



SPILLING THE BEANS

Actor Kriti Sanon reveals why she was nervous after landing a role in mythological drama 'Adipurush'

LEISURE P2



TRUSS ENTERS RACE

British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss enters the race to succeed Boris Johnson as Prime Minister

INTERNATIONAL P10



EVES GO DOWN

Indian women's hockey team suffer a 0-1 loss against Spain to crash out of the FIH World Cup

SPORTS P12

NEWS IN BRIEF

Elephant deaths continue unabated

KHURDA: Amid reports of rise in elephant deaths in Odisha, a jumbo was electrocuted to death after coming in contact with a 'live' wire at Golabai near Jankia in this district late Sunday night. Sources said two elephants were crossing NH-16 at Golabai when one of the pachyderms came in contact with the wire hanging out from an electric transformer. The elephant died on the spot. Forest officials along with police reached the spot to investigate the cause of death. They ruled out foul play and removed the carcass with the help of a JCB machine.

Rupee plunges to all-time record low

MUMBAI: The rupee depreciated by 19 paise to close at its fresh lifetime low of 79.45 against the US dollar Monday amid broad-based dollar demand and foreign capital outflows. However, receding crude oil prices in the international market restricted the loss for the rupee, which posted its third straight session of decline. At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened weak at 79.30 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 79.24 and a low of 79.50. It finally settled at 79.45, down 19 paise over its previous close of 79.26. The dollar index advanced 0.56 per cent to 107.60. **P11**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Not Colombo, these are scenes from streets of Chennai

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	54395.23 ↓ 86.61
NIFTY	16216.00 ↓ 4.60
DOLLAR	80.18 ↑ ₹0.43
EURO	80.14 ↓ ₹0.56
GOLD	₹50,789 ↑ ₹10
SILVER	₹57,075 ↓ ₹56

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
MAX	31.4°C	31.2°C
MIN	26.0°C	25.6°C
Humidity	95%	88%
Rainfall	15mm	6.8mm

Forecast: Light rain likely

VOICING GRIEVANCE



Members of the women's cell of the Congress protest against the increase in prices of LPG cylinders in front of the Collector's office in Cuttack, Monday. Protests were also organised in Bhubaneswar

STEEP INCREASE IN GLOBAL POPULATION ON CARDS

India to surpass China in 2023

AGENCIES

United Nations, July 11: India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country next year, according to a report by the United Nations published Monday on the occasion of the 'World Population Day'. The report also said that the world population is forecast to reach eight billion by mid-November 2022. The global population is growing at its slowest rate since 1950, having fallen under one per cent in 2020.

According to the report, India's population stands at 1.412 billion in 2022, compared to China's 1.426 billion. It added that 'India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country during 2023'.

India is projected to have a population of 1.668 billion in 2050, way ahead of China's 1.317 billion people by the middle of the century. "Disparate population growth



ASHA workers display posters on World Population Day at the Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute

rates among the world's largest countries will change their ranking by size; for example, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023," the report said.

The 'World Population Prospects 2022' by the United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, said that the global population is projected to reach eight billion by November 15, 2022. The latest projections by the United Nations suggest that the world's population could grow to around

- Global life expectancy reached 72.8 years in 2019, an improvement of almost 9 years since 1990
- Total global population to reach 8.8 billion in 2100
- Average number of children per woman will decline to 1.66 newborn at the end of the century

8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050. It is projected to reach a peak of around 10.4 billion people during the 2080s and to remain at that level until 2100.

More than half of the projected increase in global population up to 2050 will be concentrated in just eight countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Tanzania.

"This year's World Population Day (July 11) falls during a milestone year when we anticipate the birth of the Earth's eight billionth

inhabitant. This is an occasion to celebrate our diversity, recognise our common humanity, and marvel at advancements in health that have extended lifespans and dramatically reduced maternal and child mortality rates," UN Secretary-General António Guterres said.

"At the same time, it is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another," Guterres added.

The world's two most populous regions in 2022 were Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, with 2.3 billion people, representing 29 per cent of the global population, and Central and Southern Asia, with 2.1 billion, representing 26 per cent of the total world population.

The report noted that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected all three components of population change. Global life expectancy at birth fell to 71.0 years in 2021.

Police disperse dharna by suicide victim's mother

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Police forcibly lifted Monday a woman from near a college here and destroyed the make-shift tent from which she was holding a dharna demanding proper investigation into the death by suicide of her daughter Ruchika Mohanty, her 19-year-old daughter was found hanging in her hostel room of the BJB Autonomous College July 2. She said in a suicide note that she was unable to cope with the ragging and mental harassment by three senior students. She, however, did not mention any name.

Demanding a CBI probe into her death, her mother along with several student activists were staging a dharna in front of the college gate. The police action came when the agitators were planning to conduct the 10th-day rituals of the dead girl.

Additional DCP PC Pal said police moved away the agitators following a complaint by the college authorities that alleged that the dharna was disturbing the atmosphere of education. Pal said the agitators have every right to stage protests but at the proper place earmarked for such activities and not in front of the college gate.

However, All India Students Federation (AISF) state president Sanghamitra Jena said: "We, along with the victim's mother, were staging a peaceful dharna, but were forcibly removed by police."

Inebriated Odia youth killed in Bangalore

PNN & AGENCIES

Bangalore, July 11: Two security guards of an apartment complex here have been arrested on charges of killing an inebriated 27-year-old youth from Odisha after mistaking him for a thief, police said Monday. The deceased, Abinash Pati, was an employee of a bank and was working in Raipur. He had come here for training.

The two who have been arrested have been identified as Shyamnath Ray (24) and Ajith Mura (24). Police said that tragedy struck in the early hours of July 5. After attending a party, Abinash tried to return to his friend's house. However, he could not contact him as his mobile ran out of charge. By mistake, Abinash entered another residential complex. Security guards, suspecting him to be a thief, hit him on the head with an iron rod leading to his death.

FARMERS' WOES COME TO FORE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jharsuguda, July 11: Woes of the farmers came to the fore Monday when hundreds of them queued up in the wee hours in front of the SDCB Bank at Laikera in this district to withdraw their money under 'Bima Yojana'. Sources said that they had queued up since 3.00am Monday.

Sources pointed out that this was not a one-off incident. As there is just one counter of the bank in the entire locality, residents of Laikera,



Kolabira and Kirmira block depend on it for their daily transactions.

The token system implemented by the bank officials to prevent overcrowding has added to the farmers' woes.

"Such is the situation that we are forced to stand in a queue since early morning. I came and joined the line at 4.00am and yet my token number is 104. We place our tools to mark our spots and then look for shade in this very hot weather. The bank officials should notice our plight and help us," said Jhasketan Patel who is a farmer.

When contacted, the manager of the bank said that he has informed the higher-ups. "We are trying open more counters in the bank as soon as possible," he said.

State seeks free booster jabs

Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation imposes restrictions on large gatherings at public places

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: With the state reporting 572 Covid-19 cases Monday, the Odisha government has decided to request the Centre to make Covid-19 booster shots free for people of all age groups in the state. Currently persons who are 60 years of age and above and frontline warriors against the virus get the jabs free of cost. Currently the active case load in Odisha stands at 3,360.

Monday was the third consecutive day when Odisha reported more than 500 fresh cases. The state had witnessed 512 cases July 9 and 576 July 10. The highest number of cases is being reported from Khurda district. Keeping this in mind, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation released Monday a fresh advisory for traders.

Odisha Health Secretary Nikunja Dhal appealed to all to follow Covid-19 appropriate behaviour. If required, an order will be issued to regulate mass gatherings, he said. However, he also informed that most of the infected persons have mild symptoms.

Dhal also said efforts are on to make the booster shots available free of cost for the people of Odisha. "The precaution dose of Covid-19 vac-

cine is being administered free of cost to the frontline warriors and those in the 60-plus age group category. It is the Centre to decide whether precaution dose will be given free of cost to beneficiaries in the 18-59 age group. We will certainly request them to do so," Dhal said.

The BMC on the other hand, has asked all street vendors to prevent overcrowding in their stalls. All business establishments including shopping malls have been asked prevent large gatherings on their premises. They have also been asked to ensure Covid-19 protocols are followed by visitors.

Shopping mall managements have been asked to carry out thermal screening at entry points and keep provision of hand washing/sanitization for their customers/visitors. Each mall management must have a Covid-19 compliant officer, the BMC said in its advisory. Saloon, spa and barber shops will have to adhere to strict Covid-19 appropriate behaviour in their shops, it said.

All closed venues like Auditorium/Cinema Halls/Theatres shall ensure proper mask wearing by all visitors/customers/participants at all times, the BMC said.

Centre must release Salem after 25 yrs: SC

India had managed to extradite Salem promising he would not get death penalty and his prison term would not exceed 25 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



assurance given by India to Portugal for his extradition in 2002. The assurance was given to Portugal by the then Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani.

A bench of Justices SK Kaul and MM Sundresh said the Central government is bound to advise the

President of India for exercise of power under Article 72 of the Constitution and the commitment on completion of his sentence.

"The necessary papers be forwarded within a month of completion of 25 years. In fact, the government can itself exercise the power of remission under CrPC within the time period of one month upon completion of 25 years," the bench said.

The Centre had told the top court that the question of the Union of India honouring its assurance dated December 17, 2002 will arise only when the period of 25 years is to expire which is November 10, 2030. A special TADA court had

awarded February 25, 2015 life imprisonment to Salem in another case for murdering Mumbai-based builder Pradeep Jain in 1995 along with his driver Mehndi Hassan.

Salem, also a convict in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts, was extradited from Portugal November 11, 2005, after a prolonged legal battle. Advocate Rishi Malhotra representing Salem had argued that the assurance was in clear terms that if extradited by Portugal for trial in India, his client would not be awarded death penalty or imprisonment for a term beyond 25 years.

In June 2017, Salem was handed life sentence for his role in the March 12, 1993 serial blasts case.

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshaSpeaks.com
accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES
You feel positive about imbibing the ideas of spirituality today. This will make you open to the idea of accepting the responsibility for old mistakes, and it includes your relations with people in your neighbourhood. This will pave the way for your success in the future, says Ganesha.

TAURUS
You are not likely to take anything lying down today, says Ganesha. If you find anyone plotting and planning against you, you will not be too polite in dealing with them. Violent outbursts could make you lose the grace and dignity you are known for.

GEMINI
You are likely to throw a small treat for your relatives. Though the rest of the day will be spent cleaning the utensils and putting the place in order, you will manage to get some time for your friends, maybe by arranging a slumber party.

CANCER
Today, you are likely to exhibit tremendous patience while dealing with your loved ones. Giving them a patient ear is your way of saying that you care. Some may, however, think otherwise. But that's their problem, says Ganesha. At work, you will make plans and ensure a smooth implementation of those plans.

LEO
The stars bring out the best in the artist hidden inside you. It may not be a Picasso or a Rembrandt, but nonetheless, today, your work shall stand out as exceptional. Ganesha foresees an afternoon spent in making use of the excellent communication and oratorical skills that you possess.

VIRGO
A day to don both - those trainers and that thinking cap. Exercise those muscles and that mass of grey cells, says Ganesha. Work hard and you'll get paid rich dividends for it. A romantic tryst with your loved one promises to end the day on a high note.

LIBRA
Today, it's a straight path to success, thanks to your straightforward manner. Ganesha foresees some small things that may trouble you in a big way early on in the day. But negotiate around them, and then it's all smooth sailing from there on. On the business front, expect to roll in money from diverse sources.

SCORPIO
Your emotions will take a hold over your reasoning today, predicts Ganesha. With your seniors, you should be careful about how you express your perspective to avoid being misunderstood. In relationship matters, Ganesha advises you not to repress your feelings or avoid feeling them as they may bottle up and lead to complications in the future.

SAGITTARIUS
Those into aerobics and callisthenics will find themselves on the top of their game today. Expect a sudden turn of events sometime from afternoon. Ganesha sees you prowling the corridors of power at work today. You shall synchronise your career and family superbly.

CAPRICORN
The heaps of files waiting to get disposed of may finally reach your desk. You will be prompt in dealing with pending work, and will get all the support you need from your subordinates, says Ganesha. For those engaged in business, keep your vigil, especially while dealing with your competitors.

AQUARIUS
Life reveals itself to you in the simplest of things today. It will dawn upon you that you have a lot going for yourself, personally and professionally. This appreciation reflects in the small considerations that you show to your loved ones. This is perfection, asserts Ganesha.

PISCES
You will be in pursuit of educational and intellectually stimulating activities today, says Ganesha. Novel business proposals are likely to crop up in the afternoon. Your magnetism is likely to net you a date later in the evening.



DIAZ REVEALS SHE MAY HAVE MISTAKENLY SMUGGLED DRUGS

Hollywood star Cameron Diaz may have unknowingly smuggled drugs to Morocco. Opening up about her early days as a model in Paris, the 49-year-old believes she was once used as a 'mule' to carry illegal substances in a locked suitcase, reports aceshowbiz.com.

ZENDAYA TO DIRECT AN EPISODE OF EUPHORIA - 3

Actress Zendaya hopes to direct an episode of the hit teen drama *Euphoria* next season. The 25-year-old actress has shared that she was set to helm episode six of season two, but she was needed in front of the camera, reports aceshowbiz.com.



ACTING IN ADIPURUSH

Kriti reveals why she was nervous

Mumbai: Kriti Sanon is one of the most talented and popular actors in the Hindi film industry. She enjoys a massive fan following on social media and every now and then, she treats her fans with some amazing videos and photos. The actress will be next seen in magnum opus mythological drama, *Adipurush* with south superstar Prabhas. Speaking on the sideline of an event, the *Mimi* actress reveals why she was nervous before stepping into the world of *Adipurush*.

Adipurush will be the next big step of her life. "Adipurush is a role and a world that I was a little bit nervous to play and step into because I didn't know that world and I didn't know what I was going to do and how I was going to play a part that holds so much importance in our religion and our history."

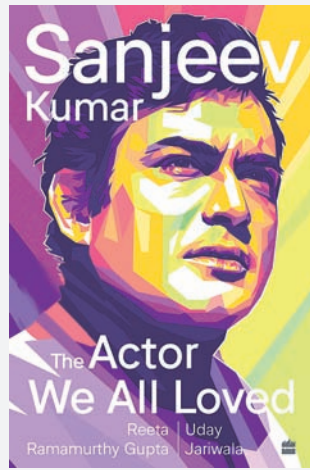
Apart from *Adipurush*, Kriti has some interesting films lined up. She will be next seen in *Ganpath-Part 1* with Tiger Shroff. Also, she is reuniting with her *Luka Chuppi* co-star Kartik Aaryan in *Shehzada*, and her Dilwale co-star, Varun Dhawan in *Bhediya*.



Film industry warms up to Sanjeev Kumar biography

Mumbai: Late actor Sanjeev Kumar's journey as an actor has inspired many to foray into acting, yet his story is not known to his countless fans who still remember the 'common man's superstar' from films such as *Sholay*, *Shatranj Ke Khiladi*, *Mausam* and *Aandhi*.

To throw light on the enigmatic actor's life journey, his nephew Uday Jariwala and author Reeta Ramamurthy Gupta have come together to pen a biography titled *Sanjeev Kumar: The Actor We All Loved*. It was released Saturday, July 9, his birth anniversary.



Well-known figures from Hindi film industry provided inputs to the authors and these have made the bi-

ography content rich.

Shatrughan Sinha commented on the book in a social media post in which he said: "Very happy to receive this book on one of the most loved, admired actors as well as my friend, philosopher and guide #SanjeevKumar on my wedding anniversary, and his birthday, which we always celebrated together."

Talking about the response of the film fraternity, Reeta Ramamurthy Gupta said, "I am so grateful for the support that the book has got from actors and the veterans of the industry who knew Haribhai. Most of all, I'm grateful to my co-author Uday Jariwala, who was just 12 years old when he performed Haribhai's last rites."

Sanjeev Kumar was known among his friends as Haribhai based on his real name - Haribhai Jethalal Jariwala.

Ranveer recalls moment when he fell for Deepika

Mumbai: Ranveer Singh is one actor who wears his heart on his sleeve! Recently the actor opened up about the exact moment when he fell in love with his now wife, Deepika Padukone.

Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone crossed paths when they were cast together by Sanjay Leela Bhansali for *Goliyon Ki Raasteela Ram-Leela*. "I met her in 2012. In our first reading and I'll never forget, the doorbell rang, and I looked like that, and these big, wooden doors opened, and she was wearing all-white and the breeze blew just at that time. It was almost like time

had slowed down," Ranveer had shared. Revealing more dreamy details, Ranveer added, "In slow motion, she walks through the door, hair all flying with the breeze, looking like an absolute vision in white. Man that was it! At that moment it was 'it' for me. It was love at most spectacular sight."

On the work front, Ranveer Singh will next be seen in *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani*, co-starring Alia Bhatt. This Karan Johar directorial also features Jaya Bachchan, Dharmendra and Shabana Azmi in pivotal roles.



Monica opens up about her sexuality

Los Angeles: American born and Indian origin singer-actor Monica Dogra recently opened up about sexuality.

Talking about when she first identified herself as pansexual, Monica told a news portal that she only ever heard the word some five or six years ago and she instantly realised she was the same. According to her, it was very black and white growing up. Either you were gay or you were straight.

Elaborating further, the actress added that she was a tomboy some days, and on other days hyper-feminine when she was growing up. Monica also revealed that she never kissed a girl or had a full-blown sexual experience with a girl until she was in college. Up until that point, she identified as straight. However, the actress added that after that experience, she suddenly had no idea who she was. She figured maybe she is bisexual. However, at that point, she still didn't know what pansexuality meant. But she knew she liked feminine energy men and masculine energy women.

The actress also revealed that she has been telling the truth for many years now. However, people only took notice once her show, *The Married Woman* started streaming on the OTT platform. She also added that growing up, she was ashamed of her gender for the most part.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

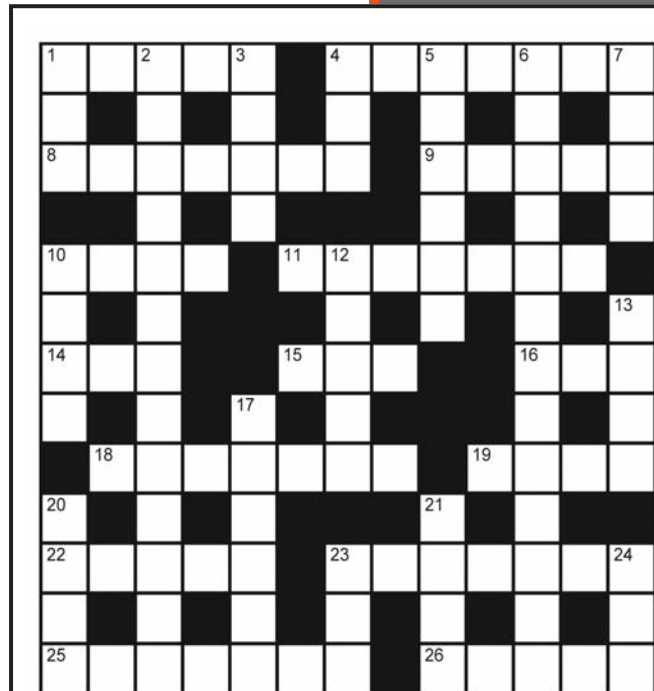


BREVITY



FUN post

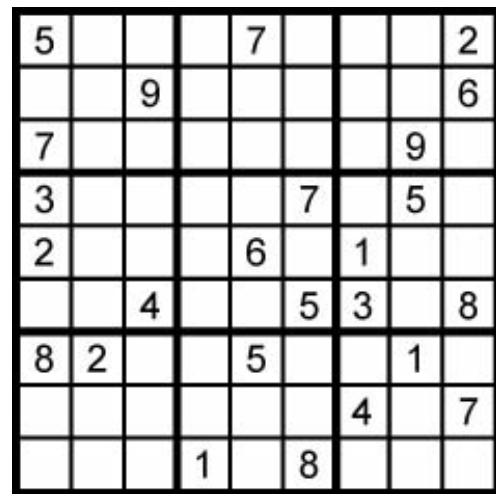
CROSSWORD



- Copyright ©2022 PuzzleJunction.com
- Across**
- 1 Cousin of a cockatoo
 - 4 Diplomat
 - 8 Above a count
 - 9 Kind of ray
 - 10 Locks
 - 11 On the fence
 - 14 Silent assent
 - 15 Delivery vehicle
 - 16 Archaeological site
 - 18 16th century small vessel
 - 19 Fishing need
 - 22 Skyward
 - 23 Fragrance
 - 25 Apprehends
 - 26 Spruce up
 - Down**
 - 1 Close-mouthed
 - 2 Bootlicked (7,6)
 - 3 Ululate
 - 4 Plugs
 - 5 Ballet wear
 - 6 A place for astronauts (7,6)
 - 7 Physical, e.g.
 - 10 Perfect
 - 12 Clear the boards
 - 13 Eye rakishly
 - 17 Succulent plant
 - 20 Spanish sparkling white wine
 - 21 You can do it for joy
 - 23 School transportation
 - 24 Wine cask

SUDOKU

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

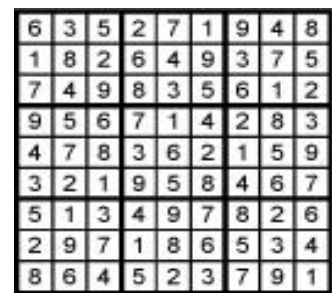


SOLUTIONS



CROSSWORD

SUDOKU



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

As cases rise, BMC ups Cov hosp beds

Notably, following a drop in Covid cases, the BMC in February had decided to shut down all Covid care facilities. While four DCH were earlier operational...

1 dead, 15 injured in road accidents



Bolangir/Puri, July 11: One person was killed and 15 others suffered serious injuries in two cases of accidents that occurred in various parts of the state, Monday.

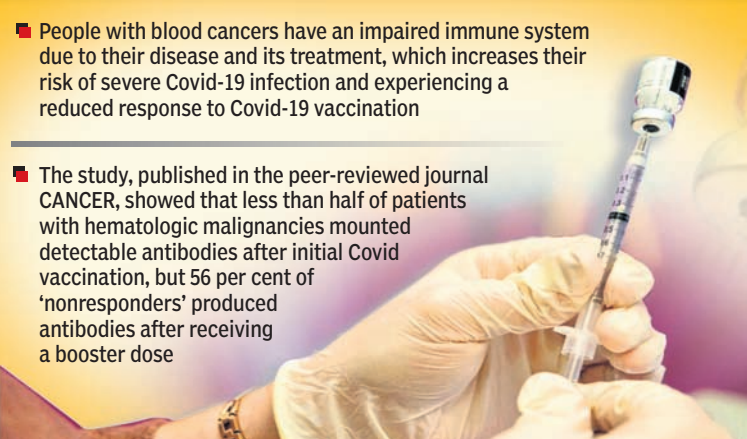
State exported ₹4,560cr worth seafood last year

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Odisha, which is the fourth largest state in aquaculture production in the country, has exported seafood worth Rs 4,560 crore during the last financial year...



is time to learn from diversified aquaculture from other countries such as Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, China and even our neighbour Bangladesh where they grow more than 50 varieties of fish...

Cov boosters enhance immunity in blood cancer patients: Study

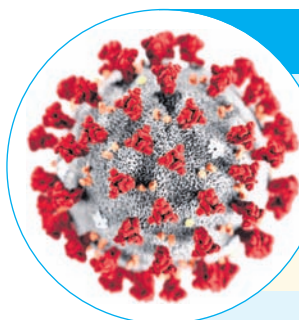


Covid booster doses are more effective in people with hematologic malignancies or blood cancers including leukaemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma and improve their antibody levels than initial shots, finds a study.

People with blood cancers have an impaired immune system due to their disease and its treatment, which increases their risk of severe Covid-19 infection and experiencing a reduced response to Covid-19 vaccination.

BRAINSTORMING SESSION

Dignitaries at a seminar on the occasion of World Population Day by Ravenshaw University Geography department in Cuttack, Monday



COVID-19 TRACKER

Table showing COVID-19 statistics: World (65,88,51,021 Infected, 53,38,69,594 Recovered, 63,73,380 Dead), India (4,36,39,329 Infected, 4,29,83,162 Recovered, 5,25,454 Dead), Odisha (12,94,076 Infected, 12,81,866 Recovered, 9,126 Dead).

ADHARAPANA RITUAL



Lord Jagannath and His siblings—Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra—being offered delicious drink on their respective chariots near the Lions' Gate of Srimandir as part of the Adharapana ritual, Monday



Lord Jagannath and His siblings—Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra—being offered delicious drink on their respective chariots near the Lions' Gate of Srimandir as part of the Adharapana ritual, Monday

ODISHA FOOD PRO 2022 JULY 21

Bhubaneswar, July 11: The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises department in collaboration with the Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment department will organise 'Odisha Food Pro 2022' July 21 this year, an official said Monday.

The event will attract more investment, new skills and technology into state's food processing sector. It will provide exposure to SHGs, FPOs, cooperatives and individual units involved in food processing activities.

which will witness a confluence of investors, manufacturers, producers, startups and policy makers from the Indian food ecosystem, would provide exposure to self-help groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), cooperatives and individual units involved in food processing activities, Deb said.

UTKAL GRAMEEN BANK POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) [See Rule-8-(1)]

Table with 5 columns: Branch/Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors, Description of the Security Interest taken over possession, Liabilities due on the specified date as per Notice, Date of Demand Notice/Possession Notice.

Cochlear implant at City Apollo Hospital

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: The ENT Department of Apollo Hospitals, Bhubaneswar, has added another feather to its cap by performing Cochlear implant surgeries of two children under the age of four.

Consultant ENT Surgeon Manoj Kumar Lath and his team successfully operated the two cases of Cochlear implant. The two children of three and three and half years of age had hearing impairment since birth. After conducting several tests, it was found that both the ears of the children were not working. Thus, it was decided to implant Cochlear device in their inner ear via operation which would aid them in hearing.

Alok Srivastava, Chief Operating Officer and Director Medical Services of Apollo Hospitals, Bhubaneswar, stated that they would be starting Apollo Hearing Clinic with focus on hearing impaired patients, newborn hearing and hearing preservation which would become a centre of excellence on advanced ENT surgeries.



Speaking about the surgery, Srivastava said, "It's a great joy for all of us to bring back smiles in the faces of families of both the children. After implantations, patients will undergo speech and language therapy. Implant can be done at any age but for children born with hearing impairments, early detection could help them develop normal speech."

Rail link to speed up coal movement to ports in Odisha



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: The first stretch of the Mahanadi Coal Railway Ltd (MCRL), being set up to transport coal from Talcher Coalfields, is expected to be functional in 2022, and ensure faster movement of coal rakes to Paradip and Damra ports, decongest the rail network, and reduce the transportation cost considerably, an official statement said.

Under the MCRL's Phase-I, the 14-km-long Angul-Balram corridor, expected to be operationalised by this year, will have movement of 25 MT coal from MCL mines in Talcher Coalfields, the Coal Ministry statement said. Phase-II, the 54-km-long Balram-Jarpada-Tentuloi span, is expected to be commissioned by December 2025 and provides connectivity to allocated coal blocks on the southern side and central part of Talcher Coalfields. Work is progressing rapidly, as notification for land acquisition and forestry clearances have been obtained, the statement

said, adding that this line will cater to evacuation of around 58 MT coal from CIL and non-CIL coal blocks in Talcher.

The Ministry said that shipping routes are much cheaper compared to the rail network and will improve coal availability in the southern and western region of India.

Talcher Coalfields of Mahanadi Coalfield is one of the largest with about 52 BT of coal resources, which is 15 per cent of total prognosticate coal resources in the country. Of the available resources in Talcher Coalfield, more than 63 per cent (33 BT) lies within 300m depth, presenting significant potential for open cast mining.

Talcher coalfields produced more than 95 million tonne (MT) coal during FY22 and is likely to produce about 200 MT in FY 2024-25 and about 300 by FY 2030 from Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd and allocated coal blocks. To ensure efficient coal evacuation, the construction of rail line started in a phased manner and traverses Odisha's Angul district.



The Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya organised a cultural programme at Rabindra Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Monday

OP PHOTO

State logs 572 Covid cases, TPR at 4.25%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Odisha Monday recorded 572 coronavirus cases, 69 of them being children, taking the tally to 12,94,076, the state health department said in a bulletin.

The coastal state's daily test positivity rate (TPR) jumped to 4.25 per cent from 3.46 per cent the previous day, and the number of active cases rose to 3,360, of which 1,444 are from Khurda district alone, it said. There were no deaths due to the



State Public Health Director Niranjana Mishra said that the hospitalisation rate is very low, suggesting that most of the cases are asymptomatic or mild

infection, keeping the toll unchanged at 9,126. Another 53 Covid-19 patients have died due to comorbidities so far in state.

The health bulletin also said that a total 13,462 samples were tested in the last 24 hours. Khurda district, of which state

Capital Bhubaneswar is a part, reported the highest number of 219 infections, followed by 68 in Cuttack. The state had logged 576 cases Sunday.

The Health department bulletin also said that 239 more people have recuperated from the virus, tak-

ing the recoveries to 12,81,537. State Public Health Director Niranjana Mishra said that the hospitalisation rate is very low, suggesting that most of the cases are asymptomatic or mild.

As a preventive measure, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) recently directed all roadside vendors and business establishments to ensure that there is no overcrowding at the premises.

Salons, shopping malls, auditoria should ensure Covid-appropriate behaviour, it added.

DEMANDING DECENCY



Students of BJB Autonomous College in Bhubaneswar filed an FIR at Badagada police station, Monday, against hurling of abuses by protesters in front of the college

OP PHOTO

JSPL Foundations serves devotees during Rath Yatra

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: JSPL Foundation, the CSR Arm of Jindal Steel & Power, served more than 3,30,000 devotees during Rath Yatra festival in Puri.

In coordination with the district administration, the foundation provided freshly cooked traditional Odia meal (Rice, Dalma, Khajur Khata), chilled drinking water and glucose packets during the festival.

The services by JSPL Foundation, under the guidance of its Chairperson Shalalu Jindal, commenced on Netrostav Day June 30 and continued till Sunabesha. With the support of local volunteers, the foundation provided about three lakh thirty thousand hot-cooked pure vegetarian meals, which included rice, dalma, and khatta (chutney made from tomatoes, jaggery, and dates) in a special stall at the



bus stand near Gundicha temple.

"We are ever obliged for the Divine Grace of Lord Jagannath for giving us the opportunity to serve the devotees during the grand festival of Rath Yatra. We always believe that service to mankind is service to God. May Mahaprabhu Jagannath, the Lord of the Universe, bless Mankind with good health and peace across the world," said Shalalu.

JSPL Foundation also distributed 10,000 packets of glucose

among the devotees and provided 1,000 raincoats to the district administration for use by frontline government employees on duty during the festival.

Besides, the foundation also provided chilled drinking water from a refrigerated mobile drinking water tanker of 1,000 litre capacity to the devotees throughout the festival days. The drinking water service continued at the Grand Road throughout the festival since Netrostav.

Deevyanshu tops JEE-Mains in state

Bhubaneswar: Deevyanshu Malu of KIIT International School has become state topper in JEE Main (Session 1) exams. Deevyanshu scored 99.98 per cent, the highest percentage secured by a JEE-Main candidate in Odisha.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit Notary Public, Bhubaneswar, I have changed my name from Jyotsna Mahapatra (as per Board certificate) to Jyotsna rani Swain which is reflected in Aadhaar and PAN card. So I declare that Jyotsna Mahapatra & Jyotsna rani Swain is one & same person & henceforth I shall be known as Jyotsna rani swain for all purpose.

BA.5 sub-variant can re-infect you within weeks: Experts

It has been a common assumption during the pandemic that being infected with a Covid variant provides a natural immune boost, enabling one's immune system to better recognise and fend off infections in the future. However, Omicron BA.5 proves to be different, with several researchers terming it as "the most easily transmissible Covid variant to date"

The BA.5 Omicron sub-variant, which is known to evade immunity induced both by vaccines as well as prior infections, has the potential to re-infect you with Covid again "within weeks", global researchers have said.

BA.5, together with BA.4 and other sub-variants, is said to be behind the current surge in infections seen in a slew of coun-

tries including India, China, US, and European nations, notably the UK and Italy.

It has been a common assumption during the pandemic that being infected with a Covid variant provides a natural immune boost, enabling one's immune system to better recognise and fend off infections in the future.

However, Omicron BA.5 proves to be different, with several researchers terming it as "the most



easily transmissible Covid variant to date".

"The main reason this variant has become the predominant one that is now circulating is that it is able to evade previous immunity," said Dean Blumberg, chief of Paediatric Infectious Diseases at University of California, Davis, Children's

Hospital. "Even people who have partial immunity from a previous infection or vaccination can still have a breakthrough infection."

That means even if you were infected in 2020 with Delta or even Omicron BA.1 last winter, you can still get BA.5. Your previous immunity does not protect you from

the latest strain.

"What we are seeing is an increasing number of people who have been infected with BA.2 and then becoming infected after four weeks," Andrew Roberston, the chief health officer in Western Australia, was quoted as saying to News.com.au.

"So maybe six to eight weeks they are developing a second infection, and that's almost certainly BA.4 or BA.5," he added.

This may be explained by a recent study, published in the journal Science, which showed that Omicron provides a poor natural boost of

Covid immunity against reinfection even with Omicron and also in people who are triple-vaccinated.

Researchers at the Imperial College London called the BA.5 "an especially stealthy immune evader".

"Not only can it break through vaccine defences, it looks to leave very few of the hallmarks we'd expect on the immune system - it's more stealthy than previous variants and flies under the radar, so the immune system is unable to remember it," said Professor Danny Altmann, from Department of Immunology and Inflammation at Imperial College. IANS

Not only can it break through vaccine defences, it looks to leave very few of the hallmarks we'd expect on the immune system - it's more stealthy than previous variants and flies under the radar, so the immune system is unable to remember it
DANNY ALTMANN | PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION, IMPERIAL COLLEGE, LONDON

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

- 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- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-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.

Bhitarkanika faces a barrage of threats

Polluted river systems, inadequate fresh water and a host of projects that will lift water or restrict its flow may spell disaster for Bhitarkanika wetland and its bio-diversity



FILE PHOTO

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, July 11: Lack of fresh water and rampant pollution in three major river systems might prove to be catastrophic for the Bhitarkanika wetland, a report said.

The matter came to the fore during a hearing on water pollution in Bhitarkanika and Chilika wetlands at the Orissa High Court, June 30. A division bench comprising Chief Justice S Muralidhar and Justice RK Pattanaik heard the matter and directed the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) to conduct a technical probe into the water pollution in these two wetlands. The date of submission of report by SPCB has been scheduled to August 11.

During hearing, Amicus Curiae Mohit Agarwal apprehended that the water of Brahmani river is polluting Bhitarkanika the most.

The toxic effluents discharged by Nalco and chemical fertiliser industries into the Brahmani river are polluting the river water.

Apart from coal, these industrial firms use chemicals like fluoride, nitrogen, cyanide, chromium, fly-ash and others in their plants which are discharged into the river sans treatment polluting the water body.

Rampant movement of boats and trawlers, mindless tree felling by illegal Bangladeshi nationals and establishment of illegal prawn gheries near the shore and rivers also contributes to the

river water pollution.

It is apprehended that the Bhitarkanika wetland might not get fresh water in coming days which will greatly affect its sustainability and existence. The seven rivers and 27 creeks in Brahmani, Baitarani and Mahanadi river systems in Kendrapara district have been instrumental for survival of the mangrove forests in Bhitarkanika. However, blockage of fresh water at various places, lifting of river water is likely to destroy the bio-diversity of Bhitarkanika, environmentalists rued.

Environmentalists Hemant

Orissa High Court has directed the SPCB to conduct a technical probe into the water pollution and submit a report by August 11

Kumar Rout, educationists Bhuban Mohan Jena and Kshitish Kumar Singh said that scarcity of fresh water will be the foremost reason behind the destruction of mangrove forests in Bhitarkanika. The mangrove forests grow on a mixture of 60 per cent of saline water and 40 per cent of fresh water. Casuarina forests can only be seen on sea shores due to lack of flow of fresh water.

Rivers like Mahanadi, Baitarani, Brahmani and their distributaries which supply fresh water to Bhitarkanika are drying up and becoming increasingly polluted due to discharge of toxic effluents by industrial firms.

The flow of Mahanadi water to the state has declined after construction of a barrage in Chhattisgarh. As a result, the water flow of Mahanadi in Kendrapara district decreases in non-monsoon months.

The problem has aggravated after construction of a large

reservoir in Mahanadi at Santara in Kujang block of neighbouring Jagatsinghpur district. Two major drinking water projects will draw water from this reservoir and supply it to over 200 villages in Mahakalapara and Marshaghai blocks of Kendrapara district.

As a result, this will hit the flow of fresh water of Mahanadi to Bhitarkanika which is on the downstream of the river. Similar is the case with Baitarani river whose fresh water has stopped flowing into Bhitarkanika during non-monsoon months.

Moreover, construction of a tank near Jajpur town to store the Baitarani river water is likely to hinder the flow of river water into Bhitarkanika even in monsoon season.

This apart, construction of two mega irrigation projects and two drinking water projects in Kharasrota river, a distributary of Brahmani river will further dry up the water flow into Bhitarkanika.

An agitation is also going on to construct a barrage on Kharasrota to keep enough water required for these five projects. This has further cast doubts whether the fresh water of Kharasrota will reach Bhitarkanika at all.

MAMITA MURDER CASE Out on bail, Gobinda takes part in Bahuda

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawaniapatna/Golamunda, July 11: Gobinda Sahu, the prime accused in Mamita Meher murder case was found wandering carefree and participating in Bahuda Yatra festival like a common man at Mahaling village in Kalahandi district Saturday after he was granted conditional bail by the Orissa High Court Friday.

Gobinda's participation in the Bahuda Yatra has not gone down well with the victim's family members who feared that the accused might try to influence the witnesses and demanded his immediate arrest.

He was released from Kantabanji jail July 9 after being granted interim bail for 14 days. He will surrender at Kantabanji ADJ's court after completion of the bail period. The court has granted him conditional bail for the treatment of his ailing wife and daughter on eight conditions and two bail bonds of ₹50,000 each.



Earlier, Sahu had requested the court for bail citing the ill health of his wife and daughter. Notably, Mamita Meher, a 26-year-old teacher of Sunshine English Medium School at Mahaling in Kalahandi, was missing for days. Subsequently, her charred body was found buried at an under-construction stadium near the school.

FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES



A modern fire fighting van equipped with automatic systems will be stationed at Utkela airport in Kalahandi district to combat fire mishaps

OP PHOTO

EAST COAST RAILWAY
e-Tender Notice No. ETCECONIBBS 2022064 Dtd.: 05.07.2022

Name of work: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORITY ENGINEER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR INTEGRATED RE-DEVELOPMENT OF PURI RAILWAY STATION, PURI (ODISHA) OF KHURDAROAD DIVISION.

Approx cost of the work: ₹ 182.82 Lakhs, EMD: ₹ 2,41,300/-, Completion period of the work: 30 Months.

Tender closing date & time: at 1200 hrs. of 05.08.2022

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website <http://www.iraps.gov.in>. The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering.

The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions.

Chief Administrative Officer (Con)/ Bhubaneswar
PR-49/CF/22-23

WANTED
CHARAMPA MAHAVIDYALAYA, BHADRAK
At/P.O.: Charampa, Dist.- Bhadrak
Wanted Lecturers in Physics, Mathematics, Botany, Zoology, English, Odia, Economics, PET, Clerk, Girls Common Room Attendant, Psychology Lab. Attendant and a Sweeper on temporary basis.
Remuneration Negotiable.
Walk in interview on Dt.15.07.2022 from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. With Bio-data & all documents.
Contact: 8917683061

MUTUAL FUND INVESTOR AWARENESS PROGRAM
Do join us to learn more about Mutual Funds.
Date and Venue:
Wednesday, 13th July, 2022; 6:00 p.m. onwards.
at Empires Hotel, 5-B Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar- 751 007, Odisha.
For registration, please contact: Fakir Mohan Jena, Mobile: 70080 74419.
Registration is compulsory.
The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.
It is mandatory to follow the COVID safety guidelines during the event.
No walk-ins will be allowed.
HDFC MUTUAL FUND
An Investor Education by HDFC Mutual Fund
For KYC, change of address, investor complaints redressal etc. visit <https://www.hdfcfund.com/information/key-know-how>
MUTUAL FUND INVESTMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO MARKET RISKS, READ ALL SCHEME RELATED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY.

MLA DEMANDS CONSTRUCTION OF 3 RI OFFICES

POST NEWS NETWORK

Hatadihi, July 11: Anandapur MLA Bhagirathi Sethy in a letter has urged the Additional Secretary, state Revenue and Disaster Management department to sanction funds for construction of office buildings for three newly created RI circles at Hadagarh, Orali and Padhiaripalli under the tehsil.

Notably, the state government had announced creation of three revenue circles at Hadagarh, Orali and Padhiaripalli under this tehsil in Keonjhar district in 2020.

However, two years have passed since then but the newly created revenue circles are yet to become fully functional due to lack of proper infrastructure. "Where will the office operate after the revenue inspectors get appointed for the three revenue circles," questioned some residents.

5 days on, no lead in tusker poaching

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhanjanagar, July 11: Even as five days have passed to the killing of an elephant for its tusk at Sujagad range under Bhanjanagar Ghumusar forest division in Ganjam district, the forest officials have failed miserably to make any headway or arrest in this regard. Several teams have been formed to nab the poachers; still the forest department has no lead in this matter. The Forest officials have detained two suspects in this connection. Moreover,

several raids were conducted in the houses to identify people owning guns sans license. Officials also claimed of keeping an eye on the movement of any poachers in the area.

This has spread discontent among animal lovers who have demanded immediate arrest of the persons responsible for the tusker's murder. They condemned the slow pace of probe by the forest department.

According to sources, the tusker was shot at in Rambha section. The pachyderm then managed to reach

Sujagad section where it succumbed to the bullet injuries. The poachers who were keeping a track of the tusker then very cunningly took away the tusk after it died.

"Although the pachyderm had died a couple of days earlier, the forest officials came to know about it very late only after locals spotted the carcass and alerted them July 6. Angry locals demanded action against errant officials whose failure has led to rise in the killings of elephants in the reserve forests.

10 Nayagarh villages suffer sans network

Gania: The government has focused on promoting Digital India initiative and for its successful execution, mobile network is essential everywhere. Unfortunately, there are 10 villages under Gania block of Nayagarh district where mobile network is still a dream. Locals have to face a lot of hardship for basic communication through calls. Children's studies and online official works are anyway hampered, they lamented. Chhamundia panchayat under this block is a case in point. As many as 10 villages in this panchayat are struggling without mobile network and online studies of schoolchildren have been hit hard at a time when it was very essential. With the issue still unsolved, a strong sense of resentment is brewing among villagers of Mahanapada, Jashipur, Rajingi, Dhobaborei, Kumbhirakhani, Mahukana, Chhadamula, Butuburei, Bhagamunda and Dangasahi. They are planning for a showdown against the alleged government apathy towards provision of proper mobile network coverage.

IN A FIRST, CANOPY BRIDGE TO GIVE SAFE PASSAGE TO ANIMALS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Tensa, July 11: A first-of-its-kind canopy bridge has come up on Barsuan ghati road connecting Tensa with Rourkela to provide safe passage to monkeys and other wild animals living in the adjoining forests.

The bridge has been constructed by Bonai forest division in assistance with Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) owned iron ore mines in Barsuan. The bridge looks quite attractive and is situated at a height of 100 feet hanging on the road with dense forests on both sides.

As a result, the animals can safely move across the bridge avoiding contact with the vehicular traffic on the road passing below. The canopy bridge is the first of its kind in the state to have come up on the route. The colour-



SMART SOLUTION

- Koira block being home to several mines, thousands of mineral laden vehicles pass through this forested route
- Officials of Bonai forest division and SAIL owned mines at Barsuan have constructed the bridge
- Apart from safeguarding wildlife, the colourful bridge will also prove to be a treat to the visitors' eyes

ful bridge will also prove to be a treat to the visitors' eyes on their way to Koira, Barbil and the nature camp at Tensa from Rourkela.

Koira block being home to several mines, thousands of mineral laden vehicles pass through this jungle along the ghati road towards their destinations. Wild animals often get crushed under the wheels of vehicles while crossing the road. The monkeys liv-

ing in this area are the most vulnerable lot as they often get killed after being hit by vehicles while crossing over to the forest across the road. Despite such mishaps happening frequently and animals dying in regular intervals, nobody ever spares any thought for their security or protection.

Keeping the animals' safety in mind, the forest officials of Bonai forest division and

SAIL, owned mines at Barsuan have constructed the bridge to protect the monkeys and other wildlife. Monkeys, squirrels, mongoose, flying squirrels and monitor lizards can safely hop on the bridge and move from one side to the other.

The unique and creative effort will save numerous animals' lives. The installation of the bridge has brought cheer among the environmentalists and forest officials.

CSIR - INSTITUTE OF MINERALS AND MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY ACHARYA VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR-751013

Advertisement. No. - PME/P58/2022

Date:11.07.2022

CSIR - Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar invites applications from bonafide Indian citizens for the following project positions purely on temporary basis and co-terminus with the duration of the project.

Post Code	Project No. and Duration of the Project	Name of the Position	No. of Posts
5801	Project No: GAP - 301 Duration : 31.03.2026	Project Assistant	04
5802	Project No: GAP - 358 Duration :01.02.2025	Project Associate - I	01
5803	Project No: GAP - 359 Duration :10.03.2027	Project - JRF	01
5804	Project No: SSP - 438 Duration :31.03.2023	Project Associate - I	01
5805	Project No: GAP - 368, Duration :13.06.2025	Project Associate - II	01
5806	Project No: HCP - 42, Duration : 31.03.2025	Senior Project Associate	01
5807	Project No: HCP - 42, Duration :31.03.2025	Senior Project Associate	01
5808	Project No: HCP - 30, Duration : 30.06.2023	Project Associate - I	01

Eligible candidates are required to visit CSIR-IMMT website www.immt.res.in for details regarding submission of application, essential qualifications, job requirement, experience, age, monthly emoluments and other terms and conditions.

The last date of receipt of application is 25.07.2022.

FOCUS ECONOMY

INDIA'S FOREX WOES



The coming months will call for deft macroeconomic management of the twin deficits, on the external and internal front

In the past eight months, foreign portfolio investors have moved out nearly \$40 billion out of India, by selling stocks and bonds. During this time India's foreign exchange reserves have fallen by \$52 billion. The rupee has been falling against the dollar. Imports are rising faster than exports, which means we need many more dollars to pay out than what we receive in our export earnings. Even in normal times, India has a dollar shortage of manageable proportions, i.e., between 1 to 2% of GDP. Typically, this is less than \$50 billion and arises due to exports exceeding imports. This shortage is funded by inflows in the form of stock market investments, foreign loans, private equity, or bond purchases. These capital inflows have always exceeded the current account deficit, and hence India's balance of payment (BOP) account has been in surplus. Of course, having a BOP surplus funded by foreign debt and liabilities alone is not necessarily a good thing, especially when there is debt distress all around the world. But in normal times foreigners readily giving loans to India's economy is a sign of their confidence.

All this is about to change sharply and the custodian of India's forex - the RBI has sent out early warning signals. With any luck, and assuming a robust inflow of \$80 billion during this fiscal, our BOP account will still be negative by \$30 or \$40 billion. And our current account deficit might rise dangerously to 3.2% of GDP, reaching beyond a \$100 billion. To tackle this extra pressure on forex, our pile of reserves won't be sufficient. Hence the RBI has relaxed some constraints to attract more dollar denominated fixed deposits from NRIs. It has also made foreign borrowing easier and has increased the allowed limit on foreign ownership of Indian government bonds. All these measures are meant to attract more dollar inflows. These proactive measures

were needed due to some alarming signs, such as the widening trade and current account deficit, and increase in the share of foreign debt which is to be repaid this year. India's foreign debt is \$620 billion of which \$267 billion is due to be repaid in the next nine months. This ratio of short-term debt is 44% and dangerously high. To repay this debt private companies which have taken those foreign loans, will need to seek fresh loans to repay old loans, or else dip into India's forex reserves. The latter is not desirable since the forex reserves are falling and need to be shored up. And the former won't be easy since dollars are flowing toward the USA and not toward developing countries. In any case the fresh loans will be at much higher interest rates, causing a future burden of debt servicing. The RBI's precautionary moves came alongside measures taken by the Union government to conserve dollars. Import duty on gold has been hiked to 12.5% to stem the outflow of dollars owing to gold purchases. Indians have an insatiable demand for gold, and hence the

country is the highest importer in the world. The higher import duty might reduce the demand somewhat but will also induce some smuggling. There is also a possibility that other restrictions may come on non-essential imports to prevent the dollar outflow. Management of forex and the exchange rate is primarily the responsibility of the RBI. In the present circumstances, apart from pressure due to the flight of stock market investors, there is additional pressure due to high oil prices. It affects India's total import bill, and an increase in the subsidy bill. The fertiliser and cooking gas subsidy burden is increased due to higher oil prices. So, to deal with this additional fiscal burden the government has imposed an export tax on windfall profits on steel and oil refining companies. This is expected to raise more than Rs 1 trillion for the exchequer. It is an indirect way of dealing with impact of the falling rupee. But an export tax is a rare and exceptional measure and justified only because of steep increases in oil prices which is linked to the Ukraine war. The Union

government also has the fiscal burden of continuing with the compensation due to the shortfall of GST collection to state governments. The latter are saddled with debts of their own, with ten states reaching dangerous levels of debt, which can lead to default.

On the external front the pressure on the rupee is not just because of the high import bill caused by oil prices. Non-oil and non-gold imports such as electronics, chemicals, and coal rose by 32% between April and June. Gold imports during June were 170% higher as compared to a year ago. Let's see if higher import duty on gold deters imports. Indians could invest in sovereign gold bonds, which are demat substitutes of gold, and do not drain precious forex. An aggressive selling effort of gold bonds by the government is needed.

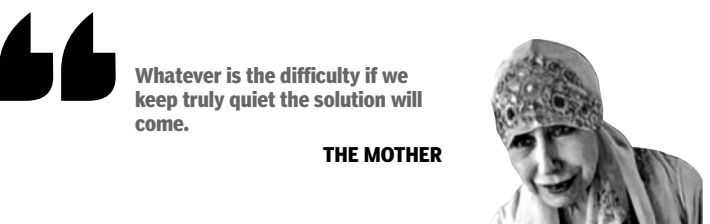
The coming months will call for deft macroeconomic management of the twin deficits, on the external and internal front. A higher fiscal deficit invites higher interest rates. And a higher trade deficit invites a weaker rupee. If these two policy instruments (interest rates and exchange rate) are handled diligently in order to gradually reduce both the deficits we can avert a crisis situation. Weakening rupee is a natural cushion but in the short term can aggravate trade deficit, until exports catch up. Similarly, reducing fiscal deficit calls for both expenditure control and higher tax revenues. The latter requires growth and employment to pick up. If oil prices go down due to recessionary winds in the world, that would be a boon to India, albeit a mixed one, since a global recession is bad for India's exports, which are crucial to close the trade deficit gap. Who said macroeconomic management was easy?

The writer is a noted economist.
© THE BILLION PRESS



Ajit Ranade

WEAKENING RUPEE IS A NATURAL CUSHION BUT IN THE SHORT TERM CAN AGGRAVATE TRADE DEFICIT, UNTIL EXPORTS CATCH UP



Whatever is the difficulty if we keep truly quiet the solution will come.

THE MOTHER

India No. 1

The UN has released a report which states that India's population will exceed that of China by 2023. According to the report, India's population stands at 1.412 billion in 2022 compared to China's 1.426 billion. India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country by next year. All those of us living on this sub-continent, elated at learning about this report, are also aware that India is a terribly populated country and has probably crossed China's population some years ago which government records refuse to confirm. This non-confirmation is primarily because India has had no Census since 2011 and our administration has been busy doing non-productive work like issuing multiple cards such as Aadhaar.

China had enforced a One Child policy to curb its population growth in 1980. This policy was rigorously implemented, even leading to forced sterilizations and abortions. All those efforts resulted in a sharp decline in childbirth. The eventual fallout was that the aged population got bigger. Realising this, China ended the One Child policy in 2016, going for a Two Child policy which was soon followed by a Three Child policy. However, none of these bore any fruits and the birth rate continues to be on a steady decline. Comprehending the futility of policy changes, China has resorted to offering sops to couples for having more kids.

India, on the other hand, is on a different path. Till the mid 1970s, the government was forcefully driving towards a Two Child family. There was even a ministry called Family Planning. Then came Emergency and Sanjay Gandhi. Sanjay believed in controlling the growth of population. His 5 Point programme had family planning as one of the most important agendas. As can be expected, overzealous government officials went on a forcible sterilization drive in some states. After the end of Emergency and poll defeat of Indira Gandhi and her party, the Janata Party government scrapped even the ministry of Family Planning and renamed it Family Welfare. Administrative efforts towards birth control were completely halted. That situation continues till now.

Added to that, the present scenario where Hindoos are being repeatedly told that they must produce more children to thwart the 'evil intentions' of the Moslem community to outgrow all others in this country is making matters worse. The idea that the Hindoo is endangered has gone down pretty well to the masses. Therefore, when Sadhguru appreciated the decision of Upasana, wife of movie actor Ram Charan to not have a baby soon, it obviously set the fanatics on a roll and they have not hesitated trouncing even Sadhguru in spite of his earlier bonhomie with the Hindootva squad. In a country where children are considered God's gifts, promoting birth control could be considered an act of sin. Probably for this, one comes across many MPs and Sadhvis exhorting Hindoos to increase their flock further. Malthus had opined that a larger population means more hands to work. Poor Malthus probably never came across any Indian living in India. The average Indian detests work for which we can be called a nation of job seekers or slaves. Indians may adorn very high executive offices in many international companies. Interestingly, no matter how important or powerful, they are all employees. A Sundar Pichai or a Satya Nadella may be cited by some as successful global Indians. While admitting that they are an example of great success, they are not entrepreneurs. Yet, we see Parag Agrawal, Rishi Sunak, Kamala Harris, Suella Braverman and many others who are slowly but surely taking over many English speaking countries across the world. While we at home oppose English and wish to promote Hindi, it is the English speaking Indian who is truly becoming a force to reckon with. It speaks ill of us that the aspirational Indian is compelled to leave the country if s/he desires to achieve success. This indicates India atrophies individuals with growth potential. The population growth may make Indians the largest race on planet Earth very soon. But to rise and shine, the average Indian needs to break free from all social and family entrapments and pursue her ambition to the hilt. That mindset will ensure that Indians do not just become the bulk of the world population but also be considered the intellectual and political cream that is capable of creating a better world for the future.

Piate
Tathagata Satpathy

WISDOM CORNER

- Pain is inevitable. Suffering is optional.** HARUKI MURAKAMI
- If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse.** JIM ROHN
- People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.** MAYA ANGELOU

WORDSWORTH

Turducken

Many of us have heard of this gastronomic marvel, which in the USA is associated with Thanksgiving and to a lesser extent with July 4. A chicken is stuffed inside a duck inside a turkey - the inner two deboned first and themselves stuffed with such delights as sausage, cornbread, or oyster. A culinary chimera, the turducken might be thought to stand on the same level of gustatory invention as the notorious Glaswegian deep-fried Mars bar, though those who have tried it say it's quite tasty. Some chefs draw away in horror from it, citing the excessive amounts of skin and fat and the high risk of bacterial problems because it is so hard to ensure that all three birds are properly cooked through. This method of cooking is actually quite ancient, with recipes from medieval times that were often much more complicated still. The technical term for the process is engraftation, from Greek words meaning "in the belly". A well-known English example of the nineteenth century was Pandora's Cushion, a boned goose stuffed with a boned chicken, which was stuffed with a boned pheasant, itself stuffed with a boned quail. If the turducken were not enough, a news article from 1997 said that a store in Louisiana was experimenting with a pigturducken, though nothing has been heard of it since. And a rumour has reached me via the Internet that South Africans have gone one better, producing an ostrurducken, in which the whole concoction is stuffed inside an ostrich. However, this may possibly be an urban legend, because the only reports come from somebody who has heard of it from somebody else.

LOL

Horse pulls the car

An out-of-towner drove his car into a ditch in a desolated area. Luckily, a local farmer came to help with his big strong horse named Buddy. He hitched Buddy up to the car and yelled, "Pull, Nellie, pull." Buddy didn't move. Then the farmer hollered, "Pull, Buster, pull." Buddy didn't respond. Once more the farmer commanded,



"Pull, Jennie, pull." Nothing. Then the farmer nonchalantly said, "Pull, Buddy, pull." And the horse easily dragged the car out of the ditch. The motorist was most appreciative and very curious. He asked the farmer why he called his horse by the wrong name three times. The farmer said, "Oh, Buddy is blind, and if he thought he was the only one pulling, he wouldn't even try!"

SPECTRUM DISRUPTION

Absorbing the energy transition shock

Russia's war on Ukraine has sent shockwaves around the world. Oil prices have skyrocketed and food prices have soared, causing political instability. The last time food prices were this volatile, riots erupted across the Arab world and from Burkina Faso to Bangladesh. This time, the energy and food shock is happening against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. When will the shocks end? They won't. So, we can choose either resignation and despair, or a policy agenda to build social and political resilience against future shocks. Those are our options, and we had better start taking them seriously, because the shocks are likely to get worse. On top of geopolitical crises, the climate emergency will bring even greater disruptions, including ferocious floods, mega-droughts, and possibly even a simultaneous crop failure in key grain-producing regions worldwide. It is worth noting that India, the world's second-largest wheat producer, recently banned exports as part of its response to a devastating heatwave this spring.

But here's the thing: reducing vulnerability to shocks, for example, by embarking on energy and food revolutions, will also be disruptive. The energy system is the foundation of industrialised economies, and it needs to be overhauled to phase out fossil fuels within a few decades. Huge industries like coal and oil will have to contract, and then disappear. And agriculture, transportation, and other sectors will need to change radically to become more sustainable and resilient. The challenge for politicians, then, is clear: to devise fair policies that protect people from the inevitable shocks. One idea with significant potential is a Citizen's Fund, which would follow a straightforward fee-and-dividend equation. Companies that emit greenhouse-gas emissions or extract natural resources would pay fees into the fund, which would then distribute equal payments to all citizens, creating an economic cushion during a period of transformation and beyond.

This is not just an idea. In 1976, the Republican governor of Alaska, Jay Hammond, established the Alaska Permanent Fund, which charges companies a fee to extract oil and then disburses the proceeds equally to all the state's citizens. In 2021, each eligible Alaskan received \$1,114 - not as a "welfare payment" but as a dividend from a state commons (in this case, a finite supply of oil). The largest dividend ever paid was during Republican Sarah Palin's governorship in 2008, when every Alaskan enjoyed a windfall of \$3,269. In 2017, James A. Baker and George P. Shultz, two former Republican secretaries of state, proposed a similar plan for the whole US, estimating that fees on

carbon emissions would yield a dividend of \$2,000 per year to every US household. With backing from 3,500 economists, their scheme has broad appeal not just among companies and environmental-advocacy groups but also across the political aisle. The economics is simple. A fee on carbon drives down emissions by driving up the price of polluting. And though companies would pass on these costs to consumers, the wealthiest would be the hardest hit, because they are by far the biggest, fastest-growing source of emissions. The poorest, meanwhile, would gain the most from the dividend, because \$2,000 means a lot more to a low-income household than it does to a high-income household. In the end, most people would come out ahead.

But given that food- and energy-price shocks tend to hit low-income cohorts the hardest, why make the dividend universal? The reason is that a policy of this scale needs both broad-based and lasting support, and people are far more likely to support a programme or policy if there is at least something in it for them. Moreover, a Citizen's Fund is not just a way to drive down emissions and provide an economic safety net for the clean-energy transition. It would also foster innovation and creativity, by providing a floor of support for entrepreneurs and risk-takers we will need to transform our

energy and food systems. A Citizen's Fund could also be expanded to include other global commons, including mining and other extractive industries, plastics, the ocean's resources, and even knowledge, data, and networks. All involve shared commons - owned by all - that are exploited by businesses that should be required to pay for the negative externalities they create. Of course, a universal basic dividend is not a panacea. It must be part of larger plan to build societies that are more resilient to shocks, including through greater efforts to redistribute wealth by means of progressive taxation and empowerment of workers. To that end, Earth4All, an initiative I co-lead, is developing a suite of novel proposals that we see as the most promising pathways to build cohesive societies that are better able to make long-term decisions for the benefit of the majority. Our most important finding is perhaps the most obvious, but it is also easy to overlook. Whether we do the bare minimum to address the grand challenges or everything we can to build resilient societies, disruption and shocks are part of our future. Embracing disruption is thus the only option and a Citizen's Fund becomes an obvious shock absorber.

Moreover, a Citizen's Fund is not just a way to drive down emissions and provide an economic safety net for the clean-energy transition. It would also foster innovation and creativity, by providing a floor of support for entrepreneurs and risk-takers we will need to transform our

The writer is an analyst at the Stockholm Resilience Centre.
© PROJECT SYNDICATE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST
B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Clash of titans

Sir, This refers to "Ambani vs Adani at 5G auction," Orissa POST, July 11. For a long time, Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani, the two big businessmen of the country remained number one in their respective fields and both of them made a place in the list of the world's richest people. Now, both of them can be seen doing strong competition among themselves. The Adani group will place its bid in the airwave auction regarding the 5G connectivity. In such a situation, it is believed that a tough competition will be seen between two Gujarati businessmen. In fact, the Adani group Saturday confirmed its entry into the race for telecom spectrum, but the company said it is participating in 5G spectrum auction to provide private network solutions as well as enhanced cyber security in airports, ports and logistics, power generation, transmission, distribution and various manufacturing operations. This has come as a minor relief for Mukesh Ambani as his Reliance Jio is the largest company in this field. But, telcos had strongly opposed any direct allocation of spectrum to non-telecom entities for setting up private captive networks. While these companies wanted non-telecom companies to lease spectrum from them or they set up private captive networks for them, the government has decided in favour of private networks, which is a big blow to businessmen like Ambani. **N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE**

Lankan crisis

Sir, Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis. People in the island nation have stormed the houses and offices of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe. The deepening economic crisis has led to the island nation's massive anger and political instability. Absurd economic plans and extreme populist policies, including massive freebies during the COVID-19 pandemic, have created this economic depression. Sri Lanka is now short of many basic commodities and the price of the essential commodities is running sky-high. Now the country needs the support of developed countries and international organisations like the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank to overcome this crisis. This incident should become an example for all democratic nations where political parties announce illogical freebie schemes and extreme populist policies to win elections which can sometimes lead to economic crises like in Sri Lanka. **Deba Prasad Nayak, CUTTACK**

'Population imbalance shouldn't be allowed'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, July 11: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said population control programmes must not lead to an "imbalance" by focusing on "native" residents while the growth rate of some community remains high, a possible reference to Muslims.

He said "population stabilisation" should be uniform across different sections of people, and expressed concern over the likelihood of "anarchy" at some point if there are "imbalances" in a country.

The United Nations has declared July 11 as World Population Day and the CM was addressing an event here to mark the beginning of a "population control fortnight".

He said population control programmes must proceed successfully, "but a situation of population imbalance should also not happen".

"It should not happen that the speed of population growth or the percentage of some community is high and we stabilise the population of the 'moolniwasi' (natives)



through awareness or enforcement," he said. "This is a matter of concern for every country where there is a situation of population imbalance," he added. Such situation could have an adverse impact on religious demography and after some time "disorder" (avyavastha) and "anarchy" (arajakta) could begin in that country, he said. "Hence, when we talk about population stabilisation, it should be

It should not happen that the speed of population growth or the percentage of some community is high and we stabilise the population of the 'moolniwasi' (natives) through awareness or enforcement

YOGI ADITYANATH | UTTAR PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

uniform for everyone and above caste, religion, language or region," he said, stressing that there is a need to involve all people with awareness programmes.

The UP law commission had submitted a draft Uttar Pradesh Population (Control, Stabilization and Welfare) Bill, 2021 to the state's BJP government in the last few

months of Adityanath's previous term in office.

The proposed legislation incentivised families following a two-child norm, and some critics suggested that it targeted the state's Muslim community. The government, however, rejected the charge.

Adityanath said Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state in the country, could cross the 25-crore population mark in the coming years.

He said when the state tries to bring down maternal and child deaths due to anaemia at par with the national level, it faces the problem of these death rates being high "in a particular community."

Adityanath said population growth for a state or a country is a challenge if there aren't enough resources.

He called for inter-departmental coordination and a joint effort by ASHA and Anganwadi workers, village heads, teachers and the health department in increasing awareness.

Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak and Minister of State for Health Mayankeshwar Sharan Singh also attended the event.

AAP MP Chadha appointed chairman of advisory panel; 'de facto CM', says Oppn

AGENCIES

Chandigarh, July 11: The Punjab government Monday appointed Aam Aadmi Party MP Raghav Chadha as the chairman of a temporary advisory panel - a move that has evoked sharp reaction from the Opposition parties.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann cleared the file regarding Chadha's appointment as chairman of the advisory committee Monday, said a spokesperson of the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

Rajya Sabha member Chadha, who is a chartered accountant by profession, is expected to play an essential role in financial planning and making Punjab a debt-free state, said the spokesperson.

In a new role, Chadha will shoulder the responsibility of overseeing the conception and implementation of "pro-people" initiatives of the AAP government in Punjab and advise the government on matters related to finance.

Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring Monday slammed the Bhagwant Mann-led



Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann with party MP Raghav Chadha

government, accusing him of ceding too much power to Chadha through the committee. Warring said appointing Chadha as chairman of the advisory panel is tantamount to making him the CM of Punjab.

Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Partap Singh Bajwa criticised the state government for appointing Chadha as the chairman of the advisory committee. The Shiromani Akali Dal also

took a dig at the AAP-led government, saying the move put the "show manager Raghav Chadha formally on stage." "De facto CM Chadha taking over formally as Controller General is no news for Pbis. They always knew who pulls the strings in @BhagwantMann puppet dance. Now even the fig leaf of an elected govt is removed, striping (sic) naked the toothless tigers whom Pbis had placed their trust in," said the party in a tweet.

Punjab govt scraps textile park project near forest

The previous Amarinder Singh-led government had conceived the project in July 2020



AGENCIES

Chandigarh, July 11: The Punjab government Monday decided to scrap the proposed textile park project near the Mattewara forest area in Ludhiana.

Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said no industrial unit will be set up at the proposed site near the Mattewara forests for "saving the precious water resources and woods of the state."

"I will categorically like to announce that not only in Mattewara but the state government will not allow any industry to come up on the river banks of Punjab to avoid any sort of water pollution," said the chief minister.

The decision was taken by the chief minister following a meeting here with the members of PAC (Public Action Committee), an NGO which was spearheading a protest against the setting up of a mega integrated textile region and apparel park, citing environmental concerns given its proximity to Mattewara forest and Sutlej river.

Mann alleged that former CM Amarinder Singh gave nod to this project, envisaged by the Union government for setting up a textile park over 1,000 acres of land, without "even thinking about its pros and cons."

"The proposed project site is located near the Mattewara forests and on flood plains of river Sutlej. But the Captain (Amarinder Singh) government totally ignored the castigating effects which this project will have on the environment and ecology of the state," said Mann here.

I will categorically like to announce that not only in Mattewara but the state government will not allow any industry to come up on the river banks of Punjab to avoid any sort of water pollution

BHAGWANT MANN | CHIEF MINISTER, PUNJAB

He said that apart from cutting of trees, this project would have also led to "massive pollution in the river water thereby jeopardising the human life along with flora and fauna in the region."

Mann said his government after coming to power minutely studied the project and found that this will "disturb the ecological balance of the area."

He said, "Keeping in view the repercussions of this project on the environment and human life, the state government has decided that no industrial unit will be set up on this land. Rather, the Punjab government will preserve these 'green arteries' of the state by all means."

Mann said his government is ready to allot any new chunk of land for this proposed textile park with the condition that it does not pollute the waters of the state.

The previous Amarinder Singh-led government had conceived the project in July 2020. This project was mooted under the Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks (PM MITRA) scheme. The Centre has proposed to set up seven such parks in the country.

Class 12 student arrested for objectionable FB post on CM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kannauj, July 11: Police here arrested a Class 12 student for allegedly posting an objectionable photograph of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Facebook, the police said Monday.

The police action came after some people complained to the state DGP about the mat-

ter on Twitter. Talgram police station SHO Harishyam Singh said Murhiya village resident Ashish Yadav (18) was arrested Monday.

Officials said District Magistrate Rakesh Kumar Mishra and Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar Srivastava reached the Talgram police station and quizzed the student in a closed room.

Kheri court sends Zubair to 14-day judicial custody

The Lakhimpur Kheri police had served a warrant on the Alt News co-founder to appear in the court in connection with an FIR lodged against him for promoting enmity in 2021

AGENCIES

Lakhimpur Kheri, July 11: A court here sent Alt News Co-founder Mohammad Zubair to 14-day judicial custody in connection with a case lodged against him for allegedly promoting enmity.

Zubair was produced in the court of the Mohammadi additional chief judicial magistrate through video conferencing, Assistant Prosecuting Officer Avadhesh Yadav said.

The prosecution had sought police custody, a plea countered by the Zubair's counsel. The court sent him to 14-day judicial custody, Yadav said.

The next hearing on the plea for his police custody has now been fixed for July 13, he added.

The Lakhimpur Kheri police had served a warrant on Zubair to appear in the court in connection



with an FIR lodged against him for promoting enmity in 2021.

Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Arun Kumar Singh had told PTI Saturday, "The court of Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM) Mohammadi in Kheri district has issued the warrant against Mohd Zubair, which was served by Kheri police Friday."

Mohammadi police station in-charge Ambar Singh had told PTI that the case against Zubair was lodged November 25 by Ashish Katiyar, a reporter for a private news channel.

"In his complaint, Katiyar had accused Zubair of misleading people through his tweet about his channel," he said.

Meat sale likely to be banned on Kanwar Yatra routes in UP



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, July 11: The Uttar Pradesh government is planning to prohibit the sale of meat in the open along the routes fixed for Kanwar Yatra, which will take place after a gap of two years.

Elaborate arrangements are being made for Kanwar Yatra, which is set to begin from July 14 and will continue for a fortnight.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed officials to clear the roads taken by the Kanwar Yatri and to prohibit sale of meat in the open along them, besides making arrangements for lighting, sanitation and first-aid.

Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanshi Awasthi said, "All

efforts are being made to ensure that Kanwar Yatra is held in a safe and peaceful manner across the state while adhering to the directions given by the chief minister."

The local, district and police administration are reaching out to meat traders to ensure this, officials said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Bareilly, Satyarth Aniruddha Pankaj said, "We have reached out to the meat traders and asked them to ensure that no sale of meat takes place in the open. The traders have assured us of the same."

Superintendent of Police, Bijnor, Dinesh Singh said he has also made similar appeals to the meat traders who have assured that no sale of meat will take place along the route

taken by the Kanwariyas. 'Kanwariyas', devotees of Lord Shiva, travel to the banks of the river Ganga to fetch water which they carry to offer in temples at their homes or localities.

Senior officials said that the work to make arrangements for Kanwar Yatra is in full swing.

The officials are ironing out details, including arrangements for proper sanitation along the route, security arrangements and installation of CCTV cameras at important places.

Officials have also asked the business establishments and eateries along the routes to put up their menu with a rate list prominently to avoid any arguments with Kanwar Yatri over prices.

'PUNJAB TAKING CARE OF IT'

SC junks plea seeking CBI investigation into Moosewala murder

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: The Supreme Court Monday dismissed a plea by Punjab BJP leader Jagjit Singh seeking CBI probe into the cold-blooded murder of famous Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala.

A bench comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi and Abhay Oka said the case should not be given a political colour and Punjab is supposed to take care of it and they are taking care of the matter.

Advocate Namit Saxena, representing Singh, said his client wanted a CBI probe, but Punjab Police is taking appropriate steps. "So, we don't want a central agency probe any longer. We are not pressing it..." submitted Saxena.

"The bench emphasized that such matters should not be connected with politics. "This court has to work openly for all the people. But it should not be given any political colour," said the bench, while dismissing the plea. Saxena said, "Yes we are not pressing for it further. If they were not taking steps, I would have pressed for it."

During the brief hearing, the bench asked Saxena, "Who are you?" Saxena replied he is representing the petitioner, who is a BJP member.

The bench said, "My view is that politicians should not get into such matters, other arenas it is fine..."

The plea was filed through advocate on record, Namit Saxena and advocates Sarthak Chaturvedi and Shubham Jaiswal.

The plea submitted that there is a storm of fear and terror in Punjab, which warrants interference by the Supreme Court as fundamental rights of entire population of Punjab have been jeopardised at large.

Shubhdeep Singh Sidhu,

A bench comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi and Abhay Oka said the case should not be given a political colour and Punjab is supposed to take care of it and they are taking care of the matter

known by his stage name 'Sidhu Moosewala' was shot dead in broad daylight May 29 by unknown assailants.

The plea said he was a young artist of just 28 years of age, who became globally famous by performing a niche art of Punjabi rap. "The brutal murder of Sidhu Moosewala is a glaring example where the conscience of the community at large has been shocked and the people of Punjab are confident that no effective investigation will be done by the state, rather it will try to cover up its failure by removing the security cover and the incident deserves to be investigated by a central agency," said the plea.

The plea said on the next day of the murder, names of international gangsters such as Lawrence Bishnoi and Goldy Brar started coming into play when they took the responsibility of killing the deceased. "That also the present facts of the case involve not only inter-state but also international crime syndicates and it is expedient in the interests of justice if the investigation related to the present FIR is transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation," added the plea.




business

of the **quote**

Having passed all certification tests in this short time frame is an achievement by the whole team. We now look forward to ramping up our production and delivering our electric buses to our customers

SUDHIR MEHTA | FOUNDER-CHAIRMAN, EKA



We have signed a MoU with the Tamil Nadu government, where we have committed to invest ₹110 crore for setting up a R&D centre. We have plans to hire 150 people by next month for this new facility

SAMBIT SWAIN | HEAD OF SALES FOR ASIA, GX GROUP



Over the next 3-5 years, through the programme, we aim to support 50 internet-based SMEs to launch and generate product-market fit and a turnover of ₹one crore each thereby reaching a collective turnover of ₹50 crore

GEORGE PANAMAKUZHA | CEO AND DIRECTOR, METRIC TREE LABS



SHORT TAKES

PE investments into cos dip 17%

Mumbai: Private equity investments into domestic companies fell 17 per cent to \$6.72 billion on an annual basis in the June quarter, according to a report. During the same period, the number of Private Equity (PE) deals also declined 15 per cent to 344 compared to the year-ago period. In the year-ago period, the deal value stood at \$8.13 billion. The deal value declined by 25.1 per cent in the three months ended June compared to the 2022 March quarter when it stood at \$8.97 billion, deal tracker Refinitiv, a London Stock Exchange group entity, said Monday.

CIL's capex rises 65% in June qtr

New Delhi: Coal India Monday said its capital expenditure increased 64.8 per cent to ₹3,034 crore in June quarter 2022-23, driven by strong spend in acquiring land and strengthening transport infrastructure in its coalfields under first-mile connectivity projects. Coal India's capital expenditure was ₹1,841 crore in April-June period of last financial year. Land acquisition at ₹608 crore accounted for nearly one-fifth of the first quarter's total capex basket.

TCS mcaps dips by ₹55,471cr

New Delhi: Shares of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Monday fell nearly 5 per cent, wiping out ₹55,471.22 crore from its market valuation, after the company's June quarter earnings failed to meet market expectations. The stock declined 4.64 per cent to settle at ₹3,113.25 apiece on the BSE. Its market capitalisation (mcaps) tumbled ₹55,471.22 crore to ₹11,39,154.17 crore on the BSE.

Benz logs highest ever sales in Q2

New Delhi: Mercedes-Benz India Monday reported its highest ever second-quarter sales at 3,551 units, registering an over two-fold increase compared to the year-ago period. The company had sold 1,664 units in the April-June period of 2021. The highest ever Q2 sales were achieved on the back of new product launches, sustained demand for existing products and services, and a unique omnichannel customer journey created through the Retail of the Future initiative, Mercedes-Benz India said.

The changes in global market dynamics caused by the pandemic have created huge export opportunities for the sector. The industry is confident of crossing the export value of \$6 billion this year

SAIJAY LEEKHA | CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL FOR LEATHER EXPORTS



'ROBUST CRYPTO RULES IN OCTOBER'

The Financial Stability Board (FSB) said Monday it would propose 'robust' global rules for cryptocurrencies in October, following recent turmoil in markets that has highlighted the need to regulate the "speculative" sector. The FSB, a body of regulators, treasury officials and central bankers from the G20, has so far limited itself to monitoring the crypto sector, saying it did not pose a systemic risk



Norms to settle int'l trade in ₹ out

THE CENTRAL BANK SAID THE MEASURE IS TAKEN TO PROMOTE GROWTH OF GLOBAL TRADE WITH EMPHASIS ON EXPORTS FROM INDIA AND TO SUPPORT THE INCREASING INTEREST OF THE GLOBAL TRADING COMMUNITY IN THE INDIAN RUPEE

This move is a recognition of the Indian rupee as an international currency. We hope that the Government will clarify on benefits on such exports in Rupee, which is hitherto only granted for exports payments received in foreign currency

A SAKTHIVEL | PRESIDENT, FIEO



NEW SYSTEM

For settlement of trade transactions, the concerned banks will require Special Rupee Vostro Accounts of correspondent bank/s of the partner trading country

Exporters, undertaking overseas shipments of goods and services through this mechanism, will be paid the export proceeds in Indian rupees from the balances in the designated Special Vostro account

This mechanism may enable Indian exporters to receive advance payment against exports from overseas importers in rupees

the increasing interest of global trading community in INR, it has been decided to put in place an additional arrangement for invoicing, payment, and settlement of exports / imports in INR," it said. For settlement of trade transactions, the concerned banks will require Special Rupee Vostro Accounts of correspondent bank/s of the partner trading country.

"Indian importers undertaking imports through this mechanism shall make payment in INR which shall be credited into the Special Vostro account of the correspondent bank of the partner country, against the invoices for the supply of goods or services from the overseas seller /supplier," it said. Exporters, undertaking overseas shipments of goods and serv-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 11: The Reserve Bank Monday asked banks to put in place additional arrangements for export and import transactions in Indian rupees in view of increasing interest of the global trading community in the domestic currency. Before putting in place this mechanism, banks will require prior approval from the Foreign Exchange Department of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the central bank said in a circular.

"In order to promote growth of global trade with emphasis on exports from India and to support

Rupee's brutal fall persists; drops to record low of 79.45

Mumbai: The rupee depreciated by 19 paise to close at its fresh lifetime low of 79.45 against the US dollar Monday amid broad-based dollar demand and foreign capital outflows. However, receding crude oil prices in the international market restricted the loss for the rupee, which posted its third straight session of decline. At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened weak at 79.30 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 79.24 and a low of 79.50. It finally settled at 79.45, down 19 paise over its previous close of 79.26. The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, advanced 0.56 per cent to 107.60. On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 86.61 points or 0.16 per cent lower at 54,395.23, while the broader NSE Nifty declined 4.60 points or per cent to 0.03. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, fell 1.43 per cent to \$105.49 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers in the capital market Monday as they sold shares worth ₹170.51 crore, as per exchange data. Foreign investors have pulled out over ₹4,000 crore this month so far amid steady appreciation of the dollar and rising interest rates in the US.

Spot USD/INR is having its next stop at 79.90 before heading towards 80-plus, while on the lower side 78.85 remains good support

DILIP PARMAR | HDFC SECURITIES RESEARCH ANALYST

TECH CRACKDOWN

Alibaba, Tencent stocks plummet after latest fines

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong, July 11: Shares of Chinese technology firms Alibaba and Tencent fell sharply Monday, a day after Chinese regulators fined their subsidiaries for not disclosing transactions and failing to comply with anti-monopoly rules.

E-commerce giant Alibaba's shares in Hong Kong fell 6.8 percent, while gaming and social media company Tencent Holdings sank 3.2 per cent. The Hang Seng index declined 3 per cent.

On Sunday, China's State Administration for Market Regulation published a list of 28 deals that violated anti-monopoly rules. It included five of Alibaba's transactions and 12 of Tencent's. A wide-reaching crackdown on the technology sector has often hit stock prices in Hong Kong and Shanghai. For violations in each case, the maximum fine was 500,000 yuan (\$74,500).

A wide-reaching crackdown on the technology sector has often hit stock prices in Hong Kong and Shanghai, though signs the authorities might be easing up spurred gains in recent months.

June coal imports touch record high

New Delhi, July 11: India's coal imports hit a record high in June despite high global prices, data from three trade sources and Refinitiv ship tracking showed, as economic activity picked up and amid a domestic shortage of the fuel.

India imported over 25 million tonne of thermal coal and coking coal in June, rising by over a third compared with the same period last year, data from consultancies Coalmint and Kpler, and trader I-Energy Natural Resources showed.

Imports of thermal coal - used mainly in electricity generation - jumped to 19.6 million tonne, while shipments of coking coal - used in steelmaking - rose to about 5.4 million tonne, Coalmint and I-Energy data showed.

Coal accounts for nearly three-fourths of India's power output, and utilities account for over 75% of India's coal consumption.

The energy-hungry nation's annual power demand is growing at the fastest rate in at least 38 years and high global coal prices, amid the Russia-Ukraine crisis, are straining the finances of debt-laden government-run utilities.

Thermal coal imports jumped 40%, while imports of coking coal surged 23%, data from India-based trader I-Energy showed.

Coal shipments from top supplier Indonesia more than tripled to a record 14.5 million tonne, while imports of coal from Russia nearly doubled to 1.2 million tonne, Kpler data showed. The imports included thermal, coking, PCI coal and anthracite.

Indian coal imports are expected to increase in the coming months. State-run Coal India has placed orders to ship in at least 12 million tonne over the next twelve months to address shortfalls at utilities.

\$44BN DEAL WALKOUT

Musk-Twitter legal battle hits co shares

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New York, July 11: Shares of Twitter slid more than 7% in the first day of trading after billionaire Elon Musk said that he was abandoning his \$44 billion bid for the company and the social media platform vowed to challenge Musk in court to uphold the agreement.

Musk alleged Friday that Twitter has failed to provide enough information about the number of fake accounts it has. However, Twitter said last month that it was making available to Musk a "fire hose" of raw data on hundreds of millions of daily tweets when he raised the issue again after announcing that he would buy the social media platform.

He also mocked Twitter Inc's threat to sue him, tweeting the social media firm would need to disclose more information on bots and spam accounts

Twitter has said for years in regulatory filings that it believes about 5% of the accounts on the platform are fake but Monday Musk continued to taunt the company, using Twitter, over what he has described as a lack of data.

Musk agreed to a \$1 billion breakup fee as part of the buyout agreement, though it appears Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal and the company are settling in for a legal fight to force the sale.

"For Twitter this fiasco is a nightmare scenario and will result in an Everest-like uphill climb for Parag & Co to navigate the myriad challenges ahead around employee turnover/morale, advertising headwinds, investor credibility around the fake account/bot issues, and host of other issues abound," Wedbush analyst Dan Ives, who follows the company, wrote Monday.

The sell-off in Twitter shares pushed prices close to \$34 each, far from the \$54.20 that Musk agreed to pay for the company. That suggests, strongly, that Wall Street has serious doubts that the deal will go forward.

"With Musk officially walking away from the deal, we think business prospects and stock valuation are in a precarious situation," wrote CFRA Analyst Angelo Zino.



Oil cos may see ₹10,700cr loss in Q1

ICICI Securities said the companies are losing ₹12-14 per litre on petrol and diesel, completely offsetting the strong refining performance during the quarter

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum may post a combined loss of ₹10,700 crore in June quarter on selling petrol and diesel at rates below cost, a report said Monday.


While the raw material (crude oil) prices soared in April-June, petrol and diesel prices were not revised, leading to marketing losses which offset strong refining margins, ICICI Securities said in the report.



The 13th Cottonfab kick started in the first week of July. Ashish Kumar Dash and Sanvi Suryanshi Das, first and second winners of Week-1 respectively, receiving prize from the Cottonfab's secretary Javed Alam. The names of the lottery winners are being announced every Sunday at 7pm

Union Bank's Lewis Road branch gets Gold Loan Point, ATM lobby

Bhubaneswar: Union Bank of India's Field General Manager, Bhubaneswar Ramakanta Pradhan Monday inaugurated the renovated premises, Union Gold Loan Point and ATM lobby of the bank's Lewis Road branch here. On this occasion, Deputy General Manager (RH)-RO, Bhubaneswar Sovan Sengupta, Branch Manager Manoj Kumar Patra along with senior officials of Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, several managers of Bhubaneswar branches and valued customers of the branch were present.



Uber flouted laws, lobbied govts for global expansion

The leak spans a five-year period when Uber was run by its co-founder Travis Kalanick, who tried to introduce the cab-hailing service into cities around the world by brute force, even if that meant breaching laws and taxi regulations

London, July 11: A sensational leaked trove of confidential files has revealed the inside story of how the tech giant Uber flouted laws, duped police, exploited violence against drivers and secretly lobbied governments during its aggressive global expansion. The Guardian reported. The unprecedented leak to the

Guardian of more than 124,000 documents - known as the Uber files - lays bare the ethically questionable practices that fuelled the company's transformation into one of Silicon Valley's most famous exports.

During the fierce global backlash, the data shows how Uber tried to shore up support by discreetly court-prime ministers, presidents, billionaires, oligarchs and media barons. The Guardian reported. Leaked messages suggest Uber executives were at the same time under no illusions about the company's law-breaking, with one executive joking they had become "pirates" and another conceding "We're just... illegal," it reported.

The cache of files, which span 2013 to 2017, includes more than 83,000 emails, iMessages and WhatsApp messages, including often frank and unvarnished communications between Uber's co-founder Travis Kalanick and his top



team of executives.

In a statement, Kalanick's spokesperson said he "never suggested that Uber should take advantage of violence at the expense of driver safety" and any suggestion he was involved in such activity would be completely false, The Guardian reported.

The leak also contains texts between Kalanick and Emmanuel Macron, who secretly helped the

Replying to the probe Uber said, "We have not and will not make excuses for past behaviour that is clearly not in line with our present values. Instead, we ask the public to judge us by what we've done over the last five years and what we will do in the years to come"

for other elected officials who were who were less receptive to the company's business model.

After the German chancellor, Olaf Scholz, who was mayor of Hamburg at the time, pushed back against Uber lobbyists and insisted on paying drivers a minimum wage, an executive told colleagues he was "a real comedian".

When the then US vice-president, Joe Biden, a supporter of Uber at the time, was late to a meeting with the company at the World Economic Forum at Davos, Kalanick texted a colleague: "I've had my

people let him know that every minute late he is, is one less minute he will have with me", The Guardian reported.

The Guardian led a global investigation into the leaked Uber files, sharing the data with media organisations around the world via the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ).

"More than 180 journalists at 40 media outlets, including Le Monde, Washington Post and the BBC will in the coming days publish a series of investigative reports about the tech giant," said the report.

MEN IN BLUE LOOK TO CARRY T20I TEMPLATE INTO ODIs AS THEY TAKE ON ENGLAND IN THE FIRST MATCH TODAY

Change in approach for India!



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, July 11: India won't go ballistic from ball one but the batters are expected to carry their fearless approach from the shortest format to the ODIs when the three-match series against England begins here Tuesday.
India's high-risk play helped them win the series against England and considering that the ODIs have become an extension of the shortest format, skipper Rohit Sharma sees no reason why his team should back down from that approach.
England redefined the way ODI cricket was played and their dominant run culminated with the World Cup trophy back in 2019. It won't be an exaggeration to say that India's fresh outlook towards

the shorter formats is inspired by the English template.
The three games will be the only 50-over contests India will feature in before the T20 World Cup but Rohit asserted they still hold a lot of importance.
The team will have an optional training session at The Oval with a quick turnaround time between the T20 and ODI series.
For someone like Shikhar Dhawan, who only plays only one format and will be captaining the team in the West Indies, it will be a challenge to take on the England attack from the word go. However, the southpaw has found ways to stay consistent, whether he is playing ODIs for India or the IPL.
More than a billion people were waiting for Virat Kohli to hit form

in the T20s but that did not happen. Buying into the team's new approach, he had to go hard from ball one but the ODIs series will give him a lot more time to get back to his best. He showed glimpses of his rare brilliance Sunday and will be hoping to find a bagful of runs in the three games.
India's conscious effort to play aggressive will not come good always but the team management is ready to live with that. Rohit spoke about the biggest takeaways from the T20 series win.
"The biggest takeaway has been the approach of each and every individual who has played this series. How they've relished the moment in the middle, taking on the opportunity, the opposition, taking that extra risk.

THE SQUADS

INDIA: 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, Jasprit Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna, Mohd Shami, Mohd Siraj & Arshdeep Singh.

ENGLAND: Jos Buttler (C), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Curran, Liam Livingstone, Craig Overton, Matthew Parkinson, Joe Root, Jason Roy, Phil Salt, Ben Stokes, Reece Topley & David Willey.

"The mindset is something we're trying to change and that I guess is the biggest takeaway from all the players. They are willing to do that, they are willing to take that risk. And when I go and talk to certain individuals or players and I hear the same kind of response from them, that is the biggest takeaway."
"Obviously while doing that, results will go here and there. We're looking at the larger picture and to achieve that we'll make some mistakes," he said.
The ODI series will be Buttler's first since taking over as white-ball skipper from Eoin Morgan. After the T20 disappointment, the hosts will be eager to bounce back strongly. Buttler himself will be looking to make the big scores he is known for, having failed in the T20s.
England will be bolstered with the return of their star players Ben Stokes, Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow, the hero of Birmingham Test win of the hosts. While Root doesn't play T20s, Stokes and Bairstow were rested after the historic triumph in the rescheduled fifth Test.

World Cup dream ends for eves

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Terassa (Spain), July 11: The Indian women's hockey team was eliminated from the FIH World Cup title race after losing 0-1 to co-hosts Spain in a hard-fought crossover match here Monday.
After a fiercely-contested three quarters, the Indian defence let in a goal just three minutes from the final hooter when Marta Segu scored from a rebound to exit from the knockout rounds.
As has been the case so far in the tournament, India fared poorly once again in converting penalty corners. They earned four in the game against Spain's three but all the chances went in vain.
India's first penalty corner came in the eighth minute but the Spanish defence was up to the task to deny any inroads.
In the first quarter both the teams were a little hesitant in their play, committing some unforced errors which resulted in very few scoring chances. After that it was all about Spain as they explored

ways to get past the India back line. India captain Savita, in front of the goal, showed why she has such high reputation as she pulled off saves time and again to keep the deadlock intact.
Spain continued attack in the second quarter and in a moment of goalkeeping brilliance, Savita made three consecutive saves, first from a Xantal Gine's penalty corner strike, then a rebound from the same player and finally a rebound from Begona Garcia to keep her side afloat.
Seconds later, India secured their second PC but first Spain goalie Melanie Garcia saved Monika's shot and then Lucia Jimenez showed immense composure to keep out the rebound.
India soon created a great opportunity to take the lead when Salima Tete set it up for Vandana Kataraiya with a brilliant run along the baseline but the latter dinked over the cross bar while trying to chip it over. Garcia's reach as both the teams failed to break the stalemate at half time.

After the change of ends, India started on the front foot and Spain had to stay focused to keep their opponent's attacks at bay. The momentum shifted back and forth during the third quarter as both the teams were looking increasingly frantic, resulting in mistakes but the deadlock still remained.
The fourth and final quarter saw both the teams creating early opportunities. The deadlock finally broke just three minutes from the hooter through Segu who scored from a rebound from close range after Clara Ycart's initial shot was saved by Savita.
Leading by a goal, Spain didn't make the final minutes easy for themselves as they played with nine players with Garcia receiving a yellow card and then Segu receiving a green.
Despite enjoying the two player advantage, the Indians failed to capitalise on the opportunity, thereby crashing out of the medal rounds. India will next play Canada for the ninth to 16th place classification match here Tuesday.



Kiwis set record with 24 runs off last over to win

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malahide, July 11: Michael Bracewell smashed 24 runs in the last over, including a winning six off the penultimate delivery, as New Zealand beat Ireland by one wicket with one ball to spare in the series-opening ODI. New Zealand finished on 305/9 in 49.5 overs at Malahide in reply to Ireland's 300/9.
The Black Caps seemed well out of the contest at 120/5 in the 22nd over when opener Martin Guptill was bowled for 51, but Bracewell took charge and blazed an unbeaten 127 off 82 balls, with the last of his seven sixes finishing the tense contest in style.
The New Zealanders set a record by successfully chasing 20 off the 50th over. That surpassed the previous 50th-over best in an ODI chase by England against Australia in 1987.
Bracewell sent Craig Young's first two deliveries for four, launched a six over mid-wicket and then found the legside boundary again before securing win with a six over long on.

Taniya, Sneha in; Richa on standby for CWG



TANIYA BHATIA



SNEH RANA



RICHA GHOSH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

has been put in the standby list.
The most notable player to make a comeback to the national fold is all-rounder Sneha Rana, who didn't play in the Sri Lanka series owing to an injury which kept her at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) for rehabilitation.
The Harmanpreet kaur-led team will have converted keeper Yastika

THE SQUAD

Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana (vc), Shafali Verma, S Meghana, Taniya Bhatia (Wk), Yastika Bhatia (wk), Deepti Sharma, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Pooja Vastrakar, Meghna Singh, Renuka Thakur, Jemimah Rodrigues, Radha Yadav, Harleen Deol & Sneh Rana;
STANDBY: Simran Dil Bahadur, Richa Ghosh & Poonam Yadav.

in the reserves list as she has fallen off the radar in recent times.
Veteran leg-spinner Poonam Yadav, who is no longer a certainty in the squad, is also in the standby list along with seamer Simran Dil Bahadur. The three pacers in the list are Meghna Singh, Renuka Thakur and Pooja Vastrakar.
India is in Group A with Australia, Barbados, and Pakistan. Sri Lanka, England, New Zealand, and South Africa are placed in Group B. They will play Australia July 29, followed by match against Pakistan July 31 and Barbados (August 3). The top two teams from the respective pools will progress to the semifinals.

Injured Kohli likely to miss first ODI against England

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Out-of-form batter Virat Kohli is likely to miss the first ODI against England at the Oval Tuesday after sustaining a groin strain during the third T20I.
The extent of Kohli's niggles is still not known, but the Indian team management wouldn't mind giving the 33-year-old veteran a break so that he is available for the next two games at Lord's (July 14) and Manchester (July 17).
"Virat has a groin strain during last game. It can't be confirmed whether it happened during fielding or while batting. He will probably miss first ODI tomorrow at Oval as the groin needs rest," a BCCI source told this agency on condition of anonymity.
It has been learnt that Kohli didn't travel from Nottingham to London in the team bus and the reason could be a stopover to get a medical check-up done to assess his condition. Monday, only the players selected for the ODIs - Shikhar Dhawan, Shardul Thakur and Prasidh Krishna - had an op-

tional net session at the Oval ground in London.
This could also be the reason for the postponement of the Indian team selection for the five-match T20I series in the West Indies and the USA. The team will be announced Tuesday.
Kohli's place in the T20 side is being questioned repeatedly by the experts including former greats like Kapil Dev and Virender Sehwag although skipper Rohit Sharma has firmly backed his long-time colleague.
According to people privy to the developments in the India camp, Kohli has asked for rest from the entire West Indies series. In the event he is not part of the squad, whether that will be termed 'rest' or 'dropped' will be a matter of conjecture.
Charter Flight to Caribbean
The BCCI has decided to fly the Indian squad to the West Indies by a special charter flight from Manchester to Port of Spain due to the COVID-19 threat. "The Indian team will be taking a charter flight to the Caribbean," the source informed.

Arjun shoots gold at World Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Changwon, July 11: Young Indian shooter Arjun Babuta stunned Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Lucas Kozeniesky to win the men's 10m air rifle event and open the country's account in the ongoing ISSF World Cup here Monday.
In the gold medal clash, Arjun humbled USA's Kozeniesky 17-9 in a rather one-sided contest. This is Arjun's maiden gold for the senior side. He had bagged the yellow metal at the 2016 Junior World Cup in Gabala, Azerbaijan.
The 23-year-old from Punjab, who has been representing India since 2016, had earlier topped the ranking round with a scintillating 261.1 points to qualify for the gold medal clash.
Kozeniesky shot 260.4 to join him even as qualification leader Sergey Richter of Israel settled for bronze with a score of 259.9.
The other Indian in the fray, Parth Makhija, who also qualified for the ranking event in fifth place following an impressive show on Sunday, finished fourth with a score of 258.1. There was no stopping Arjun in the final as he raced to a 10-4 lead after the first seven single-shot series.
The winner of each series gets two points while the points are split in case of a tie and the first to



16 wins the match. The American did not give up till the end but Arjun pulled out those big high 10s when it mattered most and finished clinically for a convincing score-line to help India open their account with the brightest medal possible.

This was also foreign rifle coach Thomas Farnik's maiden medal in his very first international assignment. The Austrian had been appointed to the job just ahead of the Changwon World Cup.

SL record innings victory over Aussies

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Galle, July 11: Left-arm spinner Prabath Jayasuriya picked up the fourth-best figures in the history of Test match cricket by a debutant to back up Dinesh Chandimal's first double hundred as Sri Lanka beat Australia by an innings and 39 runs Monday.
Australia lost nine wickets in a dramatic last session to lose the game with a day to spare. It was Sri Lanka's first win by an innings against Australia since they first met in 1983.
Australia had conceded a first-innings lead of 190 and their openers did well to add 49 runs for the first wicket before Ramesh Mendis made the breakthrough by dismissing David Warner (24). Jayasuriya then ran through the middle order.
A late replacement after the Sri Lankan camp was hit by several cases of COVID-19, Jayasuriya bowled with impeccable control pitching to perfect lengths to hamper the Australian batsmen.
It was a remarkable turnaround for Sri Lanka, who were routed by 10 wickets in the first Test and then lost four players due to COVID-19. They brought in three debutants: Jayasuriya was man of the match claiming 12/177, Maheesh Theekshana had three wickets,



and Kamindu Mendis hit a half century.
Former captain Chandimal put Sri Lanka in a winning position with a stunning counterattack to post his career-best score. Chandimal resumed the day on 118 and finished unbeaten on 206 (326b, 16x4, 5x6) to become the first Sri Lankan to post a double hun-

dred against Australia.
When Sri Lanka's ninth wicket fell, Chandimal was on 159 and it didn't look like he would get to a double hundred but then he took the opposition by surprise by striking the ball cleanly and sending it out of the ground on three occasions.
Sri Lanka's total of 554 all out is their highest against Australia, improving on the 541/8 declared in Colombo in 1992.
Chandimal was involved in several partnerships that turned the game in Sri Lanka's favor. The hosts' lead was only 67 when the day began but the lower order ensured that the team batted only once on a wicket that was providing lot of assistance for spin bowlers.
The seventh wicket stand between Chandimal and Ramesh Mendis was worth 68 runs while the last wicket partnership between Chandimal and Kasun Rajitha produced 49 runs for which the last man made no contribution and he was dismissed without scoring. Chandimal smashed 48 runs off just 18 balls during that partnership and Australia simply had no answers.
Brief scores: Australia 364 & 151 (Marnus Labuschagne 32; Prabath Jayasuriya 6/59) lost to Sri Lanka 554 (Dinesh Chandimal 206 n o; Mitchell Stac 4/89, Mitchell Swepson 3/103) by an innings and 39 runs.