



AT RECEIVING END

Actor Kareena Kapoor is upset as a campaign has been launched on social media to boycott her upcoming movie

LEISURE P2



TAIWAN HOLDS DRILLS

Taiwan's military begins its own live-fire exercises in a show of readiness to thwart off a potential attack

INTERNATIONAL P10



REAL FACE FRANKFURT

Champions League winners Real Madrid take on Europa League title holders Eintracht Frankfurt in the UEFA Super Cup tonight

SPORTS P12

No I-Day parade in state this year

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 9: The Odisha government has decided to celebrate Independence Day in a subdued manner without a ceremonial parade anywhere in the state owing to the prevailing Covid-19 situation.

There will be no parade and general public participation will be discouraged during the Independence Day celebrations, an official notification said.

"In view of the Covid-19 pandemic in the state, the Odisha government has discouraged large gatherings along with several other preventive measures to contain the spread of the disease like previous years," the notice said. The venue of the state-level Independence Day celebrations has been shifted from Mahatma Gandhi Marg here to IDCO Exhibition

Ground, Unit-III, in the capital city. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will be the chief guest at the Independence Day function. Though there will be no parade, the customary guard of honour will be presented by three contingents of OSAP, ODRAF, and BSF battalions.

The contingents participating in the function will be tested for Covid-19 and would be required to maintain adequate social distancing at the venue.

The officers deployed near the flag post would also be tested for Covid-19 and wear face masks and gloves during the function.

Meanwhile, the twin city Commissionerate Police will make necessary security arrangements and remain in overall charge of the I-Day function.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



My suggestion is not to do anything, sir! See, ministry was working fine without any minister!!

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	28.3°C	27.8°C
TEMP MIN	24.8°C	24.6°C
Humidity	89%	94%
Rainfall	0.2mm	3mm
Forecast	Generally cloudy sky	

Rise in night temperature may up death risk 6-fold

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New York, August 9: As night-time temperature climbs owing to climate change, so does your risk of death – nearly six-fold in the future – due to excessive heat that disrupts normal sleeping patterns, a new global study has warned.

Excessively hot nights caused by climate change are predicted to increase the mortality rate around the world by up to six times by the end of the century, according to researchers from China, South Korea, Japan, Germany and the US.

Ambient heat during the night may interrupt the normal physiology of sleep, and less sleep can lead to immune system damage and a higher risk of cardiovascular disease, chronic

Ambient heat during the night may interrupt the normal physiology of sleep, and less sleep can lead to immune system damage and a higher risk of cardiovascular disease, chronic illnesses, inflammation and mental health conditions



illnesses, inflammation and mental health conditions, said the study published in The Lancet Planetary Health. "The risks of increasing temperature at night were frequently neglected," said study co-author Yuqi Zhang, a climate scientist from University of North Carolina at Chapel

The findings showed that the burden of mortality could be significantly higher than estimated by average daily temperature increase, suggesting that warming from climate change could have a troubling impact, even under restrictions from the Paris Climate Agreement



Hill in the US. "The frequency and mean intensity of hot nights would increase more than 30 per cent and 60 per cent by the 2100s, respectively, compared with less than 20 per cent increase for the daily mean temperature," said Zhang from the department of environmen-

Nitish snaps ties with BJP

The move of the mercurial leader of Bihar, which was a reversal of what happened in 2017 when he left the Mahagathbandhan to rejoin the NDA, leaves ally BJP out in the cold for the second time in nine years

AGENCIES

Patna, August 9: Nitish Kumar, once seen as a potential rival to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, broke ranks with the BJP-led NDA coalition Tuesday to stake claim as head of the rival 'Mahagathbandhan' (Grand Alliance) to be chief minister of Bihar for the eighth time.

Kumar, 71, who earlier in the day submitted his resignation as the chief minister heading the NDA coalition, said he submitted a list of 164 MLAs to Governor Phagu Chauhan who will decide when the oath-taking can take place. The effective strength of the state Assembly is 242 and the magic figure is 122.

Besides upsetting political calculations, the move is seen as significant as it diminishes the clout of the BJP in a key state in the Hindi-speaking heartland from where most of its legislators come ahead of the 2024 general elections, which pundits expect it to otherwise win.

Kumar told newsmen outside the Raj Bhavan, "It was decided at the party meeting that we quit the NDA. I have, therefore, resigned as the NDA's Chief Minister".

After weeks of simmering tension between the JD(U) and BJP over a host of issues including caste census, population control and the 'Agnipath' defence recruitment scheme and a tiff over the continuation of Kumar's for-



JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar with RJD leaders Tejashwi Yadav & Tej Pratap, in Patna, Tuesday. Nitish & Tejashwi will take oath as Bihar CM & deputy CM respectively Wednesday

It was decided at the party meeting that we quit the NDA. I have, therefore, resigned as the NDA's Chief Minister

NITISH KUMAR | JANATA DAL (UNITED) CHIEF

Despite having fewer seats, we made him (Kumar) chief minister. He has deceived the people twice. He is suffering from arrogance

ASHWINI CHOUHURY | BJP'S CENTRAL MINISTER

BJP national president JP Nadda said that his party will destroy regional parties in Bihar. Bihar is a birthplace of democracy and the BJP president said that his party will destroy democracy. The people of Bihar cannot tolerate this. Today's development is an appropriate response to it

TEJASHWI YADAV | RASHTRIYA JANATA DAL LEADER

mer candidate RCP Singh as a central cabinet minister, Tuesday morning saw all MPs and MLAs of the regional party huddled in conference at the chief minister's residence. The decision they

took was to quit the NDA and join hands with the Mahagathbandhan which it had spurned five years back in 2017.

Continued on P4
Related stories on P7&8

RAIN BATTERS STATE AMID DEPRESSION

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 9: Villages, agriculture fields, roads, bridges and low-lying areas were flooded with rivers in spate in several districts of Odisha Tuesday after torrential rain pummelled the state, especially the southern region.

A well-marked low-pressure area (Lopar) over the north-west Bay of Bengal concentrated into a depression and lay over western Odisha and about 30 km southeast of Sambalpur at 5:30 pm, the Meteorological Centre said.

The system is set to weaken into a well-marked Lopar again over Chhattisgarh Wednesday, it said, adding that the monsoon trough was passing through western and coastal Odisha.

At least eight weather stations recorded very heavy show-

The Met department predicted heavy showers across many districts over the next four days

ers of 116-204 mm, while 44 places were battered by down-pour of 65-115 mm over a 24-period till 8:30 am, the weather office said.

Kosagumuda in Nabarangpur recorded 161 mm of rain, followed by 160.2 mm in Bhapur in Nayagarh. Heavy rain lashed Gajapati, Rayagada, Cuttack, Kalahandi, Kandhamal and Koraput districts. Bhubaneswar and Cuttack logged 76 mm and 31 mm of rain respectively.

Many areas in Malkangiri district were severely affected as the water level in several

rivers rose following incessant rain, leading to important high-ways and bridges being submerged and villages getting marooned. The situation was exacerbated as the Godavari river was also in spate.

Residents of several villages in Gajapati were stranded as waters from the swollen Harabhangi river swept the area. A bridge was washed away in Sinapali area of Nuapada.

Six people were seriously wounded after a house collapsed following heavy rain in Nabarangpur. They are undergoing treatment in a hospital.

Ganjam was also pounded by downpour, with district headquarters Chhatrapur receiving 142 mm of precipitation. A 17-year old boy was swept away in the swollen Rushikulya river at Handighara under Purusottampur area.

SIKSHA 'O' ANUSANDHAN

Empowering students for a brighter future

Law Programmes Offered

- BA LLB (H) - Integrated Law
- BBA LLB (H) - Integrated Law
- LLB (H) - 3 Years Law
- LLM

APPROVAL & RECOGNITIONS

- Approved by UGC & BCI
- Re-accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade
- Accredited by NBA
- Ranked in QS World Rankings 2022

MHRD India Rankings (NIRF) 2022

- 9th Best in Law Institution Category
- 16th Best in University Category

To apply for admission through CLAT, Please visit: www.soa.ac.in

leisure



ZAZIE BEETZ IN TALKS TO RETURN FOR JOKER SEQUEL

Actor Zazie Beetz is in negotiations to join the upcoming *Joker* sequel *Folie à Deux*. According to reports, if the deal goes through, Beetz will reprise her role of Sophie Dumond, a single mother and the neighbour of Arthur Fleck/ Joker, played by Joaquin Phoenix.

PITT HAS LIST OF ACTORS HE WILL NEVER WORK WITH

Top star Brad Pitt has a secret list of Hollywood actors he won't work with, according to his *Bullet Train* co-star Aaron Taylor-Johnson. The 58-year-old has an enviable career but Taylor-Johnson reckons there are some faces he refuses to film with.



FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshSpeaks.com
accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES
Believe it, life is good sometimes; today is one such day. Things will not be hectic, even though you remain occupied, both at work and in your personal life. With no troubles brewing, what more can you ask for? Perhaps, Ganesh is trying to impart the crucial lesson of contentment.

TAURUS
Right from the morning you could be feeling lethargic, bored. Ganesh says that things could get worse on account of indifferent health. Be careful that you don't fall ill. Try not to take on either too many, or too heavy assignments today. As the hours go by, you will gradually feel more and more fresh and energetic.

GEMINI
A chance encounter with an old friend will leave you feeling nostalgic. You will reminisce about the good old days for most part of the day. You are likely to meet a marriage prospect and leave a good impression on him/her.

CANCER
There is a strong possibility that you will reach an important milestone in your life today, says Ganesh. Your emotional health is important for your physical well-being. How about spending some good time with like-minded people who can light up your mood?

LEO
Building Rome was not an easy task; neither were the Pyramids built just like that. It takes sheer grit and determination, and lots of hard work, to make monumental changes. You may have to do the same, and work awfully hard to establish yourself today, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Serendipity will pit you against the friendly ghosts of the past. In the afternoon, you'll charm your way through good marriage prospects. But make careful decisions when it comes to furthering your educational qualifications, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
We all like a story with a twist in the tale, don't we? Well, hold on to your horses today, because you may be going down the same twisted road when it comes to your career, foretells Ganesh. Your slogan of hard work seems to be your answer for everything. But allow for credence and your confidence to exert a pull on you. Evening may find you in an introspective mood as you search for the red herring in your tale today.

SCORPIO
Cupid's darts are more potent than ever today, warns Ganesh. Romantic rebirth might lead to a newer you. At the end of the day, you shall find the answer to those intimate problems, predicts Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Blood will be thicker than water today. And your relatives – near and distant – will bring much pleasure today. But Ganesh portends you being at loggerheads with your colleagues. However, progress will not elude you today.

CAPRICORN
For once, you will think straight, planning for the future and saving every bit of your earning for a comfortable, if not luxurious, life, says Ganesh. To your loved ones, you will come across as relenting and forgiving of the mistakes committed in the past.

AQUARIUS
A series of disappointments may drag you down today. But this is a temporary phenomenon, and a cheerful demeanour is the only solution. It is also best to avoid conflicts and differences at work in the larger interest of things. This too shall pass, says Ganesh.

PISCES
Carefully evaluate and analyse any monetary transactions that you undertake today. Running about heedless, like a headless chicken, does you no good. Slow down your pace at work, for later on it may be too late. You are likely to be engaged in shopping for or appreciating the fine arts later in the evening, says Ganesh.

Tamannaah to judge Melbourne dance show

Chennai: Actress Tamannaah Bhatia, a classically trained dancer whose dancing skills are well known, will be one of the judges at the dance competition that is to take place as part of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM). Dancers from Fiji, Australia and New Zealand among others will be taking part in this competition, which the IFFM has been organising over the years.

The actor will be joined by the present Miss Australia, Miss Kristen Wright, in co-judging the competition. "I have been a dancer all my life. Bollywood dance is something that I grew up with and our movie industry shows such a versatile culture it is even reflected in our dance choreographies. We all know Bollywood has a fan following beyond India. And what makes this competition so special is people from across the globe are coming to take part in this competition," says Tamannaah.

IFFM will be taking place, physically and virtually, from August 12-20, 2022. The event will be hosting some of the big names of Bollywood like Abhishek Bachchan, Karan Johar, Anurag Kashyap, Vaani Kapoor to name a few.

IANS

Talk to me respectfully: Taapsee to paparazzi

Mumbai: Taapsee Pannu is currently gearing for the release of her mystery drama film, *Dobaaraa*, a remake of Spanish movie *Mirage*, alongside Pavail Gulati.

Recently, she attended a promotional event of the film at Mithibai College in Mumbai and got into a heated argument with paparazzi when they requested her to stop for photographs. The

Saand Ki Aankh actress tried to clarify that she followed the instructions that were given to her according to which they would have been waiting inside. Later, when the photographers told her they have been waiting for two hours, she said, "Why are you yelling at me? What is my fault?"

While one of the photographers told the actor that they have been waiting for her for a

long, the actress said, "Please talk to me in a respectful manner; I am just doing my work. You will talk to me respectfully, I will also talk to you respectfully."

After saying this, the actress folded her hands and asked the paparazzi to take her pictures.

AGENCIES



Boycott culture upsets Kareena

Mumbai: Kareena Kapoor Khan is currently gearing up for the release of her highly-anticipated movie, *Laal Singh Chaddha*, which features Aamir Khan in the lead.

However, the 3 Idiots actress is upset as a campaign to boycott the movie has been launched on social media.

During the promotions of movie Kareena said, "It saddens me because we're working for the love of cinema and this is good cinema. So we want people to see this. We want them to come and enjoy this movie that we've all and a crew of 250 people who've got jobs and have been working towards the same goal. Cinemas meant to spread love and positivity. It's not meant to kind of be cancelled or spoken about in that sense and it upsets me."

Laal Singh Chaddha is inspired by the 1994 American film *Forrest Gump* which itself is based on Winston Groom's 1986 novel of the same name. Kareena will next be seen in Sujoy Ghosh's thriller with Jaideep Ahlawat and Vijay Varma, which is slated to release on Netflix. The movie is an adaptation of Japanese author Keigo Higashino's novel *The Devotion Of Suspect X*.

AGENCIES



When Akshay worked in an iconic cinema hall

Kolkata: *Khiladi* actor Akshay Kumar has been in Kolkata on several occasions, be it for film promotions, public events or film shoots. But not many know that he has a sweet connection with the City of Joy and cherishes all these good memories while speaking about Kolkata.

Recently while promoting his next film *Raksha Bandhan* in Kolkata Akshay revealed that during his initial days, in the early 80s, he worked in Kolkata's iconic Globe Cinema near New Market area

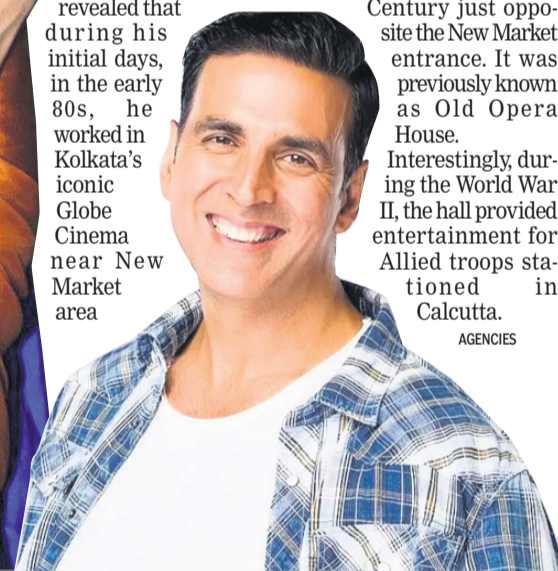
for two years and the city has always held a special place in his heart.

Now that Globe has been shut down permanently he feels sad about it and also left heartbroken since he watched a lot of films in Globe.

Incidentally, after the closing, Globe Cinema has now been rebuilt as a minimal with multiplexes. The original single-screen theatre was built in a heritage building of the 19th Century just opposite the New Market entrance. It was previously known as Old Opera House.

Interestingly, during the World War II, the hall provided entertainment for Allied troops stationed in Calcutta.

AGENCIES

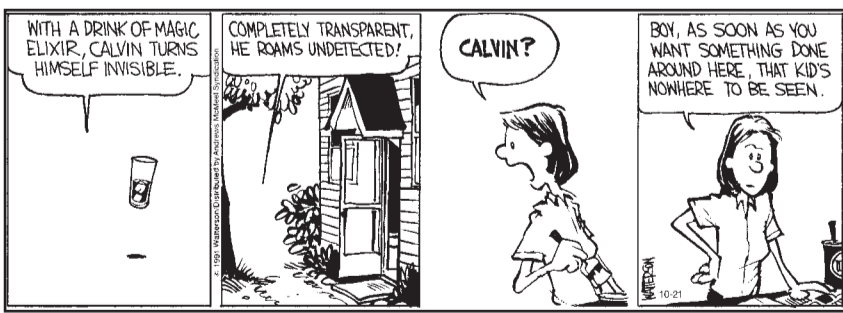


FUN post

PEANUTS



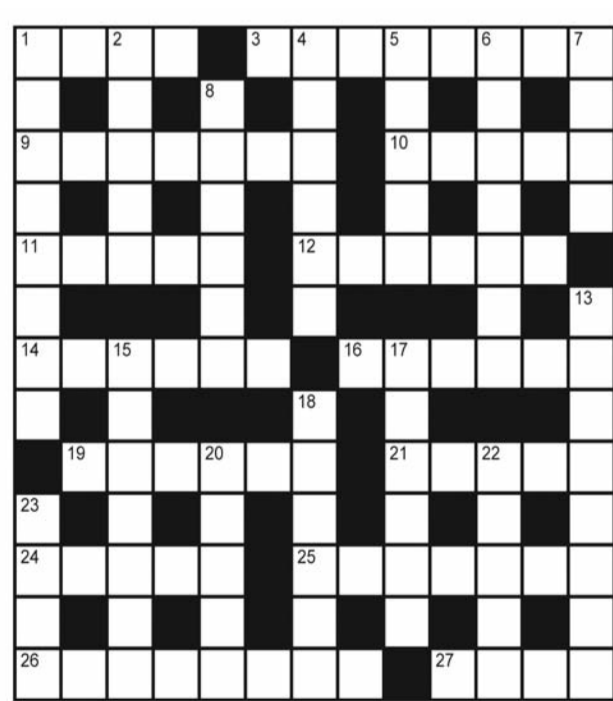
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



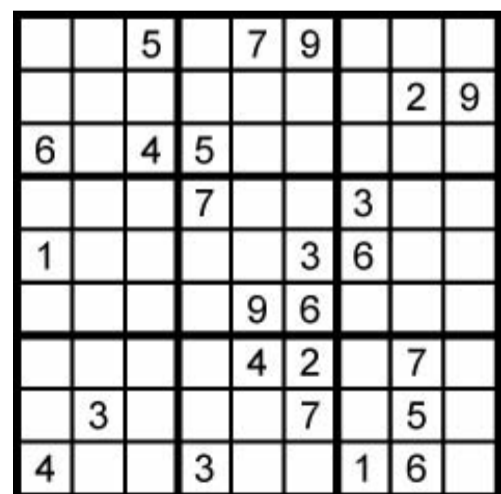
CROSSWORD



- Copyright ©2022 PuzzleJunction.com
- Across**
- 1 Blowgun missile
 - 3 Frozen dessert (3,5)
 - 9 Explore the reefs
 - 10 Poplar variety
 - 11 VCR button
 - 12 Panther cat
 - 14 Kind of duty
 - 16 Mistake fixer
 - 19 Unpolished
 - 21 Clean, as a spill (3,2)
 - 24 Surmise
 - 25 Family identity
 - 26 Target part (5,3)
 - 27 Dairy product
 - Down**
 - 1 Circumspect
 - 2 Origins
 - 4 Young and inexperienced
 - 5 Origami bird
 - 6 Utilises
 - 7 In perfect condition
 - 8 Hockey player
 - 13 Future sight?
 - 15 Like a kitten
 - 17 Comment
 - 18 Largest of the Channel Islands
 - 20 Woes for toes
 - 22 Cook an egg
 - 23 Tree branch

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

ALCOHOL EMAIL
B L A I N U I
BAYONET DOGMA
E D G T O M I
STEAM LAWFLESS
A E L N O
SUPINE SULTAN
C Y E C N
HARMFUL KICKS
O A U I N R C
LIMIT CLOSURE
R A I O H W M N
RADON ENNOBLE

SUDOKU

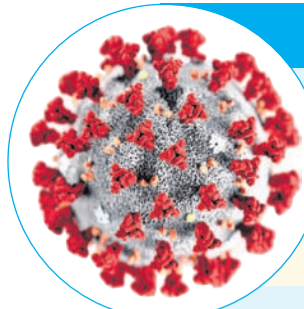
5	8	4	7	1	2	9	6	3
9	1	6	5	3	4	7	8	2
3	7	2	9	8	6	4	1	5
4	3	5	2	7	1	8	9	6
2	9	1	6	4	8	3	5	7
7	6	8	3	9	5	1	2	4
6	4	9	1	5	3	2	7	8
1	5	3	8	2	7	6	4	9
8	2	7	4	6	9	5	3	1

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



REVISITING AUGUST REVOLT

State Tourism, Odia Language, Literature and Culture Minister Aswini Kumar Patra lighting the lamp to inaugurate a seminar on 'August Kranti Divas' at State Archives in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	59,05,09,031	56,22,76,556	64,39,291
India	4,41,74,650	4,35,16,071	5,26,772
Odisha	13,20,014	13,06,249	9,151

State bid to attract Gujarat investors

State government will host the third edition of 'Make in Odisha Conclave' from Nov 30 to Dec 4

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: With a view to attracting investors from Gujarat, the state government in association with FICCI organised an investors' meet in Ahmedabad.

The event was held Monday to showcase the state's investment potential in the textiles, metal, metal downstream, chemical and various other sectors. Over 150 delegates, representing various industries from across Gujarat attended the meet.

Industries Minister Pratap Keshari Deb said that because of abundant natural resources and metal ecosystem advantage, Odisha has become a preferred destination for enterprises in the metal and allied sectors.

Odisha produces 34.3 per cent of the country's total mineral output and is the leading producer of chromite, nickel, bauxite, manganese and iron ore, he said.

The state government is promoting a Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) in Paradip, with IOCL as the anchor tenant.

"Another priority area for our state is the food processing sector, which includes seafood processing as well. Odisha has a 480-km coastline and three fully functional



ports at Paradip, Gopalpur and Dhamara that connect the state to global trade channels," he added.

The minister also highlighted that Odisha is a power surplus state with abundant water resources. Highlighting the various initiatives to drum up support for the industrial ecosystem, Deb said the state government will host the third edition of the 'Make in Odisha Conclave' from November 30 to December 4, 2022 and extended an invitation to all industry leaders to visit Odisha and see for themselves what Odisha has to offer.

Industries principal secretary Hemant Sharma informed about the state's stable government, progressive policies, natural advantages, industry-led infrastruc-

ture development, availability of industrial land, port led development model, and highly skilled human resources, which gives the state a distinct competitive advantage over others.

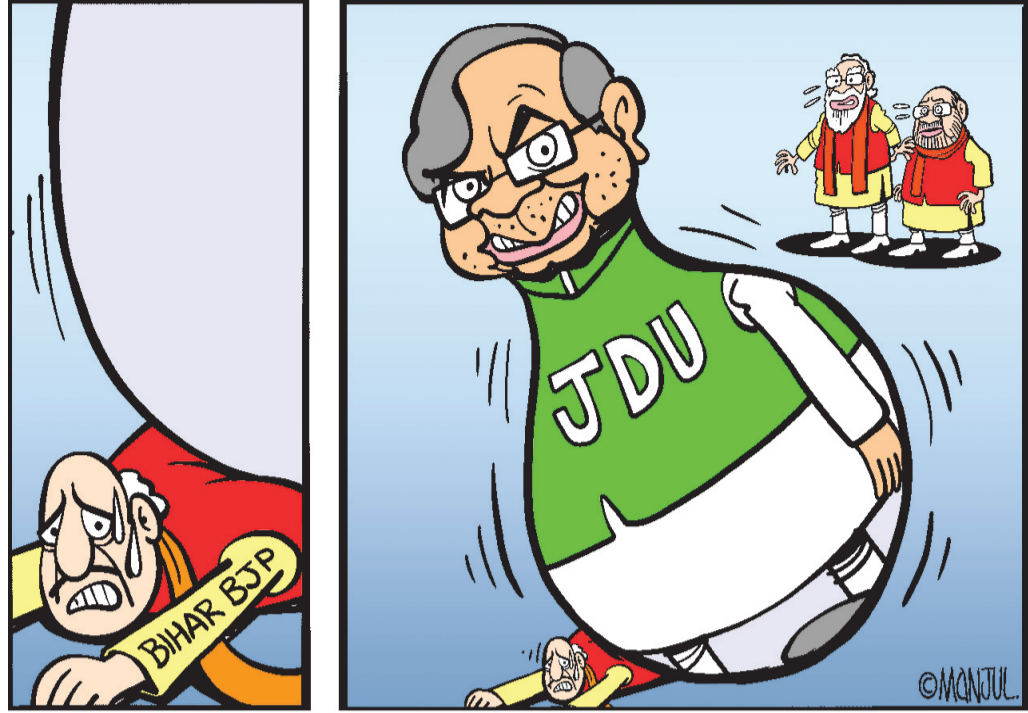
Sharma also highlighted the zero-human-interface single window portal, ready-to-move industrial land parcels across the state and the competitive power and water tariffs which are enablers to set up in-

dustries and manufacturing units in the state.

Speaking about Startup ecosystem in Odisha, executive chairman of Startup Odisha Omkar Rai said, "The state has an attractive startup policy that addresses all nuances of the startup ecosystem. It elucidates the concept, the registration process, and the incentives offered to the companies. The policy is sector agnostic."

One-to-one Business to Government (B2G) meetings were also organised to initiate and sustain heart to heart dialogue with the industry and relevant industry associations, to understand the underlying sentiments and address the same. During the event, the state government team met five industry associations and 19 individual industry captains, which included many household names.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Unproductive Parl session for state

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, August 9: The Monsoon session of the Parliament that commenced July 18 and concluded August 8 - four days before schedule - proved to be unproductive for the ruling party of Odisha Biju Janata Dal (BJD) as the Bills for establishment of Legislative Council in the state and women's reservation were not introduced.

During the all-party meeting before the commencement of the session, the BJD had reiterated its demand for Women's Reservation Bill and establishment of Legislative Council in Odisha. In the Monsoon session, the Rajya Sabha passed seven Bills while the Lok Sabha passed five. The BJD supported all the Bills introduced by the Union government. However, the Union government neither brought up the bill for establishment of Legislative Council and nor did it introduce the Women's Reservation Bill in the lower house.

Both houses of the Parliament saw frequent adjournments during the session amidst the opposition's protest on the issues of price rise and alleged misuse of agencies like the Enforcement Directorate. The BJD MPs,

during the discussion on price rise, criticised the Union government for its policies. The BJD criticised the Centre for demonetisation by pointing out that Rs 30 lakh crore cash is in circulation which has doubled from the pre-2016 level. BJD also countered the oil bonds argument and said that the revenue collected from oil bonds is only 3.4 per cent currently. They also urged the Centre to rethink about the rise in fuel prices.

The BJD MPs from the state also raised issues concerning the people of the state. Bargarh MP Suresh Pujari sought intervention of the Union government for setting up of a bench of the Orissa High Court in the western part of the state. Kalahandi MP Basanta Panda also raised the issues of his constituency. He urged the Centre to include several old temples of the state in the list of protected monuments. Other than that, BJD MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu sought direct flights from Bhubaneswar to Shirdi and Dehradun; Chandrani Murmu requested to make participation of public representatives necessary during the public hearing, and Sasmit Patra raised the demand for passing of Women's Reservation Bill.

28 hospitals empanelled under Ayushman Bharat

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: Though the Ayushman Bharat scheme has not yet been implemented in Odisha, the Union government has revealed that 28 hospitals of the state have been empanelled under the Central scheme.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha recently, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Health, Bharati Pravin Pawar said that 26 government and two private hospitals of Odisha have been empanelled under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to help beneficiaries avail treat-

ment under the portability feature of the scheme. Eligible beneficiaries can directly visit any empanelled public or private hospital to avail cashless treatment, she said.

The Ayushman Bharat is implemented in all the states and union territories (UTs) barring West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and Odisha. The scheme is implemented across the country through a three-tier model. National Health Authority, an attached office of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with full functional autonomy, is the apex body implementing AB-PMJAY across the country, she said.

Woman tourist drowns in Puri

Bhubaneswar: A woman tourist drowned after she was swept away while bathing in the sea at Puri Tuesday, officials said. The incident took place when six people were taking bath near Digabareni area of the Blue Flag beach around 11am despite the sea being rough due to a depression. Three of them were washed away by a strong wave, possibly a rip current. Lifeguards rushed to the spot and rescued two of them after much difficulty. Later, the woman, Minakshi Nayak from Chhattisgarh, was fished out of the sea.



World Biofuel Day (Biofuels towards a Carbon Neutral World)

A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT AND PROSPEROUS FARMERS. BIOFUEL MAKES IT POSSIBLE!



"Our government's primary goal is to increase the income of farmers, to prepare alternatives for petrol, diesel and gas, and to save the environment."

- Narendra Modi

↔ Dedication to the Nation of IndianOil's ↔

2G Ethanol Plant at Panipat Refinery

Project Highlights

- Production of clean energy from agricultural residues
- Increase in the income of farmers
- Direct benefit to 1 Lakh farmers
- No need to burn the leftover crop
- New employment opportunities
- Reduction in CO₂ emissions of about 3 million tonnes annually
- Production of 100 kilolitres of ethanol per day
- Investment of ₹900 Crores

by

Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister
(through Video Conference)

In the august presence of

Shri Bandaru Dattatreya
Governor, Haryana

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar
Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Govt. of India

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India

Shri Rameswar Teli
Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Labour and Employment, Govt. of India

Shri Sanjay Bhatia
Member of Parliament

Wednesday, 10th August 2022, 4.30 pm

To watch the live webcast please log in to

<https://pmindiawebcast.nic.in/>

The above program's live telecast can be watched on 'DD News channel'



CM: Govt committed to welfare of tribals

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Tuesday sent best wishes to the tribal people of the state and said that the government is committed to protecting and conserving the tribals apart from ensuring their welfare.

Taking to twitter, Patnaik said, "My best wishes to all, especially the tribal brothers and sisters, on Adivasi Divas. The art, sculpture, handicrafts, dance, music of the tribals are unique aspects of Odisha's cultural heritage. The state government is determined for protection, conservation and welfare of tribals."

'Adivasi Divas' is a special occasion for the tribals of the state and the country as they have got a tribal President for the first time. Droupadi Murmu, a Santal woman, holds a graduate degree and is a two-time Member of Legislative Assembly from Mayurbhanj district.

After appointment of Murmu

'Adivasi Divas' is a special occasion for the tribals of the state and the country as they have got a tribal President for the first time

as the first woman tribal President of India, tribal aspirations ranging from better schools to simplification of forest laws in favour of tribals to recognition of tribal religions and tribal empowerment have soared high.

'Adivasi Divas' is observed August 9 every year. It coincides with the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, declared by the United Nations in 1993.

Despite advancements in modern society, indigenous people are often among the poorest ethnic groups. 'Adivasi Divas' seeks to recognise the challenges these peo-

ple continue to face today, as well as to honour their perseverance and struggle for improvement. Around 104 million people (over 9 per cent of India's population) fall in this category.

The date was chosen in recognition of the first meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held in Geneva in 1982. The day is needed, as across the world, indigenous people are often among the poorest ethnic groups in society.

Odisha is known for sharing its land with 62 tribes that are 24 per cent of the total population. These tribes serve as the soul of the state and are the ones who have till date kept their culture and tradition intact.

Taking over the Eastern Ghats, these tribes are mostly tagged to the districts like Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Jajpur, Balasore, Bhadrak, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Angul, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Kandhamal and others.



Tribal dance performance during The World Tribal Day celebrations at BJD party office in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

OP PHOTO

Nitish snaps ties with BJP

Continued from P1

The CM is understood to have told party legislators and MPs that he had been driven against the wall by the BJP which tried to weaken his JD(U), first by propping up Chirag Paswan's rebellion and later through the party's former national president RCP Singh.

Singh was made a cabinet minister at the Centre without Kumar's explicit agreement. Consequently, when his term as a Rajya Sabha member ended, the JD(U) refused to give him another term as an MP thus ending his stint as cabinet minister as well.

A meeting of the RJD-led Grand Alliance, also comprising the Left and the Congress, took place at Rabri Devi's house, across the street from the chief minister's residence at about the same time which decided to support Kumar as chief minister once he quit the NDA.

After submitting his resignation letter, Kumar went over to Devi's house to arm himself with letters of support from the Mahagathbandhan and drove back to the Governor's house along with RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav to stake claim to form a new government.

Supporting the claim are the JD(U) which itself has 46 MLAs (45 party MLAs and 1 Independent) and the RJD which has 79 legislators. The Congress which has 19 while the CPI(M) has 12 MLAs, CPI - 2 and CPI(M) another 2 have also given him letters of support. The HAM party which 4 MLAs has also thrown in its lot with Kumar.

That the plans had been finalised long before the dice was cast was obvious from the sequence of events, said political observers. Several meetings over Ifar and other social occasions had cemented ties between Kumar and Yadav.

Nitish Kumar had deserted the NDA for the first time in 2013 after Narendra Modi became the coalition's Prime Ministerial candidate and then again ditched his coalition with the RJD-Congress combine in 2017 to walk back into the NDA camp. The question of whether Kumar's startling political moves on Tuesday will have repercussions on national politics and whether the opposition will try to build him up as a rival to Modi is of course a question which remains up in the air.

Rise in night temp

Continued from P1

The team estimated the mortality due to excess heat in 28 cities in China, South Korea and Japan between 1980 and 2015 and applied it to two climate change modelling scenarios that aligned with carbon-reduction scenarios adapted by the respective national governments.

Through this model, the team was able to estimate that between 2016 and 2100, the risk of death from excessively hot nights would increase nearly six-fold. This prediction is much higher than the mortality risk from daily average warming suggested by climate change models.

Kolkata Police team in city to quiz ED official

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: A team of the Detective Department of Kolkata Police Tuesday reached Bhubaneswar to grill Subodh Kumar, the deputy director of Enforcement Directorate (ED), Bhubaneswar zone over his alleged relationship with a Ranchi-based advocate who was recently held carrying huge cash in a mall of Kolkata last week.

The two-member team led by ACP Amit Rakshit Tuesday met Deputy Commissioner of police, CP Prateek Singh and sought the city

police's cooperation in the probe.

They later also met officials of Nayapalli police seeking their help in interrogating the Kumar in the alleged extortion case.

Meanwhile, sources claimed that the team failed to record the statement of Kumar who has been on a pre-sanctioned leave since Friday requested the officials of Kolkata police for more time. In response to the notice of Kolkata police, Kumar had reportedly asked the Kolkata police to fix another date for the questioning.

Kumar was earlier posted in the Ranchi zonal office of the ED as

deputy director from 2016 till June 2022. He was recently transferred to Odisha in the same capacity.

Notably, Officials of Kolkata Police caught Ranchi-based advocate Rajiv Kumar, popularly known as PIL Man of Jharkhand, with cash worth Rs 60 lakh from a shopping mall in central Kolkata August 1. The money seized from him was an advance of an extortion amount from a Kolkata-based businessman, Amit Agarwal alias Sonu, who paid the cash to Kumar for getting his name withdrawn from a PIL filed by the latter at Ranchi High Court.

Colleges asked to prioritise NSS activities

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: The Higher Education (HE) department has directed the principals of government degree colleges to prioritise activities of National Service Scheme (NSS) in colleges.

The Higher Education department said that it is seen that NSS units in colleges and schools generally undertake many types of activities throughout the year without prioritizing anything. Due to such multifarious activities, without any priority, no concrete outcomes come out of such NSS ac-

tivities over a period of time.

After the thorough deliberation, the state NSS advisory committee decided that NSS units should undertake the three activities on priority basis. They are - ensuring drugs, tobacco and alcohol free campus, encouraging students for blood donation and ensuring clean and green campus.

The department said that NSS should ensure that the college campuses remain free of all sorts of

drugs abuse. Moreover, students

and staff should be encouraged to donate blood, which is a noble activity. Blood Donation

Camps should be organised either in the institution campus or at any other suitable place at least once in a quarter.

Also, the students must keep their institution clean and green so that it creates a conducive atmosphere for better teaching and learning activities. Students should also be made aware of the importance of clean and green campus, it said.



Governor Ganeshil Lal inaugurating Kranti Divas programme in remembrance of 'Quit India Movement' at Swadhinata Sangrami Padia in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

OP PHOTO

KLF Kathmandu edition from Oct 15

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 9: The Kathmandu edition of the Kalinga Literary Festival will be held in the Nepal capital city October 15 and 16.

Organisers of the Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF) said the event will be held in Kathmandu in association with Himalayan Diary Pvt Ltd, and Rastrika Sahitya Samaj, Nepal. The collaboration between Himalayan Diary Pvt Ltd, Rastrika Sahitya Samaj, Nepal and Kalinga Literary Festival will strengthen cultural dialogue, religious as well as literary perspective and prolonged relations between Nepal and India, Rashmi Ranjan Parida, KLF founder and director, said in a statement.

The festival will focus on the glorious traditions of Nepal, Parida said. "Kalinga Literary Festival Kathmandu will showcase

literature, music, dance, poetry and other art forms. It will be a life time experience for lovers of literature, music, dance, art, poetry. The festival will celebrate the long-standing ties between Nepal and India in the context of the emerging global cultures," Parida said.

While Himalayan Diary Pvt Ltd, Rastrika Sahitya Samaj, Nepal is known organisation in Nepal which has been promoting and working on various literary and cultural activities in Nepal, the KLF is a dignified institution in India which has been honouring and promoting distinguished personalities from different regions of India.



CM pays tribute to freedom fighters

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Tuesday paid tributes to all freedom fighters on the historic day of Quit India Movement. On this day, Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call for Quit India which resonated with the masses, freeing us from the shackles of British Raj.

Through his Twitter account the CM said, "Solemn tributes to all freedom fighters on the historic day of Quit India Movement. On this day, Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call for Quit India which resonated with the masses, freeing us from the shackles of British Raj."

The Quit India Movement was a movement launched at the Bombay session of the All India Congress Committee by Mahatma Gandhi 1942 August 8.

Community learning centre for youths in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: A community learning center called Atmakoushal was inaugurated by the deputy mayor Manjulata Kanhar Tuesday in slum area of Bharatpur, Bhubaneswar. It is the first of many centres that has been set up to provide skills training to the youths of the community.

"It will help youths of this area to garner technical knowledge that can boost their career prospects," said Kanhar.

Among others, ward president Nalini Rao, slum president S Dilesh Rao, secretary S Dilesh Rao, social worker Panchanan Pradhan, and members of Bhubaneswar Bikash Sangathan joined the event along with the youths and the other members of community.

"Atmakoushal," a joint initiative of Atmashakti Trust, Mumbai-based Yuva Parivartan, and Bhubaneswar Bikash Sangathan,



will initially offer computer skills training for youths and college students of Bharatpur and later will expand its reach to other slums of the city.

Housing and Urban Development department recently said that it will set up skilling and livelihood centres in seven urban areas to provide training in soft skills and technical skills to the urban youths coming from poor families and facilitate their placement after the training.

Outfit complaint over 'security breach' at Lingaraj Temple

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: Irked over the photos of Union Home Minister Amit Shah clicked inside the sanctum sanctorum of Lingaraj Temple while he was doing puja, the members of Ekamra Janajagan Manch Tuesday lodged a complaint with the executive officer of Lingaraj Temple seeking action against persons responsible for the lapse.

Manch president Bhisma Narayan Nayak has raised serious questions about the security arrangements at the 11th century shrine. The issue came to the fore after state's leading Odia daily Dharitri published a report in this regard. Nayak said the state government has been taking steps to strengthen security at the temple keeping in view the threat of terrorist attacks. Security personnel along with metal detector have been deployed at the entrance to prevent entry of prohibited items including mobile phones.

HAR GHAR TIRANGA

Mission Shakti members to complete 30L flags by today

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 9: As part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, Mission Shakti members are busy making 30 lakh Tricolour flags that will be hoisted at houses & institutions from August 13-15 this year.

The project has not only given them a unique opportunity to earn but also awakened patriotic feelings. More than 300 SHG/PGs across 22 districts of the state are on track to complete all 30 lakh flag orders by August 10.

The SHGs had procured large quantities of raw materials from



local markets as well as Chhatisgarh and West Bengal. At an average, the SHGs are making around 3.5 to 4 lakh flags per day. The groups are working tirelessly to complete their orders, sources said.

'Har Ghar Tiranga' is a campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka

Amrit Mahotsav to encourage people to bring the Tiranga home and to hoist it to mark the 75th year of nation's independence. Our relationship with the flag has always been more formal and institutional than personal. Bringing the flag home collectively as a nation in the 75th year of independence becomes symbolic. It is not only an act of personal connection to the Tiranga but also an embodiment of our commitment to nation-building. The idea behind the initiative is to invoke the feeling of patriotism in the hearts of the people and to promote awareness about the Indian National Flag.

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-977665507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiekhan-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

MUNICIPALITY STATUS TO CHHATRAPUR, BHANJANAGAR & ASKA

Govt yet to execute HC order



IN CIVIC BODY ELECTIONS, THE CHAIR OF CHHATRAPUR NAC WENT TO THE BJP'S KITTY. SOME POLITICAL OBSERVERS DUBBED IT AS A DEFEAT OF THE BJD DUE TO PUBLIC RESENTMENT

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur, August 9: The High Court had directed the Housing and Urban Development department to announce Chhatrapur, Bhanjanagar and Aska

while, population in the three NACs has exceeded its stipulated limits, making them eligible for municipality status. Citing the increase in the population, Surendra Panigrahi, the president of Bharatiya Bikash Parishad, had filed a PIL at the High Court, seeking municipality status to the three NACs. Hearing the case, the HC had directed the Housing and Urban Development Secretary and the Ganjam Collector to take steps in this regard and sought a report. "The Ganjam Collector had even sent a proposal to the state government to accord municipality status to the three civic bodies. Then Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange had also informed mediapersons about it. The High Court order should be executed," Panigrahi said. Berhampur MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu had even told mediapersons during his visit to Chhatrapur that the government will take decision in this regard very soon, but nothing has happened so far, it was alleged. In civic body elections, the post of chairperson in the Chhatrapur NAC went to the BJP's kitty. Some political observers dubbed it as a defeat of the BJD due to public resentment. The population in each civic body has surpassed 25,000, it is claimed. Notably, Chhatrapur Nagarika Committee and Chhatrapur Bar Association have been demanding for municipality status to the Chhatrapur NAC.

2 MORE GET LIFE IN 2012 MURDER CASE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, August 9: A local court sentenced two persons to life imprisonment after convicting them in the killing of a murder witness A Ganesh Dora in 2012, Tuesday.

The convicts were identified as Bijay Sahu and Seemanchal Sethi. District and sessions judge Anand Chandra Behera here also slapped a penalty of ₹10,000 each on the two convicts. Two persons, Shiba Shankar Goud and Mangala Sabat have been serving life imprisonment in the Berhampur Circle Jail after being convicted for the murder. According to the case diary, one A Fakir Dora was murdered in 2000. The victim's elder brother A Ganesh Dora being the main witness in the case was being threatened. The incident occurred when Ganesh and his friend G Keshav Rao were returning home on a motorcycle, April 7, 2012.

Mahakalapara block to get new highway

POST NEWS NETWORK

Mahakalapara, August 9: A Greenfield Highway will be constructed in Kendrapara district which will pass through the Mahakalapara block, sources informed Monday. The highway when constructed will help ease commuting and transportation of goods from coastal areas of the district to Kolkata. The highway will pass through agricultural lands of Patuli

Panka, Dekani, Koradpanka, Naladia Sasan, Gatana, Narayanpur, Mashakani, Jadupur, Nuagaon, Ostar, Samantsingharpur, Teragaon, Mangalpur, Baulapada, Tithi, Kiarbanka, Bijaynagar, Babar, Potia and Ramchandrapur villages under the Mahakalapara block. The matter came to the fore after the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways published a notification in this regard, Sunday

The land required for constructing the highway will be acquired from the local land owners for which they will be provided with compensation. The construction of the highway will also spur developmental activities, including establishment of industrial plants and business establishments. This will help in the overall development of Mahakalapara block, locals said.

Ring road project in Baripada: Oustees demand rehab first

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, August 9: A fresh survey for a ring road project and a dyke to come up in Baripada town of Mayurbhanj district to prevent the floodwaters from Budhabalanga river has

been started. However, hundreds of people staged protests, Tuesday and demanded proper rehabilitation before displacement. They have decided to appeal to the Chief Minister, the Collector, the MP and the MLAs to first make provi-

sion of rehabilitation for people who are to be displaced. Notably, 24 families had been displaced for a bridge project in the past. These families have been living in misery as they have not been rehabilitated as yet, it was alleged.

FLOOD FURY



Girls boarded a country boat to move to safety after floodwater of Indravati and Bhaskel rivers entered the low-lying areas of Kosagumuda block in Nabarangpur district, Tuesday. Flood situation worsened after the area experienced record rainfall of 161 mm, Monday

Potato cultivation plans go haywire in Kandhamal dist

SUBSIDISED SEEDS MEANT FOR FARMERS BEING OPENLY SOLD IN LOCAL MARKETS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, August 9: The state government's plan to promote potato cultivation in Kandhamal district has gone haywire with the seeds allegedly being sold in open markets much to the disappointment of farmers, sources informed Monday. The seeds had been supplied to Kandhamal district for sale among farmers in Phulbani, Phiringia and Khajuripada blocks. The matter came to the fore after several quintals of potato seeds were found being sold in the weekly haat and the local vegetable markets of this town. Sources said this has happened due to alleged connivance between some unscrupulous officials and traders. It is alleged that huge quantities of potato seeds have been sold off to traders instead of the farmers who urgently need it to start cultivation. The district administration had earlier set a target for potato cultivation on 100 hectare of land in the district. So far



a supply of 970 quintal of potato seeds for cultivation on 60 hectare of land has been done. A farmer having a minimum of 0.1 hectare of land will get 1.5 quintal or three packets of potato seeds. It had been decided that farmers will get the seeds at a subsidised price of ₹45 per kg and ₹1,800 for buying 1.5 quintal. The price was fixed despite the state government incurring heavy losses. However, the price of potato seeds were increased to ₹48 per kg as three rupees were fixed as transportation cost. Requesting anonymity, some traders admitted to open sale of potato seeds in the market. They said that only a hand-

ful of farmers have got the seeds in this district. Also no detailed figure is available on the actual sale of seeds to farmers in Khajuripada and Phiringia blocks. As per rule, farmers after planting the seeds will have to take a photograph of their cultivated farmland and upload it in the 'Go Sugam' portal. Similarly, block level officials will visit the spot and verify the supply of the seeds to the farmers by tallying it with their respective bills. Later, they will submit a report to the Odisha government. However, with the portal not working in a proper manner all plans have gone haywire. It has allegedly created an opportunity for the dishonest officials and traders to make a fast buck. When contacted, Mihir Samantray, deputy director, Horticulture department rejected the charges stating that despite the work being done offline the GPS photograph of whether the farmers have received the seeds or not will reveal if there are any discrepancies.

AUGUST KRANTI DIWAS



Students and staff of Vikash Group carried a 1-km long Tricolour in a procession to mark the August Kranti Diwas in Bargarh town, Tuesday. The procession was led by Vikash Group Chairman D Murali Krishna. Bargarh MLA Debesh Acharya, former Rajya Sabha MP Prasanna Kumar Acharya, MD G Bhaskar Rao, Executive Director V Srinivas, Directors D Vivek, G Ramkrishna, D Ramkumar and Samarendra Panda were also present

OP PHOTO

Bank of India Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015		POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule-8(1)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002	
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Jayadev Vihar Branch 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 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property 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 rules. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Jayadev Vihar Branch for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.			
BRANCH/ Name and Address of Borrower	Liabilities due as per Notice	Date of Demand Notice/ Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Property
JAYADEV VIHAR BRANCH/ Borrower : M/s. D R Enterprises, Prop.: Mr. Bimbadhar Sahoo, Plot No.:302/2630, Khata No.:928/785, Jharpada, Bajrang Nagar, Bhubaneswar Sahar, Khurda, Odisha	₹49,71,340.47 + interest & expenses thereon	19.11.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of Land and Building Situated at Plot No.: 302/2630, Khata No.: 928/785, Mouza: Bhubaneswar Sahar Unit No.:33 Jharpada, Tahasil: Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha, Area: Ac.0.080 Dec. i.e. 3484.8 sqft, KISSAM: Gharabari, Prafulla Kumar Sahoo, West: Road.
Standing in the name of Mr. Bimbadhar Sahoo , Bounded by North: Duryodhan Roul, South: Sankarshan Panigrahy, East: Prafulla Kumar Sahoo, West: Road.			
Place: Bhubaneswar , Date: 10.08.2022		Authorised Officer, Bank of India	

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA REGIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE-III, PURI		POSSESSION NOTICE Appendix - IV [RULE-8(1)] (For Immovable property)	
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the State Bank of India, Chhaitana Branch, Dist: Puri 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 issued Demand Notices calling upon the following Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice plus further interest, charges and cost thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors & the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. The Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount stated below and interest, charges and cost thereon. The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.			
A/c. No./ Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors	Description of the Security Interest taken over possession	Liabilities due on the specified date as per Notice	Date of Demand/ Possession Notice
CHHAITANA BRANCH A/c. No.: 3106511773 (CC) Borrower: M/s. Charchika Variety Store, Prop.: Sri Subash Senapati, S/o: Late Gobinda Chandra Senapati, At/P.O.: Nagpur, P.S.: Gop, Dist.: Puri, Odisha, PIN-752002 / Guarantors: 1) Sri Kailash Chandra Senapati, S/o: Late Gobinda Chandra Senapati, 2) Sri Santosh Kumar Senapati, S/o: Late Gobinda Chandra Senapati, 3) Sri Ramesh Chandra Senapati, S/o: Late Gobinda Chandra Senapati, 4) Smt. Puni Senapati, W/o: Gobinda Chandra Senapati, All are At/P.O.: Nagpur, P.S.: Gop, Dist.: Puri, Odisha, PIN-752002	All that part and parcel of the property Land and Building situated at Mouza: Nagpur, P.S./Tahasil: Gop, Dist.: Puri, Khata No.: 305, Plot No.: 857, Area: Ac.0.06Dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, standing in the name of Late Gobinda Chandra Senapati & Smt. Puni Senapati , Bounded by East: Amaswar Behera, West: Damodar Kunda, North: Road, South: Road	₹ 6,36,953/- as on 21.07.2022 + interest and other expenses thereon	08.02.2022 / 04.08.2022
A/c. No.: 30956318332 (CC) Borrower: Sri Kishore Nayak, S/o: Late Kashinath Nayak, At: Pitapada, P.O.: Chhaitana, P.S.: Ramchandi, Dist.: Puri, Odisha, PIN-752002 / Guarantor: Sri Somanath Baral, S/o: Late Nata Baral, At: Bairipur, P.O.: Bantoligram, P.S.: Gop, Dist.: Puri, Odisha	All that part and parcel of the property Land and Building situated at Mouza: Bairipur, P.S./Tahasil: Gop, Dist.: Puri, Khata No.: 119, 1) Plot No.: 317, Area: Ac.0.06Dec., 2) Plot No.: 320, Area: Ac.0.03Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.09Dec. , KISSAM: Gharabari, standing in the name of Late Nata Baral	₹ 3,50,769/- as on 21.07.2022 + interest and other expenses thereon	05.05.2022 / 04.08.2022
Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 09.08.2022		Sd/- Authorised Officer State Bank of India	

UCO BANK Zonal Office, UCO Bank Building, 2nd Floor, C-2, Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751009, Tel: 0674-2620423		POSSESSION NOTICE For Immovable Property	
(Under Section 13(4)) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for Immovable Property)			
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of UCO Bank , under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers/Guarantors to repay the amount with interest at the contractual rate together with incidental expenses and costs within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken POSSESSION of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The Borrowers/Guarantors 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 UCO Bank for an amount plus interest & expenses thereon.			
NAYAGARH BRANCH/ Name and Address of the Borrowers/ Guarantors	Amount Outstanding as on Specified Date	Date of Demand / Possession Notice	Description of the Immovable Properties
Borrowers : 1) Mr. Chandan Mahapatra, S/o.: Mr. Rabi Narayan Mahapatra, 2) Mrs. Prafullabala Mahapatra, W/o.: Mr. Rabi Narayan Mahapatra / Guarantors: 1) Mr. Rabi Narayan Mahapatra, S/o.: Mr. Binod Mahapatra, 2) Mr. Gagan Bihari Mahapatra, S/o: Mr. Rabi Narayan Mahapatra, All are At: Sagadia Sahi, Old Town, Dist.: Nayagarh	₹ 3,77,750/- as on 06.11.2021 + further interest & other charges thereon	06.11.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of immovable property standing in the name of Mrs. Prafullabala Mahapatra in Mouza: Nayagarh, SRO/Dist.: Nayagarh, Khata No.: 1219/843, Plot No.: 507/4009, Area: Ac.0.03 Dec.
Borrower : Mr. Manoj Kumar Mishra, S/o.: Mr. Janardan Mishra / Guarantor: Mr. Janardan Mishra, Both are At: Kumbhar Sahi, Khandapada, Dist.: Nayagarh	₹ 3,73,737/- as on 06.11.2021 + further interest & other charges thereon	06.11.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of immovable property standing in the name of Mr. Janardan Mishra in Mouza: Khandapada, Dist.: Nayagarh, Khata No.: 1373, Plot No.: 3308, Area: Ac 0.05 Dec.
Borrower : Mr. Yudhisthir Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Sadasiva Pradhan/Guarantors: 1) Mr. Sadasiva Pradhan, S/o: Mr. Gopi Pradhan, 2) Anasuya Pradhan, 3) Mr. Hadibandhu Pradhan, 4) Mrs. Apariti Pradhan, All are At: Kanchanbeli, Kridaspur, Dist.: Nayagarh	₹ 1,65,540/- as on 21.10.2021 + further interest & other charges thereon	21.10.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of immovable property standing in the name of Mr. Sadasiva Pradhan S/o: Mr. Gopi Pradhan in Mouza: Kanchanbeli, Dist.: Nayagarh, Khata No.: 49, Plot No.: 650/855, Area: Ac 0.04 Dec.
Borrower : M/s. Kanchan Chudi Centre, Main Road, Dist.: Nayagarh-752069/Guarantors: 1) Mr. Rabindra Kumar Sahoo, S/o: Mr. Laxmidhar Sahoo, 2) Mrs. Bisaya Sahoo, W/o: Mr. Rabindra Kumar Sahoo, Both are At/PO.: Jayapur, Jadumaninagar, Dist.: Nayagarh-752069	₹ 5,23,590/- as on 21.10.2021 + further interest & other charges thereon	21.10.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of immovable property standing in the name of Mr. Rabindra Kumar Sahoo in Mouza: Jayapur, SRO/Dist.: Nayagarh, Khata No: 170/73, Plot No: 563/675, Area: Ac 0.15 Dec.
Borrowers : 1) M/s. Pratima Enterprises, At: Room No:11, Amarendra Market, Dist.: Nayagarh, 2) Mr. Anand Chandra Sahoo S/o: Mr. Gobinda Sahoo, At: Balugaon, Dist.: Nayagarh/Guarantors: 1) Mr. Gobinda Sahoo, S/o: Mr. Ram Sahoo, 2) Mr. Benudhar Sahoo, S/o: Mr. Ram Sahoo, 3) Mr. Laxmidhar Sahoo, S/o: Mr. Ram Sahoo, All are At: Balugaon, Dist.: Nayagarh	₹ 4,81,651/- as on 06.11.2021 + further interest & other charges thereon	06.11.2021 / 05.08.2022	All that part and parcel of immovable property standing in the name of Mr. Gobinda Sahoo, Mr. Laxmidhar Sahoo & Mr. Benudhar Sahoo , All are sons of Mr. Ram Sahoo in Mouza: Balugaon, Dist.: Nayagarh, Khata No.: 144, Plot No.: 1130, Area: Ac 0.04 Dec. and Plot No.: 1144/2728, Area: Ac 0.01 Dec.
Place : Bhubaneswar , Date: 09.08.2022		Authorised Officer, UCO Bank	



Pain is the hammer of the Gods to break a dead resistance in the mortal's heart.

SRI AUROBINDO



Game Nitish

This round seems to have gone in favor of Nitish Kumar in Bihar. The Kurmi leader is known for his ability to change sides as and when winds of impending change blows across the Northern Indian plains. His political outfit, the Janata Dal United (JDU) has never been able to muster single majority in the Bihar Assembly but yet Nitish has the record of being the Chief Minister of one of the largest Indian states for seven times. In his new avatar Nitish has left the companionship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's BJP and decided to re-embrace Lalu Prasad's son Tejasvi's Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) for his future political activities. Those who are aware of Nitish know very well that the man is extremely ambitious and does not have any qualms about ditching or befriending any political outfit for his own interest. This event of 9 August 2022, however, bears greater importance because of the timing. Nitish would certainly be calculating that Narendra Modi's popularity has been dented due to many instances of mismanagement in the fields of economy and defence and also the damage caused to the social fabric of the country which has greatly impacted the common citizen. India is a country which is extremely sensitive to issues such as price rise of fuel and essential commodities. Modi has utterly failed in this respect. It is also known that the average citizen does not revolt nor speak out against people in power but when the time comes for the voter to press the button of his choice, the anger is poured forth. Nitish probably has felt that the moment is now or never for him to pitch for the post of Chief Executive.

The nation has been intrigued by the failure of all non BJP parties' inability to put up one single face as an alternative to Modi. Meanwhile, Indians in private and public conversations have been asserting that Narendra Modi will return to power simply because there is no alternative leadership that will be acceptable to most. This itself is an acceptance that the mind of most Indians is looking for an alternative. Nitish probably wants to present himself as the most acceptable alternative. His advantage of being a squeaky clean politician with no corruption allegations makes him immune to Modi's most powerful weapons - the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigations. It is said the darkest of nights foretells the brightest of dawns. In Indian political scenario of today, the misuse or abuse of central investigating agencies could bring about a bunch of leaders who have nothing to fear in their past. If they cannot be cornered with threats of money laundering cases or embezzlement of funds, they cannot be covered down to kneel before the BJP leadership. On the other hand, people may view all those who support the BJP in the coming days are those who need protection from the wrath of the central agencies for their past misdeeds. This could be a welcome development in Indian politics where the difference would be made sharp and clear between the clean and the corrupt.

Nitish, if he succeeds in forming the next government in Bihar with the help of the RJD, might appoint Tejasvi as his Deputy Chief Minister. In such a scenario, Nitish would be free to travel and confabulate with anti-BJP forces across the country to bring about a much sought after unity that the Congress primarily has been instrumental in damaging.

The events of 9 August at Patna could be important in the run up to the elections slated for 2024. The decision of Nitish also indicates that the fear of opposing Modi is waning. How the people of India react to this change will be measured in 2024.

Piate
Tathagata Satpathy

Rajapaksa To Return?

The news that Sri Lanka's former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country after mass protests and resigned soon after, is expected to return home has baffled many. Cabinet minister Bandula Gunawardana has given a broad hint telling the media, "To my knowledge, he is expected to come back." Gotabaya and his wife quietly boarded a military jet under cover of darkness after protesters had taken over his house and Presidential offices. They first flew to the Maldives and then to Singapore where they have been allowed to stay on a short visitor's visa. Many thought Gotabaya would not set foot on Sri Lankan soil again at least for some time to avert possible prosecution for accusations of corruption and war crimes that date back over a decade. As long as he remained President, he enjoyed immunity from prosecution. Now that he is no longer in office, efforts have begun to probe the charges against him and arrest him. Calls are heard on the streets of Sri Lanka demanding he and his family be tried.

There has been much speculation on the whereabouts and final destination of Rajapaksa. The confirmation by the Sri Lankan minister has somewhat set it at rest, but triggered fresh conjectures about his motive. Singapore authorities also clarified that Rajapaksa has not applied for asylum and his visitor's visa has been extended till August 11. His decision to return to Sri Lanka seems to have been prompted by the fact that he has few other options now as human rights groups and lawyers have been pressuring countries, including the US, not to accept him and help the process of law to try him for his alleged war crimes against Sri Lankan Tamils. Many of his political opponents too were brutally tortured at his behest and taken away, never to return home.

A rights group - South Africa-based International Truth and Justice Project (ITJP) - which documented alleged abuses in Sri Lanka by Gotabaya, has filed a criminal complaint with Singapore's Attorney General, seeking his arrest for his role in the island nation's decades-long civil war. The complaint states Rajapaksa committed serious breaches of the Geneva Conventions during the 25-year-long civil war when he was the country's chief defence official. The civil strife ended in 2009. Rights groups, however, accused both sides - the government and the rebel group Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) - of abuses during the war. The alleged war crimes by Gotabaya and the armed forces as listed by the rights group include murder, executions, torture, inhuman treatment, rape and other forms of sexual violence, deprivation of liberty, severe bodily and mental harm and starvation. In September 2008, Gotabaya ordered the immediate withdrawal of the United Nations and relief agencies from the war zone so that there would be no witnesses to the carnage perpetrated on Tamil civilians by the Sri Lankan army. The charges form the basis of the legal complaint.

The question is why Gotabaya is apparently keen on returning to Sri Lanka to face such grave charges along with those of corruption and financial irregularities. The answer could be that he, probably, thinks it would be better for him to face trial in his own country than on foreign soil as the ITJP is trying, taking advantage of the absence of immunity he has so long enjoyed as Sri Lankan President. Moreover, the new President, Ranil Wickremesinghe, and several ministers are known to have close links with him. The legal process may be short-circuited with the help of such friends in his own country. Law's delay is proverbial and endemic almost everywhere. Sri Lanka is certainly no exception.



Daron Acemoglu & James A. Robinson

HONG KONG AND TAIWAN ARE CUT FROM THE SAME CULTURAL CLOTH AS MAINLAND CHINA, YET THEY REST ON VERY DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS

WHY TAIWAN MATTERS

FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's headline-generating visit to Taipei has reminded the world how much Taiwan matters to China. But Taiwan also should matter to the democratic world.

It is no secret that the Communist Party of China (CPC) is committed to unifying Taiwan (which it views as a breakaway province) with the mainland. The United States formally recognised the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China in 1979, and Western powers have since mostly refrained from recognising Taiwan as a separate country. This "One China" policy, together with rising nationalist sentiment in China, makes a Chinese takeover of the island in the coming decades seem likely, if not inevitable.

Some Western commentators believe that Pelosi acted recklessly by visiting the island. But they ignore how and why Taiwan also matters for the future of both democracy and China itself.

A common belief among Western policymakers and many commentators nowadays is that China will remain non-democratic for the foreseeable future, owing to its deeply authoritarian political culture. According to this view, the West's "individualism" stands in stark contrast to China's Confucian heritage, which entails rigid hierarchies not just in families but in all social settings. The implication is that the Chinese people are more willing to take their place within a pre-defined order of authority, and less willing to participate in democratic politics.

Hence, political scientist Samuel P. Huntington once asserted that "no scholarly disagreement exists regarding the proposition that traditional Confucianism was either undemocratic or antidemocratic." And more recently, Ray Dalio of Bridgewater Associates writes: "All of these Chinese systems are hierarchical and non-egalitarian. ... America is run from the bottom up (e.g., democracy) and optimized for the individual; China is run from the top down and optimized for the collective. ... Democracy as we know it doesn't have any roots in China."

It is easy to see how the last 2,500 years of Chinese history might support these ideas. China has experienced many rebellions and the rise and fall of many powerful dynasties. Since democratic politics has been conspicuously absent through it all, many assume that China is bound to remain under the command of a strong leader presiding over a top-down regime, and Chinese state propaganda assiduously fosters this view. Chinese newspapers and political commentators constantly contrast the Chinese system's efficiency to the West's gridlocked politics, while also pointing out that it is more in line with Chinese values and culture.



China has experienced many rebellions and the rise and fall of many powerful dynasties. Since democratic politics has been conspicuously absent through it all, many assume that China is bound to remain under the command of a strong leader presiding over a top-down regime, and Chinese state propaganda assiduously fosters this view

But is it? Hong Kong and Taiwan are cut from the same cultural cloth as mainland China, yet they rest on very different political systems. Until the CPC's crackdown on Hong Kong in 2020, the island was in the process of building a vibrant democracy. And Taiwan is even more revealing. Since the 1980s, it has developed a robust democracy with broad-based participation. Far from being established and developed by elites, Taiwan's system is the result of students and other ordinary citizens demanding more through democratic politics.

Democratic participation in Taiwan appears to have intensified over the last six years. The island's

dominant party for most of its history was the Kuomintang, founded by Chiang Kai-shek, the Chinese nationalist who fled the mainland with his loyal troops and about 1.5 million supporters after being defeated in 1949 by the Communists. The current government, led by the Democratic Progressive Party, came to power in the 2016 general election, following widespread protests against the KMT's efforts to ram through a trade deal with China despite significant opposition. During the protests, the student-led Sunflower Movement even occupied Parliament.

This was not just a passing phase of anger and protest. The Taiwanese are pioneers in digital democracy. Active political participation by different segments of society is the norm. That is why Taiwanese governments routinely consult the public on key decisions, such as ridesharing regulations and liquor sales.

Taiwan also hosts a "presidential hackathon" that allows citizens to make direct proposals to the president, and a digital platform provides data from most Taiwanese ministries, with the explicit purpose of encouraging civil society

to improve government operations. And in the face of COVID-19, its government marshaled an effective response through democratic consultation, close collaboration with civil society, and new digital tools for testing and contact tracing.

Taiwan exhibits these strong democratic tendencies, not because it has undergone a Westernising cultural transformation. Until 2000, the KMT regime leveraged Confucian values to set itself apart from the Communist regime in China, and subsequent surveys have shown that Confucian values are even more deeply held in Taiwan than on the mainland.

The island thus reinforces a point that we have made in previous work: It is misguided to assert any kind of unbreakable link between cultural values and political systems. All cultures, and particularly Confucian ones, should be viewed as highly adaptable to changing circumstances. Political regimes can rest on many cultural frames.

While Confucius did say that "commoners do not debate matters of government," he also emphasised that "a state cannot stand if it has lost the confidence of the people." Confucian thought recommends respect and obedience to leaders only if they are virtuous. It thus follows that if a leader is not virtuous, he or she can - and perhaps should - be replaced. This perfectly valid interpretation of Confucian values underpins Taiwanese democracy.

By contrast, CPC propaganda holds that Confucian values are utterly incompatible with democracy, and that there is no viable alternative to one-party rule. This is patently false. Democracy is as feasible in China as it is in Taiwan. No matter how strident the CPC's bluster becomes, it will not extinguish people's desire to participate in politics, complain about injustices, or replace leaders who misbehave. Taiwan matters because it represents an alternative political path for China - one that has long sustained freedom and prosperity in the West.

Daron Acemoglu is Professor of Economics at MIT. James A. Robinson is Professor at the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

IN JEST THIS

Another reason to avoid processed foods



Melvin Durai

PRESERVATIVES ENSURE THAT THESE FOODS HAVE A LONG SHELF LIFE, WHILE WE HAVE A SHORTER SHELF LIFE

Whether you're young, middle-aged or old, it's important to be as healthy as possible. Being healthy doesn't ensure that you'll enjoy a long life, but it certainly improves your chances. Even if you get unlucky and an angry elephant charges toward you, you'll be able to react quickly and avoid getting crushed.

If you don't believe me, just use your iPhone to ask Siri this question: "How many Olympic athletes have ever been crushed by elephants?" Siri will answer: "Zero. They all managed to escape."

One of the best ways to maintain good health is to watch what you eat. What I mean, of course, is that you should be aware of what you're putting in your mouth, not just the name of the food, such as pizza or cake, but also the ingredients, such as maltodextrin or trisodium phosphate. Watch out for foods that have an ingredient list longer than the credits of a Bollywood movie.

For example, I just took a box of the breakfast cereal Cinnamon

Toast Crunch out of my kitchen cupboard and looked at the list of ingredients: "Whole grain wheat, sugar, rice flour, canola and/or sunflower oil, fructose, maltodextrin, dextrose, salt, cinnamon, trisodium phosphate, soy lecithin, caramel color, BHT added to preserve freshness."

Whoever named this cereal was quite brilliant. "Cinnamon Toast Crunch" sounds a lot more appetizing than the name I would have come up with: "Cinnamon Trisodium Phosphate With BHT Added."

About half the ingredients seem palatable to me, but the other half are downright nauseating. Would you eat a food product if the sole ingredients were "maltodextrin, dextrose, trisodium phosphate and BHT?" Not me. I'd rather eat a product with "sand, river water, ocean debris and a horse's behind."

Cinnamon Toast Crunch, of course, is quite tasty. My kids love it - and so do I. But is it good for us? Only in limited quantities. Having

that processed foods may affect our brains as well.

The study, conducted in Brazil and presented at the 2022 Alzheimer's Association International Conference in San Diego, California, found that people who get more than 20 per cent of their daily calories from ultra-processed foods are more likely to suffer cognitive decline compared to people who get less than 20 per cent.

"People need to know they should cook more and prepare their own food from scratch," Dr. Claudia Suenoto of the University of São Paulo Medical School told CNN. "We say we don't have time but it really doesn't take that much time."

She's right: it doesn't take much time. That's why I've decided to make breakfast for my kids every day. I'm going to hide the box of Cinnamon Toast Crunch in my bedroom closet. And I'm going to make sure that no more than 20 per cent of my daily calories come from that closet.

that processed foods may affect our brains as well.

The study, conducted in Brazil and presented at the 2022 Alzheimer's Association International Conference in San Diego, California, found that people who get more than 20 per cent of their daily calories from ultra-processed foods are more likely to suffer cognitive decline compared to people who get less than 20 per cent.

"People need to know they should cook more and prepare their own food from scratch," Dr. Claudia Suenoto of the University of São Paulo Medical School told CNN. "We say we don't have time but it really doesn't take that much time."

She's right: it doesn't take much time. That's why I've decided to make breakfast for my kids every day. I'm going to hide the box of Cinnamon Toast Crunch in my bedroom closet. And I'm going to make sure that no more than 20 per cent of my daily calories come from that closet.

Stop disfiguring the city

Sir, Bhubaneswar has a rich cultural heritage. It is called the 'temple city' of India due to the presence of a large number of temples. As a smart city, it has carved a niche in international arena because of its beautification drive and excellent civic administration. But, the beauty of the city is marred by signboards, pamphlets, dubious advertisements and posters all around. There is no sin in advertising a product. But, how far is it proper and aesthetic in disfiguring the heritage and culture of our city? When the internet and the media provide ample opportunities for advertisements, there is no need to defile the city. Civic sense should not lack among us. Let us join our hands with the civic body in maintaining the glory and beauty of our smart capital city.

Prabhudutt Dash, BHUBANESWAR

Scintillating performances

Sir, Stunning effort from all Indian sportspersons helped India complete their Commonwealth Games 2022 journey by finishing fourth in the CWG 2022 medal tally with 22 golds, and 61 medals in total. Hats off to the Indian players for putting up brilliant performances despite many unfavourable factors. What makes India's achievements so special is that without participating in shooting, India could put up spectacular performance in CWG 2022. Shooting was not included in CWG 2022, a sport which provides India with several medals traditionally. It must be noted that India has won 135 medals in shooting in the Commonwealth Games, including 63 gold medals. India won 22 gold medals, 16 silver medals and 23 bronze medals and in total won 61 medals. In comparison with India's medal tally in CWG 2022, India's medal tally in the 2018 Gold Coast Games was 66 medals with 26 gold medals, 20 silver medals and 20 bronze medals. It may be remembered that in 2018 Gold Coast Games, India had won 7 gold medals in shooting-almost a third of the medals they won in Birmingham in spite of the absence of shooting. India has marked its presence on track and field with several medals. These medals are a sign of India's future achievements in sports at the international level. Our players have definitely made us proud by their scintillating performance in CWG 2022. That India has come in the top 5 countries in the medal tally is something sportspersons, sports enthusiasts and the nation as whole can be proud of.

Venu GS, KOLLAM (KERALA)

WISDOM CORNER

Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present.

JIM ROHN

Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.

HELEN KELLER

What's money? A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do.

BOB DYLAN

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

national

of the day quote

The government should definitely support the poor and needy but at the same time should prioritise health, education and infrastructure development

M VENKAIAH NAIDU | VICE PRESIDENT

The Monsoon session of Parliament was adjourned two days ahead of schedule and not four, and the decision was taken after requests from MPs, including from the Opposition

PRALHAD JOSHI | PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER

The government will certainly re-evaluate the fare cap in place for domestic airlines once there is a healthier environment in terms of jet fuel prices

JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA | CIVIL AVIATION MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Shaurya Chakra awardee killer held

Chandigarh: In a major breakthrough in the killing of Shaurya Chakra awardee Balwinder Singh Sandhu in 2020, Punjab Police Tuesday arrested key accused Gurwinder Singh, a.k.a. Baba, from Tarn Taran. His two aides -- Sandeep Singh and Gurpreet Singh -- were also arrested. They were allegedly involved in cross-border smuggling of narcotics and weapons.

Punjab: Private bus operators on strike

Chandigarh: Private buses in Punjab stayed off the roads Tuesday as their operators were on a one-day strike against the alleged failure of the AAP government to fulfil their demands, including waiver of tax for the Covid-19 pandemic period. The bus and minibus operators under the banner of Punjab Motor Union also staged 'dharnas' at many places like Amritsar, Patiala, Sunam, Hoshiarpur, Phagwara and Ajnala. The protesters carried black flags and raised slogans against the state government. With private buses off the roads, commuters, including women and children, faced a lot of inconvenience.

Rusted grenade defused in J&K

Jammu: An old and rusted grenade was Tuesday defused by the experts of a bomb disposal squad in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The grenade was spotted on the banks of a stream at Ghambir Mughlan in Manjakote area by some villagers who informed the local police station, a police official said.

Man stabbed to death

New Delhi: A 26-year-old man was stabbed to death in front of his brother allegedly by their neighbour and his associates following a quarrel in west Delhi's Moti Nagar area, police said. Four men have been arrested and a juvenile apprehended in connection with the incident, police said, adding that the deceased, identified as Balram, was stabbed multiple times in his stomach, chest, legs and hands.

Couple shot dead

Hathras: A couple was shot dead Tuesday by unidentified assailants using a country made firearm in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras district. The incident took place at 2.30 a.m. when Rajesh Kumar Singh, 35, and his wife Kusum, 31, were sleeping in their house. Rajesh was a farmer.



The tribal society has its own special identity as nature worshippers, which is manifested through their songs and dance. The glimpse of tribals' attachment to nature is clearly visible in their folk songs

ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CHIEF MINISTER

Shinde-Fadnavis' all-male Cabinet has 18 ministers



Rights activists have expressed disappointment over the Eknath Shinde government in Maharashtra failing to induct women into the Cabinet which was expanded Tuesday after 41 days

AGENCIES

Mumbai, August 9: Soon after his much-awaited mini Cabinet expansion with the induction of 18 members Tuesday, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde faced flak from various quarters for not including a woman in the team, but inducting three allegedly tainted legislators, and excluding Independents and smaller parties.

With this, the number of Cabinet ministers has gone up to 20, including Shinde and BJP's Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis -- less than

half the total strength of 43. Tuesday's exercise was aimed at 'sailing through' the upcoming Monsoon Session of the Assembly starting August 17, and the next phase of expansion with a few Cabinet ranks and others as MoS will be done later.

Shinde has included legislators, including himself, who were part of the former MVA government - Gulabrao Patil, Dadaji Bhuse, Sanjay Rathod, Sandipan Bhumre, Uday Samant, Abdul Sattar and Shambhuraj Desai -- besides two new faces, Deepak Kesarkar and Tanaji Sawant, who were ministers in the previous Devendra Fadnavis regime. Despite the presence of several women MLAs in both Shinde group (three) and the BJP (12), the two sides have ignored them -- at least for now -- 41 days after the new government was sworn-in June 30. However, three allegedly scarred MLAs, two from Shinde camp and one from the BJP, are now ministers -- Abdul Sattar, Sanjay Rathod (Shinde group) and BJP's Vijaykumar Gavit.

Shiv Sena leader Kishori Pednekar and BJP's Chitra Wagh

have slammed the Chief Minister for inducting Rathod - who was a minister in the erstwhile Maha Vikas Aghadi government headed by former CM Uddhav Thackeray.

He was forced to quit as MoS in February 2021 following allegations after the death of a Pune-based social media star, Pooja Chavan. Wagh Tuesday vowed to continue her fight to ensure justice for the victim, while Pednekar said the same BJP had sought Rathod's removal from the Cabinet and now they have taken him back as a Cabinet minister.

Sattar's family member's name has cropped up in the ongoing probe into the TET scam, but he has denied any involvement and expressed readiness to face any probe.

BJP's Gavit was named in the alleged Rs 6,000 crore scam in the tribal department between 2002 and 2006 that was later probed by the Justice MG Gaikwad panel.

Meanwhile, NCP Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule and Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi took potshots at Shinde-Fadnavis for failing to include any women in the Cabinet.

RAINS LASH MUMBAI

Heavy rains and strong winds lashed Mumbai and its suburbs Tuesday morning, leading to waterlogging in some low-lying areas, civic officials said. The intensity of the rainfall, however, dwindled in the later part of the day



Shrikant Tyagi sent to 14-day judicial custody

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, August 9: Self-proclaimed BJP leader Shrikant Tyagi, who was arrested Tuesday for abusing and assaulting a woman at his housing society in Noida, has been sent to 14-day judicial custody.

Tyagi had hurled expletives at the woman resident of Grand Omaxe, who had objected to his planting of trees in the common area of the society. Tyagi had claimed that he was well within his rights to do so. As videos of the episode went viral on social media, an FIR was lodged and Tyagi was booked under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code. He went missing after the case was lodged against him.

Tyagi claimed to be the national executive member of the BJP's Kisan Morcha and the national coordinator of its Yuva Samiti, even though the ruling party denied any links with him.

Tyagi was finally arrested Tuesday from Meerut.

During the probe, the police also impounded two vehicles of Tyagi which were found in violation of the Motor Vehicles Act. The cops confiscated an SUV with a BJP flag and a VVIP MLA sticker on the tinted windscreen. Meanwhile, UP Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Avani Ashwathi has announced Rs 2 lakh reward for the team that arrested Tyagi. DG (Intelligence) D.S. Chauhan has also announced Rs 1 lakh for the police officials.



Assam-Meghalaya to hold border talks after August 15: CM



Expressing confidence that the two states will also find a solution for the remaining six locations, the Chief Minister said it will take time

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shillong, August 9: Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma Tuesday said his government will hold talks with Assam to resolve the remaining six areas of dispute at the inter-state border after August 15.

Speaking to reporters, Sangma said he met Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma in New Delhi on the sidelines of the Niti Aayog meeting last weekend and held a detailed discussion on the issue.

"We decided that we will be having the first meeting for the phase-II after Independence Day," he said, after meeting a delegation of the Synjuk Ki Rangbah Shnong Border Area Raid Nongtung, a conglomeration of traditional village chiefs.

"The exact date has to be finalised but we will be meeting in

Guwahati," Sangma said. Regional committees will be formed by the two states to take the process forward for the second phase of the border talks, he said. The delegation sought the intervention of the chief minister to ensure 18 of 34 villages under Raid Nongtung in disputed block-II be retained in Meghalaya.

"That is the reason why we have moved forward in six of the twelve areas in the first phase. We have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) after detailed consultations and the people's will is what has led to the resolution of the first six locations," Sangma said.

Expressing confidence that the two states will also find a solution for the remaining six locations, the chief minister said it will take time. "We have to move forward and we have to allow the process to continue. We have to consult and engage with all the stakeholders that are involved," he said. Synjuk president Blickstar Sohtsun said they have urged the Chief Minister to ensure all the 18 villages under Raid Nongtung should not go to Assam at any cost.

PM's total assets rise by ₹26 lakh to ₹2.23cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Prime Minister Narendra Modi owns assets worth over ₹2.23 crore, mostly as bank deposits, but has no immovable properties as he has donated his share in a piece of land in Gandhinagar, according to his latest disclosure about assets.

He has no investment in any bond, share or mutual funds, does not own any vehicle, but has four gold rings valued at ₹1.73 lakh, according to his declaration updated till March 31. Modi's movable assets rose by ₹26.13 lakh from a year ago, but he no longer owns the immovable assets which were worth ₹1.1 crore as on March 31, 2021. His assets total ₹2,23,82,504 as on March 31, 2022, according to details uploaded on the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) website.

The residential plot he jointly held with three other owners, each having an equal share, was purchased by him in October 2002

when he was the chief minister of Gujarat. The latest update said, "Immovable property Survey No. 401/A was jointly held with three other joint owners and each having an equal share of 25 per cent is no more owned by the self as the same has been donated."

The cash in hand with the Prime Minister as March 31, 2022 was ₹35,250 and his National Savings Certificates with post office were worth ₹9,05,105 and had life insurance policies valued ₹1,89,305.

Among the Prime Minister's Cabinet colleagues who have declared their assets, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has movables worth ₹2.54 crore and immovable assets worth 2.97 crore as March 31, 2022.

Of all the 29 Cabinet ministers, the ones who have declared their own and their dependents' assets for the last fiscal also include Dharmendra Pradhan, Jyotiraditya Scindia, R K Singh, Hardeep Singh Puri, Parshottam Rupala and G Kishan Reddy.

MATTER OF FAITH



Muslim devotees flagellate themselves during the Bibi Ka Alam procession on the tenth day of the mourning period of Muharram, which marks the day of Ashura in Hyderabad

Economic blockade called off in Manipur

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Imphal, August 9: Confusion reigned over the five-day old "economic blockade", called by the All Tribal Student Union Manipur (ATSUM), along the National Highway 2 (Imphal-Dimapur) as the Manipur government Tuesday said that it had been called off while the student body said that they would continue the protest.

An ATSUM statement Tuesday night said that the emergency meeting of the organisation and ATSUM Federating Units held Tuesday had denounced the agreement signed between the Manipur government, the Hill Areas Committee, and the ATSUM, ANSAM KSO-GHQ. "The decision of the denouncement was made in the event of the agreement being signed at the unilateral capacity and decision of the individuals involved in the agreement without consulting the executives of ATSUM and Federating Units. The office of ATSUM suspends Vanlanlian Khaute from the post of Vice President of ATSUM with immediate effect for gross violation of the conduct of the Union by unilaterally appending signature to the agreement," the ATSUM statement said.

Nitish Kumar: Master of the art of changing governments

The frequent change of platforms -- from secular socialist to aligning with a right wing party to being upholder of Dalit rights -- may have diminished Nitish's standing as the 'sushasan' (good governance) man, but his political ability to do the impossible has certainly not diminished

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, August 9: Nitish Kumar has again proven that he is a master of the art of changing governments.

For some, it was a reversal of happenings in 2017, when he dumped the RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan' to rejoin the NDA, while for others it was a reversal of happenings in Maharashtra where a Shiv Sena-Congress-NCP government was overthrown to form a BJP-rebel Sena government.

Said Ranabir Samaddar, well-known political scientist and for-

mer professor of Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies, "Bihar has become the flipside of the Maharashtra coin."

The frequent change of platforms -- from secular socialist to aligning with a right wing party to being upholder of Dalit rights -- may have diminished Nitish's standing as the 'sushasan' (good governance) man, but his political ability to do the impossible has certainly not diminished.

"If he sustains the momentum of what he managed to do now with his new movement, then 2024 general elections in Bihar, where 40 crucial seats will go to polls,

will prove to be a real battleground for the BJP," said CPIM(L) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, who also practices psephology.

The 71-year-old Kumar, who became chief minister for a record eighth time, had started out as an engineer in the Bihar Electricity Board to join politics under aegis of socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia and participated in Jayprakash Narayan's movement in the 1970s.

After many tortuous splits and mergers of the Socialist party, Kumar formed the Janata Dal (United). A JD(U)-BJP combine tried to end the long reign in Bihar



of rival erstwhile socialist Lalu Prasad's RJD, and in March 2000, he was elected chief minister of the state for the first time. However, this government was short-lived as the NDA did not have the numbers and had to make way for the RJD.

Kumar then joined the Atal Behari Vajpayee cabinet and proved

to be a good administrator in his new role as railway minister, introducing computerised railway reservation among other initiatives.

The backward Kurmi community leader was elected chief minister again in 2005 and this time he had the numbers to continue.

Dubbed the 'sushasan' (good governance) man, Kumar improved the backward state's law and order situation, improved its infrastructure and educational institutions.

After three terms as NDA chief minister, Kumar dumped the saffron party and joined hands with arch-rival Lalu Prasad's RJD and the Congress to come back to power in 2015 as chief minister once again.

However, this uneasy alliance lasted till 2017, and he did a volte face once again to rejoin the NDA, leaving the 'Mahagathbandhan' high and dry. The story of course is playing out in reverse today.

"Nitish's move today is a new chapter in one form of federalisation of politics (where regional parties are taking control of states), while Maharashtra where BJP formed a coalition government is one form of centralization of politics," said Samaddar.



Caste census, eye on 2024 led to friction between JD(U), BJP

Nitish has been off and on hobnobbing with RJD to control the BJP but after the latter decided to tighten its grip, the JD(U) felt uneasy and decided to move away

New Delhi, August 9: Caste census acted as a catalyst in uniting the Bihar-based OBC parties, the script of which was written in April-May when both -- RJD and JD(U) -- advocated for it. Both the parties thriving on OBC politics could not ignore such a significant issue and the hints were clear when Nitish Kumar started skipping Prime Minister's meetings, the latest being the NITI Aayog. But the other factor is that in the next General Elections the BJP was trying to assert itself at the cost of its alliance partner the JD(U). This led to the parting of ways as an insider said that JDU and the RJD could not stop the BJP's rise in the state. It all started in May when Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar called an all-party meeting to discuss the caste-based census. "We want to discuss each and



every issue related to caste-based census. The leaders of different political parties will give their suggestions, which will be of great help," he said. However, the BJP supported the move with a rider and raised concerns about the minority community taking advantage of the census. Nitish has been off and on hobnobbing with RJD to control the BJP but after the latter decided to tighten its grip and a series of programmes were organised, the JD(U) felt uneasy and decided to move away. However, it was Nitish who had dumped the RJD Congress combine to reunite with the BJP. In the political activity in Patna, the Congress and Left parties

handed over the lists of their legislators to Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav. Even as the meeting of RJD, which was taking place at Rabri Devi's residence here, was going on, legislators from the Congress and Left parties also reached there and handed over their lists to Tejashwi Yadav. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is working with the 'plan of 2013' to sack all 16 ministers of the BJP in the name of Cabinet expansion and include leaders of RJD and Congress. Left parties have reportedly decided to support Nitish Kumar government from outside and not take share in the cabinet.

GOA PANCHAYAT POLLS More than 5,000 candidates in fray

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, August 9: As many as 186 panchayat bodies will go to polls in Goa today with more than 5,000 candidates in the fray, an official from the state election commission said Tuesday. At least 5,038 candidates will contest the panchayat polls from 1,464 wards across the state, he said. A total of 64 candidates have been elected unopposed from different village panchayats, of which 41 were from North Goa and 23 from South Goa, the senior official said. North Goa district has 97 panchayats, with 2,667 candidates in the fray, while 2,371 will contest polls for 89 panchayats in South Goa, he said.



As per the official data, there are 3,85,867 and 4,11,153 voters in North Goa and South Goa respectively. The administration has already imposed section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) across the state, while liquor ban has been imposed Tuesday and Wednesday. The polling will begin at 8am and conclude at 5pm, it was stated.

After Delhi, Punjab, AAP recognised as state party in Goa by EC: Kejriwal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Tuesday said it has received state party status in Goa from the Election Commission on the basis of a review of its performance in the February assembly polls. The party led by Arvind Kejriwal is already a recognised state party in Delhi and Punjab where it is in power. Citing an official communication from the poll panel, party national convenor Kejriwal said, "After Delhi and Punjab, AAP is now a state recognised party in Goa too." "If we get recognised in one more state, we will officially be declared as a national party," he added. According to an Election Commission letter posted by Kejriwal on Twitter, the poll panel has granted recognition to the AAP as a state party in Goa on the basis of review of the party's performance in the Assembly polls. "On the basis of review of poll performance of the Aam Aadmi Party at the general election to the Legislative Assembly of Goa, 2022, it is observed that the Aam Aadmi Party, presently, a registered recognised party in the NCT of Delhi and State of Punjab with 'Broom' as its reserved symbol, has fulfilled the conditions laid down in Para 6A of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968 for recognition as a state party in the state



If we get recognised in one more state, we will officially be declared as a national party. ARVIND KEJRIWAL | NATIONAL CONVENOR, AAP

Allotment) Order, 1968," it said. A notification in this regard will be issued in due course, the EC added. Kejriwal congratulated party workers on the achievement and thanked people for reposing faith in the AAP and its ideology. The AAP won two seats in the Goa state assembly elections, securing an overall vote share of 6.77 per cent. In a stupendous victory in Punjab Assembly elections, the party won 92 out of the 117 Assembly seats securing an overall vote share of 42.01 per cent and formed its government in the state.



PLEDGE FOR PARTY

Bihar Pradesh Congress Committee workers take oath in front of Martyrs' Memorial (Shaheed Smarak) during their India Gaurav Yatra on the occasion of August Kranti Diwas (August Revolution Day), in Patna, Tuesday

PTI PHOTO

Goa AAP for adopting govt schools, says will use Delhi model to boost enrolment

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Panaji, August 9: Offering to adopt the government primary schools, which are to be merged on account of less students, AAP's Goa unit Tuesday said that they will boost enrolment and improve results in the state, using Delhi model. A delegation of AAP leaders led by AAP Goa unit President Amit Palekar Tuesday handed over a memorandum to the Director of Education Shailesh Zingde and requested him to take back the decision of merging the government primary schools in the interest of public and students. "We are ready to help government only for cause that these schools will not be closed. Government should not see us as political party, rather should join hands with us to save these schools," Palekar said adding students will get additional resources, learning and infrastructure with their concept. AAP Goa has two MLAs in 40-member State Assembly. "AAP is willing to take over these schools if the government acknowledges that it has failed to provide Goan children with educational facilities they need and deserve. We'll demonstrate using our Delhi model how to boost enrolment and improve results in Goa as well," Palekar stated. Palekar said that the first Goa Chief Minister late Dayanand Bandodkar had laid the founda-



tion of education by establishing government primary schools in nearly every village throughout the state with the sole purpose of bringing education to everyone and practically to their doorstep. "Enrollment of students has dropped as a result of the BJP government's complete neglect of the government primary schools in recent years. There is a solution to increase the enrolment, we can do it," Palekar said. "By merging the schools, a child will now be required to attend a school that would be nearly 4 to 5 km from their home. The child will experience great hardship as a result of having to walk to school while carrying a heavy bag because many of the villages lack transportation services," he stated.

Crop damage: Bihar is hiring shooters to cull nilgai, wild boar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, August 9: Concerned over large-scale destruction of crops by herds of 'Ghodparas', popularly known as nilgai or blue bull, and wild boar in certain districts of Bihar, the state government has decided to hire professional shooters possessing licensed guns to kill the two species outside protected forest area. Arvind Kumar Chaudhary, the principal secretary of environment, forest and climate change department, said village 'mukhiyas' (heads) have been given the au-

thority to assess the complaints of crop damage filed by farmers, and accordingly take a call if a state-appointed shooter should be told to cull an animal as and when it strays into the fields. "Blue bull and wild boar have been destroying agricultural crops extensively in the districts of Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Sitamarhi, Bhojpur and Sheohar. Keeping the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 in mind, the forest department has appointed mukhiyas as the nodal authority to identify and allow the killing of these two species outside the pro-

Farmers in parts of Bihar have been complaining of crop losses with these two species often straying into their fields. The situation is such that the tourists visiting Goa are mocking retailers for higher price of liquor. As per government statistics, in 2019, about 71,27,000 domestic tourists visited Goa, of which 9,31,000 were foreign tourists. But this number dropped in 2020 and 2021 as the Covid pandemic struck the coastal state. But now the local tourism industry is hopeful that tourist footfall will increase in the upcoming tourism season. Dattaprasad Naik, President of

cessing licensed guns. The committee has so far received applications from 14 shooters and the process of hiring them will be completed by the end of this month, Chaudhary stated. Explaining further, he said, "Procedures laid down for the operation have to be strictly followed. Mukhiyas will play a very crucial role in the entire exercise - from giving the go-ahead to making arrangements for burial. The government will bear the cost of cartridges and burial." According to officials, farmers in some parts of Bihar had long

been complaining of crop losses with these two species often straying into their fields, especially during this time of the year. Meanwhile, Alokparna Sengupta, the managing director of the India wing of Humane Society International, said culling of animals cannot be the solution to this problem. "Such measures have been taken by other state governments, too, in the past. That never led to any permanent solution. The problem still persists there. Killing of innocent animals must be condemned," she added.

Amid Bihar upheaval, Speaker tests Covid positive but recovers in a day

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, August 9: A day after he tested positive for Covid-19, Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha said his test reports have come out negative, amid a brewing political storm in the state, where he will play a key role in determining the legitimacy of any new formulation. Sinha, a BJP MLA, ebulliently announced on Twitter that his test reports Monday were negative. A day earlier, he had tested positive. Many took to the micro-blogging site to express astonishment at the speed with which the Speaker was declared Covid negative, and the fact that the health portfolio is also held by BJP's Mangal Pandey. On Monday night, members of the Ethics Committee of the Assembly, headed by another BJP leader Ram Narayan Mandal, met Sinha and submitted a report. While Mandal declined to divulge details, citing confidentiality, sources in the party said the report was about an incident of March last



year when opposition RJD MLAs had held the Speaker hostage inside his chair and police was called in. The sources said the report indicts about 18 MLAs, whose names were not known. Vidhan Sabha secretariat officials said that in such cases, a notice is issued to the MLAs concerned upon the advice of the Speaker, who may decide further action, and even order disqualification, based on how satisfactory or otherwise he deems their reply. The RJD has 79 MLAs in the Assembly, which has an effective strength of 242. It is the single largest party and disqualification of its MLAs will reduce its ability to steer a political upheaval.

Delhi Downer: Cheaper liquor in Delhi, Maha hits Goa's booze biz

THE SITUATION IS SUCH THAT THE TOURISTS VISITING GOA ARE MOCKING RETAILERS FOR HIGHER PRICE OF LIQUOR

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Panaji, August 9: With Delhi and neighbouring Maharashtra reducing liquor rates, Goa's liquor traders are left worried that they may further lose business from tourists visiting the sunshine state, who no longer purchase liquor from the state's liquor vendors like before. The situation is such that the tourists visiting Goa are mocking retailers for higher price of liquor. As per government statistics, in 2019, about 71,27,000 domestic tourists visited Goa, of which 9,31,000 were foreign tourists. But this number dropped in 2020 and 2021 as the Covid pandemic struck the coastal state. But now the local tourism industry is hopeful that tourist footfall will increase in the upcoming tourism season. Dattaprasad Naik, President of

Goa Liquor Traders Association, told IANS that the liquor industry in the state is suffering losses for the past eight months. "Since the past eight months, we have lost customers from the North. It's a major setback for us. Tourists are not procuring liquor from us in the way they did before," he said. "Some are even mocking us by saying that the liquor prices in Goa are double as compared to Delhi," Naik said. The liquor price in Delhi came down as compared to the coastal state in recent times primarily due to the reduction in registration fees for different brands. Also the duty on liquor in Delhi is lesser than what it is in Goa. According to Naik, the association has requested the Goa government to streamline the excise duty slab. In reality, the Delhi model will not work in Goa, he said.



Naik also said that duty slabs in Goa are not proper and also that the 'label registration' fee should be streamlined. There should be ease of doing business in our trade. It takes around 15 days to get an import permit. They delay issuing import permits, which should not happen, Naik said. Goa Forward Party MLA Vijai Sardesai had in the recently concluded Assembly session raised the issue of liquor prices and said that liquor rates in the state are higher than other places, especially Delhi.

There are many domestic tourists who visit Goa mainly for cheap liquor. Why would they come now if the prices are higher here? ANONYMOUS EXCISE OFFICER

liquor from other states, Sardesai had said. The government may be proud about the excise collections, but the reality is liquor sales have gone down. The prices in Delhi and Maharashtra have gone down, he had said. Sameer Naik, a retailer, told IANS that ever since liquor prices went down in Delhi and Maharashtra, sales have plummeted in Goa. "Why would they purchase from us? Every passing day the rates are increasing here. In the near future, we will have to depend on local customers only," Sameer Naik said. Sources said that many people used to smuggle liquor from Goa to the North, which has stopped now. An excise officer, on condition of anonymity, said that though the government has collected sizeable revenue from liquor trade, the price difference will impact tourism and it will become evident from the coming tourism season. There are many domestic tourists who visit Goa mainly for cheap liquor. Why would they come now if the prices are higher here, he asked.

national

of the day quote

People are in no mood to accept the politics of nepotism
AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

Covid cases are rising in the city. We are keeping a watch on it and whatever steps needed will be taken. But most cases are mild and there is no need for panic
ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CHIEF MINISTER

Opposition parties in the country were not up against just the BJP but an "authoritarian" government that is "weaponising" state institutions to ensure an opposition-free India
MEHBOOBA MUFTI | PDP PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Assam Rifles officer injured in firing

Itanagar: An Assam Rifles officer was injured Tuesday in an incident of firing by suspected militants on troops of the paramilitary force from across the India-Myanmar border in Arunachal Pradesh, a defence spokesperson said. The incident took place around 3.15 am at Pangsau Pass post near the international border when the insurgents fired on a patrolling team of Assam Rifles, he said.

'Another SSLV flight soon'

New Delhi: The failure of India's newest rocket to put small satellites in orbit was not a setback and the space agency will soon attempt another flight, Space Commission member A S Kiran Kumar has said. Kumar was commenting on the failure of the first demonstration flight of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to put an earth observation satellite (EOS2) and AzaadiSat, built by girl students from across the country, into the desired orbit Sunday.

CBI raids in Hubli, B'lore

New Delhi: The CBI Tuesday claimed to have registered a case against the assistant of ESIC Hospital Peenya, Bangalore, and others on the allegation of embezzlement of Rs 96.43 lakhs. A complaint in this regard was received from ESIC Department. The CBI teams Tuesday conducted searches in Hubli, Bengaluru in this respect. "The search has led to the recovery of incriminating documents," said a source.

Brain-dead lady's organs save 4 lives

Gurugram: A 60-year-old woman, who was declared brain dead after suffering an intracranial hemorrhage, gave new lease of life to at least four persons after her family members agreed to organ donation at Gurugram's Paras Hospital, an official said Tuesday. The woman was admitted to the hospital July 7 and the doctors declared her brain dead July 10. The same day her family members gave nod for organ donation, hoping she would still live through her organs.

9 killed in WB road mishap

Suri: At least nine people died when an autorickshaw and a state transport bus collided on National Highway-60 in Bengal's Birbhum district Tuesday, a senior police officer said. The incident occurred at Mallarpur near Rampurhat when the overcrowded autorickshaw collided head on with the SBSTC bus. All nine victims were passengers of the autorickshaw, Birbhum SP Nagendra Nath Tripathi said.



The Indian Tricolour reminds everyone of the pride of the country and every working Indian. A common man may not be able to express it in quest of his livelihood but he always respects the national flag with all his heart
MAYAWATI | BSP CHIEF

PATRIOTIC FERVOUR

As part of the celebrations to mark 75 years of India's Independence, the government of Telangana Tuesday began the distribution of 1.20 crore national flags. Authorities in all 33 districts of the state launched free distribution of flags, made by weavers and powerlooms in the state



'Economic impact assessment essential before giving freebies'

AGENCIES

New Delhi, August 9: An economic impact assessment is essential before distribution of freebies, the Supreme Court has been told by a petitioner who has sought constitution of a committee of experts to examine the practice without adequacy of budgetary provisions.

The submission has been made in a PIL filed by lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay seeking action against political parties for irrational freebies.

Senior advocate Vijay Hansaria, on behalf of the petitioner, submitted that two highest economic bodies of the country have expressed concern over long term impact on distribution of freebies by states without proper fiscal and budgetary management. "It is submitted that state governments have been borrowing money even when the loan from Government of India is outstanding without complying with requirements of Article 293(3) and (4). It is necessary to have a strict enforcement of these provisions including a 'system of credit rating' being introduced for grant of credit facilities to the state government," the submissions, filed through advocate Ashwani Kumar Dubey, stated.

The petitioner has sought constitution of a committee of experts to examine the practice of making electoral commitments involving financial resources (free-



bies) without adequacy of budgetary provisions and suggest remedial measures.

- ◆ The top court had August 3 asked stakeholders like the Centre, Niti Aayog, Finance Commission and the RBI, to brainstorm on the "serious" issue of freebies announced during elections and put forth constructive suggestions to tackle it, saying no political party will oppose such handouts or like to debate it in Parliament
- ◆ The court had hinted at ordering setting up of a mechanism for suggesting measures to the government to deal with the issue
- ◆ The apex court had said all stakeholders should think on it and give suggestions so it could set up a body to address the issue

It had January 25 sought replies from the Centre and the Election Commission on the PIL seeking direction to seize the symbol or deregister a political party that promises or distributes "irrational freebies" before polls, saying it is a "serious issue" as sometimes freebie budget goes beyond a regular budget.

The plea, which was filed ahead of the assembly polls in five states including Punjab, said there should be a total ban on such populist measures to gain undue political favour from voters as they violate the Constitution, and the EC should take suitable deterrent measures.

Pradesh, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Hirasar (Rajkot) in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry, Dagadharthi (Nellore), Bhogapuram and Orvakal (Kurnool) in Andhra Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kannur in Kerala and Hollongi (Itanagar) in Arunachal Pradesh.

India likely to record 827m air traffic by '33



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, August 9: Indian airports are likely to record a significant rise in the number of air passengers in the coming years. As per an assessment made by Airports Authority of India (AAI), all India total air passenger traffic is expected to increase from 341 million during 2019-2020 to around 827 million by the year 2032-33.

With the rise in the number of flyers, the government has been taking multiple steps for corresponding growth in the airport infrastructure in the Country.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has accorded 'in-principle' approval for setting up of 21 Greenfield Airports across the country namely, Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura, Hassan and Shivamogga in Karnataka, Dabra (Gwalior) in Madhya

Pradesh, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Hirasar (Rajkot) in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry, Dagadharthi (Nellore), Bhogapuram and Orvakal (Kurnool) in Andhra Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kannur in Kerala and Hollongi (Itanagar) in Arunachal Pradesh.

As per the ministry, the timeline for construction of airports depends upon various factors such as land acquisition, mandatory clearances, removal of obstacles, financial closure, etc., by the respective airport developers. The responsibility of implementation of airport projects, including funding of the projects rests with the concerned airport developer and the respective state government (in case the state government is the project proponent).

However, the Greenfield Airport Projects are regularly reviewed by the government to sort out the issues coming in the way of implementation of these projects. So far, out of total 21 Greenfield airports where 'in-principle' has been accorded, eight Greenfield airports, including Durgapur, Shirdi, Sindhudurg, Pakyong, Kannur, Kalaburagi, Orvakal and Kushinagar have been operationalised.

Airlines to share PNR details of int'l flyers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Airlines will have to mandatorily share PNR details of passengers with customs authorities 24 hours prior to departure of international flights, a move which will help prevent law offenders from fleeing the country. The information, which shall include name, contact details and payment details, will be used by the customs department for improved surveillance and risk assessment of passengers entering or leaving the country, according to a finance ministry notification.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), under the finance ministry, on August 8 notified the Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022, which aims at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade such as smuggling.

The National Customs Targeting Centre-Passenger, set up by the CBIC, will process information for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act and also for the law enforcement agencies or government departments or any other country, it said. With this, India joins 60 other countries that collect PNR details of international passengers.



Corbevax to get nod as booster dose soon



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: The Union health ministry is expected to soon approve Biological E's Corbevax as a precaution dose for people above 18 years who are double vaccinated with either Covishield or Covaxin, official sources said Tuesday.

The approval will be based on the recommendations made by the Covid-19 Working Group of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) last week, the sources told PTI.

If approved by the government, this would be the first time a booster dose of a Covid vaccine different from the one used for primary vaccination would be allowed in the country.

"Corbevax will be considered as a precaution dose after completion of 6 months or 26 weeks from the date of administration of the second dose of either Covaxin or Covishield vaccines for those aged above 18 years enabling use of Corbevax as a heterologous Covid-19 vaccine for precaution dose administration in this age

- ▶ The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) June 4 approved Corbevax as a precaution dose for those aged 18 and above
- ▶ India began administering precaution doses of vaccines to healthcare and frontline workers and those aged 60 and above with comorbidities from January 10

group," a source said. This will be in addition to the existing guidelines for homologous precaution dose administration of Covaxin and Covishield vaccines.

India's first indigenously developed RBD protein subunit vaccine Corbevax is currently being used to inoculate children in the age group of 12 to 14 years under the Covid-19 immunisation programme.

The Covid-19 Working Group (CWG), in its July 20 meeting, reviewed data of the double-blind randomized phase-3 clinical study which evaluated the immunogenicity and safety of booster dose of Corbevax vaccine when administered to Covid-19-negative adult volunteers of age 18-80 years previously vaccinated with two doses of either Covishield or Covaxin. "Following the examination of the data, the CWG observed that Corbevax vaccine can induce significant increase in antibody titers when given to those who have received either Covaxin or Covishield, which is likely to be protective as per the neutralisation data also," the source said.

MONSOON WOES



People move through a flooded street following heavy monsoon rains in Palghar, Maharashtra

PTI PHOTO

Lockdown linked to increased suicidal thoughts: Study

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

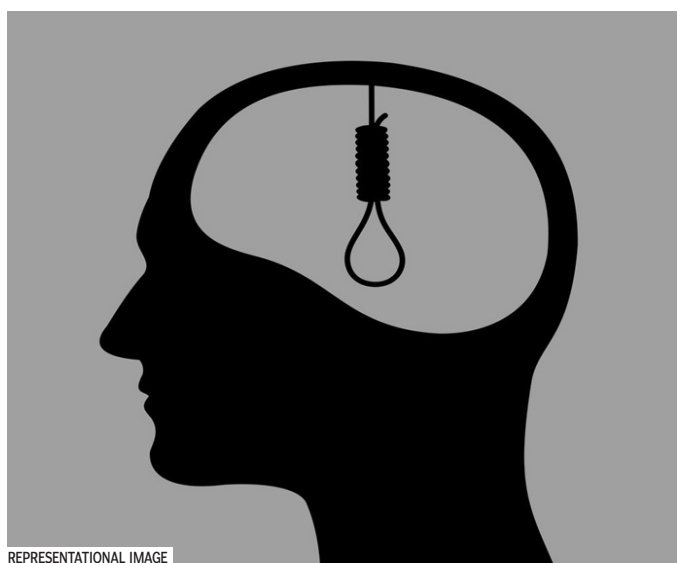
New Delhi/New York, August 9: The lockdowns during the Covid-19 pandemic had a significant effect on levels of suicidal ideation, says a new study.

The study indicated suicidal ideation, which involves someone thinking about or wishing for their own death, significantly increased in the 2020 post-lockdown patients compared with the 2018 and 2019 patients.

"Suicide prevention in the Covid-19 era is an important and difficult issue," the authors, including lead author Suzana Tosic Golubovic of the University of Nis in Serbia, stated.

"Further research studies are needed to find out how mental health consequences can be mitigated during and after the Covid-19 pandemic," they added.

During the lockdown, loss of social contacts and employment,



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

economic worries, fear of illness, feelings of isolation and reduced access to psychiatric treatment acted as stressors that could ex-

acerbate a mental illness or even prompt such illness in previously healthy individuals.

For the study, published in the

journal Open Medicine, the team examined patient records in a psychiatric clinic in Serbia and asked patients about their experience of the pandemic.

The researchers investigated patients who were admitted to the clinic between May and August 2020, which was just after Serbia had come out of a lockdown. They then compared these patients with patients admitted during the same months in 2018 and 2019.

Suicide attempts also increased in the 2020 patients, although this trend was not statistically significant. The 2020 patients also showed higher levels of adjust-

ment disorder, in which patients have difficulty adjusting to a stressful situation or event in their life.

Patients who had attempted suicide in 2020 were more likely to be exposed to information about the pandemic on social media and were more likely to present with adjustment disorder and major depressive disorder.

Strikingly, 60 per cent of the patients who had attempted suicide in 2020 had never received psychiatric treatment before, which was a significantly higher proportion than in the patients who attempted suicide in 2019.

DEATH THREAT TO ADITYANATH



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, August 9: A WhatsApp message received on the Uttar Pradesh Police's text helpline has issued a death threat to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and a case has been registered in the matter.

An FIR has been filed at the Sushant Golf City police station here by headquarters station commander Subhash Kumar.

According to police officials, the message was sent allegedly by a person named Shahid on the WhatsApp number of Dial-112 helpline. He threatened to bomb the Chief Minister, the police said, adding that several teams have been formed to nab the accused.

international

of the day quote

Humanitarians in Ethiopia are targeting more than 16 million people for drought aid while more than 1.7 million people face flooding. The worst drought in 40 years brought worsening levels of malnutrition to the millions

STEPHANE DUJARRIC | UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SPOKESPERSON

The US is doubling down on its investment in the Pacific

WENDY SHERMAN | US DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

At every stage of this conflict, we have been focused on getting the Ukrainians what they need, depending on the evolving conditions on the battlefield

COLIN KAHL | UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY IN THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

SHORT TAKES

Explosions rock Russian air base

Kyiv (Ukraine): Powerful explosions rocked a Russian air base in Crimea Tuesday, and five people were wounded, authorities said. Russia's Defense Ministry said that munitions blew up at the Saki base, and it emphasized that the installation had not been shelled. But Ukrainian social networks were abuzz with speculation that it was hit by Ukrainian-fired missiles.

Nepal bars entry of Indian tourists

Kathmandu: Nepal has stopped the entry of people coming from India into the country after four Indian tourists tested positive for COVID-19 and were sent back, amid a sharp surge in the number of coronavirus cases in the Himalayan nation. The four Indian tourists had entered Nepal via the Jhulaghat border point in the Baitadi district in Western Nepal. Bipin Lekhak, information officer at the Health Office in Baitadi, said the four Indian nationals tested positive for COVID-19 and were told to return to India.

Imran Khan's top aide arrested

Islamabad: A close aide of Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan was Tuesday arrested after pulling a private TV channel off air for airing his interview considered as seditious and threatening to national security. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shehbaz Gill, who is also a spokesperson of Khan, participated in an ARY News programme on Monday and heavily criticised the Shehbaz Sharif government for trying to pitch the former premier against the Army.

3 dead in shooting

Edgewater (US): Three people have died following a shooting and hostage situation at Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Florida, police said. Officers responded to a report that a man was shot and a woman was being held hostage on Monday night in Edgewater, which is near Daytona Beach. The other people at the meeting were able to escape the offices of Be The Bridge, a nonprofit organisation that helps the homeless and others get a fresh start in life.

2 Palestinians killed

Nablus: Two Palestinians, including a senior militant commander, were killed Tuesday as Israeli forces raided a house in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus, the army said. The latest violence comes two days after deadly fighting between Israel and Islamic Jihad militants in the coastal enclave of Gaza was halted by a truce.



We are working intensively for the return of foreign students to China and this process for Indian students' return has begun

WANG WENBIN | CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

FEELING THE HEAT

July this year was Spain's hottest month on record with an average temperature of 25.6 degrees Celsius, the country's meteorological service Aemet said



Japan marks 77th anniv of Nagasaki atomic bombing

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo, August 9: Nagasaki paid tribute to the victims of the US atomic bombing 77 years ago on August 9, with the Mayor saying Russia's war on Ukraine showed the world that another nuclear attack is not just a worry but "a tangible and present crisis."

Mayor Tomihisa Taue, in his speech Tuesday at the Nagasaki Peace Park, said nuclear weapons can be used as long as they exist, and their elimination is the only way to save the future of humankind. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and threat of nuclear weapons use came only a month after it and four other nuclear powers pledged in a statement that nuclear war should never be fought, Taue noted.

"This has shown the world that the use of nuclear weapons is not a groundless fear but a tangible and present crisis," he said. The belief that nuclear weapons can be possessed not for actual use but

for deterrence "is a fantasy, nothing more than a mere hope."

As in Hiroshima, Russia and its ally Belarus were not invited to the memorial event in Nagasaki. The United States dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima August 6, 1945, destroying the city and killing 140,000 people. It dropped a second bomb three days later on Nagasaki, killing another 70,000. Japan surrendered on August 15, ending World War II and Japan's nearly half-century of aggression in Asia.

Participants, including diplomats from nuclear states, observed a moment of silence at 11:02 am, the moment the bomb exploded above the southern Japanese city on Aug 9, 1945. Although Russia last week tried to roll back on Putin's warning, fears of a third atomic bombing have grown amid Russia's threats of nuclear attack since its war on Ukraine began in February. Russia last week shelled a Ukrainian city close to Europe's largest nuclear plant.



Even though we face a severe security environment, we must pursue the history of non-nuclear use and make Nagasaki the last place of nuclear attack

FUMIO KISHIDA | JAPAN PM

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said, "Even though we face a severe security environment, we must pursue the history of non-nuclear use and make Nagasaki the last

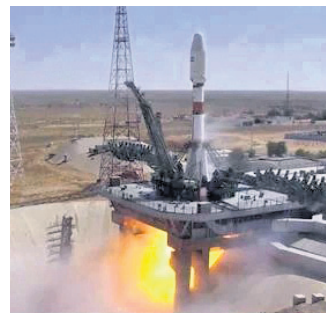
place of nuclear attack." Japanese officials worry that the conflict may embolden China to be even more assertive in East Asia, and the government is pushing to further

step up its military capability and spending.

Japan renounces its own possession, production or hosting of nuclear weapons, but as a U.S. Ally Japan hosts 50,000 American troops and is protected by the U.S. Nuclear umbrella. Still, Russia's nuclear threat has prompted some hawkish lawmakers in the governing party have also proposed a possibility of nuclear sharing with the United States.

Taue said discussions about nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation over the past decades have not been put into practice and trust in the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has become "tenuous." "We must recognize that ridding ourselves of nuclear weapons is the only realistic way of protecting the Earth and humankind's future," Taue said. Taue urged Japan's government to exercise leadership in pursuing peace diplomacy that does not rely on nuclear deterrence.

Russia puts Iranian satellite into orbit



REUTERS

Moscow, August 9: Russia launched an Iranian satellite into orbit on Tuesday from southern Kazakhstan, just three weeks after President Vladimir Putin and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei pledged to work together against the West.

The remote Khayyam sensing satellite, named after the 11th Century Persian poet and philosopher Omar Khayyam, was launched by a Russian Soyuz rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and entered orbit successfully, Russia's space agency said.

Iran's space agency has received the first telemetry data sent from the satellite, the official IRNA news agency said. Tehran has rejected claims the satellite could be used by Moscow to boost its intelligence capabilities in Ukraine, saying Iran will have full control and operation over it "from day one."

The Washington Post reported last week that U.S. officials are concerned by the fledgling space cooperation between Russia and Iran, fearing the satellite will not only help Russia in Ukraine but also provide Iran "unprecedented capabilities" to monitor potential military targets in Israel and the wider middle east. Iran says the satellite is designed for scientific research including radiation and environmental monitoring for agricultural purposes.

Russia has sought to deepen its ties with Iran since February 24, when the Kremlin ordered tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine, prompting the United States and its allies to impose the most severe sanctions in recent history.

In July, Putin visited Iran in his first international trip outside the former Soviet Union since the start of Russia's military campaign in Ukraine. While there, Khamenei told Putin that Tehran and Moscow needed to stay vigilant against "Western deception".

'DARK TIMES'

FBI raids Trump's Florida home



A NYPD vehicle parked outside Trump Tower in New York City, US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, August 9: The FBI has raided Donald Trump's private club and residence in Florida and broke open a safe as part of a reported probe into the handling of presidential documents, including classified materials, triggering an angry outburst from the former US President who called it an attempt to block his 2024 White House bid.

"These are dark times for our nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before, Trump said in a statement Monday evening.

The FBI search was related to the 15 boxes of documents that Trump took to Mar-a-Lago when he departed the White House in January 2021 -

These are dark times for our nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before

DONALD TRUMP | FORMER US PRESIDENT

some of which the National Archives has said were marked classified, according to US media reports.

In January, Trump handed over the documents to the National Archives, and attorneys for Trump said they were searching for any more records they may have. The Justice Department and the FBI declined to comment on the raid.

The dramatic escalation of law enforcement scrutiny of Trump

The FBI search was related to the 15 boxes of documents that Trump took to Mar-a-Lago when he departed the White House in January 2021 -- some of which the National Archives has said were marked classified, according to US media reports

The dramatic escalation of law enforcement scrutiny of Trump comes as he prepares for a possible third presidential run in 2024

comes as he prepares for a possible third presidential run in 2024. Trump, who was the 45th President of the US, was not at his Palm Beach estate during the search and was in the New York City area, media reports said.

"After working and cooperating with the relevant government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home was not necessary or appropriate," the 76-year-old Republican Party leader said. Trump alleged that such an assault could only take place in broken, third-world countries.

"Sadly, America has now become one of those countries, corrupt at a level not seen before," he said. "It is prosecutorial misconduct, the weaponisation of the justice system, and an attack by Radical Left Democrats who desperately don't want me to run for President in 2024..." he said.

He demanded that the lawlessness, political persecution and witch-hunt must be exposed and stopped.

9 dead as floods submerge streets of Seoul

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seoul, August 9: Some of the heaviest rain in decades swamped South Korea's capital region, turning Seoul's streets into car-clogged rivers and sending floods cascading into subway stations. At least nine people were killed -- some drowning in their homes -- and six others were missing, with more rain forecast, officials said Tuesday.

More than 45 centimeters (18 inches) of rain was measured in Seoul's hardest-hit Dongjak district from Monday to Tuesday evening.

Precipitation in the area exceeded 14 centimeters (5.5 inches) per hour at one point Monday night, the highest hourly downpour measured in Seoul since 1942.

Deserted cars and buses were scattered across streets as the water

receded on Tuesday. Workers cleared uprooted trees, mud and debris with excavators and blocked off broken roads.

Landslide warnings were issued in nearly 50 cities and towns, and 160 hiking paths in Seoul and mountainous Gangwon province were closed.

Emergency crews worked overnight to restore most subway service as of Tuesday morning.

Taiwan holds drills



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pingtung (Taiwan), August 9: Taiwan's foreign minister said Tuesday that China is using military drills to rehearse an invasion of the self-governing island democracy, while Taiwan's military began its own live-fire exercises in a show of readiness to thwart off a potential attack.

Joseph Wu said Beijing aims to establish its dominance in the Western Pacific and annex Taiwan, which it claims as its own territory. That would include control of the East and South China Seas via the Taiwan Strait and preventing the US and its allies from aiding Taiwan, he told a news conference in Taipei.

China says its drills were prompted by the visit to the island last week by US House Speaker

Nancy Pelosi, but Wu said China was using her trip as a pretext for intimidating moves it has long had in the works. China also banned some Taiwanese food imports after the visit and cut off dialogue with the US on a range of issues from military contacts to combating transnational crime and climate change.

The US has no formal diplomatic ties with Taiwan in deference to Beijing, but is legally bound to ensure the island can defend itself and to treat all threats against it -- including a blockade -- as matters of grave concern. That leaves open the question of whether Washington would dispatch forces if China attacked Taiwan. President Joe Biden has said repeatedly the US was bound to do so, in comments swiftly walked back by his staff.



A lightning strikes through smoke from fuel storage tanks that exploded near Cuba's supertanker port in Matanzas, Cuba

THE LOOMING THREAT OVER TAIWAN

China has stepped up its unprecedented military drills around Taiwan, staging fresh exercises and extending the schedule of its war games launched in retaliation to the visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taipei by attempting to strangle the self-ruled island.

The Chinese military exercises kicked off after Pelosi angered Beijing by visiting Taipei last week to show her support for democracy on the island which China views as a rebel province that must be reunified with the mainland, even by force.

The drills appear to be a rehearsal for a potential blockade and invasion of the island that would almost certainly draw in Taiwan's chief supporter, the United States, along with American allies

including Japan and Australia. "Those who play with fire will perish by it," Xi told President Joe Biden last week. China's 2 million-strong military is the world's largest.

Presently, the focus of the world leaders is now on Putin's aggression in Ukraine. However, China's President Xi Jinping also appears to be set for an even more harsh attack on Taiwan.

The exercises are thought to be the largest and most threatening toward Taiwan since Beijing launched missiles into waters north and south of the island in 1995 and 1996 in response to a visit to the U.S. by then-President Lee Teng-hui. China regularly sends warplanes into Taiwan's air defense identification zone and has at times crossed the middle line of the Taiwan Strait dividing the sides,



but has stopped short of direct incursions or attacks that could spark a regional conflict. Xi has said Taiwan's fate cannot remain unsettled indefinitely and U.S. military officials have said China may seek a military solution within the next few years.

Pelosi's visit came at a particularly sensitive time when Chinese President and head of the armed forces Xi Jinping is preparing to seek a third five-year term as leader of the ruling Communist Party. Xi has named no successor and he's accumulated vast pow-

ers despite criticism of his handling of the economy, partly as a result of his hardline approach to COVID-19 and a marked downturn in relations with the West.

However, Taiwan has put its military on alert and staged civil defense drills. While its air force, navy and 165,000-member armed forces are a fraction of the size of China's, they have been bolstered by high-tech weaponry and early-warning systems intended to make a Chinese invasion as difficult as possible. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which China has tacitly supported, has also served as a wakeup call to Taipei, which is now looking to overhaul training and tactics.

Numerous US Naval and other military assets are currently deployed in areas close to Taiwan, including the aircraft carrier USS

Ronald Reagan and its battle group. Washington has comprehensively rejected China's claims that the Taiwan Strait is sovereign Chinese territory and maintains the right to sail past Chinese outposts in the South China Sea, despite Chinese protests.

It remains unclear whether China will seek to keep tensions at a high pitch even after the end of the current round of exercises. Spokespeople from the Foreign and Defense Ministries, the Cabinet's Taiwan Affairs Office and other departments have vowed President Tsai Ing-wen's administration and the U.S. government will pay a price over Pelosi's visit, but have not given details on how and when that objective will be achieved.

AGENCIES

of the day **QUOTE**

If you are an airline, 39 per cent of your cost structure used to be ATF at Rs 53,000 per kilo litre. Now, the ATF price has gone to Rs 1,20,000 per kilo litre. Therefore, from a structural point of view, that is the challenge they are facing

JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA | CIVIL AVIATION MINISTER

We are constantly on the lookout to identify strategically located land parcels that we can acquire and develop

MR JAISHANKAR | CMD, BRIGADE GROUP

We continue to have headwind from lower volume as well as inflation which is impacting margins. We are continuously working on margin recovery

PRASHANT JAIN | MANAGING DIRECTOR, GE POWER INDIA

SHORT TAKES

Microsoft onboards ONDC

New Delhi: Microsoft Tuesday onboarded the government's open network for digital commerce (ONDC), with an aim to introduce social e-commerce via its app in the Indian market. The tech giant plans to launch a shopping app for the Indian consumers, along with their social circle, harnessing the ONDC network to discover the best pricing among retailers and sellers. "By utilising the strength of our open network users, Microsoft, too, can implement their creative ideas like social commerce swiftly," said T Koshiy, MD and CEO, ONDC. By 2030, the Indian e-commerce industry is anticipated to reach a market size of \$400 billion, increasing at a 19 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR). "Initiatives like ONDC can be a game changer amid this boom. Their UPI-like network for digital commerce is a win-win for both buyers and sellers as it will enable them to connect without dependency on any e-commerce solution," said a Microsoft spokesperson.

GAIL to double share capital

New Delhi: GAIL (India) Ltd wants to double its share capital as well as add specialty chemicals and clean energy to its line of business as it looks to diversify business beyond natural gas transmission and distribution. GAIL has sought shareholder approval to increase the authorised share capital of the company to Rs 10,000 crore from the current Rs 5,000 crore to help raise finance for its expansion plans over the next 3-4 years. The firm is laying natural gas truck pipelines to create a national gas grid as well as expand city gas distribution as part of the government's target of more than doubling the share of natural gas in the primary energy basket to 15 per cent by 2030. "GAIL is having a capex plan of approximately Rs 30,000 crores in next 3-4 years. These projects will be funded partly through internal resources and partly through debt, which may also include the equity route," the firm said in a notice to shareholders.

Dish TV net profit falls 64 per cent

New Delhi: Direct-to-home firm Dish TV India Tuesday reported a 63.67 per cent decline in consolidated net profit at Rs 17.85 crore in the April-June quarter of FY 23, citing impact of inflation on subscribers. The company had reported a net profit of Rs 49.14 crore in the same quarter a year ago, Dish TV said in a BSE filing. Its revenue from the operation fell 16.73 per cent to Rs 608.63 crore during the quarter under review as against Rs 730.97 crore in the corresponding quarter. Dish TV's total expenses were at Rs 589.70 crore, down 12.35 per cent in Q1 FY23, as against Rs 672.80 crore in the corresponding quarter.



India has signed a trade pact with the UAE in a record time and now our talks with the UK is moving at a faster pace

PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

OYO ACQUIRES BORNHOLMSKE FERIEHUSE

Travel and hospitality technology platform OYO Tuesday said it has acquired Denmark-based holiday home operator Bornholmske Feriehus for an undisclosed sum. Based out of Bornholm island in Denmark, Bornholmske Feriehus has 737 holiday homes spread over 30 holiday parks on its platform, OYO said in a statement.



Profit of PSBs rises 9 pc in April-June

OF THE TOTAL 12, THREE LENDERS -- STATE BANK OF INDIA, PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK AND BANK OF INDIA -- REPORTED FALL IN THEIR PROFITS RANGING FROM 7-70 PER CENT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: All the 12 public sector banks (PSBs) earned a cumulative profit of about Rs 15,306 crore, registering a 9.2 per cent growth annually, despite poor showing by large lenders like SBI and PNB.

During the April-June period of the previous fiscal, state-owned banks recorded a total profit of Rs 14,013 crore, according to quarterly numbers published by public sector lenders.

Of the total 12, three lenders -- State Bank of India (SBI), Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bank of India -- reported fall in their profits ranging from 7-70 per cent.

Decline in profit by these lenders has been attributed to Mark-to-Market (MTM) losses due to hardening bond yields.

MTM losses occur when the financial assets held are valued by the market at a price lower than the



purchase price.

Nine lenders have recorded profit ranging from 3-117 per cent during the first quarter of FY23. The highest percentage growth was recorded by Pune-based Bank of Maharashtra which earned a profit of Rs 452 crore against Rs 208 crore in the same quarter of the previous year.

It was followed by Bank of Baroda which recorded a 79 per cent bottom line growth at Rs 2,168 crore compared to Rs 1,209 crore a year ago.

Despite having witnessed a fall in its profit, SBI remained the highest contributor to the combined profit of banks with Rs 6,068 crore. SBI alone contributed about 40 per

cent of the total profit. It was followed by Bank of Baroda with Rs 2,168 crore.

During 2021-22, the collective profit of public sector banks more than doubled to Rs 66,539 crore as against Rs 31,816 crore in the preceding year. In FY21, only two public sector banks (Central Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank) reported losses, which dragged down the collective net profit.

Many state-owned banks after a hiatus also declared dividend in the last financial year. In all, nine banks including SBI declared dividends of Rs 7,867 crore to shareholders.

There were collective losses recorded in the five straight years from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

The highest amount of net loss was registered in 2017-18 at Rs 85,370 crore, followed by Rs 66,636 crore in 2018-19; Rs 25,941 crore in 2019-20; Rs 17,993 crore in 2015-16 and Rs 11,389 crore in 2016-17.

Airtel to launch 5G services this month



The operator wants to cover all towns and key rural areas of the country by March 2024

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Telecom operator Bharti Airtel will start rolling out 5G services this month and cover all towns and key rural areas of the country by March 2024, a senior company official said Tuesday.

Bharti Airtel managing director and CEO Gopal Vittal also said that the price of mobile services in India is very low and needs to go up.

"We intend to launch 5G starting August and extend to a Pan India roll out very soon. By March 2024 we believe we will be able to cover every town and key rural areas as well with 5G."

"In fact, detailed network rollout plans for 5,000 towns in India are completely in place. This will be one of the biggest rollouts in our history," Vittal said during the company's earnings call.

Bharti Airtel in the recently-concluded spectrum auction acquired 19,867.8 MHz frequencies by securing a pan-India footprint of 3.5 GHz and 26 GHz bands and select purchase of radiowaves in the low and mid-band spectrum for a total consideration of Rs 43,040 crore.

Vittal said the company's capital expenditure will remain around the existing levels and played down the need for buying premium spectrum in the 700 megahertz band,

which requires less number of mobile towers for coverage compared to other bands that telecom operators currently have.

"Our competition does not have such a large mid-band spectrum. Do remember that if we did not have this large chunk of precious mid-band spectrum we would have had no choice but to buy expensive 700 Mhz spectrum."

"And once we had bought it we would have had to deploy large power guzzling radios on this band. Not only would the cost have been higher, but it would also have led to more carbon emissions," Vittal said.

He said that the network deployment in the 700 Mhz band gives no additional coverage compared to the 900 Mhz spectrum band that the company has.

Vittal said non-standalone (NSA) 5G networks have more benefits compared to standalone 5G networks because of wider coverage and more devices available to access the network.

He said that in the US and South Korea where both SA (standalone) and NSA have been launched the traffic on SA is less than 10 per cent of total 5G traffic.

"The third advantage of this mode is that it allows us to use existing 4G technology at no extra cost since we already have the radios and the spectrum that are live on our network. Finally, the last advantage of NSA is around experience -- it will allow for a faster call connect time on Voice. In addition, it allows us to provide a faster uplink than anyone else given our massive spectrum holdings in the mid band," Vittal said.

Gold ETFs log ₹457cr outflow in July

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) witnessed a net outflow of Rs 457 crore in July as investors parked their money in other asset classes as part of their portfolio rebalancing strategy.

This was in comparison to a net inflow of Rs 135 crore in June, data with Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed.

Kavitha Krishnan, Senior Analyst - Manager Research at Morningstar India, said that significant outflows seem to have risen out of investors' expectations of a rising interest rate cycle leading to a fall in gold prices, thus impacting the net flows into the gold ETFs.

Also, a falling rupee is another factor that has likely impacted the demand and supply dynamics of gold. This trend has been witnessed globally too, with gold ETF's posting significant outflows on the



back of lower gold prices, she added.

"This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as a part of a portfolio rebalancing strategy," Priti Rathi Gupta, Founder of LXME, said.

The outflow has pulled down the asset under management of the category to Rs 20,038 crore last

month from Rs 20,249 crore in June.

However, the category saw a slight increase in the number of folios by over 37,500 to 46.43 lakh during the period under review.

This suggests that investors are likely continuing to invest in gold ETFs as a means to diversify their portfolio and hold the financial instruments a hedge against market risks, Krishnan said.

So far in the current fiscal (till July) 2022-23, the segment attracted Rs 982 crore.

Gold ETF, which aims to track the domestic physical gold price, are passive investment instruments that are based on gold prices and invest in gold bullion.

In short, gold ETFs are units representing physical gold which may be in paper or dematerialised form. One gold ETF unit is equal to 1 gram of gold and is backed by physical gold of very high purity. They combine the flexibility of stock investment and the simplicity of gold investments.

BIZ BUZZ

DCBL promotes livelihood generation for women

Bhubaneswar: Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd (DCBL), is facilitating a range of training and exposure programmes for Self-Help Groups (SHGs), to ensure a dynamic and enabled environment geared towards growth and development. In continuation of its women empowerment initiatives for communities surrounding its Cuttack and Rajgangpur plants and Lanjiberna Mines, the company is promoting mushroom cultivation for women to provide opportunities and practical possibilities that improve their capacity to earn a livelihood. With the market demand for mushroom on the rise and the economy slowly getting back to normal, the CSR team at DCBL saw an opportunity to enable communities to benefit from these conditions. By training women in mushroom cultivation at Lanjiberna and its peripheral villages such as Kheramuta, Jangartoli, Rumabahal, Dhaurada, Lamloi, Bihabandh, Gyanpali, Samleimunda, Damphos, Ghoghar, Meromdega (Kukuda), as well providing SHGs with raw materials, DCBL is encouraging women to take up a skill to become financially independent.



State Bank of India launches new customer care numbers

Bhubaneswar: State Bank of India (SBI) has launched new easy to remember All India Customer Service Helpline numbers 1800-1234 and 1800-2100 using which account holders can get a wide range of banking services and redressal for customer complaints. Using the new SBI toll free numbers, customers can conduct banking services such as know account balance, last five transactions, ATM card blocking and dispatch status, dispatch status of cheque book, TDS details and deposit interest certificate by email and request for new ATM card after blocking the previous one. The largest bank of the country, SBI, has added new toll free number for a variety of financial services to serve its customers in a better way. The revamp focuses on introduction of new services, new journeys and customer service complaint resolution through the Contact Centre IVR and executives transforming SBI Contact Centre into one of the world's best with state of art technology.



HPCL, Honda join hands to boost electric mobility

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and Honda Motor have joined hands to set up battery swapping stations for electric vehicles at the state-owned oil firm's petrol pumps.

HPCL and Honda Power Pack Energy India Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of Honda Motor Co Ltd (Honda), launched their first 'eswap' station at HPCL's petrol pump in Bangalore August 6, the state-owned firm said in a statement Tuesday.

With the fast adoption of environment-friendly EVs that run on batteries charged by electricity, infrastructure to either charge such vehicles or provide facilities to replace discharged batteries with fully charged ones are being set up across the country.

Bezos, Gates funding massive treasure hunt in Greenland

The Arctic's disappearing ice -- on land and in the ocean -- highlights a unique dichotomy: Greenland is ground zero for the impacts of climate change, but it could also become ground zero for sourcing the metals needed to power the solution to the crisis

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, August 9: Some of the world's richest men, including Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates, are funding a massive treasure hunt, complete with helicopters and transmitters, on the west coast of Greenland.

The climate crisis is melting Greenland down at an unprecedented rate, which -- in a twist of irony -- is creating an opportunity for investors and mining companies who are searching for a trove of critical minerals capable of powering the green energy transition, the CNN reported.

The band of billionaires, which also include Michael Bloomberg,

among others, is betting that below the surface of the hills and valleys on Greenland's Disko Island and Nuussuaq Peninsula there are enough critical minerals to power hundreds of millions of electric vehicles.

"We are looking for a deposit that will be the first- or second-largest most significant nickel and cobalt deposit in the world," Kurt House, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kobold Metals, told CNN.

The Arctic's disappearing ice -- on land and in the ocean -- highlights a unique dichotomy: Greenland is ground zero for the impacts of climate change, but it could also become ground zero for sourcing the



metals needed to power the solution to the crisis.

The billionaire club is financially backing Kobold Metals, a mineral exploration company and California-based startup, the company's representatives told the CNN.

Kobold is partnered with Bluejay Mining to find the rare and precious metals in Greenland that are necessary to build electric vehicles and massive batteries to store renewable energy.

Thirty geologists, geophysicists, cooks, pilots and mechanics are camped at the site where Kobold and Bluejay are searching for the buried treasure.

Real take on Frankfurt

Champions League winners look to keep momentum at UEFA Super Cup against the Europa League title holders

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madrid, August 9: Real Madrid want to start the new season the same way they ended the last one — winning a trophy. Madrid won the Champions League in their final match last season, and Wednesday they begin the new season by taking on Europa League winner Eintracht Frankfurt in the UEFA Super Cup in Helsinki, Finland.

It will be the teams' first competitive meeting since the 1960 European Cup final, when Madrid won their fifth straight European title at the time with a thrilling 7-3 win at Glasgow's Hampden Park. Ferenc Puskas scored four goals for Madrid and Alfredo Di Stefano got a hat-trick. Around 127,000 fans watched the match in what is still the highest attendance for a European Cup final.

Madrid are chasing their fifth Super Cup title, and first since 2017, while Frankfurt will be making their first Super Cup appearance following their shootout victory over Rangers in the Europa League final. That win ended the German club's 42-year wait for a European trophy.

Madrid ended last season on a high after comfortably winning the Spanish league and overcoming poor performances to advance in the knockout stages of the Champions League. They eventually clinched a record 14th European title in the final against Liverpool.

The Spanish powerhouse will be mostly unchanged going into 2022-23, led by Karim Benzema following his best season ever. Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo are also back in an attack that was dominant last season, and the midfield remains anchored by Casemiro, Luka Modric and Toni Kroos. The team's additions come with central de-



Real Madrid keep their faith on Karim Benzema (C) to continue his goal scoring spree from last season, while the Frenchman would be keen to deliver against Eintracht Frankfurt

fender Antonio Rudiger and midfielder Aurelien Tchouameni.

The 34-year-old Benzema was the top scorer in the Spanish league and the Champions League. He scored 44 goals in 45 matches with Madrid, and equalled Raul Gonzalez as the club's second-highest scorer with 323 goals, behind Cristiano Ronaldo (451). Benzema scored twice in his two preseason games — a 2-2 draw with Mexican club America and a 2-0 win over Juventus — and did not play in Madrid's 0-1 loss to Barcelona. Madrid will play their Spanish league opener Sunday at promoted Almeria.

Frankfurt's season has already started. It routed second-division club Magdeburg 4-0 in the first round of the German Cup, then lost 1-6 at home to Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga opener Friday, when the visitors led 5-0 at halftime.

Frankfurt had not clinched a European title until winning the UEFA Cup in 1980. It won its lone German league title in 1959, and since then it has won five German Cups, the last in 2018.

The match at the Helsinki Olympic Stadium will be the first UEFA club competition final to be held in Finland, though the venue

previously also staged the final of the women's European Championship in 2009.

Semi-automated offside technology will be used for the first time in a European club competition. The new system operates with cameras that can track 29 different body points per player and will allow video review teams to determine offside situations more quickly and accurately, according to UEFA.

The system was tested at the women's Euro 2022 in England and in the Champions League last season. It was also approved by FIFA for the World Cup in Qatar.

Dhawan okay with 'only' ODIs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 9: Behind Shikhar Dhawan's cheerful exterior lies an intensely 'spiritual man' who has made peace with representing India in only one format. Approaching his 37th birthday, Dhawan has made a pledge to himself.

"Till the time I am playing for India, I would like to be an asset and not a liability," Dhawan told this agency in an exclusive interaction after leading India to an ODI series victory in the West Indies.

From the start of 2020 till the end of West Indies series, Dhawan has played 22 ODIs and scored 975 runs with 10 half centuries, the highest by an Indian batter by a distance.

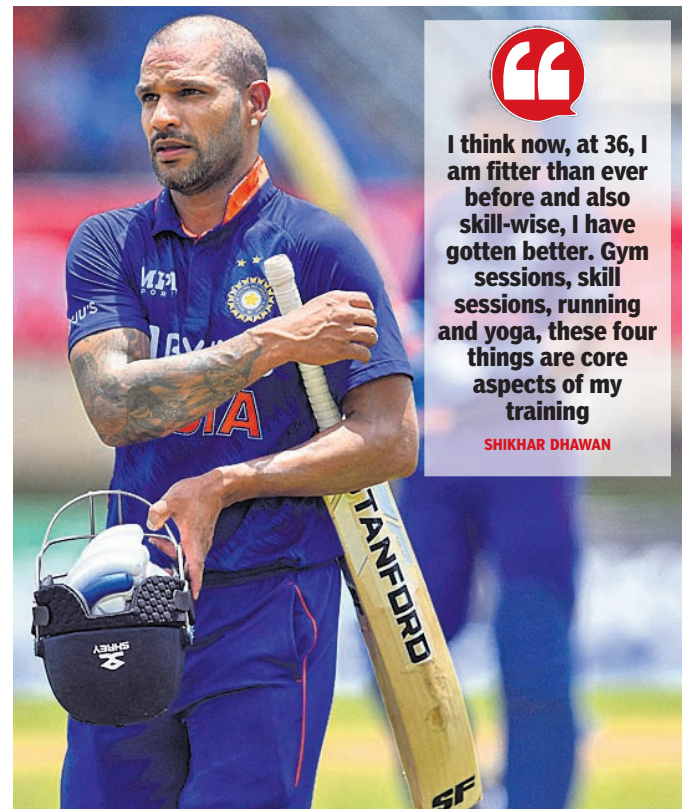
"I am a calm, matured person. The performance is a reflection of my experience," Dhawan said when he was reminded of his phenomenal numbers.

"My basics have been pretty strong and I have put in a lot of work to improve my technique. Understanding a format is also very important. I understand the dynamics of ODI format and that has helped me a lot," he added when probed further.

So what is the process to remain consistent in ODIs at a time when bilateral T20Is are gaining precedence. Besides, there is also considerable gap between two 50-over series?

"I never let this feeling creep into my system that 'Oh God, I am playing only one format or I am playing an ODI series after a long time. Will my body respond well to the rigours of international cricket or will it not?' Frankly speaking, I don't like entertaining these thoughts," the senior opener gave a peek into his thought process.

"I view it like this. If I am playing a format after a gap of two months or three months, it always gives me a chance to remain fresh and come into battle fully fit, and with enough time to work on my game."



I think now, at 36, I am fitter than ever before and also skill-wise, I have gotten better. Gym sessions, skill sessions, running and yoga, these four things are core aspects of my training

SHIKHAR DHAWAN

For Dhawan, it is important to value what he has rather than cribbing about what he doesn't. "I am always counting my blessings and if I am playing one format for India, I should try and make the most of it and give it my all. I am a very positive person. You won't find a negative bone in my body," he smiled.

Of late, Dhawan hasn't played red ball cricket at first-class level and does get a lot of time apart from the IPL, where he is able to work on his game, something that has really helped him.

"When I am not playing matches, I train at my own academy in Gurgaon. I mostly do my net sessions there. I try and hire some quality net bowlers. Also in and around Gurgaon, you have some good facilities and a lot of net bowlers who are ready to come and bowl to you."

Dhawan will soon be leading India in an away series in Zimbabwe, and is also likely to lead against South Africa at home in October, when the first team will be off to Australia for the T20 World Cup.

For Dhawan, "balance on and off the field" is very important, in theory and in practice. In the last four years, he has learnt playing the flute, and in fact, got a lot of traction on social media for his rendition of the Jagjit Singh classic 'Hothon se chulo tum, mera geet amar kar do'.

Playing flute is a stress-buster for him and practising spiritualism after facing some personal setbacks has given his life new meaning. He signed off with his life's philosophy: "To have a blessed life, you need to have a blessed mind first."

BRONZE FOR INDIA 'B', INDIA 'A' EVES



Koneru Humpy looks on during her match against USA's Gulrukha Tokhirjonova (not in pic), Tuesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mamallapuram, August 9: The India 'B' team settled for a bronze medal in the Open section while the India 'A' women's side also finished third in the 44th Chess Olympiad here Tuesday.

India 'B' defeated Germany 3-1 in their final round match to end at third position. Uzbekistan sprung a surprise by bagging the gold medal with a 2-1 win over the Netherlands ahead of a strong Armenian team, which beat Spain 2.5-1.5 in the final round, in the Open section.

The top-seeded India 'A' women's team crashed to a 1-3 defeat in the 11th and final round to USA to see its gold medal hopes evaporate. The Koneru Humpy-led team finished third. War-torn Ukraine won an emotional gold in the women's event, pipping Georgia to the top prize.

Uzbekistan beat the Netherlands in the final round thanks to Jakhongir Vakhidov's win on board 4. They edged out Armenia on the basis of a better tie-break score. The Uzbeks remained unbeaten through the 11 rounds and finished with 19 match points. India 'B' ended up with 18 points for third place.

It was the second bronze medal for India in the Olympiad, replicating its feat in the 2014 edition. The experienced B Adhiban, who was part of the team in 2014 added to his medal collection while it was the first for young stars D Gukesh, who was in spectacular form during the tournament, R Praggnanandhaa, Nihal Sarin and Raunak Sadhwani.

In the women's section, top player Koneru Humpy and R Vaishali drew their games against Gulrukha Tokhirjonova and Irina

Krush respectively. The defeats for Tania Sachdev at the hands of Carissa Yip and Bhakthi Kulkarni to Tatev Abrahamyan hurt the India 'A' team's chances of a gold medal.

RESULTS:

Open: India's matches: India 'B' beat Germany 3-1 (D Gukesh drew with Vincent Keymer; Nihal Sarin beat Matthias Bluebaum, R Praggnanandhaa drew with Rasmus Svane, Raunak Sadhwani beat Livi-Dieter Nispaemu).

India 'A' drew with USA 2-2 (P Harikrishna drew with Fabiano Caruana, Vidit Santosh Gujrathi drew with Wesley So, Arjun Erigaisi beat Linier Dominguez Perez, S.L Narayanan lost to Sam Shankland).

India 'C' drew with Kazakhstan 2-2 (Surya Shekhar Ganguly lost to Rinat Jumabayev, SP Sethuraman drew with Alisher Suleymenov, Karthikeyan Murali beat Arystanbek Urazayev, Abhimanyu Puranik drew with Kazybek Nogerbek).

Women: India 'A' lost to USA 1-3 (Koneru Humpy drew with Gulrukha Tokhirjonova, R Vaishali drew with Irina Krush, Tania Sachdev lost to Carissa Yip, Bhakthi Kulkarni lost to Tatev Abrahamyan).

India 'B' drew with Slovakia 1.5-2 (Easha Karavade lost to Zhansaya Abdumalik, P V Nandhidhaa lost to Bibisara Assaubayeva, Varshini Sahiti drew with Xeniya Balabayeva, Pratyusha Bodda lost to Guliskhan Nakhbayeva).

India 'C' drew with Slovakia 2-2 (Vantika Agrawal drew with Zuzana Borosova, Padmini Rout lost to Eva Repkova, Mary Ann Gomes vs Zuzana Hagarova, Divya Deshmukh beat Svetlana Suckikova).

Serena 'evolving away from tennis'

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, August 9: Serena Williams says she is ready to step away from tennis after winning 23 Grand Slam titles, turning her focus to having another child and her business interests. "I'm turning 41 this month, and something's got to give," Williams wrote in an essay released Tuesday by Vogue magazine.

Williams, one of the greatest and most accomplished athletes in the history of her — or any other — sport, said she does not like the word retirement and prefers to think of this stage of her life as "evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me."

Williams is playing this week in Toronto, at a hard-court tournament that leads into the US Open, the year's last Grand Slam event, which begins in New York August 29.

The American has won more Grand Slam singles titles in the professional era than any other woman or man. Only one player, Margaret Court, collected more, 24, although she won a portion of hers in the amateur era.

"I'd be lying if I said I didn't want that record. Obviously I do. But day to day, I'm really not thinking about her. If I'm in a Grand Slam



final, then yes, I am thinking about that record," Williams said. "Maybe I thought about it too much, and that didn't help. The way I see it, I should have had 30-plus Grand Slams."

But, Williams went on to write, "These days, if I have to choose between building my tennis resume and building my family, I choose the latter."

She and her husband, Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian, have a daughter, Olympia, who turns five September 1. "Believe me, I never wanted to have to choose between tennis and a family. I don't think it's

fair," said Williams, who was pregnant when she won the 2017 Australian Open for her last Grand Slam trophy.

"If I were a guy, I wouldn't be writing this because I'd be out there playing and winning while my wife was doing the physical labor of expanding our family."

Williams hints in the essay that the US Open will be her last tournament but does not say so explicitly. "I'm not looking for some ceremonial, final on-court moment," Williams wrote. "I'm terrible at goodbyes, the world's worst."

Sable soars, Paul leaps, Sharath sizzles at CWG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Birmingham, August 9: Slipping out of the usual top-five was seen as a real possibility in absence of shooting but phenomenal success in athletics and lawn bowls propelled India to a commendable fourth place finish at the just-concluded Commonwealth Games (CWG).

About 25 per cent of India's 66 medals came from the shooting range in the previous edition and not many believed that India will be able to touch even 50 but the country ended up with 61, courtesy unprecedented success in track and field events that delivered eight medals, the highest for India in a CWG edition overseas. It indeed, was a big success story from the Birmingham Games.

Eldhose Paul and Abdullah Aboobacker's rare 1-2 finish in triple jump will be cherished for long. Avinash Sable's silver in the 3000m steeplechase and Tejaswin Shankar's bronze in the high jump were also a first for India while Murali Sreeshankar's silver in the long jump was the country's first since 1978.

Annu Rani too etched her name in the history books by becoming



AVINASH SABLE



ELDHOSE PAUL

the first Indian female athlete to secure a medal in javelin throw, a bronze. Priyanka Goswami and Sandeep Kumar brought medals in the 10,000 metre race walk, contributing immensely to the success.

Gold & silver in Lawn Bowls
The feel good story of the Games came from the lawn bowls greens in Victoria Park. A police constable, sports teacher and a forest officer combined to catch the imagination of the entire country by winning the women's fours gold

in a sport, nuances of which would still be unknown to many.

The team was comprised of Lovely Choubey, Pinki, Rupa Rani Tirkey and Nayanmoni Saikia. Inspired by them, the men's quartet too sprang a surprise by winning silver in the sport that has been part of the sports program since 1930. Navneet Singh, Chandan Kumar Singh, Sunil Bahadur and Dinesh Kumar are hoping the medal ends up changing their lives.

Wrestling sweep
Reaffirming their dominance



ACHANTA SHARATH KAMAL

at the CWG, Indian wrestlers won medals in all the 12 events they competed in and that included six gold.

Getting gold was like a walk in the park for Olympic medallists Ravi Dahiya and Bajrang Punia while by stepping on the top of the podium, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat made a roaring comeback after a rough patch.

Three medals also came from the judo mat including a silver from Delhi-based Tullika Maan who is already itching to change the



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cape Town, August 9: Former South African international umpire Rudi Koertzen was killed in a car crash Tuesday morning near a town called Riversdale, a local website reported. He was 73. Koertzen is survived by his wife and four children.

One of the most respected umpires in world cricket from the late 1990s till 2010, Koertzen had officiated in nearly 400 international games.

"The world-famous cricket umpire, Rudi Koertzen, and three other people were killed in a head-on collision near Riversdale Tuesday morning. The 73-year-old Koertzen from Despatch in Nelson Mandela Bay was on his way back home from Cape Town after a golf weekend," Algoa FM News' reported.

The former umpire's son, Rudi Koertzen Jr, confirmed the tragic news. "He went on a golf tournament with some of his friends, and they were expected to come back on Monday, but it seems they decided to play another round of golf," Koertzen Jr told the website. Koertzen was inducted into the

ICC's Elite Panel in 2002 and was a part of it for eight years. During his tenure, he officiated as on-field and TV umpire in as many as 397 games, including 128 Test matches, a record 250 ODIs, and 19 T20Is.

He had his share of controversies too, including continuing with the 2007 ODI World Cup final between Sri Lanka and Australia in near darkness due to a wrong interpretation of rule, which forced the ICC to not give him any assignment during the inaugural World T20, which was held in his own country, in 2007.

colour of her medal.

Table tennis got India the most number of gold medals after wrestling. Achanta Sharath Kamal showed 40 is just a number by adding three gold to a record equalling 13 medals in Games' history including the singles title after 16 years. Paralympic Games medalist Bhavina Patel contributed to India's gold rush by winning the C3-5 category.

The badminton courts at the NEC arena fetched India three gold with superstar PV Sindhu finally winning her maiden title. The young Lakshya Sen also put up an inspiring effort to complete India's sweep in the singles competition.

At the boxing arena, Nitu bossed the 48kg weight category while Amit Panghal overcame the disappointment of Tokyo Olympics to top the 51kg category.

There were a few disappointments as well. The women's cricket team did well to get a silver but it had gold for the taking in the final against Australia.

It was a mixed bag in the hockey competition with women winning their first medal since Melbourne 2006 while the men were hammered by Australia in the final.