document instantaneously without the need for visiting RTO office



In July 2006, the Transport department had signed an agreement with New Delhi-based Smart Chip Limited for issue of smart card-based DLs and RCs along with paper-based documents for LL, DL and RC among other services. Concession period was granted upto July 28 this year. The department is going to terminate the pact with effect from December 31, 2021

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: As part of its 5T initiative, the Odisha government has decided to issue vehicle documents including driving licences (DLs) and registration certificates (RCs) digitally from January 1, 2022. The state Commerce and Transport department has recently issued a notification in this regard.

Exercising the powers conferred

under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989, the state government has decided to issue paper-based RCs, DLs and other vehicle related documents through digitally signed certificates or through e-signatures as specified under the provisions of Information Technology Act, 2000.

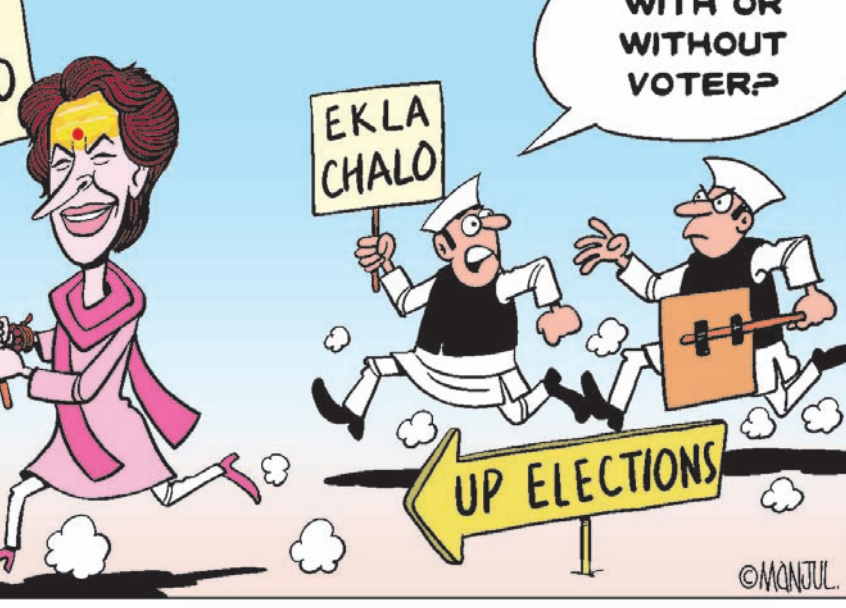
STIR OVER USER FEE

Puri municipality Tuesday postponed its decision to collect user fees after facing stiff protests from locals and social outfits

COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	25,47,82,713	23,03,39,242	51,26,012
India	3,44,56,401	3,38,61,756	4,63,852
Odisha	10,45,862	10,34,995	8,381

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Odisha, Ch'garh to chalk out plan to counter extremism

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Odisha and Chhattisgarh Police have decided to chalk out strategies jointly with more synergy to counter Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and drug trafficking.

This was revealed at a meeting held through videoconferencing between the police of the two states.

ADGP (Operation), Chhattisgarh and IG (Operation) Odisha would be the nodal officers on LWE matters, the DIGP STF, Odisha and DIGP CID-CB, Chhattisgarh would be nodal officers to deal with NDPS matters.

Other modalities for joint operations and further cooperation were finalised in the meeting and a decision was taken to meet again.

Top police officials of both states attended the meeting.

FOR LORD'S BLESSINGS



Hundreds of devotees queuing up on the Grand Road in Puri to visit Srimandir on the second day of Panchaka ritual of the holy month of Kartika, Tuesday

State to reward students with extra-curricular skills

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: In order to encourage extra-curricular activities among students, the Higher Education (HE) department Tuesday decided to introduce annual state-level inter-university competitions in extra-curricular activities from 2021-22 academic year.

In a letter to the vice-chancellors of all public universities and principals of degree colleges, HE department secretary Saswat Mishra said the state government would bear all the expenses of the competitions, including the cash prizes.

Berhampur University, Utkal University and Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University (MSCB) University would conduct the competitions for the current academic year.

Berhampur University will host inter-university athletic events from January 10 to 12 next year while MSCB University will host games and sports from January 21 to 24. On the other hand, Utkal University will host literary and cultural events from February 4 to 6.

Students from all public universities as well as central universities in the state are allowed to participate in the competitions. All universities should complete the intra-university competitions by December 31 so that their teams can participate in inter-university competitions, said the letter.

Decoded: How salt affects blood flow in brain, causes Alzheimer's

Researchers from the United States have, in a first-of-its-kind study, explored the relationship between neuron activity and blood flow deep in the brain, as well as how the brain is affected by salt consumption, resulting in cognitive decline such as Alzheimer's.

The team from the Georgia State University focused on the Hypothalamus - a deep brain region involved in critical body functions including drinking, eating, body temperature regulation and reproduction.

The study, published in the journal Cell Reports, examined how blood flow to the hypothalamus changes in response to salt intake.

When people ingest salty food, the brain senses it and activates neurons that trigger the release of vasopressin - an anti-diuretic hormone that plays a key role in maintaining proper concentration



The findings took us by surprise because we saw vasoconstriction, which is the opposite of what most people described in the cortex in response to a sensory stimulus
JAVIER STERN | PROFESSOR OF NEUROSCIENCE, GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, USA

The team dubbed the phenomenon Inverse Neurovascular Coupling, a decrease in blood flow that produces Hypoxia meaning lack of oxygen.

In the cortex, vascular responses to stimuli are much localised and the dilation occurs rapidly, while in Hypothalamus, the response was diffuse and took place slowly, over a long period of time.

Between 50 and 60 per cent of hypertension is believed to be salt-dependent - triggered by excess salt consumption

ated in the hypothalamus.

"The findings took us by surprise because we saw vasoconstriction, which is the opposite of what most people described in the cortex in response to a sensory stimulus," said Stern.

"Reduced blood flow is normally observed in the cortex in case of diseases like Alzheimer's or after a stroke or Ischemia," the professor added.

The team dubbed the phenomenon Inverse Neurovascular Coupling, a decrease in blood flow that produces Hypoxia meaning lack of oxygen. They observed other differences too. In the cortex, vascular responses to stimuli are much localised and the dilation occurs rapidly. But, in Hypothalamus, the response was diffuse and took place slowly, over a long period of time.

"When we eat a lot of salt, our sodium levels stay elevated for a long

time. We believe Hypoxia is a mechanism that strengthens the neurons' ability to respond to the sustained salt stimulation, allowing them to remain active for a prolonged period," said Stern.

The findings raise interesting questions about how hypertension may affect the brain. Between 50 and 60 per cent of hypertension is believed to be salt-dependent - triggered by excess salt consumption.

"If you chronically ingest a lot of salt, you will have hyper-activation of Vasopressin neurons. This mechanism can then induce excessive Hypoxia, which could lead to tissue damage in the brain," said Stern.

"If we can understand this process better, we can devise novel targets to stop this Hypoxia-dependent activation and perhaps improve the outcomes for people with salt-dependent high blood pressure," he noted.

3 HISTORY-SHEETERS HELD WITH 5 PISTOLS

Cuttack, Nov 16: Lalbagh police have arrested three persons after recovering five pistols from their possession on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Setu here late Monday night, an official said Tuesday.
The accused were identified as Sujit Kumar Swain, 42, a resident under Biridi police limits, Soubhagya Jena, 33, of Totapada and Dibya Swaroop Sahu, 32, of Baijanga in Jagatsinghpur, he said.
Addressing the media, Cuttack deputy commissioner of police (DCP) Prateek Singh said the three are history-sheeters. While 15 cases related to arms smuggling were pending against Sujit at different police stations in the state, Soubhagya has around six gun-running cases registered against him. There are two arms smuggling cases against Dibya.
About the crackdown, the DCP said they were tipped off about the trio's plan to visit Cuttack to dispose of pistols Monday night. "The three were travelling to Cuttack from Bhubaneswar via Trisulia in a car. A team of Lalbagh police managed to intercept them on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Setu. Upon searching, the officials found five sophisticated pistols and bullets from the car," Singh pointed out.

6-hour daily PRS shutdown for 7 days

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: As part of Railways' efforts to normalise passenger services, the Railways Passenger Reservation System (PRS) will remain shut for six hours during the lean business hours of the night for the next 7 days, an East Coast Railway (ECoR) official said.
This is to enable updgradation of system data and updating of new train numbers. Since huge amount of past and current passenger booking data are to be updated in all Mail/Express trains, this is being planned in a series of carefully calibrated steps and is being implemented during night hours in order to minimise the impact on ticketing services.
The activity has begun from the intervening night of November 14 and 15 and will continue to the night of November 20 and 21 starting at 23:30hrs and ending at 05:30hrs. During these six hours, no PRS Services will be available.
Railway personnel will ensure the advance charting for the trains to start during the affected timings. Except for the PRS services, all other enquiry services including 139 services will continue.
Meanwhile, the train numbers now will not start with zero, as was in case of Special Trains. The process of conversion of Special Train Numbers to Regular Train Numbers has already been started by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) and is expected to be completed within the next seven days.

WASSUP TODAY
BHUBANESWAR
■ Walkathon by Income Tax department, Aayakar Bhawan, 6:30am

CUTTACK
■ Event by Utkal Sahitya Samaj to commemorate poet Raghunath Das, Sriramachandra Bhawan, 6pm

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.

CLASSIFIED
AFFIDAVIT
I, Kanishk Gupta S/o Seema Gupta, At Plot-1334 Mahanadi Vihar, Cuttack, Odisha-753004, have changed my name to Kanishk Gupta for all purposes.

₹250 crore earmarked for Musa River facelift



UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

Puri, Nov 16: The Puri district administration will spend ₹250 crore under the Augmentation of Basic Amenities & Development of Heritage and Architecture (ABADHA) scheme for beautification of Musa River, over which the Atharnala Bridge serves as the entry point to the Pilgrim city of Puri.
The administration has already been notified to acquire over 46 acres of land from private land owners. Social Impact Assessment (SIA) has been conducted by the Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies.
This project is part of the developmental plans chalked out to transform the abode of Lord Jagannath into an international place of heritage.
The notified public hearing began Monday at the Jagannath Ballav Mutt premises and it will continue for four days in several villages. The district administration released the blueprint of the first phase development of Musa River.

PURI BEAUTIFICATION
THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY BEEN NOTIFIED TO ACQUIRE OVER 46 ACRES OF LAND FROM PRIVATE LAND OWNERS

APART FROM BEAUTIFICATION, THE PROJECT WILL HAVE BOATING FACILITIES AND ILLUMINATION, INTENDED TO ATTRACT TOURISM

THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROJECT BEGAN MONDAY AT THE JAGANNATH BALLAV MUTT PREMISES AND WILL CONTINUE FOR FOUR DAYS IN SEVERAL VILLAGES

Apart from beautification, the project, after completion, will have boating facilities and illumination, intended to attract tourism.
The expansion and widening of Musa River will help mitigate rainwater drainage from the town. The entire project has been designed on the line of heritage, Odishan art and sculpture.
The Roads and Buildings department has been entrusted with the execution of the project, official sources said.

Auto driver's body fished out from Kuakhai in City

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Fire Services personnel Tuesday recovered the body of an auto-rickshaw driver floating in Kuakhai River on the outskirts of the city.
The deceased was identified as Suresh Adak, 28, of Basta area in Balasore district. He was staying at Naharkanta under Mancheswar police limits for the past few years.
According to police, some locals had spotted Adak taking bath in Kuakhai at Palasuni during heavy rain Sunday. The locals even tried to prevent him from going into the river but in vain.
Police registered a case (74/21) on the basis of the missing report lodged by the deceased's family. Fire officials could not recover the body of Adak despite intensive search operations Sunday and Monday. Some locals spotted the body floating in the river Tuesday morning.

AGITATION OVER MAMITA CASE



NSUI activists try to scale the police barricades during their attempt to gherao the Chief Minister's house in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday, seeking arrest of minister Dibya Shankar Mishra in connection with the Mamita Meher murder case. They also hurled tomatoes at the cops

State logs 206 nCoV cases, 2 fatalities

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Odisha's Covid-19 tally rose to 10,45,862 Tuesday as 206 more people tested positive for the infection, 21 more than the previous day, while two fresh fatalities pushed the state's coronavirus death toll to 8,381, a Health department official said.
The new cases were registered in 15 of the 30 districts of the state. Khurda, of which state Capital Bhubaneswar is a part, registered the highest number of new cases at 120, followed by Cuttack (15) and Jajpur (12). The fresh fatalities were recorded in Cuttack and Khurda districts. Fifty-three other patients have died due to comorbidities so far.
As many as 32 children are among the new patients. The rate



In the age group of 45 years and above, 4.76 lakh people have taken the first dose, while 4.22 lakh have been fully vaccinated

As many as 26.48 lakh vaccine doses have been administered to people in Bhubaneswar till November 14
Of that, 14 lakh people have received the first dose, while 12 lakh have been fully vaccinated under the jurisdiction of the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC)
In the 18-44 years age group, 18.26 lakh people have received the first dose, while 7.35 lakh have been fully vaccinated

of infection among the 0-18 age group dipped to 15.53 per cent from 18.91 per cent the previous day.
The state had reported 185 fresh infections Monday, 262 Sunday, 247 Saturday, 263 Friday, 271 Thursday and 387 Wednesday. With this, the daily test positivity rate increased slightly to 0.41 per cent from 0.32 per cent Monday. The coastal state currently has 2,669 active cases, while 10,34,759 people have recovered from the disease so far, including 254 in the last 24 hours.
Odisha has thus far tested over 2.29 crore samples for Covid-19, including 49,975 Monday, the Health official said, adding that the cumulative positivity rate stood at 4.55 per cent. Meanwhile, 26.48 lakh vaccine doses have been administered to people in Bhubaneswar till November 14. Out of that, 14 lakh people have received the first dose, while 12 lakh have been fully vaccinated under the jurisdiction of the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC).
In the 18-44 years age group, 8.26 lakh people have received the first dose, while 7.35 lakh have been fully vaccinated. In the age group of 45 years and above, 4.76 lakh people have taken the first dose, while 4.22 lakh have been fully vaccinated.



Odisha government's media adviser Manas Mangaraj inaugurates the state-level observance of National Press Day in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

CureBay to offer healthcare in rural areas

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: With an aim to provide better healthcare to the people of rural areas in the state, healthcare startup CureBay Tuesday launched two e-Clinics in Kakatpur and Nimapara areas of Puri district.
CureBay's healthcare fulfilment model brings holistic patient care and convenience to the doorstep of the underserved rural population through process innovation and healthcare ecosystem aggregation.
CureBay's founder-CEO Priyadarshi Mohapatra said, "The e-Clinics will offer health services at the doorstep through assisted telemedicine consultations at low cost. All CureBay satellite centres will be fully equipped with medical devices for measurement of vital signs. The initiative will help people avoid arduous and expensive trips to test centres. Apart from all basic health check-ups, CureBay will facilitate early detection of non communicable diseases through health-tech partner solutions using AI and ML." The startup will set up such clinics in areas having no healthcare facility within 5-10km distance, he added.
"Providing access to high quality and affordable primary healthcare to patients in remote locations is our top priority. The pandemic has clearly shown us that technology can play a big role in augmenting the efforts of the doctors on the ground. Through a combination of the CureBay tech Platform, our network of satellite e-Clinics, and the partnership of renowned doctors and medical institutions, we are looking at bridging the gap that exists in primary healthcare in remote locations," Mohapatra said.
In Odisha alone, CureBay plans to open 50 satellite centres at places including Bamanala, Kumdhei, Jahangirabad, Gop, Rajghat and Sahejpal in next six months. Sixteen such clinics are expected to come up in next two weeks, he added.

How Curiosity is making Mars safer for humans

BASED ON DATA FROM CURIOSITY'S RADIATION ASSESSMENT DETECTOR (RAD), RESEARCHERS ARE FINDING THAT USING NATURAL MATERIALS SUCH AS THE ROCK AND SEDIMENT ON MARS COULD OFFER SOME PROTECTION FROM THIS EVER-PRESENT SPACE RADIATION

A radiation sensor aboard NASA's Curiosity Mars rover is providing new data on the health risks humans could face on the surface of the Red Planet.
Unlike Earth, Mars does not have a magnetic field to shield it from the high-energy particles whizzing around in space. That radiation can wreak havoc on human health, and it can seriously compromise the life support systems that Mars astronauts will depend on, as well.
Based on data from Curiosity's Radiation Assessment Detector (RAD), researchers are finding that using natural materials such as the rock and sediment on Mars could offer some protection from this ever-present space radiation.
Most of the radiation measured by RAD comes from galactic cosmic rays which are basically particles cast out by exploding stars and sent pinballing throughout the universe. This forms a carpet of "background radiation" that can pose health risks for humans.
Far more intense radiation sporadically comes from the Sun in the form of solar storms that throw massive arcs of ionised gas into interplanetary space. "Cosmic rays, solar radiation, and solar storms - they are all components of space weather. And RAD is effectively a space weather outpost on the surface of Mars," said Don Hassler of the Southwest Research Institute who is the principal investigator of the RAD instrument.
"The observations from RAD are instrumental in developing the ability to predict and measure space weather; the Sun's influence on Earth and other bodies of the solar system," added Jim Spann,



RAD has measured the impact of more than a dozen solar storms to date (five while travelling to Mars in 2012), although these past nine years have marked an especially weak period of solar activities

As NASA plans for eventual human journeys to Mars, RAD serves as an outpost and part of the Heliophysics System Observatory - a fleet of 27 missions that investigates the Sun and its influence on space - whose research supports our understanding of and exploration of space
In fact, RAD observed evidence of the first X-class flare of the new solar cycle October 28, 2021
Observatory - a fleet of 27 missions that investigates the Sun and its influence on space - whose research supports our understanding of and exploration of space," Spann said.
RAD has measured the impact of more than a dozen solar storms to date (five while travelling to Mars in 2012), although these past nine years have marked an especially weak period of solar activity.
Scientists are just now starting to see activities pick up as the Sun comes out of its slumber and becomes more active. In fact, RAD observed evidence of the first X-class flare of the new solar cycle October 28, 2021. X-class flares are the most intense of solar flares, the largest of which can lead to power outages and communications blackouts on Earth.
RAD's findings will feed into a much larger body of data being compiled for future crewed missions. In fact, NASA even equipped Curiosity's counterpart, the Perseverance rover, with samples of spacecraft materials to assess how they hold up to radiation over time.

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

SHORT TAKES

Eggs hurled at Union Min Tudu

Jagatsinghpur: Activists of the National Students' Union of India (NSUI), the students' front of Congress party, Tuesday waved black flags and hurled eggs at Bishweswar Tudu, Union Minister of State (MoS) Tribal Affairs and Jal Shakti, in Jagatsinghpur. The Union minister had to face the ire of NSUI activists near Alanahat on his way to attend a function at Angeswarpada School in Naugaon. Led by NSUI state unit vice-president Sunil Kumar Matia, the activist were protesting against skyrocketing prices of essential commodities, Union MoS Home Affairs Ajay Mishra's son Ashish Mishra mowing down farmers under his SUV in UP's Lakhimpur Kheri and demanded revocation of Padma Shri awarded to Kanganana Ranaut over her controversial statements.

7 hurt as jumbo brings down house

Sundargarh: Seven members of a family, including a child, sustained injuries as they were trapped under debris after an elephant herd demolished their house at OMC slum in Kadadiha village under the Koida forest range in Sundargarh district, Tuesday. Reportedly, a herd of 18 elephants arrived at the village Tuesday morning and demolished their house in search of food. As a result, the family members were trapped under the debris. All of them were pulled out to safety by neighbours. The child was admitted to Rourkela Government Hospital in critical condition.

Two electrocuted

Umerkote: In a tragic incident, a woman and her granddaughter were electrocuted at Deobharandi (Nuapara) village under Raigarh police limits in Nabarangpur district late Monday night. The deceased have been identified as Pacho Gond and her granddaughter Tilika. After having their dinner, Somnath, his wife and three children went to the farm house to sleep, while his mother and daughter slept in their house in the village. In the morning, Somnath found the door was still closed and when he tried to open the door he felt electric shock. He called Electricity department and after snapping the power supply, they opened the door only to find two dead bodies lying on the ground. On being informed, police reached the spot and recovered the bodies for post-mortem.

HAPPINESS IN THE AIR



Jubilant students of a government school transformed under the 5T initiative of Odisha government in Beguniapada in Ganjam district wave placards

CM dedicates 130 more transformed schools

TILL NOW 531 SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMED IN THE STATE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Tuesday continued the process of dedicating schools transformed under the 5T initiative of the state government by dedicating 130 high schools in Nuapada, Ganjam, Sambalpur, Rayagada and Nayagarh districts in a virtual mode.

Man's blood-soaked body found in truck

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 16: Police recovered a blood-soaked body of a person from a ten-wheeler truck parked near Thakuradihi Square under Sadar police limits in Keonjhar district Tuesday.

Of the 130 schools dedicated Tuesday, seven are from Nuapada and Rayagada each, eight from Nayagarh, 83 from Ganjam and 25 from Sambalpur.

Widow denied ration for want of Aadhaar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, Nov 16: Despite the National Food Security Mission of the Centre to provide food grains at subsidised rates to the below poverty line (BPL) families across the country many are still deprived of the benefits.

Chief Minister said, "Although children make up a third of the population, they are the country's future. And, school is the most important time in a child's life".

Sensor-based flow meters soon to check groundwater pilferage

MANY INDUSTRIES IN JAJPUR ARE ALLEGEDLY USING GROUNDWATER IN EXCESS OF THEIR PERMITTED LIMITS

Jajpur, Nov 16: At a time when depleting groundwater level is a matter of grave concern, many industries in the district are allegedly using excess groundwater by tampering the flow meters.

State registers 87% unorganised sector workers on e-Shram portal

Odisha leads with 87% coverage of its target, followed by West Bengal (65%), Chhattisgarh (33%), Jharkhand (31%) and Bihar (25%)

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Odisha along with West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Bihar are the top states that have registered the maximum number of targeted employees in the unorganised sector on the e-Shram portal. Having registered a fifth of the targeted 38.37 crore unorganised workers on the database, Odisha leads with an 87 per cent coverage of its target, followed by West Bengal (65 per cent), Chhattisgarh (33 per cent), Jharkhand (31 per cent) and Bihar (25 per cent).



So far, over 7.7 crore registrations have been made on the e-Shram portal – the country's first centralised database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. However, this trend is being assumed to be an indication of the distress witnessed among unorganised and migrant workers originating from these states in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and the national lockdown last year.

As of now, state-wise registrations (irrespective of the targets) show the highest number of registrations have taken place in West Bengal (1.88 crore), Uttar Pradesh (1.42 crore), Odisha (1.15 crore), Bihar (89.17 lakh) and Jharkhand (36.34 lakh). Occupation-wise, agriculture (53.8 per cent) and construction (12.2 per cent) sectors have shown the highest registrations, followed by domestic and household workers (8.7 per cent) and apparel workers (6.2 per cent).

SALE
Land available near Bhubaneswar, Chandaka, Chhatabar for large projects. Interested buyers may contact for purchasing land. Mobile No. 9937441023, 9776661023.

PUBLIC NOTICE
On behalf of my client LICHL Area Office, Cuttack, a notice is hereby given to general public / all concerned that my client is going to advance loan against Mortgage of Property owned by Shri Bijaya Kumar Sahoo situated at Plot No. 268, Khata No. 491/167 corresponding to Sabak Khata No. 491/161, Mouza-Pasulunda, PS/SRO/Tehsil- Nahanga. While calling for the original property documents for creation of Equitable Mortgage, it is found that one of the link documents i.e., sale deed No. 10442000477 dated 07.08.2020 corresponding to above property executed by Shri Bijaya Kumar Sahoo in favour of Shri Hare Krishna Sahoo for an area of AC. 0.125 decimal has been lost / misplaced somewhere.

NOTICE FOR LOSS OF DOCUMENTS
Notice is hereby given on behalf of my Client, Smt. Kiranbala Mohanty, LICHL, Chandrasekharpur at Bhubaneswar for advancing housing loan on the property at Plot No. 70/1658, Area: Ac.0.045 decimals, Khata No. 190/1085 at Mouza: Pokhariput, Tahasil: Bhubaneswar, Dist.- Khordha. But it was found that, the owner of the Plot has lost/ misplaced the original link deed bearing No. 952 Dt.02.02.2007 on Dt.13.11.2021 and for which she has filed FIR on 16.11.2021 before Airport PS. Therefore notice is hereby given to General Public that if anybody has got any right, title interest over the property on the missing document, they have to claim before the LICHL, IPICOL HOUSE, within 15 days from the date of publication. And after that the documents will lose its legal force and LICHL will not be responsible for any claim. What-so-ever on the property after 15 days.

DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION JAJPUR
Ph. - 06728-22227
E-mail: dmffajpur@gmail.com, Website- https://jajpur.nic.in
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
No. CAD-1869:- District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Jajpur invites RFP in the prescribed format from agencies for "Establishment and management of residential coaching center for medical entrance examination of Jajpur District"
The detail of the RFP is available in the district website, i.e. www.jajpur.nic.in.
Sd./- Collector & Managing Trustee, DMF Trust, Jajpur
OIPR-24163/11/0026/2122

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Tel. No.0675222092, e-mail id-erwupuri@gmail.com
TCN No. TENDER ONLINE- 11 OF 2021-22
No.- 8451 /Date.10.11.2021.
No. 0-939:- The Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Puri on behalf of Government of Odisha invites percentage rate tenders through e-procurement for 2 Nos. of work for the year 2021-22 in the district of Puri.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Puri.	Online- 11	17.11.2021 at 11.00 A.M.	29.11.2021 up to 3.00 P.M	26.11.2021 up to 1.00 P.M	30.11.2021 at 11.30 A.M. Office of the S.E., R.W. Division, Puri.

6. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which is available in website "https://tendersodisha.gov.in".
OIPR-25065/11/0025/2122 Sd./- Superintending Engineer, R.W. Division, Puri

BeMC residents fear Berhampur may plunge into darkness

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 16: Residents of Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) area fear they may witness a complete black-out on the streets from Wednesday owing to non-payment of electricity bill amounting to ₹7.65 crore by the municipality.

Limited (TPCODL) had issued a notice to the civic body in this regard, November 2. BeMC was granted 15 days time for paying the pending electricity bill.

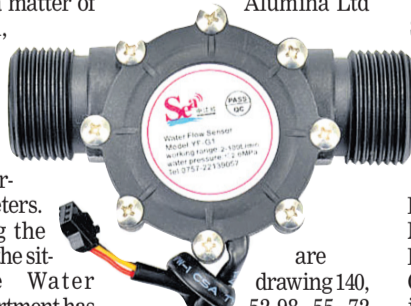
ment, Odisha Integrated Power project, ITPC, NTPC (Darlipali), Sesa Sterlite Ltd and Vedant Alumina Ltd

are 66.16 and 74.32 cusecs of water respectively from Samal barrage and Kharasota river.

Baliapal (Balasore), Garadapur (Kendrapara), Bhubaneswar and Bolagarh (Khurda), Korei (Jajpur) and Nuapada block is in semi-critical category. It means, groundwater extraction rate in these areas is 70%-90%.

are drawing 140, 52.98, 55, 72 and 40.9 cusecs of water daily respectively from Hirakud reservoir.

are drawing 140, 52.98, 55, 72 and 40.9 cusecs of water daily respectively from Hirakud reservoir.





What is the use of only knowing? I say to thee, act and be, for therefore God sent thee into this human body.

SRI AUROBINDO



Ashamed Progenies

“What’s in a name?” said the Bard to underline the importance of the intrinsic qualities of a man rather than his family position or social rank. But, when it comes to the name of a place or a railway station or a street, it becomes an altogether different proposition and acquires new connotations. History, politics and local sentiments step in and the place or the object of the name is relegated to the background. When names are changed and new names fastened, matters become even more complicated and history is sought to be rewritten to whitewash an uncomfortable or unpleasant past. This is happening now in India, with heightened vigor, because efforts are being made to change history with political-communal bias so as to reap not only electoral dividend but also obliterate some ugly facts. If the remarks made by a film actor named Kangana Ranaut, falsifying the history of India’s freedom struggle and unabashedly praising the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi appears obnoxious, the zeal being shown by BJP governments in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in renaming railway stations and places seems to be part of a set pattern and a political design.

There cannot be much objection when existing names of streets or railway stations are changed. There are well defined procedures for it. But while doing so, the authorities must keep in mind that such names conjure up history which needs to be preserved, even if it evokes memories of pain and shame. For example, there are many places in the country which bear the names of British colonial masters. They may hark back to days of domination and insult to the country’s people, but experts opine that the names are important as they bear witness to history that should not be erased. The experts further say that the best that can be done while renaming them is to retain the old names alongside the new names. This has been done in many cases. It did not generate much heat as those clamouring for renaming were propelled by local sentiments that had no political axe to grind.

When Bhopal’s Habibganj railway station was renamed Rani Kamalapati railway station November 15 by the BJP government of Madhya Pradesh, forget the whole of India or even Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal’s average townsfolk would have been taken aback as to who this historical person was. Everyone knows Bhopal was initially settled by Moslem Nabobs and the story of a Gond king is unrecorded. Likewise, Mughalsarai Junction was changed into Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction and Allahabad into Prayagraj by the BJP’s UP government. All such decisions create a reason to believe that history is being tweaked with. The change of spelling in English from Ahmedabad to Amdavad is another interesting point. In all these cases, the targets were Moslem names evoking a past when they were rulers and reigned supreme. One may or may not like a particular religious faith or its practitioners, but that does not give anyone the licence to tamper with history that is part of the country’s heritage and legacy, even if it refers to dark chapters.

The interesting point that no one seems to raise is that these Moslem names are not widespread across this subcontinent. For instance, it would be very difficult to find a Moslem name given to any major place or rail station or facility in a state like Orissa. The prime reason could be that this land mass was never ruled by or dominated by any Moslem. The Moguls or their friends never dared to enter even the North Eastern states. It may seem funny but the truth is that even the Moslem dominated East Bengal, now Bangladesh, mostly has neutral names like Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet and such. The Moslem sounding names that we currently see in that country, one is told, have all appeared after 1947 Partition. This may lead one to believe that people living in places like Allahabad or Ahmedabad were keen supporters of the regimes of the times. The locals must have had all tried to endear themselves to the Moslem rulers for petty benefits. A similarity we observe with most sycophants of today’s MLAs and MPs. The present day politicians in the BJP seem to be desperately trying to erase their own ancestral betrayals. They are guilty deep down and also ashamed of their own past, their own forefathers. That could be making life difficult for the present day leaders as their ancestors are haunting them every moment in the present. They very well realize they are progenies of ‘collaborators’ and that, understandably, makes them feel terrible.

When a BJP state government singles out Moslem names of places and railway stations and changes them with the names of its party founders, it must realize that there may come, in the future, other parties to power which would work with equal vengeance to change history again. The proposal of the MP government to rename Habibganj railway station was cleared by the Union Home Ministry with alacrity. The same speed may be demonstrated by another government equally hell bent in this kind of an immature name changing game.

Therefore, “What’s in a name?” may hold great relevance for some tormented souls living in present day India but the whole exercise is futile and does no good to the people at large of this country.

WISDOM CORNER

Everything in excess is opposed to nature.

HIPPOCRATES

It’s kind of fun to do the impossible.

WALT DISNEY

Hindsight is always twenty-twenty.

BILLY WILDER

WORDSWORTH

Porphyrogeniture

If we had this inheritance principle in Britain, Prince Charles would lose his pre-eminent right to succeed to the throne to his younger brother Andrew. That’s because porphyrogeniture refers to a child who has been born to a reigning monarch and specifically to a right of succession to the throne based on having been so born. Queen Elizabeth’s two eldest children, Charles and Anne, were born before she became queen in 1952, but Andrew was born in 1960. The prefix here, porphyro-, derives from classical Greek porphura for the colour purple. The second part is from Latin genitura, a person’s birth, which is from the root of gignere, to beget. So the word means “born to the purple”, an English idiom dating from the seventeenth century for being born to a reigning monarch. Porphyrogeniture was created around 1860 as a high-flown Latin version of the idiom. In ancient times, to wear clothing coloured purple was the prerogative of royal or imperial families, because the dye, Tyrian purple, was rare and costly. (It was a variable shade often much nearer red than we would now consider purple; it was also called Tyrian red.) This was probably where the idea of being born to the purple came from, though it was reinforced by Byzantine empresses who gave birth in a room in the Constantinople palace that was lined with a purple stone called porphyry. Porphyrogeniture isn’t as rare a word as you might think. Historians find it useful when discussing some cases of disputed royal succession, where having been born to a reigning monarch potentially trumped the rights of an older son who had been born before his parent became sovereign. It’s a member of a set of words of which the best known is primogeniture, which is strictly speaking the state of being the first-born child, but which is more often used for the practice of making the first-born male child the automatic heir. Others are secundogeniture, the right of succession of a second son, the rare tertio-geniture for the third son and ultimogeniture for inheritance by the youngest son, which was once the custom in some counties in southern England.

TAXATION DOUBLE STANDARDS

FOCUS GLOBAL INEQUITY

The last two years have thrown into sharp relief the structural injustices that underpin the global economy. As the COVID-19 pandemic drove an estimated 88-115 million people into extreme poverty, the world’s billionaires saw their wealth increase by more than 25 per cent. And while countries in the Global North are now administering vaccine boosters, those in the Global South continue to struggle to secure even first doses for their populations.

This appalling level of inequality is inextricably linked to rampant cross-border tax abuse, which is being perpetrated by both multinational corporations and wealthy individuals. By refusing to pay their fair share of taxes, the world’s wealthiest actors rob poorer countries of the revenue they desperately need to confront the pandemic, such as by securing vaccine doses and supporting vulnerable citizens.

G20 leaders claim – with much self-satisfaction – that they are addressing the problem: they recently agreed to establish a global minimum corporate tax rate, thereby ending the “race to the bottom” fueled by global competition for foreign investment. But the agreed rate is just 15 per cent, and targets only a sliver of the profits of 100 multinationals. This will do about as much to help poor countries as a glass of water would do to put out a wildfire.

The new State of Tax Justice report – published jointly by the Tax Justice Network, Public Services International, and the Global Alliance for Tax Justice – illustrates the scale of the conflagration: \$483 billion in public revenue is lost to cross-border tax abuse each year. That is enough to vaccinate every man, woman, and child on the planet three times over.

Of the total losses, corporate-tax abuse by multinational companies accounts for \$312 billion, with offshore tax evasion by wealthy individuals accounting for the rest. While wealthier countries technically bear a larger share of those losses, it is poorer countries that suffer the most.

In fact, while high- and upper-middle-income countries lose some \$443 billion to abusive international tax practices annually, that amounts to just 10 per cent of their public-health budgets. Low- and



A staggering \$483 billion in public revenue is lost to cross-border tax abuse each year. That is enough to vaccinate every man, woman, and child on the planet three times over. Of the total losses, corporate-tax abuse by multinational companies accounts for \$312 billion, with offshore tax evasion by wealthy individuals accounting for the rest

THIS APPALLING LEVEL OF INEQUALITY IS INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO RAMPANT CROSS-BORDER TAX ABUSE, WHICH IS BEING PERPETRATED BY BOTH MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND WEALTHY INDIVIDUALS

José Antonio Ocampo

Piate
Tathagata Satpathy

IN JEST THIS



Melvin Durai

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IS EITHER ILLEGAL OR DISCOURAGED IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD, WHILE IN OTHERS, IT IS BOTH LEGAL AND HIGHLY ENCOURAGED

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

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Human or crocodile: Beware of the slipper

Given a classroom assignment of putting various household objects into categories, many students around the world would have no trouble putting the common slipper or chappal into a single category: footwear. But others, including those in Asia, Africa and South America, would earn extra credit by putting the slipper into a second category: “How mama spansks me.”

Corporal punishment (spanking kids) is either illegal or discouraged in many parts of the world, while in others, it is both legal and highly encouraged. “Spare the rod, spoil the child” is an adage that is widely shared, but millions of people have grown up fearing not the rod, but the slipper.

No one knows for sure when the slipper was invented, but some historians trace its roots to Vietnam in the 12th century, when a man named Lee Pham wrote about his fondness for slippers: “I love these flat things with straps. They are so easy to use on the

children. Keeps them well-behaved. And now and then, I even wear them on my feet.”

In a typical household, the father uses a belt or stick to discipline the children, while the mother uses a slipper. My mother, like many others, was quite adept at using a slipper. She would chase me around the house waving the slipper, and I would scream like she was carrying some kind of loaded weapon. I knew nothing about the gun control movement in those days, but I would have gladly marched for more slipper control.

As it turns out, humans are not the only species that suffer from fear of the slipper (slipperaphobia). You can scare not just dogs and cats with slippers but also crocodiles. If you don’t believe me, just check out the online video that shows an Australian woman threatening a Vietnam with her slipper.

The video went viral recently but was actually shot in 2016 when the woman visited Cahills Crossing, a dangerous path across the croc-

odile-infested East Alligator River in Kakadu National Park. The woman was standing beside the river with her small dog when a large crocodile began to swim toward her. With no sign of fear, the woman casually took off her right slipper and waved it at the crocodile. When the animal didn’t move, she slapped the slipper against her left hand, as if to say, “This is what you’re going to get if you come an inch closer.” The crocodile recoiled and took off in another direction, slipping away from slipper lady.

Crocodiles have good memories and this crocodile probably remembered its childhood days, when Mama Crocodile took out the slipper.

Baby crocodile: “Mama, please! Not the slipper! My hide can’t take another hiding.”

Mama: “Do you promise to show more respect to your elders?”

Baby: “Yes, Mama, I promise not to say ‘later alligator’ to Papa. I promise not to make fun of his round snout.”

Mama: “You need to appreciate differences in your fellow crocodiles or else I’ll make you extra-different!”

While slippers cause fear in children, they’re preferable to most other implements, including belts and canes. Slippers do not cause any long-term damage to your bottom. There is usually no risk of being hit in the face with a slipper. That would be a violation of the Moral Code of Chappal Justice.

But spanking children is frowned upon in many parts of the world, including America, where it’s illegal in most states. For younger children, giving them time-outs is recommended, and for older children, taking away their cellphones is quite effective, even if it eliminates communication between parent and child.

If none of those alternative punishments work, you may decide to threaten them with a slipper. If they’re smart, like the crocodile, they’ll obey you right away and you won’t have to use it.

Well done, Nepal!

Sir, It is interesting to know that Nepal has been able to complete the reconstruction of the historical monument of Dharahara. It may be recalled that the ancient tower was completely damaged in an earthquake April 25, 2015. A historic site recognised by the UNESCO, this beautiful structure of the Nepali architecture has been a tourist attraction for a long time now. Tourism has been thriving across the world. Any sincere step to revive the sector must be encouraged. This is all the more important in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Such beautiful architectural monuments as the Dharahara tower have been the mirrors of the ancient times. Asia has been home to great cultures and is the hub of beautiful tourist locations. Now that Nepal has taken a bold step to open the Dharahara monument, it is clear that this beautiful Himalayan nation has always been ready to emerge stronger amid nature’s fury. Well done and keep it up, Kathmandu!

P. Senthil Saravana Durai, MUMBAI

COP26’s blame games

Sir, This is in reference to the article ‘Rich World’s Hypocrisy’, Orissa Post, November 16. Overall, COP26 has failed to live up to its billing as the ‘last, best hope’ to limit this century’s global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The blame games being played against this backdrop are poor in climate finance and rich in hypocrisies. As their lion’s share of cumulative emissions indicates, rich countries grew rich on fossil fuels and now they are also more comfortably placed to transition to renewables at scale. In the US, stagnant electricity demand plus lower prices of natural gas and renewables have been shutting down coal plants, and yet it hasn’t presented any details to end use of coal, as if leaving the transition timeline all to the market. Contrast its situation to India, where International Energy Agency forecasts the largest increase in energy demand of any country over the next 20 years, where coal is plentiful, its mining employs over two million people, and sensitivity to the cost of capital for energy transitions is very high. Developed nations themselves do not believe they are doing enough. Their interest, and therefore focus, has been on ‘mitigation’, which are measures for preventing further global warming, rather than on adaptation or loss and damage, which are more in the interests of developing countries. Nor are they forthcoming in terms of providing technology.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

national

of the day uote

The cabinet reshuffle in the state will take place soon. Despite economic challenges, every effort has been made to fulfil genuine demands of employees and in future also their interests will be fully taken care of

ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CHIEF MINISTER

Winnability will be the only criteria for the selection of candidates for the Punjab Assembly polls and being an MLA does not guarantee candidature

NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU | PUNJAB CONGRESS CHIEF

When a minister can get 3,000 units of electricity free of cost every month, why can not I give 300 units to the common man

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CHIEF MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

FFK to be held from Feb 4-11

Thiruvananthapuram: The signature event of Kerala -- the International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK)'s 26th edition will be held in the state capital from February 4 to 11. This was announced by Kerala Minister Saji Cherian here Tuesday. The event will be held at 12 movie halls in the capital city. The state-run Kerala State Chalachitra Academy is the organiser of the event, which by now has won huge praise not just in the state but across the world on account of the quality of the films that are being screened.

Maoist encounter toll climbs to 27

Gadchiroli (Maharashtra): The death toll in the Gadchiroli encounter of November 13 climbed to 27 with the recovery of the body of a slain Maoist from the forests, a top official said. "The body of a Maoist killed in the encounter has been recovered. The deceased has been identified as Sukhlal Parchaki (33)," Gadchiroli Superintendent confirmed.

Time to solve border disputes

Guwahati: Assam and Meghalaya Tuesday announced that necessary measures would be taken to settle interstate border disputes in at least six areas by the end of this year.



When there's punishment for speaking the truth, it's clear that falsehood is in power
RAHUL GANDHI | FORMER CONGRESS PRESIDENT

HUMANITY TRUMPS RELIGION

Stories of humanity and brotherhood continue to strengthen society. One such report was received from Gurugram, where a Hindu man offered the roof of his house for Friday nazam



COMMUNITY KITCHEN SCHEME

SC unhappy over Centre's reply

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: Asserting that a welfare state's first responsibility is to provide food to people "dying due to hunger", the Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed strong displeasure over the Centre's response on framing a pan-India policy to implement the Community Kitchen Scheme and granted it three weeks to hold a meeting with states.

A bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices A S Bopanna and Hima Kohli was also irked with the Centre's affidavit as it was filed by an official of the level of an Under Secretary and did not divulge details about the proposed scheme and its roll out as sought, and gave a "final warning" to the government.

The top court was hearing a PIL seeking directions to the Centre, states and Union Territories (UTs) to formulate a scheme for community kitchens to combat hunger and malnutrition.

"See if you want to take care of hunger, no Constitution or law will say no... This is the first principle: Every welfare state's first responsibility is to provide food to people dying due to hunger," the court said.

Initially, the matter was being argued by Additional Solicitor General Madhvi Divan and later Attorney General K K Venugopal stepped in and assured the bench that a meeting would be held by the Centre and a decision taken on the issue and sought four weeks time from the bench.

Govt allows meals, magazines on all domestic flights

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Civil Aviation Ministry Tuesday said it has allowed airlines to serve meals on all domestic flights.

The carriers had not been allowed to serve meals in flights, which have duration of less than two hours, since April 15 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "The airlines, operating flights on domestic sectors may provide meal services on board, without restriction on duration of the flight," the ministry's order said Tuesday.

POLLUTION CHOKES NATIONAL CAPITAL



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 16: The air quality in the national capital deteriorated to the severe category Tuesday and the Delhi government suggested implementing work from home policy in Delhi-NCR and closing down industries as part of measures to deal with the pollution crisis during a meeting with other northern states.

The air quality index in neighbouring cities was also in the very poor category -- Ghaziabad (356), Greater Noida (361), Gurugram (369) and Noida (397) -- at 4 PM.

According to the Ministry of Earth Sciences' air quality monitor SAFAR, the AQI will likely remain at the lower end of 'severe' on Wednesday.

"Surface winds are likely to be very calm with a low ventilation index pushing AQI to severe by tomorrow and fluctuate between severe to an upper end of very poor thereafter until November 18. Intrusion of stubble burning related pollutants into Delhi is not likely for the next two days due to unfavorable (winds coming from east direction)," it said.

The Supreme Court, which had instructed the Commission For Air Quality Management to hold the joint meeting regarding the pollution levels in Delhi, will hear the matter Wednesday

Delhi's air quality was again in the severe category with the 24-hour average AQI recorded at 403 after remaining in the 'very poor' category till Tuesday morning, when the AQI was recorded at 396

The effective farm fire count has reduced to 1,820 and its contribution to Delhi's PM2.5 Tuesday was eight percent.

The peak in fire count appears to have reached last week and fire counts are now starting to show a declining trend which is delayed by about one week from the previous year due to late withdrawal of the monsoon, it said. A visible improvement in Delhi's air quality was recorded on Sunday although it was in the 'very poor' category.

The national capital had recorded a 24-hour average AQI of 330 on Sunday as against 473 the previous

DELHI RIOTS

FB India to appear before Assembly panel tomorrow

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 16: After seeking extension from the Delhi Assembly over a summons issued by the Committee of Peace and Harmony in connection with last year's riots in North East Delhi, Facebook India Tuesday finally agreed to send its two senior representatives before the committee November 18.

Facebook India said in a letter, "We again thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee of Peace and Harmony to provide our views to assist the committee in its aims to recommend preventative and remedial measures concerning issues of governance, social cohesion, unity, brotherhood and peace and to strengthen overall social-economic development through communal harmony. Facebook shares the committee's aim to improve harmony among religious communities, linguistic communities

and social groups." Shivnath Thukral and GB Anand Bhushan will appear before the committee on behalf of Facebook India Thursday. The Committee on Peace and Harmony had summoned the senior representatives of the social media giant to depose over the North East Delhi riots before the panel on November 2. To which, Facebook India had sought an extension of 14 days to prepare. The team had also requested the committee to share the questions it intended to ask, "or at least the topics of inquiry in advance" so that Facebook's representatives are "equipped with the relevant information".

The committee was constituted after the riots that broke out in North East Delhi in February 2020 after clashes between anti-CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) and pro-CAA protesters took a violent turn.

FITNESS MOTIVATION



Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya arrives on a cycle to inaugurate the Health Pavilion at India International Trade Fair 2021, Pragati Maidan in New Delhi

GRAVE CHINESE THREAT

Scientists find 18 more viruses from China's wet markets

THE ORIGIN OF THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WHICH HAS SO FAR RESULTED IN 253.6 MILLION CASES OF INFECTIONS AND 5.11 MILLION DEATHS, HAVE BEEN LINKED WITH A SEAFOOD MARKET IN WUHAN

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi/Beijing, Nov 16: An international team of scientists has identified 18 mammalian viruses, which pose high risk to humans and domestic animals, from China's infamous wet markets.

The origins of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, which has so far resulted in 253.6 million cases of infections and 5.11 million deaths, has been linked with a seafood market in Wuhan. China has maintained that the first cases of SARS-CoV-2 likely emerged from animal to human transmission at a wet market in Wuhan.

In the study, researchers from China, the US, Belgium and Australia claimed to have unearthed game animals that are commonly hunted or consumed as exotic food in China, and have been potential reservoirs for SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2.

The team also examined many species for the first time, some of which have been banned by the



A wet market in China. GETTY IMAGE

Chinese government for trading or artificial breeding since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. They performed an analysis of 1,725 game animals, representing 16 species and five mammalian orders, sampled across China. "From this we identified 71 mammalian viruses, with 45 described for the first time. Eighteen viruses were considered as potentially high risk to humans and domestic animals," said corresponding author Shuo Su from the College of Veterinary

Eighteen viruses were considered as potentially high risk to humans and domestic animals

Medicine at Nanjing Agricultural University in China. Notably, the team did not identify any SARS-CoV-2-like or SARS-CoV-like sequences, including the Malayan pangolins from which SARS-CoV-2-like viruses have previously been identified, Su said in the study posted on preprint server bioRxiv, meaning not yet peer-reviewed.

According to researchers, one reason for the lack of pangolin SARS-like viruses could be that previous virus-positive samples were all confiscated by the custom authorities in Guangdong and Guangxi provinces, both of which were characterised by an intensive network of animal

smuggling. In contrast, the new samples were obtained from Zhejiang province in eastern China which does not have an international border that would facilitate smuggling, they said.

Further, the team found that Civets (Paguma larvata) carried the highest number of potentially high risk viruses. The cat-like carnivores have been known as potential reservoirs for coronavirus.

They also identified the transmission of bat coronavirus HKU8 from a bat to a civet, as well as cross-species jumps of coronavirus from bats to hedgehogs and from birds to porcupines. Similarly avian influenza virus H9N2 was also identified in civets and Asian badgers, with the latter displaying respiratory symptoms, as well as cases of likely human-to-wildlife virus transmission. "These data highlight the importance of game animals as potential drivers of disease emergence," the researchers said.

'Navy's plan to become 170-ship force on track'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Indian Navy's plan to become a 170-ship force is on track but some changes in the timelines for it are being made in view of certain delays, Vice Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Satish Namdeo Ghormade said Tuesday.

The naval commander said guided-missile destroyer 'Visakhapatnam' and Kalvarik-class submarine 'Vela' will be inducted into the Indian Navy by next week in a boost to its combat capability in the face of China's growing forays into the Indian Ocean region. Announcing the new inductions, he also said that 39 naval ships and submarines are currently being constructed in various Indian shipyards which will significantly boost India's maritime prowess.

The Navy had set a target to become a 170-ship force by 2027 but it is set to miss the deadline. At present, the Navy has around 130 ships. The Vice Chief of the Naval Staff said that the maritime environment around



A view of Visakhapatnam, the first stealth guided missile destroyer ship of the Project 15B.

Indian around is a complex one and the region of most rapid change is undoubtedly the Indian Ocean. On new inductions, the Vice Chief said destroyer 'Visakhapatnam' will be commissioned November 21 while Vela will be inducted into the force November 25. 'Visakhapatnam' is equipped with an array of weapons and sensors, including supersonic surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, medium and short-range guns, anti-submarine rockets and advanced electronic warfare and communication suits, said another official.

national



A natural disaster fund of ₹2,000 crore and a price stabilisation fund of ₹3,000 crore were set up to ensure that farmers don't face problems
YS JAGAN MOHAN REDDY |
ANDHRA PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

NO POWER IN PUNE'S 800 GOVT SCHOOLS

Power supply to at least 800 Zilla Parishad schools has been snapped over non-payment of dues in Maharashtra's Pune district, an official said. The cumulative outstanding bill amount is over ₹2 crore and the primary cause of the disconnections was non-payment of power bills by schools, which were closed amid the Covid-19 pandemic



of the day quote

It was unfortunate that both in Delhi and in Lucknow, there was a dominance of the dynasts. For years, this partnership of the dynasts continued to crush the aspirations of UP

NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

Rice farmers of Jammu and those growing apple and dry fruits in Kashmir have suffered losses in recent rain, hail and snow. They are major contributors in the economy, but it seems that the administration, instead of assessing the damage on the ground, decided the compensation within four walls of their offices

MEHBOOBA MUFTI | FORMER CM OF J&K

The Goa government may decide on reopening of schools after a meeting with the state government's task force

PRAMOD SAWANT | GOA CHIEF MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

IRO MD Lalit Goyal held by ED

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday arrested Lalit Goyal, the vice chairman and managing director of real estate group IRO, in connection with a money laundering probe linked to alleged diversion of home buyers' funds to the tune of ₹2,600 crore. The agency claimed the businessman was "non-cooperative and did not divulge any relevant information" during questioning and hence, was taken into custody under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in Chandigarh.

HC refuses bail to Indrani

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court Tuesday rejected the bail plea of Indrani Mukerjea, who is the prime accused in the Sheena Bora murder case. Mukerjea's lawyer Sana Khan said they will now move the Supreme Court for bail. Mukerjea is currently lodged at the Byculla women's prison in Mumbai following her arrest in August 2015. This was her first attempt to seek bail from the high court on merits of the case.

Three of family commit suicide

Erode: A 60-year-old widow, her elder daughter (30) and granddaughter, aged nine, allegedly committed suicide at Vettupalayam village in the district Tuesday, police said. They took the extreme step as they were reportedly frustrated that the 28-year-old younger daughter had left home a couple of days back without informing them and did not return, police said.

5 relatives of SSR killed in road mishap

Patna: Six persons, including five distant relatives of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput, were killed when their SUV collided with a truck in Bihar's Lakhisarai district Tuesday morning, police said. Four others were injured in the incident.

Elephant electrocuted

Guwahati: A wild elephant was electrocuted in Assam's Hojai district Tuesday, taking the toll of electrocution deaths of jumbos in the state to three in a month, forest officials said. According to the officials, a male elephant aged around 45-46 years, died on the spot after coming in contact with a live wire.

India set to seal \$3 billion Predator drone deal with US

IN 2019, THE US APPROVED THE SALE OF ARMED DRONES TO INDIA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: India is set to finalise a long-conceived proposal to procure 30 multi-mission armed Predator drones from the US for the three services at an estimated cost of over \$3 billion (around ₹22,000 crore), official sources said Tuesday. The proposal to acquire the MQ-9B long-endurance drones, armed with air-to-ground missiles, is likely to be cleared by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) in the next few weeks following which it will be placed before the PM-led Cabinet Committee on Security, they said. The sources said various key aspects of the procurement including the cost component and weapons package have already been finalised and the mega-deal is set to be sealed with the US by the current fiscal. Vice Chief of India Navy Vice Admiral said the proposal will be placed before the DAC in a "short while". "The whole effort of the procurement process is that we take a very balanced de-



cision and therefore inputs of all stakeholders are taken. The process is on and we have progressed quite a bit on this process. This will move to DAC in a short while," he told reporters at an event. The procurement proposal has been moved by the Indian Navy and all three services are likely to get 10 drones each. The remotely piloted drones, manufactured by US defence major General Atomics, are capable of remaining airborne for around 35 hours and can be deployed on a range of missions including surveillance, reconnaissance, intelligence gathering and destroying enemy targets. The medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE) Predator-B drone is the first hunter-killer UAV

designed for long-endurance and high-altitude surveillance.

Indian armed forces have been focusing on procuring unmanned platforms including armed drones following the eastern Ladakh stand-off with China and a drone strike on the Jammu airbase. Explosives-laden drones were used to carry out the attack on the Jammu Air Force station in June in the first such instance of suspected Pakistan-based terrorists deploying unmanned aerial vehicles to strike at vital military installations in India.

In 2019, the US approved the sale of armed drones to India and even offered integrated air and missile defence systems. The Indian Navy has been strongly pushing for the procurement to boost its overall surveillance over the Indian Ocean, a region that has witnessed increasing forays by Chinese ships and submarines in the last few years. Last year, the Indian Navy received two Predator drones on lease from the US, primarily for surveillance over the Indian Ocean. The two non-weaponised MQ-9B drones were leased for one year with the option of extending the period by another year.

In February last year, India sealed a \$2.6 billion deal with the US for procurement of 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters from American aerospace major Lockheed Martin for the Indian Navy. The delivery of the helicopters has already begun.

US 'concerned' over delivery of S-400 to India

Washington: The US has expressed its "concern" over the delivery of S-400 Triumf surface-to-air missile systems from Russia to India but it remains undecided on how to deal with the transaction, a senior Pentagon official said. The S-400 is known as Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system. Though there is no official comment by the Indian Air Force on the deliveries, Russia's Director of the Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC) Dmitry Shugaev told Sputnik news agency last week that the deliveries of the missiles are going on as planned.

CONTROVERSY OVER HYDERPORA ENCOUNTER

Police claim deceased civilians were terror aides; families deny

AGENCIES

Srinagar/Jammu, Nov 16: A controversy erupted over the encounter held Monday in Srinagar following conflicting claims about the two deceased civilians as their family members contested the police's charge that they were "terror associates", prompting demands by parties like the PDP and the NC for an impartial probe.

Inspector-General of Police (Kashmir range) Vijay Kumar maintained that Gul was an active associate of militants and was running the call centre on the premises owned by Altaf.

He said that Bhat was killed in cross-firing with the terrorists and though he expressed regret over the death, he said Bhat would be counted among the "harbourers" of militants. "Let the post-mortem report come and we will come to know who fired the bullet that killed him," Kumar told reporters here Tuesday.

However, Bhat's teenage niece, who was an eyewitness, disputed the claims made by authorities and alleged that he was used as a "human shield" by the security forces and later killed.

Gul's family also claimed that he was innocent and requested the authorities to hand over his body to them for final rites. Mohammad

Amir's father Latief Magray also refuted the Jammu and Kashmir police's claim that his son was a militant and was with the Pakistani terrorist when he was killed in Hyderpora encounter.

"We are nationalists and I myself killed a militant with bare hands in 2005. My sister and I escaped death with multiple bullet injuries when terrorists at-

tacked our house to take revenge and forced us to migrate to Udhampur district," he said and lamented, "Is this the reward for the sacrifice of my family?"

Magray, a resident of Gool tehsil in Ramban district, appealed to Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to provide "justice to his family" and also return the body of his son for proper burial. PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti demanded a judicial probe into the encounter. "Using innocent civilians as human shields, getting them killed in cross firing & then conveniently labelling them as OGWs (Over Ground Workers) is part of GOIs (Government of India's) rule-book now," Mehbooba alleged on Twitter, responding to a video of Bhat's kin shared by a user.

People's Conference leader Sajad Lone also demanded a probe into the incident.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 16: Cybersecurity researchers have discovered a new Android Trojan that can circumvent multi-factor authentication on banking apps on smartphones, putting users' financial data and money at risk.

Called 'SharkBot', the Android malware has been found in attacks across Europe and the US, focused on stealing funds from mobile phones running the Google Android operating system. "The main goal of SharkBot is

to initiate money transfers from the compromised devices via Automatic Transfer Systems (ATS) technique bypassing multi-factor authentication mechanisms," the researchers from cyber security firm Cleafy said in a statement.

"These mechanisms are used to enforce users' identity verification and authentication, and are usually combined with behavioural detection techniques to identify suspicious money transfers," the team added. 'SharkBot' appears to have a very low detection rate by antivirus solutions since multiple

CAUTIOUS STEPS



A woman crosses a waterlogged stretch following heavy rain in Bangalore

PTI PHOTO

PM inaugurates Purvanchal Expressway

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sultanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Nov 16: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Tuesday, inaugurated the 341-kilometre long Purvanchal Expressway and termed it as the "pathway to development of new UP".

He also slammed previous governments for lack of development and lauded the development push given by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that anyone who has any doubts about the capabilities of Uttar Pradesh and its people should come to Sultanpur today to witness their capability. "Three years ago, when I laid the foundation stone of this expressway, there was just plain land here and today, we have this modern expressway where I have



IAF fighter jet Mirage 2000 during an air show at the inauguration of the Purvanchal Expressway

PTI PHOTO

landed in an aircraft," he said. He said that the expressway, besides adding a new chapter to connectivity, would give an impetus to industrial development and strengthen the economic backbone of the state. The Prime Minister said

that the country's security was as important as its prosperity.

"The Purvanchal Expressway has now become one more power for the Indian Air Force in cases of emergency. Our fighter planes can land on the expressway," he said.

attacks inside the infected device. This technique has already been seen recently from other banking trojans, such as Gustuff.

"Once SharkBot is successfully installed in the victim's device, attackers can obtain sensitive banking information through the abuse



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

anti-analysis techniques have been implemented. SharkBot belongs to a 'new' generation of mobile malware, as it is able to perform ATS

FRESH THREAT

'SHARKBOT' BELONGS TO A 'NEW' GENERATION OF MOBILE MALWARE, AS IT IS ABLE TO PERFORM ATS ATTACKS INSIDE THE INFECTED DEVICE

'SHARKBOT' APPEARS TO HAVE A VERY LOW DETECTION RATE BY ANTIVIRUS SOLUTIONS SINCE MULTIPLE ANTI-ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED

Bars, eateries can now serve herbal hookah in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Delhi High Court Tuesday allowed for the time being the use of herbal hookah in restaurants and pubs in the national capital, saying that Covid-19 restrictions cannot be permitted to continue at the cost of livelihood.

Justice Rekha Palli, who was hearing a batch of pleas by several restaurants and bars against the prohibition on the sale or service of herbal flavoured hookahs, said that prohibitions imposed on account of the pandemic "cannot go on forever" and noted that the authorities have already permitted cinema halls and swimming pools to function at full capacity.

The court clarified that it was granting permission as an interim relief and the same is subject to the petitioners giving an undertaking to it that they would strictly follow Covid-19 appropriate behaviour while serving herbal hookah.

"Subject to the petitioners filing an undertaking, till the next date of hearing, the respondent (Delhi government) will stand restrained from interfering with the service of herbal hookah," the judge ordered.

"In case of any change in Covid-19 situation, the respondent will be at liberty to move court," she added.

The court directed the Delhi government to file its response to the petitions and asked it to "take a call" if other restaurants and bars approach it for permission to serve herbal hookah in compliance with Covid-19 protocol.

Raj cuts petrol rate by ₹4/L, diesel by ₹5/L

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Nov 16: Amid pressure to reduce VAT after reduction in excise duty by the Centre on petrol and diesel, the Congress government in Rajasthan Tuesday night announced to slash VAT to make petrol and diesel cheaper by ₹4 per litre and ₹5 per litre. Respectively, from midnight.



This will result in annual revenue loss of ₹3,500 crore to the state. "In the cabinet meeting today, it was unanimously decided to reduce the rate of VAT on petrol/diesel. After this, the rates will be reduced by ₹4 per litre in petrol and ₹5 per litre in diesel from 12 o'clock tonight," Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot tweeted.

A day before Diwali, the government of India had slashed excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹5 and ₹10 per litre. Interestingly, following the excise duty cut, BJP-ruled states, Punjab and Odisha had reduced VAT on fuel to further reduce the prices. Some Congress-ruled states, however, had not cut VAT and had demanded further reduction in central excise duty. After the cabinet meeting, transport minister Pratap Singh Khachariyawas said that the decision was taken to give relief to the public. He targeted the Modi government over the expensive petrol and diesel and alleged that the government was working to weaken states.

of Accessibility Services, such as credentials, personal information, current balance, etc., but also to perform gestures on the infected device," the researchers informed.

ATS (Automatic Transfer System) is an advanced attack technique (fairly new on Android) which enables attackers to auto-fill fields in legitimate mobile banking apps and initiate money transfers from the compromised devices.

The malicious app is installed on the users' devices using both the side-loading technique and social engineering schemes, the report said.

of the day quote

It is (Hero) the oldest EV manufacturer in the country with a vision to drive positive and greener change. We are collectively building an extensive network of charging stations at kirana stores, apartments, offices, and malls for easy accessibility

We seem to be all gearing up towards fantastic months ahead. There is a huge amount of content lined up for December, January, February, and March and we are very, very confident that we will have the biggest quarter starting January to March, which is technically our fourth quarter

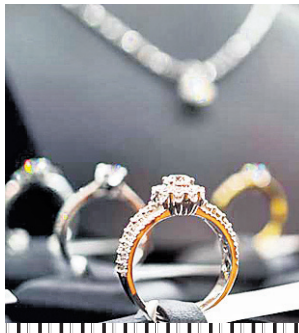
Companies were forced to experiment during COVID, so we are definitely seeing a lot more business coming to the enlarging IT companies and that reflects all their numbers, their business is up, the profits are up, their hiring is at an all-time high

We're ushering in the era of New Mobility and continue to attract the best talent from around the world to build it out at scale

BHAVISH AGGARWAL
OLA FOUNDER AND CEO

GEM, JEWELLERY EXPORTS UP 45.2 PC

The gem and jewellery exports witnessed a growth of 45.2 per cent during October at ₹31,241.09 crore (USD 4,170.59 million) compared to the same month last year due to strong demand from key markets, led by the US, GJEPC said Tuesday. The overall exports during October 2020 stood at ₹21,515.97 crore (USD 2,928.26 million) during October 2020, according to data by Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC).



Jhunjhunwala-backed Akasa Air orders 72 Boeing 737 Max jets

NEW DELHI, NOV 16: Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed new airline Akasa Air has ordered 72 '737 Max' aircraft from US-based aerospace company Boeing to launch service in India, a statement said Tuesday. "Akasa Air's order includes two variants from the 737 Max family, including the 737-8 and the high-capacity 737-8-200," the joint statement by Akasa Air and Boeing mentioned.



The order, valued at "nearly USD 9 billion at list prices," was signed at Dubai Air Show 2021 Tuesday, it stated. The Ministry of Civil Aviation had last month given a no-objection certificate (NOC) for the operation of Akasa Air in India. Akasa Air is backed by ace investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, former IndiGo president Aditya Ghosh and former Jet Airways CEO Vinay Dube. "We are delighted to partner with Boeing for our first airplane order and thank them for their trust and confidence in Akasa Air's business plan and leadership team,"

Dube, who is now the CEO of Akasa Air, was quoted as saying in the statement. He said the new 737 Max airplane will support the carrier's aim of running not just a cost-efficient, reliable and affordable airline, but also an environmentally friendly company with the youngest and greenest fleet in the Indian skies. India's aviation regulator DGCA had August 26 lifted the ban on Boeing 737 Max planes' commercial flight operations after almost two-and-a-half years.

All 737 Max planes were grounded in India by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) March 13, 2019, three days after the crash of an Ethiopian Airlines 737 Max plane near Addis Ababa, which had left 157 people, including four Indians, dead. European aircraft manufacturer Airbus dominates the Indian aviation market currently. As on October 15, there were 666 aircraft registered in India, 65 per cent of which were of Airbus, 21 per cent were of Boeing and the remaining were of other companies.

Housing prices may rise if material rates not controlled: CREDAI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: Realtors' apex body CREDAI Tuesday expressed concern over an increase in the rates of cement and steel during the past one year and said housing prices could rise 10-15 per cent if the prices of construction raw materials do not fall.

The industry body demanded that the government should take measures to control the prices and suggested reduction in GST for construction raw materials.

The Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Association of India (CREDAI), which has over 13,000 member developers, pointed out that the prices of construction raw materials have been increasing consistently since January 2020.



Moreover, the association said the delays in construction caused by lockdowns, curfews and the shortage of labour resulted in a direct increase in construction cost anywhere between 10 per cent and 15 per cent in the past 18 months. "If the prices of a higher raw materials do not start decreasing in the immediate future, there is a high probability that the prices of residential properties will go up by 10-15 per cent to offset the increased cost of construction," CREDAI said in a statement.

Harsh Vardhan Patodia, president, CREDAI National, said: "We have been consistently witnessing sharp increase in the raw material prices over the last one year and they don't seem to be decreasing or stabilising in the near future."

Online gaming operators hopeful to enter Odisha



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Leading online gaming companies are looking for opportunities to enter the Odisha market, but they seek a clear exemption for games of skill in the Odisha Gambling Act.

The companies like Dream11, Games24x7, Paytm Games and MPL are hopeful that the state will frame policies to attract the online skill gaming sector.

"Right now there is no clear exemption in the Odisha Gambling Act for games of skill. If this exemption can be clearly provided, then it will help in getting a lot of investments in the state not only in the gaming sector, but also in several other sectors such as semiconductor, graphics, imaging, fintech all of which directly benefit from gaming," said Dinker Vashisht, Vice-President, Games24x7, one of India's largest online skill gaming companies which includes RummyCircle, My11Circle and UGames, in its portfolio. The sector has immense employment opportunities and is fast emerging as a major revenue resource for the government.

"The Odisha government seems to be missing out on this trend, because of a lacuna in the state law. Most state governments, while banning gambling, have made an exception for skill games. For example, states such West Bengal, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Delhi, Rajasthan, Jharkhand ban gambling, while making a clear exemption for games of skill.

Right now there is no clear exemption in the Odisha Gambling Act for games of skill. If this exemption can be clearly provided, then it will help in getting a lot of investments in the state not only in the gaming sector, but also in several other sectors such as semiconductor, graphics, imaging, fintech all of which directly benefit from gaming

DINKER VASHISHT
VICE-PRESIDENT, GAMES24x7

Unfortunately, in the Odisha Gambling Act, there is no clear exemption made for games of skill. This has stopped several top online skill gaming companies including Dream11, Games24x7, Paytm Games, MPL from offering their services in the state," Vashisht added. The judicial clarity has coincided with rapid growth in the sector which is projected to grow at a CAGR of 40 per cent to \$2.8 billion by 2022. The online skill gaming industry presently employs 45,000 people in the country and has received more than \$1.2 billion investment, in the last seven years, from some of the biggest names in international finance such as Tiger Global, Sequoia, Raine Capital, Chryscapital, TPG, Kalaari, Matrix.

SHORT TAKES

Galaxy chocolate brand now in India

New Delhi: In a significant milestone in its journey in India, Mars Wrigley, the world's leading manufacturer of chocolates, chewing gums, mints, announced the 'made in India, for India' journey for one of its most loved global iconic brands, Galaxy. The new Galaxy made in India portfolio will deliver elevated smooth chocolate experience starting at ₹10. With this, India becomes the first market for Mars Wrigley to offer Galaxy at the opening price point as well as the smallest portion size.

Amazon Fresh to offer groceries

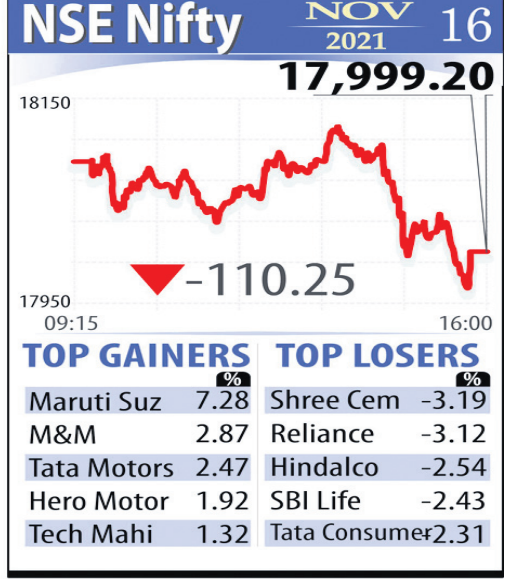
Bhubaneswar: Amazon today announced that it has completed the integration of its grocery stores Fresh and Pantry into a single unified store called Amazon Fresh. The new store, available across over 300 cities in India, continues to offer customers unbeatable savings, a wide selection of products, and fast and convenient delivery options in one single online destination. Siddharth Nambiar, Director, Category Management, Amazon India, said that with Amazon Fresh, customers will continue to enjoy super value savings, a wide selection of products, and convenient delivery options.

GATE offering re-launched

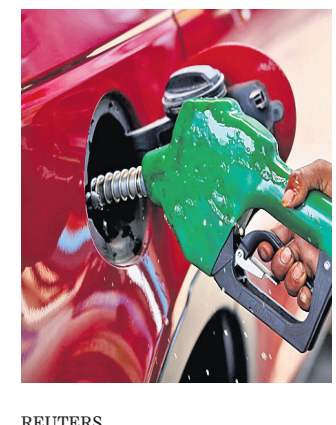
Bhubaneswar: Byju's re-launched one of its renowned Exam Prep for GATE offering. The re-launched product features a GATE learning tablet, high-quality recorded content, weekly and subject tests, printed workbooks, previous year question books, subject-wise formula notes, live classroom and doubt resolution sessions under the guidance of expert faculty. Students will now receive customised, integrated, and comprehensive exam preparation with the new Online Classroom Program.

PhD degree to Poornata Jena

Bhubaneswar: Poornata Jena, daughter of Pramod Jena and Pramila Jena from Satyanagar (Balasore) has been awarded the degree of Doctor in Philosophy (PhD) in Agril Science (Nematology). Her husband Rajesh Mohapatra is working as Agril Officer in Govt of Odisha. She is the niece of Ramakanta Pradhan, FGM Bhubaneswar, Union Bank of India.



Gasoil demand dips in first half of Nov



REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 16: India's gasoil demand declined by almost 20 per cent from the pre-Covid levels during the first 15 days of November, after a festive season led brief recovery last month, showed preliminary sales data of state-run refiners. India's gasoil consumption accounts for about two-fifths of the country's fuel demand. It typically

rises during a month-long festival season that ended earlier this month with the celebration of Diwali as diesel-guzzling trucks hit the road and industrial activity gathers pace. Gasoil consumption totalled 2.43 million tonnes between November 1 and 15, a decline of about 15.3 per cent from the year-ago period and down 19.35 per cent from the same period in 2019, Reuters reported quoting refiners' data.

In contrast, gasoline sales continued to stay above pre-Covid levels, rising to 1.04 million tonnes, as people continued to prefer using personal vehicles over public transport to protect themselves from the virus. Gasoline sales in the first half of November were up 1.2 period from the same period in 2019 and rose by 0.5 per cent from last year, the data showed. State retailers - Indian Oil Corp, Bharat Petroleum Corp and Hindustan Petroleum Corp - control about 90 per cent of the fuel stations in the country.

HC orders CCI to rule on Amazon, Future dispute within 2 weeks



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Delhi High Court Tuesday directed the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to expeditiously decide within two weeks on its show cause notice to Amazon on the issue of revocation of approval given to the US company for investment transaction with FCPL which has been challenged by Future Group.

A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh said the decision be taken in accordance with rules, law and government policy applicable to the facts of the case and adequate opportunity be given to the parties to be heard.



The court was hearing a petition by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) seeking to protect around 6,000 traders who had supplied goods to the Future Group amounting to ₹10,000 crore and to recover the money from the group. The court said it was not inclined to decide this issue and disposed of the CAIT petition. The plea said Amazon has obtained the approval of CCI for its investment in FCPL in 2019 by deceit, fraud, misrepresentation and false representation. CAIT, represented through senior advocate Saurabh Kirpal, said it was interested in the matter to help over 6,000 small traders re-

SBI holds mega SHG Mela in Jajpur



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Vidya Krishnan, Chief General Manager of SBI Bhubaneswar Circle, visited the RBO, Jajpur Road and inaugurated a new branch at Jindal Campus. To mark the day, a mega SHG Mela was also organised there. In the Mela, the bank disbursed a loan of ₹3.30 crore to 163 new SHGs. Also, 165 renewal proposals amounting to ₹1.80 crore were disbursed to group members.

SBI Bhubaneswar Circle sanctioned a total of ₹5.10cr to SHGs and also donated a 3.75 KW solar panel lighting system to Natural Institute for Social Welfare



Jajpur District Collector Chakravati Singh Rathore, who was present on the occasion, emphasised to hold more such melas to make the rural women self-reliant. Besides CGM Krishnan, Abhaya Kishore Pandey, GM-I, Kundan Jyoti, DGM (B&O) and other SBI officials were present on the occasion. Similarly, SBI, Bhubaneswar Circle, also donated a 3.75 KW solar panel lighting system to the Natural Institute for Social Welfare (NISW). The NISW, an NGO, runs a Child Care Home for orphaned children and a Swadhar Greh for distressed women at Kusunpur, Jajpur Road. CGM handed over the solar panel to the office bearers of the NISW and praised their activities. She also said that SBI encourages such noble initiatives and will continue to do so in future. Pabitra Mohan Sahoo, Director of NISW, thanked SBI and its employees for the generous gesture.

Pfizer agrees to let other firms make its Covid pill

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Nov 16: Drugmaker Pfizer Inc. has signed a deal with a UN-backed group to allow other manufacturers to make its experimental COVID-19 pill, a move that could make the treatment available to more than half of the world's population. In a statement issued Tuesday, Pfizer said it would grant a license for the antiviral pill to the Geneva-based Medicines Patent Pool, which would let generic drug companies produce the pill for use in 95 countries, making up about 53 per cent of the world's population. The deal excludes some large countries that have suffered devastating coronavirus outbreaks. For example, while a Brazilian



drug company could get a license to make the pill for export to other countries, the medicine could not be made generically for use in Brazil. Still, health officials said the fact that the deal was struck even before Pfizer's pill has been authorized anywhere, could help to end the pandemic quicker. "It's quite significant that we

will be able to provide access to a drug that appears to be effective and has just been developed, to more than 4 billion people," Esteban Burrone, head of policy at the Medicines Patent Pool, said. He estimated that other drug-makers would be able to start producing the pill within months, but acknowledged the agreement would

n't please everyone. "We try to strike a very delicate balance between the interests of the (company), the sustainability required by generic producers and most importantly the public health needs in lower and middle-income countries," Burrone said. Under the terms of the agreement, Pfizer will not receive royalties on sales in low-income countries and will waive royalties on sales in all countries covered by the agreement while COVID-19 remains a public health emergency. Earlier this month, Pfizer said its pill cut the risk of hospitalisation and death by nearly 90 per cent in people with mild to moderate coronavirus infections. Independent experts recommended halting the company's study based on its promising re-

sults. Pfizer said it would ask the US Food and Drug Administration and other regulators to authorise the pill as soon as possible since the pandemic erupted last year, researchers worldwide have raced to develop a pill to treat COVID-19 that can be taken at home easily to ease symptoms, speed recovery and keep people out of the hospital. At the moment, most COVID-19 treatments must be delivered intravenously or by injection. Britain authorised the Merck's COVID-19 pill earlier this month, and it is pending approval elsewhere. In a similar deal with the Medicines Patent Pool announced in October, Merck agreed to let other drugmakers make its COVID-19 pill, molnupiravir, available in 105 poorer countries.

STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Kiwis rest Kane for T20 India matches



JAIPUR: New Zealand captain Kane Williamson will miss the upcoming three T20 Internationals against India starting here Wednesday as he wants to fully focus on the two-Test series. The new cycle of the World Test Championship kicks off with the series against India beginning November 25 in Kanpur. Senior speedster Tim Southee will lead the Black Caps in the white ball series, the New Zealand Cricket (NZC) stated in its release.

BOULT OPTS OUT OF TEST SERIES

Jaipur: Top New Zealand fast bowler Trent Boult has informed that he will not be a part of the Test series against India as he needs to refresh and rejuvenate after 12 weeks of continuous cricket. He will head back home after the third T20I against India in Kolkata. "It has been 12 or so weeks away from home already, so just looking forward to refresh a little bit," Boult was quoted as saying in a video released by New Zealand Cricket.

Stand-in captain Southee while talking to reporters Tuesday said that bubble life does take a toll on the cricketers' physical and mental health. He hoped that they don't have to play in protected environments for far too long.

"With what's happened in the world in the last couple of years, (Covid-19) it has made things a lot tougher with bubbles and quarantine. It does take its toll after a while," said Southee.

"We don't know what's going to happen in the future. Whether we're gonna have to continue to play in bubbles and I guess you are put under more pressure with the quarantine time thrown as well," he informed while adding that touring India was always a challenge.

India, under new skipper Sharma and head coach Dravid, look to start afresh after WC debacle



Indian players in a relaxed mood ahead of the training session in Jaipur, Tuesday

PHOTO: BCCI

AGENCIES

Total matches played:	18	India won: 8	New Zealand: 9
Matches in India:	6	India won: 2	New Zealand: 3
• One match no result			
Most runs scored	Rohit Sharma: 352	Tim Seifert: 280	
Most wickets taken	Yuzvendra Chahal: 7	Ish Sodhi: 19	

Jaipur, Nov 16: India would like to put the T20 World Cup debacle behind as they will begin their campaign against runners-up New Zealand here Wednesday. The three-match series will be crucial for India as the next edition of the T20 World Cup in Australia is less than 12 months away. Under new head coach Rahul Dravid and new captain Rohit Sharma, the Indians will certainly try and develop a template keeping the next edition of the T20 World Cup in mind.

The focus will be on a few new players in the upcoming series. And the first among them is Venkatesh Iyer. For the last couple of days, both Rohit and Dravid, have spent a considerable amount of time with him. India have been

forced to look beyond Hardik Pandya and many think Iyer can groomed into the perfect replacement. The three games will give an indication if he can be groomed for the much needed fast bowling all-rounder's slot.

The other IPL performers who have been picked in the squad are Rituraj Gaikwad, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan and Yuzvendra Chahal. In the absence of Jasprit Bumrah, the pace of Avesh will certainly

come in handy, but then the lack of experience is a factor.

The think tank comprising Rohit and Rahul will also assess a player's utility keeping the Australian conditions in the mind.

There are five shortest format openers in the side and slotting them in various middle-order positions will be a challenge. Rohit and vice-captain KL Rahul are expected to open Wednesday but India might be tempted to experiment in

the presence of more options like Ishan Kishan and Gaikwad. In fact, even Venkatesh got all his runs opening for KKR, but he is set to bat in the middle-order.

Suryakumar Yadav could not find his rhythm during the World Cup but he is one player India would be looking to groom at No.4, especially for the true pitches in Australia.

New Zealand reached here Monday on a chartered flight from Dubai and they have little time to reflect on their loss to Australia in the title clash. Skipper Kane Williamson has been rested for the Test series. Seasoned pacer Tim Southee will lead the team in his absence. However, the likes of Daryl Mitchell, Ish Sodhi and Martin Gupthill can pose problems for the Indians.

Fresh template on Rohit, Rahul's mind

JAIPUR: India's new T20I captain Rohit Sharma said that the team need to get the template right in the format. He added that India should form their template rather than following formula of other teams. His comments came as he and head coach Rahul Dravid addressed the pre-match press conference here Wednesday.

"We just need to set the template right, and we have got some time to do that. India have been brilliant in T20Is but it's just that we haven't won an ICC tournament. We will be looking to fill some holes in the team. I'm not saying we should follow certain team's template. We should set our own template, which suits us best," informed Rohit.

The new skipper insisted Kane Williamson's absence from the series won't affect their planning against other New Zealand players. "We have to focus on every New Zealand player. Williamson will be missed by them but they have other match-winning players also," Rohit added.

Dravid asserted that New Zealand can't be called underdogs all the time. "New Zealand are a very good side, make no mistake about it. You don't need me to say that. It's almost become fashionable to call them underdogs but that narrative has changed. They have beaten us in big games so here's an opportunity for us to fight back," Dravid said.

Dravid like others also emphasised on workload management. "Workload management is an important aspect of cricket. The mental and physical well-being of players will be a priority. You have to remember players aren't machines," Dravid informed.

Rohit was asked what would be Virat Kohli's role in the team since relinquishing captaincy. "It's very simple. Whatever he has been doing till now, his role in this team remains the same," the Indian captain said. "He is a very important player for the team and whenever he plays, he creates an impact. From the team's perspective, he is an important player and when you play each game, the roles are different," added Rohit.

Rohit also said that one of his priorities will be to instil a sense of security among the players and back them even if they fail in a few games. "I think it is important that a player is assured of his place even if he fails in a few games. You need to back them for the chances they take," Rohit stated.

I am sure when Virat comes back into the team, the kind of experience he has will only strengthen the team
ROHIT SHARMA



Venues finalised for Oz edition of T20 WC

DUBAI: Seven Australian cities, including Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide, will host the ICC Men's T20 World Cup from October 16 to November 13 next year. The other two cities which will in all likelihood host the Round 1 matches include Geelong and Hobart with the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) hosting the final. "The event will see a total of 45 matches hosted across Adelaide, Brisbane, Geelong, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney," an ICC press release stated. The semifinals will be held at the Sydney Cricket Ground and Adelaide Oval, November 9 and 10, respectively. Among the countries that have directly qualified for the Super 12 are defending champions Australia and runner-up New Zealand. Along with the finalists, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, England, India, Pakistan and South Africa, who are the next highest ranked teams, will gain direct entry into the Super 12 stage. However, two-time champions West Indies will have to qualify.

Belgians arrive with positive attitude



Belgian players pose for shutterbugs after their arrival Tuesday in Bhubaneswar for the Junior World Cup hockey tournament

PHOTO: HOCKEY INDIA

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: The Belgium squad that will take part in the FIH Junior Men's hockey championships arrived here Tuesday. The tournament begins at the Kalinga Stadium here November 24.

Belgium, who finished runners-up in the last edition of the tournament in Lucknow losing to India are in Pool A which has teams like Chile, Malaysia, and South Africa. Certainly Belgium are one of the favourites to qualify for the semifinals.

"We have had an intense period with lots of training together combined with a very busy club competition. Finding a good balance between training together and playing for your club was vital for us to prepare well. We had a good warm-up tournament in July 2021 in Spain and we hope to make the next steps here in Bhubaneswar," asserted Jeroen Baart, the head coach of Belgium.

The skipper of the side Dylan Englebert stated that they are excited to be in the Odisha capital. "We are very excited. I know a lot of players have had pictures of the stadium as the lock screen of their phones. It has been a dream to come here and play at the biggest stadium of hockey. It will be the first time we will be playing in such a big stadium, so we are very excited," Englebert said.

Belgium will open their campaign November 24 against South Africa. The Belgian coach was asked about the top contenders for the marquee event. "India will be, of course, a force to watch playing at home with the qualities they have," Baart said.

"We know Germany and Spain well and know that these are the teams to watch. Also never underestimate the Dutch team! Maybe the last one to mention is Argentina that can always be a dangerous opponent in a tournament like this," Baart concluded.

ENGLAND CRUISE AS ITALY STUMBLE

DRAW PREVENTS ITALY FROM QUALIFYING DIRECTLY FOR 2022 QATAR WC

AGENCIES

Belfast, Nov 16: Italy are facing another detour to get to a World Cup final. Not so their rivals England, who they beat in the Euro 2020 final.

The playoffs beckon for the Azzurri - just like four years ago - after they stumbled Monday to a 0-0 draw at Northern Ireland. The result plunged the recently-crowned European champions to a second-place finish behind Switzerland in their qualifying group. Switzerland won their game 4-0 against Bulgaria.

Italy's soccer-mad fans might be starting to fear the worst. After all, their country also failed to secure automatic qualification for the 2018 World Cup and wound up losing to Sweden in a two-leg playoff, one of the darkest moments in Italy's soccer history.

England however, are heading straight to Qatar: On the next-to-last night of group play in Europe, England romped to their biggest competitive win - 10-0 over the part-timers of San Marino. They topped the group with more goals (39) than any other side in the qualifiers.

Harry Kane enjoyed himself, in particular, with four goals - all in the first half - to move to 48 for



Harry Kane of England slots the ball home for his third goal during the game against San Marino, Monday

England, five off Wayne Rooney's national record.

Harry Maguire, Emile Smith Rowe, Tyrone Mings, Tammy Abraham and Bukayo Saka joined Kane in scoring for England, while there was also an own-goal by San Marino.

Scotland will be seeded, like Italy, in the playoffs after a 2-0 victory over Group F winner Denmark,

whose perfect record in qualifying came to an end.

Poland finished second in England's group and closed with a 1-2 loss at home to Hungary, and will likely be away in their first match in the playoffs.

Italy and Switzerland went into their final qualifiers on 15 points each in Group C but with the Azzurri having a superior goal dif-

ference, the first tie-breaker if they ended tied on points.

That didn't come into play because Switzerland swept to an easy win over already-eliminated Bulgaria thanks to goals by Noah Okafor, Ruben Vargas, Cedric Itten and Remo Freuler. Italy thus became the latest big team to struggle in an intense atmosphere at Windsor Park.

Neymar rested for Argentina match

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buenos Aires, Nov 16: Lionel Messi will play for Argentina when they face Brazil Tuesday in a World Cup qualifier. However, he will miss his friend Neymar, who has been ruled out of the game due to pain in the thighs.

The Brazilian Football Confederation said in a statement that Neymar "reported being insecure" about the possible injury. "Because there's not enough time to perform more exams, the coaching staff decided to spare the player, who will not travel with the squad," the statement said.

Medvedev overcomes Zverev

AGENCIES

Turin, Nov 16: World No. 2 Daniil Medvedev overcame World No. 3 Alexander Zverev in a group encounter of the year-ending ATP Finals here Tuesday. In a match that can best be described as a slugfest between the two most powerful hitters of the tennis ball in the circuit, Medvedev prevailed 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 7-6 (8-6) in 159 minutes.

It was an encounter which never seemed like ending as both players engaged in long rallies and chased down impossible balls. Medvedev however, displayed better nerves and that helped to win the match. With two wins from as many matches,



Medvedev has all but sealed a spot in the semifinals.

Earlier in a match late Monday evening Russia's World No. 5 Andrey Rublev stormed back to his winning ways, defeating Greece's World No. 4 Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-4 in the 'Green Group'.

Rublev, who arrived for the year-end tournament here struggling to regain his form in recent weeks, was at his heavy-hitting best as he didn't face a break point on way to defeating Tsitsipas in 90 minutes.

Rublev dominated the contest with his strong serves, winning 90 per cent of points behind his first delivery. Thanks to his booming first serves, the Russian rarely allowed the Greek opponent a look at his vulnerable second serve.

"I think these are the moments that we are practicing for; that we are living for: to be here and to enjoy this atmosphere, to play great tennis and for the spectators to enjoy," Rublev said after the match.

Sindhu, Lakshya win

Bali: PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen made impressive starts at the Indonesia Masters Super 750 badminton tournament, reaching the second round with contrasting wins here Tuesday. Reigning World Champion Sindhu, seeded third, record a 21-15, 21-19 win over Thailand's Supanida Katethong in a 43-minute women's singles match to set up a second-round clash with Spain's Clara Azurmendi. In the men's segment Lakshya stunned World No.10 Japan's Kanta Tsuneyama 21-17, 18-21, 21-17 in 68 minutes. He will now face two-time World Champion Kento Momota of Japan.

AGENCIES