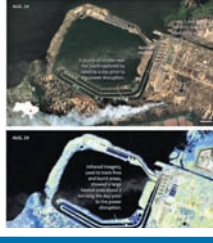




JOB SATISFACTION
Actor Kangana Ranaut says that most gratifying job in the world is to make movies
LEISURE P2



NARROW ESCAPE
The world narrowly escaped a radiation disaster when electricity to Europe's largest nuclear power plant was cut off for hours
INTERNATIONAL P10



DUO CREATES HISTORY
Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian men's pair to win a medal at the BWF World Championships
SPORTS P12

CM writes to Centre seeking adequate supply of fertilizers

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, Aug 26: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday urged Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya to ensure adequate supply of fertilizers during the ensuing kharif season.
The department of fertilizers has supplied urea as per the requirement of Odisha up to the end of July. However, there is a severe shortfall in supply of DAP (di-ammonium phosphate) and shortfall in supply of MOP (muriate of potash) to the state against the requirement, Patnaik said in a letter to Mandaviya.
During the current kharif season as on July 31, 2022, the overall availability of DAP has been 69 per cent against the pro rata requirement with a shortfall of 46,877 MT (metric tonnes), he said, adding, till July end, there is a shortfall of 46,877 MT of DAP and 1010 MT of MOP in the state.



“There is a huge demand for these fertilizers as there has been a good spell of monsoon after a dry spell which has triggered the agricultural operations to a full swing,” pointed out the CM.
Patnaik also mentioned that the state has suffered a loss in crop production during the previous year due to natural calamities like Yaas, Jawad and Gulab.
“It is envisaged to make good the loss with a good harvest expecting a near normal monsoon in line with the forecast of IMD. Therefore, supply of this most critical input fertilizer should be as per the requirement,” he said.
As the August-September month happens to be the peak demand period for different fertilizers, Patnaik said, a short supply during this juncture would adversely affect the agricultural production in the state.



RAIN PAIN

Locals carry their belongings in a boat from a flood-affected area during the ongoing monsoon season in Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, Friday. PTI PHOTO

Floods lead to spurt in diarrhoea cases

900 cases of waterborne diseases were reported from 14 districts over the past fortnight since heavy rain started lashing the state
PNN & AGENCIES



WATER WOES
■ People were reportedly drinking contaminated water amid a shortage of fresh drinking water sources in marooned villages
■ There is a risk of spreading waterborne diseases like cholera and jaundice due to the consumption of contaminated water
■ State government has received reports of 88 cases of snakebites from 14 flood-hit districts

Bhubaneswar, August 26: With around 100 villages still remaining marooned due to the twin floods in the Mahanadi and Subarnarekha river systems, Odisha has reported around 900 cases of diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases over the past fortnight, an official said Friday.
The state government has also received reports of 88 cases of snakebites from 14 flood-hit districts, where around 10 lakh people have been affected by the calamity, Public Health Director Niranjan Mishra said. He said that no death has been reported in snakebite incidents and every block has anti-venom drugs.
“The situation is not alarming,” Mishra claimed, even as he did not confirm any recent diarrhoea deaths as “we have to investigate the cause.” The official said 900 cases of waterborne diseases were reported from 14 districts over the past fortnight since heavy rain started lashing the state, adding that the situation was under control in Koraput and Rayagada – the two areas worst affected by diarrhoea. In Koraput, around 70 people were infected over the past week and there are 21 active cases now, a district official said.
At least 17 people have died of diarrhoea and hundreds were infected in several districts due to the outbreak that began in July-end. Diarrhoea cases are now being reported from the deluge-hit districts after incessant rain over the past two weeks due to three back-to-back weather systems, including a deep depression.
The official had urged the people earlier to drink water only after boiling it or using halazone tablets, which act as a disinfectant.
Around 350 medical relief centres and 120 mobile medical teams are active in the flood-affected areas, where 10 lakh halazone tablets and 2 lakh oral rehydration salt sachets have been distributed, Mishra said.

MORE RAIN IN STORE: IMD
Bhubaneswar: Odisha is bracing up for likely spell of heavy rain Saturday after being battered by twin floods in Mahanadi and Suranarekha river systems. The IMD in its latest bulletin said Odisha is likely to witness heavy rain and issued yellow warning for thunderstorm in Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Keonjhar, Cuttack, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Boudh, Nayagarh, Khurda, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Gajapati, Ganjam, Angul and Dhenkanal August 27. The IMD said that Bhubaneswar and its adjoining areas will see partly cloudy sky with possibility of moderate rain or thundershower. Ten lakh people were affected by the flood in 14 Odisha districts and 100 villages are still marooned. At least six persons have lost their lives in the natural calamity, officials said.

FIFA LIFTS AIFF BAN

Decks cleared for India to conduct women's U-17 WC
AGENCIES
Zurich, August 26: World football governing body FIFA Friday lifted the ban imposed on the AIFF after the Supreme Court terminated the mandate of the Committee of Administrators (CoA), clearing the decks for India to host the Women's U-17 World Cup in October.
FIFA had suspended the All India Football Federation August 15 for “undue influence from third parties” and the revocation came 11 days after that.
“The Bureau of the FIFA Council has decided to lift the suspension that was imposed on the All India Football Federation (AIFF) due to undue third-party influence,” the FIFA said in a statement.
“The decision was taken after FIFA received confirmation that the mandate of the committee of administrators that was set up to assume the powers of the AIFF Executive Committee had been terminated and that the AIFF administration had regained full control of the AIFF's daily affairs.”
“As a consequence, the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 scheduled to take place on 11-30 October 2022 will be held in India as planned.”
The Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar will host all the India matches in the group stages.
FIFA said it and the AFC will continue to monitor the situation and will support the AIFF in conducting its elections in a timely manner.

Azad quits Cong, blames it on Rahul



IN HAPPIER TIMES
■ In a five-page no holds barred letter to Congress president Sonia Gandhi, Azad described her as a ‘nominal figurehead’ and alleged that all important decisions were being taken by Rahul or rather worse ‘his security guards and PAs’
AGENCIES
New Delhi, August 26: Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad Friday ended his five-decade association with the party, terming it ‘comprehensively destroyed’ and lashing out at Rahul Gandhi for ‘demolishing’ its entire consultative mechanism.
Laying bare the many schisms in the party, Azad wrote a five-page no holds barred letter to Congress president Sonia Gandhi, describing her as a “nominal figurehead” and alleging that all important decisions are being taken by Rahul Gandhi or rather worse “his security guards and PAs”.
Azad, whose resignation from all positions in the party, including its primary membership, comes ahead of crucial organisational elections, accused the leadership of committing a “giant fraud” on the party in the name of “farce and sham” internal polls.
He said no such exercise had taken place at any level and lists are being prepared by the coterie that runs the AICC. In his scathing criticism of the leadership, particularly Rahul Gandhi, the 73-year-old termed the former Congress chief a “non-serious individual at the helm.”
Proxies, Azad wrote to Sonia Gandhi, are being propped to take over the leadership and they will be nothing more than “a puppet on a string.”
Azad has been almost a constant in the party's decision-making processes through the decades.



IRREGULAR by MANJUL
When one is vying for CM post, why would he aspire for any other office of profit?

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	58833.87 ↑ 59.15
NIFTY	17558.90 ↑ 36.40
DOLLAR	80.28 ↓ ₹0.07
EURO	79.77 ↑ ₹0.13
GOLD	₹51,146 ↓ ₹556
SILVER	₹54,874 ↓ ₹515

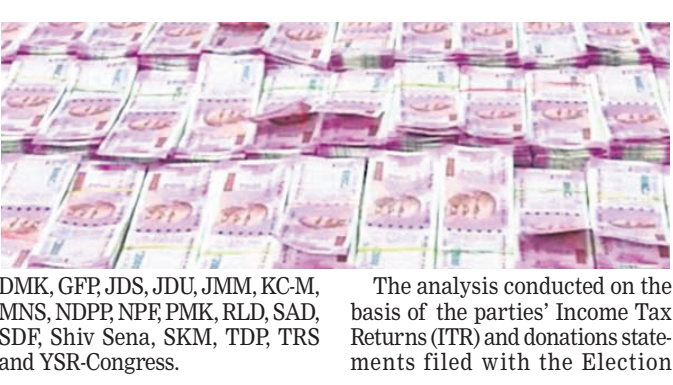
WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	33.8°C	34.2°C
TEMP MIN	25.8°C	25.5°C
Humidity	74%	85%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Partly cloudy sky	Partly cloudy sky

'Unknown sources gave ₹15,077cr to national parties from 2005-21'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, August 26: The national parties have collected more than ₹15,077.97 crore from unknown sources between 2004-05 and 2020-21, an analysis by the poll rights body -- Association for Democratic Reforms, showed.
The total income of national and regional parties from unknown sources for 2020-21 stands at ₹690.67 crore. ADR considered eight national parties and 27 regional parties for this analysis.
The national parties comprised the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Indian National Congress (INC), All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), Community Party of India (Marxist) (CPM), Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), Communist Party of India (CPI) and National People's Party (NPEP).
The regional parties included AAP, AGP, AIADMK, AIFB, AIMIM, AIUFD, BJD, CPI(ML)(L), DMDDK, DMK, GFP, JDS, JDU, JMM, KC-M, MNS, NDPP, NPF, PMK, RLD, SAD, SDF, Shiv Sena, SKM, TDP, TRS and YSR-Congress.

Commission of India (ECI) found that between FY 2004-05 and 2020-21, the national parties have collected ₹15,077.97 crore from unknown sources. “For FY 2020-21, eight national political parties have declared ₹426.74 crore income from unknown sources and 27 regional parties received ₹263.928 crore income from unknown sources,” it said.
During FY 2020-21, Congress declared ₹178.782 crore as income from unknown sources which is 41.89 per cent of the total income of national parties from unknown sources (₹426.742 crore), the analysis said. BJP declared ₹100.502 crore as income from unknown sources which is 23.55 per cent of the total income of national parties from unknown sources.
The top five regional parties in terms of unknown income are YSR-Congress with ₹96.2507 crore, DMK with ₹80.02 crore, BJD with ₹67 crore, MNS with ₹5.773 crore and AAP with ₹5.4 crore.



The analysis conducted on the basis of the parties' Income Tax Returns (ITR) and donations statements filed with the Election Commission of India (ECI) found that between FY 2004-05 and 2020-21, the national parties have collected ₹15,077.97 crore from unknown sources. “For FY 2020-21, eight national political parties have declared ₹426.74 crore income from unknown sources and 27 regional parties received ₹263.928 crore income from unknown sources,” it said.
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leisure



HOME ALONE ACTOR CONVICTED OF RAPE

Devin Ratray, who played Kevin's older brother Buzz in the popular film franchise *Home Alone*, is reportedly being investigated for allegedly raping a woman in New York. Lisa Smith claims that the actor attacked her in his Manhattan apartment in 2017 after possibly spiking her drink.

BRITNEY DEACTIVATES INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

Britney Spears has deactivated her Instagram account. After deleting Instagram, Britney took to Twitter and wrote, "I'm learning every day is a clean slate to try and be a better person and do what makes me happy ... yes I choose happiness today".



FORTUNE FORECAST

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

ARIES

Your attractive personality is always at the disposal of others, and today you could benefit immensely through it. However, there is room for improvement and you could be drawn towards charity work. Ganesha says you will surely feel satisfied by helping the needy.

TAURUS

Professionals in all spheres of work are due for a field day today. The day will be particularly outstanding for Administrators and executives are likely to get richer by the end of the day. Even if you are engaged in some other work, you will stand out and get noticed for your overall excellence. Businessmen can expect to get into new partnerships and joint ventures. This is a very auspicious day for launching new projects.

GEMINI

You will want some change in your daily routine today. You are likely to be fed up of the rut of daily life and are looking for a refreshing change. You need to apply your inherent creativity to your work to get more satisfaction out of it and to ease the boredom of your daily schedule, says Ganesha.

CANCER

Don't meddle in others' affairs today, suggests Ganesha. For they will not take it kindly. Adopt the middle path. Ganesha feels that you must keep your bravado and boldness in check.

LEO

Your pride and self-confidence will help you to excel in whatever task it is that you take up today. Other people will also praise you. You will buy new clothes and other possessions that you have been desiring since a long time, says Ganesha.

VIRGO

Today will be a pleasant day full of surprises and unforeseen changes. You may go for a long drive with your beloved. The trip will be very interesting and will calm your frayed nerves. All in all, Ganesha says, it is an optimistic and happy day, so go ahead and get the best out of it.

LIBRA

Ganesha says you will have a good time with your family members and will have fun with them. You will also be able to organize a picnic or a party for your family members and enjoy the day with them. Ganesha says you will go out for a trip to a religious place or temple, which will enhance your mind and ideas.

SCORPIO

Your sixth sense would work wonders today, as per to what Ganesha has to say. Trust your instincts and work accordingly. Work enthusiastically and dedicatedly. When the pressure of work mounts on you, take a break and unwind with the help of soft music.

SAGITTARIUS

Work is likely to keep you on toes. At work place, you and your opinions will be in demand. Those who are associated with stock exchange and shares will be happy to gain profits during the afternoon. Wait and watch the end result in the evening.

CAPRICORN

Actions speak louder than words. Your sincere efforts and honest intentions will motivate others also to put in their best, feels Ganesha. You'll be like a friend, philosopher and guide to them. People will follow you, but it has a darker side to as many will even over take you. It is certainly not a pleasant sight to see opportunities pass by!

AQUARIUS

You will seek spirituality as you feel thoroughly dejected by your present situation. Ganesha says that even struggling courageously with circumstances requires a spiritual endeavour. These trying times give you the patience to deal intelligently with challenges and setbacks.

PISCES

Your spiritual and religious streak comes to the fore. You will likely visit a place of worship to soothe your troubled soul. Meditative techniques may also be resorted to in your quest for peace and calm, says Ganesha.

Rakul goes all praise for Akshay

Mumbai: Actress Rakul Preet Singh admires the work of her co-star Akshay Kumar in their upcoming film *Cuttputli*. She says that she had only heard of his discipline but got to witness it on the sets of the movie.

Speaking about her experience working with Akshay, Rakul said: "I have always been a huge fan of Akshay sir, I had only heard of his discipline but now I witnessed it." "I think he is amazing when it comes to loving his work, respecting his

work, and being diligently involved in every process of it. Also what I love about Akshay sir is that his energy on set is to bring everyone together and that's something I learned, so, all in all, it was an amazing experience," added the *De De Pyaar De* actress.

Akshay plays Arjan Sethi, a dutiful sub-inspector who vowed to keep the people of Kasauli safe. However, fate has other plans as the killer strikes from the shadows of terror, leaving behind no trace of evidence, except a body.



Mrunal reacts to boycott trend

Mumbai: Mrunal Thakur starer Telugu romance drama *Sita Ramam* has been doing well, amid this scenario where calls for boycotting films are picking up.

Ask the actor if she thinks it's justified to call for such boycotts, and she replies, "I just feel achha kaam karte raho, log aayenge aur dekhenge. I believe in good work. There's the quote ki achha kaam karte raho, logon ka kaam hai kehna. I don't know about others but I am whatever because it is my audi-

ence. Thanks to them for being honest. People should watch the movie if you like it. If you don't 'like it, it's fine."

On the success of *Sita Ramam*, Mrunal exclaims, "Fortunately, it is not just box office, but people love it too. Romance is an integral part of our lives, and I felt that romantic films were stopped being made. The kind of appreciation and feedback I have been getting from actors from the south is just incredible."



Filmmaking world's most gratifying job: Kangana

Mumbai: Actress Kangana Ranaut shared a string of photographs from the sets of her upcoming movie *Emergency* and said that the most gratifying job in the world is to make movies.

The *Manikarnika* actress posted the images on her Instagram story. The first picture has Kangana explaining a scene to a person. It also features an ambassador car.

"Most gratifying job in the world is to make cinema this morning on #emergency shoot," she wrote.

She then shared a picture of her standing and looking at a scene. "And of course my favourite directing pose," she wrote.

Kangana added: "Filmmaking my first love" *Emergency*, as the title suggests, is all about the state of national emergency declared by Indira Gandhi June 25, 1975. It lasted till

March 21, 1977, when Janata Party was voted to power in a historic election.

The film also stars Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry and Milind Soman.

Manikarnika films presents *Emergency* which is written and directed by Kangana Ranaut. The film is produced by Renu Pitti and Kangana Ranaut.



When Meena Kumari sold her bungalow for Saawan Kumar

MUMTAZ HAD BOUGHT THE HOME OF THE PAKIZAAH ACTRESS AND THE AMOUNT WAS SPENT IN THE MAKING OF KUMAR'S GOMTI KE KINARE

Mumbai: Veteran filmmaker and lyricist, Saawan Kumar Tak passed away Thursday after a battle with heart and lung ailments. One of his career's highlights was his association with the legendary Meena Kumari. They worked together in the film *Gomti Ke Kinare*, a movie that was Saawan Kumar's debut as a director.

In one of his previous interviews, Kumar had revealed that

Meena Kumari had convinced Kumar to direct the film, when initially he had only intended to produce it. In a retrospective feature with a film magazine, Kumar had revealed that the shooting of the film was delayed because of Meena Kumari's failing health. He added, "I told her, 'Because of the delay I have exhausted all the finances.' She said, 'Don't worry. I needed one and half lakh rupees. After five to

six days, she gave me the amount saying, 'I am not giving you charity. You can return the money.' Later, I came to know that she had sold her bungalow in Bandra to Mumtaz to give me that money."

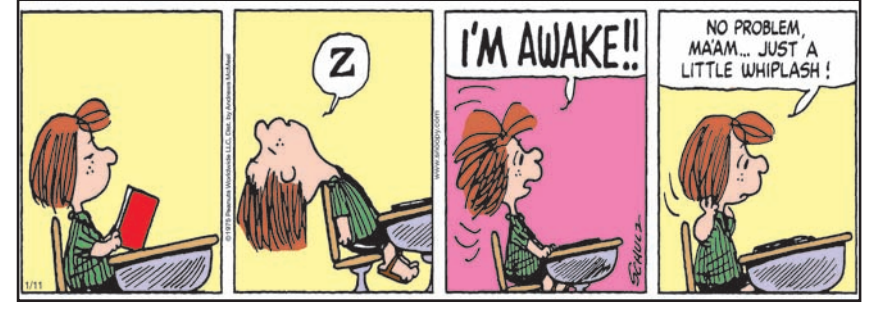
The Souten director revealed that Meena Kumari would insist that he shoot the film because she could go away anytime. He had further revealed, "We began shooting. I would hold her and duck down when the

lights went on. When the last shot was canned, everybody clapped and threw flowers. We even celebrated her birthday on the set. We stopped her car at the gate and asked her to walk to the set. The path was strewn with flowers. We even got her a cake."

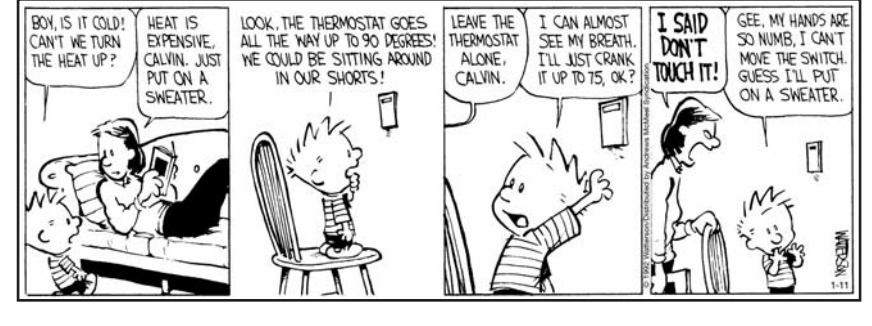
Gomti Ke Kinare featured both Meena Kumari and Mumtaz along with Sameer Khan (brother of Sanjay Khan).



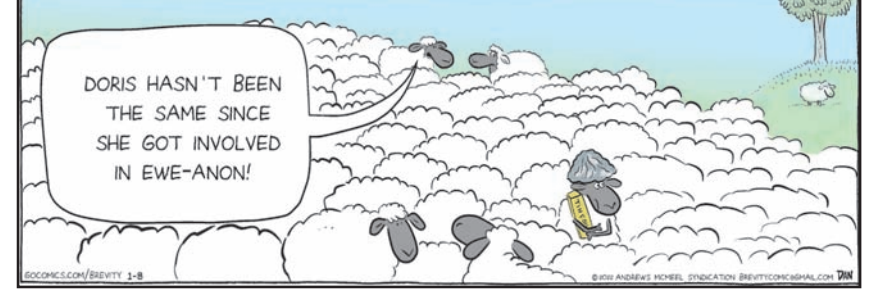
PEANUTS



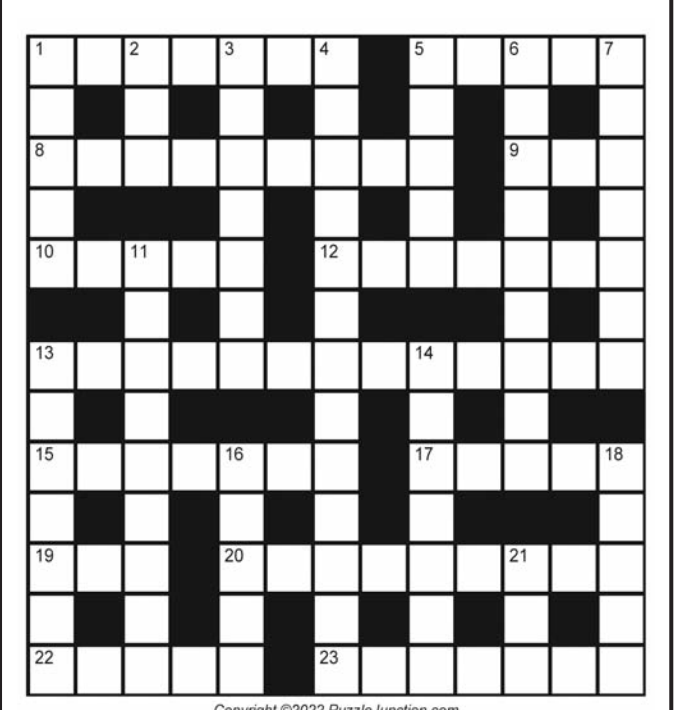
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



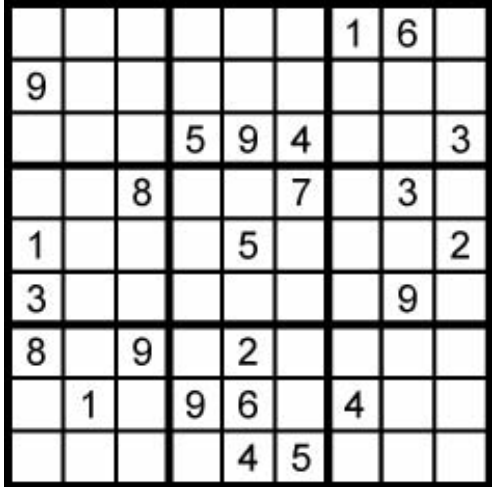
FUN post CROSSWORD



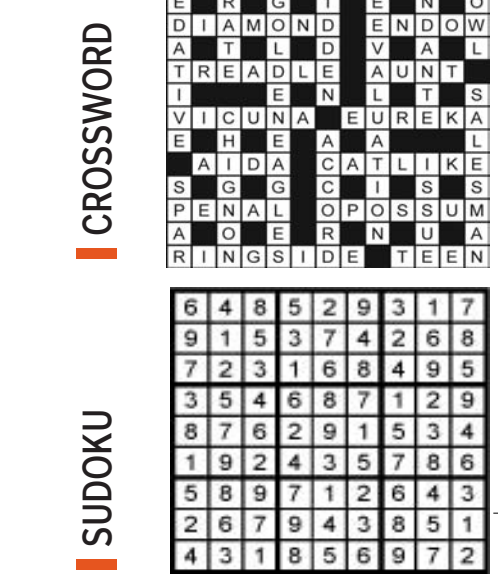
- Across**
- 1 Kind of measures
 - 5 *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* writer
 - 8 Aquarium denizens (3,6)
 - 9 Sailor's assent
 - 10 Informal language
 - 12 All together (2,5)
 - 13 Employment office handout
 - 15 Type of pear
 - 17 Croupiers' tools
 - 19 Your (Fr.)
 - 20 Faux
 - 22 Mount Sinai name
 - 23 Latticework
 - Down**
 - 1 Office stations
 - 2 Camel hair fabric
 - 3 Concept
 - 4 Make-up maven
 - 5 State in NE India
 - 6 Laurel & Hardy comedy, e.g.
 - 7 Antedate
 - 11 Tap sites
 - 13 Physics type
 - 14 Tell tales
 - 16 Nom de plume
 - 18 ___ of time
 - 21 Feverish

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

10 more eco-retreats, 3 nature camps on cards



NEW ECO-RETREATS: Deomali hilltop in Koraput district, Jakam in Kalahandi, Nawana in Similipal, Silviculture Garden in Phulbani, Muhana Muhana at Puri's Astaranga, Kotia in Koraput, Khadakhai dam in Rairangpur, Mahendragiri in Berhampur, and Kanjipani Ghat and Hadagarh dam in Keonjhar

Bhubaneswar, August 26: The state government Friday decided to develop 13 more eco-tourism retreats in different parts of the state, an official said.
The decision was taken during a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra.
"Ten new spots have been chosen for development of eco-retreats with night stay facilities, and three for development of nature camps for day tourists," he said.
Mahapatra directed the authorities concerned to ensure proper maintenance of the facilities when built.
Since most of the spots are located in forests, the divisional for-

est officers (DFOs) and supervising officers concerned were asked to pay regular visits to the spots.
Mahapatra also called for involving local communities for up-keep of the facilities.
The eco-retreats will be developed on Deomali hilltop in Koraput district, Jakam in Kalahandi, Nawana in Similipal, Silviculture Garden in Phulbani, Muhana Muhana at Puri's Astaranga, Kotia in Koraput, Khadakhai Dam in Rairangpur, Mahendragiri in Berhampur, and Kanjipani Ghati and Hadagarh Dam in Keonjhar.
The nature camps for the day tourists will be developed in Rani Duduma in Koraput, Dhaltangarh in Cuttack and Bhandarpahar near Jhadeswari temple of Nayagarh.

NORTHWARD TREND

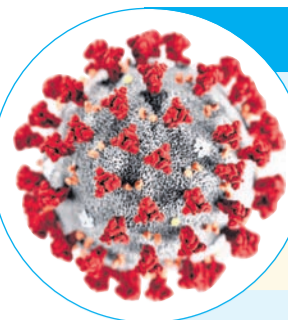
PCCF (WILDLIFE) SASHI PAUL SAID THERE HAS BEEN A CONSTANT INCREASE IN FOOTFALL IN THE ECO-TOURISM RETREATS

IT INCREASED BY ALMOST 142 PER CENT IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS	THE REVENUE GENERATED DURING THE PERIOD
FROM 11,500 IN 2017-18 TO 70,216 IN 2021-22	INCREASED FROM RS 3.40 CRORE TO RS 10.52 CRORE

NEW NATURE CAMPS: Rani Duduma in Koraput, Dhaltangarh in Cuttack, and Bhandarpahar near Jhadeswari temple of Nayagarh
PCCF (wildlife) Sashi Paul said that as of now 50 eco-retreats and nature camps are operational across the state. The new facilities will take the number to 63.
"The popularity of these retreats is increasing with growing footfall and income generation. Online booking facility is also available. So far, around Rs 95 crore has been invested in the development of such facilities," he said.
There has been a constant increase in footfall in the eco-tourism retreats.
It has increased by almost 142 per cent in the last five years from 11,500 in 2017-18 to 70,216 in 2021-22, the official said.
The revenue generated during the period increased from Rs 3.40 crore to Rs 10.52 crore, he added.

DELHI HEAT IN CUTTACK

AAP workers staged a demonstration near Cuttack Collectorate condemning the 'attack' on the party in Delhi, Friday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	60,45,17,131	57,93,71,066	64,83,677
India	4,43,89,176	4,37,70,913	5,27,556
Odisha	13,26,383	13,15,459	9,170



Servitors carried delicacies from Alamchandi Temple to Srimandir in Puri on the occasion of Saptapuri Amavasya, Friday

DELICACIES FOR DEITIES

CM flags off Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0



Bhubaneswar, August 26: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday launched the Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0, a flagship initiative of Startup Odisha, that will cover more than 100 educational institutions in 30 districts in 60 days.
Launching the event, Naveen said Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0 will provide an entrepreneurial exposure to the young minds and instill the culture of idea generation among the youth.
The state is on a mission to create 5,000 startups by 2025 and Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0 will be pivotal in bringing innovative ideas

to the forefront, he said.
Odisha currently has more than 1,300 recognised startups, around 40 per cent of which are led by women, generating 10,000 employment opportunities, it was learnt.
During the Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0, bootcamps will be organised at various institutions across the state to encourage generation of ideas and develop the spirit of entrepreneurship.
With Odisha being the hub of talented and innovative minds, the ideas pitched at Startup Odisha Yatra 2.0 campaigns and bootcamps will be a catalyst in identifying ideas and innovators across the state.

Hold PLAC meetings regularly, PSUs told

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 26: In order to make procurement process easier for local enterprises, Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) were Friday urged to hold Plant Level Advisory Committee (PLAC) meetings for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) of the state at regular intervals.
Addressing a seminar on 'Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs and Role of CPSUs', at ProPack Odisha Meet 2022, MSME development and facilitation officer (DFO) PK Gupta urged CPSUs to organise these meetings which will enable MSMEs to understand specific requirement of big industrial houses.
"Chairman and CEOs of a CPSU head PLAC meeting and local entrepreneurs are also members of it. If meetings are held on regular interval, entrepreneurs would get an opportunity to interact with decision makers and can understand specific requirement of the organisation. Then they can prepare products which are suitable to them and their chances of getting orders will increase," Gupta said.
He also urged all CPSUs to organise PLAC meetings as earliest



Dignitaries at the seminar on 'Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs and Role of CPSUs' at ProPack Odisha Meet-2022 in Bhubaneswar, Friday

MSME development and facilitation officer (DFO) PK Gupta urged CPSUs to organise meetings which will enable MSMEs to understand specific requirement of big industrial houses
Nalso Director Sadashiv Samantray said that the state government is serious about payment delay to MSMEs and the CPSUs cannot import anything less than Rs 200 crore which is a big thrust for local entrepreneurs
as possible. He also suggested setting up of display centres as it

has been found that usually small entrepreneurs do not feel comfortable to visit big plants or offices.
Detailing about making necessary changes in Samadhan portal, he stated that orders worth Rs 40,000 crore have been executed by PSUs and Central ministries till date. Contribution of MSME to it stands at 39 per cent which is much higher than mandated 25 per cent procurement target.
"However, in case of ST/SC and

women entrepreneurs the contribution level is less than 1 per cent which is far lower than the mandated target of 4 per cent and 3 per cent respectively for these two categories which need improvement," Gupta said.
Meanwhile, Nalso Director Sadashiv Samantray said that the state government is serious about payment delay to MSMEs and the CPSUs cannot import anything less than Rs 200 crore which is a big thrust for local entrepreneurs.

Retired techies, cops to examine road mishaps

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 26: In a bid to ensure road mishaps are properly analysed, the Odisha Road Safety Society, under the State Transport Authority (STA), Friday invited applications for the empannelment of retired engineers and police officers.
According to STA, the empannelled officials will conduct joint inspection of the mishap site and submit a detailed report which would help ascertain the exact cause that led to the accident, thereby suggesting remedial measures.
"Applications have been invited from civil engineers who have retired from the post of assistant executive engineers or equivalent in any PSUs or their subordinate offices in the field of road construction and road safety," said an STA official quoting the letter.
The official said that serving faculty members of government engineering colleges and research institutes, who have worked in either of the fields—road construction, road accident or road safety—can also apply.
Similarly, retired police officers not below the rank of inspector can apply for empannelment with the Road Safety Cell of STA.

FOR HC IN CAPITAL



Members of Bhubaneswar Bar Association staged a demonstration on the District and Sessions Court premises, Friday, demanding setting up of Orissa High Court in the Capital City

Naveen lauds Mission Shakti on Women's Equality Day

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 26: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, on the occasion of Women's Equality Day, Friday, reaffirmed his and government's commitment to removing all barriers on the way of women's progress.
Through his official Twitter account, Naveen said, "On Women's Equality Day, we reaffirm the commitment to remove every barrier for women to excel. Women empowerment continues to be cornerstone of all our initiatives—whether it is higher political representation or Mission Shakti, which has charted an epoch journey in women empowerment."
He said that the Mission Shakti scheme of the government has been a huge success, as it has paved the way for women empowerment in the state.
The Odisha Cabinet had approved the Mission Shakti scheme with a budgetary allocation of Rs

The Odisha Cabinet had approved the Mission Shakti scheme with a budgetary allocation of Rs 4,973.39 crore for five years - 2022-23 to 2026-27
The scheme has the objective of empowering women through gainful activities by providing credit and market linkage
Nearly 70 lakh women have so far been organised into 6 lakh groups in all blocks and urban local bodies
4,973.39 crore, for five financial years - 2022-23 to 2026-27.
Empowerment of women has been one of the key development goals taken up by the state government. It is well-known that economic empowerment of women significantly contributes to their social empowerment.
As such, helping women to achieve economic independence by enabling them to have jobs and income has been accorded the highest priority. Therefore, promotion of women's self-help groups

(WSHGs) under the aegis of the 'Mission Shakti' programme was adopted in 2001 as a key strategy for achieving women empowerment.
Mission Shakti, which was launched in the state March 8, 2001 on the eve of International Women's Day, is the self-help mission for women empowerment through the instrument of WSHGs that take up various socio-economic activities.
The programme has the objective of empowering women through gainful activities by providing credit and market linkage. It is a flagship programme of the state government.
Nearly 70 lakh women have been organised into six lakh groups in all blocks and urban local bodies of the state so far.
To strengthen the activities of the existing WSHGs and provide momentum to formation of new WSHGs, constant handholding and monitoring is undertaken throughout the year.

For joy and not for sorrow, Earth was made
SRI AUROBINDO



Multi-source Feedback

The Centre's 360-degree evaluation system for senior IAS, OPS and IFOs officers has found a new enthusiast in the Indian Railways.

Sources have informed DKB that the Board wrote last week informing employees that it plans to create "multi-source" feedback of officers...

The move has evoked a mixed response from the rail officers, say sources.

However, some officials welcome the move saying it will make a positive difference in the prevailing work culture.

Freedom of Expression

Smita Sabharwal, senior IAS officer and Secretary to Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrababoo Naidu...



BABUDOM BYTES Dilip Cherian

As expected, a row has broken out over her comment. While the BJP has criticized her (also along expected lines), the former IAS Officers Association of United Andhra Pradesh president BP Acharya said the babu did not cross any line...

Sabharwal has received support from many of her peers for speaking out.

Bhalla gets third extension

It is the season of continuity. Close on the heels of the second extension for Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba...

This is the third time that Bhalla, a 1984 batch Assam-Meghalaya cadre officer, has been given an extension.

Sources have informed DKB that while the rules state that no officer shall be granted extension in service beyond the retirement age of 60 years...

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect

WISDOM CORNER

It is very simple to be happy, but it is very difficult to be simple. RABINDRANATH TAGORE
If you judge people, you have no time to love them. MOTHER TERESA
Dream is not that which you see while sleeping it is something that does not let you sleep. APJ ABDUL KALAM

WORDSWORTH

Alcopop

This is a type of alcoholic drink designed and marketed to appeal to young people. The term is a blend of alcohol with pop in the old sense of a sweetish, effervescent fruit drink.

Yuletide

Most dictionaries of British origin firmly mark this as archaic or dialectal, which will come as a surprise to all the journalists, advertisers and Christmas card scribes who cheerily borrow it as a useful alternative name for the Christmas season.

COMBATING DISINFORMATION

FOCUS HEALTH



By depicting monkeypox as a sexually transmitted infection, public-health officials could give people the false impression that they are not at risk, preventing them from seeking a diagnosis or isolating if they do contract the virus

As the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Rochelle Walensky recently acknowledged, poor public-health communication and messaging throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has damaged the public's trust in health agencies and institutions.



By William A. Haseltine

IN A MISGUIDED EFFORT TO APPEAR AUTHORITATIVE, PUBLIC-HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE RARELY TRANSPARENT ABOUT THE NUANCES AND FLUID NATURE OF WHAT THEY COMMUNICATE

According to a 2021 poll from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, only 52% of Americans now place a great deal of trust in the CDC...

Clearly, public-health agencies need to win back the public's trust, not just to combat crises like COVID-19 and monkeypox, but also to address a wider range of on-going health issues.

Public-health officials often base their recommendations on incomplete data; as the data evolve, so will the recommendations.

A perfect example is the early advice on how SARS-CoV-2 is transmitted. The CDC was adamant that the coronavirus was spreading on surfaces and not through the air...

proach bred confusion and distrust, because the CDC eventually had to change its advice (as it should have foreseen). After acknowledging that SARS-CoV-2 was spreading through droplets, it finally also conceded that it was spreading through aerosol particles.

Omicron variants emerged and caused breakthrough infections to surge, distrust and "booster-shot fatigue" duly followed.

In this case, public-health officials could have used the example of the Salk polio vaccine to assure the public that a vaccine doesn't need to prevent infection or transmission outright to eradicate a disease.

Unfortunately, other historical lessons seem not to have sunk in. Many public-health officials have been committing a grave error by stigmatizing monkeypox as a disease that only threatens gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men.

By depicting monkeypox as a sexually transmitted infection, public-health officials could give people the false impression that they are not at risk, preventing them from seeking a diagnosis or isolating if they do contract the virus.

SPECTRUM FLOOD FURY

Holistic strategy vital

Every monsoon season brings with it headlines of flash floods, landslides and the number of people killed or rendered homeless.

This year also heavy rainfall has been affecting north-eastern India, particularly in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Meghalaya since early May, triggering landslides and causing river overflow and floods that have resulted in casualties and damage.

About 40,000 persons have been displaced to relief camps, while over 197,000 people have been affected. 12 relief distribution centres have also been opened up.

Not just in the North-East but several other states such as Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand not to speak of Maharashtra's capital Mumbai have witnessed heavy rainfall and a flood-like situation.

The major factors causing floods are obviously meteorological factors such as heavy rainfall, tropical cyclones and cloud burst, physical factors such as large catchment area, and inadequate catchment area and, of course, human factors like deforestation, siltation, faulty agricultural practices, bursting and overflow of dams and, accelerated urbanisation.

Coming to the question of impacts of floods, it is a well-known fact that this affects the poorer and

marginalised sections of society, mainly residing in rural areas.

In the NDMA Act, 2005, the responsibilities to act and provide relief flow from the Centre to the bottom (local governance bodies). This means that in a disaster situation, the uniformed forces that go down to the site for relief and response works, which may not be familiar with terrain, find it necessary that local self-governance bodies, such as panchayats, aware of both the area and people much better, would give a helping hand.

With that in mind, after the 2018 Kerala floods, the state government saw the need to alter its disaster management governance. In January 2020, under the Rebuild Kerala Initiative, the state government passed an order for the "preparation of disaster management plans by local self-government institutions".

Reports reveal that including these disaster plans into Gram Panchayats' Annual Plans has been completed successfully. They are currently gearing towards another round of listening down their projects for relief and response, along with mitigation and flood-proofing activities for their villages.

It needs to be understood that over the years, floods, landslides and other natural disasters have led to more refugees than from all the wars we have fought. Thus, though with the advancement of technology such as satellite and remote-sensing equipment, flood waves are being tracked as the water level rises, evacuation and proper rehabilitation is not being successfully carried out.

Therefore, the focus of an effective strategy should be on mapping of flood prone areas to give proper indication of water flow during floods and land use control, thereby reducing the danger of life and property, when the waters inundate the flood plains and the coastal areas.

At the same time, authorities should strictly monitor that no major development should be permitted in the areas which are subjected to high flooding.

Finally, to mitigate the impact of floods, there is a need for states to devise long-term disaster management policies which should reach the rural population. The government also need to spend more on flood prevention measures.

By Dhurjati Mukherjee

IT NEEDS TO BE UNDERSTOOD THAT OVER THE YEARS, FLOODS, LANDSLIDES AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS HAVE LED TO MORE REFUGEES THAN FROM ALL THE WARS WE HAVE FOUGHT

Let's appreciate good cricket

Sir, An India-Pakistan cricket match, especially in an ICC tournament, arouses great interest and is always looked forward to with a lot of excitement. But, our electronic media needlessly creates pre-match hype, which adds a lot of pressure on our players.

Cow milk for health care

Sir, Milk is a widely consumed health beverage across the world. Especially, we Indians cannot live without our trusted cow's milk, it happens to be an inseparable part of our daily diet.

Doctor's day out

Sir, When COVID imploded, India was in the forefront of the vaccination effort, including our own home-grown vaccine. In spite of the tough times both doctors and health workers do their best and never look for a break in services.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Jayanthi Subramaniam, MUMBAI

Krishnan Subramani CHENNAI



Prime Minister Modi gets insecure seeing good work by others. I have not seen a more insecure person than him. Had Arvind Kejriwal been the prime minister, he would not have done something like this had I been an education minister in some other government
MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

WOMAN KILLS TODDLER IN UP

In a shocking incident, a woman sacrificed her 18-month-old nephew as a part of a 'tantrik' ritual. The incident took place at Malakpur village under Adampur police station in Amroha district



of the day quote

There can be no comparison between the northeastern state and Delhi as the national capital is more like a municipal corporation

HIMANTA BISWA SARMA | ASSAM CM

The Congress has given everything to Azad saab. Today, his identity in the country is because of the Congress, because of Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, P V Narasimha Rao and Sonia Gandhi. I do not think the way he has expressed this sentiment can be called proper

ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CM

We have an incapable Chief Minister, he has become a puppet in the hands of RSS. There is no government and there is no governance, as stated by Minister Madhuswamy himself

SIDDARAMAIAH | CONGRESS LEADER



People ride a boat to cross the swollen Ganga river following incessant monsoon rainfall in Patna

PTI PHOTO

Freebies can push state to bankruptcy, says SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 26: Freebies are extended utilising taxpayers' money and may push the state towards "imminent bankruptcy", the Supreme Court said Friday, as it directed that the pleas against the practice of political parties promising pre-election handouts be listed before a three-judge bench.

Observing that issues raised before it require an "extensive" hearing, the top court said though all promises cannot be equated with freebies as they relate to welfare schemes or measures for the public good, fiscal responsibility cannot be dispensed with under the guise of electoral promises. It said these schemes are not only part of the Directive Principles of State Policy but are also a responsibility of the welfare state.

"Freebies may create a situation wherein the state government cannot provide basic amenities due to lack of funds and the State



The top court said the issues raised by the parties require an 'extensive hearing' before any concrete orders can be passed

The apex court said that there can be no denying the fact that in an electoral democracy, the true power ultimately lies with the electorate

is pushed towards imminent bankruptcy. In the same breath, we should remember that such freebies are extended utilising taxpayers' money only for increasing the popularity of the party and electoral prospects," a bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana said.

The court order on Justice Ramana's last day in office comes against the backdrop of the freebies versus welfare scheme debate that has sparked a political slugfest in recent weeks.

ing the State, as the same falls outside the ambit of the Court's jurisdiction," the bench, also comprising Justices Hima Kohli and C T Ravikumar, said.

The top court said the issues raised by the parties require an "extensive hearing" before any concrete orders can be passed.

It noted there are certain preliminary issues that may be needed to be deliberated upon in these petitions.

The issues included the scope of judicial intervention with respect to the reliefs sought in these pleas, whether any enforceable order can be passed by this court in these writ petitions and whether the appointment of a commission/expert body by the court would serve any purpose.

The bench said it was argued before it that the 2013 judgement delivered by a two-judge bench of the apex court in the matter of S Subramaniam Balaji vs The Government of Tamil Nadu and others required reconsideration.

SHORT TAKES

Anil Deshmukh hospitalised

Mumbai: Former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh was taken to the state-run J J Hospital here after he fainted in the prison on Friday, an official said. Deshmukh, lodged in the Arthur Road prison here in an alleged corruption case, felt dizzy and fainted, a prison official said. The Nationalist Congress Party leader also complained of chest pain. His blood pressure was found to have increased and ECG report was abnormal, the official said, adding that Deshmukh was undergoing treatment at the hospital now.

Eight injured

Thane: Eight school children were injured when a truck rammed into a stationary state transport bus in Maharashtra's Thane district on Friday, an official said. The accident occurred around 7.30 am at Sapne on Wada Manor road, he said. A truck rammed into the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) bus, which had halted at a bus stop to pick up passengers, depot manager Madhukar Dhangda said.

Six found dead

Chandigarh: Six members of a family were found dead under mysterious circumstances in Balana village of Ambala in Haryana Friday, police said. As per preliminary investigation, Sukhvinder poisoned the family before killing self by hanging. The bodies have been sent to the Civil Hospital at Ambala City for a post-mortem examination.

Two more tremors in J&K

Jammu: Two more tremors jolted Jammu and Kashmir Friday as 11 tremors occurred in the union territory during the last four days. Data revealed by the National Center for Seismology (NCS) recorded two tremors in J&K on Friday. First tremor measuring 3.4 on the Richter scale occurred at 3.28 a.m. with latitude 33.17 degrees north and longitude 75.57 degrees east. The epicentre was 3.5 kms north-east of Doda town. The depth was 5 kms inside the earth's crust.

Yogi's OSD dies in accident

Basti: Motilal Singh, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's Officer On Special Duty (OSD), died Friday in a road accident. His wife is in critical condition and has been referred to the Gorakhpur Medical College.

Man shot for refusing to accept torn note

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shahjahanpur, August 26: A 21-year-old pizza delivery man in Uttar Pradesh was shot by two men when he refused to accept a torn Rs 200 note as payment. The victim, Sachin Kashyap, was rushed to a hospital. SHO of Sadar Bazar, Amit Pandey said an FIR has been registered against the accused, Nadeem Khan, 27 and his brother Naem, 29.

The two have been arrested and country-made pistols were recovered from their possession. Nadeem had ordered a pizza over the phone when the outlet was about to close at 11 pm Wednesday. At around 11:30 pm, Sachin and his colleague, Ritik Kumar, delivered the food and left after taking payment. The colleagues then went to buy a soft drink with the Rs 200 note that they were paid with. However, the shopkeeper told them it was torn. The two went back, knocked on Nadeem's door, and requested him to replace the note. However, Nadeem got angry and started abusing them. Soon, his brother came out and allegedly shot Sachin with a country-made pistol.

M-16 rifle recovery unusual: Army

The Army said two AK series weapons, one Chinese M-16 weapon and ammunition were recovered from the Pakistani militants killed in Kamalkote area of Uri while trying to infiltrate into the Indian side

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, August 26: Security forces have recovered a Chinese-made M-16 assault rifle from the three militants killed Thursday during an anti-infiltration operation along the Line of Control in Uri, with the Army describing the recovery as "unusual".

The army said two AK series weapons, one Chinese M-16 weapon and ammunition were recovered from the Pakistani militants killed in Kamalkote area of Uri while trying to infiltrate into



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

the Indian side. "Usually, we find AK series and at times, the M-4 rifles being recovered. This M-16 is a Chinese-made 9-mm calibre weapon. This is an unusual recovery," General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the Army's 19 Infantry Division Major General Ajay Chandpuri told reporters in Baramulla in north Kashmir.

He, however, said it would be premature to say if this hints at a probable nexus between the Pakistani Army, terrorists, and

the Chinese Army. "It would be too premature to speculate on the larger context of it. So, I think, we will have to really examine and go into the details," he said.

On the number of militants on the launchpads across the LoC, Maj Gen Chandpuri said based on multiple inputs "there were close to 100-120 terrorists attempting to infiltrate and present in 15-20 launchpads which are close to the LoC", opposite this sector alone.

"So, while the ceasefire understanding is largely holding good

for the benefit of the people on the both sides, the presence of terrorists on the launchpads and their continuous attempts to infiltrate are on," he added.

The GoC said Pakistan is desperate and frustrated, and will continue to try to infiltrate terrorists and send in arms and ammunition despite a robust anti-infiltration grid in place.

"The LoC is over 740 km which includes very difficult terrain and then there were spells of inclement weather. So, despite the vigilance, there are gaps from where they try and infiltrate terrorists and war-like stores," he said. However, he said, with each passing day, the level of technology and alertness is improving. "So, the infiltration has come down significantly which is also indicated by the peace in the hinterland. So, we feel they are getting more and more desperate to push in these people from anyway possible. This one attempt made early in the morning is indicative of their desperation and their frustration," he said.

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Kerala HC orders to close down illegal religious places

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, August 26: The Kerala High Court Friday directed the State government to issue necessary orders to close down if any religious place or prayer hall is functioning without necessary permission, observing that the people of the southern State were "exhausted with religious places and prayer halls."

The court directed the government to issue a separate circular/order prohibiting change of category of a building to a religious place/prayer hall except in inevitable circumstances and in the rarest of rare cases, and that also only after getting a report from the police and the Intelligence ascertaining the ground realities of that particular place.



"The Chief Secretary of State of Kerala and the State Police Chief shall issue necessary orders/circulars directing all the officer concerned to see that there is no illegal functioning of any religious places and prayer halls without obtaining permission

from the competent authorities as per the Manual of Guidelines and if any such religious place or prayer hall is functioning without necessary permission, to take necessary steps to close down the same forthwith", Justice P V Kunhikrishnan said in the order.

The court issued the order while disposing of a plea filed by a Society called Noorul Islam Samskarika Sangam seeking to convert a commercial building at Amarambalam Grama Panchayat to a Muslim place of worship at a village near Nilambur in Malappuram district.

It directed the State chief secretary to issue necessary orders/circulars directing the competent authority as per the Manual of Guidelines to consider each application to start religious places and prayer halls strictly and the approval can be granted only in appropriate cases.

In the order/circular, it should be clearly mentioned that the distance to the nearest similar religious place/prayer hall is one of the criteria while considering the appli-

cation for religious places and prayer halls, it said.

"Because of the peculiar geographical location of Kerala, it is known as 'God's own country'. But we are exhausted with religious places and prayer halls and we are not in a position to allow any new religious places and prayer halls except in the rarest of rare cases," the High Court said.

The court observed that the Society sought to change the commercial building into a Muslim place of worship at a place where there are about 36 mosques within 5-km radius of this building and "then why another prayer hall for the petitioner is a million dollar question." The petitioner moved the court after the district authorities rejected its demand.

RJD leader elected as Bihar Assembly Speaker

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, August 26: Veteran RJD leader Awadh Bihari Chaudhary was on Friday unanimously elected as Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly.

The post had fallen vacant upon resignation of Vijay Kumar Sinha, against whom a no confidence motion was moved by the 'Mahagathbandhan', after it came to power in the state earlier this month. Chaudhary was escorted to the Chair by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Sinha, a senior BJP leader, who has now become the Leader of the Opposition.

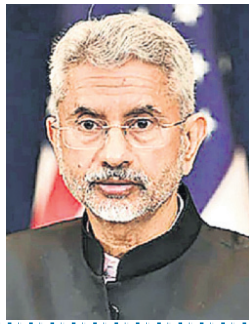
The proceedings were, however, marked by BJP members creating a ruckus over "dropping" from the list of businesses a report of the Ethics Committee.

The report was on the conduct of several MLAs of the RJD, which was then in the opposition, in March last year when Sinha was held hostage inside the Speaker's chamber for several hours.

"Even then the petitioner wants another place of worship for the reason that 'five times prayer' is necessary for a Muslim and therefore, a prayer hall is necessary within the vicinity of every Muslim. If this is allowed then in every nook and corner of the State, place of worship and prayer halls would be necessary", the court said while doing a detailed consideration of the matter.

In its order, the court, referring to 2011 census report, said there are a sufficient number of religious places and prayer halls to all the communities in the state. The court said the government and the local bodies should be vigilant while granting permission for religious places and prayer halls in future.

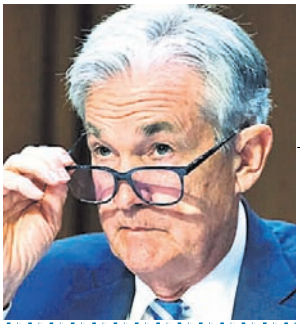
international



Glad to meet @SergioMassa, Minister of Economy of Argentina. Appreciate his positive outlook towards expanding our economic cooperation

FED MAY KEEP LIFTING RATES SHARPLY 'FOR SOME TIME'

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell delivered a stark message Friday: The Fed will likely impose more large interest rate hikes in coming months and is resolutely focused on taming the highest inflation in four decades



of the day quote

The negative comments attributed to me about PM Shehbaz Sharif are misleading and incorrect

NAWAZ SHARIF | PML-N SUPREMO

French teachers are to receive a considerable increase in basic pay and added compensation for putting in extra hours voluntarily

EMMANUEL MACRON | PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

I once again declare to the whole world that our struggle will not end until we secure our southern borders with a 30-kilometre-deep corridor

RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN | PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

SHORT TAKES

China, US sign deal on audit dispute

Hong Kong: The US audit regulator said Friday it has signed an agreement with Chinese regulators, taking a first step toward inspecting and investigating registered accounting firms in China and Hong Kong.

Philippine ferry catches fire

Manila: A Philippine ferry carrying 82 passengers and crew caught fire as it was approaching a port south of Manila Friday and at least 73 of those aboard have been rescued.

Turkish pop star jailed over joke

Ankara: Turkish pop star Gulsen has been arrested on charges of "inciting hatred and enmity" with a joke she made about Turkey's religious schools.

Law against sexual violence in Spain

Madrid: People in Spain will have to explicitly voice their consent to sexual acts in the future to ensure that they are not criminal.

Moderna sues Pfizer

New York: Biotechnology major Moderna Friday sued rival Pfizer and BioNTech over alleged infringement of its messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccine technology patents.

Queen may appoint new UK PM in Scotland: Report

It is very rare for any British monarch not to anoint a new Prime Minister at Buckingham Palace or Windsor Castle

London, August 26: In a historic first, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II is likely to conduct the traditional ceremony to appoint a newly elected leader as the country's Prime Minister at her Balmoral Castle residence in Scotland, according to

a media report Friday. The 96-year-old monarch, who has been experiencing age-related mobility issues, is on her annual summer vacation in Scotland. The Sun newspaper claims that secret plans have been drawn up for her to receive either former Chancellor Rishi Sunak or Foreign Secretary Liz Truss at her Balmoral base rather than make the journey down to Buckingham Palace in London or Windsor Castle in south-east England.

Queen the day after to be formally appointed as Boris Johnson's successor at 10



Downing Street. A final decision on whether she stays on will be announced publicly next week because the outgoing and incoming prime ministers need advance notice, the newspaper said. It would be the first time in living memory that the so-called "kissing of the hands" of the monarch by the leader of the majority party in Parliament happens outside London or Windsor.

port, when the Queen arrived in Scotland last month for a 10-week holiday she had hoped to make the journey south once the new prime minister is elected and her Windsor Castle residence in Berkshire had been earmarked for the traditional constitutional ceremony.

'Ukraine narrowly escapes N-disaster'

REUTERS

Kyiv, August 26: The world narrowly escaped a radiation disaster when electricity to Europe's largest nuclear power plant was cut off for hours, Ukraine's president said, urging international bodies to act faster to force Russian troops to vacate the site.



Fire near Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russian shelling Thursday had sparked fires in the ash pits of a nearby coal power station that disconnected the Zaporizhzhia plant from the power grid. A Russian official said Ukraine was to blame. Back-up diesel generators ensured power supply vital for cooling and safety systems at the plant.

west of the plant, expressed alarm at the situation. "Of course everyone is afraid, the entire world is afraid. I really want the situation to become peaceful again," said businessman Volodymyr, 35, who declined to give his last name.

Russia has put Ukraine and all Europeans in a situation one step away from a radiation disaster... Every minute that Russian troops remain at the nuclear power station there is a risk of a global radiation catastrophe

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY | PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

of the plant's two functioning reactors had been reconnected to that grid. Vladimir Rogov, a Russian-appointed official in the occupied town of Enerhodar near the plant, blamed Ukrainian armed forces for Thursday's incident, saying they caused a fire in a forest near the plant. Meanwhile, authorities began distributing iodine tablets to residents near Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant Friday in case of a radiation leak.

Truss faces flak over 'jury's out' remark on Macron

The Foreign Secretary said the "jury is out" on whether Macron is a "friend or foe" of the UK and that if she becomes the Prime Minister she will "judge him by deeds, not words"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



closest allies". Macron himself responded by accusing the Cabinet minister of "grandstanding", while striking a more diplomatic tone. "It is never good to lose one's bearings. Let me put it another way. Whoever the person is who is considered the next leader of Britain, I don't have any doubts. Britain is a friend of France," said the French president.

Trump search affidavit to be released; portions blacked out

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, August 26: The Justice Department is set to release Friday a heavily blacked out document explaining the justification for an FBI search of former President Donald Trump's Florida estate earlier this month.

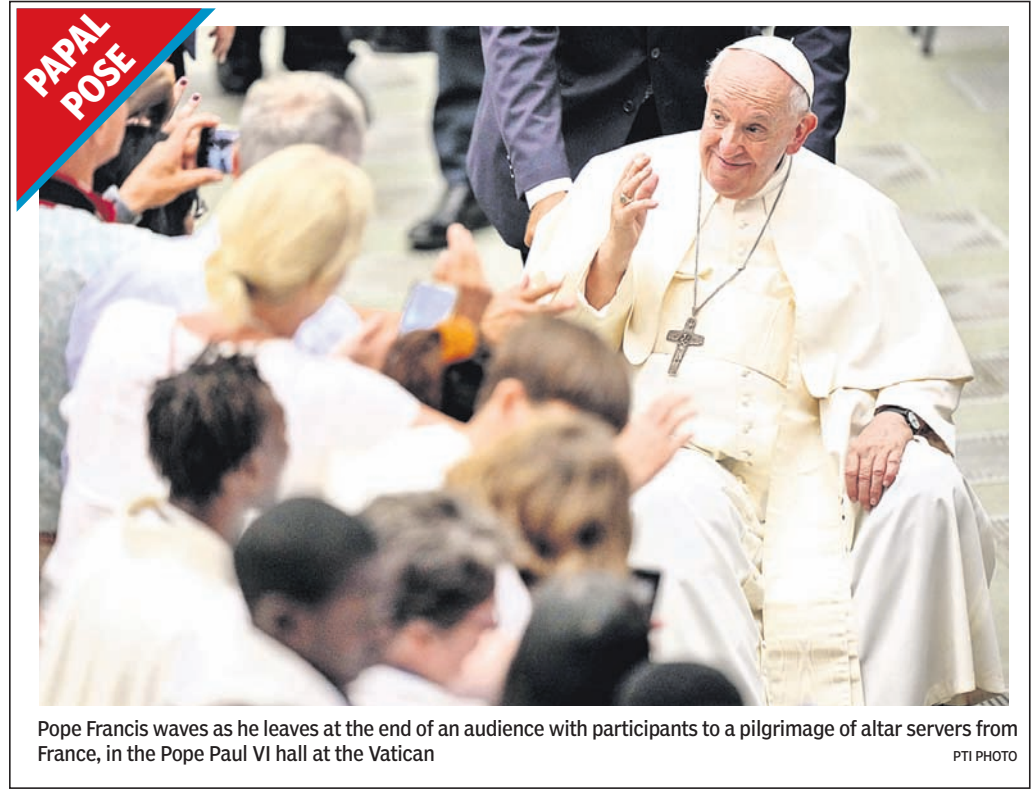
fidavit may offer the fullest description yet about the events leading up to the Aug. 8 search of Mar-a-Lago.

The document being released is the redacted form of an affidavit, or sworn statement, that the FBI submitted to a judge so it could obtain a warrant to search Trump's property.

Affidavits typically contain vital information about an investigation, with agents spelling out to a judge the justification for why they want to search a particular property and why they believe they're likely to find evidence of a potential crime there.

The document, expected by noon, is likely to offer at least some new details about an ongoing criminal investigation that has brought fresh legal peril for Trump just as he lays the groundwork for another potential presidential run.

of it all the more striking.



Pope Francis waves as he leaves at the end of an audience with participants to a pilgrimage of altar servers from France, in the Pope Paul VI hall at the Vatican

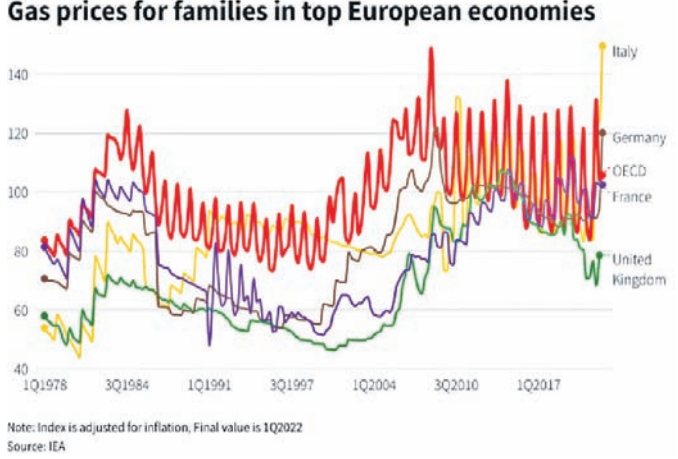
ENERGY CRISIS IT'S EAT OR HEAT FOR SHOCKED EUROPEANS

REUTERS

London, August 26: No more ironing, limited oven use and showering at work - Europeans are trying to keep their energy use down but the bills keep climbing.

hold bills to 3,549 pounds (\$4,188). European governments have rushed to offer aid, but data shows the assistance hasn't made a significant difference to households.

Gas prices for families in top European economies



timates 8.5 million UK households could be in fuel poverty after October when Britain's cap increases, up from 4.5 million last October. A household is defined as living in fuel poverty if it is low

Energy's share of household spending hits record highs in Europe. Rising bills force households to cut energy use. Crisis in Europe looks worse than in other developed economies.

EAT OR HEAT

Keetley lost his job as a council adviser in April and lives on 600 pounds (\$706.44) a month from a social security scheme. Half of that goes on rent, he said, with the remainder barely covering essentials.

and half have turned down the temperature in their homes.

"People are doing a lot to try to keep their bills down but they are going up anyway. That's why we want to see more action from government," said Jamie Evans, senior research associate at Bristol University who was involved in the Financial Fairness Trust's study.

Dawn White, who has renal failure, says she fears Britain's spiralling energy costs mean she will no longer be able to afford her life-saving treatment. In Turkey, gas prices more than doubled in July from a year earlier, while electricity prices surged 67% year-on-year.

In the European Union, Italian and German families are among the worst hit by surging gas prices, IEA data shows.

INDIA'S DAY OUT AT WORLDS

PAIR OF SATWIK, CHIRAG CLAIM COUNTRY'S FIRST MEN'S DOUBLES MEDAL AT BWF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AFTER MAKING THEIR WAY INTO THE SEMIFINALS, WHILE PRANNOY BOWS OUT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tokyo, August 26: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty Friday became the first Indian pair to win a medal in the men's doubles competition at the World Championships...

least a bronze, Satwik and Chirag will now face the sixth seeded Malaysian pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the semi-finals. Satwik and Chirag came out with a lot of intent as they dominated the proceedings early on to establish a lead of 12-5 in the first game...



Linthoi Chanambam wins judo gold medal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Championships. In

November last year, Linthoi struck gold at the National

New Delhi, August 26: India's Linthoi Chanambam claimed a historic gold at the World Cadet Judo Championship in Sarajevo, becoming the first from the country to win a medal in the tournament across any age-group.

The 15-year-old from Manipur prevailed over Brazil's Bianca Reis in the final to finish on top of the podium in the women's 57kg contest at the Arena Hotel Hills. "I really don't have the words and cannot explain how I am feeling right now. Only know that I'm very happy with this victory, and I hope to build on this," said Linthoi, after her feat.

In July, she won a gold and opened India's medal account on the third day of the Asian Cadet & Junior Judo Championship 2022 at Bangkok. Linthoi claimed her gold medal in the 63kg category of the cadet event.

One of India's brightest prospects on the Judo mat, Linthoi first showed glimpses of her talent when she won gold at the Sub-junior National Championships in 2018. A part of the IIS' judo programme since 2017, she has been on several exposure trips under the guidance of head coach Mamuka Kizilashvili...

Championships in Chandigarh, followed by another at the Asian Cadet and Junior Judo Championships, in Bangkok, in July. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) took note of the young athlete's remarkable achievement Friday. "LINTHOI WINS'S 1st EVER GOLD AT WORLDS. Reigning Asian Champion Linthoi Chanambam (W-57kg) defeat's Bianca Reis 1-0 to win at Cadet World C'ships 2022. She scripts history to become Champion by winning 1st ever medal for India at the Worlds across any age-group," the SAI tweeted.



CL draw: Reunions for Lewa, Haaland Asian cricket powerhouses set for continental showdown



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Istanbul, August 26: Robert Lewandowski and Erling Haaland will swiftly come toe-to-toe with their former teammates following Thursday's group-stage draw for the Champions League.

GROUP STAGE DRAW table with columns for Group A through Group H, listing various football clubs like Ajax, Liverpool, Bayern, etc.

Chelsea, England's most recent winners of the competition, will have to contend with Milan; Liverpool face a trip to Napoli, and Tottenham tackle Europa League winners Eintracht Frankfurt.

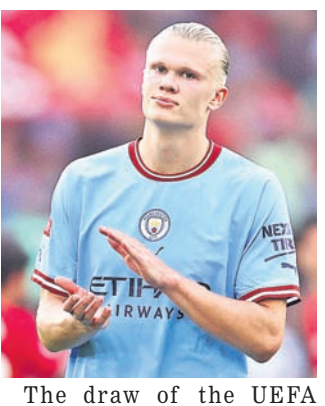


PHOTO: UEFA TWITTER

The draw of the UEFA Champions League group stage witnessed Group C as the 'Group of Death', which contains Bayern Munich, Barcelona, Inter Milan and Viktoria Plzen.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICES

New Delhi, August 26: The 2022 Asia Cup, to be played in the T20I format, promises an enthralling ride for fans who would be eager to see the best sides in Asia going head-to-head against each other.

In 13 matches from August 27 to September 11, across Dubai and Sharjah, the top six teams from Asia will be vying for the trophy which was established 38 years ago co-incidentally in the UAE. The positioning of the tournament comes at a very interesting time. The Covid-19 pandemic forced the tournament, last held in 2018 in the UAE, to be postponed from 2020 to 2022.



Virat Kohli would like to get his form back ahead T20 World Cup

TOP HONOURS FOR BENZEMA, PUTELLAS AT UEFA AWARDS

ISTANBUL: Karim Benzema and Alexia Putellas won UEFA's player of the year awards, making it a sweep for Spanish clubs. Benzema had been the heavy favorite for the men's award after scoring 15 Champions League goals to lead Real Madrid to a record-extending 14th European title.



Bhambri knocked out

NEW YORK: India's singles challenge at the US Open qualifiers came to an end as Yuki Bhambri was handed a straight-set defeat by Belgium's Zizou Bergs in the second round here.

Nomination withdrawn

NEW DELHI: Andhra Pradesh Football Association president Gopalkrishna Kosaraju Friday withdrew his nomination for the treasurer's post in the All India Football Federation (AIFF) elections slated for September 2.

Another blow for Pakistan

DUBAI: Pakistan suffered another setback on the eve of the start of the Asia Cup T20 cricket tournament when fast bowler Mohammad Wasim Jr was ruled out of the event due to a left side strain.