

IMAGE MAKEOVER

Actor Janhvi Kapoor says she hopes to convince the audience to look beyond her innocent look

LEISURE



EMERGENCY IN SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka's acting President Ranil Wickremesinghe declares a nationwide state of emergency with effect from Monday

INTERNATIONAL P10



BATRA RESIGNS

Veteran sports administrator Narinder Batra steps down as FIH president, gives up IOC membership

SPORTS P12

12 PAGES | ₹5.00

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 109 | www.orissapost.com

BHUBANESWAR | TUESDAY, JULY 19 | 2022

BJB GIRL'S SUICIDE BANDH TODAY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 18: The student wing of the Naba Nirman Krushak Sangathan (NNKS) has called for Odisha bandh July 19 demanding proper probe into the death of Ruchika Mohanty, who was a student of BJB Autonomous College here.

Vehicular traffic is likely to get disrupted due to the protest. Plying of trains may also be affected. The organisation has urged businessmen to down their shutters as part of the protest. NNKS convener Akshaya Kumar said, "Naba Nirman Krushak Sangathan has called upon political outfits and every responsible citizen of the state to come forward and raise voice against the state government's failure to give justice to the victim.

Meanwhile, Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) has also supported the bandh call by the farmers' outfit.

The farmer leader alleged that the police are yet to get any clue even after 11 days of the girl's suicide.

"The cops have ruled out rag ging as the reason for the girl's suicide though she had mentioned it in her suicide note. While the deceased's mother was sitting on peaceful dharna, police personnel forcibly picked her up. The hostel warden and the superintendent should resign on moral grounds, said the NNKS convener. On the other hand, Mohanty's mother has

PARCHED



Low water levels are seen at Scammonden Reservoir in West Yorkshire as reservoir levels dip dangerously low amid record high temperatures in the UK. The UK's first ever red warning for exceptional heat came into force Sunday midnight, with temperatures expected to climb up to 41°C over the next two days, breaking the country's heat records

Traders plan nationwide protest against GST hike

New Delhi, July 18: Traders and shopkeepers will hold a nationwide protest next week against a hike in taxes on a range of products and services, including food grains and household items, that went into effect Monday, a top official of a leading traders' group said.

"The 5 per cent tax on a range of food prod-**Oppn Monday** ucts - which remained attacked the tax free so far - and hike Centre over in rates on other household items has inimposing GST on creased the inflation packaged food burden on the public items, saying it and traders," said Pravin Khandelwal, was Modi's "masterstroke" president of the Confederation of All of making India India Traders, which miserable represents more than 10 million small shopkeepers and wholesalers.

He said the group's members would launch a nationwide series of protest meetings July 26, starting in Bhopal, a stronghold of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party.

Small traders and shopkeepers are a key constituency for Modi, who introduced the Goods and

SENSEX **54521.15** 👚 760.37

₹50.350

₹56,065

9.7mm 9.7mm cloudy sky

16278.50 1 229.30

VARIATION

1 ₹0.09

↑ ₹243

1 ₹478

₹0.89

MARKET WATCH

DOLLAR **79.97**

EURO

GOLD

SILVER

WEATHER

INDEX

Services Tax (GST) system in 2017 to replace about 20 federal and state taxes and to help unify Asia's third-largest economy.

A tax increase was approved last month to 18% from 12% for certain goods and services, including kitchenware.

A finance ministry statement Monday said the tax measures

would include extending a 5 per cent tax already imposed on branded food items such as rice, wheat, flour, pulses and dairy products to unbranded items sold in packages of up to 25 kilograms or 25 litres.

Analysts have said that higher taxes would put an additional burden on households that already face surging food and energy prices.

India's consumer price inflation hit an eight-year high of 7.79% in April and remainded above 7% in May and June.

While traders have said Modi's GST was an improvement over the previous complicated tax regime, they have also raised objections to some elements, such as the com-

Moquim votes for Murmu

Immediately after exercising his franchise in the House, the Cuttack-Barabati MLA said he followed his conscience

PNN & AGENCIES

MLA Mohammed Moquim created a flutter in political circles Monday by announcing that he has voted in favour of NDA presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu as she happened to be a "daughter of Odisha". Immediately after exercising his franchise in the Assembly, the legislator from Cuttack-Barabati Assembly segment said he went by his "conscience call"

daughter of Odisha. I went by my conscience. MLAs cannot be prevented from listening to their conscience," Moquim stated. The Congress lawmaker also said that he had received phone

"I am an Odia; I voted in favour

of Droupadi Murmu as she is a

calls from several eminent persons, including those staying abroad, requesting him to support the "daughter of the soil"

"People of Odisha will support my move. Murmu's victory will make me proud," Moquim explained. Asked if he was under pressure from the ruling BJD, which has also pledged its support



RACE FOR RAISINA to Murmu, Moquim said, "It is my

personal decision... There is no other reason.' Meanwhile, Congress Legislature

Party leader Narasingha Mishra said all MLAs of the grand old party, including Moquim, had agreed to vote for joint Opposition nominee Yashwant Sinha. Condemning Moquim's "change of stance" Congress MLAs SS Saluja and Taraprasad Bahinipati said the Cuttack-Barabati MLA must have been unhappy in the party.

"Everyone should have toed the party line. Many meetings were held and all MLAs of the party had given assurance that they would vote for Yashwant Sinha. We will



I am an Odia; I voted in favour of Droupadi Murmu as she is a daughter of Odisha. I went by my conscience. MLAs cannot be prevented from listening to their conscience. People of Odisha will support my move. Murmu's victory will make me proud

MOHAMMED MOQUIM | CONG MLA

bring the matter to the notice of party high command for necessary action," Saluja maintained.

OPCC president Sarat Pattnayak, too, said that he would apprise the party high command of this latest development. "I cannot say for sure what exactly prompted him to go against the party line," he added.

13 killed in MP as bus plunges into Narmada

Bhopal/Mumbai, July 18: At least 13 passengers were killed after their bus heading towards Maharashtra fell into the Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh's Dhar district Monday, officials said.

The deceased included four women and a child, they said. Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra said 15 people were rescued. The bus, belonging to the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC), was believed to be carrying 30 to 32 people, another official said.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde expressed grief over the loss of lives in the accident and directed the MSRTC to take immediate action to pay ₹10 lakh to the relatives of each of the deceased passengers. The MSRTC later announced a compensation of ₹10 lakh to the relatives of each of the deceased and to bear the entire cost of treatment cost of the injured persons.

According to MSRTC officials, the bus left from MP's Indore city around 7.30am and was heading to Amalner in Maharashtra's Jalgaon district, located about 260 km from Dhar. It crashed into the railing of a bridge between Khalghat and Thigari around 10am to 10.15am and then plunged into



"Thirteen bodies have been re-trieved," Indore Zone Inspector PTI," adding the rescue operation was on. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) also rushed to the spot, another official said.

The MSRTC in a release said so far 13 bodies, including of the bus driver and conductor, have been retrieved from the river and eight of them have been identified.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Girls asked to remove innerwear at NEET centre

Washing its hands off the incident, the institution blamed the agency which was entrusted with the conduct of the exam for what happened

AGENCIES

Thiruvananthapuram, July 18: Parents were up in arms after girl students, appearing for the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) at an examination centre near here Sunday, were asked to remove their innerwear.

According to the father of one such 17-year-old girl, who was sitting for her first ever NEET exam, his daughter is yet to come out of the traumatic experience wherein she had to sit for the over 3-hour long exam without a brassiere.

An angry parent, whose daughter had to undergo this ordeal at the centre in Ayoor, 60 km from



Thiruvananthapuram, said Monday what happened is totally unacceptable and he had no other option but to give a complaint.

'We dropped her around 12 noon

at the examination centre and later we were asked to give a shawl by the exam officials. It was only after she came out after the examination did we realise what had happened. It seems there was a metal object in her innerwear and it was found out during the screening. She and many other students were asked to remove such innerwear and then only they were allowed to take the examination. Even the college where the examination took place said they had no role, as these things were done by an agency that was entrusted for the conduct of the examination," he said.

All those candidates who had to undergo such a humiliation were under tremendous duress and they were unable to perform well because of this insensitive behaviour of the centre officials, Contd...P4 the parent added.

CONTD...P4

CROSS-VOTES GALORE

New Delhi: Several legislators in

voted in favour of NDA nominee

Droupadi Murmu by not following

their party line in the Presidential

election. Among them are NCP leg-

islators in Jharkhand and Gujarat

and Congress MLAs in Haryana and

Odisha who said they followed the

voice of their conscience. An Akali

MLA in Punjab boycotted the

state. In Assam, IUDF MLA

Presidential election citing non-

redressal of issues relating to the

Karimuddin Barbhuiyan claimed

In Uttar Pradesh, Shivpal Singh

that around 20 Congress MLAs from

the state voted for Murmu Monday.

Yadav also claimed that he would

never support Yashwant Sinha, as

he had once accused his brother

and Samajwadi Party patriarch

Mulayam Singh Yadav of being an

ISI agent. Haryana Congress MLA

Kuldeep Bishnoi, who cross-voted

in last month's Rajya Sabha polls,

said he has voted according to his

conscience in the Presidential

states Monday said they have cross-

No precipitative steps against Zubair, says SC

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court Monday directed that no precipitative steps be taken against Alt News co-founder Mohd

Zubair in connection with five FIRs lodged against him in Uttar Pradesh for allegedly outraging religious feelings. The apex court observed that it seems to be a "vicious cycle" where the moment Zubair gets bail in one case, there is another FIR against him. A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and AS Bopanna said it would hear July 20 the plea filed by Zubair, who is seeking quashing of these FIRs.

Kerala logs second case of monkeypox



NEW DELHI: A 31-year-old man from Kannur in Kerala tested positive for monkeypox Monday, making it the second confirmed case of the disease in India, a Union health ministry official said. The patient had landed at the Mangalore airport in coastal Karnataka from Dubai July 13. He was admitted to a hospital after he exhibited

symptoms of the disease. His samples were sent to the National Institute of Virology, Pune, and they tested positive, the official said.



leisure



JLO, AFFLECK GET WEDDED; SHE ADDS HIS SURNAME

Hollywood stars Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck have finally tied the knot in Las Vegas. "We did it!" Lopez wrote in her newsletter On the JLo, alongside a blackand-white photograph of her holding a bouquet and Affleck kissing her cheek. Significantly, Lopez took Affleck as her legal last name.

EMILIA ON SURVIVING TWO BRAIN SURGERIES

Game of Thrones star Emilia Clarke says it's nothing short of a miracle she is able to speak articulately after quite a bit of her brain was removed following two emergency surgeries to treat aneurysms. The British actor recalled her experience during an interview with the BBC's Sunday Morning.





GaneshaSpeaks,co™ accuracy • reliability • trust

Carry the peace sign if you have to, because today, people will literally pull you into arguments. You could even be facing some kind of litigation or trouble with peace-keeping forces, warns Ganesha. pany of friends and loved ones.

TAURUS

You need to be very and practical and realistic in all that you do today, urges Ganesha. You are known to be pretty emotional and sensitive and generally go by your feelings. Your mind, your reason do not normally feature in you decision making. Even minor problems, complica tions get you worked up.

GEMINI

If you are into retail business, planetary positions indicate today is a day for bumper sales. You will set records in making profits. After work, you may want to take your beloved out shopping. Though it may burn a hole in your pocket, the returns you get once you reach home

CANCER

Ganesha advises you to watch your back today. However, he wants to make it clear that you may be at the receiving end of others' actions. Anyway, your cautious and watchful approach will save you from needless discomfiture.

The bourgeoisie feasted on cake, while the masses starved for want of a mere loaf of bread. Ganesha foresees something similar for you today, as you show the propensity to indulge in unwanted expenses. Whether it is impulsive decisions or compulsive buying, they shall not serve as an excuse on a later date when the milk is already spilt.

VIRGO

You will be cool as a cucumber today. Nothing that happens will unsettle that composure, says Ganesha. Your loved ones will stand tall and strong behind you. and inspire you to overcome obstacles. Your work will reflect dedication, says Ganesha. Go ahead and ask for work that is intellectually taxing.

Sit back and think hard think about what is it that vou really want when it comes to your business enterprises, because there are many ways to go about things at work, and they all shall lead your somewhere different. The stars favour you today with a golden touch, so take it in your stride and make hav while

SCORPIO

While not the Trot, you shall, however, trot on the lines of radicalism today, predicts Ganesha, Learn to think as you would, and always have, but act as others would have you to, advises Ganesha. Be the maverick that you are only with those who are closest and dearest, cautions Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

Your friend base is slated to multiply today. At work, additional responsibilities will be thrust upon you, and you will also be given charge of new resources. Ganesha predicts you taking up the chalspheres today.

CAPRICORN

Overcome with feelings. you may take decisions that may stand in the way of success. Don't let your sentiments ruin your future prospects because the damage done will be beyond repair, warns Ganesha. Today, there are also chances that your down-to-earth nature and amiable approach will win the hearts of many

AQUARIUS You will come out top in

whatever you choose to do, and success will smell honeysuckle sweet! Naturally, recognition and rewards await you. Take your friends to that trendy café; you needn't wait for a reason to party, says Ganesha.

PISCES

Major expenses are coming your way, but the good news is a lot of them can be avoid ed simply by drawing a line between your needs and your wants. Exercising a little restraint now will go a long way in boosting

your savings later on, says Ganesha.

'I'm more than an innocent woman'

she hopes she is able to convince the audience to look beyond her 'bholi' and 'bechari' image through the upcoming crime comedy Good Luck The 25-year-old, who made her

Mumbai: Actor Janhvi Kapoor says

debut with the 2018 romantic drama Dhadak, has starred in films such as Roohi, Gunjan Saxena The Kargil Girl and the Netflix anthology Ghost Stories. "People have kind of mentally put me in this box of 'bholi

si hai', 'shaant' and 'bechari' (innocent, quiet, helpless). Maybe it's the energy I give out. I want to show that I am more than an innocent woman,' Kapoor said. In Good Luck *Jerry*, she plays

Jaya Kumari alias Jerry, an immigrant from Bihar who becomes a drug dealer in Punjab to foot the medical bills for her mother who is diagnosed with stage 2 can-The film, di-

rected Siddharth Sengupta, came to Kapoor at the time when she was craving to do a comedy movie.

Mrunal to headline Balki's film in anthology

Mumbai: Ronnie Screwvala, Ashi Dua and Netflix's *Lust Stories 2* is in the works, and the makers have already reached out to R Balki, Konkona Sen Sharma, and Amit Ravindernath Sharma to direct the second part. Now, it is learnt that Balki has signed Mrunal Thakur to headline his portion of the anthol-

"All the formalities have been locked. It's a very unique script, and Mrunal and Balki are excited to collaborate on this one. Meanwhile, they are currently working on finalising the shooting schedule of the

soon," informs a source close to the development. Lust Stories was the second in the anthology series that began with Bombay Talkies in 2013, followed by *Lust Stories* **LUST STORIES 2** five years later, and then Ghost Stories that was unveiled in 2020. The 2018 movie was a compilation of four short segments revolving around the theme of 'lust'.

film. An official announcement should be made

The first part of Lust Stories was nominated in two categories at the 47th International Emmy Awards, and had featured Kiara Advani, Vicky Kaushal, Radhika Apte, Akash Thosar, Bhumi Pednekar. Neil Bhoopalam, Manisha Koirala,

Sanjay Kapoor, among many others in

Deependra Samal, director duo- Debi

Babushaan's 'Bol Bam' act to promote Daman



Actor Babushaan (L) on his way to Bindu Sagar

Bhubaneswar: Top

Odia film actor

Babushaan and the unit

members of his up-

coming movie Daman

were seen on a 'Bol

Bam Yatra' here at Old

Town, to promote the

The crew members in-

producer

Prasad Lenka and

Bobby

Pintu

Vishal Mourya,

film, Monday.

cluding

Sagar lake and performed the rit-Earlier, they walked down the streets barefoot to offer puja at Lingaraj Temple.

Nanda and the members of his fan

club accompanied him to Bindu

Babushaan will be seen essaying the role of a doctor in Daman, working in the Maoist-hit Malkangiri district of Odisha.

"The movie is based on a true story. The first important thing about this project, which attracted me, is that it is about helping others. I could connect myself with the emotions involved in the story,' Babushaan said. The movie is slated to release

in the theatres in Odisha September 30.

Babushaan will be travelling with the team members of Daman to promote it across India among the non-resident Odias starting with Chennai July 24. A special screening of the trailer has been arranged for the members of Utkal Association of Madras, reveals a source in Signature 24 Productions which looks after the promotion.

10TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF RAJESH KHANNA

'He had the DNA of a Superstar off-screen as well'

Khanna did 'Anand' for free when Hrishikesh Mukherjee told him he can't afford his fee

Mumbai: Not many people know that late Superstar Rajesh Khanna didn't take a penny to act in Hrishikesh Muukherjee's super hit movie Anand.

Khanna's close friend Bhupesh

Raseen, who makes it a point to comes to his Carter Road bungalow Aashirwad on his death and birth anniversaries, shared an anecdote with a portal over his large-heartedness.

Raseen rewinded, "It all began when Gulzar saab visited Khanna at his Linking Road office. While Khanna was escorting him out till the lift. Gulzar mentioned to Khanna that he should meet Hrishikesh Mukherjee who has a great subject for him- it's the story of a man who embraces and celebrates life when he knows that he's not going to live long.'

And then? "Well, Khanna told

his meeting with Hrishida, for the very next day. Gulzar came to pick up Khanna a little before 10 am and the two hopped across to Hrishida's office which was nearby.

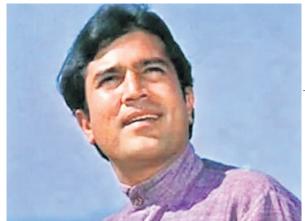
Continued Raseen, "When Hrishida met Khanna, he told him that he cannot afford his fee but has a marvellous story if he is interested. Khanna immediately turned around and said that he would not charge a penny. Hrishida said that there should be some compensation. Khanna said that he could then give him the releasing rights of the film in Mumbai. They instantly shook hands, and the

Raseen carried on: "He had no

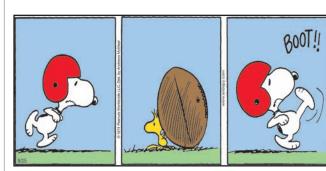
dates for two years, but when he saw Hrishida wanted to start it immediately, he told Hrishida that he would come every day and shoot for 60-75 minutes during the lunch hour. And that's exactly what he did until the film's shooting culminated. The rest of the actors too would largely shoot their scenes with Khanna during the lunch hour."

Raseen concludes, "My friend was Dhruv Tara. He had the DNA of a superstar not just off-screen but onscreen as well.

CROSSWORD



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



FUN

Copyright ©2022 PuzzleJunction.com

Across

- Mournful
- 5 Cowboy's rope
- 8 Domain
- 9 Grownup 10 Move very
- slightly 11 Zero
- 12 Sufferer
- 14 Load
- 17 A brisk and

lively tempo

Down

- 1 Nerd
- 2 Shocking 3 Antsy

19 A silly and inept

person

explorer

25 Horse opera

22 Up to

23 Spanish

24 Ceased

18 Frigid

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

- 20 Slack 21 Ache

4 Bemoan

degree

6 Analyzed

12 Amount

15 Higher

7 Eight-sided

13 Associated

position

16 Russian capital

5 To the lowest

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.

				3		2		
3				7		5		6
7		9			2	1		
		8		1	5	6		
					3	_		
			7	9				
	5			2			4	
		6						
1	2				8			7

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

9 8 9 4 1 8 6 3 2 6 8 5 1 9 3 4 7

SUDOKU



downtown



MATTER OF FAITH

Devotees queue up to offer water to Lord Lingaraj in Bhubaneswar, Monday

2000	COV	/ID-19 '	TRACK	ER
		INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
	World	56,79,54,752	53,90,87,725	63,88,035
	India	4,37,67,534	4,30,97,510	5,25,760
	Odisha	12,99,928	12,85,374	9,129
		: 	: 	:



Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar (2nd from L) inaugurates POCSO courts in Balasore, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Jajpur, Koraput, Kendrapara and Keonjhar on virtual mode at Cuttack, Monday

13 projects worth ₹50 crore sanctioned for Kotia: Mallik

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 18: The state government has sanctioned 13 projects worth Rs 50.15 crore for the development of disputed Kotia gram panchayat in Koraput district, Revenue Minister Pramila Mallik told the Assembly here Monday.

On July 15, several members of opposition BJP and the treasury bench had expressed concern over the interference of Andhra Pradesh in Kotia gram panchayat and urged the Speaker to direct the government to make a statement in the House on the situation. As per the direction, Mallik made a statement in the House, Monday, it was learnt.

On the direction of the Chief Development Commissioner PK Jena July 16 held a meeting and took up 13 projects

worth Rs 50.15 crore for the development of Kotia gram panchayat. The district administration has been asked to execute the projects with immediate

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had announced a special package of over Rs 100 crore for the development of Kotia panchayat. Mallik said the CM has always

given importance for the all round development of the panchayat. Developmental works like construction of roads, electrification and creation of livelihood are on with the assistance provided by the state government, she said.

The Revenue Minister further said that the police station, health



Adarsha Vidyalaya have been made functional in Kotia.

'This year, 2022-23, Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya has enrolled 54 students in Kotia and free bus services have been launched to facilitate their transportation,"

The Minister said the Chief Secretary, the Additional Chief Secretary and senior officials of the Revenue and Disaster Management department have visited Kotia and assessed the situation.

The district-level officers, the minister said, are also regularly visiting and reviewing the implementation of various projects and

20 get life term for murder in Kanas

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, July 18: A local court here Monday awarded life imprisonment to 20 people after holding them guilty of killing a man over a trivial issue in Kanas block under the district here in 2012.

According to the case details, the convicts had killed Manas Kumar Baliarsingh over the ownership of a tree at Balajitpur under Kanas block September 12, 2012.

"Manas and the convicts were at loggerheads over the ownership of a tree on a piece of government land on the outskirts of the village. On the fateful day, Manas had gone to attend a nature's call when the culprits attacked him, killing the victim on the spot. Manas' wife, father and a few others sustained critical injuries while attempting to save him," said an official, adding that a case was registered on the basis of a complaint



Ruckus in House over

protest continued. Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha was forced to adjourn the House twice, first for 10 minutes and again till 4pm

to write to the Centre to withdraw its Otherwise, let

cost on the items like puffed

levying of GST on puffed rice of GST Council and Odisha, a

decision on this

single state, cannot take any

Minister on the issue.

Similarly, BJD member Amar

Prasad Satpathy also expressed concern over the issue and demanded the state Finance Minister make a statement clarifying whether the GST Council has taken permission from the state government before levying of GST on puffed rice and flattened rice.

The Congress members said in Odisha, puffed rice, flattened rice, parched rice, curd, milk and jaggery is consumed by the poor and also offered as prasad in temples. If tax is imposed on these items, poor people will be affected and the baby

The Speaker appealed to the members to return to their seats and cooperate for smooth conduct of the business of the House.

The agitating Congress members, who were in no mood to listen to the Speaker's appeal, continued shouting slogans forcing the Speaker to adjourn the proceedings till post-lunch session.

Notably, several food items like puffed rice, flattened rice, parched rice, rice, wheat, curd, lassi, jaggery and milk attracted 5 per cent GST from Monday after the GST Council meeting decided to lift the tax exemption on some packaged and la-

GOLD AUCTION

Prez poll: 146 of 147 MLAs cast votes

Bhubaneswar, July 18: As many as 146 MLAs of the 147 members of the Odisha Assembly cast their votes to elect the country's 15th President, Monday

Enthusiastic lawmakers of the ruling BJD and the opposition BJP queued up as the NDA candidate Draupadi Murmu is a 'daughter of Odisha'. BJP member Mukesh Mahaling was the first Odisha legislator to cast his vote when polling commenced at 10am.

It is for the first time that a person from the state is in the fray for the election to the country's topmost constitutional

It is also probably for the first time in the history of Presidential election in the state that both the ruling party Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are supporting the same candidate. Congress has announced to support Opposition candidate Yashwant Sinha in the Presidential poll.

While the ruling BJD has 112 MLAs, the BJP has 22, Congress nine and CPI(M) and Independent one each. Two members of the BJD have been expelled.

All the 31 MPs from Odisha—21 Lok Sabha and 10 Raiva Sabha members—cast their votes in the Parliament. Of the 21 Lok Sabha members, 12 are from the BJD, eight from BJP and one from the Congress. The BJD has nine members in



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik casts his vote

the Rajya Sabha while the BJP has one. The Leader of the Opposition Pradipta Kumar Naik, a BJP lawmaker from Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district. cast his vote in Delhi as he is under treatment there for post Covid-19 aliments.

BJD's expelled MLA Prashant Jagdev, who is in jail for his alleged involvement in a criminal case, did not turn up to cast his vote at the Assembly premises.

As the system of secret ballot is followed in the Presidential election, parties cannot issue whips to their MLAs for voting. The value of votes for each MLA in Odisha is 149. The value of a vote by an MP is 700 as it is across the country

Patnaik, who is also the BJD president, had appealed to all the members of the Odisha assembly to cast their votes in support of Murmu, who hails from Mayurbhanj district in the state.

BJP gears up to celebrate Murmu's win

New Delhi: As the voting for the election to choose the 15th President of India held Monday, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) started preparations to celebrate the victory of NDA candidate Draupadi Murmu, a resident of Odisha's Mayurbhani district. According to the sources, as part of the celebrations, a marquee has been set up at the residence of Murmu at Pandit Uma Shankar Dikshit Marg here. Soon after the declaration of the results July 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other Union ministers are set to meet Murmu at her residence and congratulate her. The PM, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, former PM Manmohan Singh and Congress president Sonia Gandhi also cast their votes. On Monday morning, Murmu woke around 3:30am and offered prayers to Lord Jagannath. Later in the day, she watched tv and took updates of the election. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan met Murmu in the evening, it was learnt.

Now, AI to help diagnose birth defects

anadian searchers have in a breakthrough experimented with the use of Artificial Intelligence-based deep learning as a tool for the early identification of birth defects. A team from the University

of Ottawa in a new proof-ofconcept pioneered the use of a unique deep learning model as an assistive tool for the rapid and accurate reading of ultrasound images.

The goal of the study, published in the scientific journal Plos One, was to demonstrate the potential for deep-learning architecture to support early and reliable identification of cystic hygroma from



first trimester ultrasound

Cystic hygroma is an embryonic condition that causes the lymphatic vascular system to develop abnormally. It's a rare and potentially life-threatening disorder that leads to fluid swelling around the head

and neck. It is documented

in approximately 1 in 800 pregnancies and 1 in 8,000 live

Ultrasound is critical in the observation of foetal growth and development, however, small foetal structures, involuntary foetal movements and poor image quality make neonatal image acquisition and interpretation challenging. The research group wanted to test how well AIdriven pattern recognition could do the job.

'What we demonstrated was that in the field of ultrasound we're able to use the same tools for image classification and identification with a high sensitivity and specificity," said Dr Mark Walker at the University's Faculty of Medicine.

With further development, including testing in a large multi-site dataset and external validation, our approach may be applied to a range of other foetal anomalies typically identified by ultrasonography," he noted. IANS

Bank of India

Services Tax (GST) regime.

GST on certain food items.

As the protest continued, Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha was forced to adjourn the House twice, first for 10 minutes and again till 4pm.

During the Question Hour,

Congress MLA Suresh Routray

first raised the issue by terming the

GST imposition on 'food items of

write to the Centre to withdraw

its decision. Otherwise, let the state

government bear the GST cost on

the items like puffed rice and flat-

In his reply, Finance Minister

Niranjan Pujari said, "As far as

levying of GST on puffed rice and

flattened rice is concerned, it is

the subject of GST Council and

Odisha, a single state, cannot take

Pujari, however, clarified that

only packaged and labelled puffed rice

would attract GST. "Therefore, it

will have no impact on customers and

traders in rural areas, where these

items which are sold in loose," he said.

Bahinipati and his party colleagues

Santosh Singh Saluja also raised the

issue during the Zero Hour.

Bahinipati demanded the Speaker

to form a house panel to meet the

Congress MLA Tara Prasad

any decision on this.

tened rice," Routray added.

I urge the Chief Minister to

the poor' as unfortunate.

Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Ph.: 0674-2362249

It is hereby brought to the notice of the following gold loan borrowers, their legal heirs, persons engaged in business of gold ornaments and general public that inspite of repeated notices by the Bank, the following borrowers are not repaying their dues

Notice is hereby published that if they fail to deposit all their dues in their respective gold loan accounts (including Up-to-date interest and all costs, charges /expenses) by Dt.02.08.2022, then from 11.00 AM of Dt.03.08.2022 their pledged gold ornaments will be sold in public auction at Respective Branch Premises given below and/or Sriram Automall India Ltd. (SAMIL), Cuttack, At: Sriram Automall Yard, Nuapatana, NH-42, Choudwar-Angul Road, Cuttack-754007, Contact Person: Mr. Prabhat Kumar (Mob-8658738320), Mr. Debasish Subudhi (Mob-9861342494). For this Bank shall not be held responsible for any inconvenience or damage caused to the concerned borrowers and no allegations or representations will be entertained from any borrowers in this regard. Bank reserves the right to cancel the auction without assigning any reasons in case, the bidding price so arrived at is observed to be low or inadequate. Further, if need be, Bank reserves the right to change the date, time and place of the above scheduled auction or cancel the same without assigning any reasons thereon. The purity & net weight & the reserve price of the gold ornaments / coins etc. will be made available to the intending bidders on the dat and at the site of auction / auction portal. Gross Wt. Net Wt. Balance O/s Total Dues (Excludin A/c. No. Name & Address of the Borrowers

No.	A/c. No.	Name & Address of the Borrowers	In Gms.	In Gms.	as on specified date	Unapplied Charges)
CHAKEISIANI BRANCH, PLOT NO: 441/7185, CHAKEISIANI MARKET MAIN ROAD, CHAKEISIANI, BHUBANESWAR - 751010						
1.	513377610000231	Kabiraj Behera, At: Plot No : 409, Sameigadia, PO.: Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar	54	45.05	₹1,44,249.75	₹1,51,349.75
2.	513377610000294	Tapan Kumar Patra, S/o.: Sukanta Patra , Plot No.: 3228, Near Ganesh Temple, Chakeisiani, Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar-751010	24.78	22.3	₹80,000/-	₹1,15,170/-
3.	513377610000354	Tapan Kumar Patra, S/o.: Sukanta Patra, Plot No.: 3228, Near Ganesh Temple, Chakeisiani, Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar-751010	16.73	14.75	₹50,000/-	₹56,432/-
	RAJASUNAKHALA	BRANCH, MAIN ROAD, AT/P.O.: RAJASUNAKHA	LA, DIS	T.: NA	YAGARH -	752065
1.	558077610000241	Laxmipriya Mohanty, At: Arikama, Khurda - 752065	13.06	12	₹44,955/-	₹46,588/-
	SAMANTRAPUR B	RANCH, PLOT NO.: 985, FRIENDS COMPLEX, SAMANTRAF	UR CHH	AK, BHU	JBANESWAR	- 751002
1.	513477610000218	Manoj Kumar Sahoo, At: Plot No.: 325, Mahatab Road, BM Field, Bhubaneswar - 751002	15.1	14	₹44,819/-	₹46,385/-
т	ANGI BRANCH, P	LOT NO.: 844, 846, MAIN ROAD, NH - 5, BUS STOP,	TANGI	, DIST	.: CUTTACK	- 754022
1.	511677610000140	Shyam Sundar Sahoo, At: Ramgarh, Kotasahi, Tangi, Odisha - 754022	16.36	16	₹46,737.05	₹51,201.49
2.	511677610000084	Mamata Prusty, At: Gokulpur, Govindpur, P.S.: Tangi, Cuttack, Odisha - 754023	21.56	21	₹42,744/-	₹44,331.98
TA	NKAPANI ROAD B	RANCH, PLOT NO.: 1298 (P), BRAHMESWAR PATNA, TAN	KAPANI	ROAD, I	BHUBANESW	AR - 751018
1.	557177610000251	Saroj Kumar Sahoo, At: Plot No.: EA-15, Badagada Brit Colony, Bhubaneswar	40.64	32	₹1,24,504/-	₹1,27,840.12 (Including UCI)
2.	557177610000252	Saroj Kumar Sahoo, At: Plot No.: EA-15, Badagada Brit Colony, Bhubaneswar	45.05	36.7	₹1,50,677/-	₹1,55,428.93 (Including UCI)
		PURI BRANCH, CLERK ROAD, NEAR JHADESWAF	I CLUE	, PUR	i i	
1.	555277610000172	Kelu Charan Paikaray, S/o.: Bhimsen Paikaray, At: Nabakalebara Road, Near Atharnala, Puri	97.4	76.7	₹4,04,225.65	₹6,00,140/-
2.	555277610000199	Mirza Khursid Alam Baig, At: Mohamedian Pada, Near Amala Club, Puri	36.5	33.5	₹1,23,468.72	₹2,22,538/-
3.	555277610000239	Rabindra Nath Mallick, S/o.: Late Naba Kishore Mallick, At: Khatasaranga, Khelur, Pipili, Puri	96.3	78	₹2,43,795.46	₹4,05,750/-
4.	555277610000282	Sangram Keshari Satapathy, C/o.: Late Kalandi Ch. Panda, At: Panda Lane, Kalikadevi Sahi, Puri	45	45	₹1,68,752/-	₹2,71,210/-
5.	555277610000310	Bikash Kumar Mallik, S/o.: Balaram Mallik, At: Bentapur, Brahmagiri, Puri	44	34.3	₹1,04,770/-	₹1,68,580/-
6.	555277610000407	Jayakrushna Sahoo, At: Bali Sahi, Swetaganga Lane, Kadambagada Chhaka, Puri	130	100	₹2,79,901.95	₹4,15,790/-
7.	555277610000696	Ganesh Kumar Swain, S/o.: Damodar Swain, At: Nuasahi, Arisal, Puri	48.51	38	, ,	₹2,39,702/-
8.	555277610001223	Basudeb Barik, S/o.: Hari Barik, At: Arakhakuda, Puri	6.77	4.5	₹10,892.78	₹11,743/-
9.	555277610001272	Pramod Nayak, At: Chudanga Sahi, Puri	68.24	60.5	₹2,05,671.51	₹2,24,635/-
10.	555277610001347	Nihal Kumar Das, S/o.: Narayan Das, At: Nuapatana Lane, Markandeswar Sahi, Puri	88.58	79.3	₹3,08,948.04	₹3,23,000/-
11.	555277610001353	Kanduri Charan Sahoo, S/o.: Panu Sahoo, At: Kalikadevi Sahi, Bali Sahi, Puri	18.68	17	₹66,197.05	₹71,010/-
12.	555277610001556	Gopal Chandra Dixit, At: Pradhan Sahi, Baral, Puri	20.33	18.3	₹58,117/-	₹62,266/-
	KHORDHA BRA	NCH, 648/1168, NEW COLONY, MAIN ROAD, NEAR GODIF	OKHAR	I, KHOR	DHA, PIN - 7	52055
1.	556977610000362	Kalim Ahemad, S/o.: Ismail Ahemad Khan, At/PO.: Keranga, Dist.: Khordha	57.42	53	₹1,80,431/-	₹1,81,521/-
2.	556977610000376	Kalim Ahemad, S/o.: Ismail Ahemad Khan, At/PO.: Keranga, Dist.: Khordha	5.82	5.5	₹17,561/-	₹17,667/-
PI	ace: Bhubaneswar	, Date: 19.07.2022		Zonal	Manager, B	ank of India

Cross-votes galore in Murmu's favour

Continued from P1

Indicating that he supported Murmu rather than Opposition's Yashwant Sinha, Bishnoi said in Delhi, "Like in Rajya Sabha, I have cast my vote in this election too as per my conscience."

Voting in the presidential election is done through a secret ballot and parties cannot issue whips to their MPs and MLAs.

In Jharkhand, NCP MLA Kamlesh Singh said that he has voted for NDA presidential nominee Droupadi Murmu.

"NDA candidate Droupadi Murmu will get the support of at least 65 legislators in Jharkhand under any circumstance as many Congress legislators are also going to listen to their conscience and vote for her," BJP MLA Biranchi Narayan claimed.

In Gujarat, the Nationalist Congress Party MLA Kandhal Jadeja also said he voted for Murmu in the presidential election.

The Sharad Pawar-headed NCP is one of the constituents of the Congress-led opposition bloc in the country.

In 2020, the NCP had issued a show cause notice to Jadeja, the lone party MLA in Gujarat from Kutiyana seat in Porbandar, for defying the whip and cross-voting in Rajya Sabha polls.

In Punjab, Shiromani Akali Dal legislator Manpreet Singh Ayali decided to boycott the Presidential poll, saying issues related to Punjab remain unresolved and he was not consulted by his party leadership before deciding to back the NDA candidate.

With regional parties like the BJD, YSRCP, BSP, TDP, JDS and SAD lending their support to Murmu in the presidential poll, cross-voting by several opposition legislators in state assemblies during polling on Monday is likely to help push her vote share further

Some parties like Shiv Sena and JMM have already broken ranks with their allies in the UPA to support a woman tribal to become the next President of India.

The BJP is seeking to increase the total votes in favour of Murmu to above seven lakh out of a total of 10,86, 431 votes.

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

Before Notary Sri Binayak Sahu Govt. of Odisha. Khalikote, Ganjam, I, K.Gurumurty Patra, S/o. Late K. Trinath Patra, Mother- K. Puni Patra, Vill-Manapalli, Po-Kairasi, PS/ Tahasil-Khalikote. In my school leaving certificate (TC) and my birth certificate mentioned as K.Gurumurty Patra, But in my Aadhaar Card wrongly mentioned as B. Bhikari Patra, S/o. B.Trinath Patra, which is my nick name. Necessary to produce before competent authority to record my name as per my transfer certificate of school and birth certificate and issue new Aadhaar Card in my above name and for odisha gazette.

By virtue an affidavit before Notary Public, Bhubaneswar, I Ajay Kumar Agarwal, S/o. Late Banarasi Das Agarwal, At-Bhabanipur, Po/Ps-Pipili, Dist-Puri-752104, Odisha. That in my school leaving certificate (TC) and Passport my name mentioned as Ajaya Kumar Agrawalla, S/o-Banarasi Das Agrawalla. Now I am keep up my name as Ajay Kumar Agarwal, S/o- Banarasi Das Agarwal for all purpose.

RAO's plea to govt for easing Covid norms

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 18: Restaurant Association of Odisha (RAO) organised its quarterly meet at Press Club of Odisha here Monday. In the meeting, they discussed how the Covid guidelines proposed by the state government would be strictly followed by the restaurateurs. The guidelines include 'No Mask - No Entry', appropriate social distancing and proper seating arrangement.

They also discussed the hygiene & safety drives to be conducted by the association in collaboration with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). Installation of handwash & sanitisation station at every restaurant is mandatory.

It also requested the govern-

ment for granting relaxation to operate restaurants during the Covid phase and not to put them in a situation of shutdown. It said around 5,000 families are dependent on this sector and their livelihood will be at stake in case of shutdown.

Orissa POST & Dharitri Editor Tathagata Satpathy said that the association must try to promote the work which it is doing to keep Covid at bay. "If the government comes to know what the association is doing to stay safe from Covid then it may be lenient towards them," he added.

RAO president Rajiv Swain, its vice president Sameer Hans, secretary M Tejeswar Rao and the outfit's joint secretary Saurav Mishra were present in the meet.





An illegal structure in Jobra area of Cuttack razed by CMC, Monday

OP PHOTO

Girls asked to remove innerwear at NEET centre

Continued from P1

KM Abhijith, President of the NSUI state wing, said appropriate action should be taken against the wrong-doers, while students, after hearing about the incident, staged protest marches towards the institution where this incident took place.

The institution has washed their hands off the incident, and blamed the agency which was entrusted with the conduct of the examination for what happened.

Reacting to the incident, Kerala Higher Education Minister R Bindu Monday said the test was not organised by a state-run agency and what happened indicated a grave lapse on the part of the organisers.

Such a conduct of the organisers towards the women and girl candidates without considering their human rights was unaccentable

"We will be conveying our disappointment regarding what happened to the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) - a central government agency which conducts entrance examinations for educational institutions - the minister said. The local police also have started a probe after a complaint was registered.

EX-TEHSILDAR GETS 2-YEAR RI FOR GRAFT

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 18: A Vigilance court here Monday sentenced an Odisha Administrative Service (OAS) officer to rigorous imprisonment (RI) for two years after holding him guilty of receiving bribe in May 2009. The convict identified as Panchanan Barik, 67, was the tehsildar of Khandapada in Nayagarh district.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 7,000 on the convict who has to undergo additional imprisonment of 1 year if he fails to pay the fine amount.

"The complainant, Rabindranath Mohanty, had applied for renewal of licence for stamp vendor at Khandapada before the Nayagarh Collector in 2009. Subsequently, the then tehsildar of Khandapada, was instructed by the Collector to submit an enquiry report. Barik asked the complainant to pay Rs 1,000 to send the enquiry report favouring Mohanty," said special public prosecutor Hemant Kumar Swain

ecutor Hemant Kumar Swain. Mohanty agreed to pay Rs 500



The court also imposed a fine of ₹7,000 on the convict who has to undergo additional imprisonment of 1 year if he fails to pay the fine amount

and in turn lodged a complaint with the Vigilance.

Following the complaint, the anti-corruption sleuths laid a trap

and caught the accused red-handed while receiving the bribe money at his office May 23, 2009. Barik was arrested on the charges of illegal gratification.

The accused was released on bail but after a few months he was arrested again June 28, 2022 as he failed to appear before the court despite repeated reminders.

The court, after scrutinising the statements of 10 witnesses and documentary evidence, held Barik guilty and pronounced the

Centre grants land to Odisha for integrated campus

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, July 18: The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has allotted 2.70 acres of land to the government of Odisha to build an integrated campus in New Delhi consisting of a state guest house, a cultural centre, and a state government office.

It should be noted that the request from Odisha government for construction of Odisha cultural centre and library was pending since 2006. The state had been requesting for an a chunk of commercial land located adjacent to Hotel Oberoi.

During the meeting of the Land Screening Committee, under the ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the representative of Delhi Development Authority stated, the land falls in the Lutyens Bungalow Zone, so it would require permission from the Prime Minister's Office. The representative also informed that due to the presence of a large number of trees on the land, clearance from the forest department would also be needed.

The BJD had raised the issue in the Parliament several times. BJD MP, Sasmit Patra, while urging the Union government to allot land had said this would add to the richness and diversity of the national capital region, as well as showcase to the world the rich culture, heritage, legacy and traditions of Odisha.



INDIA'S OLDEST CITIES OFFER MODERN LESSONS

Mangalore, July 18: 21st century urban designers rediscover centuries-old tradition in India. Dholavira, a 4,670 year old city with orthogonal streets, planned urban spaces and underground water and sewage management, was recognised as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2021. Hundreds of such planned cities are dotted across the Indian subcontinent.

Evolved over centuries, India's ancient urban heritage offers many lessons in this era of worsening climate change. The idea of 'vernacular urbanism'—that is, cities and settlements that respond to local weather and climate patterns is recognised both by academics and the building industry. The old cities of India have much to offer to 21st century urban development.

Urban development in the 20th century was characterised by urban sprawl and high-rise city cores. Cities expanded up and out. Urban experts from Patrick Geddes to Louis Mumford to Jane Jacobs, have recognised suburbia and high-rise city centres as unsustainable. They involve a massive ecological footprint, water management problems and problematic transportation systems, along with the poor quality of life they offer to the majority of citizens.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, a 21st century

invention, point to what was already realised in the pre-industrial city. The fundamental characteristics of the traditional city in India are its compact form, with non-motorised transit systems cutting down wasteful consumption of resources and high pollution load that contribute to climate change. It's a built form perfected over centuries. Indian cities such as Shahjahanabad (which became Delhi), a living city planned and built in the 17th century, as well as many other traditional cities of the Global South, exhibited exactly the features that the UN SDGs now strive for.

The old compact cities occupy less land than modern metropolises as many of them are built on geographical high-points, often resulting in a high-density — but not high-rise — living, good public transport networks, and mixeduse areas that embrace work, home and play within the one area. Their hill-top locations reduce the extent of infrastructure, both physical and social, and in a modern context reduce demand for electrical and electronic systems. The resulting savings in fossil fuel consumption and overall capital investment contribute to climate change resistance.

Before the term was invented, old cities had already embraced

mixed-use zoning. The compact city reduces commuting distances and provides for proximate recreation spaces. Transportation sys-

mixed-use zoning. The compact city reduces commuting distances and provides for proximate recreation spaces. Transportation systems within old cities are usually well shaded pedestrian networks, which also ensure cooling airflow. The shaded streets double as open spaces where playing children are within the 'eyes on the street' of the family.

The compact old city often located its larger institutional buildings on higher ground while being connected by the movement lines in the valleys. These large institutional buildings spontaneously generate public open spaces in front of them, functioning as a distribution hub for natural airflow. In the hot-arid regions of India, the continuous air change improves the micro-climate and most recently provided necessary air change during the pandemic.

The value of low-rise—high-density development is now well recognised by academics and eminent urban designers like Léon Krier, Charles Correa, Jan Gehl as more sustainable compared to urban sprawl or the energy guzzling high-rise—high-density forms. The pandemic made matters worse where viral movement through lifts and vertical ducts found a free flow. Sealed glass windows and recycled air from the HVAC systems aggravated viral circulation even further.

Post-pandemic, low-rise—optimum-density development (optimum density varies from culture to culture, climate to climate) is likely to have a resurgence, not only to address the pandemic but also as a more energy efficient, human-scaled city form. Four to five storey walkups often characterise the old settlements. These con-

tribute less to urban overheating
Urban development in the 20th
century was characterised by urban
sprawl and high-rise city cores. Cities
expanded up and out.

The value of low-rise—high-density development is now well recognised by academics and eminent urban designers like, Léon Krier, Charles Correa, and Jan Gehl, as more sustainable compared to the urban sprawl.

as the heat-absorbing surface area of the building mass is consider-

ably reduced.

Modern construction materials
— from production to consumption to waste — are undoubtedly unsustainable. Steel, glass, aluminium and plastics have huge impacts in their mining and are highly energy intensive in their production.
They also involve long distance, fossil fuel based transportation. But these are, at present, 'normal

materials' of construction.

The huge embodied energy in modern materials is compounded by the energy required for their upkeep, cooling, and heating. Traditional, organic building materials such as timber, clay, and straw use little energy to create and therefore have a considerably lower ecological footprint than materials such as steel and concrete.

The local materials are sourced from short distances with minimal transportation costs, are built in compression-based construction systems with minimum steel and without a globalised supply chain. The resulting aesthetic was also culturally mediated through centuries of building traditions.

If the building industry's contribution to carbon emissions, currently pegged at 40 percent, is to be brought down, the only solution would be to humanise the scale of construction.

At present, across the world, vernacular settlements of thousands of square metres are lying neglected. Meanwhile new developments are aggressively conquering more and more land for city expansion. Renewal and adaptation of the neglected housing stock in old cities could yield considerable amount of built form of high thermal comfort. It would mean near

zero additional carbon footprint. It would be a tough call for a capital-hungry building industry to restrain itself to reinvention. But the climate crisis is now largely non-negotiable. Urban design as a discipline thrives on three-dimensional studies and simulation of climate variables on city form. Rediscovering old cities is a possible direction for a climate friendly

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-889550649, 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, Levis 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 Coke Room-7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookilman-9439491273, Nigamannada-Omm Sai Travels-9688284823, 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- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point-9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

SHORT **TAKES**

Minor killed in jumbo attack

Dhenkanal: A minor boy was trampled to death by an elephant at Rakla village under Hindol forest range of Dhenkanal district late Sunday night. The deceased was identified as Sibun Mahanatra. As per reports, the incident took place when Sibun had gone to attend nature's call to a nearby stream. He came across the pachyderm that had gone to the stream in search of water. The elephant attacked him, killing him on the spot.

3 detained for cattle smuggling

Patana: Three people were detained for allegedly smuggling cattle near the toll gate here under this block in Keonjhar district in the early hours of Monday, police said. Sources said three pick-up vans were smuggling cows late Sunday night when **Bajrang Dal activists** intercepted the vehicles near the toll plaza and alerted the cops who nabbed the trio.

Girl jumps off roof to escape rape bid

PNN/AGENCIES

Kalinganagar: A minor girl is battling for her life at hospital after she jumped off a school roof to escape gangrape bid by five persons late Sunday night. The minor girl (15) has been admitted to a hospital where her condition was stated to be critical.

Kalinganagar police swung into action and detained the five accused in this connection.

Sources said the victim from Anandapur area of Keonjhar district was on her way to her sister's house at Kaliapani along with her elder brother. The siblings took a bus and arrived at Duburi square from where they were going by foot to her sister's house.

However, a few youths of Jhumphan intercepted them and asked them to stay the night at a local school roof and resume their journey in the morning. Trusting them, the two siblings took shelter on the roof of a school. However, the five accused returned late in the night and tried to gangrape the girl. The girl jumped off the roof to resist the rape bid and sustained critical injuries



Hirakud dam released season's first floodwater through five gates at 11am, Monday. More than 1.16 lakh cusec water was being discharged through the gates

Adv rams car into SP's wall in bid to kill in-laws

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, July 18: In a horrifying incident, a lawyer tried to run his car over his in-laws near the SP's residence here after reportedly getting frustrated over his souring relationship with his estranged wife.

The accused was identified as Panchanan Das, a lawyer by profession, in the town. In the incident, his wife Chinmayee Mohapatra and father-in-law Rama Chandra Mohapatra had a close escape while his brother-in-law Soumya sustained critical injuries and broke his right leg. Soumya has been admitted to VSS Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (VIMSAR) at Burla.

Panchanan was trying to escape after ramming the car (OD 18 M-0334) against the boundary wall of Sambalpur SP's residence when locals caught him and handed him over to police. He has been detained in the police station. A scientific team was also pressed into service.

The boundary wall of the SP's residence has been damaged after the car rammed into it.

Sources said Panchanan and his



The damaged boundary wall of the SP's residence following the incident

wife Chinmayee were not in good terms over some issues after their marriage 10 years back. The couple has a seven-year-old son and a five-year-old daughter.

Chinmayee has been staying at her parents' house with her children after allegedly being regularly tortured by Panchanan and her in-laws at Burla.

Panchanan's wife is also operating a Jan Seva Kendra, said sources. She had lodged a complaint of torture at Burla police station six months back and also served a legal notice on Panchanan.

Monday's incident occurred when Chinmayee accompanied by her family members had gone to meet Panchanan on the dis-

MARITAL DISCORD

hinmayee has been staying at her parents' house with her children after allegedly being regularly tortured by Panchanan and her in-laws at Burla

onday's incident occurred when Chinmayee accompanied by her family members had gone to meet Panchanan on the district court premises to seek financial assistance for the studies of their

trict court premises to seek financial assistance for the studies of their children.

However, Panchanan avoided them and went somewhere else. Later, in a fit of rage, Panchanan tried to kill Chinmayee, her parents and two brothers while they were standing near the SP's residence close to the court premises

A case has been registered and the lawyer has been detained for interrogation, police said. Meanwhile, the district bar as-

sociation has suspended Panchanan and issued a show-cause notice to him, said sources.

Elderly couple found , dead in Ganjam town

Buguda, July 18: Bodies of an elderly couple were recovered under mysterious circumstances from their rented house at Seemanchal Marg here in Ganjam, Monday.

The deceased were identified as Prafulla Nanda, 73 and his wife Sumati Nanda, 65, both natives of Chandramadeipur village under Kabisuryanagar police limits in Ganjam district. Prafulla was found hanging from the ceiling fan while his wife was found lying dead on the floor of their bedroom.

Police registered a case on a complaint filed by the deceased couple's son Manindra Nanda and started an investigation. The incident has spread shockwaves in the area.

The couple was staying with their son Manindra and his family members in Buguda town for the last few years. Sumati was not keeping well for the last two months and finding it difficult to move.

The couple went to sleep after dinner at around 11:30pm at the top floor of the house while Manindra and his family slept in the ground floor.

The matter came to the fore when Manindra went to serve tea to his parents at around 6am, Monday. He called them loud but none of them responded. Later, he

RSP manager falls

Rourkela, July 18: The manager

of Instrumentation department of

Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) met

watery grave after he accidentally

fell into Pitamahal dam under

Kuanrmunda tehsil in Sundargarh

his parents, wife, and two-year-old

daughter in Sector 5 here. Biswajit

had gone to Pitamahal dam with his two friends. During sightseeing,

his legs slipped and he fell into the

dam. His friends tried to rescue

him, but in vain. On being in-

formed, local firefighters reached

the spot and fished out the body.

Brahmani Tarang police regis-

tered a case of unnatural death

and initiated an investigation.

REPRESENTATIVE PICTURE

into dam, dies

POST NEWS NETWORK

district.

fied

The de-

ceased has

been identi-

Jena, 32. He

lived with

Biswajit

as



THE COUPLE WAS **STAYING WITH THEIR SON MANINDRA AND HIS FAMILY MEMBERS** IN BUGUDA TOWN FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS

raised an alarm following which neighbours rushed to the spot and broke open the door.

They were stunned to find Prafulla hanging from the ceiling fan while Sumati lying dead on the floor. Manindra called Buguda police who rushed to the spot and sent the body to Bhanjanagar for post-mortem.

When contacted, Buguda IIC Chittaranjan Behera said the actual reason behind the death of the couple could be ascertained only after the post-mortem reaches us.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-Tender/47 Dt.: 13.07.2022

Dt.: 08.07.2022 Description : OPERATION OF MOBILE MAINTENANCE GANGS (MMG) AND DEPLOYMENT OF SECTIONAL GANG UNDER 3 TIER SYSTEM OF TRACK MAINTENANCE FOR THE SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD (KUR)-NAYAGARH TOWN (NYGT) (KM 0 TO KM 66) FOR A PERIOD OF 2 YEARS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

SENIOR DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (HEAD QUARTER) KHURDA ROAD. Approx cost of the work: ₹ 164.43 Lakhs <u>MD:</u> ₹2,32,200/-.

Dt.: 12.07.2022 escription : EXECUTION OF THROUGH RAIL RENEWAL FOR A LENGTH OF 25.00 TR. KMS IN DIFFERENT PATCHES BETWEEN JENAPUR-KAPILAS ROAD SECTION OF

KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.

complete information including e-tender revisit the website 10 (Ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes corrigenda issued for this tender.

Tusker found dead in Nilagiri

Meditation, prayers, puja at

Rairangpur for Droupadi's win

Nilagiri, July 18: A tusker was found dead in the backyard of a villager at Baragadia under Nilagiri forest range in Balasore district, Monday.

On being informed, forest officials rushed to the spot and started an investigation. However, they failed to ascertain the actual reason be-

across the country to elect the 15th

There was a festive air in the town and

its residents were glued to the television

as the various news channels showed

VVIPs of the country like Prime

Minister Narendra Modi and chief min-

isters of various states casting their

The voting would have gone largely

unnoticed in the small town but for

Murmu, who is the NDA nominee in the

Presidential poll. This time public en-

thusiasm was on display, particularly

by tribals as a woman from among

votes to elect the new president.

President of the country.

hind the animal's death

imal might have died due to food poisoning while the forest officials doubt it might have died due to old-age related problems. Veterinarians conducted a post-mortem of the animal and cut the tusk in the presence of forest ranger Ganesh Prasad Lenka and other forest officials before burying the carcass at the



spot. The matter came to the fore after family members of a villager Purushottam Singh and his neighbours spotted the carcass of the animal lying in his backyard.

A Forest official said the

animal is from Kuldiha sanclong in Tinkoshia, Gopalpur and Ayodhya jungles adjoining the sanctuary. The animal used to stray into nearby human habitats at night and destroy properties and crops of residents.

It had trampled a youth

of Baragadia village to death in Naranpur village

BRANCH OFFICE SHIFTING Bajaj Finance Limited having its Registered Office, Mumbai- Pune Road, Akurdi Pune 411 035 and Corporate office on 4th Floor, Bajaj Finserv House, Viman Nagar Off Pune – Ahmednagar Road, Pune, Maharashtra 411 014 hereby informs its customers and concerned that it's office located at "2Nd Floor, Sreemaa Construction N.H.-5, Naya Chowk, Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010 will be closing with effect from (26-10-2022). For better customer facility all the existing services shall continue to be available at new branch shifted to 1st Floor, Sreemaa Construction, N.H.-5, Nav. Chowk, Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010. All customers and concerned are ed to take note of change of address and requested to contact our office at 1st Floo Sreemaa Construction, N.H.-5, Naya Chowk, Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010 thereafte

PUBLIC NOTICE

Bajaj Finance Limited 4th Floor, Bajaj Finserv House, Viman Nagar, Off Pune - Ahmednagar Road Pune - 411 014, Maharashtra, Tel - 020 -71505050

MUTUAL FUND INVESTOR AWARENESS PROGRAM

Do join us to learn more about Mutual Funds.

Date and Venue

Wednesday, 20th July, 2022; 6:30 p.m. onwards at Hotel Radhika Regency, Bisra Road, Rourkela - 769 001, Odisha. For registration, please contact: Ranjit Mallik, Mobile: 99370 88035. Wednesday, 20th July, 2022; 7:00 p.m. onwards at Hotel Kalyani, Bhadrak - 756 100, Odisha.

For registration, please contact: Rahul Kumar Gupta, Mobile: 75420 23554. Registration is compulsory. The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. It is mandatory to follow the COVID safety guidelines during the event.
No walk-ins will be allowed.



MUTUAL FUND INVESTMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO MARKET RISKS, READ ALL SCHEME RELATED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY.

FORM B PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT (Regulation 12 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Liquidation Process) Regulations FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE STAKEHOLDERS OF MAA TARINI INDUSTRIES LIMITED 1. Name of corporate debtor MAA TARINI INDUSTRIES LIMITED 2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor 01/08/2000 Authority under which corporate REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES, CUTTACK lebtor is incorporated/ registered Corporate Identity No. / Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor U271050R2000PLC006295 Address of the registered office and principle office (if any) of corporate debtor N4/12, Ground Floor Civil Township Rourkela Sundargarh OR 769004 IN Date of closure of insolvency Liquidation commencement date 13/07/2022 (RECEIVED ON 15/07/2022) of corporate debtor Name and registration number of Name: Gagan Bihari Bhuyan the insolvency professional acting as liquidator Registration Number: IBBI/IPA-002/IP-N00928/2020-2021/13029 Address: Flat No 2162, 15th Floor, 2nd Tower, DN OXY Park, Durnduma, Bhubaneswar (M.C), Khorda, Durnuduma Housing Board Colony, Odisha, 751019, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, 751019 E-Mail- gaganbhuyan29@gmail.com Address and e-mail of the liquidator, as registered with the Corporate Office: Flat No 2162, 15th Floor, 2nd Tower, DN OXY Park, Dumduma, Bhubaneswar (M.C), Khorda, Dumuduma Housing Board Colony, Odisha, 751019, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, 751019 E-mail-gaganbhuyan29@gmail.com Contact Number: 7506370577 10. Address and e-mail to be used for 11. Last date of submission of claim 13/08/2022

Notice is hereby given that the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Cuttack, has ordered the commencement of Liquidation of the MAA TARINI INDUSTRIES LIMITED on 13/07/2022. The stakeholders of MAA TARINI INDUSTRIES LIMITED are hereby called upon to submit a proof of their claims, on or before 13/08/2022, to the liquidator at the address mentioned against item 10. The financial creditors shall submit their proof of claims by electronic means only. All other stakeholders may submit the proof of claims in person, by post or by electronic means. Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties. Gagan Bihari Bhuyan | Date: 19/07/2022 | Place: Bhubaneshwar

OSBI

Born

1: At

JSC

7650

Kodi

Dist.

STATE BANK OF INDIA STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH,

Plot No.: 778, 1st Floor, At/PO.: Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007

POSSESSION NOTICE

Publication of Notice regarding possession of Properties u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest

Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice under section 13(2) was issued on the date mentioned against below accounts and stated hereinafter calling upon the following Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with interest within 60 days from the date of eceipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Act on the date mentioned against below accounts. The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, for an amount stated below with interest, costs and expenses hereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Address of the Borrower	Property	Mortgaged / Charged	Demand Notice	Possession	
rower: Shri Jaladhar Naik,		1) All that Part and Parcel of property	06.04.2022	16.07.2022	Ī
: Shri Mukunda Naik, Address-		consisting of Land & Building at Mo	uza: Barijhola,	Tahasil/PS.:	l
t: Rohit Colony, 7th Lane, Near	Rayagada, Kh	nata No.: 52/969, Plot No.: 311/475	5/881/1016, Are	a: Ac.0.024	ı
O, Dist nayagada, Fili -	Dec Kisam (Sharahari standing in the name of Ja	ladhar Naik 2)	All that Part	Ł
inari Moranas PO: Adaihor	and Parcel of	property consisting of Vacant Land	at Mouza: Tada	ma, Tahasil/	ı
: Povegede Odiebe	PS.: Rayagada	a, Khata No.: 57/201, Plot No.: 263,	Area: Ac.0.210 l	Dec., Kisam:	ı
Hayagada, Odisha	Gharabari, sta	nding in the name of Jaladhar Naik,	3) All that Part a	nd Parcel of	١

further interest hasil from 06.04.2022 costs, etc. rcel of property consisting of Vacant Land at Mouza: Tadama. Tahasil/PS.: Ravagada. Khata No.: 57/201. Plot No.: 338 Area: Ac.0.500 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari, standing in the name of Jaladhar Naik

Amount

₹47,72,020.28

06.04.2022 +

Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India, SARB, Bhubaneswar

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 18.07.2022

country's history where Murmu had worked as a teacher for three years from 1994. Its students, alumni, their parents, teachers of the school both serving and retired, some

of them her former colleagues, attended a special prayer during the day.

Murmu's elevation, said a teacher. "Her achievements have filled the dreams of the poor children in

A special puja was held by the Santhal community, to which the 64-year-old Presidential candidate belongs, near

by the residents of Uparabeda village, Murmu's birthplace. Residents of nearby villages participated and prayed for the success of the 'daughter of the soil' in the election, the result for which will be declared July 21. The next President will take oath July 25.

by tribals as a woman from among them appeared set to occupy Raisina Hills and etch her name in the

A 'Maha Puja' was also organised

them appeared set to occupy Raisina PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Hills and etch her name in the country's Rairangpur, July 18: Meditation, history. Members of 'Prajapita Brahma prayers and puja were held in this Kumaris Iswariya Vishwa Vidyalaya' small north Odisha town, home to centre here held a special meditation pro-Presidential candidate Droupadi gramme coinciding with the voting for Murmu, as voting began Monday the presidential poll.

Murmu has been an active member of the centre since 2009.

"Madam will achieve a grand victory by the grace of the Almighty. Our meditation sessions are held from 3:30am till 7am daily. But today we have extended the timing and made it a day-long event till the completion of the voting, said Brahmakumari Supriya.

Murmu, she said, has invited a delegation of Brahma Kumaris from Rairangpur to attend her oath-taking ceremony in Delhi if she wins.

A similar scene was seen at Shri Aurobindo Integral School in the town,

This time public enthusiasm was on display, particularly

The students of the school, most of whom belong to tribal and Dalit communities, are highly motivated over

Mayurbhanj district," she said. her home in the town.



A God who cannot smile, could not have created this humorous

SRI AUROBINDO



Upside of Polarisation

hile there are no ironclad laws of politics, two tendencies in the United States - midterm swings against the incumbent party (the 'midterm blues') and the negative electoral effects of inflation and unemployment ('political business cycles') - come pretty close. US President Joe Biden (whose approval rating has sunk for the past year) and the Democrats should not be surprised if they suffer a massive rout in the 2022 midterm elections.

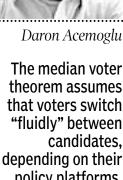
But other long-accepted political truths have been discarded. For decades after World War II, two-party competition within a majoritarian system was thought to have a moderating effect. According to the celebrated "median voter theorem," originally proposed by the economist Duncan Black and then later by the political scientist Anthony Downs, if one party veered too far from the center, it would pay for it at the polls.

Imagine that the US electorate has a range of views about the appropriate level of the federal minimum wage. Some on the right think there should be no federal minimum wage at all, whereas some on the left think it should be at least \$18 per hour. Now suppose that the "median" of this distribution of voters points to a preferred minimum wage of \$12 per hour (the rate above and below which half the electorate falls).

In an election where the minimum wage is the main issue, if the Republican Party listens to its most vocal members and promises to abolish the minimum wage, the Democrats should be able to secure an easy victory by campaigning for a minimum wage of, say, \$13 per hour. It then follows that the Republicans will moderate their approach in the next election, disregarding their vocal base if necessary. And since a small amount of moderation (\$8 per hour, say) will not get them very far, they will have to move to where the median voter is: \$12 per hour.

Downs' observation was powerful, not just because of its theoretical elegance but also because it seemed to explain US electoral politics for guite a while. The parties became so close on most issues as to entrench a moderate "liberal consensus." While some critics saw this as a "failure of democracy," many others regarded it as a feature of the system, not a bug.

Still, cracks were apparent even in the me dian voter theorem's heyday. Moderate policies require moderate candidates, but primaries require candidates first to win over the most animated and committed of the party's base. Hence, Republicans nominated Barry Goldwater for the 1964 presidential election, even though his views were far to the right of the mainstream: and the Democrats then nominated the left-leaning George McGovern in 1972. Both lost, but their candidacies were signs of things to



policy platforms. But in the real world, voters tend to base their decisions on a mix of other factors More recent evidence indicates that the median voter theorem no longer has much purchase on American politics.

If it still applied, we would see politicians who are elected in close contests going on to maintain moderate positions in office. But research by economists David Lee, Enrico Moretti, and Matthew Butler shows that something quite different has been happening. Congressional Republicans and Democrats who were elected by only narrow margins still vote just like all other Republicans and Democrats, showing no signs of moderation. The median voter theorem assumes that voters switch "fluidly" between

candidates, depending on their policy platforms. But in the real world, voters tend to base their decisions on a mix of other factors. Which candidate seems more credible, competent, and authentic? Who would I want to be in charge during a national emergency? Who would I want to have a beer with? And party loyalty is deeply ingrained for many voters.

These variables complicate matters greatly. Suppose Republicans listen to their most extreme members and shift their platforms further to the right. In this scenario, Democrats could indeed gain by moving toward the middle, provided that they don't compromise their own credibility. But the problem is that the dynamic playing out among Republicans is likely also to play out among Democrats, with their primary voters pushing them to the left. When the Republicans embrace extremism, many Democrats will conclude that they can pursue their favorite left-wing agenda items and still have a chance of winning.

Add to this the pernicious effects of corporate money and social-media filter bubbles (where extremist ideas get amplified), and you get something very different from self-moderating two-party competition. US politics today is characterised by deep polarisation, with Republicans moving further to the right, and Democrats further to the left.

The fall of the "median voter" is not all bad news, of course. Sometimes, the middle of the political spectrum can become convinced of something that simply isn't true (for example, "trickle-down economics"), or it can stop caring about marginal groups. When the median voter theorem reigns supreme, not much can be done about such failings. But in a world where it no longer applies, activists can shift the debate, elevating issues that both parties have long ignored - such as the plight of blue-collar workers who lost their jobs to cheap imports or automation; the decline of the middle class; or the far-reaching consequences of systemic racism.

Where does that leave us with the near-iron laws of politics mentioned above? When both parties are near the middle, macroeconomic performance or small policy differences can drive big midterm electoral swings. But the situation is quite different when one party goes off the deep end, as Republicans have done, and even more so when a right-wing Supreme Court is dismantling rights that generations of Americans have long taken for granted.

This level of extremism could create an opening for Democrats to form a broader coalition (the Court, after all, is increasingly at odds with the American public). But to do that, Democrats need to strike the right balance between the bread-and-butter issues that matter to most Americans and an agenda countering Republican extremism. That means avoiding obviously divisive positions (for example, "defund the police"). Even - or especially - when the median does not hold, broadening the base is good politics.

The writer is Professor of Economics at MIT.

WORDS**WORTH**

Unclarity

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Rowan Williams, plunged into enormous controversy by saying in a radio interview and a lecture in early February 2008 that it is inevitable that some aspects of sharia law will have to be incorporated into UK law to accommodate our Muslim population. The lecture, at the Royal Courts of Justice before an audience of senior members of the legal profession, was a detailed and subtle academic argument, hard for a layperson to understand. Leaving aside the issues he raised and the reasons for the immense criticism he has since been subjected to, his half-apology to the meeting of the General Synod of the Church of England this week raised a linguistic issue. He said, "I must take responsibility for any unclarity and for any misleading choice of words that has helped to cause distress or misunderstanding among the public. Unclarity? Every journalist, broadcaster and cartoonist who quoted that sentence has focused on the word through some sort of emphasis. This may have been because it is rare. We are sure that he undoubtedly meant unclarity literally, an utterance that lacked clarity.

FOCUS UNDERTRIALS

DEMOCRACY BEHIND BARS



Jagdish Rattanani

WHAT IS WORSE IS THAT THE **STATE OF AFFAIRS IS NOT A TEMPORARY FALL IN THE NEAR TERM BUT HAS BECOME A PERMANENT FEATURE OF THE INDIAN SYSTEM**

he Chief Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana and the Supreme Court have offered a wake-up call to the nation on the issue of undertrials languishing in jails, bringing attention to an issue that has diminished our democracy, robbed ordinary citizens of liberty and embedded a system where jail rather than bail has become the routine of most investigations. India has 610,000 citizens as

prisoners, nearly 80% of them undertrials, the CJI said July 16 at the inaugural session of the 18th All India Legal Services Authority in Jaipur. The CJI (as quoted by PTI) noted: "In the criminal justice system, the process is a punishment. From indiscriminate arrest to difficulty in obtaining bail, the process leading to prolonged incarceration of undertrial prisoners needs urgent attention." And then went on to add: "Prisons are black boxes. Prisoners are often unseen, unheard citizens.

In choosing to highlight a burning issue that has rarely if ever incited passions or been the subject of debate, the CJI was giving voice to what is known to all, lamented by a few and then left to be, untouched and unfixed. What is worse is that the state of affairs is not a temporary fall in the near term but has become a permanent feature of the Indian system. The predisposition to arrest in the short term rather than investigate for the long haul of conviction is also one of the reasons why many bail cases come to court in the first place and add to the numbers that choke the system. Further, because arrest and jail are routine, this leads to a rise in anticipatory bail applications from those who are better off and can act to avoid arrest - adding to the load at the higher courts.

This makes it a systemic problem that won't go away just by increasing the number of judges because its root lies in a deeper malaise. We know that our conviction rate is abysmal, so that robust investigation is discarded and pre-trail jail and extended custody becomes the punishment,



The tyranny of the system lies in its commonplaceness, everydayness and pervasiveness – it's become one with the air we breathe, the water the fish swim in and it puts behind bars and tends to forget some of the most vulnerable citizens of the nation

breaking at its root the entire edifice of the criminal justice system that says an accused is presumed innocent unless proved guilty.

In their 85-page order, Justices SK Kaul and MM Sundresh July 11 point to the systemic nature of the problem: "Courts tend to think that the possibility of a conviction being nearer to rarity, bail applications will have to be decided strictly, contrary to legal principles. We cannot mix up consider ation of a bail application, which is not punitive in nature with that of a possible adjudication by way of trial. On the contrary, an ultimate acquittal with continued custody would be a case of grave injustice.'

The state of affairs has nothing to do with the politics of the day, the attitude of a particular set of political leaders temporarily in power or indeed any agenda or grand plan at work. The tyranny of the system lies in its commonplaceness, everydayness and pervasiveness – it's become one with the air we breathe, the water the fish swim in and it puts behind bars and tends to forget some of the most vulnerable citizens of the nation.

How this breaks the back of the system is not always easily understood or fully grasped. One is that it offers the result of a conviction -without a trial in which evidence is to be whetted and guilt is to be established beyond any shadow of doubt – long before the process of conviction even begins. In delivering this effect, the State at the level of its most basic and ordinary day-to-day functioning has made the justice system irrelevant if not redundant. To make matters worse, this is achieved with the help of the judiciary, where remand and more remand is routinely granted, and bail is difficult to obtain because not always are the merits of the case fully discussed or even asked. If getting custody or an extension of remand is a matter of routine, police take the remand giving judicial authority for granted, and this has the immediate and direct effect on the quality of investigation. In fact, Justices Kaul and Sundresh quote a 2014 judgement of the Supreme Court to note: 'Our endeavour in this judgment is to ensure that police officers do not arrest the accused unnecessarily and magistrates do not authorise detention casually and mechanically." They quote further: "The power to authorise de tention is a very solemn function. It affects the liberty and freedom

of citizens and needs to be exercised

with great care and caution. Our experience tells us that it is not exercised with the seriousness it deserves. In many of the cases, detention is authorised in a routine. casual and cavalier manner."

In fact, so common is it to grant detention that police officers do not always put in the effort to fill in proper or full details. Sometimes, this feeds into arrogance among the investigating agency that any thing goes, derailing at an early stage the most critical part of the investigation - which must be thorough, fair and executed in a timely manner. It also emboldens police to get away with custodial violence, another menace growing unchecked despite the many protections to the accused written down in the legal system.

It is therefore not a day too soon that the Supreme Court has now formally asked the Centre to consider bringing a Bail Act. Justices Kaul and Sundresh noted: "We ... call on the Government of India to consider the introduction of an Act specifically meant for granting of bail as done in various other

countries like the United Kingdom.' This will clearly be a step for ward. While the legal framework can be more specific and lav down firm guidelines on bail, the larger problem is the colonial mindset that continues to rule the Indian bureaucracy, coupled with lack of investments to support those doing good work and a lack of exemplary punishment to those manipulating the system. This is one place where the courts can and must get active. A proper monitoring of cases right from the re mand stage, with a detailed look at whether the demand of the investigating agencies is justified, will set the ground for a more responsive and responsible investigative machinery. It will keep the police on their toes and it will keep our jails less crowded while improving the overall outcomes of the system.

The writer is a journalist and faculty member at SPJIMR. Views are personal.

SPECTRUM CHINA

Why's the Uyghur population shrinking?



Yi Fuxian

IT'S THE FORCED **CULTURAL SHIFT THAT APPEARS** TO HAVE HAD **MORE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE BIRTH RATE**

fter becoming the Communist Party of China's chief of ethnic minorities in Xinjiang, family planning came later: tion control in view of the low fertility rates of ethnic minorities." and reduced the resources for partility rates of ethnic minorities." Party of China's chief of ily planning came later. Chen Quanguo oversaw a security crackdown that led to a drop in births so sharp that it shocked the world. Some observers accused China's leadership of committing genocide against the province's mostly Muslim Uyghur population through forced sterilisation and abortion. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi dismissed the allegations as "fake news," arguing that Xinjiang's Uyghur population had grown steadily to 12.7 million in 2018, an increase of 25% from 2010 – and higher than the 14% increase in the province's total population.

But recently released 2020 census figures have delivered what amounts to a slap in the foreign ministry's face. The data show that in 2020. Xinjiang's Uyghur population had grown by only 16% since 2010, to 11.6 million, compared to a 19% increase in Xinjiang's total population. Even more shocking, the Uyghur population aged 0-4 was only 36% the size

of that aged 5-9. To understand why Xinjiang's births have plummeted, it helps to review the history of population control in the province. China implemented family planning nationwide in 1973 and imposed the one-child policy in 1980. But for

y planning came later. Chen's predecessor, Zhang Chunxian, was keen on population control when he was CPC secretary of Hunan Province from 2005 to 2010. He launched a campaign to strengthen family planning in Hunan in 2006. In 2010, Zhang was reassigned to Xinjiang, and Hunan's new governor, Xu Shousheng, arrived with plans to launch another campaign to strengthen population control in the province. In January 2011, I posted an "Open Letter to the Secretary and Governor of Hunan on Family Planning" online, euphemistically criticising Zhang and Xu. In response, the Hunan authorities invited me to lecture on the topic in Hunan, and Ilham Tohti, a Uyghur economist and award-winning human-rights defender, joined me in calling for an end to family planning for the Uyghurs.

Then, July 31, 2014, Zhang published an essay in the CPC journal Seeking Truth, arguing that Xinjiang must "implement a family-planning policy that is equal for all ethnic groups" and must "lower and stabilise fertility at a moderate level." I was so concerned that in March 2015, I published a peer-reviewed response in the journal Population and Society, entitled "The urgency of stopping popula-

strengthen family planning in Xinjiang. Births in the province remained stable during his tenure. But we now know that, under Chen's rule, births plummeted from 389,695 in 2017 to 267,250 in 2018, and to 159,528 in 2021, implying three-quarters of a million fewer births in 2018-21. Since Chinese authorities have long been notorious for mandating abortion, sterilisation, and intrauterine devices, it is natural to assume that the dramatic decline in births in Xinjiang reflects such measures. But matters are not so simple, because there were slightly fewer abortions and IUDs in Xinjiang in 2017-20 than in 2013-16; and though there were 70,000 more sterilisations, that figure is still an order of magnitude smaller than the drop in births.

Given that couples in Xinjiang can legally have two or three children, it is unlikely that the authorities systematically forced abortions, ligations, and IUDs on women who had only one or two children. Why, then, was the Uyghur fertility rate in 2020 only one child per woman? Most likely, it is because Chen's brutal crackdown both undermined Uyghur fertility habits (under the pretext of fighting Islamic extremism) Xinjiang suffered severe cultural repression and economic deprivation, the fertility rate in 2020 fell to an unusually low level compared to the province's urban areas.

Moreover, improved education has also contributed partly to the decline in births, by leading more women to delay marriage and childbearing. Chinese authorities have invested heavily to provide 15 years of free compulsory education in Xinjiang, compared with nine years nationwide. Uvghurs have suffered from forced sterilisation, of course. But it is this forced cultural shift that appears to have had more serious consequences for the birth rate.

Looking ahead, every effort to encourage procreation in Xinjiang will fail if the region's socioeconomic vitality continues to decline. This failure will cause China to lose its geopolitical advantage in Central Asia, where it is in a struggle for influence. China's rulers have heaped praise on Chen, but they have yet to recognise his security crackdown in Xinjiang sowed the seeds of severe long-term problems.

The writer is a senior scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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

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

Burden on common man

Sir, Consumers now have to pay 5% GST on pre-packed, labeled food items like atta, paneer, curd, lassi, gud and suji besides hospital rooms with rent above ₹5,000 with the GST Council's decisions coming into force. For the first time after Independence, the BJP-ruled central government has imposed tax on essentials. Now flour became costlier by ₹130 and rice by ₹400 per quintal. This decision of the central government will spoil the budget of every ordinary family. Earlier, the general public was upset with the price increase of petrol, diesel and cooking gas, now this tax increase will force people to take desperate decisions like suicide. In protest against the implementation of GST on food items, shopkeepers of grain markets had protested by keeping shops closed Saturday. According to traders, 70 to 80 types of goods out of 100 are unbranded pre-packed. In such a situation, after the introduction of GST, the prices of each item will increase. After the implementation of GST in 2017, most of the essential food products were kept out of its ambit. This was announced by the Prime Minister himself. But now there is tax exemption for corporate houses on the one hand and there is increased burden on the general public on the other. This environment is going to give rise to a Sri Lanka-like situation in India.

Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR

Nation's best

Sir, It is a matter of immense pride for the people of Tamil Nadu that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Madras has yet again been ranked as the best higher education institution in the country in the overall category and in the field of engineering education as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2022. It is all the more gratifying that as many as 38 institutions from the southern state figure among the top 200 institutions in the overall category. It is hardly of any surprise that IIT-M continues to excel in scholastic achievements. At IIT-Madras students get the right exposure to the practical concepts of engineering. It has its own research park, which acts as a catalyst for far-reaching technological development, where every student can pursue his/her innovative ideas with full support from faculty members. A faculty of international repute, a brilliant student community, excellent technical and supporting staff, and an effective administration, have all contributed to the pre-eminent status of IIT-Madras.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

national

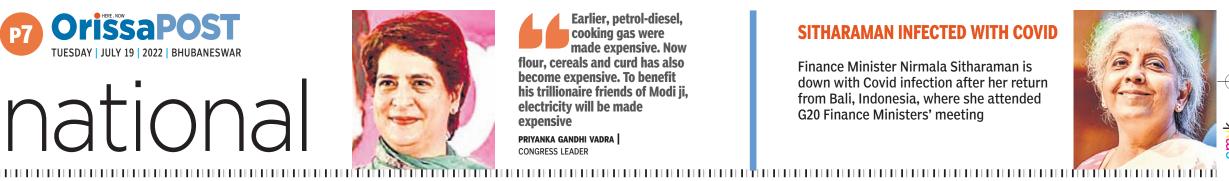


Earlier, petrol-diesel, cooking gas were made expensive. Now flour, cereals and curd has also become expensive. To benefit his trillionaire friends of Modi ji, electricity will be made expensive

PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA CONGRESS LEADER

SITHARAMAN INFECTED WITH COVID

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is down with Covid infection after her return from Bali, Indonesia, where she attended **G20 Finance Ministers' meeting**



It is not only NDA and its allies but opposition parties supported Droupadi Murmu. She has

been an efficient administrator, minister, people's representative and also worked as the Governor BASAVARAJ BOMMAI KARNATAKA CM

Each airline must take all necessary steps that are needed to ramp up safety oversight

JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA











LeT terror network busted, 7 arrested

Jammu: A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror network was unmasked and seven members of the outfit were arrested in Jammu and Rajouri districts, police said Monday. They said most of terror cases in Jammu province have been solved with the busting of the three LeT modules in two districts. "We have busted three terror modules of LeT which were running on instructions from across the border. Seven members of the terror network have been arrested. This has given a setback to the LeT in Jammu," Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu division, Mukesh Singh told a press conference here.

Army captain killed

lammu: A captain and a junior commissioned officer (JCO) of the army were killed in an accidental grenade blast along the Line of Control (LoC) in J&K's Poonch district.

1 dead, several ill

Vadodara: A girl lost her life while several people fell ill after drinking contaminated water in Vadodara. Twenty year old Unnati Solanki and her father Ashwinbhai were admitted in a hospital with complaints of cholera-like symptons. Unnati passed away on Sunday night while her father is under treatment. said Ami Rawat, Leader of Opposition in the Vadodara Municipal Corporation.

'Vicious cycle' against Zubair: SC

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and AS Bopanna said it would hear *July 20 the plea filed by Zubair,* the co-founder of Alt News who is seeking quashing of the five FIRs registered against him for allegedly outraging religious sentiments

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: In a breather for Mohammed Zubair, the Supreme Court Monday directed that no "precipitative steps" be taken against the factchecker in the five cases he is facing in Uttar Pradesh, calling the FIRs a "vicious cycle" of police action.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and AS Bopanna said it would hear on July 20 the plea filed by Zubair, the cofounder of Alt News who is seeking quashing of the five FIRs registered against him for allegedly outraging religious sentiments.

"In the meantime, we direct that no precipitative steps shall be taken against the petitioner (Zubair) in connection with any of the five FIRs, which have been extracted above (in the order), without the leave of this court," the bench said while issuing notice to the UP government on his plea.

Of the six FIRs registered against him in UP, Zubair is currently in judicial custody in a Hathras case while he has been granted interim bail by the top court in the Sitapur case.

The bench noted that Zubair was granted interim bail by the apex court in connection with the case lodged

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

with the one registered

In the fresh plea, Sharma said she had

again received threats to

her life, after strong ob-

servations by the top

court on her earlier plea.

court's judgments sav-

ing that a person can-

not be subjected to mul-

tiple FIRs in several

the same offence.

Sharma, in her new

plea, also sought a di-

rection to club all FIRs

case registered by the

Delhi Police and also

the previous petition.

parts of the country for In the fresh nlea.

lodged against her to a observations by the top

sought a direction from the court to let her pursue

On July 1, the Supreme Court minced no words in

slamming Sharma, whose remarks on Prophet Muhammad

sparked a controversy. The top court said her loose tongue

has set the entire country on fire and her irresponsible

remarks shows that she is "obstinate and arrogant".

said she had again

received threats to

her life, after strong

court on her earlier plea

It also cited top

Nupur moves SC again

New Delhi, July 18: Suspended BJP spokesperson

Nupur Sharma has once again moved the Supreme

Court, seeking stay on her arrest in the nine FIRs

against her for her remarks on Prophet Muhammad dur-

ing a TV debate and also sought clubbing of the FIRs



against him in Sitapur district in UP. The interim bail was last week extended till further orders

It also noted that Zubair was granted bail by a Delhi court on July 15 in a separate case lodged against him by the Delhi Police in the national capital. The case relates to an "objectionable tweet' he had posted in 2018 against a Hindu

"What seems to be happening is the moment he got bail in Delhi, he got bail in Sitapur, the moment that happens. there is another FIR or he is produced in another FIR," the bench orally observed while terming it a "vicious cycle". Human rights group Amnesty India, meanwhile, demanded immediate and unconditional release of Zubair, saying "debunking" fake news is not a crime.

During the hearing in the apex

court, advocate Vrinda Grover, appearing for Zubair, said so far six FIRs have been registered in UP against Zubair -- two in Hathras and one each in Sitapur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Muzaffarnagar and Ghaziabad. She argued that some of these are old FIRs of last year and recoveries have already been made from Zubair's residence at Bengaluru and his electronic devices have been seized. Grover termed it as an "abuse of process of law" and said this kind of targeting

must end. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was asked by the court to assist in the matter, said as per the chart given by the petitioner's counsel, so far as Hathras FIR is concerned, application for 14-day police custody remand was filed on July 15 and it was

listed for arguments today NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL

PURUSHOTTAMPUR, (GM.) Pin-761018 Email: purushottampurnac@gmail.com Ph No. 06811-295222

Dated: 16.07.2022 **QUOTATION CALL NOTICE**

No. C-804:- The Quotation in sealed covers are invited from intending Authorized Firms/ Suppliers and Agencies having up-todate GST Registration Copy/ PAN Card Copy/ Registration Copy for supplying 2 Nos. of 10 Seater Mobile Toilet to Purushottampur

SI. No.	Description	Qty.
1	 Length of Van 19'.7" Breadth of Van 9'.2", Height of Van 10', Sludge tank (FRP) 1300 Liter, Water Tank 1000 liter, Door Size 1'.10" x 5'.11" 	2 Nos.

The prescribed quotation schedule can be obtained from the Office of the N.A.C., Purushottampur, Dist. Ganjam, during the office hours on all working days from Dt. 16.07.2022 to Dt. 21.07.2022 within 1.00 P.M. on payment of Rs. 6,000.00 (Rupees nd) only in the shape of cash/ Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft in favor of the Executive Officer, Purushottampur N.A.C. towards the cost of quotation schedule which is nonrefundable The Quotation paper will be received up to 1.00 P.M. by this office within the Dt. 22.07.2022 Through Regd. post / Speed Post or in Person and the same will be opened on the same date at 03.30 P.M. in the office of NAC. Purushottampur in presence of the Quotationers or their authorized representatives who wishes to remain present. The quotation delay in postal delivery after due date and time will not be taken into the consideration.

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd./- Executive Officer, NAC, Purushottampur

DHANKHAR FILES PAPERS

New Delhi, July 18: Set to become India's next Vice President, former West Bengal Governor and NDA candidate Jagdeep Dhankhar filed his nomination Monday in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior Union ministers and asserted that he will always strive to enhance democratic values.

After filing his nomination, Dhankhar, 71, highlighted his humble origins and said that he had never thought even in his dreams that an ordinary person from a farmer's family like him would get such a "historic" opportunity.

Dhankhar said he was at a loss for words for this opportunity and saluted the founding fathers of the Constitution, India's great democratic values and the strength of its civilisation.

"And I am grateful to the Prime Minister and the leadership that a humble man like me from a 'Kisan' family who would never have got an education but for a scholarship has been given this historic opportunity. I take it as a major milestone reflection on the events in which we are at this moment," he added.

Modi, who was among the senior leaders who were pro-



experience in serving the nation in different roles

and capacities with his erudition ensures that he is the right candidate to become the Vice President of our

JP NADDA | BJP PRESIDENT

posers for his candidature, expressed confidence that Dhankhar will be "an excellent and inspiring Vice President.

The opposition has named Margaret Alva as its candidate for the vice presidential election.

Besides Modi, Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari, BJP pres-

ident J P Nadda, Janata Dal (United) chief Lalan Singh and BJD's Pinaki Misra were present during his nomination for the August 6 election in which his win is all but certain as he enjoys support from a major-

ity of MPs. Union ministers Pashupati Kumar Paras, Anupriya Patel and Ramdas Athawale, all BJP allies, were also present among

Asserting that Dhankhar's nomination was "a matter of great pride for every citizen". BJP president J P Nadda said," His decades of experience in serving the nation in different roles and capacities with his erudition ensures that he is the right candidate to become the vice president

NOTIFIED AREA COUNC PURUSHOTTAMPUR, (GM.) Pin-761018

Email: purushottampurnac@gmail.com Ph No. 06811-295222 Letter No. 1433/NAC

Description

Fabricated by 250 (N.B) M. S. Pipe with 6 mm wall thickness and with one base

QUOTATION CALL NOTICE

No. C-796:- The Quotation in sealed covers are invited from intending Authorized Firms/ Agencies having up-to-date GST Registration Copy/ PAN Card Copy/ Registration Copy for supplying, fitting and fixing of Retro Reflective Signage Welcome Gate (Overhead Gantry) at Pandia Square for NAC Purushottampur as follows:-

	plate 16 mm thick size 4' x 2' 2 Nos.					
2	Two top plates with 4' x 2' of 12 mm thick Gussets will be made 10 mm thick plates 4 Nos.					
3	For each pole in bottom and 6 Nos. in the top above post					
4	Truss will be made by M.S. angle Periphery membrane 65 x 65 x 6 mm, vertically used 50 x 50 x 6 mm, 40 x 40 x 6 mm incline membrane					
5	Height of the MS structure will be 4 Feet and width will be 4 Feet. Length will decide as per the site					
6	The entire structure will be painted 2 coats of Hi-Gloss Synthetic enamel paint					
7	Column of the MS pipe are decorated as square type and it's covered with Aluminium Composite panel and pasted with designed Vinyl					
8	Bottom area of the MS truss box will use 4 Nos.					
9	Using fibre reinforced plastic material for the elephant two numbers on top of the Struss with the picture of the goddess					
10	Signboards - HIP confirming to Type -IV (HIP) sheet pasted on 3mm thick substrate of ACPs having 0.25mm thick skin of Aluminium sheet using electro cutting film as per the design & colour pattern					

The prescribed quotation schedule can be obtained from the Office of the N.A.C., Purushottampur, Dist. Ganjam, during the office hours on working days from 16.07.2022 to 21.07.2022 within 1.00 P.M. on payment of Rs. 6,000.00 (Rupees Six Thousand) only in the shape of cash/ Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft in favour of the Executive Officer, Purushottampur N.A.C. towards the cost of quotation schedule which is non-refundable. Quotation paper will be received up to 1.00 P.M. by this office within the Dt. 22.07.2022 through Regd. post / Speed Post /or in Person and the same will be opened on the same date at 03.30 P.M in the office of NAC, Purushottampur in presence of the Quotationers or their authorized representatives who wishes to remain present. The quotation received beyond the scheduled date and time can not be entertained.

The signboard's border is decorated with step type as per the specified image

Height of the signboard will be 4 Feet

which is made of iron material and painted

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reasons thereof. Sd./- Executive Officer, NAC, Purushottampur

OIPR-13187/11/0004/2223

Pay Covid compensation at earliest, SC to states

New Delhi, July 18: The Supreme Court Monday directed all states and Union Territories to ensure payment of compensation to family members of Covid-19 victims without wasting any time.

A bench of Justices MR Shah and B V Nagarathna said that if any claimant has grievance with respect to the non-payment of compensation and/or rejection of their claim then they may approach the grievance redressal committee concerned.

It also directed the grievance redressal committee to decide the application of

the claimant within four weeks. With regard to the plea alleging transfer of funds by the Andhra Pradesh government from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) to personal deposit accounts, the bench directed the funds be transferred to the SDRF account within two days.

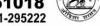
"We close the proceedings while directing all the states to see that the compensation payable under our earlier order be made to eligible persons without wasting any time and if any claimant has any grievance they may approach the concerned grievance redressal committee," the bench said.

POSITIVITY RATE GOES ABOVE 6%

New Delhi: India logged 16,935 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4.37.67.534. while the daily positivity rate was recorded above six per cent after 161 days, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated Monday. The active cases have increased to 1,44,264, while the death toll has climbed to 5,25,760 with 51 new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated. The active cases comprise 0.33 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.47 per cent, the ministry said. An increase of 815 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.







PURUSHOTTAMPUR, (GM.) Pin-761018 Email: purushottampurnac@gmail.com Ph No. 06811-295222

Dated: 16.07.2022 **QUOTATION CALL NOTICE**

No. C-805:- The Quotation in sealed covers are invited from intending Authorized Firms/ Agencies having up-to-date GST Registration Copy/ PAN Card Copy/ Registration Copy for supplying, fitting and fixing of Retro Reflective Signage Welcome Gate (Overhead Gantry) at Bada Sankha for NAC Purushottampur as follows:-

SI. No.	Description				
1	Fabricated by 250 (N.B) M. S. Pipe with 6 mm wall thickness and with one base plate 16 mm thick size 4' x 2' 2 Nos.				
2	Two top plates with 4' x 2' of 12 mm thick Gussets will be made 10 mm thick plates 4 Nos.				
3	For each pole in bottom and 6 Nos. in the top above post				
4	Truss will be made by M.S. angle Periphery membrane 65 x 65 x 6 mm, vertically used 50 x 50 x 6 mm, 40 x 40 x 6 mm incline membrane				
5	Height of the MS structure will be 4 Feet and width will be 4 Feet. Length will decide as per the site				
6	The entire structure will be painted 2 coats of Hi-Gloss Synthetic enamel paint				
7	Column of the MS pipe are decorated as square type and it's covered with Aluminium Composite panel and pasted with designed Vinyl				
8	Bottom area of the MS truss box will use 4 Nos.				
9	Using fibre reinforced plastic material for the elephant two numbers on top of the Struss with the picture of the goddess				
10	Signboards - HIP confirming to Type -IV (HIP) sheet pasted on 3mm thick substrate of ACPs having 0.25mm thick skin of Aluminium sheet using electro cutting film as per the design & colour pattern				
11	Height of the signboard will be 4 Feet				
12	The signboard's border is decorated with step type as per the specified image				

which is made of iron material and painted The prescribed quotation schedule can be obtained from the Office of the N.A.C., Purushottampur, Dist. Ganjam, during the office hours on working days from 16.07.2022 to 21.07.2022 within 1.00 P.M. on payment of Rs. 6,000.00 (Rupees Six Thousand) only in the shape of cash/ Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft in favour of the Executive Officer, Purushottampur N.A.C. towards the cost of quotation schedule which is non-refundable. Quotation paper will be received up to 1.00 P.M. by this office within the Dt. 22.07.2022 through Regd, post / Speed Post /or in Person and the same will be opened on the same date at 03.30 P.M. in the office of NAC, Purushottampur in presence of the Quotationers or their authorized representatives who wishes to remain present. The quotation received beyond the scheduled date and time can not be entertained

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reasons thereof. Sd./- Executive Officer, NAC, Purushottampur OIPR-13187/11/0007/2223



NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL





No. C-797:- The Quotation in sealed covers are invited from intending Authorized Firms/ Agencies having up-to-date GST Registration Copy/ PAN Card Copy/ Registration Copy for supplying, fitting and fixing of Retro Reflective Signage Welcome Gate (Overhead Gantry) at Kumari for NAC Purushottampur as follows:-

51. No.	Description
1	Fabricated by 250 (N.B) M. S. Pipe with 6 mm wall thickness and with one base plate 16 mm thick size 4' x 2' 2 Nos.
2	Two top plates with 4' x 2' of 12 mm thick Gussets will be made 10 mm thick plates 4 Nos.
3	For each pole in bottom and 6 Nos. in the top above post
4	Truss will be made by M.S. angle Periphery membrane 65 x 65 x 6 mm, vertically
4	used 50 x 50 x 6 mm, 40 x 40 x 6 mm incline membrane
5	Height of the MS structure will be 4 Feet and width will be 4 Feet. Length will
5	decide as per the site
6	The entire structure will be painted 2 coats of Hi-Gloss Synthetic enamel paint
7	Column of the MS pipe are decorated as square type and it's covered with
,	Aluminium Composite panel and pasted with designed Vinyl
8	Bottom area of the MS truss box will use 4 Nos.
0	Using fibre reinforced plastic material for the elephant two numbers on top of the
9	Struss with the picture of the goddess
10	Signboards - HIP confirming to Type -IV (HIP) sheet pasted on 3mm thick substrate
	of ACPs having 0.25mm thick skin of Aluminium sheet using electro cutting film as
	per the design & colour pattern
11	Height of the signboard will be 4 Feet

which is made of iron material and painted The prescribed quotation schedule can be obtained from the Office of the N.A.C., Purushottampur, Dist. Ganjam, during the office hours on working days from 16.07.2022 to 21.07.2022 within 1.00 P.M. on payment of Rs. 6,000.00 (Rupees Six Thousand) only in the shape of cash/ Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft in favour of the Executive Officer, Purushottampur N.A.C. towards the cost of quotation schedule which is non-refundable. Quotation paper will be received up to 1.00 P.M. by this office within the Dt. 22.07.2022 through Read, post / Speed Post /or in Person and the same will be opened on the same date at 03.30 P.M. in the office of NAC, Purushottampur in presence of the Quotationers or their authorized representatives who wishes to remain present. The quotation received beyond the scheduled date and time can not be entertained.

The signboard's border is decorated with step type as per the specified image

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reasons thereof. Sd./- Executive Officer, NAC, Purushottampur OIPR-13187/11/0005/2223

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

123 Assam MLAs cast votes

Guwahati, July 18: A total of 123 of 126 Assam MLAs, including Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, cast their votes for the presidential election at Assam Assembly here Monday amid AIUDF's allegation of cross-voting by Congress.

Voting has concluded and the ballot box will be sealed and sent to New Delhi amid tight security aboard a flight at night.

Congress MLA Bharat Chandra Narah had sought permission to cast his vote in New Delhi as he is undergoing treatment in the national capital, while AIUDF legislators Suzzamuddin Laskar and Nizamuddin Choudhury did not exercise their franchise as they are in Saudi Arabia to perform Haj. The Chief Minister, after exercising his franchise, tweeted, "I cast my vote for the 2022 Presidential election."

Legislators of both ruling NDA and Opposition Congress and AIUDF were seen queuing on the assembly premises before voting began at 10 AM. Most of the cabinet ministers and Leader of Opposition Debabrata Saikia cast their votes early in the day, an official said. Congress and AIUDF, officially supporting Opposition nominee Yashwant Sinha, engaged in a war of words with the Badruddin Ajmal-led outfit alleging that 20 of the 27 MLAs of the grand old party voted for NDA candidate Droupadi Murmu.

AIUDF legislator Karimuddin Barbhuiya told reporters that he has evidence that 20, if not more, Congress MLA have cross-voted in favour of Murmu.

The MLA from Sonai in Cachar district claimed that only two-three



Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma casts his vote

Congress MLAs had attended a party meeting held in the Assembly Sunday, and only district presidents were present.

'Why did Congress state president Bhupen Bora hold a meeting in the assembly when he himself is not an MLA? Why did the party legislators not attend it? There has been cross-voting by Congress members," he said.

Barbhuiya, however, did not name the MLAs, but he lashed out at Bora for not inviting AIUDF to a recent meeting of Opposition parties when Sinha had come to Assam to seek support from lawmakers. Reacting to the allegations, Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Debabrata Saikia wondered how could Barbhuiya make such "absurd" claims when voting was

held through secret ballot. "From the beginning, AIUDF has maintained double standards on the issue of presidential election. But I would not like to assume or speculate on which of their MLAs voted for whom.'

"Ajmal had participated in two Opposition meetings in New Delhi but did not commit himself. He later said his party will vote for Murmu but again changed his An Assam MLA's vote is valued at 116 with the total value being at 14,616. The ruling NDA has 79 MLAs, while three BPF members who support the alliance but have not formally joined it are also likely to have voted for Murmu

Congress has 27 A CPI (M) MLAs but three of them have been suspended due to anti-party activities and they have not made it clear which candidate they supported

and Independent member have pledged their support to Sinha

Assam has a total of 21 MPs -- 14 in the Lok Sabha and seven in the Rajya Sabha -and the total value of the votes is 14,700

mind a day before the poll. The result will reveal the true picture," Saikia told PTI.

Ajmal had earlier announced that AIUDF will vote in favour of Murmu, but a day before the election, changed the decision and said its lawmakers would vote for Sinha.

Several BJP MLAs had visited Aimal's residence Sunday requesting him to again change the decision and vote for Murmu.

Reacting to this, party MLA Aminul Islam said Monday, "BJP has double standards. On one hand, it says it does not have anything to do with AIUDE and on the other. it does not hesitate to shamelessly ask for our votes.3

The ruling NDA has a total of 15 MPs, with BJP having 13 and its allies AGP and UPPL one each, while one Independent is also likely to vote in favour of Murmu.

Opposition Congress has three MPs, the AIUDF one, and another Independent lawmaker has also pledged his support to Sinha.

Over 30K Myanmar refugees in Mizoram



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Aizawl, July 18: As many as 30,316 Myanmar nationals, including 11.798 children and 10.047 women, have taken refuge in various parts of Mizoram since the military seized power in the neighbouring country in February last year, a senior official said Sunday.

Fourteen lawmakers are also among those who fled the troubletorn country and moved to Mizoram, the official said, citing data compiled by the state home de-

Fourteen lawmakers are also among those who fled the trouble-torn country and moved to Mizoram, an official said, citing data compiled by the state home department earlier in the month

partment earlier in the month. Of the 30,316 people, profiling of 30,299 has been completed, he said. Also, identity cards, certifying the holder as a refugee, have been issued to over 30,000

"Identity cards are being issued for proper documentation of Myanmar nationals. It will also keep at bay individuals who might want to grant them Indian citizenship for vested political interests," the official told PTI on condition of anonymity.

Meghalaya govt bans use of glue traps for rodent control

The PETA India had earlier urged the Meghalava government to prohibit the manufacture, sale, and use of gestation and farrowing crates in pig farming, as well as deadly glue traps used for rodent control

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shillong, July 18: After Sikkim, the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department (AH & VD) of the Meghalaya government has prohibited the manufacture, sale, and use of glue traps for rodent control, and gestation and farrowing crates in pig farming, officials said Monday.

Officials said that the Meghalaya government took the decision following an appeal from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India.

The PETA India had earlier urged the Meghalaya government to prohibit the manufacture, sale, and use of gestation and farrowing crates in pig farming, as well as deadly glue traps used for rodent

The advocacy body applauds the Meghalaya government for these "progressive reforms, which could spare countless mother pigs severe confinement and many rodents and other animals hideously slow, painful deaths"

According to PETA India, gestation crates (a.k.a. "sow stalls") are metal cages essentially the size of a pig, with concrete or slatted floors, that leave the animals unable to turn around or even stand up without difficulty.

They are used to confine pregnant pigs, who are typically transferred to farrowing crates to give birth and are kept in them until their piglets are taken away.

Farrowing crates are funda-



mentally the same as gestation crates, except that they contain small side compartments for piglets.

Glue traps are usually made of plastic trays or sheets of cardboard covered with strong glue and are indiscriminate killers, often catching non-target animals -- including birds, squirrels, reptiles, and frogs. Mice, rats, and other animals caught in these traps can die of hunger, dehydration, or exposure after days of prolonged suffering. Others may suffocate when their noses and mouths become stuck in the glue, while some even chew through their limbs in a desperate bid for freedom and die from blood loss.

Those found alive may be thrown away along with the trap or may face an even more traumatic death, such as by bludgeoning or drowning.

Meanwhile, following the appeal from the PETA India, the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department of the Sikkim government recently asked the District Collector of Gangtok to ensure strict enforcement of the state's 2016 notification prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and use of glue traps for rodent control.

No film shooting around Kerala Secretariat now

The imposing Secretariat building was built in 1869 and the Roman and Dutch style of architecture was employed for it and is now a prime heritage property also

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Thiruvananthapuram, July 18: The Kerala government has enforced a ban on film shooting in the area around the State Secretariat An order to this effect was passed last month as the area is a high

the shooting, a lot of people are The imposing Secretariat build-

security zone and on account of



ing was built in 1869 and the Roman and Dutch style of architecture was employed for it and is now a

prime heritage property also. Hitherto, permission was given to shoot inside the Secretariat building, which also houses the complex of the Kerala Legislative Assembly where the sittings was held till 1998, following which it now is being held in the exclusive complex of the Assembly, located

Shaji Kailas, whose newest blockbuster venture 'Kaapa' starring Prithviraj seeking a day's per-

mission for their shoot.

a few kms from the old assembly. Even though shootings have been banned in and around the high security area, permission can be secured from the Chief Minister. One application which is now before Pinarayi Vijayan is from acclaimed Malavalam film director

Will never fly in IndiGo: Jayarajan

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Thiruvananthapuram, July 18: Left Convenor EP Jayarajan Monday pledged never to fly in IndiGo after the airlines banned him for three weeks over manhandling of two Congress youths in the flight.

The action was initiated on account of the June 13 incident when he allegedly manhandled two Congress youths who were protesting against Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the flight.

The young protesters have also been banned for two weeks. While Jayarajan first said he has no knowledge about the ban, one of the youth protesters told the media that he got a mail from the airlines Saturday banning him for two weeks. "I am yet to get any information from

wellness treatment commences



the airlines," said Jayarajan to the media Monday and later asserted that going forward, he will never again travel by IndiGo, "I was the one who prevented the protesters from reaching Vijayan. They should have awarded me for it. Instead, I have been penalised. This is a dirty airlines and hence from now onwards, I will never again travel in

it," said Jayarajan, who added that he is vet to get the letter banning him. When pointed out that no other

rline from the state capital flies to Kannur-his home town, Jayarajan who is known for his tongue in cheek remarks, hit back by stating, "Even if I walk from here to Kannur, I will not travel again in IndiGo."

With this fresh action imposed

by the airline which announced its own internal probe by a retired Judge and two other people, the campaign by the CPI-M led Left Front top brass that the Youth Congress workers was planning for an attempt on the life of Vijayan appears to have turned nothing but a political allegation. "While Jayarajan has been handed out a three week ban, the Youth Congress workers who merely shouted slogans were given a two-week ban. which clearly shows the gravity of the crime. Just see, how the Kerala Police has conducted their probe. While they gave a clean chit to Javarajan, the charges registered against the Youth Congress workers are all grave crimes. This double standard of the Kerala Police has now been exposed," said Eden.

Assam: Online initiative against cyberbullying

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati, July 18: Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi Monday stressed the importance of young people protecting themselves in online spaces and understanding their rights. He lauded the efforts of

different agencies, including UNICEF, for making the youngsters aware of the dangers in cyberspace and how to report to the authorities about cyberbullying. The governor was speaking at

the launch of U-Report for Suraksha campaign, an interactive digital tool that aims to increase awareness among young people on cyberbullying and corporal punishment, and the redressal mechanisms, a UNICEF release said.

Once a U-Reporter has followed @UReportIndia on Twitter or liked U-Report India Facebook Page, quizzes and alerts are sent via direct message, and responses are collected in real-time on this site. Results and ideas are shared with the community of young peo-

ple and policymakers. So far, U-Report India has covered issues including health, education, water, sanitation and hvgiene, youth unemployment, HIV/AIDS, and disease outbreaks." will direct all vice-chancellors to inform students about U-Report and ask them to participate.

Similarly, I encourage all volunteers of the National Service Scheme (NSS), Bharat Scouts and



The Assam governor urged young people to join U-Report, take the quiz, pledge to spread awareness, and report against any type of violence and abuse

Guides, and National Cadet Corps to join this endeavour," Mukhi said. The governor appreciated the effort of UNICEF, NSS, Assam State Commissioner for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPCR), and WAY Foundation for their work towards ensuring redressal of issues being

faced by young people in Assam. Deepak Kumar, Regional Director, NSS NE, said, "We asked volunteers about the impact of Covid-19 in their lives and they voiced concerns over cyberbullying and being subject to corporal punishment, and not knowing what to do about it.'

There are various forms of violence against children taking place everywhere, but reporting of such cases or surveys of such incidents is low. Guwahati Police Commissioner Harmeet Singh said.

While the last two years there was no wellness treatment for elephants due to Covid -19 and related issues, it has commenced at Thrissur

from Sunday onwards with more than 17 elephants participating

AGENCIES

Thiruvananthapuram, July 18: The month of 'Karkidakam' according to Malayalam calendar commences from Sunday, and with it begins the wellness treatment

for elephants. While the last two years there was no wellness treatment for elephants due to Covid -19 and related issues, it has commenced at Thrissur from Sunday onwards with more than 17 elephants participating.

For the elephant crazy people of Kerala, even the wellness treatment attracts several people. On Sunday, Kerala Revenue minister K Rajan inaugurated the wellness treatment for elephants at Thrissur Paramekkavu temple premises and honoured the oldest elephant among the crop, Chandrashekharan who is all of 90 years.

There are around 700 captive elephants in Kerala owned by individuals as well as temples and most of them are provided with



Ayurvedic wellness treatment to make them healthy and fit during the 'Karikdakom' month.

Traditional feast for elephants, 'Anayootu' began at the Paramekkavu temple premises marking the beginning of the wellness treatment. Devotees and locals are also given chance to provide elephants with food including sugarcane, jaggery, rice, banana, coconut leaves, palm leaves, etc.

In the month of 'Karkidakam' the elephants are provided Ayurveda treatment which includes feeding the elephants with a mix of Ayurveda dishes like 'Chyavanaprash'.

K. Asokan, an elephant owner from Kollam district while speaking to IANS said: "The elephants need this Ayurveda therapy just like human beings during the Malayalam month of 'Karikidakam' and they have to be given this treatment so that they don't go berserk after they are overworked and overstressed during routine times.

Notably, an elephant is hired at a rate of Rs 3000 to Rs 10,000 per day and almost every day, the elephants are out in the sun walking miles through tarred roads to participate in temple functions. and school functions, and even in weddings some times.

After 2 yrs of Cov lull, elephant Isaac receives ED notice Isaac expressed his inability to appear before the probe

agency Tuesday, saying that he has to attend three classes at a party-run institute in Thiruvananthapuram

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, July 18: Senior CPI(M) leader and former Kerala Finance Minister T M Thomas Isaac Monday said he has received summons of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) by email and accused the central agency of "leaking it to some journalists'

before reaching it to his hands. It was reported on Sunday that the ED has served notice on Isaac seeking his appearance before it in connection with its probe into alleged violations in the financial dealings of Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) when he was the Kerala Finance Minister in the previous LDF government. Isaac then had denied it, saying that he had not yet received any notice from the central

Later in the day, in a Facebook, Isaac confirmed that he has received an email, directing him to appear before the ED with the account book and other documents. He said that the notice was said to be sent to his address in Kalavoor, Alappuzha, where he had lived 15 vears ago. "I did not receive it even when it was leaked to some journalists," Isaac said, alleging that there was something fishy. The CPI (M) central committee member said he would not be able to appear before the ED Tuesday as he has to attend three classes at the

Academy



Thiruvananthapuram.

He said the decision regarding his appearance before the probe agency will be decided by the party

after a discussion. Talking to reporters earlier in the day, Isaac accused the Centre of 'misusing' the central investigating agencies for 'political gains'. Terming the ED notice to him as a 'political move', Isaac said, "The BJP government at the Centre is misusing all investigation agencies for their political gains. Before the last election, the ED, the CAG and even the Income Tax department was after the KIIFB. Then

what happened? KIIFB is the primary agency of the state government for financing large and critical infrastructure projects and had last year raised Rs 2,150 crore through its debut masala bond issue as part of its plan to mobilise Rs 50,000 crore to fund large and critical infrastructure projects in the southern state. Isaac also detailed the positive impact of KIIFB in the state.

national

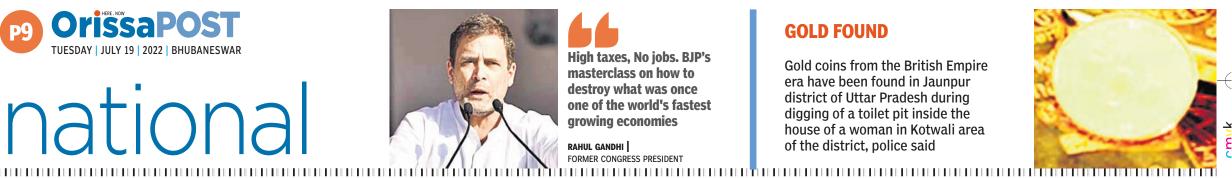


High taxes, No jobs. BJP's masterclass on how to destroy what was once one of the world's fastest growing economies

RAHUL GANDHI FORMER CONGRESS PRESIDENT

GOLD FOUND

Gold coins from the British Empire era have been found in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh during digging of a toilet pit inside the house of a woman in Kotwali area of the district, police said



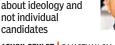
criminal, I am a chief minister and a free citizen of the country. There was no legal basis to stop me from visiting Singapore so there appears to be a political reason behind this

ARVIND KEJRIWAL DELHI CM

People hurt when they needed relief







ASHOK GEHLOT RAJASTHAN CM

SHORT **TAKES**

Minor raped

Palanpur: The Gujarat police have registered a case against three youths over allegations that they blackmailed and threatened to release the nude video clip of a minor girl who was raped by one of the accused six months ago. The incident came to light on Sunday evening, when the 12year-old victim attempted suicide. Her family rushed her to hospital for treatment, and when she regained consciousness, her statement was recorded by the police.

Criminal shot dead

Surat: A criminal shot and seriously injured by his fellow gang member in Guiarat's Surat succumbed in hospital, police said Monday. The deceased is identified as Mohammad Bilal alias Haii Ali Abdul Rehman Poonawala and the alleged assailant was Faiyub Amin Barafwala, police said, adding that the incident took place late Sunday night.

Remand extended

New Delhi: A special court Monday extended by four days the remand of Chitra MD of National Stock Exchange (NSE) in connection with the prevention of money laundering case related to the phone tapping of NSE's employees between 2009 and 2017. She was produced before Rouse Avenue Court by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) after the expiry of her custodial remand.

Four killed

Raichur: Four members of a family, including two children, were killed in a head-on crash between a car and a truck in this district of the state Monday, According to police, all the deceased were occupants of the car and belonged to the same family from Madhya

Monsoon Session begins on a stormy note

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: The Monsoon Session of Parliament got off to a stormy start Monday leading to adjournment of the two Houses without transacting much business following Opposition uproar over issues ranging from price rise to the Agnipath scheme.

The uproar broke out even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged MPs before the start of the parliamentary proceedings to make the session as productive as possible and called for debate, criticism and analysis for positive contribution to policies and decisions. In a lighter vein, he remarked that in Delhi rains have begun, but the heat outside is not reducing and wondered whether the heat will come down inside Parliament.

Presiding over his last session as Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, M Venkaiah Naidu also urged MPs to be "different and better" than they were in the last five years when 57 per cent of House sittings were partly or fully disrupted. Naidu's five-vear term as Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman ends on August 10.

said Parliament functions and takes best decisions with everyone's 'prayaas' (efforts) and urged parliamentarians to make full use of this session in national interest."We always consider the House an efficient medium of dialogue, a pilgrimage place. Where there is dialogue with an open mind, there are fierce debates if needed, there is also criticism and by very good analysis of things a very positive contribution can be made to policies and decisions," the prime minister added.

He urged all MPs to undertake

Speaking to reporters, Modi deep thinking and discussion, and make the House as productive and fruitful as possible."For that everyone's contribution is needed.

Democracy functions with everyone's 'prayaas' (efforts), House functions with everyone's 'prayaas', House takes the best decisions with everyone's 'prayaas'. And therefore, to enhance the dignity of the House while fulfilling our duties, we should make the most of this session in national interest," Modi said.

Subject to exigencies of government business, the Monsoon Session will conclude on August 12. The morning session of the Lok Sabha was adjourned to allow members to vote in the presidential election even as opposition members tried to raise some issues. In the Rajya Sabha, slogan-shouting Congress members trooped to the Well of the House raising issues relating to price rise and GST as soon as Naidu read out the obituary references.

"As some people have come determined not to allow the House to function and also enable members to go and vote in the Presidential election. I am adjourning the House for the day," Naidu said.

In the Lok Sabha, three newlyelected members - Bollywood actor

As some people have come determined not to allow the House to function and also enable members to go and vote in the Presidential election, I am adjourning the House for the day

M VENKAIAH NAIDU

and Trinamool Congress' Shatrughan Sinha (Asansol, West Bengal) and two BJP members from Uttar Pradesh Dinesh Lal Yadav Nirahua (Azamgarh) and Ghanshyam Singh Lodhi (Rampur) took their oath.

As opposition members raised slogans, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said elections in India are celebrated as a "festival" and since the Presidential polls was underway it should also be celebrated. The Speaker said members should participate in the "festival" and adjourned the House till 2 pm.

Legendary singer Bhupinder Singh dies



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 18: Legendary ghazal singer Bhupinder Singh died Monday due to suspected colon cancer and Covid-related complications at a Mumbai hospital, his wife Mitali Singh said. He was 82.

Singh was best known for songs such as 'Duniya Chhute Yaar Na Chhute' ("Dharam Kanta"), 'Thodi Si Zameen Thoda Aasman' ("Sitara"), which he sang with the late legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, 'Dil Dhoondta Hai' ("Mausam"), 'Naam Gum Jayega' ("Kinara").

"He was admitted to the hospital eight to ten days ago as he had some infection in the urine. After tests were performed, he tested positive for COVID-19. He passed away at around 7:45 pm due to suspected colon cancer and had COVID-19," Mitali Singh, also a well-known singer, said.

ANOTHER BLOW TO UDDHAV

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 18: In a setback to the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena, its senior leader and former Maharashtra minister Ramdas Kadam resigned Monday claiming he was consistently "insulted" while Thackeray always remained busy when he was the chief minister.

Kadam wrote a letter to Thackeray, who heads Shiv Sena, tendering his resignation as "Shiv Sena leader". In his letter, Kadam expressed his anguish over the 2019 post-poll alliance between Shiv Sena, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), and Congress, which he said was a betraval of the thoughts of Sena founder the late Bal Thackeray.

Kadam, who hails from the Ratnagiri district, became a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the first time in 1990 and went on to win three more terms. He was appointed as Shiv Sena leader in 2005. He also served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra egislative Assembly from 2005 to 2009. He became an MLC for the first time in 2010 and again in 2015.

matter Monday but cautioned the

lawyers that it would not adjourn

the hearing any further. The two pe-

titioners have alleged that they

were witnesses in the trial against

the accused and that they were

also the victims of the violence.

The Babri mosque was demol-

ished by karsevaks on December

6, 1992. After a long legal battle,

the special CBI court on September

30, 2020 pronounced the judgment

in the criminal trial and acquit-

ted all the accused including Advani,

former UP chief minister Kalyan

Singh, senior BJP leaders MM

Joshi, Uma Bharti and Vinay

Katiyar, Sadhvi Ritambhara and

lieve newspaper cuttings, video clips as

evidence as the originals of the same

The trial judge had refused to be

Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh

COP KILLS 3 COLLEAGUES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: A policeman deployed at the Haiderpur water treatment plant here shot dead his three colleagues Monday and later surrendered, officials said.

The accused, Prabin Rai (32), and the three deceased were Sikkim Police personnel deployed at the plant for its security as part of the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRBn). A senior official said they received a PCR call at the KNK Marg Police Station at around 3 pm about the firing.

"Upon reaching the spot, it was found that three persons belonging to Sikkim Police had been shot, of which two had died on the spot and one was critically wounded and transferred to BSA hospital where he was declared brought dead," a senior official said. He said the accused surrendered at the Samaypur Badli police station.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi casts his vote for the election of the President at Parliament House in New Delhi

BABRI DEMOLITION CASE

HC to hear plea

against acquittal

Kerala reports second monkeypox case



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram/New Delhi, July 18: A 31-year old man who arrived in Kerala last week from Dubai has tested positive for monkeypox, making it the second case in India this year, state Health Minister Veena George said Monday.

The minister said the patient, who arrived in Kerala on July 13, was a native of Kannur in north Kerala and was undergoing treatment at the Pariyaram Medical College there. His health is stable, she said.

The minister also said that all

those who were in close contact with the patient are being closely monitored. Meanwhile, the Kerala Health Minister held discussions with the central team visiting the southern state to study the situation. After the meeting, she said the state government will introduce the monkeypox diagnosis system in government labs. "There are 28 government labs in the state that can conduct COVID RT-PCR tests. In the first phase, test kits for detecting monkeypox will be immediately made available from NIV Pune to NIV Alappuzha and tests will be conducted in the Alappuzha lab itself," the minister's office said in a statement. It said the central team briefed her about the details

of their three-day visit to the state. "The team expressed satisfaction over the preventive measures being taken by the state," the statement said. "Help desks have been set up at all international airports and surveillance has been intensified. If any of the passengers show symptoms of infection, they will be safely taken to isolation centres for testing and specialist treatment," it said.

PRESS TRUST OFINDIA

Lucknow, July 18: The Allahabad High Court Monday directed that the revision petition filed against the acquittal of all 32 accused, including former deputy prime minister LK Advani and senior BJP leader M M Joshi, in the Babri mosque demolition case be treated as a criminal appeal.

Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh

said the revision petition by

Ayodhya residents - Haji

Mahmood Ahmad and Sved

Akhlaq Ahmad - was not

maintainable and directed that

it be treated as criminal appeal

The Lucknow bench of the high court also fixed August 1 as the next date of hearing. Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh said the revision petition by Ayodhya residents - Haji Mahmood Ahmad and Syed Akhlaq Ahmad - was not maintainable and directed that it be treated as criminal appeal.

an adjournment. The bench agreed to hear the

were not produced, while the entire edifice of the case rested on these pieces of documentary evidence. The trial judge also had held that the CBI could not produce any evidence that the accused had a meeting of mind with karsevaks who demolished the structure

The matter was earlier fixed for July 11, 2022 but the lawyers for the petitioners had sought

It's dangerous to be right when the establishment is wrong

t is dangerous to be right when the establishment is wrong. Or so it seems. And wrong it was for Mohammed Zubair, fact checker and co-founder of Alt News who was arrested for a 4-year-old tweet, allegedly for hurting Hindu sentiments, was granted conditional bail July 15 by a Delhi court with the remark that a voice of dissent is necessary for a healthy democracy. The court noted that the Delhi police has not been able to identify the Twitter users who had been offended by the tweet in 2018. No statement of any offended person has been recorded either. "The voice of dissent is necessary for healthy democracy. Merely for the criticism of any political party, it is not justified to invoke Section 153A and 295A, IPC,' Additional Sessions judge Devender Kumar Jangala said. Section 153A pertains to promoting enmity between differ-

ent groups of religion, race, place of birth and residence while 295A is about deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs.

The text for which Zubair is undergoing this ordeal at the hands of the Delhi police is about a tweet of an image from a 1983 movie which showed a hotel's name was changed from Honeymoon Hotel to Hanuman Hotel. The text of the tweet said, "Before 2014: Honevmoon Hotel. After 2014: Hanuman Hotel." "It is the case that the accused (Zubair) is stated to have used this to point towards a political party. In Indian democracy, political parties are open for their criticism", the court observed.

The court ruled that the film was certified by the Central board of film certification which is a statutory body of the government of India and is available



for public view ever since. "No complaint is stated to have been filed till today that the said scene of the movie has hurt the feelings of a particular community of society. Hindu religion is so tolerant that its followers proudly name their institutions/organisations/facilities in the name of their holy Gods or Goddesses," the court observed. Zubair may have been a soft target but Alt News that he co-founded has a history. It is an Ahmedabad-based Indian nonprofit fact checking website founded in February 2017 and run by a software engineer Pratik Sinha along with Zubair: Alt News

earned its spurs and rose in pop-

ularity fast because it came into being in a year when the state witnessed one of most closely contested state Assembly elections in Gujarat.

Pratik is the son of Mukul Sinha, a human rights activist and a lawyer practicing at the Gujarat High Court who passed away to cancer in 2014. A Masters in Physics from IIT, Kanpur, he had joined the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad for his doctoral studies when fate ordained otherwise and he plunged into the trade union movement. A vocal critic of the then Chief Minister Narendra Modi, he legally represented the victim of the 2002 communal riots in Gujarat and even secured the conviction of politicians and police officers. The Jan Sangharsh Manch was set up by him along with wife Nirjhari as a civil rights organisation.

Mukul Sinha and his organi-

zation remained a thorn in the side of the Modi establishment in Gujarat taking up the cause of the victims of the 2002 communal riots before the Nanavati-Mehta judicial inquiry commission was set up to probe the Godhra train carnage and the communal violence that followed thereafter. CDR(call data records) secured by IPS officer Rahul Sharma, who has since quit the service, and its citing as evidence was crucial in corroborating the testimonies of the Naroda Patiya (Ahmedabad) massacre victims leading to some high profile convictions. Pratik has inherited the mantle of his late father but his non-profit focuses on fact-checking which continues to expose a lot of misinformation and disinformation crowding the social media space thus throwing a spanner in many well laid plans, rubbing politicians in power on the raw side.

international



So, I've always been a completely normal **UK taxpayer; my wife is from** another country so she's treated differently, but she explained that in the spring and she resolved that issue RISHI SUNAK | THE UK'S PRIME MINISTERIAL

MARBURG OUTBREAK IN GHANA

The World Health Organization has declared Ghana's first outbreak of the Ebola-like Marburg virus disease after labs confirmed the infections in two cases announced earlier this month





contributes in a way to the action of diversify its sources

of provisions, having become the top supplier of gas to Italy in these

MARIO DRAGHI ITALIAN PREMIER

Shehbaz Sharif has become the Prime Minister of just Capital Development Authority (CDA)



SHEIKH RASHEED AWAMI MUSLIM LEAGUE (AML) CHIEF

The US pledged not to allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon even at the cost of using all elements of its national power, affirming its commitment to work together with other partners to

confront Iran's aggression and destabilising activities

JOE BIDEN US PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

India top lender to Lanka this year

Colombo: India has emerged as the top lender to Sri Lanka, extending \$376.9 million worth credit compared to \$67.9 million by China in the first four months of this year to rescue the island nation from the unprecedented political crisis and economic turmoil. Loans from India with \$376.9 million were the highest foreign financing disbursements during the period of January 1 to April 30, 2022, according to Sri Lanka's Finance Ministry. After India, Asian Development Bank (ADB) came in as the second largest lender with USD 359.6 million being disbursed in the first four months, followed by the World Bank with \$67.3 million.

mall shooting

Greenwood (US): Three people were fatally shot and two were injured, including a 12year-old girl, at an Indiana mall after a man with a rifle opened fire in a food court and an armed civilian shot and killed him, police said. The man entered the Greenwood Park Mall on Sunday evening with a rifle and several magazines of ammunition and began firing in the food court. Greenwood Police Department Chief Jim Ison said. The three people who died were in addition to the man with the rifle. The identity of the gunman and a possible motive weren't

4 killed in

Washington: Four people were killed after the small planes they were travelling on collided in mid-air around noon at North Las Vegas Airport in the US state of Nevada. "At this time, there are four reported fatalities. Accident is still under investigation," the City of North Las Vegas Fire Department tweeted. Each aircraft had two people aboard, Xinhua news agency reported.

5 ultras killed in drone strike

Baghdad: Five militants of Turkey's Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) were killed in a northern province of Nineveh, official sources including a woman, were killed when a Turkish drone bombarded their vehicle moving near a village in the west of the provincial capital Mosul, nearly 400 km to a statement by the Iragi Counter-Terrorism Service.

Acting Prez declares emergency in Lanka Trade union Less than 2 acres have been cancelled. While due to the drop in Strengthen ranks

representatives and activists shout slogans during a protest against Sri Lanka acting president Ranil Wickremesinghe in Colombo

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Colombo, July 18: Sri Lanka's President Ranil Wickremesinghe Monday imposed emergency giving him sweeping powers ahead of the key election July 20 to pick a new president as he urged the political parties to put aside differences and form an all-party government, with the Opposition dubbing his decision as an "undemocratic draconian act".

Wickremesinghe, who was sworn-in as the acting president Friday after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled to the Maldives and then to Singapore from where he resigned in the face of public revolt against his government's mishandling of the country's economy, imposed the emergency as protests demanding his resignation continued in most parts of the country. In a government gazette dated July 17, Wickremesinghe said that he was of the opinion enforcing public emergency was required in Sri Lanka in the interests of public security, the protection of

Japan, SK foreign

ministers agree

to improve ties

ASSOCIATED PRESS



public order and the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community.

The President is empowered to impose emergency regulations in part 2 of the public security ordinance which says "(a) if the president is of the opinion that the police are inadequate to deal with a situation he may gazette an order calling out the armed forces to maintain public order"

This means that security forces gain the power to search, arrest, seize and remove weapons and explosives, and enter and search premises or persons. Hours later, Wickremesinghe's office issued a special statement in which he called

upon the political parties to put aside their differences and not allow the country to suffer over differences over an individual.

"He urged them (political parties) to come together and form an All-Party Government which would allow the country to recover from the economic crisis," according to the statement issued by his office.

In the statement, 73-year-old Wickremesinghe said that when he took over as the Prime Minister May 13, the economy had collapsed.

He also explained that relief was being provided to the citizens who are struggling with the economic crisis. The loans taken by paddy farmers who have planted fields

BEATING THE HEAT

celled. While due to the drop in the world oil prices, the fuel prices in the country have also been reduced, he said.

Wickremesinghe also highlighted the steps taken so far and said that negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were nearing conclusion, and discussions for assistance with foreign countries were also progressing.

Opposition leaders slammed Wickremesinghe's move to impose an emergency. "Imposition of Emergency is an undemocratic draconian act. Peace loving citizens of our motherland have the sacred privilege to exercise their fundamental rights in a democratic society. Long live democracy," Leader of the Opposition and Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) party leader Sajith Premadasa tweeted.

Opposition Tamil National Alliance (TNA) MP M A Sumanthiran in two separate tweets tagged media reports and wrote Rajapaksa': 'Ranil Wickremesinghe's Power Grab Will End Badly for Sri Lanka", "Why @RW_UNP has become unacceptable to the country to succeed @GotabayaR as President for the rest of the term? The powerful Bar Association of Sri Lanka also demanded withdrawal of the proclamation declaring a State of Emergency, and to ensure that the fundamental rights of the people are respected and protected and not

violated by the State or its agents.



Ukrainian soldiers carry the coffin of a soldier, codename Fanat, killed by the Russian troops in a battle, during his funeral at St Michael cathedral in Kyiv

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, July 18: With Russian shelling across the country showing no signs of easing, Ukraine's leaders on Monday were looking to strengthen their own ranks after President Volodymyr Zelenskyy removed from office some of his most prominent officials because of alleged "poor performance" over clearing their agencies of "collaborators and traitors.

Internal investigations and checks will be launched following the replacement of the head of Ukraine's Security Service, or SBU, Ivan Bakanov, and Prosecutor General Irvna Venediktova, said Andriy Smirnov, deputy head of Ukraine's presidential office. Acting heads of the two agencies have been appointed in the meantime. Officials said.

"Six months into the war, we continue to uncover loads of these people in each of these agencies, said Andriy Smirnov, the deputy head of Ukraine's presidential office. Analysts said the move is designed to strengthen Zelenskyv's control over the army and the security agencies that have been led by people appointed before the war. Zelenskyy "needs an effective Prosecutor (General's) office, and (an effective) SBU" agency. Volodymyr Fesenko, political analyst with the Penta Center think tank, told The Associated Press.

"In the conditions of a war, Zelenskyy needs leaders that are capable of tackling several tasks at

Imran demands fresh general polls

intrigues within the country to create a fifth column, to be in contact and coordination with international experts, to do their ac-

tual job effectively," Fesenko said. Bakanov and Venediktova both have held key positions amid Ukraine's efforts to defend itself from the Russian invasion and hold the Russian attackers accountable for the crimes against civilians during the war, which started February 24.

Bakanov is Zelenskyy's childhood friend and former business partner whom he had appointed to head the SBU. Bakanov had come under growing criticism over security breaches since the war began and reports have emerged in the past few months that Zelenskyy was looking to replace him.

Venediktova, the first woman to serve as Ukraine's prosecutor general, has won international praise for her relentless drive to gather evidence against Russian President Vladimir Putin and Russian officials and military commanders over the destruction of Ukrainian cities and the killing of civilians. The 43-year-old former law professor has opened thousands of criminal investigations and identified hundreds of suspects while in office, interviewing victims while also coordinating her efforts with foreign donors and officials. When she took office in 2020, Venediktova started as a reformer set to curb inefficiency and corruption in her office.

After appointing the acting chief prosecutor Sunday, Zelenskyy Monday signed a decree naming first deputy head of the SBU, Vasyl Maliuk, as the acting head of the agency. Maluik, 39, is known for his efforts to fight corruption in the security agencies and his appointment is seen as part of Zelenskyy's efforts to get rid of pro-Russian staffers within the SBU

Three killed in

immediately known.

plane crash

Turkish drone strike in Irag's said. The five PKK members north of Baghdad, according

Tokyo, July 18: The foreign ministers of South Korea and Japan reaffirmed Monday the importance

of bilateral ties and the three-way relationship with the US as they renewed efforts to mend relations amid the war in Ukraine and other global tensions. Park Jin, South Korea's top diplo-

mat, and his Japanese counterpart Yoshimasa Hayashi agreed to work together on the nuclear threat from North Korea and on the need to resolve a dispute over Japan's colonialera forced mobilisation of Korean laborers, according to the two foreign ministries. The countries' ties have been strained mostly over historical issues, including forced labour leading up to and during World War II



At the heart of the dispute are South Korean court rulings in 2018, which ordered two Japanese companies, Nippon Steel and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, to compensate forced Korean labourers.

The Japanese companies have refused to comply with the rulings, and the former labourers and their supporters responded by pushing for the forced sale of corporate assets of Nippon Steel and Mitsubishi.

Trump aide Bannon goes on trial

Children cool off during sunset as temperatures rise in Vlora, Albania

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, July 18: The trial begins Monday of Steve Bannon, an adviser to former US President Donald Trump, for refusing

to testify before a congressional select committee investigating the January 6 riots. The first step of the trial

will be selecting the jurors. Rannon faces two counts of misdemeanor for defying a subpoena from the committee to give testimony and pro-

loose tomorrow," he had said on a right-wing radio talk show January 5. A clip from that show was played by the select committee of the House of Representatives at a hearing in July. "It's all con-

verging, and now we're on, as they say, the point of attack," he had added The controversial

adviser claimed the cover of executive privilege claimed by Trump to defy the sum-

mons, despite the fact that he had not not held any position in the administration after being fired as White House senior adviser in 2017.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lahore, July 18: Imran Khan has demanded fresh general elections in Pakistan after his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party routed the ruling Pakistan Muslim League party in the crucial Punjab assembly bypolls, dealing a major blow to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif whose son Hamza Shehbaz is all set to

lose his post as chief minister. The election for the Chief Minister will be held July 22 on the Supreme Court's order and PTI-PMLQ joint candidate Chaudhary Parvez Elahi is likely to be the new chief minister of the



politically crucial province Punjab. According to unofficial results so far, the PTI has won 15 seats while the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) of Sharif has just four. An independent candidate also won. PTI chairman Khan in a tweet Sunday thanked party workers and voters of Punjab for defeating, what

he called, not just PML-N candidates, but the entire state machinery, especially harassment by police and a "totally biased" Election Commission of Pakistan.

 $He \, also \, thanked \, the \, PTI \, allies \, -$ PML-Q, Majlis-i-Wahdatul Muslimeen (MWM) and Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC).

"The only way forward from here is to hold fair and free elections under a credible ECP. Any other path will only lead to greater political uncertainty and further economic chaos," Khan, who was ousted as prime minister in April after he lost a confidence vote in Parliament, said.

Britons asked to stay indoor as UK faces hottest day ever

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, July 18: People in the UK are being advised to stay indoors and avoid non-essential travel as the country faces its hottest day Monday, with temperatures set to edge towards the 40-degree Celsius mark for the first time since records

A national emergency is in place by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and the Meteorological (Met) Office has issued its firstever red alert for extreme heat, warning of danger to life from the extreme heat. The heatwave is set to peak Tuesday before some rain forecast for Wednesday.

We may well see the hottest day in UK history," said Professor Penny Endersby, chief executive of the Met Office. "Tomorrow [Tuesday] there's a higher chance of 40C and

above, possible numbers 41 are on the cards, some 43 in some models, but we're hoping it won't be as hot as that," she told the BBC.

vide documents. Bannon had in-

famously predicted the January 6

riots. "All hell is going to break

She urged people to take the warnings seriously as they would any forecast of storm or other harsh weather. "These temperatures are unprecedented and we're not used to dealing with them heat causes many hundreds or thousands excess deaths, so people need to follow the advice of keeping the shade, keeping cool and hydrated," she added.

The highest temperature ever recorded in Britain is 38.7 C (101.7 F), a record set in 2019. People are being warned of major disruption to journeys by train and car. Downing Street said railway speed restrictions may be needed "on some parts of the network... To manage the hot weather and to



A member of the Queen's Guard receives water to drink during the hot weather, outside Buckingham Palace in London, Britain

avoid any potential damage". Very hot temperatures can affect rails, overhead power lines and

signalling equipment, as well as

"bend and buckle" tracks. Network Rail, which runs the country's railway networks, warned

that journeys will take signifi-

Some schools have also decided to cancel planned sports days or shut down, with others keeping some staff on site and allowing children to wear their cooler sports uniforms if their parents are unable to find childcare at short notice

 The majority of UK schools are set to break up for the summer holidays later in the week and might accelerate that date

 Southern Europe battles wildfires as heatwave spreads north

 Climate change extreme weather costs Germany billions annually

cantly longer and delays are likely. It, along with Transport for London (TfL), is strongly encouraging customers not to travel on Monday and Tuesday. "Due to the exceptionally hot weather that is expected... Customers should only use London's transport network for essential journeys. If customers do need to travel, they should check before they travel as we are expecting there to be some impact to Tube and rail services," said TFL chief operating officer Andy Lord.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan said he supports calls for some industries to adapt working hours to make sure employees aren't in dan-

ger in the hottest temperatures. 'New buildings now have cooling systems, rely on renewable \rightarrow energy and are insulated," he said.

Some schools have also decided to cancel planned sports days or shut down, with others keeping some staff on site and allowing children to wear their cooler sports uniforms if their parents are unable to find childcare at short notice.

business



debt levels and limited policy space will face additional strains. **Look no further than Sri** Lanka as a warning sign KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA | IMF CHIEF

MARUTI SUZUKI INDIA LAUNCHES NEW S-PRESSO

The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India Monday said it has launched new version of its entry level hatchback S-Presso priced between Rs 4.25 lakh and Rs 5.99 lakh (exshowroom price).





In view of the expressed by the RBI on the destabilising effect of cryptocurrencies on the monetary and fiscal stability of a country, the RBI has recommended for framing of legislation on this sector. The RBI is of the view that cryptocurrencies should be prohibited

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN | FINANCE MINISTER

It is becoming critical for India to liberalise its exploration and production policy for metals, rare metals, minerals, and hydrocarbons



& PhDs. \$500mn investment. Will be up & running next



BHAVISH AGGARWAL | OLA ELECTRIC CEC

SHORT **TAKES**

Bank of Maharashtra Q1 net jumps 2-fold

Mumbai: State-run Bank of Maharashtra Monday reported a more than two-fold jump in net profit to Rs 452 crore in the April-June quarter, helped by a healthy net interest income and improvement in asset quality. The lender had reported a net profit of Rs 208 crore on a standalone basis in the similar quarter of the fiscal 2022. The bank's **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer A S Rajeev** said despite transfers and promotions of employees, the bank performed well and its net profit grew by 117.25 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal, "We envisage a higher growth from the second quarter onwards and are very positive on the future growth," Rajeev told reporters.

Adani Wilmar cuts prices of edible oil

New Delhi: Edible oil firm products under Fortune brand. Monday announced reduction in cooking oil prices by up to Rs 30 per litre amid fall in global prices. The maximum reduction has been done in soyabean oil. The stocks with new prices will reach market soon. February 7, Mother Dairy, which sells edible oils under the Dhara brand, had cut prices of soyabean and rice bran oils by up to Rs 14 per litre. The food ministry had called a meeting July 6 to discuss edible oil prices and directed edible oil firms to pass on the benefits of fall in global cooking oil prices to consumers. "In continuation to the global price reduction and the government's effort to pass on the benefits of reduced edible oil prices to consumers, Adani Wilmar has further slashed edible oil prices from the last month's reduction effected by the company," a company statement said.

Yes Bank to invest ₹350cr in JC Flowers

Mumbai: Yes Bank will invest up to Rs 350 crore for a potential 20 per cent stake in asset reconstruction company JC Flowers, which has emerged as the base bidder for the lender's bad loans worth Rs 48,000 crore. The private sector lender is planning to raise up to USD 1 billion in FY23 to bolster its core capital base once the NPA challenge is over, its managing director and chief executive Prashant Kumar told reporters here Monday. The bank's core equity ratio stands at 11.5 per cent right now and will go to over 14 per cent after the capital raise, he said, adding that even though the market conditions are not conducive right now, it would like to conclude the process in FY23 itself.

₹depreciates by 25% since Dec 2014

New Delhi, July 18: Indian rupee has declined by about 25 per cent since December 31, 2014, and is nearing 80 against the dollar, the Lok Sabha was informed Monday.

The value of the rupee declined from 63.33 against a dollar on December 31, 2014, to 79.41 on July 11, 2022, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a reply quoting

The exchange rate of the Indian Rupee against the dollar was Rs 78.94 per dollar as of June 30, 2022, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a written reply.

The rupee on Monday ended the session 16 paise lower at 79.98 (provisional) amid a surge in crude oil prices and unrelenting foreign fund outflows.

Global factors such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict, soaring crude oil prices and tightening of global financial conditions are the major reasons for the weakening of the Indian rupee against the US dollar, she said.

Currencies such as the British pound, the Japanese yen and the euro have weakened more than the Indian rupee against the US dollar and, therefore, the Indian rupee has strengthened against



these currencies in 2022, she said.

The outflow of foreign portfolio capital is a major reason for the depreciation of the Indian rupee, she said, adding, monetary tightening in advanced economies, particularly in the United States. tends to cause foreign investors to withdraw funds from emerging

Foreign portfolio investors have withdrawn about USD 14 billion from Indian equity markets in 2022-23 so far, she said.

On the impact of falling currency, she said, nominal exchange rate is only one of the factors that impact an economy.

The depreciation of a currency is likely to enhance the export competitiveness, which in turn impacts the economy positively, while the depreciation also impacts the imports by making them more costly.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regularly monitors the foreign exchange market and intervenes in situations of excess volatility. It has raised interest rates in recent months that increase the attractiveness of holding Indian rupees for residents and non-residents.

Earlier this month, the RBI raised the overseas borrowing limits for companies and liberalised norms for foreign investments in gov-

Rupee touches 80-mark intra-day for first time

Mumbai: For the first time, the rupee declined to the low level of 80 against the US dollar in intra-day spot trading Monday before ending the session 16 paise lower at 79.98 (provisional) amid a surge in crude oil prices and unrelenting foreign fund

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 79.76 against the greenback but lost ground to touch the psychological low mark of 80 against the American currency. The local unit clawed back some lost ground and closed at 79.98 (provisional), registering a fall of 16 paise over its previous close.

ernment bonds as it announced a slew of measures to boost foreign exchange inflows.

The RBI increased the ECB limit under the automatic route from USD 750 million or its equivalent per financial year to USD 1.5 billion, and eased norms for foreign portfolio investments in the

EPFO likely to up investment limit in equities to 20%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: Retirement fund body EPFO is likely to approve this month a proposal to enhance its investments in equites to up to 20 per cent of the investible deposits from the current limit of 15 per cent.

The proposal is expected to be considered and approved during the EPFO trustees' meeting scheduled to be held July 29 and 30, according to a source. At present, EPFO can investment 5 to 15 per cent of the investible deposits in equity or equity-related schemes. The proposal to revise the limit to 20 per cent has been vetted and approved by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation's (EPFO) advisory body Finance Audit and Investment Committee (FAIC).

The recommendation of FAIC will be placed before the EPFO apex decision making body --Central Board of Trustees (CBT) - for consideration and approval.

"The Central Board of Trustees (CBT) headed by Union Labour



Minister is likely to approve the recommendation of the FAIC for increasing the investment in equity and equity related scheme to 5-20 per cent from existing 5-15 per cent," the source said. In a written reply to Lok Sabha Monday, Minister of State for Labour and Employment Rameshwar Teli said, "FIAC, a subcommittee of CBT. EPF. has recommended for the proposal to increase investment in equity and related investments in category IV of the Pattern of Investment from 5-15 per cent to 5-20 per cent for consideration of CBT, EPF."

EPFO had started investing in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in August 2015, putting 5 per cent of its investible deposits in stocklinked products.

SENSEX, NIFTY CLIMB OVER 1%

Mumbai, July 18: Benchmark Sensex and Nifty spurted over 1 per cent Monday following hectic buying in IT, oil and gas and banking shares bolstered by firm global Rising for a second straight ses-

sion, the 30-share BSE Sensex rallied 760.37 points or 1.41 per cent to settle at 54,521.15. During the day, it jumped 795.88 points or 1.48 per cent to 53,760.78.

The broader NSE Nifty advanced 229.30 points or 1.43 per cent to 16,278.50 as 41 of its constituents advanced.

Stock markets opened on a positive note following gains in Asian markets. Key indices extended gains in afternoon session after buying in IT, banking, teck and capital goods stocks.

'Gains in frontline blue-chip stocks such as Infosys. Tech Mahindra also helped to lift the markets," said Narendra Solanki, Head Fundamental Research -Anand Rathi-Investment Services.

Among Sensex constituents, IndusInd Bank rose the most by 4.36 per cent.

IT companies ended their losing run with Infosys rising by 4.16 per cent, Tech Mahindra by 3.67 per cent, Wipro by 2.77 per cent and TCS by 2.23 per cent. Reliance Industries rose by nearly

1 per cent after a spurt in crude oil

Bajaj Finserv spurted by 3.46 per cent, Axis Bank by 3.31 per cent, Kotak Bank by 3.25 per cent, ICICI Bank by 2.78 per cent and



SBI by 2.35 per cent.

Ultratech Cement, L&T, Tata Steel, HCL Tech, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance also gained.

On the other hand, Dr Reddy's fell the most by 1.7 per cent while HDFC twins also dropped up to 1.19 per cent. M& M dropped by 0.86 per cent and Maruti by 0.84 Among sectoral indices, Nifty

IT index snapped its five-day losing streak and jumped the most by 3.17 per cent. Nifty Metal rose by 2.49 per cent, Banking by 1.95 per cent and Consumer Durables by 1.45

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 1.49 per cent and smallcap index climbed 1.39 per

Among BSE sectoral indices, IT jumped the most by 3.07 per cent, followed by teck (2.96 per cent), metal (2.72 per cent), bank (2.08 per cent), basic materials (1.97 per cent) and capital goods (1.96 per cent). FMCG was the only laggard.

Foreign institutional investors went in selling mode again as they offloaded shares worth Rs 1,649.36 crore in the capital market Friday, as per exchange data.

BIZ BUZZ

Odisha right place for startups to grow: Min

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Minister of MSME Pratap Keshari Deb asserted that Odisha is right place for startups to grow and nurture themselves. At the concluding ceremony of Odisha Startup Conclave organised

their enterprise here and grow holistically.

Executive Chairman, Startup Odisha, Dr Omkar Rai in his keynote address said that, "O-Hub with its world class facilities & services shall continue to be the epi-



at O-Hubs, he said that all those startups and investors who are trying to explore must know that the time of Odisha has come and this is the right opportunity to start in Odisha.

He also asserted that the state has got a large technical pool of resources and the field ready with land, water, infrastructure and power which make Odisha a versatile state for anybody to start state. Odisha has more than 1300 recognized startups with 40% of them being women-led which makes the state unique among the all

other ecosystems in the country. Devjyoti Mohanty, CEO, AIC-Nalanda welcomed the dignitaries, guests and audience for their gracious presence in the program and elaborated on the successful journey of the first Odisha Startup Carnival.



13TH Cotton Fab Secretary Javed Alam gives away a prize to Dambarudhara Majhi, a Banarsi Saree worth ₹3,000, as part of the weekly lottery draw, Sunday.

SUMUM observes World Plastic Surgery Day

Bhubaneswar: A programme to spread awareness about the diverse aspects of plastic, cosmetic and reconstructive surgery and its positive role in treatment of injuries and correcting congenital anomalies was held at SUM Ultimate Medicare Friday to mark the World Plastic Surgery Day. Experts of the field explained the way plastic, cosmetic and reconstructive surgery impacted lives through trauma and cancer reconstruction, treatment of nerve injuries and burn injuries and correction of congenital anomalies. Brig. (Dr.) Biraj Mohan Mishra, Chief of Medical Services, Dr. Jayanta Kumar Dash, Senior Consultant and Head of the department of Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery in the hospital and Bhoomika Dash, actor, graced the programme. Others present included Dr. Chira Ranjan Khadanga, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Dr. Subhasis Mishra, Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Dr. Prashant Panda, Infection Control and Academics, Dr. Unmesh Jena, Junior Consultant in the department of Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery, Ayesha N, HOD of various department and other staff members were also present in the occasion.



Cos spent 60% CSR funds on edu, health

New Delhi, July 18: Around 60 per cent of the total CSR funds spent by companies in the last seven financial years were in the areas of education, healthcare and rural development-related activities, according to the government. In a written reply to the Lok

Sabha, the corporate affairs ministry also informed that during the given period, around 33 per cent of the total CSR amount spent by companies were in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Under the Companies Act, 2013,

a certain class of profitable companies are required to shell out at least two per cent of their three-year annual average net profit towards (Corporate Social Responsibility) activities in a particular fiscal

CSR is a board-driven process and the board of a company is empowered to plan, decide, execute and monitor CSR activities of the company based on the recommendation of its CSR Committee.



Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Rao Inderjit Singh said in the written reply that the government does not issue any specific direction to the companies to spend in any particular geographical area or activity.

"An analysis of CSR data during the period 2014-15 to 2020-21, reveals that around 33 per cent of the total CSR spent by the companies is in the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Similarly, around 60 per cent of the total CSR spent by the companies is in the areas of education, healthcare and rural development-related activities." he said.

In a separate written reply, Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said all CSR eligible companies have spent a cumulative CSR amount of Rs 24.865.46 crore in FY 2020-21. Out of the total amount, Rs 6,946.75 crore was spent on 'healthcare-related activities', including activities related to

Meanwhile, a total of 1,12,509 companies have been struck off from official records in a little over

three years by the corporate affairs ministry, according to another written reply.

These companies have been struck off under Section 248 (1) of the Companies Act during the period from April 1, 2019, to July 12, 2022. This section allows Registrars of Companies (RoC) to strike off companies. Singh said the government has undertaken a special drive for identification and striking off shell companies.

However, there is no definition of the term 'shell company' in the Companies Act, 2013.

"It normally refers to a company without active business operation or significant assets, which in some cases are used for illegal purposes, such as tax evasion, money laundering, obscuring ownership, benami properties etc," the minister

Out of the total 1,12,509 companies, the maximum number was in Delhi at 19,464. It is followed by Maharashtra (16,023 companies), Uttar Pradesh (12,823), West Bengal (11.044) and Tamil Nadu (6.989). among other states.

Morgan Stanley cuts FY23 GDP estimate by 0.40%

Mumbai, July 18: American brokerage Morgan Stanley Monday cut its FY23 real GDP expansion estimate for India by 0.40 per cent to 7.2 per cent on slower global growth.

It said the GDP growth will slow

down to 6.4 per cent in FY24, the brokerage said, adding that this is lower by 0.30 per cent compared to the earlier estimate. A majority of watchers are expecting FY23 GDP growth to come at over 7 per cent levels. The RBI estimate also stands at 7.2 per cent. "We pare our GDP forecasts by 0.40 per cent to 7.2 per cent for FY23 and by 0.30 per cent to 6.4 per cent for FY24 on the back of slower global growth. We see downside risks emanating from a weaker than expected global growth trend, supply-side-driven commodity price shock and faster than warranted tightening of financial conditions,'

The brokerage said it expects global growth to slow down to 1.5 per cent for the quarter ended

the brokerage said in a note.

December 2022 from 4.7 per cent registered in the year-ago period, which will have an impact on the export growth for India.

However, domestic demand will be providing a partial offset to the impact of the slowing export growth, it said, noting that the government's supply-side response and the reopening vibrancy to partially counter the downside.

The ongoing moderation in commodity prices is improving the near-term trajectory for macro stability and also cut its FY23 average inflation target to 6.5 per cent

against 7 per cent earlier. "However, we do not expect much change in inflation beyond FY23 and expect it to average 5.3 per cent in FY24. Near-term risks to the inflation trajectory stem from changes in commodity prices and/or domestic food prices," it said.

The RBI will continue with the policy normalisation measures, and the reporate will be at 6.5 percent by April 2023 against 4.9 per cent at present, it said.



Batra quits as FIH chief BOWLER HARDIK

Removal as IOA president by Delhi HC may have triggered resignation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: Veteran sports administrator Narinder Batra resigned Monday as president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH). Batra also gave up his membership of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)

The FIH Board accepted the resignation and said an acting president will be appointed soon in Batra's place.

Batra ceased to be president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) when the Delhi High Court, May 25, struck down the post of 'Life Member' in Hockey India (HI), courtesy which he had contested the IOA elections and won in 2017.

In three separate handwritten notes, Batra officially tendered his resignations from the IOA, IOC and FIH respectively. In all the letters, he cited 'personal reasons' behind his decisions.

"Due to personal reasons I submit my resignation from the post of president FIH," Batra wrote to the executive board of FIH.

Batra's IOC membership was linked to IOA presidency but his resignation from FIH has come as surprise since in May he had said that he wants to focus on his job in the world hockey body.

The Delhi High Court's refusal to stay his appeal before a double bench might have been the trigger for Batra's resignations. But the matter is listed for nor-



mal hearing July 26. Batra, after he was removed by the High Court, had issued a state-

to contest the upcoming IOA elections. He had said that his focus will now completely shift to managing

The 65-year-old Batra took charge of the IOA for the first time in 2017 and was eligible to contest for re-

CBI conducts raids at Batra residences

NEW DELHI: Hours after his resignation as FIH president, the CBI conducted Monday searches at the premises of former IOA president Narinder Batra at five locations in Delhi and Jammu, officials informed. The searches were conducted after an FIR was lodged against him in an alleged corruption case. CBI officials also conducted raids at the IOA and Hockey India offices. Sources said the CBI 'recovered incriminating documents and records' over misappropriation of funds

in December last year but could not be held as per schedule due to ongoing amendments in the election process.

Batra became an IOC member in 2019 and later went on to become a member of the Olympic Channel Commission. He became president of FIH in 2016 and reclaimed the position last year for a second term.

Batra's reign has been marred by a number of controversies. In 2020, IOA vice-president Sudhanshu Mittal had written to the IOC, alleging irregularities and false declarations by Batra in his election to the top post. In April, the CBI had also initiated a preliminary inquiry against Batra for alleged misappropriation of public funds (see box).

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Manchester, July 18: Hardik Pandya, the bowler, feels he has finally got his rhythm back and going forward, the India star will smart the batter," he added. continue to be 'smart' about his

IN RHYTHM: Hardik Pandya is congratulated by teammates after the dismissal

NEEDS RHYTHM

Not being able to bowl regularly due to fitness issues had cost Hardik his place in the Indian

job and bowl at full pace only when

of an England batter Sunday at Old Trafford

team but he made a roaring come-back with the IPL. More recently, he was at his absolute best with the bat and ball in the white ball series in England. He has turned heads with his brilliant bowling performances against England. The 28-yearold took career-best figures, 4/33 and 4/24, in the T20Is and ODI

Hardik said to be able to bowl regularly gives him a lot of satisfaction. "After IPL, I played the South Africa series. I bowled one over and I did not bowl in couple of games. As a bowler for me, it's very

important to keep bowling. So I

was not finding the rhythm," Hardik said. "Even in Ireland I was not getting the rhythm which I wanted to. I don't have much skills, but I play with smartness. I try to out-

Hardik said the four-wicket burst in the first T20I against England gave him the much-needed

"So for me, it's very important to get my consistency something which I worked on. And I gradually

and gave me my con-

sistency and my confi-

dence to pitch wherever

I want to, so that's where

I come into the picture

and be effective," in-

formed the bowler.

got my rhythm back. Obviously that fourwicket haul (against England in T20I) kind What matters to of changed everything

me as a bowler is rhythm. If I achieve it, then I feel happy bowling and enjoy the challenges

Hardik also doesn't see the point in bowling full tilt at all times. "I think I bowl smart. I only bend my back and bowl quick as possible when required. If you see my last couple of games, I was bowling in the 130s because because I was not needed to bowl quick," he pointed out.

Stokes bids adieu

London: The man who helped England win the 2019 50 overs World Cup, all-rounder Ben Stokes has decided to retire from ODIs. His announcement surprised many when Stokes said Monday that he will play Tuesday his last ODI against South Africa at his home ground in Durham. The 31-year-old England Test captain has so far scored 2.919 runs in 104 ODIs and taken 74 wickets. "This has been an incredibly tough decision to make. I have loved every minute of playing with my mates for England," Stokes said.

Holder recalled

Port of Spain: Former captain Jason Holder has returned to the 13-member West Indies squad for the upcoming three-match ODI series against India, beginning here July 22. The hosts will be led by Nicholas Pooran. The seasoned allrounder was not part for the preceding home T20 series against Bangladesh, but now nas been recalled for the assignments against India. Shai Hope will be Pooran's deputy. "As we all know Jason is one of the leading all-round cricketers we're happy to have him back in the team," chief selector Desmond Haynes said.

BFC recruit Krishna

Bangalore: Bengaluru FC (BFC) announced Monday the signing of a two-year contract with Fiii international striker Roy Krishna, which will add more firepower to their frontline. The 34-year-old Krishna, who captains Fiii and has the most goals and appearances for his country, has previously turned out for ATK Mohun Bagan in the ISL. "I had conversations with the coach (Simon Grayson) when I was in the early stages of negotiations and he really convinced me that I would have an impact at the club," said Krishna. In three seasons in the ISL Krishna has scored 36 goals with most of them for ATKMB.

Rafa set to return

Montreal: Spanish tennis stalwart and winner of 22 Grand Slam singles titles, Rafael Nadal is likely to compete in the North American hard court swing, including the Canadian Open, as he has made his hotel reservations here for the event which runs August 8-14. It means that Nadal, who had suffered an abdominal strain during Wimbledon, is hoping to play the US Open. Nadal has also said that he should 'recover completely in 3-4 weeks to carry on with a normal calendar' after that. Sources said that Nadal has also resumed light training. Following the Canadian Open here, Nadal is likely to also play in the Cincinnati Masters the following week before the North American campaign culminates with the US Open at Flushing Meadows August 29 to September 11.

Top-order failures don't worry Rohit

AGENCIES

AGENCIES

this month.

New Delhi, July 18: The phe-

nomenal success at the Tokyo

Olympics has ignited hopes of an

in-form Indian men's hockey team

stopping the Australian jugger-

naut at the Commonwealth Games

in Birmingham beginning later

CWG is a matter of envy. Since the

game's introduction in the quad-

rennial event 24 years ago, World

No.1 Australia have

been the most dominant

force, having won all

six gold medals till date.

optimism and belief

among the Indian play-

ers, it appears the men's

team have a great op-

portunity to end

Australia's gold rush

The Indian team that

won a historic Olympic

bronze after a hiatus of

41 years last year has

improved by leaps and

2018 in Gold Coast.

bounds under Australian Graham

Reid. India's best result came in 2010

at home (New Delhi) and in Glasgow

(2014) when they finished runner-

up. The team finished fourth twice

– in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, where

the sport made its debut and in

area which was a cause of concern

but the current Indian team are con-

In earlier editions, fitness was one

at the event.

Going by renewed

Australia's dominance at the

Manchester, July 18: India skipper Rohit Sharma asserted Sunday that there are no issues as far as the top-order is concerned, in spite of the fact that it has failed to fire on most occasions in the all-format series against England over the last one month. Rohit (except for the first ODI), Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan have failed, but the skipper is not unduly worried.

'We do understand that it is something we need to look into,

INDIA THIRD IN ODI RANKINGS

Dubai: India have consolidated their third spot in the latest ICC ODI rankings after the away series victory over England. With a rating of 109 points, India are three points clear of Pakistan (106) in the list. New Zealand continue to reign supreme at the top of the table with 128 rating points, while England are second with 121. India could stretch their lead even further with a good show in their three-match series against West Indies, starting this week.

some not-so-good shots and that's what cost us our wickets. But I still back those guvs to come out good because they've done it for a long time. I've got nothing more to say since I understand the quality they

sidered one of the fittest sides in

world hockey. And if the players play

to their potential, there is no reason

why the Indians can't bring home

their maiden CWG gold from

Birmingham. But it would be eas-

ier said than done as competition in

hockey at the CWG is pretty tough.

B alongside hosts England, Canada,

Wales and Ghana, while Pool A con-

sists of Australia, New Zealand, South

Reid is pretty confident about

his team doing well in

Birmingham. "It is very

difficult to predict what

will happen but any-

thing is possible (on win-

ning gold), because the

gap between teams in

current international

hockey is very little,"

Reid said Monday. "But

we can't control the un-

controllables. We can

only control what is in

our capacity," the coach

In veteran PR

Sreejesh, India have a

added.

world-class goalkeeper who is def-

initely eyeing a gold in what will

be his last CWG. "This is defi-

nitely going to be my last CWG

and I am desperate to return with

a gold medal. Although Australia

have won all the golds so far, this

team have the potential to beat

them. They are not as invincible

as they used to be in the past,

Sreejesh said.

Africa, Pakistan and Scotland.

The Indian men are placed in Pool

India aim to end

Oz dominance

Since the introduction of hockey at CWG in 1998,

Australia have won gold on all 6 occasions

This team are

confident after

their performance

in Tokyo and Pro

League. What they

just need is to give

their best and then

anything can

happen

SARDAR SINGH

Rohit also said that there will be injury scares between now and the T20 World Cup this year and ODI World Cup in 2023, as it is part and parcel of the game, but added India have a 'solid' bench strength to

'We've got some solid guys in the bench who are looking for a long time to get a game. We want to create that bench strength because the kind of games we play, injuries are bound to happen and you need to manage workload. It is a conscious effort," he informed.

Rohit's predecessor Kohli also lauded the team's efforts in winning the ODI series against England. He had special praise for Rishabh Pant and all-rounder Hardik Pandya. "Brilliant run chase and a great series," Kohli captioned Team India celebrating the win on the 'Koo' app.

JAMAICAN SPRINTER WINS 5TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE WITH BLISTERING RUN

Fraser-Pryce back as 100m queen-

Fraser-Pryce sped her way back to the top of the sprint game, winning her fifth world 100 metres title by leading a Jamaican sweep and knocking off Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah.

The 35-year-old Fraser-Pryce, mother of a four-year-old son, Zyon, led all the way Sunday and crossed the line in 10.67 seconds. She beat Shericka Jackson by 0.06 seconds while Thompson-Herah finished a surprising third in 10.81.

A night that started with thoughts that Thompson-Herah might knock off Florence Griffith-Joyner's 34 year-old world record of 10.49 closed instead with Fraser-Pryce setting a World Championships record. Marion Jones set the old mark of 10.70 in 1999.

With her blonde and green-tinted hair waving in the breeze as she



OVER THE MOON: Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce is all smiles as she poses with pans for pictures after winning the 100m sprint Sunday

iogged through her victory lap, stopping to take pictures with fans that cheered her as loudly as anyone, Fraser-Pryce was all smiles -

a completely different reaction than last year in Tokyo, when she finished second by a sizable 0.13s. "I went back home and I worked

She'll add it to titles she won in 2009, 2013, 2015 and 2019. She also won the Olympic gold in the 100 metres in in 2008 and 2012. Here Fraser-Pryce defended her title from 2019, a win that came

success," a beaming Fraser-Pryce

not long after she had her baby. She called that 'a victory for motherhood'. Zyon is about the same age as Allyson Felix's daughter, Cammy, and though Fraser-Pryce was never as outspoken as Felix about the challenges moms face, she told the story of sitting on her bed and crying the day she learned she was pregnant. People suggested her career was over.

Not by a long shot. Since having Zyon she has won two world titles and lowered her personal best to 10.6s - putting her alongside Thompson-Herah and Flo Jo as the only women to have run so fast.

Neeraj not concerned with 'distance'

OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST KEEN TO DO WELL AT ATHLETICS WORLDS

way in Eugene, USA.

Chopra had set a new national

record of 89.94m, just six centimetre

shy of the 90m mark, the gold stan-

dard in the world of javelin throw,

at the prestigious Diamond League

in Stockholm last month en route

to a silver medal. The 24-year-old

finished second behind Grenada's



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 18: Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra expects to breach the coveted 90m mark this year but doesn't want to think about 'distance' going into the World Athletics Championships, currently undera competition. I just try to give my 100

"I was six centimetre short of the 90m mark, I was pretty close. I hope to cross 90m this year. But I never think or focus on distance going into per cent," Chopra said Monday in a virtual interaction from Eugene during a promotional event.

Anderson Peters, who recorded a

best throw of 90.31m.

A strong field awaits Chopra in the World Championships, where he will be seen in action, starting with the qualifiers July 21. "It is the biggest competition of this year for me. I want to perform without any pressure. It is the biggest stage; the competition will be very tough. There are 5-6 throwers who are performing consistently so the level is similar this

year," Chopra said. "But every day, every competition is different. My focus is just on one thing - to throw as big as possible. And if a medal comes, all the more better for me," Chopra signed off.

HISTORIC SKEET **GOLD FOR KHAN** IN SHOOTING WC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Changwon, July 18: Veteran Indian shooter Mairaj Ahmed Khan created history Monday by winning the country's first-ever ISSF World Cup gold medal in men's skeet here. In the 40-shot final, the 46-year-old from Uttar Pradesh shot 37 to finish ahead of Korea's Minsu Kim (36) and Britain's Ben Llewellin (26), who won the silver and bronze respectively.

Khan shot 119/125 over two days of qualifying before coming through in a five-way shoot-off en route to his maiden individual gold. The twotime Olympian had won a silver at the 2016 World Cup in Rio de Janeiro.

Earlier, the trio of Anjum Moudgil, Ashi Chouksey, and Sift Kaur Samra won bronze in the women's 50m rifle 3P team event. They beat the Austrian team of — Sheileen Waibel, Nadine Ungerank and Rebecca Koeck 16-6.

Printed and published by Tathagata Satpathy on behalf of Navajat Printers and Media Pvt. Ltd. and printed at Navajat Printers, B-15 Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar -751010, Odisha; Phone: 7894447142 (Marketing). Editor: Tathagata Satpathy, RNI No. ORIENG/2011/37159