


**MOUNI'S PREFERENCE**

Actor Mouni Roy says she is dying to be part of larger-than-life movies made in South India


LEISUREP2



**‘TRUMP’S N-SECRET’**

FBI agents were looking for documents relating to nuclear weapons in the search they conducted on the premises of Donald Trump

INTERNATIONALP10



**WIPL IN MARCH 2023**

A BCCI official confirms that the Women's IPL is set to be played from March next year in a one-month window

SPORTSP12

# Rushdie stabbed on stage at NYC event

Since the 1980s, Rushdie's writing has led to death threats from Iran, which has offered a USD 3 million reward for anyone who kills him

AGENCIES

New York, August 12: Salman Rushdie, the Mumbai-born controversial author who faced Islamist death threats after writing 'The Satanic Verses', was stabbed by a man on stage while he was being introduced at the event of the Chautauqua Institution in Western New York.

He fell through a barrier to the stage and was seen with blood on his hands. The audience tackled the attacker and Rushdie was then treated on-stage following the assault.

"State Police are investigating an attack on author Salman Rushdie prior to a speaking event at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, NY. On August 12, 2022, at about 11 am, a male suspect ran up onto the stage and attacked Rushdie and an interviewer," New York Police said in a statement.

"Rushdie suffered an apparent stab wound to the neck, and was transported by helicopter to an area hospital. His condition is not yet known. The interviewer suffered a minor head injury. A State Trooper assigned to the event immediately took the suspect into custody. The Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office assisted at the scene," it said.

Rushdie's fourth book The Satanic Verses in 1988 forced him into hiding for nine years.

A year after the book's publication, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini called for Rushdie's execution for publishing the book for its blasphemous content.

Since the 1980s, Rushdie's writing has led to death threats from Iran, which has offered a USD 3 million reward for anyone who kills him.



Author Salman Rushdie (inset) is tended to after he was attacked during a lecture, Friday, at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, NY, about 75 miles south of Buffalo

AP PHOTO

## State to distribute contraceptives to newlywed couples

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 12: State Health and Family Welfare department will provide a free kit — equipped with contraceptives — to newlywed couples under a Central government initiative, Mission Parivar Vikas.

Called 'Nayi Pahal' or 'Nabadampati' kit, it will be distributed by ASHAs and will also carry brochures, guidelines and other important literature on the importance of safe sex, family planning and spacing out births.

The scheme would be rolled out in the state wedding season in September under the National Health Mission (NHM).

Continued on P4

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



So, what if an alliance partner has left? We still have CBI, I-T and ED with us!

MARKET WATCH		
INDEX		VARIATION
SENSEX	59462.78	▲ 130.18
NIFTY	17698.20	▲ 39.20
DOLLAR	80.27	▲ ₹0.16
EURO	81.63	▼ ₹0.47
GOLD	₹52,390	▲ ₹54
SILVER	₹58,722	▲ ₹345

WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
TEMP		
MAX	28.4°C	27.4°C
MIN	25.0°C	25.0°C
Humidity	97%	98%
Rainfall	62mm	152mm
	Generally cloudy sky	

# Most rivers in spate

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar/Sambalpur, August 12: Almost all rivers across Odisha are in spate owing to torrential rain earlier this week, but the state government Friday rejected possibility of flood for now.

It has, however, put several districts on alert in the wake of an IMD forecast of another spell of heavy showers in the next two days due to the likely formation of a new low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal.

The weather system is set to form over north Bay of Bengal during the next 24 hours under the influence of a cyclonic circulation, which lies over west Myanmar, the Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre said.

It is expected to become more marked during subsequent 24 hours and move north westwards, bringing rain to Odisha and Bengal, according to a bulletin. Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources department, BK Mishra, said although all rivers are swelling, there is no such immediate flood threat.

"Except Jalaka River in Balasore district, all rivers are flowing below danger level," Mishra said, explaining that water inflow into Hirakud reservoir has declined due to comparatively less rainfall in upper catchment areas.

Water level in Jalaka was flowing at least 0.7m above the danger level, officials said. They also claimed that water from Jalaka may enter at least 12 gram panchayats of Bhograi block if the



## MORE RAIN PAIN AHEAD

- The state is already reeling under the effects of heavy rain, caused due to a depression
- Jalaka, Baitarani, Subarnarekha are in spate following heavy showers in the upper catchment areas
- Fisherfolk have been advised not to venture into the sea off the coast till Monday as squally weather with wind speed of 45-65 kmph is expected over the west-central Bay of Bengal

current situation persists.

Stating that the administration has been instructed to keep a close watch on the vulnerable river embankments, Mishra said the at least 20 of the 98 sluice gates of Hirakud reservoir have been opened. Official sources said that the Baitarani is also flowing near the danger mark of 17.83 m at

Akhuapada in Bhadrak following heavy showers in the upper catchment areas. Similarly, Subarnarekha is also in spate.

The Regional Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar, underlined that swollen rivers such as Bansadhara, Rushikulya and Nagabali may overflow if rains continue uninterrupted. In Keonjhar, two gates of the Hadagada reservoir on Salandi river, a tributary of Baitarani, have been opened.

Odisha is already reeling from the effects of torrential rain, caused due to a depression. It led to flooding of villages and low-lying areas across many districts, collapse of several bridges over swollen rivers, and landslides disrupting road connectivity.

The Met office issued an orange alert of heavy to very heavy rain in the districts of Khurda, Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Gajapati, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Kendrapara and Nayagarh Saturday.

## Naveen woos tribals in Murmu's home district

CM inaugurates Subarnarekha and Deo irrigation projects during his hour-long visit to Mayurbhanj

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar/Baripada, August 12: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday inaugurated Subarnarekha and Deo irrigation projects during his hour-long visit to Mayurbhanj, the home district of President Droupadi Murmu and wood tribals.

He said several welfare schemes of the BJD government have been successful due to proper coordination with the tribal people.

"The state could make progress through education and employment schemes for the tribals," Patnaik said at the meeting.

Tribals constitute 53 per cent of Mayurbhanj's population.

Patnaik's whistle stop visit to Mayurbhanj is considered to be BJD's strategy to counter BJP's

alleged attempt to take advantage from Murmu's election to the highest constitutional post. The saffron party has been allegedly making all out efforts to take mileage from the Presidential election and create an impression among the people of the state that Murmu, regarded as the 'daughter of the soil', could occupy the highest post due to the efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The BJD too had fully backed Murmu.

Mayurbhanj is considered a strong hold of BJP from where the saffron candidates had won in six of the nine Assembly seats in the district apart from the Lok Sabha seat. However, the political equation changed during the rural poll when the people voted in favour of BJD and elected 53 of the district's 56 zilla parishad seats. **Continued on P4**



CM Naveen Patnaik waves at people during the inaugural programme at Baripada

## Drinking water projects approved for three districts

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 12: The state Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday approved three rural tap drinking water supply projects worth more than ₹1200 crore for three districts.

The Cabinet approved the tender amounting to ₹501.85 crore for execution of mega piped water supply project to provide safe drinking water in Dhenkanal district out of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) funding. By execution of the project, around 3,22,204 people of 271 villages under 71 GPs of four blocks of the district will be benefited, said Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Minister Pradip Kumar Amat.

Similarly, the lowest tender of ₹416.57 crore has been approved by the Cabinet for execution of another drinking water project in Kendrapara district out of JJM funding. By execution of the project, around 4,35,190 people of 522 villages under 76 GPs of three blocks (Pattamundai, Rajnagar & Garadpur) will be benefited, he said.

The Cabinet also approved the lowest tender amounting to ₹291.62 crore for execution of another drinking water supply project in Balasore district. By execution of the project, 2,62,093 people of 301 villages under 41 GPs of three blocks (Balasore, Remuna & Khairi) will be provided with safe drinking water. The work is targeted for completion within 24 months in all the three projects. **Continued on p4**

## J&J to end sale of baby talc powder globally

■ The company has faced thousands of lawsuits alleging its talcum powder caused cancer

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, August 12: Johnson & Johnson is pulling baby powder containing talc worldwide next year after it did the same in the US and Canada amid thousands of lawsuits claiming it had caused cancer. Talc will be replaced by cornstarch, the company said.

The company has faced thousands of lawsuits alleging its talcum powder caused users to develop ovarian cancer, through use



for feminine hygiene, or mesothelioma, a cancer that strikes the lungs and other organs.

J&J insists, and the overwhelming majority of medical research on talc indicates, that the talc baby powder is safe and doesn't cause cancer.

However, demand for the company's baby powder fell off due to the controversy and it removed talc from the products in most of North America.

## No flag, no trust, says BJP leader

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dehradun, August 12: Uttarakhand BJP chief Mahendra Bhatt has said the country will not trust those who do not hoist the Tricolour on their houses on Independence Day.

"It is only natural. After all, why should any Indian have problems in hoisting the Tricolour on their houses to celebrate the occasion?" Bhatt told PTI Friday reiterating what he had recently said in Haldwani.

However, he played down his reported remark that pictures of houses where no Tricolour is hoisted should be sent to him saying it was meant only for the party workers and not for the general public.

"My statement was meant for party workers only as I want each one of them to respond to the Prime Minister's call," he clarified.

Under attack from Opposition parties for making such a demand, Bhatt said anyone who has true feelings for the country will hoist

the National Flag to celebrate 75 years of the country's Independence.

"It is my firm belief that whoever feels for this country will not hesitate in hoisting the Tricolour on their houses," Bhatt told PTI.

"Our freedom fighters went to the



Uttarakhand BJP chief Mahendra Bhatt (C)

gallows holding the Tricolour high. I want every home across the country to hoist the Tricolour in response to the Prime Minister's call to celebrate 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'," he added.

He accused the Congress of politicising the issue unnecessarily.

The principal Opposition party in the state had said several people may not be in a position to hoist the Tricolour at their homes as they may not afford to buy one.

In response to this, Bhatt said, "The National Flag is being distributed by the government among people through different ways. The party is also helping in the exercise."

"The Congress' argument that people don't have the money to buy the flag has no meaning," he added.



# leisure

## FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshaSpeaks™

accuracy • reliability • trust

FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL \$5181\*

**ARIES**

You already feel deeply connected to the universe. But today, you may want to particularly thank God for all His small mercies. You cherish your loved ones even more today, says Ganesha, and you may spend lavishly on people dear to you.

**TAURUS**

Anxiety will keep your nerves swollen for most part of the day, feels Ganesha. On the work front, you will face success later in the day. You will be a role model for business efficiency and people will try to follow in your footsteps. Your efforts will be validated with generous profits.

**GEMINI**

Putting things in order will be your top priority, says Ganesha. You will possibly have a romantic dinner with your sweetheart. Seductive conversations may culminate in sensuous consummation. Your personal feelings will stir up your partner's private thoughts.

**CANCER**

It is high time you paid attention to your family. You have been so lost in work and in making money that you have almost forgotten the very people you have been slogging for. Your spouse has been trying hard to improve the relationship.

**LEO**

A mixed bag of fortunes, a bittersweet pill, call it what you will, but today brings with it a lot of things packed within its 24-hour period. Ganesha foresees a hectic morning, and an even more frantic afternoon. So, respite will be a luxury for you today.

**VIRGO**

Give people a word of encouragement and motivate them to achieve bigger things, advises Ganesha. Don the thinker's cap and you may find yourself in contemplation. Criticism will hurt you, but be as unflappable as you can and proceed to your target, says Ganesha.

**LIBRA**

It is your friends who prove to be lucky and beneficial for you today, especially if they happen to be walking the corridors of power, says Ganesha. Do not hesitate to start that new joint venture today. See your popularity grow by leaps and bounds as you get due recognition for your abilities and efforts.

**SCORPIO**

It is high time you diverted all your energies towards your object of love, advises Ganesha. Research-oriented work could well be an option too. Ganesha says you are likely to find someone special to talk about those good old times and have a great time.

**SAGITTARIUS**

You will be your usual self today, frank and precise. You are all ears for what your life partner has to say. This will make them feel special! According to Ganesha, be patient and carry out your work gracefully.

**CAPRICORN**

After running about helter-skelter for getting your work done, you will sit back and spend the day planning the course of future action. Sudden and unexpected profits are on the cards, but you will need to be mindful of how best you utilise it. You can expect a few good opportunities to knock at the door, but open the door before they turn to look for shelter elsewhere.

**AQUARIUS**

Some days, you crave to know everything. Today is one such day. You will also prove a worthy opponent. You may upset your adversaries' plans, much to your own advantage. You have it in you to be a scholar. You will also prove the strength of your character, especially when the going gets tough.

**PISCES**

Today is likely to be a day of mixed fortunes, says Ganesha. While a hectic morning and a positively frantic afternoon will see you at your wits' end, a sumptuous dinner with your sweetheart, followed by a sensuous evening, will delight you out of your mind.



## MENDES REPORTEDLY JOINS DATING APP

Singer Shawn Mendes is reportedly looking for love on a celebrity dating app. He's said to have joined days after his former-girlfriend and singer Camila Cabello was pictured hand-in-hand with the founder of another matchmaking app, reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).

## MADONNA SAYS SON LOOKS BETTER IN HER CLOTHES

Pop icon Madonna gushed over her son David Banda's sense of style during an appearance on a late-night talk show. The 63-year-old said that her 16-year-old son, who has been wowing fans with his fashionable fits, looks better in her clothes than she does.



## Anya shares her 'dream come true' moment

**Mumbai:** Actress Anya Singh, who made her debut with *Qaidi Band* and won the hearts of many with her series *Never Kiss Your Best Friend*, will be seen in the upcoming movie *Kho Gaye Hum Kahaan*.

She says her dream has come true to finally get to work with Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti.

Anya says: "*Kho Gaye Hum Kahaan* is a very special project for me. To be a part of a film written by Zoya Akhtar, Reema Kagti whose work I have always admired, feels like a dream come true!"

"The story of *Luck By Chance* is one that has stayed with me throughout my journey as it showcased such a real side of an actor's chances in the industry," she adds.

*Kho Gaye Hum Kahan* will explore the various facets of friendship in the movie and will touch upon reconnecting with the forgotten bits of life. It marks the directorial debut of Arjun Varain Singh and is set to release next year.

AGENCIES

## Mouni dying to be part of South movies

**Mumbai:** Actress Mouni Roy, who will be seen in filmmaker Ayan Mukerji's upcoming film *Brahmastra*, said that she would like to work in South Indian films as she is dying to be a part of larger-than-life movies. When asked if she would like to work in South Indian films, Mouni in ShareChat LIVE Audio Chatroom said: "I am keen on being a part of films down South, and I really think they are making some brilliant content. I am dying to be a part of the larger-than-life movies they are making."

Roy also revealed how she loves to watch *Friends* and showed affection towards Rachel and Phoebe's

characters.

"Friends is my go-to show. Whenever I am really happy or sad, I start watching *Friends* as it makes me feel good. I feel like I am hanging out with them."

Revealing her favourite characters from the show, she added, "I love them all, but I feel that I am a combination of Rachel and Phoebe myself."

*Brahmastra* is a fantasy adventure trilogy. It also stars Amitabh Bachchan, Alia Bhatt, Ranbir Kapoor and Nagarjuna.

AGENCIES



## Soumya Ranjan appointed UN India Youth Advocate



Soumya received the certificate from a UN official

**Bhubaneswar/New Delhi:** Odisha's Soumya Ranjan Biswal, an environmentalist who has been on a mission to protect Olive Ridley Sea Turtles, was appointed a UN India Youth Advocate on International Youth Day, Friday.

The UN agencies in India marked International Youth Day by appointing the first-ever UN India YuWaah Advocates to inspire and gather the support of India's 350+ million young people towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Apart from 25-year-old Soumya, five other Indian youths have also been appointed Advocates. They are - Mohammad Siraj (26), West Bengal, Bhavi Barad(25), New Delhi, Ankita Sehdev(24), Haryana, Mansi Thaker(25), Gujarat, Mursal Mohammadi(23), New Delhi.

These youths have come from diverse backgrounds and geographies and will inspire action for SDGs across high-level decision-making platforms. In turn, they will receive access to information, skilling, and mentorship support, and will work

in partnership with external experts across UN agencies and partner networks, celebrity advocates, ambassadors, and digital influencers to amplify and foreground young people's priorities and perspectives towards shaping the 2030 Agenda.

For the unversed, Soumya has also been working on pollution and climate change; and restoration of Mangroves, Salt Marshes and Sand dune plants. He has trained a cadre of around 100 youth volunteers for the conservation of sea turtles and other wildlife on a sustainable and scientific basis in different districts of Odisha. He also sensitises local fishing communities regarding overfishing and protection of marine life. Through more than 250 beach clean-up activities undertaken on the nesting beaches in the area, around 15 tons of plastics, polythene bags, discarded fishing nets and other solid wastes were cleared from nesting beaches under his supervision. His campaign was also featured in Limca Book of Records. PNN

## Urvashi cryptically reacts to Pant's post

**Mumbai:** Urvashi Rautela has once again taken a dig at Rishabh Pant after in an interview the actress-model claimed the cricketer "waited for her" and he replied on social media saying "mera peecha choro behen (leave me alone sister)".

Indirectly referring Pant as a 'cougar hunter', Urvashi took to Instagram and wrote: "Chotu bhaiya should play

bat ball."

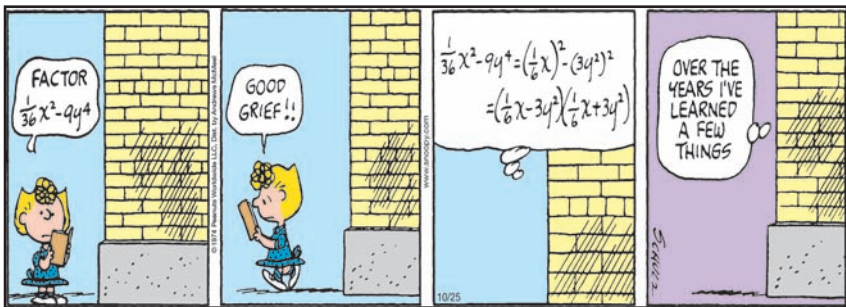
She used hashtags such as #RPChotuBhaiyya, #DontTakeAdvantageOfASilentGirl and #CougarHunter.

Her response comes after Rishabh's now deleted Instagram Story, which read: "It's funny how people lie in interviews just for some meagre popularity and for hitting the headlines."

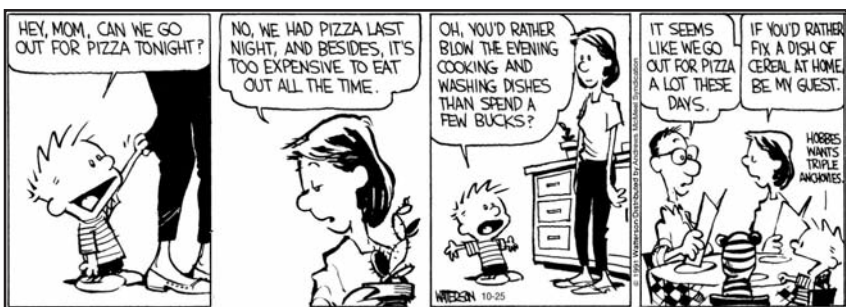
He has tagged the post #merapichachorhoBehen and #Jhutkibhilitihti.

The cricketer gave out no names, but social media users came to a conclusion to Urvashi, who claimed in a viral interview that the unnamed 'RP' waited for her in a hotel lobby and called her several times - she was asleep and saw 17 missed calls when she woke up. IANS

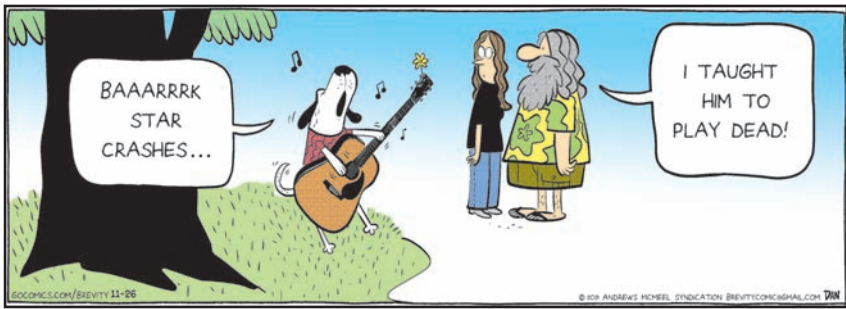
## PEANUTS



## CALVIN AND HOBBS

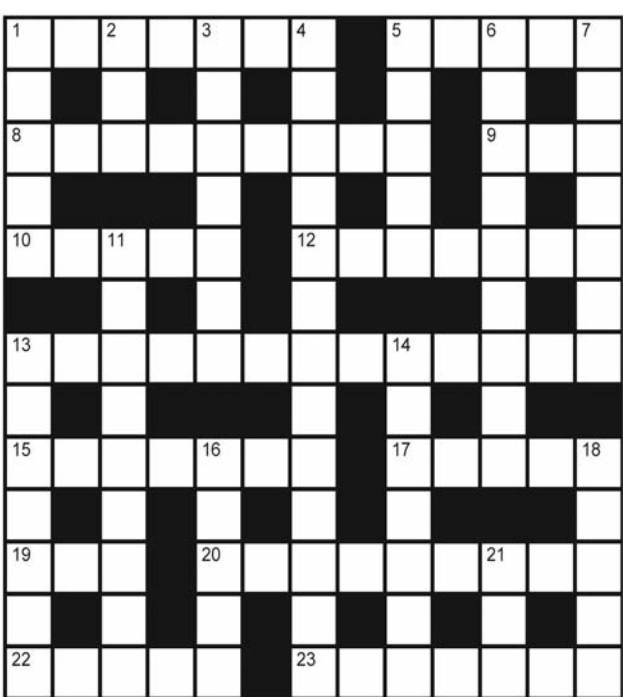


## BREVITY



## FUN post

## CROSSWORD



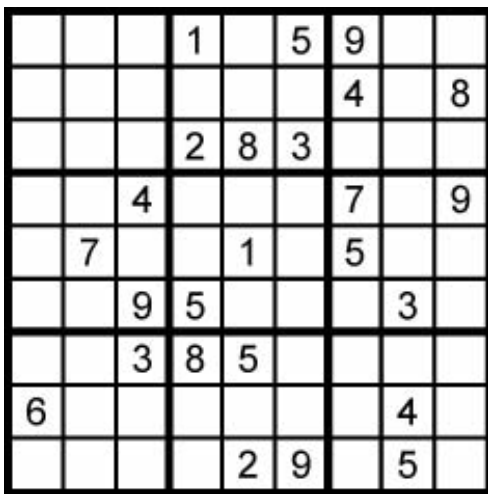
- Across**

1 Bird watcher?  
5 Pickle barrels  
8 Type of canoe  
9 Wayside stop  
10 Highly skilled  
12 Havana filler  
13 Mediterranean soup or stew  
15 Biting  
17 Milquetoast  
19 Anaconda
- 20 Plutocrat's ride  
22 Diving bird  
23 Tablet
- Down**

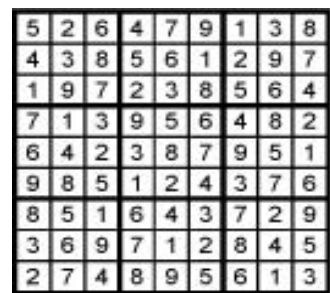
1 Bouquet  
2 Morse E  
3 UK home of the Floating Harbour  
4 Security guard type (5,8)  
5 Chocolate substitute  
6 Travelling bags  
7 Capital of Costa Rica (3,4)  
11 List  
13 Type of chair  
14 Bombard  
16 Vessel section  
18 Submit  
21 Babysitter's handful

## SUDOKU

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



## SOLUTIONS



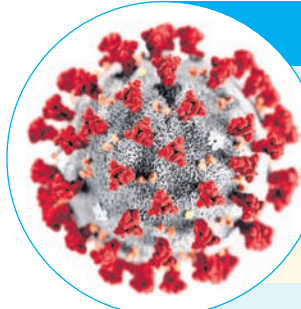
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW





**TT CHAMPIONSHIPS**

I&PR Principal Secretary Sanjay Singh speaks during the inauguration of State Inter-School & 27th YGTTA State Ranking Table Tennis Championships-2022 at JN Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Friday



**COVID-19 TRACKER**

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	59,35,27,617	56,55,48,895	64,49,394
India	4,42,23,557	4,35,73,094	5,26,928
Odisha	13,21,780	13,09,010	9,154

**A DAY FOR THE GENTLE GIANTS**



Nandankanan Zoological Park deputy director Sanjeet Kumar feeds a jumbo at the zoo, on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar, on World Elephant Day, Friday

OP PHOTO

**AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV**

**19 jailbirds granted spl remission**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, August 12:** In what would bring cheer for some of the convicts languishing in different jails in the state and their family members, the Prisons Directorate has decided to release 19 convicts including a woman prisoner who have been granted special remission of their sentences.

These prisoners will be released August 15 in the first phase on the occasion of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence.

The directorate has directed the superintendents of jails in Choudwar, Berhampur, Koraput, Balasore, Puri, Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Madanpur-Rampur to release the selected convicts on the Independence Day (Monday).



Jails	No. of prisoners to be freed
Berhampur circle jail	6
Keonjhar district jail	4
Puri district jail	3
Koraput circle jail	2
Balasore district jail	1
Choudwar circle jail	1
Sundargarh district jail	1
Madanpur-Rampur sub jail	1

"In pursuance of orders of Government issued vide Law Department Letter No. 8951 dated 6.08.2022, the following 19 (nineteen) convicted prisoners are eligible to grant of special remission for their release in the first phase on 15th August 2022 to celebrate "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence," reads

the directorate's letter.

The directorate has selected six convicts lodged in Berhampur circle jail, four in Keonjhar district jail, three in Puri district jail, two in Koraput circle jail and one each in Balasore district jail, Choudwar circle jail, Sundargarh district jail and Madanpur-Rampur sub jail in Kalahandi district for special remission.

The convicts are: Bijaya Patra, Rama Chandra Nahak, Sarathi Bhuyan, Prasanta Kumar Pattnaik, Nityananda Sahu and Susanta Padhy alias Kuna lodged in Berhampur circle jail; Benu Bhoi, Dipti Ranjan Sethi alias Chagala and Mahanta Naik alias Janak in Puri district jail; Rama Munda, Sridhar Naik, Bishnu Charan Mohanta, Balam Munda in Keonjhar district jail; Harihar Naik in Choudwar circle jail; Diba Paraja alias Siba Bataboi and Bharat Huika in Koraput circle jail; Moris Kerketta alias Murali in Sundargarh district jail, and Jhasketan Sahu in Madanpur-Rampur sub jail.

The directorate has asked the authorities to organise special counselling session for the prisoners and their family members giving them vital tips and suggestions for their rehabilitation after release.

**Resume Odisha Travel Bazaar: HRAO**

Plan afoot to organise the fourth edition of Odisha Tourism Conclave in October this year, says HRAO chairman



ternity of the state comprising hotels and tour operators promote the tourism products of Odisha as sellers.

"We've urged the state government to resume the OTB in order to boost the tourism industry. The Tourism department should take required measures to resume the mega event from this year," HRAO chairman JK Mohanty said in a recently submitted proposal to state's Tourism department.

Mohanty added that they, in association with the Tourism department were planning to organise the fourth edition of Odisha Tourism Conclave in October. The conclave too could not be held for two years due to the pandemic.

and Industry (FICCI) has been organising the mega event since 2017. However, it could not be held in 2020 and 2021 owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was learnt.

While leading foreign and domestic tour operators from across the word participate as hosted buyers at OTB, the tourism fra-

**4 Odisha cops picked for Home Min's Medal**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi/Bhubaneswar, August 12:** At least four police personnel from Odisha were among the 151 selected for the 'Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation' for 2022, an official said Friday.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Inspectors Ashish Chandra Jena, Anusuya Nayak and Ramesh Kumar Pradhan, and DSP Sumitra Jena of Odisha Police will be decorated with the coveted medal.

**Millets Mission gets ₹2,808cr boost**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, August 12:** The state Cabinet Friday approved extension of Millets Mission for another six years with a budgetary outlay of Rs 2,808.39 crore.

The state government had launched Odisha Millets Mission in 2017 to revive millets in farms and on plates. The programme aims at comprehensive revival of millets in farms and plates to promote climate-resilient farming and contribute to addressing micronutrient deficiency. It is supported through State Plan, DMF and

OMBADC, said Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra.

In the first phase of implementation (2017-18), the programme was made operational in 30 blocks across seven districts - Gajapati, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nuapada, and Rayagada. In the second and third phase, it reached out to 84 blocks in 15 districts. Later, the state extended its area of implementation to 142 blocks in 19 districts from 2022-23 onwards.

The Cabinet has approved the tender for construction of in-stream storage structure across Brahmani near Khalpal in Talcher block with

Rs 220 crore. The work is planned to be completed in 33 months.

The Cabinet has decided to extend the implementation tenure of Integrated Mines and Minerals Monitoring System for five more years (2022-27) with an expenditure of Rs 326.79 crore.

Besides, the state government has decided to engage a Project Management Consultant for proper monitoring of the in-stream storage structure projects along with six major & medium irrigation projects and underground pipeline distribution system of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project.



**Saluting the Martyrs who brought us Freedom**



**ENERGY PROVIDERS TO THE NATION**

**WE STOOD FIRM IN TRYING TIMES TO ENSURE ENERGY SECURITY**



**MAHANADI COALFIELDS LIMITED**

(A Govt. of India Undertaking & Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

Regd. Office : Jagruti Vihar, Burla, Dist: Sambalpur-768020 (Odisha)

www.mahanadicoal.in | @mahanadicoal





# Open inner Ratnabhandar, ASI urges Srimandir admin



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Puri, August 12:** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has urged the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) to open ‘Bhitara Ratnabhandar’ (inner chamber of the treasury) of the 12th-century shrine in Puri.

The superintending archaeologist of ASI in a letter to the chief administrator of the SJTA said that the inner chamber of the ‘Ratnabhandar’ (treasury) should be opened to inspect its condition and any possible impact of climate on the structure.

## TREASURY MYSTERY

The superintending archaeologist of ASI in a letter to the chief administrator of the SJTA said that the inner chamber of the ‘Ratnabhandar’ should be opened to inspect its condition and any possible impact of climate on the structure

The outer chamber stores ornaments used by the deities on a daily basis, while many pieces of jewellery are kept in the inner chamber of the treasury

while many pieces of jewellery are kept in the inner chamber of the treasury, according to temple sources.

An attempt was made to open the inner chamber of ‘Ratnabhandar’ in April 2018 following a directive of the Orissa High Court, but it was not successful as keys were not found at that time. Hence, a team, comprising ASI officials, priests and others, then carried out an inspection from outside.

Previously, the ‘Ratnabhandar’ was opened in 1978 and 1982.

## State to distribute...

**Continued from P1**

State Health and Family Welfare Director Bijay Panigrahi said the state government has decided to launch the scheme to strengthen the family planning programme in the state. The health department will create awareness among the newlyweds regarding the family planning programme through the scheme, he said, adding, the scheme would be implemented in both rural and urban areas of the state.

As per government sources, the ASHAs will hand over the kits to the newlywed couples on the wedding day.

## CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Berhampur, I Teppala Divakar Rao, R/o. Vill/P.O.: Golabandha, Dist.- Ganjam declare that my actual name is Teppala Divakar Rao and my wife’s actual name is Teppala Khushi. But in my son Teppala Shasikant’s Birth Certificate my name is inadvertently mentioned as T. Diwakar Rao and my wife’s name as T. Khushi.

By virtue of affidavit before Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar, I Shakti Rath, W/o. Kanhu Charan Satapathy, At: Belaguntha, P.O.: Bhanjanagar, Dist.- Ganjam declare that my name has been wrongly mentioned in the Birth Certificate of my son Sattwik Satapathy as Sakti Rath instead of Shakti Rath. So Sakti Rath and Shakti Rath is one and same person for all purpose.

By an affidavit I, Madhusmita Parida declare that in my HSC Certificate my Mother’s name has been mentioned as Gitanjali Parida whereas in her Aadhaar Card and PAN Card her name has been mentioned as Damayanti Parida. Henceforth both Gitanjali Parida and Damayanti Parida is one & same person.

# ECoR to observe Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, August 12:** To keep alive the memories of suffering that millions of people endured during the partition of British India, the whole country is set to observe Partition Horrors Remembrance Day August 14 2022. The Prime Minister in his last Independence Day speech had announced the observation.

This day has been envisaged to bring to light the agony, suffering and pain of millions people from Bengal and Punjab who were displaced during the partition. It is a reminder to the country, that independence was preceded by the largest displacement of human population in the last century. The

partition also claimed the lives of a large number of people.

To mark the occasion, an exhibition will be organised at Bhubaneswar railway station August 14, 2022. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India will grace the occasion.

Dignitaries to be present include Aparajita Sarangi, MP (Lok Sabha) and Ananta Narayan Jena, MLA. Such exhibitions are also being organised at various important stations under the East Coast Railway jurisdiction, including Puri, Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur and Visakhapatnam stations.

# Activists observe elephant day in unique way in City



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, August 12:** On this Elephant Day Friday a unique protest against elephant killings was organised by animal rights activists and members of Animal Welfare Trust, Ekmarra in front of PCCF office. As a part of the protest the activists wore elephant costumes and demonstrated in an attempt to create awareness against elephant death in the state.

Purabi Patra, a animal activist and AWTE secretary, said the forest

officials are celebrating the Day inside air conditioned room while elephants are dying in the state almost every second day. Patra said that it’s mostly poaching and unfortunate human-animal encounter that are causing these deaths.

She further said that the the three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT), instituted by Forest and Environment department to probe incidents of elephant deaths cover-ups in Athagarh Forest Division, has still not presented its report to the government.

Earlier, the Animal Welfare Trust Ekamra and Wildlife Society of Odisha had informed that more than 130 elephants have either been poached or poisoned and 144 have been electrocuted in the last 12 years.

# Quitting social media tougher for teen girls than boys

**T**een girls find it more difficult to quit social media platforms like TikTok, Instagram, Facebook and YouTube than their male counterparts, according to a new survey by the Pew Research Center in the US.

When asked about the idea of giving up social media, 54 per cent of teens say it would be at least somewhat hard to give it up, while 46 per cent say it would be at least somewhat easy.

“Teen girls are more likely than teen boys to express it would be difficult to give up social media (58% vs 49%),” the survey findings

showed. Conversely, a quarter of teen boys say giving up social media would be very easy, while 15 per cent of teen girls say the same.

“Older teens also say they would have difficulty in giving up social media. About six-in-ten teens aged 15 to 17 say giving up social media would be at least somewhat difficult to do. A smaller share of 13- to 14-year-olds think this would be difficult,” the survey revealed.

When reflecting on the amount of time they spend on social media generally, a majority of US teens (55 per cent) say they spend about the right amount of time on these

## TOTAL IMMERSION

An artisan busy shaping a clay idol of Lord Ganesha at Kumbhar Sahi in Cuttack, Friday

OP PHOTO

# FLO members meet Governor



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, August 12:** FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO), the women’s wing of FICCI Friday had an interaction with Governor Ganeshi Lal. Forty women entrepreneurs led by FLO Bhubaneswar’s chairperson Namrita Chahal attended the event at Raj Bhawan.

Welcoming the Governor, Chahal mentioned about the inception of FLO Bhubaneswar with 61 members in 2020 and how its strength has reached more than 100. Founding Chair Dharitri Patnaik spoke about FLO National and

## City AIIMS exec dir calls on Guv

**BHUBANESWAR:** AIIMS Bhubaneswar executive director Ashutosh Biswas called on Governor Ganeshi Lal at Raj Bhawan Friday.

During the meeting, Biswas informed the Governor about several issues pertaining to patient care at AIIMS.

The Governor also appreciated the comprehensive approach towards healthcare that AIIMS has adapted as its policy.

“It was an enlightening meeting with Governor of Odisha as well as an eminent educationist of



country over several issues”, said Biswas.

AIIMS registrar BB Mishra, DDA (in charge) and SAO Rashmiranjan Sethy were also present on the occasion.

Odisha Chapter’s work and vision to empower women at various levels by building their capacity through financial and digital literacy etc.

Governor Ganeshi Lal encouraged the women entrepreneurs to achieve greater heights by pur-

suing this work and said self-help groups (SHGs) are the best way to encourage the whole society and move forward.

He also encouraged the women entrepreneurs to harness the power within to change the society and the world.

# Naveen woos tribals...

**Continued from P1**

Patnaik in his speech said that tribal children have been successful in earning their name due to their talent, which has been made possible due to the state government’s different schemes for education, livelihood and skill development.

He said the state government’s ‘5T’ initiative has made it possible for students in Mayurbhanj district to avail world class education in their village schools.

“This change has come not just for the students alone, but for the district and the state as a whole,” Patnaik said.

Extolling the art, culture and tribal tradition of Mayurbhanj district, Patnaik said, “I pay my respects to the land of Pandit Raghunath Murmu. This rich tradition has created a special identity for Mayurbhanj in the country. The daughter of the soil, Droupadi Murmu has further enriched the

rich cultural heritage of Mayurbhanj. We are all proud for her.”

He also called upon the people to cooperate for the overall development of the district.

Inaugurating the two irrigation projects, he said they will immensely benefit the farmers of Mayurbhanj and Balasore districts. The two irrigation projects can irrigate around 27,000 hectare agricultural land in the two districts.

The Subarnarekha irrigation project, built at an expenditure of Rs 685 crore, can irrigate 17,121 hectare farm land in the two districts. Around 55,000 farmers will be benefitted by it.

The Deo irrigation project, which cost Rs 823 crore, can irrigate 9,900 hectare agricultural land. Around two lakh people of 100 villages in Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts will be benefitted by it, officials said.

AGENCIES

**Puri, August 12:** At least one person was killed and 30 others injured when a passenger bus overturned after hitting a road divider in Puri district, a police officer said.

The accident took place when the bus was on its way to Kakatpur from Bhubaneswar. The driver of the bus lost control over wheels while trying to save a car next to it and the vehicle rammed into a road divider near Pipli, the officer said.

Of the 30 injured, eight people were rushed to Capital Hospital, he said, adding that the deceased was identified as helper of the passenger bus.

Other injured persons were attended to at Pipli government hospital, the officer stated.



apps and sites, while about a third of teens (36 per cent) say they spend too much time on social

media.

Beyond just online platforms, the vast majority of teens have

## NEW US SURVEY

54% OF TEENS SAY IT WOULD BE AT LEAST SOMEWHAT HARD TO GIVE UP SOCIAL MEDIA, WHILE 46% SAY IT WOULD BE AT LEAST SOMEWHAT EASY

58% TEEN GIRLS SAY GIVING UP SOCIAL MEDIA WOULD BE TOUGH WHILE 49% BOYS EXPRESS THE SAME FEELING

access to digital devices, such as smartphones (95 per cent), desktop or laptop computers (90 per cent)

and gaming consoles (80 per cent).

The study shows there has been an uptick in daily teen internet users, from 92 per cent in 2014-15 to 97 per cent today.

In addition, the share of teens who say they are online almost constantly has roughly doubled since 2014-15.

While teens’ access to smartphones has increased over roughly the past eight years, their access to other digital technologies, such as desktop or laptop computers or gaming consoles, has remained statistically unchanged, the survey said.

IANS

## FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-DayalAgency-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-976056507, 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-Cookiemanager-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.





REMEMBERING THE LEGEND

Women paid tributes to legendary poet Gangadhar Meher on his birth anniversary by garlanding his statute on the premises of GM University in Sambalpur

# 12 elephants die in 3 yrs in Similipal sanctuary

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, August 12: A total of 12 elephants have died due to various reasons in the last three years in the Similipal wildlife sanctuary of Mayurbhanj district, sources said. The alarming rate of elephant deaths is due to the increasing number of human-animal conflict, officials informed. These conflicts have harmed both human beings and the pachyderms.

Loss of habitats has forced the pachyderms to stray into villages. With food available easily in human localities, the animals refuse to go back into forests leading to a tussle between the two sides.

With the elephants entering human habitats, they have become easy targets for poachers. However, forest officials are shielding the poachers stating other causes as the reasons for the deaths of elephants, including anthrax. What is surprising is that the Forest department officials are not making any serious effort to prevent the loss of elephant lives.

Forest officials said that five ele-



FILE PHOTO

phants have died of anthrax while the remaining seven due to 'unknown' causes. Two anthrax deaths occurred in 2019, an identical number in 2020 and one in 2021. However, forest officials are tight-lipped on the number of elephants that have died due to poaching.

Recently, two poachers were arrested and remanded to judicial custody for illegal trading of elephant tusks. Forest officials had seized eight tusks weighing over 45 kg from them at Angarpada under Udala forest division. The accused were trying to sell them for ₹18 lakh.

In 2021, a tusker carcass was recovered at Sarisua Ramkunda jungle. Officials found that its tusks had been cut allegedly by poachers. The forest

department suspended two of its employees for the tusker's death and intensified the probe. However, the two arrested poachers, a few days later confessed that they were responsible for the death of the elephant and they had cut its tusks.

While the actual number of elephant deaths is much more in Similipal sanctuary, it has been alleged that the forest officials are fudging numbers instead of coming up with actual figures.

The straying of the elephants from Similipal and Jharkhand into human habitats has been continuing for the last few years. The animals after leaving their habitats are intruding into human habitations in Rasagobindpur, Morada, Betanoti and Badasahi blocks to reach Nilagiri in Balasore district.

Forest department officials have also failed to protect the people as well as the animals due to shortage of staff. Honorary wildlife warden Bhanumitra Acharya has demanded that despite all the claims and counter-claims it is pertinent to protect the pachyderms as they play an important role in ecological balance.

# PPT land illegally occupied; activists demand CBI probe

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, August 12: For the last decade, 34.46 acre of land belonging to Paradip Port Trust (PPT) has been under encroachment near Bramhapursasan under Dharmasala tehsil in Jajpur district. A farm house was set up on the land while a stone crushing unit is being run on it at present. Also murrum is being excavated from the land on a regular basis. Surprisingly, there is no mention of approximately 14.42 acre of land of the 34.46 acre in tehsil records. Local RTI activists Sarbeswar Beura, Jitendra Sahu, Prakash Das and Pradip Pradhan have taken up the issue of illegal encroachment of PPT land and have written to the CBI. They have demanded stern action against the encroachers. Reports said, the PPT has a total 34.46 acre of land in khata-222 and plots- 416; 419; 455; 459 and 472.

One Sribas Jena of Dharmasala area was given 20.04 acre from this patch for six years on an agreement signed November 1, 2007. However, Jena violated the agreement for which the PPT cancelled it February 8, 2012. Despite all this, the land is still being occupied by Jena. Later, Jena moved the Supreme Court against the cancellation of the agreement. The matter is still sub-judice.

PPT on the other hand, has failed to demarcate 14.42 acre land out of the 34.46 acre. This had earlier been stated by former assistant secretary of PPT, AK Samal in replies to RTI queries.

It has been alleged that some influential people have got the land registered in their names in collusion with some tehsil officials.



RTI activists have asserted that the PPT land scam, multi-crore illegal mining and 'Black Rose' drowning case are inter-connected

tracted mineral from Keonjhar and Jajpur had been exported through PPT. After the Shah Commission submitted its reports to the Odisha government in 2010-11, fines had been collected from errant mining firms. At that time, illegal minerals were being stocked on the PPT land mentioned above and were being shifted on a regular basis.

Incidentally, a cargo ship called 'Black Rose' carrying minerals had drowned 9km off the Paradip coast and an engineer had died. The incident is still under investigation of the Crime Branch. However, the case has not been probed by CBI.

The RTI activists have asserted that the PPT land scam, multi-crore illegal mining and the 'Black Rose' drowning case are inter-connected. They pointed out that despite cancellation of the agreement with Jena, PPT has not reclaimed the land while large quantities of murrum are being lifted from the land. They demanded a CBI probe into the entire matter.

Tehsildar Swagat Das was contacted over the phone for his views, but he did not pick up the call.

## Kalahandi farmers lament failure of irrigation project

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatana, August 12: A mega lift irrigation project set up on Ret river at Laitara village under Keesinga block of Kalahandi district has failed to achieve its objective. Farmers alleged that the project has failed to provide water when farmlands are dry. This incidentally is said to be the first mega lift irrigation project in Odisha. It was dedicated to the people by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik December 12, 2015 and was built at a cost of ₹9 crore with an objective to facilitate all-weather irrigation facilities to 500 hectare of land in Laitara, Jolko and Karabadi villages.

"Seven years have passed, but the project is hardly of any use for us. Our farmlands are dry due to poor rainfall and need water desperately. The project should have been handy when we need water the most," the farmers lamented. They added that the Ret river has little water to feed the irrigation project. The farmers said that the project needs renovation and modification. In the past, they had staged protests demanding renovation, but in vain.



As per the design of the project, executed by L&T, the water from the river is collected through an intake well and then discharged through a pump to the fields. However, water cannot be collected from the well due to its faulty design, farmers alleged, adding that the location of the intake well, away from the river's mainstream, is not ideal for filling it up with water. The intake well is now left in a damaged condition.

"The project is affected as the intake well is not getting adequate water. A storage area on the river bed needs to be constructed so that the well can get adequate water throughout the year," some farmers pointed out.

Notably, six more mega lift irrigation projects were constructed in the district in 2016 and 2017 at Utkella, Amath, Tundla, Digsara, Hatikhaj and Palam.

# North Odisha rivers swell

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, August 12: Amid torrential rains for the last five days, water level in many rivers including Budhabalanga, Kansabansa, Jalaka, Gangahar and Naluha of this district are in spate, official said.

Jalaka river under Basta block is flowing above the danger mark. At Mathani, the water level Friday stood at the 6.05-metre mark against the danger mark of 5.50 metre. Thousands of hectares farmlands have already been inundated in low-lying areas of the Jalaka basin. Heavy rains in the upstream areas have increased the threat of floods.

People in riparian villages along these rivers are now panic-stricken as there is a forecast of heavy rains in the next 24 hours which may lead to worsening of the situation.

The water level in Budhabalanga river started increasing since Thursday afternoon. With the Sona river also in spate, areas like Nijampur, Mandarpur, Durgadevi,



Badapal, Dahapada, Sindhia and Kaincha panchayats under Remuna block face the possibility of floods.

Already Chandipur, Srikona and Gudupahi under Sadar block have been inundated with flood-water while Mathani, Dudhihansa and Baharda localities under Basta block are also under water. Heavy rains have added to woes of the people throwing normal life out of control.

Kansabansa river in Simulia block is also flowing above the danger mark. Acres of farmlands in the riparian pockets are now submerged under floodwater.

With the Budhabalanga river swelling, people living in the villages of Arpata,

Bhanjbati, Mankadapal, Balabhadrapur, Belapal, Khuntapal, Baguli, Dingiria, Barihapal, Bartana, Astapura, Sankucha, Gamaharia, Tentala, Jalandanda, Askandha, Rangapani, Kulakutha, Sarbeswarapur, Mahupura, Mirigidari, Kudimunda, Dhanapal, Uttarpala and Sorishakotha are panicked.

Similarly, people are living under constant threat of floods along the Gangahar river. Some of the villages that face the possibility of floods are Manatri, Kundisahi, Bedhapal, Adidiha, Kunchibania, Unchadihi, Similisahi, Agria, Dumuria, Narangan, Palapatana, Nunakua, Jadida, Bhurudiha, Shalagan, Chengua-Mangalpur, Mankadkenda and Beguniabani.

FORM G  
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (With revised timeline)  
(Under Regulation 36A (1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of the corporate debtor	Birla Tyres Limited
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	22.11.2018
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated/ Registered	RCC-Kolkata
4. Corporate identity number of corporate debtor	CIN: L25209WB2018PLC228915
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	REGISTERED OFFICE -/I, R.N. MUKHERJEE ROAD 8TH FLOOR, BIRLA BUILDING KOLKATA WB 700001 INDIA FACTORY ADDRESS: AT/PO. CHANPUR, VIA. KURUDA, DIST. BALASORE, ODISHA, PIN-756056
6. Insolvency commencement date of the corporate debtor	05.05.2022
7. Date of invitation of expression of interest	01.08.2022 (Revised -13.08.2022)
8. Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at:	www.birlatyres.com or Details can be sought by emailing on birlatyres.2022@gmail.com
9. Norms of ineligibility applicable under section 29A are available at:	www.birlatyres.com or Details can be sought by emailing on birlatyres.2022@gmail.com
10. Last date for receipt of expression of interest	-16.08.2022 -16.08.2022(revised)
11. Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	-26.08.2022 -26.08.2022(revised)
12. Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	-31.08.2022 -30.09.2022(revised)
13. Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	-01.09.2022 -07.10.2022(revised)
14. Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	-31.08.2022 -30.09.2022(revised)
15. Manner of obtaining request for resolution plan, evaluation matrix, information memorandum and further information	The Resolution Professional will share the documents through email or virtual data room after verification of KYC, eligibility under section 29A of IBC 2016 and pre-qualification criteria as approved by CoC members.
16. Last date for submission of resolution plans	-01.10.2022 -01.11.2022(revised)
17. Manner of submitting resolution plans to resolution professional	In electronic mode: birlatyres.2022@gmail.com Hard copy will be sent in the given address: CK-104, Sector 2, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091.
18. Estimated date for submission of resolution plan to the Adjudicating Authority for approval	01.12.2022 (CIRP period of 180 days will end on 1st November 2022 and accordingly an extension will be sought from Hon'ble NCLT)
19. Name and registration number of the resolution professional	Seikh Abdul Salam, Reg no.-IBB/IPA-003/IP-N00250/2019-2020/12966
20. Name, Address and e-mail of the resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Seikh Abdul Salam, Address- 64J, Linton Street, Entally, Beliapur, Kolkata 700014. E-mail: salam10695@gmail.com
21. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the resolution professional	Address- 64J, Linton Street, Entally, Beliapur, Kolkata 700014 E-mail: birlatyres.2022@gmail.com
22. Further details are available at or with	Further details can be received by emailing at birlatyres.2022@gmail.com
23. Date of publication of Form G	01.08.2022 (Revised -13.08.2022)

Date: 13.08.2022  
Place: Kolkata

Resolution Professional for Birla Tyres Limited  
Registration Number - IBB/IPA-003/IP-N00250/2019-2020/12966  
Address: 64J, Linton Street, Entally, Beliapur, Kolkata

राजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.-33004/99 REGD. NO. D. L.-33004/99

सत्यमेव जयते

# भारत का राजपत्र

## The Gazette of India

सो.जी.-डी.एल.-अ. - 02062022-236245  
CG-DL-E-02062022-236245

असाधारण  
EXTRAORDINARY  
भाग II - खण्ड 3 - उप-खण्ड (ii)  
PART II - Section 3 - Sub-section (ii)  
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 2397] नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, जून 1, 2022/ ज्येष्ठ 11, 1944  
No. 2397] NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022/JYAISTHA 11, 1944

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
NOTIFICATION  
New Delhi, the 31st May, 2022

S.O. 2524(E). - In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Km. 123.21 to Km. 238.2 (O/o Tahasilidar, Nabarangpur) in the district of NABARANGPUR in the state of ODISHA, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Tahasilidar cum Land Acquisition Officer, Nabarangpur in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling Newly Proposed in the stretch of Land from Km. 123.21 to Km. 238.2 (O/o Tahasilidar, Nabarangpur) in the district of NABARANGPUR in the state of ODISHA.

State : ODISHA		District : NABARANGPUR			
Sl. No.	Survey/Plot No.	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (In Local Unit)	Area (In Hectare)
Taluk: Nabarangpur P.S					
Village: Bhatara					
1	812	Government	Dangara/1	0.0018000(Hectare)	0.0018000
Total				0.0018	0.0018

[F. No. NHA/11013/LA/PIU-SBP, Odisha/Raipur-Vizag/Notif.(3a)/3A005] RAJESH GUPTA, Director

National Highways Authority of India  
Project Implementation Unit, Sambalpur  
Sarлакani Chowk, In-front of St. John's School, Near NH-6, Sakhipara Road, Sambalpur, Odisha-768006

11040/NHA/PIU/SBP/JSJG-KNTR/Tol/770/2022 Date: 11.08.2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Govt. of India, Gazette Notification S.O. 1423 (E) dt. 28.03.2022, the fee plaza at Km. 62.100 (Design chainage at Km 256.552) near Nuadeeh Village in Jharsuguda District in Odisha State stop in 21.08.2022 midnight and that location shifted at Km 25.200 near Govindpur Village in Lakhanpur Tahasil in Jharsuguda District in Odisha effect from 22.08.2022 midnight and rate as same.

Category of Vehicles	Fee for single Journey (₹)	Fee for return Journey within a day (₹)	Fee for monthly pass for 50 single Journeys in a month (₹)	Fee for single journey for the commercial vehicles registered within the district of fee plaza (₹)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	55	85	1880	30
Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	90	135	3035	45
Bus or Truck (Two Axes)	190	285	6365	95
Three-Axis commercial vehicles	210	310	6940	105
HCM or EME or MAV (four to six axes)	300	450	9980	150
Over-sized Vehicles (Seven or more axes)	365	545	12145	180

The rates of monthly pass applicable for local non commercial vehicle residing within a distance of 20 km from the above toll plaza for the year 2022-23 shall be ₹15/-, subject to revision every year as per the provisions of said rules.

Ph. No. (0663) 2548966,  
Email: piusambalpur@nhai.org, nhaisambalpur@gmail.com

Sd/.  
BUILDING A NATION, NOT JUST ROADS Project Director

राजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.-33004/99 REGD. NO. D.L.-33004/99

सत्यमेव जयते

# भारत का राजपत्र

## The Gazette of India

सो.जी.-डी.एल.-अ. - 02062022-236243  
CG-DL-E-02062022-236243

असाधारण  
EXTRAORDINARY  
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप खण्ड (ii)  
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)  
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 2395] नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, जून 1, 2022/ ज्येष्ठ 11, 1944  
No. 2395] NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022/JYAISTHA 11, 1944

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
NOTIFICATION  
New Delhi, the 31st May, 2022

S.O. 2522(E).- In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Km. 123.21 to Km. 238.2 (o/o Tahasilidar , Dabugam) in the district of NABARANGPUR in the state of ODISHA, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under subsection(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Tahasilidar cum Land Acquisition Officer, Dabugam in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Km 123.21 to Km 238.2 (o/o Tahasilidar , Dabugam) in the district of NABARANGPUR in the state of ODISHA.

State : ODISHA		District : NABARANGPUR			
Sl. Number	Survey/Plot No.	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (In Local Unit)	Area (In Hectare)
Taluk: Dabugan					
Village: Ambaguda					
1	232	Private	Dhana/2	0.0056000(Hectare)	0.0056000
2	233	Private	Dhana/1	0.0968000(Hectare)	0.0968000
Village: Chhelibera					
1	162	Private	Dhana/1	0.0032000(Hectare)	0.0032000
2	294	Government	Patita	0.0017000(Hectare)	0.0017000
Village: Nandapura					
1	324	Government	Bada jungle	0.1355000(Hectare)	0.1355000
2	602	Private	Dhana/2	0.0012000(Hectare)	0.0012000
Village: Parasubeda					
1	289	Private	Dangara/2	0.0060000(Hectare)	0.0060000
2	314	Government	Patita	0.0010000(Hectare)	0.0010000
Village: Ramanaguda					
1	1499	Government	Patita	0.0136000(Hectare)	0.0136000
2	1538	Private	Dangara/2	0.0226000(Hectare)	0.0226000
3	760	Private	Dhana/3	0.0940000(Hectare)	0.0940000
4	908	Government	Rasta	0.0150000(Hectare)	0.0150000
Total				0.3962	0.3962

[F. No. NHA/11013/LA/PIU-SBP,Odisha/Raipur-Vizag/Notif.(3a)/3A03] RAJESH GUPTA, Director















of the day quote

**Tiranga Utsav** is a celebration of ideals and aspirations of the country  
**MANOJ SINHA** | JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The government is making all efforts to protect cattle amid the outbreak of lumpy skin disease  
**ASHOK GEHLOT** | RAJASTHAN CM

Nirmala Sitharaman tried to scare people by saying spending govt money on public welfare will destroy country  
**MANISH SISODIA** | DELHI DY CM

SHORT TAKES

Cop injured in terror attack

**Srinagar:** A special police officer (SPO) was injured in a militant attack Friday in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district. Police said the militants fired at SPO Ghulam Qadir from a close range in the Bijbehara area of Anantnag district. "He was shifted in an injured condition to Bijbehara hospital where attending doctors described his condition as critical. He is posted in police station Bijbehara town. "The area has been cordoned off for searches," police said.

Nigerian held

**Hyderabad:** The sleuths of the Hyderabad Narcotic Enforcement Wing (H-NEW), along with Narayanguda police, apprehended a Nigerian for drug peddling, an official said Friday. The peddler, identified as Osiuwe Chukwuemeka James, 37, was found in illegal possession of 30 grams of MDMA at Niyaz Khana near King Koti Hospital under Narayanguda police station limits. Police also seized four cell phones, Rs 4,000 cash, two one-dollar notes of Cayman Islands currency and a Qatari riyal note.

Youth arrested

**Chennai:** Police in Tamil Nadu's Tiruchi have arrested a 21-year-old youth for raping and impregnating a 16-year-old girl. According to the Tiruchi police, the two were in love. The youth, Prathap was a final year student of a private college and the girl was studying in Class 12. Police said that Prathap was arrested under the Prevention of Children against Sexual Offenses (Pocso) and remanded to judicial custody.

Three die in MP

**Sagar:** Three persons died after inhaling a poisonous gas on entering a well in a village in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar district, police said Friday. The incident took place in Piparia village, around 40 km from the district headquarters, on Thursday evening, an official said. The victims had entered the 60-feet deep well to remove a motor, but inhaled some poisonous gas emanating from it. The trio fell unconscious and drowned, Gourjhamar police station in-charge Anand Singh said.

11 children rescued

**Ranchi:** Eleven children and a woman trafficked from Jharkhand have been rescued from Delhi, an official release said Friday. Of the 12 people, 10 children and the woman belong to West Singhbhum district, while a boy hails from Simdega district, the release said. The nodal officer of Integrated Rehabilitation Resource Center (IRRC), New Delhi, Nachiket, said that there is a one and half-year-old girl among the children.



The ruling DMK's key initiative aimed at women, providing them free bus travel, should not be confined to a narrow aspect of freebies but it is an economic revolution  
**M K STALIN** | TN CM

STERN ACTION

As many as 40 road 'romeos' were beaten up in Jaipur on alleged charges of eve-teasing on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan. Those detained were made to tie 'rakhi' by girls and asked to apologise to them



Top JeM financier using social media to sow hatred

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, August 12:** Farhatullah Ghauri, a terrorist recruiter and financier for Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), has been using a network of accounts on Facebook, Telegram and YouTube to call on Muslims in India to revolt against the country, a detailed investigation by artificial intelligence (AI) startup Logically has found.

Ghauri is listed among 38 individuals as a terrorist by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (amended in 2019). The three encrypted Telegram channels, two associated Facebook pages, and three YouTube channels, operated by the Ghauri group, were all created this year.

The network was identified by Logically before it could accrue a significant audience peaking with



200-400 subscribers across all the accounts. During the course of the investigation, the content moderation teams took down one Telegram channel and one Facebook page linked to the group.

"The terrorist propaganda has circulated across other encrypted messaging channels on Telegram, including those affiliated with Islamabad-backed proxy terror groups claiming to operate in the Kashmir region, such as the Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) and The Resistance Front (TRF)," Logically said in a statement.

The company said that a closer scrutiny of the amplification patterns of the videos on Facebook since January 2022 suggests a concerted attempt by malicious actors to post the videos in Facebook groups and pages dedicated to socialism, Islam, and minority rights. "These groups are frequented by larger, more mainstream audiences of domestic users who are critical of the BJP-ruled government," said the report.

Moreover, these coordinated online campaigns coincide with offline incidents of communal violence in the country, revealing how malicious actors abroad are leveraging major social media platforms to exploit domestic tensions and radicalise the minority population.

"The terrorist propaganda amplified via these channels consists of professionally-edited videos with voice overs by Ghauri. Some of the videos engage with the rhetoric of Muslim minorities allegedly facing human rights violations by Indian security services in Jammu, Kashmir and other parts of the country," said the report.

"There are explicit calls by Ghauri to Indian Muslims to revolt and take up arms against the Indian state," the report mentioned. An analysis into the spread of the videos on Facebook between January 1 and July 1, 2022, via social media analysis tool CrowdTangle, revealed that videos from Ghauri's network were amplified across several mainstream Facebook groups and pages devoted to Islam, socialism, and minority rights.

"While platform officials took down these posts, the time-stamps on the posts in these groups and the use of similarly written captions and descriptions accompanying the video suggest the presence of a copy paste campaign by a single entity," said Logically.

As with its other accounts managed by the outfit, the extremist recruitment videos amplified on the Telegram channels were also accompanied by targeted hashtags to expose the content to Indian-Muslim users frequenting the platform. Also known as Abu Sufiyan, Ghauri is originally from Kurmaguda area of Hyderabad and primarily known for being a terrorist financier. He fled to Saudi Arabia in 1994 and finally settled in Pakistan in 2015.

Singh blamed the Congress for creating confusion by raising "non issues" such as change of guard. "We will form the government in Karnataka next year. There is no change of guard and the entire issue was created by D.K. Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah because they don't have an issue... Congress is a leader-less party. They don't have any agenda against the BJP... so they are trying to create such an issue that the CM will be changed. There is no truth into it."

When asked about some party MLAs talking about change of guard, Singh asserted that as state in-charge, he has said it many times that BJP will contest under leadership of chief minister Bommai and one has to believe him. "I told you... that we will contest the next election under the leadership of chief minister Bommai. He is doing good work for farmers, for youth, SCs and STs. We will come back with a full majority. We have set a target of 150 seats and we will achieve it," he said.

Bommai to lead BJP in elections

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, August 12:** Amid the speculation on change of guard in the state, BJP's Karnataka in-charge and general secretary Arun Singh on Friday said that the party will contest the next assembly election under the leadership of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Singh blamed the Congress for creating confusion by raising "non issues" such as change of guard. "We will form the government in Karnataka next year. There is no change of guard and the entire issue was created by D.K. Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah because they don't have an issue... Congress is a leader-less party. They don't have any agenda against the BJP... so they are trying to create such an issue that the CM will be changed. There is no truth into it."

When asked about some party MLAs talking about change of guard, Singh asserted that as state in-charge, he has said it many times that BJP will contest under leadership of chief minister Bommai and one has to believe him. "I told you... that we will contest the next election under the leadership of chief minister Bommai. He is doing good work for farmers, for youth, SCs and STs. We will come back with a full majority. We have set a target of 150 seats and we will achieve it," he said.

Hitting out at the Congress, Singh said: "Congress is a divided house and they are not on the ground. They are creating confusion. Congress is a party which believes in 'tape' and 'conspiracy' in Karnataka. "The issue of change in guard cropped up with the statement of Suresh Gowda, a former MLA from Tumakuru constituency

Avoid change in Taiwan's status quo, says India



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** India Friday said it was concerned over the developments around Taiwan and called for avoiding "unilateral actions" to change the status quo in the region, days after China held its biggest-ever military drills around the self-ruled island following US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to it.

In an apparent reference to a question on the "One-China" policy at a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India's relevant policies are well-known and they do not require reiteration.

It was India's first reaction following increasing tension between China and Taiwan after Pelosi's visit to the island last week. On the overall situation around Taiwan, Bagchi said India is for de-escalation of the tensions and pitched for efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region.

"Like many other countries, India too is concerned at recent developments," he said. "We urge the exercise of restraint, avoidance of unilateral actions to change status quo, de-escalation of tensions and efforts to maintain peace

and stability in the region," Bagchi said.

He further said: "India's relevant policies are well-known and consistent. They do not require reiteration." China held a mega air and naval exercise around Taiwan following Pelosi's trip, triggering fears of a major confrontation between the two sides.

China considers Taiwan as its breakaway province. The Taiwanese

Like many other countries, India too is concerned at recent developments

**ARINDAM BAGCHI** | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY SPOKESPERSON

government has alleged that China used the military exercise as a practice to attack the country in future. The US has been steadfast in its outreach to Taiwan in the face of increasing Chinese hostilities and reassuring Taipei of its continued support. India has been promoting ties with Taiwan in areas of trade, investment, tourism, culture, education and people-to-people exchanges. The volume of bilateral trade has grown nearly six fold from USD 1.19 billion in 2001 to almost USD 7.05 billion in 2018 and India ranks as Taiwan's 14th largest export destination and 18th largest source of imports, according to official data.

By end of 2018, around 106 Taiwanese companies were operating in India, with the total investment amounting to USD 1.5 billion in the fields of information and communication technology, medical devices, automobile components, machinery, steel, electronics, construction, engineering and financial services. The two sides have also set up teams for further expansion of ties in education as well as skill development training.

Woman tries to stop friend's travel for Euthanasia

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, August 12:** A 49-year-old woman from Kerala has approached the Delhi High Court to cancel the emigration clearance of her close friend, a 48-year-old man from Noida, who is allegedly planning to travel abroad for Euthanasia (Physician-assisted suicide).

The plea filed through Advocate Subhash Chandran KR contended that the man is diagnosed with Myalgic encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome which is a complex, debilitating, long-term neuroinflammatory disease. It is a poorly understood condition and it is in the early stages of research. The most common symptom is extreme tiredness. ME/CFS can affect



anyone, including children.

Studies say it is more common in women and tends to develop in the mid-40s. It's also common for people who have chronic fatigue syndrome to also have other health problems at the same time, such as sleep disorders, irritable bowel syndrome, fibromyalgia, depression, or anxiety. These being the nature of the disease, treatment focus on symptom relief, as per the plea.

In the earlier stage, the man was going through a treatment called Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT) in AIIMS, which was promising and giving significant improvement. FMT is considered to be safe, promising and effective treatment method for CFS related problems as the results show high success rate.

However, he could not continue it in the pandemic situation due to donor availability issues and this affects his confidence and hope.

His symptoms started in 2014 and his condition deteriorated over the past eight years. He is now completely bed-bound and just able to take a few steps inside the house.

I-DAY REHEARSAL



Security personnel during parade rehearsal ahead of Independence Day celebrations, at Veterinary college premises in Guwahati

PTI PHOTO

Man-elephant conflicts rising due to competition for resources: Yadav

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav Friday said human-elephant conflicts are increasing due to "competition for resources", with around 500 people in the country dying in elephant attacks and 100 jumbos "killed in retaliation" annually.

Addressing an event to mark the World Elephant Day at the Periyar National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala, the minister said India has emerged as a pioneer in elephant conservation and managing human-elephant conflicts is the major focus of the government.

"With competition for resources, (the number of) human-animal conflicts are increasing, and it is very unfortunate that around 500 people are killed in elephant attacks and 100 jumbos are killed in retaliation annually," Yadav said.

"Managing human-elephant conflict is the major focus of the government. The Narendra Modi gov-



Mahouts holding the national flag ride their elephants during an event on the occasion of World Elephant Day, at Manas National Park in Baksa district

ernment has increased the ex-gratia amount for families of those killed in elephant attacks from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.

"To find a long-term solution, we are revisiting the elephant corridors of the country and have finished more than 50 per cent of the task involving key stakeholders," he said.

According to government data presented in Parliament last month, 1,578 people have died in elephant

With competition for resources, (the number of) man-animal conflicts are increasing and it is very unfortunate that around 500 people are killed in elephant attacks and 100 jumbos are killed in retaliation annually

**BHUPENDER YADAV** | UNION ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

attacks in the country in the last three years.

The government said 222 elephants have died due to electrocution, 45 in train accidents, 29 due to poaching and 11 died due to poisoning during this period.

Yadav said India has done remarkably well in elephant conservation despite challenges. The country has 29,964 jumbos, according to the latest elephant census in 2017.

Boat tragedy in UP: 17 missing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Banda (UP), August 12:** Seventeen people are still missing while three bodies have been fished out, police said a day after a boat capsized in the Yamuna here.

Police confirmed that 13 people swam to safety as rescuers continue searching for those missing. Ramkaran and Sunil, who swam to safety, said they had set out to their in-laws' place with their wives to celebrate Raksha Bandhan when the boat overturned in the river at Samagara village in the district.

The incident took place when the boat was going from Marka to Jarauli Ghat in Fatehpur district. "When we reached the bank of the river, there was only one boat. It was around 3.10 pm and there was a rush of people crossing the river. About 50 people boarded the boat, which was also carrying three bikes and six cycles," Ramkaran said. K P Yadav, who is among the survivors, said he was going to Lucknow to her sister's place for Raksha Bandhan. He managed to overcome the river current with the help of a bamboo, Yadav said.

Alert patrolman averts major train disaster

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Mumbai, August 12:** An alert patrolman averted a possible railway mega-disaster with boulders breaking loose from the hills and hurtling on to the rail tracks in the western ghats near Lonavala, early on Friday, an official said.

According to the Central Railway (CR), some heavy boulders, measuring 1-2 metres, broke loose and crashed on the railway tracks between Nagnath-Palasdhari on the Lonavala-Karjat sector, around 1 a.m. The on-duty patrolman Motiram Lobhi detected the falling boulders, mud and stones blocking the railway line near the tunnel No. 26, around 111 kms from Mumbai. Acting quickly, he waved a red signal and stopped one train engine which was in the vicinity and took other necessary steps to protect the railway lines.

Then Lobhi called the higher officials and informed them of the incident as heavy rains continued to lash the ghats region for the past three-four days. A boulder train with equipment like stone-



breakers, safety gear was promptly dispatched to the site to inspect and initiate the track clearance and restoration works in the wee hours of today.

Several of the large boulders were split and removed and after carrying out other necessary repair works, the lines were finally restored for normal train operations around 8 a.m., said a CR Spokesperson. Meanwhile, several long-distance trains on both sides of the Mumbai-Pune sector were diverted to the third line owing to the mishap and suffered delays of between 30-60 minutes.



of the day quote

India expresses its concern over the reports of shelling near the spent fuel storage facility of the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant

**RUCHIRA KAMBOJ** | INDIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN

We expect that all provisions of the food agreements will be implemented in full and Western countries will create the necessary conditions for access of Russian fertilisers and food to global markets

**IVAN NECHAEV** | SPOKESMAN OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY

Inflicting hurt on any child during the course of conflict is deeply disturbing, and the killing and maiming of so many children this year is unconscionable

**MICHELLE BACHELET** | UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

SHORT TAKES

SK to pardon Samsung's Lee

**Seoul:** South Korea's president will pardon Samsung heir Lee Jae-yong with a year left on his sentence for bribing a president as part of a massive corruption scandal that toppled her government, the justice minister announced Friday. Lotte Group Chairman Shin Dong-bin and two other top business leaders will be pardoned as well, extending South Korea's history of leniency toward convicted business tycoons and major white-collar crimes. They are among some 1,700 people President Yoon Suk Yeol will pardon Monday, a national holiday celebrating Korea's liberation from Japanese colonial rule at the end of World War II.

Gang violence leaves 11 dead

**Mexico City:** A gang riot inside a border prison that left two inmates dead quickly spread to the streets of Ciudad Juarez where alleged gang members killed nine more people, including four employees of a radio station, security officials said Friday. The federal government's security undersecretary, Ricardo Mejía Berdeja, said the violence started inside the state prison after 1 pm Thursday, when member of the Mexicles gang attacked members of the rival Chapos. Two inmates were killed and 20 injured.

HK population shrinks for 2nd yr

**Hong Kong:** Hong Kong's government says its population has shrunk for a second year as anti-virus controls hampered the inflow of new workers and births declined, but it made no mention of an exodus of residents following a crackdown on a pro-democracy movement. The population as of mid-2022 declined by 1.6% from a year earlier to 7,291,600, the Census & Statistics Department announced Thursday. It said there was a net outflow of 113,200 residents while only 18,300 new residents arrived.

NZ welcomes back 1st cruise ship

**Wellington:** New Zealand Friday welcomed the first cruise ship to return since the coronavirus pandemic began, signaling a long-sought return to normalcy for the nation's tourism industry. New Zealand closed its borders in early 2020 as it sought at first to eliminate COVID-19 entirely and then later to control its spread.



Humanitarian needs are at an all-time high, and aid workers are working in ever more dangerous environments  
**MARTIN GRIFFITHS** | UN EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR

NEW WATER STRATEGY

Drought-stricken California has announced a new water strategy to adapt to hotter, drier conditions, as officials believe extreme weather could diminish water supply by up to 10 per cent by 2040 in the most populous US state



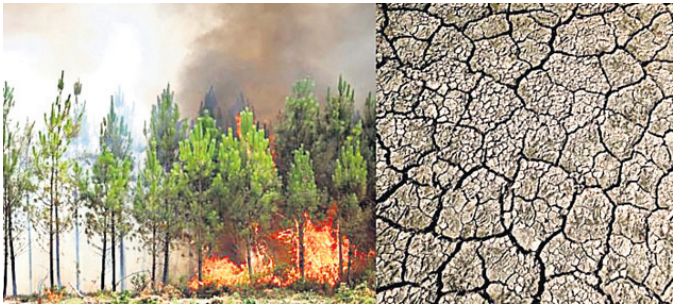
Drought in England, fires rage in France

AGENCIES

**France, August 12:** Firefighters from across Europe came to France's rescue on Friday to battle a massive wildfire, while fire also raged in Portugal and parts of England faced a severe drought, as successive heatwaves renewed the focus on climate change risks.

Much of Europe has faced weeks of baking temperatures that have also depleted water levels of the Rhine River in Germany and seen the source of Britain's River Thames dry up further downstream than in previous years.

High temperatures and a worsening drought brought a high risk of new fires breaking out in Gironde, in southwestern France, local officials said, even after an overnight reprieve held in check the wildfire that has been burning for days, scorched thousands of hectares and displaced 10,000 people. Firefighters from Germany, Romania, Greece and beyond were on the ground to help France battle the fire in the region - home to Bordeaux wine - as well as on other fronts, including in Brittany



FIREFIGHTERS FROM ACROSS EUROPE HELP FRANCE WITH MONSTER FIRE

DROUGHT OFFICIALLY DECLARED IN PARTS OF ENGLAND

EUROPE HIT BY SUCCESSIVE HEATWAVES

SEVERAL LARGE FOREST FIRES ALSO RAGED IN FRANCE'S NORTHERN REGIONS THIS SUMMER

in the northwest.

"It doesn't matter the country, we are firefighters and we are there to help," said chief Romanian firefighter Cristian Buhaianu, in Gironde.

French commandant Stephanie Martin welcomed their support in an area that already battled a massive fire for weeks last month. "Our firefighters are tired after one month of fighting. It is really good

support for us, so we can also focus on the other operation," she said.

But while an expected end of France's third heatwave on Sunday could bring some relief, the fire has already left much destruction in its wake, including over 7,400 hectares (18,286 acres) of forest burnt to the ground - equivalent to the size of a major French city such as Nice.

What firefighters called a "monster fire" also destroyed houses, including the ancestral home of the family of 19-year old student Juliette Pilain, from Belin-Beliet, in the heart of Gironde.

TOUGH SITUATION

From dry and cracked reservoirs in Spain to falling water levels on major arteries like the Danube, the Rhine and the Po, an unprecedented drought is afflicting nearly half of the European continent. There has been no significant rainfall for almost two months in western, central and southern Europe. In typically rainy Britain, the government officially declared a drought across southern and central England on Friday amid one of the hottest and driest summers on record.

"It is complicated to process this news. It's a house that's been in the family for years, it's especially painful for my grandparents," Pilain told Reuters.

"We had all the furniture of my great-grandparents there, books and encyclopaedia belonging to my

Unsurprisingly, Boris hasn't returned my calls: Sunak

AGENCIES

**London, August 12:** Rishi Sunak has revealed that his former boss, Boris Johnson, has not returned any of his messages and calls since he resigned from his Cabinet as Chancellor, implying tension between the duo as the British Indian former minister battles it out in a tough race to be elected the next leader of the UK's governing Conservative Party.



Sunak, who is going head-to-head with Foreign Secretary Liz Truss in the race to succeed Johnson as British Prime Minister, was asked if he had spoken to the outgoing Prime Minister in recent weeks at a Tory members hustings at Cheltenham in the south-west of England Thursday night. During a questions session with each candidate separately, "The Daily Telegraph" associate editor Camilla Tominey as the moderator asked Sunak his views on the ongoing parliamentary investigation into whether Johnson misled Parliament over the partygate

scandal of COVID rule-breaking parties at Downing Street. "It's a parliamentary process, not a government process and I fully respect the MPs on the committee [Commons Privileges Committee] to make the right decisions," the 42-year-old former minister replied.

"I personally believe very strongly in high standards. One of the things I would do immediately as Prime Minister is re-instate an independent adviser for ministerial interests because everyone needs to know that trust, integrity and decency belong at the heart of politics and I will lead from the front," he said, to applause from the audience made up of many of those who will be voting in the election to elect a new Tory leader.

Tominey followed that up to ask if he had spoken to Johnson since, to which he replied: "I have messaged and called but, unsurprisingly, he hasn't returned my calls." Sunak had quit his role as finance minister in early July, citing standards and integrity as the reason as well as differences of opinion on the direction of the economy. It set in motion a series of other resignations from Cabinet which eventually forced Johnson to announce his own resignation as Tory leader and Prime Minister, launching the party's leadership election.



A supermoon rises behind the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Francisco skyline as seen from Sausalito, Calif

PTI PHOTO

Gunman in Montenegro kills 11 after family dispute: Police

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Cetinje (Montenegro), August 12:** A man in Montenegro went on a shooting rampage after a family dispute, killing 11 people on the streets of a city before being shot dead in a gun battle with police, Montenegro state TV reported Friday, quoting police



sources. State TV RTCG reported that the 34-year-old gunman

wounded another six people, including a policeman, in the city of Cetinje's Medovina neighbourhood near the seat of the former royal government. The city is 36 kilometers (22 miles) west of Podgorica, the current capital of the small Balkan nation.

RTCG, quoting witnesses, said the attacker was randomly shoot-

ing at people walking in the street, including at children. Four of the wounded were transferred to a hospital in Cetinje while two others with serious wounds were sent to the Clinical Center in Podgorica. The site of the attack was blocked off by police. Police still have not issued an official statement about the attack.

Trump premises searched for papers related to 'N-weapons'

*FBI agents searched Trump's home in an unprecedented first for a US President Monday, according to a statement from Trump, who called it a raid in a political ploy to both discredit it and rile up his base with a familiar story of victimhood he had used against the Russia investigation and his double impeachment*

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Washington, August 12:** FBI agents were looking for documents relating to nuclear weapons, among others, in the unprecedented search they conducted of the premises of former US President Donald Trump earlier this week in Florida, according to a stunning news report.

Neither the Justice Department, which oversees the FBI, nor the investigating agency denied or confirmed the Thursday evening report by The Washington Post.

The newspaper sourced the report to multiple officials - all unidentified - involved in the investigation of the case that caused the search but gave no further details of the kind of nuclear weapons documents sought by the agents.

Government officials are worried that these documents could fall in the wrong hands at Trump's Florida home that is also a club fre-

quented by members.

Trump has held on to an undisclosed volume of documents from his presidency that he is required to have turned in for archiving by the government. The National Archive, which is the repository of these documents, has been following up with him and his aides for months.

FBI agents searched Trump's home in an unprecedented first for a US President on Monday, according to a statement from Trump, who called it a raid in a political ploy to both discredit it and rile up his base with a familiar story of victimhood he had used against the Russia investigation and his double impeachment.

As allies and followers predictably poured scorn and outrage on the "raid", Trump and his lawyers did not tell them and the country the details that were avail-



able to them by way of the search warrant issued by a federal judge, which would have contained the grounds for it, or the itemised list of articles taken by the FBI - at least 15 boxes - that were duly provided to them.

Trump was once again the hounded hero for his followers - including many lawmakers - who had no idea why his premises were searched.

US Attorney General Merrick Garland, who heads the Justice Department that has oversight of the FBI, called the former

President's bluff.

Garland said in rare public remarks - the Justice Department doesn't comment on ongoing investigation - said the government has filed a motion in a Florida federal court asking for unsealing the search warrant and all related documents. He offered no details of the investigation.

Late Thursday night, however, the former President said in a post on Truth Social, "Release the Documents Now!"

A Florida court is expected to announce a decision later Friday.

Security concerns bring China closer to Taliban

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Islamabad, August 12:** The severe isolation of Afghanistan since the Taliban captured the country's capital a year ago has provided China an opportunity to become a major player in the country, the media reported.

Beijing has joined the international community in urging Kabul's new rulers to implement reforms, such as forming an inclusive government with representation for all Afghan ethnicities and respect for women's rights, particularly when it comes to education and work, VOA reported.

But China has also promised the Taliban regime economic and development support in exchange for attention to Chinese security concerns - especially in restraining any Uyghur militant groups in Afghanistan from targeting Chinese interests, particularly Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) projects, in the region, VOA reported.

Before the collapse of the Ashraf Ghani-led government, Beijing had a close working relationship with Kabul, and Afghan security forces helped monitor and target Uyghur militant groups at China's request. But since the Taliban's takeover in August last year, Beijing has begun to engage with the new rulers because it does not want terrorism to spill over from



Afghanistan into China or target its interests in the region.

As no country has yet recognised the Taliban as Afghanistan's legitimate rulers, the millions of dollars in aid that helped prop up the previous government have vanished, billions in state assets are frozen, and economic sanctions have led to a near-collapse of the country's economy.

In this situation, the Taliban administration actively courts Chinese investment and financial support, VOA reported.

More than seeking a role in post-US Afghanistan, Beijing is worried about the possibility of attacks planned by militant groups such as the Turkistan Islamic Party (TIP), a Uyghur militant group that Beijing blames for unrest in its western province of Xinjiang and refers to by its former name, the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM). The TIP seeks to liberate Xinjiang and the Uyghur people from Chinese government control and carries out attacks on Chinese interests.



## of the day quote

While India ranks third globally in the startup ecosystem, after the US and China, the country now has close to 49 per cent of startups coming from the tier 2 and 3 cities

JITENDRA SINGH | UNION MINISTER

KEL has decided to form this subsidiary so that dedicated resources and funds can be deployed to evolve the correct strategy for a long term sustainable and expansive future

AJINKYA FIRODIA | MD, KINETIC ENGINEERING LTD

As the country enters the festive season, we expect the two-wheeler demand to be on a healthy trajectory supported by micro factors like normal monsoon, crop cycle, opening of all sectors of the economy etc

NIRANJAN GUPTA | CFO, HERO MOTOCORP

## SHORT TAKES

### Meesho adds Odia to its platform

**New Delhi:** Softbank-backed e-commerce firm Meesho has added eight new vernacular languages to its platform with an eye on 377 million potential users across different regions, the company said Friday. Meesho has added Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia to its platform to target regional users. With this, Meesho customers can select their preferred language for accessing the account and product information, placing and tracking orders, and making payments on android phones.

### Dabur Chairman Burman resigns

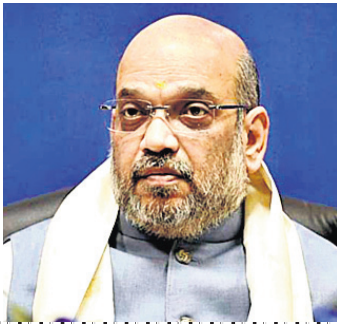
**Mumbai:** Dabur India Friday said Amit Burman has stepped down as the company's Chairman and Mohit Burman has taken over as the Non-Executive Chairman. Amit Burman would continue to be the Non-Executive Director of the company, according to a regulatory filing. Mohit Burman has been appointed as the Non-Executive Chairman for five years with effect from August 11. He is currently the Non-Executive Vice Chairman of the company. Amit Burman had taken over as the Chairman of Dabur India in 2019.

### Palm oil imports fall; Soyil zooms

**Mumbai:** India's palm oil imports in July fell 10% from a month ago, as refiners ramped up purchases of rival soyoil to take advantage of New Delhi's move to allow duty-free imports of the vegetable oil to calm all-time high prices, a trade body said Friday. India's palm oil imports in July fell to 530,420 tonne from 590,921 tonne a month earlier, the Solvent Extractors' Association of India said. Soyoil imports in July jumped 125% from a month ago to a record 519,566 tonne, while sunflower oil imports rose 30% to 155,300 tonne.

### Pak forex falls to near 3-yr low

**Islamabad:** The State Bank of Pakistan's foreign currency reserves fell to their lowest level in almost three years at \$7.83 billion as of August 5 from \$8.385 billion a week earlier on debt payments, data from the central bank showed. The foreign reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan dropped by \$555 million or 6.6 per cent on a weekly basis due to increased debt payments and a lack of external financing, The News reported. The central bank's data showed reserves plunged to their lowest level since October 2019.



There is a need to establish more than 2 lakh new primary agriculture credit societies across the country to achieve the target of providing agri-finance worth ₹10 lakh crore through cooperatives

AMIT SHAH | HOME AND COOPERATION MINISTER

## BOM TOPS LIST OF PSU LENDERS

Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has emerged as the top performer among the public sector lenders in terms of the loan and deposit growth in percentage terms during the first quarter of 2022-23. It has recorded a 27.10 per cent increase in gross advances. It was followed by the Indian Overseas Bank and Bank of Baroda. The country's largest lender SBI stood at the fourth spot



# Trade deficit at record \$30bn

India's trade deficit has widened sharply in recent months because of high global commodity prices. This has put pressure on the rupee's exchange rate, which has hit multiple all-time lows against the US dollar over the last few weeks and crossed the 80-per-dollar mark for the first time July 19

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** India's exports rose by 2.14 per cent to \$36.27 billion in July while the trade deficit almost tripled to \$30 billion during the month due to over 70 per cent rise in crude oil imports, according to official data released Friday.

Imports shot up by 43.61 per cent to \$66.27 billion in the month compared to July 2021, the data showed. The trade deficit was \$10.63 billion in July 2021.

Preliminary data released earlier this month had shown a 0.76 per cent contraction in exports at \$35.24 billion for July.

However, exports during April-July 2022-23 rose by 20.13 per cent to \$157.44 billion. Imports during the four months increased by 48.12 per cent to \$256.43 billion. The trade deficit stood at \$98.99 billion as against \$42 billion during April-July 2021-22.

Imports of crude and petroleum products during July this year were \$21.13 billion, up 70.4 per cent compared to \$12.4 billion in July 2021.



Merchandise exports are facing a triple whammy. There is again a shift in consumption from goods to the services with opening up of economies after pandemic; the inflation affecting all economies reducing the purchasing power and many economies entering the recession while some advanced ones already in recession

A SAKTHIVEL | PRESIDENT, FEDERATION OF INDIAN EXPORT ORGANISATIONS

EXPORTS RISE BY 2.14% TO \$36.27 BILLION IN JULY

IMPORTS JUMP BY 43.61% TO \$66.27 BILLION YOY

THE TRADE DEFICIT WAS \$10.63 BILLION IN JULY 2021

Imports of coal, coke and briquettes shot up more than twofold to \$5.2 billion while that of vegetable oil rose 47.18 per cent to \$2 billion in July this year.

Inbound shipments of gold, however, declined by 43.6 per cent to \$2.37 billion compared to 4.2 billion in July 2021.

Exports of engineering goods; petroleum products; gems and jewellery; and drugs and pharma-

ceuticals, contracted in July 2022 year-on-year.

On the export front, sectors which recorded positive growth include petroleum products, leather, electronic goods, and coffee.

Engineering, gems and jewellery, plastic, cashew and carpet segments witnessed a fall.

According to the data, the estimated value of services export for July 2022 is \$24.91 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 28.69 per cent year-on-year. Imports are es-

## Forex reserves drop \$897mn to \$572.978bn

**Mumbai:** The country's foreign exchange reserves declined \$897 million to \$572.978 billion in the week ended August 5, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). In the previous week ended July 29, the reserves had risen \$2.315 billion to \$573.875 billion. In the week ended August 5, the fall in the foreign exchange reserves was due to a dip in the Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves, as per the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by RBI Friday. FCA declined \$1.611 billion to \$509.646 billion, the data showed. Expressed in dollar terms, FCA includes the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves. Gold reserves increased \$671 million to \$40.313 billion in the week ended August 5. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) rose \$46 million to \$18.031 billion. The country's reserve position with the IMF declined \$3 million to \$4.987 billion in the reporting week, the data showed.

estimated at \$15.95 billion, a growth of 40.02 per cent.

## CHIP SITUATION IMPROVES

# Auto sales rise 11% in July

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** The passenger vehicle despatches to dealers increased by 11 per cent in July as improvement in semiconductor supplies helped the companies to ramp up production ahead of the festive season, auto dealers' body SIAM said Friday.

Overall passenger vehicle wholesales increased to 2,93,865 units last month compared to 2,64,442 units in July 2021. Passenger car despatches rose 10 per cent to 1,43,522 units in July from 1,30,080 units in the year-ago period.

Utility vehicle wholesales grew 11 per cent to 1,37,104 units last month from 1,24,057 units in the same period last year. Van



despatches also increased to 13,239 units from 10,305 units in July 2021.

The total two-wheeler despatches rose 10 per cent to 13,81,303 units from 12,60,140 units. Scooter wholesales climbed to 4,79,159 units against 3,73,695 units. Similarly, motorcycle wholesales increased to 8,70,028 units in July compared to 8,37,166 units a year ago.

Three-wheeler despatches to deal-

Sales of two-wheelers in July 2022 are still below July 2016 numbers and sales of three-wheelers are still below the July 2006 numbers. The third hike in a repo rate in a row, to rein in high inflation, will make auto loans costlier, making it more difficult for entry-level vehicles to recover

RAJESH MENON | DIRECTOR GENERAL, SIAM

ers also increased to 31,324 units from 18,132 units a year earlier.

Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) Director General Rajesh Menon noted that the market for entry-level passenger cars, two-wheelers and three-wheelers is yet to recover.

## LIC Q1 net profit jumps multifold

**Mumbai:** Life Insurance Corporation of India Friday reported a multifold jump in its June quarter net profit at ₹682.89 crore. The state-run life insurance behemoth, which went public recently, had a net profit of ₹2.94 crore in the year-ago period. The first-year premium for the reporting quarter came at ₹7,429 crore as against ₹5,088 crore in the year-ago period, it said in an exchange filing after its board meeting. The total income came at ₹1,68,881 crore for the June quarter as against ₹1,54,153 crore in the year-ago period, it said. The net profit had come at ₹2,371 crore, first year premium stood at ₹14,614 crore and total income stood at ₹2,11,451 crore in the March quarter. LIC shares closed 0.03 per cent down at ₹682.15 apiece on the BSE Friday against 0.22 per cent gain on benchmark Sensex.

## BUMPER OIL, GAS PRICES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** India's top oil and gas producer ONGC Friday reported a tripling of net profit in the June quarter as it earned record prices before the government slapped a tax on wind-fall profits arising from a global rally in energy rates.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) standalone net profit at ₹15,205.85 crore, or ₹12.09 per share, in April-June, compared to ₹4,334.75 crore, or ₹3.45 a share, in the same period a year back, according to a stock exchange filing

## ONGC net triples to ₹15k-cr



by the company. Sequentially, the profit was

higher than the ₹8,859.54 crore net profit of January-March.

The earnings rose as the company got \$108.54 per barrel price for crude oil it sold in the quarter as opposed to \$65.59 a barrel rate realised in the same period last year. Gas price realisation more than doubled to \$6.1 per million British thermal unit from \$1.79.

International energy prices have been elevated since Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, raising concerns about global shortages given the nation's role as a key commodities supplier, especially to Europe.

# July retail inflation moderates to 6.71%

THE RETAIL INFLATION IS ABOVE RBI'S UPPER TOLERANCE LEVEL OF 6 PER CENT AND HAS REMAINED AT THAT LEVEL FOR THE PAST SEVEN MONTHS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** Retail inflation softened to 6.71 per cent in July due to moderation in food prices but remained above the Reserve Bank's comfort level of 6 per cent for the seventh consecutive month.

With retail inflation continuing to remain high despite a fall in prices of vegetables and edible oils, among other commodities in July, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) might go for another rate hike in September.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation was at 7.01 per cent in June and 5.59 per cent in July 2021. It was above 7 per cent from April to June this fiscal.

According to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) Friday, food inflation in July moderated to 6.75 per cent as against 7.75 per cent in June.

RBI has hiked the benchmark repo rate thrice in a row and the rate is now at 5.4%.

Meanwhile, the moderation in retail inflation in July was mainly due to easing of vegetable and edible oil prices. In the case of 'fuel and light', the prices remained high.

Fears of a global recession and fresh geopolitical uncertainties have led to a correction in commodity prices from the peaks seen in mid-June 2022, rating agency ICRA's Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said.

Services account for over 23.4 per cent of CPI basket.

According to the data, inflation in vegetables and 'oil and fats' in



## 18% GST on rent for biz entities, govt clarifies

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, August 12:** The Centre Friday issued a clarification regarding GST on house rent, noting renting of a residential unit is taxable only when it is given to a business entity.

Responding to news reports, claiming that tenants would now have to pay 18 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on house rent, the Government's official fact-checker said such claims were misleading.

PIB Fact Check clarified on Twitter that there would be no GST when a house is rented to a private person for personal use, and not even when the proprietor or partner of a firm wants to rent a residence for personal use.

"Renting of residential units taxable only when it is rented to a business entity. No GST when it is rented to a private person for personal use. No GST even if the proprietor or partner of a firm rents residence for personal use," PIB Fact Check tweeted from its official handle.

GST registration is needed when any person carries on business or profession and makes an annual turnover more than the threshold limit defined under the GST law.



# British economy closes in on recession

Bank of England expects the economy to enter a year-long recession by the end 2022 as Britons endure a cost-of-living crisis with inflation at its highest level in decades

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**London, August 12:** Britain's economy shrank in the second quarter; official data showed Friday, as the country heads towards recession under a new prime minister. UK gross domestic product dropped 0.1 percent in the April-June period after a rise of 0.8 percent in the first quarter, the Office for National Statistics said in a statement.

The Bank of England (BoE) expects the economy to enter a year-long recession by the end 2022 as Britons endure a cost-of-living crisis with inflation at its highest level in decades.

"With May's growth revised down a little and June showing a notable fall, overall the economy shrank slightly in the second quarter," said ONS director of economic statistics Darren Morgan.

"Health was the biggest reason the economy contracted as both the (Covid) test and trace and vaccine programmes were wound down, while many retailers also had a tough quarter."

Morgan said this was "partially offset by growth in hotels, bars, hairdressers and outdoor events across the quarter, partly as a result of people celebrating the Platinum



UK GDP DROPPED 0.1% IN THE APRIL-JUNE PERIOD

UK ECONOMY SLUMPED 0.6% IN JUNE

Jubilee" that marked Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years on the throne.

The ONS added that the UK economy slumped 0.6 percent in June.

New Prime Minister

Following Friday's data, finance minister Nadhim Zahawi said he was "determined to work with the

Bank of England to get inflation under control and grow the economy". But Prime Minister Boris Johnson will not make "major fiscal interventions" before leaving office next month, his spokesman said. Johnson, who announced he would step down Sept 6 is set to hand power to either Liz Truss or Rishi Sunak.

Foreign Secretary Truss and Sunak - Zahawi's predecessor as chancellor of the exchequer - have clashed over how to address the crisis. Truss plans an emergency budget to lower taxes and to review the independent BoE's inflation-fighting mandate. But Sunak said tax cuts financed with more borrowing would force the bank to increase interest rates even more, insisting on the need to maintain fiscal rigour and tame the price pressures first.



RETURN OF RAHUL, KOHLI COMPLICATES SELECTION OF PLAYING XI AHEAD OF T20 WORLD CUP

# Team combination in question



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** Even one year back it was beyond imagination that Virat Kohli's place in the Indian team could be questioned. Kohli is fit and available but perhaps for the first time in a decade, the former India captain's presence in the playing eleven could be a point of discussion in cricketing circle.

The T20 World Cup in the UAE last year was an unmitigated disaster and it was largely due to India's archaic batting philosophy at the top of the order. The runs scored did not come at a good pace.

It was debated if KL Rahul, Rohit

and Kohli are the ideal No.1, 2, and 3 in the shortest format and the answer received from most quarters wasn't exactly in the affirmative.

A good 10 months down line, the Indian team management finds itself at the same crossroads with another edition set to commence in October.

If India repeats its top three in Asia Cup and the T20 World Cup, then one of the three other top T20 performers – Rishabh Pant, Suryakumar Yadav and Dinesh Karthik – would find it tough to stay inside playing XI.

Pant has that 'x-factor', Suryakumar has a bonafide 360

degree hitter and Karthik is a designated finisher. Can India ill-afford to drop any one of the three if Kohli or Rahul has to be slotted? It is an important question and till now there hasn't been any definitive answer.

Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja's positions as all-rounders seem non-negotiable and at least four specialist bowlers are required in the line-up. That leaves India with the option of only five specialist batters and hence the big question – who to drop?

The bigger question is whether the team management will let Kohli play his own game which is to build the innings and accelerate after

getting set. But across formats, Kohli is getting out before getting set though he keeps hitting those delectable boundaries.

The team's philosophy has now changed completely and even skipper Rohit has tweaked his game upfront to suit the needs of Powerplay batting in the slam-bang format.

In fact from the England series, Rohit has scored mostly at 150 plus strike-rate with Pant and Suryakumar Yadav as his opening partners in two different series. Both looked comfortable in that new position and Suryakumar was a touch better than Pant during the recently-concluded West

Indies series.

Then there is immensely talented Deepak Hooda, who has also scored a hundred as an opener although it was against minnows Ireland. Hooda has shown his class at No.3 although he won't be a starter going into the Asia Cup as of now but his tight off-breaks and steady fielding will keep him in the mix.

KL Rahul seems to have rushed himself for the Zimbabwe tour, declaring that he is available after attaining fitness. If sources close to selection committee are to be believed, Rahul will open in Asia Cup but he is a bit jittery going into high stakes game against Pakistan August 28 in Asia Cup without any tangible game time.

Hence, he has rushed himself (medical team announced he is now fit although earlier it was said his recovery would take more time) into the Zimbabwe ODI series, where he would get to bat for lengthy time to be ready for the tournament.

But Rahul despite his stupendous T20 numbers has always been an accumulator, who plays at a certain pace in the first 10 overs and only ups the ante in the final five overs. He has been a phenomenal run-machine for years at the IPL and has an international strike-rate of 142. The overall numbers look good but the team's philosophy has now changed.

In case of Pant, if cricket would have been a game of pure statistics, he would have been under the sledgehammer for the underwhelming numbers. But big tournaments are often as much about consistency as it is about that one piece of magic that can turn the table on a big day.

In case of Suryakumar, after that innings in Nottingham where he pulled off a near miraculous chase, no one can question his inclusion, considering his 360 degree shot playing ability.

This brings us to Dinesh karthik, who has hardly set a foot wrong since he is back in the mix. On Australian tracks with less lateral movement and even bounce, Karthik will surely have his good days.

## FIFA, Qatar urged to compensate workers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Beirut, August 12:** With 100 days to go until the World Cup starts in Qatar, Human Rights Watch Friday again urged FIFA and the host nation to improve compensation for migrant workers and their families.

The rights group called for a "comprehensive remedy program for workers who suffered serious harms, including deaths, injuries, and wage theft" while working on World Cup-related projects like stadiums, transport and hotels.

Qatar has spent tens of billions of dollars on infrastructure since being picked by FIFA as host in 2010, and faced intense scrutiny of its labor laws and treatment of hundreds of thousands of workers, many from south Asia, who were needed to come to the tiny emirate and build the projects.

"Qatar has compensated some migrant workers who have faced serious abuses in recent years, but for many, these programs were created too late and are still a major work in progress," said Michael Page, HRW's deputy director for the Middle East.

Since 2010, the agency claimed, the level of "uncompensated human rights abuses... is significant."

In Qatar, a Workers' Support Fund has since 2020 paid out USD 164 million in compensation to 36,373 workers from 17 different countries, HRW said citing data from Qatar's Ministry of Labor.

The organization did not specify a figure for how much compensation is still needed, though Amnesty International has suggested FIFA should pay USD 440 million in reparations to workers — matching the sum soccer's world body will pay in prize money to the 32 national



FIFA WORLD CUP  
Qatar 2022

federations whose teams are playing in Qatar.

FIFA and tournament organizers have long cited the World Cup as a catalyst to modernize laws and society in Qatar.

Responding to Amnesty in May, Qatari organizers pointed to "significant improvements ... across accommodation standards, health and safety regulations, grievance mechanisms, healthcare provision, and reimbursements of illegal recruitment fees to workers."

In another development, FIFA has formally moved the World Cup start up by one day to give host nation Qatar an exclusive Sunday evening slot with a global audience.

Qatar will now play Ecuador in Doha November 20 — just 101 days after FIFA's decision — stretching the World Cup to 29 days from the 28 agreed seven years ago when a June-July tournament was pushed back to avoid the searing desert heat in midsummer.

The surprise late switch was signed off by a FIFA committee comprising its president Gianni Infantino and presidents of the six continental soccer bodies. FIFA said the vote was unanimous.



## Inaugural WIPL edition to be held March 2023

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** The much-awaited Women's IPL will be starting from March 2023 to be held in a one-month window and in all likelihood with five teams, a senior BCCI official confirmed the development Friday.

The BCCI bigwigs have discussed the issue and a March window has been found for the tournament after the Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa.

"Yes, the WIPL will start in the first week of March and we have earmarked a four-week window for the first year. The T20 World Cup in South Africa is from February 9 to 26 and immediately after that we plan to hold the WIPL," a senior BCCI official privy to development told this agency on conditions of anonymity.

"As of now, we are going ahead with five teams but it could be six as there is a lot of interest among potential investors. In due course of time, the process of auctioning of teams will be announced," he added.

Both BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah in separate interviews to PTI had earlier confirmed that 2023 is the year when WIPL would start. A lot of cricket lovers believe that WIPL will bring in a revolution and the



standard of women's cricket in India will have a quantum leap.

"I am thrilled at the kind of response we have got from the stakeholders. Multiple existing IPL teams have enquired and expressed serious interest in owning WIPL franchises," Shah had said in an interview to PTI some time back.

Before that, Ganguly had also expressed his confidence about the start of the WIPL in 2023. "I strongly believe that next year i.e. 2023 will be a very good time to start a full-fledged women's IPL which will be as big and grand a success as men's IPL," he had said.

It is understood that teams like Mumbai Indians, Rajasthan Royals, Chennai Super Kings have all expressed their interest in buying teams. Even UTV big boss Ronnie Screwvala had tweeted that he would be interested in buying a WIPL franchise.

## Barca sell more assets to register players

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Barcelona, August 12:** Barcelona have sold off even more of their club assets in the hopes of meeting the Spanish league's financial rules so Robert Lewandowski and its other signings can play in the season opener.

Barcelona said Friday that it had agreed to sell 24.5 per cent of their Barca Studios production hub to Orpheus Media in a deal that would earn it 100 million euros (USD 103 million).

Last month Barcelona sold an initial 25 per cent stake in their production hub to 'socios.com', a blockchain provider, for another 100 million euros as well as 25 per cent of their Spanish league television rights for the next 25 years for nearly 670 million euros (USD 689 million).

All told, the heavily indebted Catalan club has mortgaged their future for 870 million euros (USD 895 million) in order to sign Lewandowski from Bayern Munich along with other talented newcomers.

Regarding the sale of nearly 50 per cent of their production hub, Barcelona said in a statement that "with this investment the strategic partners in Barca Studios show confidence in the value of the project and the future of digital content in the world of sport."

It also comes with Barcelona yet to register their new signings



with the Spanish league. Barcelona will open the season Saturday at home against Rayo Vallecano.

Thanks to the money they have made by selling their assets, Barcelona has been able to strengthen their squad by signing Lewandowski, winger Raphinha and defender Jules Kounde for a combined 160 million euros (USD 165 million).

But the Spanish league has strict financial requirements that limit the amount clubs can spend on players' salaries and transfers based on the clubs' financial health. Despite efforts to reduce costs and pay down its debt, Barcelona still hold 1 billion euros (USD 1 billion)

in debt and has seen their salary cap slashed by the league in recent seasons.

So, as of Friday morning, it had not registered Lewandowski, Raphinha, Kounde, free agent arrivals Franck Kessie and Andreas Christensen, or Ousmane Dembele and Sergi Roberto, who both signed new contracts recently after their old ones had expired and so are considered new signings by the league.

This new injection of another 100 million euros should help Barcelona's financial balance that they present to the league and increase their chances of being able to register all those players.

The club is also pushing to sell

players such as Samuel Umtiti and Martin Braithwaite that are either unwanted by coach Xavi Hernandez or have big salaries like Frenkie de Jong.

Teams have until the end of the month to register new players if they want to play in the Spanish league this season. Real Betis is also still waiting to register several players.

Barcelona club president Joan Laporta said recently that he was confident that his club will be able to field their latest acquisitions. But it would be yet another blow to Barcelona's reputation if their star signings are not able to play at Camp Nou Saturday.

## VVS Laxman will be head coach in Zimbabwe: Shah

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, August 12:** National Cricket Academy (NCA) head VVS Laxman will be India's acting head coach for the upcoming tour of Zimbabwe as there is only a short turnaround time between the series and the Asia Cup starting August 27 in the UAE, BCCI secretary Jay Shah said Friday.

"Yes, VVS Laxman will be in charge of the Indian team in Zimbabwe for the three-match ODI series. It's not like Rahul Dravid is taking a break. The ODI series in Zimbabwe finishes August 22 and Dravid along with Indian team will reach the UAE August 23. Since there is little gap between the two events, Laxman will be in charge of the Indian squad in Zimbabwe," BCCI secretary Shah told this agency Friday.



"Since only KL Rahul and Deepak Hooda are there with the ODI squad in Zimbabwe, it was only logical that the head coach would be with the T20 squad." The three ODIs in Zimbabwe will be played in Harare, August 18, 20 and 22.

Shah also informed that Rahul and Hooda will directly fly from Dubai to Harare as they are part of the Asia Cup squad.

The convention in BCCI has been that second string or A teams have always been monitored by the head of the NCA and hence Laxman will be with the Indian squad when the first team is on assignment elsewhere.

Rahul is making a comeback in the national squad after recuperating from sports hernia surgery. He was initially not supposed to be a part of the Zimbabwe squad but since the medical team has deemed him fit, he is going to be with the team for the three ODIs, which will be good practice for him ahead of the big ticket Asia Cup.

## Olympics attack victims' families to shun ceremony

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**B**The families of 11 Israeli athletes killed by Palestinian attackers at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich will not attend a 50-year anniversary ceremony organized by German authorities, saying they deserve more compensation and a fuller reckoning of the tragedy.

The decision underscores a lingering point of friction between the two countries that have built strong ties despite the enduring legacy of the Nazi Holocaust, in which 6 million Jews were murdered during World War II.

Members of the Palestinian group Black September broke into the Olympic Village, killed two athletes from Israel's national team and took nine more hostage September 5, 1972. The attackers hoped to force the release of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel as well as two left-wing extremists in West German jails.

All nine hostages and a West German police officer died during a rescue attempt by German forces. Relatives of the athletes accuse Germany of failing to secure the Olympic Village, refusing Israeli help and then botching the rescue operation.

### München 1972



"Fifty years of abuse, lies, humiliation and dismissals by the German Government, and by the Bavarian authorities in particular, are really too much for us," the group of families wrote in a letter to Bavarian authorities, who are organising the September 5 memorial event.

They said that while German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier accepted their demands for a public apology and the opening of archives with more information about the attack, the amount of compensation offered by Germany was "an insult."

Ankie Spitzer, the widow of Andre Spitzer, a fencing coach who was among those killed, said the families expected compensation according to international standards governing terror attacks.

"I was 26 when this happened in Munich. I'm 76 now. I don't

need a diamond ring," she told this agency. She said the families want "fair and just compensation," especially for the 14 people who lost parents in the attack and have lived in its shadow for a half century.

"If they don't want to come close to that, not even close, with their humiliating offer, then have your ceremonies, but we will not be there," Spitzer said.

She said the entire Israeli delegation of some 200 people, including Olympic athletes, would stay home. There was no immediate comment from German officials.

need a diamond ring," she told this agency. She said the families want "fair and just compensation," especially for the 14 people who lost parents in the attack and have lived in its shadow for a half century.

"If they don't want to come close to that, not even close, with their humiliating offer, then have your ceremonies, but we will not be there," Spitzer said.

She said the entire Israeli delegation of some 200 people, including Olympic athletes, would stay home. There was no immediate comment from German officials.