



SPILLING BEANS

Actor Sushmita Sen, who is a single mother of two adopted girls, reveals why she never got married

LEISURE P2



NEW HURDLE FOR BORIS

Boris Johnson, still under the shadow of partygate scandal, has been hit with yet another drunken scandal

INTERNATIONAL P10



CONVINCING VICTORY

Harmanpreet Kaur-led Indian women's team begin the ODI series against Sri Lanka with a comfortable 4-wicket win

SPORTS P12

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SHINDE GOVT TO FACE FLOOR TEST JULY 4

AGENCIES

Mumbai, July 1: The day-old Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra will face the floor test July 4, an official said Friday. BJP MLA Rahul Narvekar filed the nomination Friday for the post of Assembly Speaker, the official said. Election for the post, if needed, will be held July 3, when the special two-day session of the House begins, he said. The position has been vacant since Nana Patole of Congress resigned from the post in February last year. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will table a motion of confidence in the Assembly July 4, the official, a senior functionary in Vidhan Bhawan, said.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I started respecting tea sellers long time ago. Nowadays I'm learning how not to offend autowallahs!

Raths roll amid sea of devotees



LORD OF THE UNIVERSE AMONG THE MULTITUDES: The three chariots of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra lined up near the Gundicha temple in Puri, Friday

About 10 lakh devotees participate in the annual festival after a two-year gap due to the Covid-19 pandemic

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, July 1: An estimated 10 lakh people, who thronged the seaside town, Friday pulled the chariots of Lord Jagannath and His siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra from Srimandir with much fanfare up to the Gundicha temple. After a gap of two years devotees were allowed to participate in the annual festival. The Rath Yatra was celebrated without devotees in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Pahandi Bije of the deities began at 6:15 am, at least three hours ahead of the schedule. Adorned with tahias (giant floral crowns), the three deities along with Lord Sudarshan were brought out of the sanctum sanctorum amid beats of cymbals, drums and gongs in the Pahandi procession to their respective chariots parked in front of the Lions' Gate of the Srimandir. The deities were placed on the chariots by 9:30am.

Puri Sankaracharya Swami Nischalananda Saraswati offered prayers to the deities on their respective chariots.

The titular king of Puri Gajapati Dibyasingha Deb performed the 'Chhera Pahanra', a ritual of sweeping the chariots before the Rath Yatra, emblematic of the belief that all are equal before the almighty, between 11:20am and 12:20pm. **Contd...P3**

MORE ON P5, P6, P7

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VALUE	VARIATION
SENSEX	52907.93	↓ 111.01
NIFTY	15752.00	↓ 28.30
DOLLAR	79.49	↓ ₹0.05
EURO	82.04	↓ ₹0.70
GOLD	₹51,917	↑ ₹1,400
SILVER	₹57,700	↓ ₹630

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
MAX	35.0°C	32.6°C
MIN	27.2°C	26.0°C
Humidity	76%	87%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Light rain likely

Nupur's remark 'set country on fire': SC

Refusing to entertain Sharma's plea for clubbing of FIRs lodged in various states against her for the remark, the bench held that the comment was made either for cheap publicity, political agenda or some nefarious activities

AGENCIES

New Delhi, July 1: The Supreme Court Friday came down heavily on suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma for her controversial comments against the Prophet, saying her "loose tongue" has "set the entire country on fire" and that she

is "single-handedly responsible for what is happening in the country." Refusing to entertain Sharma's plea for clubbing of FIRs lodged in various states against her for the remark, the bench held that the comment was made either for cheap publicity, political agenda or some nefarious activities.

"She actually has a loose tongue and has made all kinds of irresponsible statements on TV and set the entire country on fire. Yet, she claims to be a lawyer of 10 years standing... She should have immediately apologised for her comments to the whole country," the court said.

"These remarks are very disturbing and smack of arrogance. What is her business to make such



remarks? These remarks have led to unfortunate incidents in the country... These people are not religious. They do not have respect for other religions. These remarks were made for cheap publicity or political agenda or some other nefarious activities," the bench said.

While refusing to entertain Sharma's plea for clubbing of FIRs, a vacation bench of Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala allowed her to withdraw the plea.

"She has a threat or she has become a security threat? The way she has ignited emotions across the country... this lady is single-handedly responsible for what is happening in the country," the bench said when Sharma's lawyer Maninder Singh pointed out that she was facing threats to life.

The bench further said, "the way she ignited emotions across the country has led to unfortunate incidents. This lady is single-handedly responsible for what is happening in the country. We saw the debate." **MORE ON P8**

MONSOON SESSION OF HOUSE BEGINS TODAY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 1: Amid tight security, the monsoon session of the state Assembly will begin Saturday at 11 am. This will be the first session following the reshuffle of the Council of Ministers and also for Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari and government chief whip Prasanta Muduli.

On the first day of the session, the full budget for FY 2023-23 will be presented by Pujari, who also holds the Finance portfolio.

The state government had presented a budget of ₹2 lakh crore and

got approval of the House through vote-on-account to make expenditure upto ₹1.06 lakh crore for the first four months (April to July) of the financial year.

The government would seek a nod from the House for a budget estimate for the remaining eight months of the fiscal. The full-fledged budget is expected to be around ₹2.10 lakh crore.

Meanwhile, Opposition BJP and Congress have lined up issues including law and order problem, elephant deaths, farmers' issue, to attack the government during the session. The BJD said it is ready to discuss any issue that is raised by the Opposition.

Udaipur killers used bike with number '2611'

AGENCIES

Udaipur, July 1: The motorcycle used for escape by the killers of Udaipur tailor Kanhaiya Lal had '2611' as its registration number, a possible reference to the Mumbai terror attacks in 2008.

Serial terror attacks in Mumbai took place November 26 and are referred to as 26/11 in general. The accused Riaz Akhtari and Ghouse Mohammad had fled after brutally hacking the tailor to death in Udaipur June 28.

Akhtari had paid ₹1000 to obtain the number of his choice for the motorcycle which he had bought in March 2013, officials said.

The accused were caught in the Bhim area by the Rajsamand police hours after the incident.

"The registration number of the bike on which they were fleeing was RJ 27 AS 2611. The motorcycle was handed over to the SIT for further action," SHO of Bhim police station said.

Udaipur RTO Prabhulal Bamniya said the motorcycle was issued in the name of Riaz Akhtari and a fee of ₹1,000 was paid for se-



curing the number in March 2013. November 26, 2008, 10 Pakistani terrorists arrived at Mumbai by sea route and opened fire indiscriminately at people, killing 166, including 18 security personnel. Ajmal Kasab was the only terrorist who was captured alive. He was hanged four years later November 21, 2012.

Top cops removed

JAIPUR: In a major reshuffle over the alleged negligence by police in the Kanhaiya Lal murder case, the Rajasthan government has removed the Superintendent of Police and Inspector General (IG) of Udaipur range. Prafulla Kumar, who is heading the SIT set up to investigate the murder, has been made the new IG. Meanwhile, the accused have been shifted from Udaipur to Ajmer's high security jail. Internet remained suspended in Rajasthan for the fourth day Friday.

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Mrs. Sulochana Das
Hon'ble Mayor
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leisure



FORD GOES PUBLIC WITH MONKEYPOX INFECTION

American actor Matt Ford has become the first person ever with monkeypox infection to go public. In a series of tweets, Ford, a self-employed actor who splits his time between Los Angeles and New York City, said the disease sucks as he is unable to sleep through the night.

FOY RECEIVED 1K EMAILS IN A MONTH FROM ALLEGED STALKER

British actress Claire Foy received over 1,000 emails in a month from her alleged stalker, a court has been told. The *Crown* actress' legal representatives warned a court that 38-year-old star was under significant risk from Jason Penrose, who wanted to be her boyfriend.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES

You are in a position to affect other peoples' lives. Since you are very compassionate and caring, people will look up to you whether as a peer or a superior. Make good use of this excess energy to solve prickly issues. Ganesh encourages large-scale projects.

TAURUS

Be prepared for taking instant decisions and acting promptly on them. Today you are likely to meet several such situations Ganesh is pleased to see that you have the acumen and experience to deal with such contingencies. You will have no trouble finding the right solutions and seeing things through.

GEMINI

You will be faced with a slew of demands from various people today, and you will find it difficult to meet all of them. However, you will be able to meet the requirements that need to be met to salvage the day. People will praise your intelligence and creativity, says Ganesh.

CANCER

Minor ailments like cough and cold may bother you, warns Ganesh. So avoid cold or sweet items. People admire your helpful nature. Take special care of your health, says Ganesh.

LEO

You need to curb down on your expenses. You need to moderate the risks you take on in the share market. It is a good day for financial gains though. You need to understand the value of compromise, says Ganesh.

VIRGO

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

LIBRA

Ganesh says that there are chances that today you might start some long-pending renovation project for your house. You may decorate your home with new paintings and items. There may be guests over in the evening that will make you very happy. You may also go out for dinner with your family and friends or, more probably, with your sweetheart.

SCORPIO

You are all set to paint the town red as you feel romance and love creeping into your life slowly. You may bump into 'someone special' today and see love blooming for you. There are also chances of marriage proposals and meeting prospective candidates, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS

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

CAPRICORN

Today, you will remain unruffled by the commotion around you, says Ganesh. However, the emotions locked up inside you will probably cloud your power of reasoning and may leave you feeling a little lost. But this will only be a passing phase, and you will come out of the bewilderment in no time. You will promptly get back to pursuing your goals and your reputation with seniors will play a crucial role in bagging you tangible rewards.

AQUARIUS

Today is the day to turn dreams into reality and how! With your talent, wit, and intelligence you will make a great impression on everyone's mind, feels Ganesh. Icing on the cake will be the cash inflow. You know your cards and you play them well to your advantage. There may be a catch though, keep yourself guarded, advises Ganesh.

PISCES

You will communicate with your friends or relatives living abroad today. There is a chance that these communications could translate directly into substantial gain for you. You will find yourself in the mood for socializing. You will likely invite friends over to dinner at your place in the evening, says Ganesh.

Sushmita reveals why she chose not to marry

Mumbai: Sushmita Sen, who is a single mother of two adopted girls, Renee and Alisah, recently spilled the beans on why she never got married. In conversation with Twinkle Khanna, Sushmita revealed that after she adopted Renee, there was no man thereafter who came into her life that didn't know what her priorities were. According to her, although she never expected anyone to share the responsibility, they also cannot ask her to step away from it as her daughter needed her till a certain age. Elaborating further, Sushmita added that she had met some very interesting men in her life but the only reason she never got married is because they were a let-down. The actress also asserted that her decision to not get married had nothing to do with her kids. Her kids were never in the equation and if at all, she feels they have been very gracious. They have accepted people in her life with open arms, never made a face, and gave equal measure of love and respect to everyone. Sushmita also revealed that she came close to getting married thrice but God saved her. Although she refrained from revealing what disaster followed with their respective lives, she felt that God saved her and her kids. Last year, Sushmita parted ways with her boyfriend Rohman Shawl. However, they continue to remain friends. AGENCIES



Didn't want a pity party: Kubbra

Mumbai: Kubbra Sait recently opened up about penning the incident of her molestation in one of the chapters of her memoir, *Open Book*. In a recent interview, the actress said, "Initially, when I was writing it, this was the chapter that took about 3 days. In my opinion, this was a long time frame. I did not want a pity party. It is over, look at where I am

today, there will be oppressors all along the way. They will do everything they can to make you small and want to make you realise you are not good enough." Elaborating further, she added, "You are taught to give into these oppressions, but I think writing this was about literally forgiving myself for not knowing what to do. What I could not have done, and I did not do it and it is okay." "I was not writing to showcase a monster. I was not writing for the person to read and come and apologise to me. I am over it. He does not define me anymore. It is not something I hold so close to my heart that I will not be willing to revisit it," opines the *Sacred Games* actress. AGENCIES

SRK's Jawan sold to OTT giant for ₹120 cr : Report

Mumbai: Shah Rukh Khan's rugged avatar in *Jawan* promises an action packed big screen experience. Hitmaker Atlee is calling the shots for this movie, which stars Nayanthara as the leading lady. And even before its release, *Jawan* seems to have locked a massive deal. It is being speculated that the digital streaming rights of this entertainer have been sold to Netflix for a whopping Rs 120 crore, reports *BollywoodLife*. However, the makers are yet to confirm on this update. Recently, Shah Rukh Khan had opened up about the film during an Instagram live and shared,



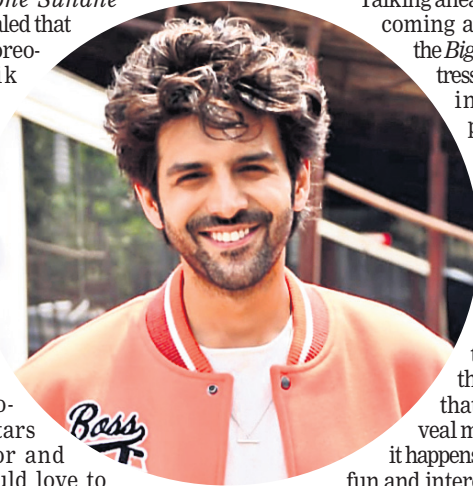
Kartik on Roopal's radar

Mumbai: Actress Roopal Tyagi, who was previously seen in the lead role as Gunjan in the TV show *Sapne Suhane Ladakpan Ke*, has revealed that she would love to choreograph actor Kartik Aaryan.

performance on the same song I assisted years back (in *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*)." Talking ahead about her upcoming acting projects, the *Bigg Boss 9* fame actress adds: "I'm looking forward to playing more mature characters now... Characters which are more nuanced and layered. Actually, I'm already in talks for something exactly like that, but I can't reveal much now. But if it happens, it will be super fun and interesting."

Roopal, who also works in Hindi films as an assistant choreographer, says: "I was lucky enough to assist Pony Verma (Bollywood choreographer) in the song *Mere Dholna* from the movie *Bhool Bhulaiyaa*. "Also, after getting the opportunity to choreograph many popular stars such as Shahid Kapoor and Vidya Balan, now I would love to work with Kartik Aaryan. I'm more keen after watching him winning hearts with his

Roopal is currently part of the web series *Biwi and Me*. IANS



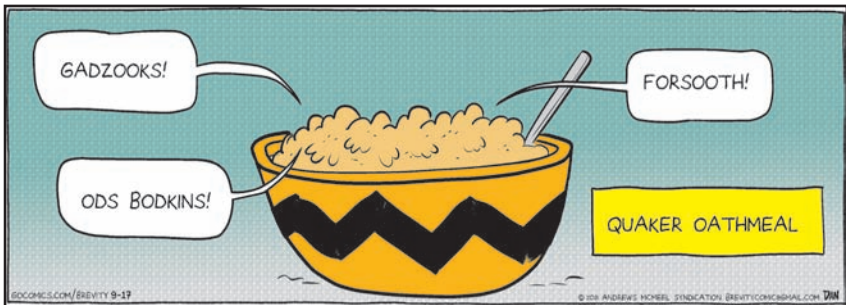
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

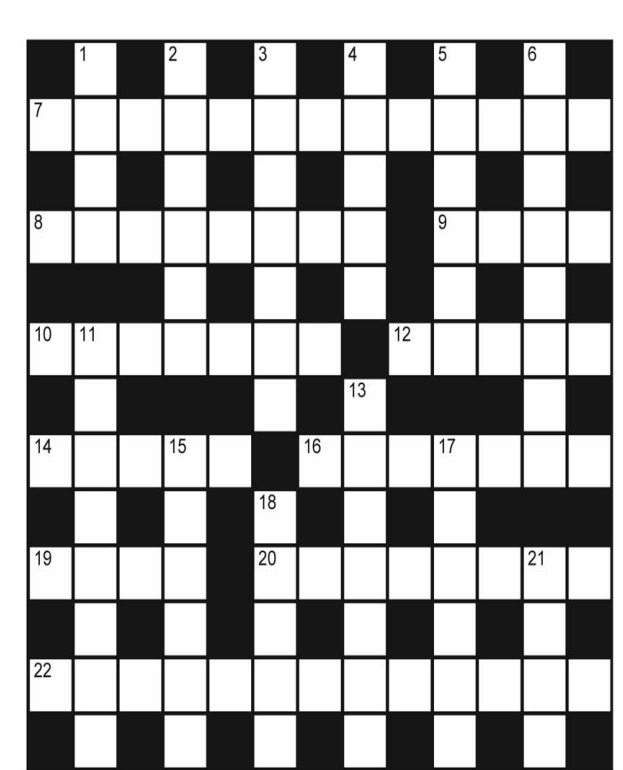


BREVITY



FUN post

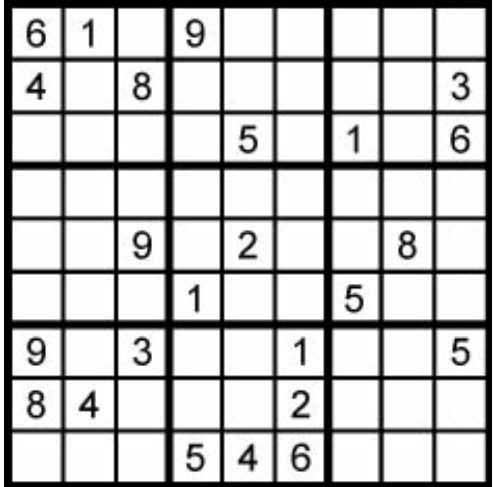
CROSSWORD



- Across
- 7 The birds and the bees, e.g. (6,7)
 - 8 Attendance check (4,4)
 - 9 Unfeeling
 - 10 Salty treat
 - 12 Torment
 - 14 Challenger
 - 16 Took it easy
 - 19 Blue-pencil
 - 20 Largest city of Chile
 - 22 Eyeglasses frame style
- Down
- 1 Pull strings?
 - 2 Talisman
 - 3 Puffed up
 - 4 Nonsensical
 - 5 Christmas drink
 - 6 Start out
 - 11 Storm starter?
 - 13 Ramble
 - 15 Shrewd
 - 17 Climb down
 - 18 Old Roman port
 - 21 Sea bird

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

BMC drive against single-use plastic



The ban on single-use plastic items, including wrapping or packaging films, plastic cutlery, straws, and plastic sticks for balloons and earbuds, came into effect Friday

Bhubaneswar, July 1: Following central government's ban on use of Single-Use Plastic (SUP) items, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Friday initiated a drive and awareness campaign against the same in the state capital.

In a move, a team comprising central zone, police and north zone enforcement personnel started awareness and enforcement activity from Nalco Chhak to Damana Bazar. The team members educated the vendors and encouraged them to desist from using SUP items. About 21 street vendors were covered during the drive and about 2.5 quintal of polythene and SUP items were seized. A total of Rs.1800 was collected from vendors as fine.

The banned SUP items include earbuds, plastic sticks for balloons, flags, candy sticks, ice cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocool), plates, cups, glasses, forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays, wrapping or packaging films around sweets boxes, invitation cards, cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners of less than 100 microns, and stirrers.

The central government also prohibited manufacturing, import, stocking, distribution, and sale of the SUP items. Moreover, the thickness of plastic carry bags will have

to be increased from 75 microns to 120 microns.

"Intensive campaign will be carried out to spread awareness among people and vendors. Zone-wise enforcement will also be done to check items for a clean and green Bhubaneswar," said Suwendu Kumar Sahoo, deputy commissioner sanitation.

The civic authorities, meanwhile, have formed two more enforcement squads to check the use of plastics in the city here.

Earlier, the city had only one enforcement squad for the purpose. With the formation of two new squads, now the civic body can intensify its surveillance against the use of plastics in all three zones of the capital city.

Apart from enforcing the ban on single-use plastic (SUP) items, the squads will keep tab on the illegal dumping of construction and demolition (C&D) waste in public and open spaces, sources said.

"The squads will enforce the ban on SUP and penalise manufacturers, sellers and individuals found guilty in this regard," said an official of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC).

It can be mentioned here that the capital city usually generates around 600 tonnes of waste in a day. Out of which, 365 tonnes are said to be plastic waste.

India's biggest amusement park in Khurda soon

Bhubaneswar, July 1: Bangalore-based amusement parks operator Wonderla Holidays has announced that it has signed an agreement with the Odisha government for getting 50.63acre land on lease at Kumarbasta in Khurda district to set up an amusement park, touted to be one of the biggest in the country.

The firm will invest Rs 115 crore towards developing the project based on an asset-light business model.

"Odisha government has been giving us a lot of favourable terms and incentives to set up the park in Khurda, on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar. We thank Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for his visionary leadership towards making this project a reality. The funding for the project will be a combination of internal accruals and some debts according to internal reports," said Wonderla Holidays Managing Director Arun K Chittilappilly.

Photo journalist dies on way to cover car fest

Bhubaneswar, July 1: Veteran photo journalist Ashok Panda died in a road mishap Friday when he was on way to cover Rath Yatra in Puri, police said.

Panda was 57. He is survived by his wife and a 10-year-old daughter.

The accident took place near Satasankha around 5am. It is suspected that Panda's motorcycle hit a roadside culvert, police said, adding that though he was wearing a helmet, blood had oozed from his nostril.

Panda was initially rushed to Sakhigopal hospital and later to Capital Hospital in the City, where doctors declared him dead. Capital police IIC Girija Shankar Chakrabarty said.



FOR GREENER TOMORROW

Dignitaries during the plantation drive organised by CMC at Belview Park in Cuttack, Friday

COVID-19 TRACKER			
	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	55,29,36,305	52,80,96,017	63,58,421
India	4,34,69,234	4,28,36,906	5,25,139
Odisha	12,89,961	12,79,978	9,126

Daily Covid cases in state cross 200

Bhubaneswar, July 1: Odisha reported 204 new Covid-19 cases Friday, 49 less than the previous day taking the tally to 12,89,961, the health department said.

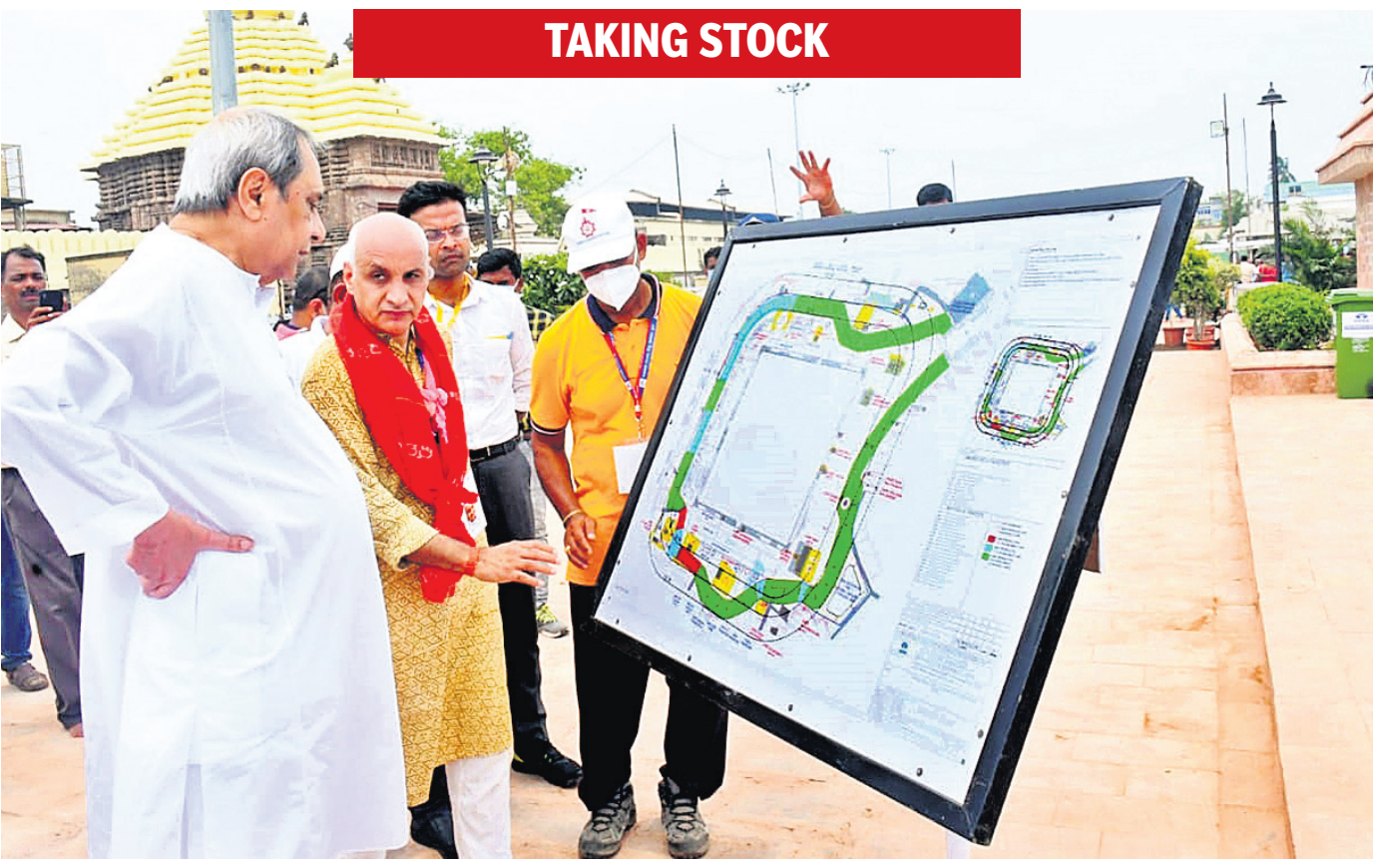
The new cases have been detected after testing 15,615 samples, and the positivity rate stood at 1.31 per cent.

The state's coronavirus death toll remained unchanged at 9,126, as no fresh fatality was reported.

Khurda reported the highest number of new cases at 376, followed by 134 in Cuttack

Khurda reported the highest number of new cases at 376, followed by 134 in Cuttack. Eighteen children were among those newly infected.

Odisha now has 872 active COVID-19 cases. In the last 24 hours, 61 more people recuperated from the disease, taking the total recoveries to 12,79,910.



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik takes stock of the ongoing Srimandir Heritage Corridor Project in Puri, Friday. Among others, SJTA chief administrator Vir Vikram Yadav and district Collector Samarth Verma are seen

Daringbadi Hill View Park to get major facelift

Daringbadi, July 1: The scenic Hill View Park in Daringbadi block of Kandhamal district will get a major facelift as a private agency has been roped in for its upkeep and management.

According to sources, the block administration handed over the park's management to Trishakti Construction Company Friday. Earlier, Jagruti was on the charge of its upkeep. However, it has recently handed over the responsibility back to the block administration. Notably, Hill View Park is one of the major attractions in Daringbadi with watch tower, a children park and a lot more to entice the tourists.

Endless hills, beautiful valleys and pine forests in the area are enchanting for tourists. The foun-

BOOSTING TOURIST FOOTFALL

The trust has planned to set up new watch towers, construct flower gardens, introduce toy train, install fountains and replace the old fibre statues in the park

The park will be given a modern look by landscaping experts from Kolkata

A market complex will be set up alongside the NH to accommodate outlets that would sell various minor forest produce, food grain and organic turmeric of Khandhamal

tains and gardens provide the tourists a feel of beautiful places like Mussoorie, Ooty, Coorg and Nainital.



Nestled in the lush greenery, pine forests, plantations and waterfalls, this hill station is at an altitude of 3,000 feet.

The block administration has formed a trust to boost tourism in Daringbadi. The trust has 17 mem-

bers and is headed by Baliguda sub-collector Dukhabandhu Nayak.

Hundreds of tourists from various parts of the country set their foot in Daringbadi every day. There is a watch tower for the tourists to have the glimpses of the greenery and feel the sublime atmosphere of Daringbadi. However, tourists are averse to climb the watch tower as it is in a miserable condition due to lack of maintenance.

However, the trust has planned to set up new watch towers, construct new flower gardens, introduce toy train, install fountains and replace the old fibre statues in the park. The main gate of the Hill View Park lies near the national highway. The gate will be made more attractive with fountains. The park will be given a modern look by landscaping experts from Kolkata.

A market complex will also be set up alongside the NH to accommodate outlets that would sell various minor forest produce, food grain and organic turmeric of Khandhamal. The outlets will be lease out while land has been earmarked for the market complex.

A DAY FOR DOCS



Guests at the celebration of National Doctors' Day at IMA House in Ranihat area of Cuttack, Friday



OP PHOTO

Raths roll amid sea of devotees

Continued from P1

As per the tradition, devotees started pulling the Taladhwaia chariot of Lord Balabhadra at 12:35pm, Debadalana chariot of Devi Subhadra at 1:30pm and Nandighosa chariot of Lord Jagannath at 2:30pm.

Taladhwaia reached Gundicha temple at 3:55pm, Darpadalan at 5:20pm and Nandighosa at 6:30 pm.

Governor Ganeshi Lal, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar were among those who were seen pulling the Nandighosa chariot amid lakhs of devotees who blew conch shells and chanted 'Hari bol'.

The arrival of the chariots at the Gundicha temple culminates the first phase of the Ghosha Yatra.

The CM, who returned from his 11-day tour to Italy and Dubai early morning, rushed to Puri for darshan of the divine siblings. He waved to the crowd as people cheered for him.

"The Grand Trunk Road adjoining the temple came alive with celebrations as emotion and enthusiasm were palpable among the devotees," Patnaik said on Twitter.

Pradhan, too, took to the microblogging platform to say that Rath Yatra was all about "universal love and humanity".

"Fortunate and overwhelmed to seek blessings from Mahaprabhu on this special and auspicious day in Puri. May he bless us all. Jai Jagannath," he wrote.

The administration has deployed 180 platoons of police force, teams of fire fighters and life guards in the beach town to tackle possible incidents of drowning in the sea.

India gets \$1.75bn World Bank loan for health, pvt investment

New Delhi, July 1: The World Bank has approved loans totalling USD 1.75 billion (about Rs 13,834.54 crore) to fund India's PM Ayushman Bharat scheme and private investment in a bid to boost the economic growth.

Of the total loan, USD 1 billion will go towards the health sector, while the rest USD 750 million will be in the form of development policy loan (DPL) to fill the financing gaps through private sector investment in the economy.

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved two complementary loans of USD 500 million each to support and enhance India's health sector.

Through this combined financing of USD 1 billion, the World Bank will support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), launched in October 2021, the World Bank said in a release Friday.



The funds will be used to improve public healthcare infrastructure across the country. In addition to the national-level interventions, one of the loans will prioritize seven states— Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh, the multi-lateral funding agency said.

Separately, its board approved the DPL to the union government to support reforms critical to addressing financing gaps by leveraging private sector investment in infrastructure, small businesses, and the green finance markets.

The World Bank said India's performance in the health sector has improved over time. It has estimated India's life expectancy at 69.8 in 2020, up from 58 in 1990—higher than the average for the country's income level.

It said despite these advances in the health sector, Covid-19 has underscored the need for revitalizing, reforming, and developing capacity for core public health func-

designed primary health care model; improve quality of care by supporting the National Quality Assurance Standards certification across Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs); and transform the health sector governance and accountability by strengthening implementation capacity.

About the DPL, the World Bank said the Indian government has taken several measures over the past decade to improve financial inclusion as well as the stability of the financial sector and the domestic capital markets.

This has resulted in a more efficient and resilient sector in the face of the COVID-19 crisis and other external shocks.

Of the USD 750 million commitment, USD 667 million will be a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and USD 83 million will be financed by a credit from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's concessional lending arm.

DEITIES EMBARK ON ANNUAL SOJOURN



Rath Yatra of Iskon Temple in Bhubaneswar passed off peacefully amidst participation of a large number of devotees, Friday



Thousands of devotees pulled the chariot of Lord Jagannath at Hauz Khas in New Delhi



The chariot of 'Baladevjeev' was pulled by devotees in Keonjhar on the auspicious occasion of Rath Yatra



In a unique celebration, Rath Yatra was organised on three boats in Chilika Lake

OP PHOTOS

Govt may blacklist Hyd firm for projects delay

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur, July 1: Peeved at the slow pace of construction work for two mega drinking water projects in Ganjam and Puri, the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) department has served a notice on the Hyderabad-based construction firm asking it to expedite the work.

The department has sent a strong warning to the company through the notice saying that the tardy pace of two projects is not acceptable. It said that if the firm fails to carry forward the project expeditiously, it will be blacklisted by the department.

The company will not be allowed to take part in tenders for the departmental works in future, said the notice. Reports said the state government had planned two mega drinking water projects under Buxi Jagabandhu Assured Drinking Water to Habitations (Basudha) scheme to sort out drinking water problems in some pockets of Puri and Ganjam in 2018.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik

BASUDHA SCHEME



The RWSS dept has sent a strong warning to the company through the notice saying that the tardy pace of projects is not acceptable

had laid the foundation stones for the projects. The construction work was awarded to Hyderabad-based GVPR Engineers Limited. However, the construction work has been moving at snail's pace for which the RWSS department has sent reminders to the company several times in the past. The inordinate delay has forced the department to extend the deadlines.

Sources said one mega drinking water project is being constructed to supply piped drinking water to 55 villages in seven panchayats under Ganjam block and 92 villages of 14 panchayats under Krushnaprasad block.

The other mega drinking water project is underway in Puri district to provide drinking water to 126 villagers under Kanas block and 18 villages under Brahmagiri block and 14 villages under Satyabadi block. The total cost of both the projects has been estimated to be ₹203.46 crore. The work started August 28, 2018 and was to be completed by August 26, 2020. In view of slow pace of work, its deadline was extended by two years - August 26, 2022.

However, a lot of work still remains incomplete and the project may miss this deadline too. It was learnt during a recent review meeting.

1 dies, 7 critically hurt as Rath touches live wire

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasure, July 1: Amid festivity and celebrations on the auspicious occasion of Rath Yatra, a devotee died while seven others sustained critical injuries after a chariot came in contact with an 11 KV live wire at Gudikhala mutt under Basta police limits in Balasure district Friday.

The deceased has been identified as Anil Kumar Sahu of Agarpada village. The injured are currently under treatment with critical burn injuries. According to reports, locals had participated in the Rath Yatra of the deities organised at Gudikhala mutt.

As per ritual, the chariot pulling started amid the participation of a large number of devotees.

Unfortunately, the metal crest of the chariot came in contact with the high tension wire, leaving eight persons injured at the spot.

The victims were rushed to Basta hospital in an ambulance. However, Anil was declared dead at the health-care facility.

Others are undergoing treatment, reports said. The tragic incident spoilt the celebratory atmosphere in Balasure. A pall of gloom descended in Basta area as devotees returned home with a heavy heart.

Berhampur ITI makes chariot using scrap

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Berhampur, July 1: The Berhampur ITI, which has become a trendsetter in using waste articles to create sculptures and artefacts, Friday made a chariot using scrap materials. The chariot, which weighs around 600 kg, has a height of 12.5 feet and measures 7 feet each in width and length.

It was installed in the institute's open-air scrap material park during the day on the occasion of Rath Yatra.

Artefacts of two parrots and

as many horses are also installed in the chariot, like in the Nandighosh - the chariot of Lord Jagannath, Berhampur ITI principal Rajat Panigrahy said.

The parrots and horses were also made of waste materials. Several students and teachers of various departments worked for around a fortnight to make the chariot.

The open-air scrap park on the campus of the institute was dotted with several giant sculptures-all made of scrap and automobile waste materials.

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 CBC-21361/12/0002/2223

Hindol tense over 'leopard poaching'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Hindol: Tension flared up in Bausapokhari panchayat under Hindol range of Dhenkanal Friday after forest officials arrested three people of a village in connection with death of a leopard. Protesting against the action by the forest officials, angry villagers blocked Hindol-Angul Road near Karnapur beat house. Two days ago, the carcass of a leopard was found in Gadiapala forest near Bausapokhari panchayat. It was suspected that the animal was poached.

Forest officials lifted three people of Karnapur late Thursday night, suspecting their involvement in the 'leopard poaching'. As the matter became public Friday, locals resorted to road blockade. The villagers claimed that the arrested villagers were innocent and demanded their release.

Cop critical in attack by cattle smuggler

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rupsa, July 1: In bid to escape an attack by a cattle smuggler, a police constable jumped off a moving vehicle and sustained grievous injuries near Haladipada bypass under Sadar block in Balasure district late Thursday night.

The injured has been identified as Ramesh Das, a constable at Amarda Road police outpost.

Sources said a group of youths from Dhitapura village under Basta police limits intercepted a Tata Ace van carrying four cows. On being informed, a team of cops from Amarda Road police outpost reached the spot and seized the vehicle. The vehicle was then taken to a cowshed where the cows were freed.

Later, the cops returned to the police station with the cattle smuggler. While other police officials boarded office vehicle, Ramesh sat with the cattle smuggler as there was no

alternative driver.

Taking advantage of the situation, the cattle smuggler took out a sharp weapon from the vehicle and attacked Ramesh, who had to jump off the moving vehicle to save himself. While Ramesh sustained critical injuries on his head and limbs, the cattle smuggler sped away with the vehicle.

Ramesh was rescued and has been admitted to Basta community health centre (CHC) where his condition was stated to be stable after treatment. Despite repeated cases of cattle smuggling, there has been no serious action taken by the police and administration, locals alleged.

"A few police officers are hand in glove with the cattle smugglers. Now, the cattle smugglers have the guts to attack a police constable because of such errant officials," a local said. Meanwhile, police have registered a case and launched a manhunt to nab the driver.

Man, son found hanging from tree

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bansapal/Bhawaniapatna, July 1: A man and his son were found hanging from a tree at Rajabandha Munda Sahi under Bansapal block in Keonjhar district Friday morning. The deceased have been identified as Sukra Munda and his son Shankar Munda.

The incident has spread shockwaves in the area. The exact reason behind the deaths was known immediately. Local police seized the bodies and sent them for autopsy while a probe has been launched in this connection.

Sources said, the father-son duo broke out in a fight over some reason while they were working at their farmland. This infuriated Shankar who went to the forest and hanged himself using a towel.

Later, Sukra went to search for the boy and found him dead. Holding himself responsible for his son's death, Sukra also hanged himself near Shankar's body.

Locals spotted the bodies and informed the cops.

In a similar incident, a 23-year-old youth reportedly committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan in his house in Bhawaniapatna town of Kalahandi district. The deceased has been identified as Susanta Sahoo.

NOTICE

1. M/S Royal Automobiles, Plot No- 245/2530 & 245-2530/2658, Lewis Road, Gauri Nagar Chhik, Bhubaneswar-751002, Orissa.

2. Mr. Ajeet Kumar Pattnaik, Having address at - HIG- 2/1, BDA Colony, Kapilaprasad, Bhubaneswar- 751002, Odisha.

3. Mr. Amaresh Pattanaik, Having address at - HIG- 2/1, BDA Colony, Kapilaprasad, Bhubaneswar- 751002, Odisha.

4. Mr. Pranab Kishor Pattanaik, Having address at - HIG- 2/1, BDA Colony, Kapilaprasad, Bhubaneswar- 751002, Odisha.

5. Mr. Prakash Chandra Pattanaik, Having address at - HIG- 2/1, BDA Colony, Kapilaprasad, Bhubaneswar- 751002, Odisha.

In the Matter of Arbitration:
 Between:
 Tata Capital Financial Services Limited And
 M/s. Royal Automobiles & Others,
 Arising out of AP No. 183 of 2022, before the
 Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta.
 By Order dated 17.05.2022, passed by Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta in AP No. 183 of 2022, Mr. Anil Kumar Gupta, Advocate has been appointed as Arbitrator in the aforesaid matter.
 Notices for the arbitration meeting sent by speed post have been returned undelivered. So, you are being given a last chance to appear and contest the above arbitration. The next meeting for the arbitration shall be held on
 11.07.2022 at 05.00 pm. at the chamber of the learned Arbitrator at "Ramdas Apartment, 1st floor, 90 Moore Avenue, Tollygunge, Kolkata - 700 040. In case you fail to appear, please note that the matter shall be heard in your absence.
 Mr. Avishkek Guha, Advocate,
 M/s. Guha & Co., Advocates,
 7C Kiran Sankar Roy Road,
 Hastings Chambers, Room No. GD/1,
 Ground Floor, Kolkata - 700 001.
 Email - guha.co@outlook.com

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 Smart way to bank

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd, Berhampur Branch, the constructive Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd., Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **10th August 2022 (10.08.2022)**, for recovery of **Rs. 4,74,972.13 (Rupees Four Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Two and Thirteen Paise Only)** as on 16.06.2022 with further interest from 17.06.2022 onwards payable as per law due to the Karur Vysya Bank Ltd, Secured Creditor from **1). Mr. Judhishthir Behera (Borrower)**, Ward No.93, Ramachandra Behera, Kumari Street Berhampur, Ganjam-761002, Odisha **2). Mrs. Ranjulata Behera (Guarantor)**, W/o - Mr. Judhishthir Behera, Kumbhar Street, Near Sano Bazar, Berhampur, Orissa-760009, Odisha

The reserve price for Property will be **Rs. 6,82,500/- (Rupees Six Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Five Hundred Only)** and the earnest money deposit for Property will be **Rs. 68,250/- (Rupees Sixty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only)**.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of land and building, land measuring Ac.0.006 Dec situated at Plot No.26/2260, Khata No.518/103, Village/Mouja-Thana-Radhanathpur-63, Andhapasara Road, Berhampur, Dist.- Ganjam, Odisha, standing in the name of Smt. Ranjulata Behera and Butted and bounded as follows: On the East : House of M Swapan Rani. On the West : House of Monigi Subash Chandra Subudhi. On the North : Road. On the South : Open Site Left by Jatayata

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in our Bank's Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.kvb.co.in/Property Under Auction also at the web portal www.indianbankseuction.com of the service provider, Canbank Computer Services Limited

Statutory 30 days' Notice under Rule 8(6) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

The borrower/s and guarantor/s are hereby notified to pay the dues as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the Schedule property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date : 01.07.2022
Place: Berhampur

Authorized Officer
The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.,



SOAKED IN BLISS AFTER 2 YEARS

The wait was finally over for lakhs of devotees, who were deprived of their loving Lord's darshan for the last two years due to the Covid-19 pandemic, when the ceremonial Pahandi procession began at 6:15am, Friday. The regained electrifying atmosphere of Badadanda not only reminded many of the Rath Yatra during pre-Covid era but also signified the beginning of the festive season and the way forward. A sea of humanity converged at the Badadanda in Puri to catch a glimpse of the Trinity out on 9-day annual sojourn at Srigundicha. The entire Badadanda came alive with celebrations as emotions and enthusiasm were palpable among the devotees. **Orissa POST** catches some of the spectacular moments of the festival...



Lord Balabhadra's Taladhwaaja chariot rolls on the Grand Road



Devi Subhadra's Darpadalan chariot on its way to Saradhabali



Lord Jagannath's Nandighosa chariot being pulled towards Srigundicha temple amid a sea of devotees in Puri on the occasion of Rath Yatra, Friday



Governor Ganeshi Lal and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik pulling Nandighosa chariot in Puri



Puri Sankaracharya Swami Nischalananda Saraswati visits a chariot



Gajapati king Dibyasingha Deb performing Chhera Panhara on a chariot



Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra, Lord Jagannath and Lord Sudarshan being carried to the chariots from the sanctum sanctorum of Srimandir through Pahandi procession

national



I had said that the Prime Minister has created two Indias, one for the rich and one for the poor. In one of his rallies, the prime minister became a bit emotional for the mothers who cook on the stoves but today, in just one year (2021-22), he has forced 3.59 crore people to light the stove. How do you shed so many fake tears, Mr Prime Minister?

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

STUDY REVELATION

With 69 per cent people reporting headache prior to a Covid infection, it has become the leading symptom of the disease, according to a study



AGNIPATH SCHEME

Army and Navy begin recruitment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 1: The Indian Army and Navy began their recruitment processes under the Agnipath scheme on Friday, the defence ministry stated.

The Indian Air Force had on June 24 started its recruitment process under the scheme and it received 2.72 lakh applications till Thursday the ministry said. Violent protests against the scheme had rocked several states for nearly a week after it was unveiled on June 14 and opposition parties demanded its rollback.

The Ministry of Defence on Friday said on Twitter, "Registration for Agniveers in Indian Navy begins today." Join the Indian Army. Fulfill your dream of serving the country as Agniveer. Registration open for Agnipath recruitment scheme from July 1," it said.

Under the Agnipath scheme, youths from 17-and-a-half years to 21 years will be inducted into the armed forces for four-year tenure, while 25 per cent of them will be subsequently inducted for regular service.

The government had on June 16 increased the upper age limit for recruitment under the scheme to 23 years from 21 for this year, and subsequently announced a slew of placatory steps such as a preference for Agniveers in central paramilitary forces and defence public sector undertakings upon their retirement. Many BJP-ruled states also declared that 'Agniveers' -- soldiers inducted under the Agnipath scheme -- will be accorded priority in induction into state police forces.

SC OBSERVATIONS AGAINST NUPUR SHARMA

BJP should hang head in shame, says Oppn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 1: The Opposition Friday launched a scathing attack on the government over the Supreme Court's observations against suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma for her controversial remarks on Prophet Mohammad, and accused it of creating an "environment of anger and hatred" in the country.

An apex court bench heavily criticised Sharma for her comments, saying her "loose tongue" has "set the entire country on fire" and that she is "single-handedly responsible for what is happening in the country".

The Congress said the Supreme Court has rightly called out Sharma for being responsible for igniting emotions across the country with her remark against the Prophet, and that the ruling party should hang its head in shame. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the BJP-



The court has very rightly called out the BJP spokesperson for being 'single-handedly responsible for igniting emotions across the country', and that she should apologise to the entire nation

JAIRAM RAMESH | CONGRESS LEADER

led government at the Centre of creating an "environment of anger and hatred" in the country and said this is against the interest of India and its people.

In a statement, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the court has strengthened the party's resolve to fight "destructively divisive ideologies". He said the Supreme Court of India has made crucial and far-reaching observations.

The Left parties also hit out at the government over the Supreme

Court's observations. "We hope that beyond words, if according to Supreme Court, Ms Sharma is responsible for starting the hate spiral & most recent reprehensible cycle of violence, she will be proceeded upon as per law..." CPI general secretary Sitaram Yechury said in a tweet.

"But if the law does not act against her and others like her promoted by the party, who sow discord, separatism and damage India, the wrong message would be going out. We would find many more like her mushrooming from the RSS/BJP's hate factory and on vitriolic TV debates," he said.

CPI MP Binoy Viswam tweeted, "Red carpet for Nupur Sharma, prison cells for Teesta and Sreekumar! Comments from Supreme Court should alert Modi Govt. Irresponsibility, driven by bigotry should not be hall mark of any spokesperson. Such elements caused Udaipur incident. They should apologise to People & Nation."

Plea to CJJ to remove remarks against Nupur

New Delhi: A letter petition was filed Monday before Chief Justice NV Ramana seeking withdrawal of adverse remarks made by a Supreme Court bench against suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma while declining her plea seeking clubbing of the FIRs against her at various places over alleged controversial remarks made on the Prophet. The letter petition, filed by Delhi-based Ajay Gautam, who claims to be a social activist, said, "Issue appropriate orders or directions... To withdraw their observations in the matter of Nupur Sharma so that Nupur Sharma gets a chance of fair trial." The letter petition said that it be treated as a PIL and the adverse remarks made during the hearing be declared as "uncalled for".

CLASSIFIED

LOST AFFIDAVIT

I, Prakash Kumar Palai, aged about 42 years, S/o-Niranjan Palai of Village-Balipada, P.O.-Sohada, P.S.-Dhamnagar, Dist.-Bhadrak do hereby solemnly affirm that I am the permanent inhabitant of the above noted address. That the Khata No-431/113, Plot No.-1550/1989, Gharabadi A0.03 dec., Plot No.-1549/1988, Gharabadi A0.04 dec., Plot No.-1548/1987, Gharabadi A0.03 dec., of Mouza-Balipada stands recorded in the name of my mother Santilata Palai, W/o-Niranjan Palai. That in the publication said ROR, I have obtained the original Patta but unfortunately the said Original ROR/Patta has been missing and as my best effort I could not trace it out. So I requested any person find it please contact my Mob No.-9776403419.

I, Satyabhama Meher, W/o- Radha Krushna Meher, R/o- Rajendra College Chowk, Balangir declare that Regd. Sale deed No.-226 dated 15.01.1979 of Mouza-Larkipali, Khata No.-1078/144, Plot No.-1619/4594 Ac.0.111decs. recorded in my name. The above Regd. Sale deed has been lost on dt. 14.06.2022. I wish to create mortgage of the said property and the building constructed over the same for a loan/credit facility from State Bank of India.

By virtue of an affidavit before Notary, Bargarh Dt.30.06.2022. I have changed my name from Sabitri Rath to Sabitri Kar. Henceforth, I shall be known as Sabitri Kar for all purpose.

By virtue of an affidavit before Notary, Bargarh Dt.30.06.2022. I have changed my name from Anima Panda to Anima Kar. Henceforth, I shall be known as Anima Kar for all purpose.

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Executive Magistrate, Buguda, Ganjam (Dt.27.06.2022). I, Devi Nivedita Choudhury / D/o- Subash Chandra Choudhury, W/o- Rabindra Kumar Panda, Village / P.O./P.S./ Tahasil- Buguda, Dist.- Ganjam. That on Dt.06.02.2006 my marriage with Rabindra Kumar Panda, S/o- Late Kasinath Panda of Village / P.O./P.S./ Tahasil- Buguda, Dist.- Ganjam, my surname has been changed from Devi Nivedita Choudhury to Nivedita Panda in all respect. That Devi Nivedita Choudhury and Nivedita Panda, D/o- Subash Chandra Choudhury, W/o- Rabindra Kumar Panda is one and same person i.e. myself. Henceforth, I shall be known as Nivedita Panda for all purposes. Sd./- Devi Nivedita Choudhury

SAD to back Murmu



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, July 1: The BJP's former ally Shiromani Akali Dal Friday said it will support NDA candidate Droupadi Murmu in the presidential elections.

The decision was taken by the party a day after BJP president J P Nadda reached out to SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal to seek support for Murmu. The SAD had snapped ties with the BJP over the now-withdrawn farm laws.

Addressing the media here, Badal said, "We have unanimously decided to support Droupadi Murmu for the post of the President." Citing issues of farm laws and the release of Sikh pris-

oners, Badal said his party has "many differences with the BJP" but the SAD always worked for the poor and weaker section of society. "This issue is of a woman who belongs to a poor family and she is getting an opportunity to become the President," he said.

"Keeping our political differences aside, we have decided to choose the right path. The SAD's history says that it always fought for the poor, minorities and the weaker section. After considering for almost three hours, we (in the core committee meeting) unanimously decided that we will support Murmuji," said Badal.

The SAD chief said Nadda had called him on Thursday to seek support for Murmu. He said Murmu, a tribal leader from Odisha, also called him for his party's support.

The SAD had parted ways with the NDA in 2020 over the issue of three farm laws, which were later repealed. Harsimrat Kaur Badal had also resigned from the post of a Union minister over the same issue.

MAKING A POINT



Kathakali artistes interact with students after their performance at a college in Kochi

PTI PHOTO

Amarnath Yatra resumes with a 'smart' makeover

EIGHT BASE HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN SET UP ON THE BALTAL ROUTE AND 20 ON THE PAHALGAM ROUTE, ALONG WITH MEDICAL CAMPS ON THE WAY. THE INSURANCE COVER HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM ₹3 LAKH TO ₹5 LAKH

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, July 1: In the lap of the Himalayas began the journey of lakhs of devotees on June 30 to catch a glimpse of Lord Shiva in the form of an Ice Lingam. 2,750 pilgrims set off from the base camp for the journey that takes about three days on foot with the night halts at Sheeshnag and Panchnami.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration is expecting more than six lakh pilgrims this year, after three years of postponement of this annual event. Since the beginning of the year, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has been

building the machinery for a smooth and safe yatra. The pilgrimage will continue for 43 days till August 11, the day of Raksha Bandhan as per the tradition. The LG is personally supervising all the Yatra arrangements.

The enthusiasm and attendance of the Yatrists are enough to prove that the devotees know they are in safe hands. Rather than "negotiating" for peace, the UT administration has uprooted the very eco-system of terrorism.

A five-tier security system is in place. The Yatrists will be prioritised for NH-44, the only permissible vehicular route. Traffic will be



redirected so that the general public is not inconvenienced. The pilgrim vehicles have RFID-based (Radio Frequency Identification)

tracking and surveillance which will note each person's movement on the route. All pilgrims have a wristband fitted with microchips connected

to satellite towers to track their movements.

For those who cannot make it to Amarnath, the government is bringing Lord Shiva to them via an 'on-line' darshan of the Ice Lingam. The journey will take two courses -- the traditional 48-km from Nunwan to the cave shrine from Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag, and the more challenging 14-km Baltal route in the Ganderbal district in central Kashmir. Shelter sheds are dotted along both routes.

Eight base hospitals have been set up on the Baltal route and 20 on the Pahalgam route, along with medical camps on the way.

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Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio-977517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Centre (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-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, Kanay Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.



Delhi government will provide skill training and educational support to Bihar jail inmates to help them reintegrate better with the society after completion of their jail term
MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

IMD FORECAST

After a 'normal' June, the India Meteorological Department Friday predicted 'normal to above normal' rainfall over some parts of north and central India and most parts of south peninsula



of the day quote

A three-member cabinet committee has been formed for the regularisation of the services of the contractual employees working in the government departments
BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

Decorated with the lakes of development under the BJP rule...this is the BJP's pond of corruption -- 'Jal Nagar' Gorakhpur. The Gorakhpur tourism is inviting you saying: Kuchh din to tairiye Gorakhpur mein. (Swim in Gorakhpur for a few days)
AKHILESH YADAV | SP CHIEF

As per the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's expectation, work is being done to make Uttarakhand the number one state of the country by 2025. A prosperous and self-reliant Uttarakhand will be built
PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI | UTTARAKHAND CM

SHORT TAKES

Fake call centre busted in Gurugram

Gurugram: A fake call centre that had been operating out of a building in Gurugram has been busted, the police said, adding that nine persons, including five women, have been apprehended in this connection. The employees of the call centre located in DLF Phase-2 had been allegedly duping the US and German citizens by posing as members of the Federal Police department. The accused used to threaten foreign nationals in the name of falsely suspending their National Identity Number, police added Thursday.

Mild tremors in Karnataka

Bangalore: Mild tremors were felt in Kodagu and Dakshina Kannada districts of Karnataka Friday morning. Local people of Chembu, Peraje, Karike of Kodagu and Sullia, Sampaje and Kallugundi villages of Dakshina Kannada districts felt the tremors which lasted 4 to 5 seconds at 1.12 a.m. Panicked people rushed out their houses. This was the fifth time the people of Kodagu-Dakshina Kannada district border hilly areas experienced tremors this week.

Woman, lover held for murder

Mathura: The police have arrested a woman and her lover for allegedly killing her aunt and cousin as she was unable to repay a loan of Rs 4 lakh taken from them, officials said Friday. The bodies of 40-year-old Mala and her 18-year-old son Vinay were found floating in the Gangnahar canal around three months ago. The two were killed by drowning by the accused -- Neha and Yogesh -- and their two accomplices, who are missing. Superintendent of Police (city) Martand Prakash Singh said, "We have arrested Neha and her lover Yogesh in connection with the murder of her maternal aunt Mala and her son Vinay."

3 criminals held

New Delhi: Three wanted persons, including two juveniles, who were involved in a shootout at the house of an Assistant Superintendent of Jail in the national capital, were apprehended by the Delhi Police following an encounter. Jasmeert Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell), said that total three rounds that is, two by the accused and one by the police, were fired on Wednesday evening. The police official added that Subham, 20, was apprehended along with his two juvenile associates from the main road near North West Delhi's Holambi Khurd village.

MONSOON PREPAREDNESS



A vendor sells umbrellas during monsoon in Amritsar

PTI PHOTO

Shinde not 'Shiv Sena CM': Uddhav

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai/Panaji, July 1: A day after rebel leader Eknath Shinde took over as the new Maharashtra Chief Minister, Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray Friday sought to corner the BJP for installing a "so-called Shiv Sainik" as CM and claimed the national party did not honour its 2019 promise of rotating the top post.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis of the BJP, who was appointed No. 2 in the Shinde cabinet after initially stating that he will not be a part of the new government, was conspicuous by his absence during a celebration held at the party's state headquarters. He would also not attend the BJP's national executive meeting in Hyderabad, a party source said.

The programme at the BJP office in south Mumbai was meant to celebrate its return to power after two-and-a-half years following the collapse of the Uddhav Thackeray-led MVA government. In his first public comments after stepping down as chief minister on June 29, Thackeray asserted there can be no Shiv Sena chief minister by keeping the party aside and said had Union Home Minister and then-BJP president Amit Shah kept his word of rotating the top post in the state in 2019, the BJP would have been steering the government now.

Addressing a first press conference at Shiv Sena Bhavan, the party headquarters at Dadar in central Mumbai, Thackeray also made a fervent appeal to the new government led by Shinde not to go ahead with



SC to hear Sena's plea

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday agreed to hear Shiv Sena chief whip Sunil Prabhu's plea seeking suspension of 16 MLAs, including Eknath Shinde, from the Maharashtra Assembly till the disqualification proceedings initiated against them are decided and also a direction to restrain delinquent MLAs from entering the Assembly. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing Prabhu, mentioned the matter before a vacation bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and J.B. Pardiwala. Sibal submitted that there was no merger of the Shinde faction with the BJP and the moment Eknath Shinde was sworn in, he violated the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law) of the Constitution.

the Metro-3 car shed project at Aarey Colony, a green belt in suburban Goregaon. In their first cabinet meeting held on Thursday, chief minister Shinde and his

deputy Fadnavis of the BJP directed the state administration to submit a proposal to build the Metro-3 car shed in Aarey Colony instead of Kanjur marg.

The Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government had shifted the proposed car shed site to Kanjur marg from Aarey Colony on ground of environment protection, but the issue got embroiled in a legal dispute. "The way this (Shinde) government was formed and those (the BJP) who formed the government...they have said that a so-called Shiv Sainik has been made the chief minister. "Those who did not keep the word two-and-a-half-years back and by back-stabbing (the Sena)... again attempts are made to create confusion among the Shiv Sainiks by calling it (Shinde) a Shiv Sena CM, then this is not a Sena CM. There can be no Sena CM by keeping the Sena aside," Thackeray asserted.

PM holds talks with Putin

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin Friday discussed the state of global energy and food markets in the backdrop of the Ukraine crisis, and also ways to further encourage bilateral trade in agricultural goods, fertilisers and pharma products.

In the telephonic conversation, Modi reiterated India's long-standing position on the situation in Ukraine and favoured dialogue and diplomacy to resolve it, according to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The Kremlin said Putin stressed that Russia "has been and remains" a reliable producer and supplier of grain, fertilisers and energy including to the Indian partners and that the



leaders expressed mutual intention for "comprehensive strengthening" of the special and privileged strategic ties between the two sides.

It said leaders discussed "topical" issues relating to bilateral relations, paying "special attention to the further development of mutually beneficial ties in the economic sphere." The comments came amid sharp rise in India's oil imports from Russia in the last

few months notwithstanding some disquiet in the West on the procurement.

"The two leaders reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken during President Putin's visit to India in December 2021. In particular, they exchanged ideas on how bilateral trade in agricultural goods, fertilisers and pharma products could be encouraged further," the PMO said in a statement.

It said the leaders also discussed global issues, including the state of the international energy and food markets. "In the context of the ongoing situation in Ukraine, the Prime Minister reiterated India's long-standing position in favour of dialogue and diplomacy. The leaders agreed to maintain regular consultations on global and bilateral issues," the PMO said.

HC seeks police stand on Zubair's plea against remand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 1: The Delhi High Court Friday sought the stand of Delhi police on a plea by Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair challenging the legality of his police remand in a case related to an alleged objectionable tweet he had posted in 2018 against a Hindu deity.

Justice Sanjeev Narula issued notice on the petition which challenges the legality and propriety of the trial court's June 28 order granting four days of custody of Zubair to the police. The judge listed the case for further

hearing on July 27 and said that proceedings before the trial court would continue without being influenced by the present proceedings. The court noted that the remand order would expire on July 2 and said, "The police remand order is for four days. I will have to hear the other side. I will issue notice".

Zubair was arrested by the Delhi Police June 27 for allegedly hurting religious sentiments through one of his tweets and was sent to one-day police custody by the trial court on the same day. After being produced on the expiry of his one-day custodial interrogation, his custody was extended by another four days by Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Snigdha Sarvaria.

ED ARRESTS 2 AIDES OF JAIN



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 1: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Friday arrested two close aides of Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain in connection with a money laundering case.

Vaibhav Jain and Ankush Jain have been named in both -- the CBI and ED's cases. Satyendar Jain was arrested on May 30 and is currently lodged in Tihar Jail. His bail plea was dismissed by the court.

The ED officials have not issued any official statement in this regard. Money laundering investigation was initiated by the ED on the basis of an FIR registered by CBI in 2017 under section 13(2) read with 13(1)(e) of the PC Act, 1988 against Jain, his wife Poonam Jain, and Ajit Prasad Jain, Sunil Kumar Jain, Vaibhav Jain and Ankush Jain.

A charge sheet was filed by the CBI on December 3, 2018 against Jain, his wife Poonam Jain, and other accused. It was alleged that Jain, while holding the office as a Minister in the Government of Delhi, during the period February 14, 2015 to May 31, 2017 had acquired assets which were disproportionate to his known sources of income. The CBI has accused Jain, his wife and other accused, for commission of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

Presumed extinct plant species rediscovered in HP

This species was first discovered and described in 1835 by British botanists -- John Forbes Royle and Robert Wight -- from Doongie village (now Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh)

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shimla, July 1: Researchers from the Botanical Survey of India in Dehradun and Himachal Pradesh University in Shimla Thursday said they have rediscovered a rare, threatened and presumed extinct species *Brachystelma attenuatum* after a gap of 188 years.

This species was first discovered and described in 1835 by British botanists -- John Forbes Royle and Robert Wight -- from Doongie village (now Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh). Since its first collection, the species have not been observed and have therefore been presumed extinct by

the scientists. In year 2020, while doing field surveys in the Western Himalayas, some interesting tuberous plants were observed by Nishant Chauhan in the Bhoranj region of Hamirpur.

These plants were brought to the Botanical Survey of India and there it was identified by Amber Srivastava as *Brachystelma parviflorum*, a species thought to be extinct by the scientists 186 years ago.

Recently, another presumed extinct species *Brachystelma attenuatum* has been rediscovered in Hamirpur and Mandi districts. The species was first observed last year in August 2021, but during



that time the plants were in their last stage of growth and flowering period was over, making it difficult to confirm their identity, explained Chauhan.

This year, with the commence-

ment of the flowering season, researchers revisited the same localities in the month of March and after examining the detailed characteristics of the flowering plants they were able to identify it as *Brachystelma attenuatum* and the rediscovery was confirmed.

The rediscovery of both these species is published in the international journal 'Oryx' published by Cambridge University Press on behalf of Fauna and Flora International. The rediscovery of *Brachystelma parviflorum* was published in May 2021 and that of *Brachystelma attenuatum* is recently published issue of the Oryx journal.

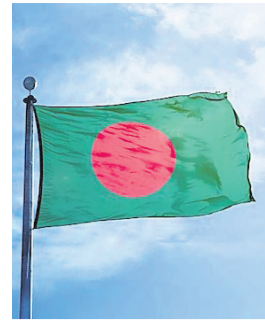
international



Trade and energy relations between Iran and Russia are at a high level
EBRAHIM RAISI | IRANIAN PRESIDENT

STRICT LAW IN BANGLADESH

Bangladesh will start a de-radicalisation campaign for Islamists in jail as years of security clampdown has waned the strength of the militant outfits in the country since the 2016 terrorist attack on a posh Dhaka restaurant in which 20 people, including an Indian and 16 other foreigners, were killed, officials said here Friday



of the day quote

The release of fry and other aquatic creatures is necessary to increase fisheries resources, which are a source of protein and income for people
HUN SEN | CAMBODIAN PRIME MINISTER

Road fatalities are closely linked to poor infrastructure, unplanned urbanisation, lax social protection and healthcare systems, limited road safety literacy and persistent inequalities both within and between countries
ANTONIO GUTERRES | UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Presidents of (Libya's) House of Representatives and High Council of State met in Geneva June 28-29. They reviewed the outstanding provisions of the 2017 Libyan Draft Constitution, taking into account the agreement reached during the Cairo talks earlier this month
STEPHANIE WILLIAMS | UN SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Machu Picchu, one of world's 7 wonders, threatened by forest fire

Sitting atop a mountain, the complex of stone structures was built more than 500 years ago by the Incas

Lima, July 1: Peruvian fire-fighters were fighting to contain a forest fire near the Incan ruins of Machu Picchu Thursday as the fire threatened to close in on the ancient city high in the Andean mountains.

The fire, which had engulfed an area about half the size of Vatican City, was started Tuesday by farmers burning grass and debris to prepare to sow new crops.



As of Wednesday, about 20 hectares (49 acres) had been affected by the fire, the mayor of the nearby city of Cusco said.

Machu Picchu, a complex of stone structures sitting atop a mountain, was built more than 500 years ago by the Incas, whose empire controlled large swaths of South America from what is today southern Ecuador to central Chile.

The fire's remoteness has hindered firefighters' efforts.

"We have already been fighting the forest fire for two days and it has not been possible to get it under control, given the area is quite inaccessible," said Roberto Abarca, director of the Cusco risk management and security office.

The breathtaking ruins, which have made the surrounding Cusco region Peru's top tourist destination, are considered one of the new seven wonders of the world.

TAILOR MURDER

Dawat-e-Islami rejects link to 'any acts of terrorism'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi/Lahore, July 1: The Dawat-e-Islami, one of Pakistan's largest Sunni-Barelvi Muslim organisations, which has been in the news after the brutal killing of a tailor in India, Friday rejected links to "any acts of terrorism," saying it is purely an educational, missionary and charity institution which preaches peace.

The organisation, with its headquarters in Pakistan's commercial capital Karachi, has been under the spotlight after it emerged that one of the two men who carried out a deadly attack in Udaipur, Rajasthan, was inspired by the Dawat-e-Islami and visited Karachi in 2014.

Two men, identified as Riaz Akhtari and Ghouse Mohammad, allegedly hacked tailor Kanhaiya Lal to death with a cleaver at his shop in Udaipur Tuesday and posted videos online saying they are avenging an insult to Islam. Distancing the Dawat-e-Islami from the gruesome murder in Udaipur, Maulana Mahmood Qadri, a senior figure in the organisation's headquarters (Faizan-e-Madina) in Karachi's Gulshan-e-Iqbal area rejected his organisation's links to any act of terrorism.

"Dawat-e-Islami has nothing to do with any act of terrorism. We are purely an educational, missionary and charity institution and globally preach peace in our lives," Mahmood told PTI in an interview. He said that thousands of students from all over the world visit the organisation's headquarters for Islamic studies that does not preach or promote extremism or radicalism. "We are also apolitical," he emphasised.

Xi defends vision of HK as 25-year anniversary marked

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong, July 1: China's leader Xi Jinping marked the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return with a speech Friday that emphasised Beijing's control over the former British colony under its vision of "one country, two systems" - countering criticism that the political and civic freedoms promised for the next quarter-century have been largely erased under Chinese rule.



Walls and windows of a neighbouring, 14-storey apartment block had also been damaged by the blast wave. Nearby holiday camps were also hit. "We came here to the site, assessed the situation together with emergency workers and locals, and together helped those who survived. And those who unfortunately died. We helped to carry them away," said Oleksandr Abramov, who lives nearby and had rushed to the scene when he heard the blast. Serhiy Bratshuk,

Russian missiles kill 21 in Ukraine's Odesa

REUTERS

Serhiivka, Ukraine, July 1: Russia flattened part of an apartment building while residents slept on Friday in missile attacks near Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa that authorities said killed at least 21 people, hours after Russian troops abandoned a nearby outpost at Snake Island.

Neighbours in the resort village of Serhiivka helped workers comb through the rubble of the nine-storey apartment block, a section of which had been completely destroyed at 1:00 a.m.

spokesman for the Odesa regional administration, said 21 people had been confirmed killed, including a 12-year-old boy. Authorities said earlier 41 people had been rescued from the apartment building where 152 lived. The regional governor said the Soviet-era missiles had been fired from the direction of the Black Sea.

The Kremlin denied targeting civilians. "I would like to remind



Bodies of civilians killed are seen in front of a damaged residential building

you of the president's words that the Russian Armed Forces do not work with civilian targets," Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told reporters. The attack came just four days after Russia struck a crowded shopping mall in central Ukraine killing at least 19

people. Kyiv says Moscow has dramatically escalated its long-range attacks hitting civilian targets far from the front line in recent days, which Ukraine describes as a war crime. Russia says it has been aiming at military sites. Thousands of civilians have been killed since Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24 in what Ukraine says is an unprovoked war of aggression. Russia calls the invasion a "special operation" to root out nationalists. On Thursday, Russia pulled its troops off Snake Island, a desolate but strategically important outpost that it seized on the war's first day and had used to control the north-western Black Sea, where it has blockaded Odesa and other ports. In his nightly video address, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy hailed what he described as a strategic victory at Snake Island.

MISSILES HIT APARTMENTS, RESORT
ZELENSKIY HAILS VICTORY AT SNAKE ISLAND
RUSSIA ASSAULTING LYSYCHANSK, DENIES TARGETING CIVILIANS

SHORT TAKES

UK: Cov cases up by more than 30%

London: The number of new coronavirus cases across Britain has surged by more than 30 per cent in the last week, new data showed Friday, with cases largely driven by the super infectious omicron variants. Data released by Britain's Office for National Statistics showed that more than three million people in the UK had Covid-19 last week, although there has not been an equivalent spike in hospitalisations.

9 injured in US shooting

Washington: A shooting in the US city of Newark has left nine people injured, multiple media outlets reported. The shooting Thursday took place on the 200 block of Clinton Place at around 6:20 p.m., Xinhua news agency quoted the reports as saying citing police.

Quake jolts Philippines

Manila: An earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale jolted Cagayan province in northern Philippines Friday, authorities said. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the quake, which occurred at 2:40 a.m., hit at a depth of 27 km, about 27 km south-east of Dalupiri Island in Calayan town, reports Xinhua news agency.

NZ leader makes first trip to UK

London: New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern Friday made her first visit to the UK since both countries signed a free trade agreement, meeting with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to boost bilateral ties and discuss Russia's war in Ukraine. The trip came after both leaders attended the NATO summit in Madrid. They will also discuss security challenges facing the Indo-Pacific region.

Pak steeply hikes petroleum prices

Islamabad: The Pakistan government has steeply hiked petroleum prices to implement the tough preconditions set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to revive the stalled USD 6 billion bailout package for the cash-strapped country. Prices of all petroleum products went up by about Rs14-19 per litre after the decision came into effect from midnight Thursday.

ON THE BOIL



Sudanese anti-military protesters march in demonstrations in the capital of Sudan, Khartoum. A Sudanese medical group says at least 9 people were killed in the anti-coup rallies during which security forces fired on protesters denouncing the country

India, Pak share list of prisoners

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Islamabad/New Delhi, July 1: India and Pakistan Friday through diplomatic channels simultaneously at New Delhi and Islamabad exchanged the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in their custody.

Under the provisions of the 2008 Agreement on Consular Access, such lists are exchanged every year January 1 and July 1. "The Government has called for early release and repatriation of civilian prisoners, missing Indian

defence personnel, and fishermen along with their boats, from Pakistan's custody. In this context, Pakistan was asked to expedite the release and repatriation of 536 Indian fishermen and three Indian civilian prisoners to India, who have completed their sentence and whose nationality has been confirmed and conveyed to Pakistan.

"In addition, Pakistan has been asked to provide immediate consular access to the remaining 105 fishermen and 20 civilian prisoners, who are in Pakistan's custody

and are believed to be Indians," said the Ministry of External Affairs. It said that India remains committed to addressing, on priority, all humanitarian matters, including those pertaining to prisoners and fishermen in each other's country. "In this context, India has also urged Pakistan to expedite necessary action at its end to confirm the nationality status of 57 Pakistani prisoners, including fishermen, whose repatriation is pending for want of nationality confirmation by Pakistan. In view of the Covid-19

INDIA HANDED OVER LISTS OF 309 PAKISTANI CIVILIAN PRISONERS AND 95 FISHERMEN IN INDIA'S CUSTODY
SIMILARLY, PAKISTAN SHARED LISTS OF 49 CIVILIAN PRISONERS AND 633 FISHERMEN IN ITS CUSTODY, WHO ARE INDIANS OR ARE BELIEVED TO BE INDIANS

pandemic, Pakistan has been requested to ensure the safety, security and welfare of all Indians and believed-to-be Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen."

Court leaves dwindling paths for Biden's climate mission

The ruling suggests the US Supreme Court is poised to block other efforts by Biden and federal agencies to limit the climate-wrecking fumes emitted by oil, gas and coal

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, July 1: More than 500 days into his presidency, Joe Biden's hope for saving the Earth from the most devastating effects of climate

change may not quite be dead. But it's not far from it.

Supreme Court ruling Thursday not only limited the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to regulate climate pollution by power plants but also suggests the court is poised to block other efforts by Biden and federal agencies to limit the climate-wrecking fumes emitted by oil, gas and coal.

It's a blow to Biden's commitment to slash emissions in the few years scientists say are left to stave off worse and deadlier levels of global warming. And it's a sign, to Democrats at home and allies abroad, of the dwindling options remaining for Biden to reverse the



legacy of former president Donald Trump, who mocked the science of climate change.

Trump's three Supreme Court appointees provided half of the affirmative votes in Thursday's 6-3 ruling. After the ruling, a veteran Democratic lawmaker acknowledged he saw little hope of Congress producing any meaningful climate legislation, either.

"There's no easy fix from Congress from this mess," Rhode Island Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse said.

The foreign allies whom Biden once spoke of leading to a global clean-power transformation are wondering if the US can even lead

itself. The climate decision in some ways "may have broader impacts at least on the European populace that this is a country that, A: can't get things done and B: is going in a really bizarre direction domestically," said Max Bergmann, director of the Europe programme at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

And in a Houston neighbourhood entering hurricane season, a man who had spent four decades advocating for the Black communities and other communities of colour and poorer communities hit hardest by pollution and the record heat, cold, floods and storms of climate change reacted to the rul-

ing like many others did - saying salvaging climate efforts depends on Biden now, and his willingness to act and lead.

"This is real," said Robert Bullard, an academic who became a pioneer in what became the US environmental justice movement, of the multiplying natural disasters - the kind scientists say are influenced by the heating atmosphere -- wrecking cities on America's vulnerable Gulf of Mexico.

Biden's EPA still has meaningful moves left to make, but it must move quickly, Eric Schaeffer, a former director of civil enforcement at the agency, said in a statement.

Pant, Jadeja prop India

Bowlers help India beat SL



STARS OF THE DAY: (From L) Deepti Sharma, Renuka Singh and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur rejoice after a Sri Lanka wicket, while Shafali Verma rushes in to join the celebration, Friday

ation was against him but he once again thrived on it to leave the opposition frustrated.

As only he could, he danced down the track against the great James Anderson, reverse scooped him but also played conventional strokes en route to the fastest hundred (89 balls) by an Indian wicketkeeper.

In the nervous 90s, he fell on the ground while going aerial over Jack Leach but that still fetched him a four before reaching three figures in the following over.

Stokes fancied Leach's chances against Pant but the play failed miserably as the southpaw collected boundaries off the left-arm spinner at will. Leach ended up with day's figures of 0/71 in nine overs. Pant went ballistic in what happened to be Leach's last over of the day, clobbering him two sixes and as many fours.

With a couple of hundreds in England, one each in Australia and South Africa, Pant has already walked into the list of the finest wicketkeeper-batters to have come out of India. The 24-year-old's epic innings came to an end towards close of play with part-timer Joe Root (1/23) providing the much needed breakthrough.

After overs were lost in the first two sessions due to rain, the evening session was played in bright sunshine. Pant and Jadeja's counter-attacking partnership had helped recently. Pant continued his love affair with the red-ball format by smashing his fifth century overall and fourth in overseas conditions. The conditions and match situ-

England were all over India soon after play resumed. While Anderson did the damage in the morning, Matthew Potts got the prized wicket of an out of form Virat Kohli (11) and a shaky Hanuma Vihari (20) post lunch to put England on top.

Vihari was the first to go after Potts trapped him in front of the stumps with a full ball that darted back sharply. In his following over, Potts sent back Kohli, who dragged one on to his stumps in his half-hearted attempt to leave the ball.

Shreyas Iyer (15), playing his first Test outside India, started on an aggressive note. However, the 39-year-old pacer angled one around the rib cage area that induced a faint edge on way to Sam Billings, who took a brilliant one handed catch diving full-stretched to his left.

India looked down and out at that stage and fresh lease of life was infused in the innings by the two southpaws, Pant and Jadeja.

Earlier, England's most decorated pacer Anderson produced probing spells in the rain-hit morning session to reduce India to 53/2. Rain forced the lunch break 20 minutes before time.

Anderson had openers Shubman Gill (17) and Cheteshwar Pujara (13) caught by Zak Crawley at second slip to give England the advantage after Stokes opted to 'chase' at Edgbaston. India could have been three down had Crawley held on to a tough chance presented by Vihari off Matthew Potts.

BRIEF SCORES: India 338/7 (Rishabh Pant 146, Ravindra Jadeja 83 batting; James Anderson 3/52, Matthew Potts 2/85) vs England.

BRIEF SCORES

SRI LANKA WOMEN 171 (Nilakshi de Silva 43, Hasini Perera 37; Deepti Sharma 3/25, Renuka Singh 3/29) lost to

INDIA WOMEN 176/6 (Harmanpreet Kaur 44, Shafali Verma 35, Harleen Deol 34, Deepti Sharma 22 n o, Pooja Vastrakar 21 n o; Inoka Ranaweera 4/39) by 4 wickets.

duck. Seeking to break the shackles, the batter went down the track to a delivery that was tossed up, but the lack of elevation meant the ball did not travel beyond mid off.

A partnership ensued but not for long, with Deepti getting the better of opener Hasini Perera by hitting her pads while the batter attempted to play the sweep shot. Hasini made 37 off 54 balls.

Sri Lanka were in for more shock as 63/3 soon became 65/4, this time skipper Harmanpreet, enjoying success with the ball by dismissing Kavisha Dilhari for a nought. As wickets tumbled at one end, Nilakshi de Silva held fort at the other until she was trapped in front of the wicket for a 63-ball 43.

The Indians also got off to a poor start, losing Smriti Mandhana (4) as early as the second over. Wicketkeeper Bhatia (1), too, did not last long, leaving India at 17/2 in the fourth over.

Skipper Harmanpreet then played the role of an anchor allowing Shafali Verma to blaze her way to 35 off 40 deliveries. Harleen Deol chipped in with 34 off 40 balls, before the duo of Deepti and Pooja Vastrakar took the visitors home.

Birmingham, July 1: Rishabh Pant (146, 111b, 19x4, 4x6) played a knock for the ages to turn the tables on England and take India to an imposing 338/7 on a rain-hit day one of the rescheduled fifth Test here Friday.

At 98/5, India were staring down the barrel but Pant scripted a remarkable turnaround in the company

Neeraj misses 90m mark by a whisker

OLYMPICS GOLD WINNER SETTLES FOR SILVER WITH A THROW OF 89.94M BREAKING NATIONAL RECORD IN THE PROCESS

New high-tech for offside calls at FIFA World Cup



Stockholm, July 1: Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra clinched his first top-3 finish at the prestigious Diamond League Meeting with a national record-shattering effort but missed the 90m mark by a whisker in a star-studded field here Thursday.

The 24-year-old Chopra opened with a stunning throw of 89.94m, just 6cm shy of the 90m mark, the gold standard in the world of javelin throw and that effort eventually turned out to be his best as he finished second.

His other throws measured 84.37m, 87.46m, 84.77m, 86.67 and 86.84m. He bettered his earlier national record of 89.30m, which his spear had travelled while finishing second in the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland, June 14.

World Champion and season leader Anderson Peters of Grenada won the competition with a best throw of 90.31m which he came up with in this third attempt.

"Today, I feel good and after first throw, I thought I could throw even over 90m today. But it is OK as I have more competitions coming this year," Chopra said after the event. "I am close to 90m now and I can throw it this year. Despite the fact that I did not win tonight, I feel very good because I did my best."

Peters has thrown 90m-plus twice this season - 93.07m while winning the Doha leg of the Diamond League last month before 90.75m effort at Hengelo in the Netherlands.

Julian Weber of Germany was third with a fifth round throw of 89.08m while Tokyo Olympic silver medalist Jakub Vadlejch (88.59m) of Czech Republic was fourth. Another Czech athlete and Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Vitezslav Vesely was seventh in the eight-man field with 82.57m.

Chopra has beaten Peters twice this month - in Turku where the athlete from Grenada was third and in the Kuortane Games, also in Finland, where the Indian superstar had won gold with a best throw of 86.68m under wet and slippery conditions.

Chopra's first throw had raised hopes of him scripting history of becoming the first Indian to win a Diamond League event. Nonetheless, he became the second Indian to finish in top-three in a Diamond League competition after discus thrower Vikas Gowda.

Geneva, July 1: FIFA will introduce new technology to improve offside calls at the World Cup in Qatar this year, using a limb-tracking camera system.

FIFA said Friday it is ready to launch semi-automated offside technology (SAOT) that uses multiple cameras to track player movements plus a sensor in the ball - and will quickly show 3D images on stadium screens at the tournament to help fans understand the referee's call.

It's the third World Cup in a row that sees FIFA introduce new technology to help referees. Goal-line technology was ready for the 2014 tournament in Brazil after a notorious refereeing error in 2010. In 2018, video review to help referees judge game-changing incidents was rolled out in Russia.

The new offside system promises faster and more accurate decisions than are currently made with the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system, even though the 2018 World Cup avoided major mistakes on offside calls. Controversy has since flared in European leagues, especially where VAR officials draw on-screen lines over players for marginal calls. They have been mocked as "armpit off-sides" because of the tiny margins.

"Although these tools are quite accurate, this accuracy may be improved," said Pierluigi Collina, who leads FIFA's refereeing program and worked the 2002 World Cup final in the pre-technology era.

Each stadium in Qatar will have 12 cameras beneath the roof synchronized to track 29 data points on each player's body 50 times per second. Data is processed with artificial intelligence to create a 3D offside line that is alerted to the team of VAR officials.

A sensor in the match ball tracks its acceleration and gives a more precise "kick point" - when the decisive pass is played - to align with the offside line data, FIFA innovation director Johannes Holzmüller said in an online briefing.

Ensuring soccer's biggest event is a showcase for technological progress - and avoids obvious errors that live on in World Cup lore - has been a long-time FIFA goal.

The shot by England's Frank Lampard that crossed the Germany goal-line in 2010 but was not given as a goal almost immediately ended then-president Sepp Blatter's opposition to giving referees technological aids.

Later that same day in South Africa, a clearly incorrect offside call let Carlos Tevez score Argentina's first goal in a 3-1 win over Mexico in the round of 16.

In 2014, Bosnia-Herzegovina failed to advance from the group in its first World Cup after Edin Dzeko's early goal against Nigeria was wrongly judged offside. Nigeria went on to win 1-0.

FIFA's push to get the new offside technology ready for the World Cup was slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Live in-game trials were run at the Arab Cup in Qatar last December and FIFA's Club World Cup played in February in the United Arab Emirates. Within seconds of a possible offside, a specialist member of the VAR team can manually check the data-created line for attackers and defenders and the kick point of the pass, Holzmüller said.



Neeraj Chopra celebrating after his javelin throw of 89.94m.

India to have full strength from 2nd T20I

Birmingham, July 1: Skipper Rohit Sharma, who has been ruled out of the rescheduled Test match against England after testing positive for COVID-19, will be available to lead the side in the white-ball series as he was named in squads for T20Is and ODIs by the BCCI Thursday. The three-match T20 series will begin July 7 in Southampton.

Rohit was already supposed to play from the second T20I but since he missed out on the Test match, he is available from the first game. Five players, including Virat Kohli, Rishabh Pant, Jasprit Bumrah and Shreyas Iyer will join the team from the second game in Edgbaston July 9.

One notable omission in the T20 squad is Mohammed Shami, who hasn't been picked in shortest format since last T20 World Cup as he isn't scheme of things for Australia World Cup.

Shami, oldest player in the current set up, Shikhar Dhawan (37) and Mohammed Siraj are part of the ODI squad which will be played from 15 to 20th of July.

The players who will return home after first T20I are Raturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson, Arshdeep Singh, Rahul Tripathi to name a few. It is understood these players are not first choice going into the T20 World Cup.

THE SQUADS

1st T20I: Rohit Sharma (C), Ishan Kishan, Raturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Dinesh Karthik (wk), Hardik Pandya, Venkatesh Iyer, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh & Umran Malik

2nd & 3rd T20Is: Rohit Sharma (C), Ishan Kishan, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Shreyas Iyer, Dinesh Karthik (wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Harshal Patel & Umran Malik

ODIs: Rohit Sharma (C), Shikhar Dhawan, Ishan Kishan, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant (wk), Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, J Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj & Arshdeep Singh.

SCHEDULE

FORMAT	DATE	VENUE	TIME (IST)
1st T20I	July 7	Ageas Bowl	10:30 pm
2nd T20I	July 9	Edgbaston	7 pm
3rd T20I	July 10	Trent Bridge	7 pm
1st ODI	July 12	The Oval	5:30 pm
2nd ODI	July 14	Lord's	5:30 pm
3rd ODI	July 17	Old Trafford	3:30 pm

Kuala Lumpur, July 1: Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu crashed out in the women's singles quarterfinals of the Malaysia Open badminton tournament after losing to her nemesis Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei in a hard-fought three-game contest here Friday.

Sindhu, seeded seventh, squandered a game lead to lose 13-21, 21-15, 21-13 to the second seed Tai Tzu, a silver medallist at the Tokyo Olympics.

By virtue of the win, the Chinese Taipei shuttler extended her domination over the Indian ace, leading 16-5 on head-to-head record. Sindhu has now lost six matches on the trot against Tai Tzu.

Indian challenge ended in the Super 750 event as HS Prannoy also made a quarterfinal exit, losing to seventh seeded Jonatan Christie of Indonesia 18-21 16-21 in 44-minute men's singles match.

Sindhu, playing against drift, made a slow start and trailed 2-5 in the opening game. But she soon got her act together and pocketed 11 points on the trot to go into the break leading 11-7. The Chinese Taipei shuttler tried to make comeback into the contest by playing long rallies but Sindhu was upto the task to pocket the opening game.

Sindhu started the second game brightly but her fancied rival dominated the proceedings after the early exchanges to lead 11-3 at the break. Tai Tzu continued in the same vein after the change of ends and extended her lead to 14-3 before Sindhu relied on her powerful smashes to reduce the deficit to 17-15.

Tai Tzu, however, regrouped quickly and pocketed the next four points to draw level in the contest. It was a close contest in the decider as both the shuttlers fought tooth and nail till 12 points before Tai Tzu put Sindhu under pressure with a mix of drop shots and smashes to clinch the third game and keep her title defence hopes alive.