

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: On the

sidelines of the BJP national pres-

ident JP Nadda's two-day visit to

Odisha, the ruling BJD started

Thursday its two-day workshop

for party functionaries to ensure

success of the month-long paday-

atra which begins October 2. BJD

president and Chief Minister

Naveen Patnaik, who was in

Bangalore, virtually addressed the

the people and working for the peo-

ple. He asked the party leaders and

workers to focus on how the mes-

sage of various welfare programmes

launched by the government can be

conveyed to the people. The Chief

Naveen asserted his party is with

party workers.

All women entitled to abortion, says SC

The distinction between married and unmarried women is unconstitutional and the latter can also undergo abortion of pregnancy arising out of consensual relationship

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 29: In a significant ruling on reproductive rights of women, the Supreme Court held Thursday that all women are entitled to safe and legal abortion till 24 weeks of pregnancy under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, and making any distinction on the basis of their marital status is 'constitutionally unsustainable'. The top court also said that the meaning of offence of rape must include marital rape for the purpose of the MTP Act.

The top court held the meaning of the words 'sexual assault' or 'rape' under the rules of MTP Act, includes a husband's act of sexual assault or rape committed on his wife A bench of Justices DY



Chandrachud, JB Pardiwala and AS Bopanna said the rights of reproductive autonomy give similar rights to unmarried women as that

to married women. The bench, in its verdict, said the distinction between married and unmarried women under the abortion laws is 'artificial and constitutionally unsustainable' and perpetuates the stereotype that only married women are sexually active.

Under the MTP Act provisions, the upper limit for the termination of pregnancy is 24 weeks for married women, including survivors of rape and other vulnerable women such as the differentlyabled and minors. However, the time period is 20 weeks for widows and unmarried women, who are or were in consensual rela-

tionships, for allowing abortion under the statute. The bench delivered the verdict

on the interpretation of the MTP Act and whether unmarried women or single women can be allowed like their married counterparts the benefit of abortion up to 24 weeks. The bench, August 23, had re-

served its verdict on interpretation of the MTP Act provisions which makes a distinction between married and unmarried women on the issue of abortion.

The Centre was represented by Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati in the case. She had told the top court that discrimination, if any, is not in the Act passed by Parliament and if the court is willing to intervene, then it should do so in the MTP Rules, 2003.

Naveen asks workers to

Minister also advised the party cadres to apprise the people about the role of freedom fighters from Odisha during the independence struggle. All ministers, MLAs, MPs, office-bearers of the BJD were present during the meeting.

Presiding over the meeting BJD organisational secretary Pranab Prakash Das pointed out that since Naveen Patnaik took over there has been all-around development of the state. "Today BJD has emerged as a mass movement to protect the interests of the Odisha. Even after such a long tenure, it remains firm in its commitment," Das stated. He added that it is the responsibility of all the party functionaries to fulfil the commitments and make the padayatra a huge success.

Nadda slams Odisha ensure padayatra's success govt over corruption



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: BJP president JP Nadda said Thursday that though his is the largest political party in the world, it is fighting against family-based parties as other national ones have been reduced to regional outfits. He also slammed the BJD government in

Odisha over corruption. Describing the Congress as the 'Bhai-Behen' (brother-sister) party, Nadda said that the situation of the country's oldest party has come to such a pass that its candidates lost deposits in 370 of the 380 Assembly seats it contested in UP. He asserted BJP is the only national party with 18 crore members and it is fighting against family-based parties.

"In Odisha obviously, it is Biju Patnaik's family which is ruling the roost," Nadda pointed out. However, during his 37-minute speech he did not name BJD president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik even once.

Nadda alleged that the BJD government in Odisha has failed to meet aspirations of the people as it is involved in corruption. Slamming the BJD government, the BJP president alleged that at least three ministers were involved in murder cases. Besides, rampant corruption at different levels and people carrying bodies of relatives on cycles and women giving birth on the roadside due to lack of ambulance are classic cases of 'kusasan' (misrule), he claimed.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL

MLA Moquim convicted

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: In a significant development, the Special Vigilance court here Thursday sentenced senior Congress leader and Cuttack-Barabati MLA. Mohammed Moquim along with three others to three years rigorous imprisonment for securing a loan of ₹1.50 crore from the Odisha Rural Housing & Development Corporation (ORHDC) submitting forged documents. However, the same court granted Moquim bail after he applied for a term loan of filed a plea seeking relief im-₹1.50 crore for Metro City-II mediately. project at Navapalli, in Moquim is also the man-Bhubaneswar for construcaging director of M/s Metro tion of 50 flats which was Builders Pvt Ltd, a reputed scrutinised by Swosti Ranjan real estate firm which also who prepared the loan appraisal report for approval. has been convicted in the misappropriation case. "At the relevant time, Vinod Kumar was not delegated Others who were sentenced were identified as Vinod with any financial power for Kumar, senior IAS officer sanction and disbursement of the loan by the board of diand the then MD ORHDC, rectors of ORHDC. Even, he Swosti Ranjan Mohapatra, did not have the power to former company secretary sign the cheque. In spite of of ORHDC, Peeyusdhari Mohanty, director of Metro that Kumar in connivance Builders Pvt. Ltd. with Swosti sanctioned and The fraud was committed disbursed the loan amount during the Vinod's tenure ₹1.50 crore in haste by showas MD of ORHDC between ing undue favour to the January 4, 2000 and May 15, builder," said Hemant Kumar 2001. Swosti Ranjan was also Swain, Special Public deployed as company sec-Prosecutor in the case. retary of the ORHDC during It also came to fore that the same period. the loan documents were nei-Sources revealed that ther presented before the Moquim's Metro Builders board of directors of ORHDC





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MARKET WATCH				
IN	DEX	VARIATION		
BOURSES	SENSEX	56409.96	₽	188.32
	NIFTY	16818.10	♥	40.50
CURRENCY	DOLLAR	82.02	₽	₹0.21
	EURO	79.80		₹0.56
BULLION	GOLD	₹49,820	1	₹70
	SILVER	₹56,074	•	₹454

WEATH	IER		
BHUB		СТК	
<mark>€</mark> MAX	33.6°C	33.8°	
H MIN	25.5℃	25.4°	Forecast
Humidity	82%	81%	Light rain
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	likely

nor the committee before approval. The ORHDC officials convicted in the case also did not conduct a site visist.

The cops also found during probe that documents like IT returns, BDA plan, project estimate, fire prevention certificate produced before the ORHDC for loan by the real estate firm were forged. The outstanding loan amount stood at a whooping ₹6.22 crore on October 31, 2007.

The court after examining the statements of 17 witnesses and several documents announced that Moquim and his real estate firm along with other associates has defrauded the ORHDC. The court also asked the convicts to deposit ₹1 lakh each as fine.

It should be stated here that Kumar was dismissed from service in February this year.

1 environmental activist killed every 2 days

Mexico emerges the worst offender with mass killings of land protectors in 2021

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

London, Sep 29: One environmental activist has been killed every two days on average over the past decade across the globe, a new report titled 'A Decade of Defiance: Ten Years of Reporting Land and Environmental Activism Worldwide', said Thursday. The report has been prepared by the London-based 'Global Witness' and it highlights the increasing urgency to protect land and environmental defenders as climate and bio-di-



versity crisis worsens. vironmental defender has been The research shows that in killed every two days. The the past decade a land and enworst offenders have been

Brazil, Colombia, Philippines and Mexico.

Since 2012, 'Global Witness' has been gathering data on the killings of land and environmental defenders. The research has found that a total of 1,733 people have been killed over the past 10 years, that's 'one person killed every two days'. Much of the increasing killing, violence and repression are linked to territorial conflicts and the pursuit of economic growth based on the extraction of natural resources from the land. Continued on P4

on of tra forms, a palette of rich hue

and a canvas of crafted tales bired by ulbrant Pichwai painting rkling Diwall Co Alekhya. Each piece, aglow wit resplendence. Each piece a tale that awaits to unfuri with you

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gests Ganesha. Keep yourself busy, but take care not to overdo anything. Today,

you will be the centre of attention in

your life - put on your

walking shoes and go

FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES



MEGHAN TRAINOR VISITED A SEX SHOP 'FOR A FRIEND'

Singer Meghan Trainor once visited a sex shop but was caught by the paparazzi. However, the 28-year-old pop star explained that she didn't visit for herself. "It was for a friend who was too, too shy to get sex toys, so I bought it for her," clarified Meghan.

KANYE WEST USES KRIS JENNER'S PHOTO AS HIS INSTA PROFILE

Rapper Kanye West isn't done attacking his former mother-in-law Kris Jenner. The Famous hitmaker, recently took a subtle jab at the Kardashian-Jenner matriarch with his social media activity. Now the fans have noticed that Kanye changed his Instagram profile picture to a picture of Kris.



Rashami gears up for Navratri

Mumbai: Television star Rashami Desai. who is known for shows such as *Uttaran* and Naagin, said that she loves the festival of Navratri and enjoys playing garba

'I personally love the festival of Navratri and know all the dance steps. I really love playing Garba and I can do it anywhere whether it is in my society or at any public ground.'

"I'm very excited for this year since we couldn't enjoy the festival for the past few years due to the pandemic. Spending hours dancing and celebrating with family and friends is what Navratri is all about," said Rashami.

On the acting front, Rashami was last seen on screen in the reality show Bigg Boss 15, where actress Tejasswi Prakash emerged winner and she was the 5th runner-up. IANS

Parineeti gets out of her comfort zone

Mumbai: Actress Parineeti Chopra has shared that she had to learn Israeli martial art form Krav Maga for three months to perfect her role as an elite agent in the film Code Name Tiranga. Developed for the Israel Defence Forces, Krav Maga is derived from a combination of techniques used in aikido, judo, karate, and boxing and wrestling.

niques of an agent is hand to hand combat, so I learnt Krav Maga, a form of martial arts, for a total of 3 months to get my action sequences right.

form of martial arts as its not only just movements but it also needs a lot of mental aware ness of the surroundings one is in which is what exactly an agent needs to do

She adds: "Most of my fight sequences were against men who were a lot taller than me like the stunt men and co-actor Sharad Kelkar and sometimes the fight sequences would require them to fight with their full body weight.

jures and bruises all over her body.

Harrdy posite with qualities like these in your kitty, don't be surprised if you happen to reach a milestone October or two today. Will it be marital bliss or caree 14. success? No matter what the area is, be

VIRGO

LEO

The booster rockets of your ambitions and spirit to work will kick in at the maximum today. Seek recreation after a hard day's work and look to relax at pri vate parties, social-dos and even weddings, says Ganesha

heady boost today, assures Ganesha

.IBRA "Every man has specific nat-

ural abilities", said Aristotle This seems to be true for you today. Your natural talents will be acknowledged and documented at work. This might prompt your equals t

Parineeti says, "One of the key action tech-

"It is a very physically and mentally demanding

The movie

Sandhu op-Parineeti and is set to release





what I could do. My pitch to

them was 'I'd save you a

lot of money on VFX

because I can

They were quite impressed as to

on a mission.'

Parineeti said that at the end of most days she had in-

also stars



close to play Spider-Man do most of what Spider-Man can do', Mumbai: Tiger Shroff's only tryst with the superhero genre so far has been the Tiger said. While the actor did not clarify when 2016 release A Flying Jatt. But the actor recently revealed that he was almost a Marvel this was, the only time Spider-Man has superhero even before that, as he auditioned

When Tiger came

been cast since Tiger's debut was in 2015 when Tom Holland was brought on board as the third actor to play the role on screen. Tiger was last seen on screen in Heropanti 2, which also starred

Nawazuddin Siddiqui. AGENCIES

Tara Sutaria and

NATIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL - DAY 4 Based on Behmai massacre, *Agarbati* jolts audience

Bhubaneswar: Theatre aficionados were treated with Hindi play Agarbati here at Rabindra Mandap, Thursday, one the fourth evening of a national theatre festival organised by Odisha Natya Sangha (ONS) to celebrate the 35th year of its formation.

Samagama Ranga Mandal of Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) presented the play written by Ashish Pathak and directed by Swati Dubey. The play was a riveting tale of caste, gender, class and conflict and politics, based on the Behmai massacre committed by Bandit Queen Phoolan Devi and her gang to avenge her gangrape by the upper-caste Thakur men of Behmai. It portrays how the widows of Thakurs run their houses by making incense sticks. What



Bhawna Jain, Arpit Khatik, Vidhan president Haren Sahoo, treasurer

SUDOKU

TAURUS

group activities

You will find yourself at the crossroads and each turn and twist will come with its share of pros and cons, says Ganesha. Your sentiments may have an ill-effect on

your health. You may spend quality time with family members and friends, hoping to shed the burden thrust upon your soul

GEMINI

Your health interests will take precedence over career, says Ganesha, There are indications that you will spare more time working out at a gym. Those in the field of marketing and advertising will have a fabulous time

CANCER Today, you will be extremely

get rid of your negative thoughts and beliefs and start taking charge of things

at hand. Also, stop focussing so much on

impulsive and spontaneous,

the pitfalls, and start working

If one were to put an earnest

together, the result would be a

Leo: it's like your hallmark. And

spirit and a frank attitude

feels Ganesha. You better

hold you up above the rest, and for your seniors to positively encourage you to scale greater heights. But as always, be careful to make sure that success does not make you heady with arrogance, cautions Ganesha.

he ladies are doing and how their lives have turned out post the massacre is what kept the

Apart from director Swati Dubey, others who performed on stage included Mansi Rawat, Ayushi Rao, Shivanjali Gajbhiye, Sahshee Gupta,

FUN

Katare and Ankit Kumar.

Culture Director Ranjan Kumar Das, Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi president Aruna Mohanty, ONS

Satya Jena and dramatists Mihir Meher & Sudhanshu Dwivedi were among the dignitaries who were present on the occasion. PNN

SCORPIO

You will find yourself thinking with your heart rather than your head today, says Ganesha. You may not be able to repress your feelings, and you should not even try. But you should be careful about how you express them, particularly in public as people may judge you wrongly on the basis of it, advises Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

The day may pan out to be more challenging than you had anticipated. An inde pendent free bird as you Archers are, you may find really it irritating to find your hands tied up in unpleasant money matters. But, then that's a part of life: put in your best to overcome any situation you come across.

CAPRICORN

Your exuberance and selfconfidence will become the talk of the day for those around you. But it's not for nothing that you will attract so much attention. You will derive pleasure in accomplishing her culean tasks today, and Ganesha says you will do justice to work too.

Team work and cooperation bring out the best in you, so vou must make the most of a chance to work in a group. It could be brainstorming, or campaigning for an environmental cause or even playing beach ball! A game of cards in the evening, and consider your day well spent, says Ganesha.

.

PISCES

The workaholic in your bursts to the fore with a vengeance, and today will see you tackle pending projects with the zeal of a Holy Templar crusader. Your energy levels will be unflagging, and your enthusiasm to wipe your slate clean admirable. Make the most of it, says Ganesha.



HERE COMES

JOE MOTOCROSS BACK FROM THE

RACES ..



SERIOUSLY, YOU I CAN ONLY

FIND ONE OF YOUR SOCK

COULD NEVER HAVE DONE THAT

IF MY TAUNTS HADN'T BOOSTED

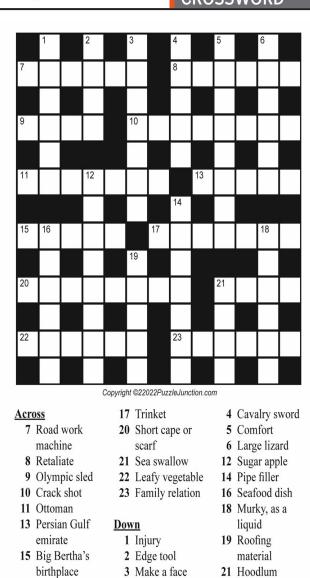
YOUR ADRENALIN

CALVIN AND HOBBES









CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

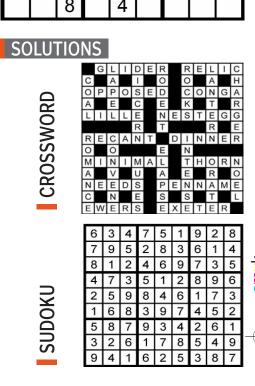


CROSSWORD

the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.								
2			d		1			
				9		3	4	
6	4		2				7	
	3		6			1		7
	8		7		<i>w</i>	2		9
						6		
				5	3			
	1							8
		0		4				

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a

manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains









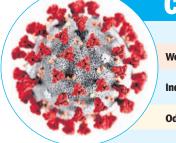


downtown



CARDIAC HEALTH FIRS

An awareness rally was organised by Care Hospitals in Bhubaneswar on the occasion of World Heart Day, Thursday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
orld	62,20,07,653	60,19,51,358	65,45,947
dia	4,45,83,360	4,40,13,999	5,28,611
disha	13,33,887	13,23,437	9,192

party leaders inaugurating the padayatra preparatory meet at Baramunda Ground ader Debi Prasad Mishra along with





Party's organisational secretary



Jayagarh MLA Arun Sahoo at the meet BJD leaders attending the preparatory meeting

5 automated testing stations in state soon

state govt asks the transport commissioner to







Cultural programme at Bhubaneswar airport to welcome Nadda





People lending an ear to Nadda's speech

SC collegium recommends transfer of CJS Muralidhar

Jew Delhi, Sept 29: The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended transfer of Orissa High Court Chief uralidhar as the Chie





draft the ATS policy as soon as possible to set up the testing centres



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: The state government is going to prepare a policy for setting up of automated testing stations (ATS) to check fitness of vehicles as the Centre has decided to make it mandatory in a phased manner from April 2023. Automated testing stations will

be set up at five locations in the state to check fitness of old vehicles. Before finalising the tender for selection of operators for the proposed ATS to be set up in the state, the Transport department will come up with Automated Testing Station Policy for the state, sources said Thursday.

The government has asked the transport commissioner to draft the policy as soon as possible. As per the plan, such stations will be set up at five locations in the state. The Inspection & Certification Centre at Arilo, Cuttack is also likely to be converted to an ATS Centre, the source said.

Notably, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is going to make fitness testing for heavy goods vehicles and heavy passenger motor vehicles through an ATS mandatory from April 1, 2023. In the case of medium goods vehicles, medium passenger motor ve-

oRTH is going to make fitness testing for heavy goods vehicles and heavy passenger motor vehicles through an ATS mandatory from April 1, 2023

The Inspection & Certification Centre at Arilo, Cuttack is also likely to be converted to an ATS Centre

hicles, and light motor vehicles (transport), the requirement will be made compulsory from June 1, 2024. An ATS uses equipment to automate the various tests required to check the fitness of a vehicle. Fitness testing for personal vehicles (non-transport) is done at the

time of renewal of registration (after 15 years). The ministry has also asked the states to announce state-level policy for Registered Vehicle Scrapping

Facility (RVSF) as it has already launched a similar policy at national level. The Transport department has also initiated the process to draft the policy, under which incentives will be provided to both the vehicle owners to scrap their vehicles and the investors to set up RVSFs.

New Delhi, Sept 29: Following the directions of the Supreme Court, the Union Jal Shakti ministry Thursday convened a meeting of secretaries of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Chhattisgarh to resolve the environmental concerns arising due to the Polavaram project. The meeting was convened by

Union Jal Shakti ministry secretary Pankaj Kumar. Chief secretaries and Water Department secretaries of four states joined the meeting in hybrid mode. This was the first meeting after the apex court order dated September 6. The officials said that since

the issue involves several technicalities, another meeting of technical experts will be held at Central Water Commission.

Significantly, the Supreme Court had September 6 asked the Union government to play a "pioneering role" in resolving the dispute among Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana



Officials said since the issue involves several technicalities, another meeting of technical experts will be held at **Central Water** Commission

Secy-level meeting fails to

resolve Polavaram dispute

and Chhattisgarh related to Polavaram project through talks. The SC had directed the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti to convene a meeting of higher officials from Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to resolve the environmental concerns arising out of the Polavaram project, being constructed by Andhra Pradesh on Godavari river.

A three-judge bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Abhay S Oka and Vikram Nath had noted that the project is centrally funded and suggested to the Union government that it can begin by having a meeting of the chief secretaries of all concerned states. The bench further said that chief ministers can meet to iron out any remaining differences. The apex court posted the matter for directions December 7.

Justice of Madras High Court.

A collegium headed by Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit recommended the transfer of Orissa HC Chief Justice S Muralidhar to Madras High Court. The collegium, which also comprised justices DY Chandrachud and Sanjay Kishan Kaul, met Wednesday to deliberate upon issues including the transfer of high court judges

Justice Muralidhar was appointed Chief Justice of Orissa High Court in December 2020. Before that, he was a judge of Punjab and Harvana High Court

He became a judge of the Delhi High Court in 2006. He was a part of the High Court bench that first legalised homosexuality in the 2009 Naz Foundation case. Justice Muralidhar-led division bench also convicted Sajjan Kumar in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots.

During his tenure as a judge at Delhi High Court, Justice Muralidhar also got rid of the con-

The research also helps to shed

more light on human-dog rela-

tionship and adds to our under-

standing of how the canines may

interpret and interact with human

Researchers collected samples of

sweat and breath from participants

before and after they did a diffi-

They self-reported their stress lev-

els before and after the task and the

researchers only used samples

where the person's blood pressure

The dogs were taught how to

search a scent line-up and alert re-

searchers to the correct sample.

The stress and relaxed samples

were then introduced but at this

stage the researchers did not know

and heart rate had increased.

Wilson said.

psychological states.

cult maths problem.

A collegium headed by **Chief Justice UU Lalit**

recommended the transfer of Orissa High **Court Chief Justice S** Muralidhar to Madras High Court

vention of judges being addressed as 'Lordships'

Justice Muralidhar began his law practice in Chennai in 1984. In 1987, he shifted to the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court. He was appointed amicus curiae by the apex court in several PIL cases. He was also a part time member of the Law Commission of India.

Dogs can smell stress from sweat, breath: Study

ogs can smell stress from a human's sweat and breath, according to a study conducted in the UK.

The research, published recently in the journal PLOS ONE, reinforces that dogs are highly sensitive and intuitive animals.

The research involved four dogs from Belfast-Treo, Fingal, Soot and Winnie-and 36 people. In every test session, each dog was given one person's relaxed and stressed samples, taken only four minutes apart. All of the dogs were able to cor-

rectly alert the researchers to each person's stress sample. "The findings show that we, as humans, produce different smells through our sweat and breath

when we are stressed and dogs can tell this apart from our smell when relaxed - even if it is someone they do not know," said Clara



Researchers collected samples of sweat and breath from participants before and after they did a difficult maths problem.

Wilson, a PhD student at Queen's University Belfast.

before and after the task and the researchers only used samples where the person's blood pressure and heart rate had increased

"This is the first study of its kind and the knowledge could

be useful while training servif there was an odour difference that ice dogs and therapy dogs," the dogs could detect.

'The study made us more aware of a dog's ability to use their nose to "see" the world. We believe this study really developed Treo's ability to sense a change in emotion at home," said Helen Parks, owner of Treo, a Cocker Spaniel.

"The study reinforced for us that dogs are highly sensitive and intuitive animals and there is immense value in using what they do best - sniffing!" Parks said.

In addition to Wilson, the study included researcher Kerry Campbell, an MSc. Student in the School of Psychology.

They were supervised by Catherine Reeve, with support on collecting the human physi-ological measures from Zachary Petzel.









downtown

Police to focus on DNA testing: DGP



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: The Director General of State Police, Sunil Kumar Bansal Thursday urged the cops to take the help of advanced technologies like DNA testing during investigation to better the dismal conviction rate in cases of sexual abuse of women and children. While addressing the participants at the of DNA techniques in sexual assault cases", Bansal

said DNA examination is an effective advanced technological tool to prove the accused guilty with facts and evidences. He also asserted that the criminals cannot escape punishment as investigation with the help of cutting-edge technology like DNA examination is to get an accused convicted.

Bansal claimed that the state police will increase the focus on the use of DNA examination while probing serious and heinous crimes

in future. He also expressed hope that this would better the conviction rate in the state.

As many as 92 police officers in the rank of DSPs, Inspectors, Scientific Officers and assistant SOs from Bhubaneswar and Cuttack UPD, Dhenkanal, Kendrapara, Khurda, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Jajpur and Jagatsinghpur participated in the training programme which was held at the conference hall of Police Bhawan Thursday Principal scientific officer of

Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) Central Forensic Science Laboratory, BK Mohapatra, and Keshav Kumar, former DGP, director of Anti cuppruption Bureau and the visiting faculty member in National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar addressed the gatherings too. The twin city Police

Commissioner, Saumendra Priyadarshi, Arun Bothra, Crime Branch ADGP graced the occasion

Idco asst manager under Vig scanner

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: The Vigilance directorate Thursday conducted simultaneous searches at different locations related to a senior officer of the Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (Idco) on the allega tions of amassing wealth disproportionate to the his known sources of income. The accused official identified as Manoj Kumar Lenka, the assistant manager (Civil) at Idco here. Several teams of the anti-corruption wing comprising two DSPs, 10 inspectors, two sub-inspectors, five assistant sub-inspectors (ASIs) and other staffers are carrying out raids at seven places in Khurda, Puri and Kendrapara districts till the last report came in.

The Vigilance officials have so far detected Lenka's triple-storey residential building at Koradakanta,



Idco asst manager Manoj Kumar Lenka

a market complex at Uttara Chhak, a shop at Metro Mansions near Rabi Talkies, a flat at Grand Asian Apartment in Puri, one house at Niladri Nagar in Jharpada, another 3-storey residential building with garage at Belatala and the native house in Pattamundai area of Kendrapara. "The measurement and valuation/assessment of the buildings/flat/market complex/ shop/plots is being carried out by Vigilance Technical Wing," said Vigilance sources

dev works by Dec'

POST NEWS NETWORK

'Complete Suando

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: The Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra Thursday asked concerned department officials to complete execution of works for the development of Suando village. the birthplace of Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das, by December end.

The state government has undertaken several projects to transform the village near Sakshigopal of Puri district into a heritage site. A museum, renovation of the ancestral house of Utkalmani, beautification of the village, construction of a road and other facilities are part of the project.

Mahapatra reviewed construction of Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das birthplace memorial and museum project at Suando and stressed on the completion of the projects by the end of the year.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: Senior Advocate and Advocate General of Odisha Ashok Kumar Parija, Thursday, joined the KIIT Deemed to be University as its new chancellor

Parija took charge of the office from Ved Prakash after the completion of his term. He was welcomed by KIIT-KISS founder and mentor Achyuta Samanta in the presence of KIIT-DU pro-chancellor SK Acharya; vice chancellor Sasmita Samanta, VC, KISS DU Deepak Behera; pro-VC Saranjit Singh; pro-VC CBK Mohanty; Registrar Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty and other senior functionaries of KIIT-DU.

After the completion of Ved Prakash's term August 10, 2022, the KIIT authorities selected Parija



for the post of chancellor. As chancellor is an honorary position, it will not hamper his work as Advocate General, said sources

Parija is among the most respected advocates in the country having a long distinguished service spanning over 38 years. He was designated as a senior advocate by the Orissa High Court in 2003 and appointed the Advocate General

Stolen Aus coke seized; 1 held Parija is among the

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; Sept 29: The Special Task Force (STF) of Crime Branch has arrested one person and seized huge quantity of stolen Australian Coke at Korua in Gobindapur area under Dhusri Police limits in Bhadrak district. The accused was identified as Malava Kumar Mallick. 30, resident of Alingi in Niali area of Cuttack district

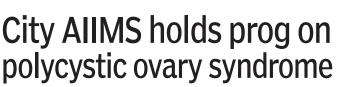
Following a tip-off, the STF sleuths intercepted a truck carrying high grade Australian coking coal at Barpadi Chowk in Dhamnagar of Bhadrak district Wednesday. The cops seized 31.290 ton of Australian coking coal worth 13 lakhs and other incriminating materials during the raid.

The STF arrested the accused Mallick by registering a case (20/22) for failing to produce any valid document in support of the possession of such contraband coal. Mallick was later produced before the Dhamnagar JMFC court that sent him to judicial custody.

ACSO caught taking bribe

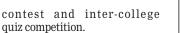
POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: The vigilance officials Thursday caught the Assistant Civil Supplies Officer (ACSO) of Khurda red-handed while taking bribe of Rs 50,000 from the representative of a rice mill owner for issuance of final verification report of KMS 2021-2022 and for conducting the inspection of the modernization work of rice mill. The accused, Bishnu Charan Parida, allegedly demanded the bribe from a rice mill owner to submit the verification report favouring the complaint at earliest. The owner lodged a complaint with the vigilance seeking action against the corrupt ACSO. Subsequently, the anti- corruption sleuths Thursday laid a trap to nab Parida. 'Following trap, house search is going on at Government residential quarter of Parida at 2RB/3, Road-5 unit-Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar from DA angle. In this connection, Vigilance Cell PS Case No. 7 dt.29.9.2022 U/s 7 PC Amendment Act, 2018 was registered. Investigation in progress against Parida, revealed a vigilance official.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: Worldwide, September is observed as polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) awareness month. PCOS is a complex hormonal condition. Though the causes are not vet fully un-



A public awareness program was held in the O&G OPD for women suffering from PCOS where dietary counselling was provided, and voga poses were demonstrated. In a culmination of this series of awareness activities, an academic event is being conducted to get valuable insights on varied aspects of this disorder from several renowned faculties. PCOS predisposes to several long-term health risks like diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol which in turn increase the risk of heart attack and stroke.







most respected

advocates in the

country having a

long distinguished

by the Government of Odisha in

2019. He served as the Bar Council

Welcoming Parija, Samanta said,

"Shri Parija is a renowned Odia per-

son. In the capacity of chancellor,

Parija will advise the university for

the next five years. KIIT Deemed to

be University will continue its jour-

ney towards educational, research

and all-round excellence with re-

newed vigour under the able lead-

ership of Shri Parija.'

service spanning

over 38 years

of India chairman in 2011.

their various demands at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, Thursday

derstood, there is a role of family history, genetics, hormones and lifestyle. It is a chronic disease that stays with the woman throughout her life and no definite cure is available till date.

Awareness is the first step towards any change and acceptance is the second step. In line with this philosophy, the department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G), AIIMS, Bhubaneswar organised many activities during this month dedicated to PCOS awareness, including a panel discussion, slogan

In a study conducted at the City AIIMS, nearly 70 per cent women with PCOS were obese and onethird had metabolic abnormalities putting them at high risk for future cardiovascular diseases

KNOCKED DOWN: A bamboo structure erected in front of Rajarani Temple for upcoming Durga Puja came crashing down following a wind-aided rain at Tankapani Road in Bhubaneswar, Thursday OP PHOTO

Continued from P1

1 environment activist killed every 2 days

Evidence also shows that the data on killings does not capture the true scale of the problem. In some countries, the situation facing defenders is hard to gauge - restrictions on a free press and a lack of independent monitoring in many countries often leads to underreporting. The research has found that few perpetrators of killings are ever brought to justice due to the failures of governments to properly investigate these crimes. Many authorities ignore or actively impede investigations into these killings often due to alleged collusion between corporate and state interests. "All over the world, Indigenous peoples, environmental activists and other land and environmental defenders risk their lives for the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. They play a crucial role as a first line of defence against ecological collapse, yet are under attack themselves facing violence, criminalisation and harassment perpetuated by repressive governments and companies prioritising profit over human and environmental harm," a Global Witness spokesperson said.

The data found within the report shows that over half of the attacks over the 10-year period have taken place in Brazil, Colombia, and the Philippines. From the 2021 data specifically, Mexico is the country with the highest recorded number of killings and over three-quarters of the attacks recorded in 2021 took place in Latin America.

SAFE holds workshop on automobile technology

The state government is planning to provide Emergency Care and Road Safety training to 65000 NCC volunteers and 95000 NSS volunteers. Bishnupada Sethi. Principal Secretary Department of Commerce and Transport said

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: With the vision to promote safe mobility across the nation, the Society for Automotive Fitness & Environment (SAFE), a SIAM initiative, organised a workshop on "Automobile Technology, Regulations and Policy Support", Thursday in the Capital city.

Prashant K Banerjee, Executive Director, SIAM emphasized on road safety, upcoming vehicular technologies and I&C systems in

Odisha, He said that looking at the proactive initiatives of Odisha government, we decided to organise annual convention of SAFE in the state.

D Balakrishnan, Vice President, SAFE and General Manager, Ashok Leyland, thanked Odisha government for encouraging them to participate in their safety initiatives along with various stakeholders.

Arun Bothra, IPS, Transport Commissioner & Additional DGP (CID-Crime), said, "Road safety is a high priority area for our gov-



ernment. While it is our legal responsibility to enforce the laws which ensure safer roads, ultimately it is a shared responsibility Behavioural change is the need of the hour to make our road safer." He urged the industry to come up with technology-based safety features in Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMV) as well. Bothra called upon SIAM members to tie up with Rakshak and Vahak initiatives of Odisha government

Bishnupada Sethi, Principal

Secretary Department of Commerce and Transport said, "Lack of voluntary initiatives and emergency care is a big deterrent in Road Safety. Our government is planning to provide Emergency Care and Road Safety training to 65000 NCC volunteers and 95000 NSS volunteers." He further said that Odisha is an investment friendly state. If there is any policy changes required to make road safer in the state, the government is ready to cooperate.

91% clear Instant Exam

Bhubaneswar: The CHSE declared the Plus II Instant Examination results Thursday. Altogether 1,090 students out of 1,187 cleared the examination in Arts, Science, Commerce and Vocational courses this year. While 110 examinees (88% of the students) cleared the test in Science stream, 93.15% passed in Arts, 81.96% in Commerce and 90% in Vocational subjects.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488. Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion-Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.







state

15K Birmaharajpur farmers left out of KALIA, PM Kisan

Social activists blamed ineffectiveness of schemes on poor awareness and faulty selection of beneficiaries



POST NEWS NETWORK

Amarpali, Sept 29: Both the state and Central governments have executed a host of schemes for welfare of farmers. The state is implementing KALIA while the centre has Pradhan Mantri Kisan Yojana. But over 15.000 eligible farmers are still deprived of the benefits of the schemes in Birmaharajpur block of Subarnapur district.

OrissaPOST

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 30 | 2022 | BHUBANESWAR

As per official guidelines, a person who has a ration card, less than five acre of land and none of his/her family members in government service is entitled to get assistance under KALIA and PM Kisan Yojana.

The deprived farmers alleged that at some places, more than one person in many families have got assistance

As per reports, there are 23,529 people in 25 panchayats under Birmaharajpur block entitled to get benefits under both the schemes.

Of them, 8,206 people have been provided financial assistance under both the schemes. However, the schemes' benefits

have eluded as many as 15,293 eligible farmers

In Bagbar panchayat, 2,284 farm-

ers are eligible, but only 821 have received assistance. Of 1,478 eligible farmers in Bahalpadar panchayat, only 52 have got assistance. Only 131 out of 747 eligible farm-

ers have received such benefits in Lutupank; 474 out of 970 in Durjantaila; 575 out of 2,607 in Hilung; 275 in Champamal; 833 out of 1,717 in Kenjhariapal; 862 out of 2,507 in Khandahata; 99 out of 1,487 in Subalaya; 300 out of 1,256 in Pitamahal; 935 out of 2,354 in Mursundhi and 722 out of 2,174 in Ufula panchayats.

The deprived farmers have expressed their displeasure over it. They alleged that at some places, more than one person in many

families have been provided assistance under the two schemes. Social activists have blamed the

ineffectiveness of the schemes on poor awareness among farmers and faulty selection of beneficiaries. Many farmers are unable to produce right documents to claim their benefits in time. Contacted, block agriculture of-

ficer Makardhwai Patel said that the farmers who consider themselves deserving of the benefits have to apply before October 16 to get assistance



7 students injured as plaster falls off ceiling

Keonjhar: At least seven students were injured after a patch of plaster fell off the ceiling of their classroom at Arjunbila Primary School under Ghatagaon block in Keonjhar district, Thursday. The mishap occurred when classes were on. Some days ago, locals had repaired the school building. Guardians have expressed their displeasure over such mishap

Traffic snarl on NH-49 as truck crushes biker

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Sept 29: Traffic on National Highway-49 passing through this district was disrupted for over five hours after a man was crushed to death by a speeding truck while his mother-in-law at pillion sustained critical injuries near Jagamohanpur under Telkoi police station limits.

The incident sparked tension in the area as irate locals staged a road blockade on the highway for over five hours. They demanded compensation for the bereaved family and the injured and rumblers at the accident site as the patch has a history of several mishaps.

As a result, hundreds of vehicles were stranded on both sides of the highway. The deceased was identified as Bhikari Charan Dehurv (40), a native of Katini village under Telkoi police limits. The injured mother-in-law Malli Dandapat was admitted to Keonjhar district headquarters hospital.

Chhatrapur logs poor show in MGNREGS POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur, Sept 29: Chhatrapur block in Ganjam district has lagged behind other blocks in the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural **Employment Guarantee Scheme** (MGNREGS). The fact came to the fore during a recent public hearing on execution of National Food Security act (NFSA) and MGNREGS here.

The hearing was attended by Chhatrapur sub-collector Prasana Kumar Patra and district social auditor Rabindranath Malan.

The audit revealed that the administration had set a target to execute 814 projects under MGN-REGS in the block between April 2021 and March 2022. Of them, only 226 projects have been completed while work on 588 projects is going on at different stages. Furthermore, while 23,595 job cards have been distributed in 18 panchayats, only 16,270 cards have been made active, it was learnt.

Under the rural job scheme, 10.70.855 workdays have been created during the period while 2,990 families have got 100 workdays, the audit said.

Killer jumbo sent to Kapilash rehab centre

Dhenkanal: The female elephant that had created mayhem killing three people in Jagatpur and Tangi areas of Cuttack was tranquilised Thursday and brought to the elephant rehabilitation centre at Kapilash. The animal was affected by dehydration. DFO Prakash Chand Gogineni said that the sick elephant will be treated at a special cell.

EAST COAST RAIL E-AUCTION OF PARKING STAND

Publication/4598. Date: 23.09.2022 tion: SI. No. 1: Gorakhnat heeler (near Platform-1), <u>SI. No. 2:</u> Manjur pad-2 Wheeler (in circulating area), <u>SI. No. 3</u> hilikdara-2 Wheeler (at Station Building), <u>SI</u> No. 4: Nilakantheswar-2 Wheeler (at Platfo side), SI. No. 5: Ghantikal Nidhipur Wheeler (near Station entry gate), <u>SI. No. 6</u> Basantpur-2 Wheeler (at Platform-1 side), <u>S</u> nia-2 Wheeler (in circulating are 8: Golanthra-2 Wh ilding), SI. No. 9: Nayagarh-2 Whe tation building), SI. No. 10: Rajsunakhala-/heeler (basement of Station Building), S er (basement of Station Building), <u>S</u> Chatrapur Court PH-2 Wheele wards Down Line side), SI. No. 12: Bolagar oad-2 Wheeler (basement of Station Building SI. No. 13: Mahipur-2 Wheeler (at Platform N 1 side), <u>SI. No. 14</u>: Ganjam-2 Wheeler (close t station building), <u>SI. No. 15</u>: Dhaulimuhan PH 2 Wheeler (near waiting hall at Platform-1 side SI. No. 16: Vanivihar PH.-2 Wheeler (near tation building), SI. No. 17: Kaipadar Road-No. 19: Banbihari Gwalipur PH.-2 Whe Platform-2 side), <u>SI. No. 20</u>: Badabandha Wheeler (near Platform-1), <u>SI. No. 21</u>: Baran

tion End Date & Time: 10.10.2022 at 1030 hrs. (for sl. no. 1), at **1040** hrs. (for sl. no. 2), at **1050** hrs. (for sl. no. 3), at **1100** hrs. (for sl. no. 4), at 1110 hrs. (for sl. no. 5), at 1120 hrs. (for sl. no. 4) 6), at 1130 hrs. (for sl. no. 7), at 1140 hrs. (for sl. no. 7) no, 8), at 1150 hrs. (for sl. no, 9), at 1200 hrs. (fo hrs. (j), at 1730 hrs. (for sl. no. 1), at 1220 hrs. (for sl. no. 12), at 1230 hrs. (for sl. no. 13), at 1240 hrs. (for sl. no. 14), at 1250 hrs. (for sl. no. 15), at 1300 hrs. (for sl. no. 16), at 1310 hrs. (fo sl, no. 17), at 1320 hrs. (for sl. no. 18), at 1330 hrs. (for sl. no. 19), at 1340 hrs. (for sl. no. 20), at 1350 hrs. (for sl. no. 21), at 1400 hrs. (for sl. no. 22), at 1410 hrs. (for sl. no. 23), at 1420 hrs. (fo 1440 hrs. (for sl. no. 26). Note: Prospective bidders are advised to visi he https://ireps.gov.in and check the upcoming e-auction leasing tab to get all equired information regarding this e-auction Sr. Divisional Comr ercial Manage PR-556/N/22-23 Khurda Roa



STUDENTS' STIR: Students of Lady Lewis Girls' High School in Sambalpur staged a demonstration outside the main gate protesting the transfer of 10 teachers including the headmaster, Thursday OP PHOTO

Mystery shrouds minor's death in Jeypore; family cries foul

POST NEWS NETWORK

POST NEWS NETWORK

pensation.

Joda/Champua, Sept 29: Land of

some tribals has been acquired for

Kanpur major irrigation project at

Kainta village under Champua tehsil

in Keonihar. But for the last 10 years.

the land losers have been complaining

that they have not yet received their com-

tention of the authorities concerned,

the latter are paying no heed to our

complaints," some villagers lamented.

Jagannath Tiria, Narayan Tiria and

Atmi Tiria had 40 decimal of land

(khata-161/37 and plot 60/2245) at

Raveshawpur (A). This patch of land had

been acquired 10 years ago for the

Reports said, tribal residents like

"Though we have been drawing at-

Jeypore, Sept 29: Mystery shrouds the death of a 12-year-old boy as he was found lying dead on the terrace of his residence at Sriram Nagar in Parabedha area of the town, Thursday.

as Shibashis Nayak, son of Gadadhar Navak and a student of Class-VII at Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir at Arabinda Nagar in Parabedha, Family members

Family members and locals demanded an impartial probe into the death. Jeypore Town police registered a case of unnatural death and launched an investigation.

rooftop. Family members rushed him to the district headquarters

hospital in Jeypore where doctors pronounced him dead. Family members alles

He added that government officials and sarpanchs are not ensuring right implementation of the employment scheme and there is lack of team effort.

He observed that GRSs and junior engineers have to lay emphasis on execution of the MGN-REGS projects in their respective panchayats.

Besides, the officials reviewed execution of social security schemes like pension. The district social auditor said that pension is being credited into accounts of two people who have

Wheeler (near circulating area), SI. No. 18 Kuhuri-2 Wheeler (opposite circulating are), SI 2 Wheeler (near OFC room at Platform-1 side) SI. No. 22: Tangiriapal-2 Wheeler (near station building), SI. No. 23: Bhusandpur-2 Wheele (near Pump House at Platform-1 A side), <u>SI. No.</u> <u>24</u>: Bolagarh Town PH-2 Wheeler (at Platform no.-1 side), <u>SI. No. 25</u>: Solari-2 Wheeler (a Station Building side) and <u>SI. No. 26</u>: Brahman <u>PH.</u> 20Wheeler (IPBice (IDBice)) uction Start Date & Time: 10.10.2022

The deceased was identified

Man killed in wall collapse

Koraput: A person died and two vehicles got damaged after the boundary wall of Saheed Laxman Nayak Medical College and Hospital in Koraput caved in Wednesday night amid heavy rains. The deceased was identified as local trader Anil Choudhary. A car and a scooty were parked near the boundary wall near Aahaar centre while heavy rain was lashing Wednesday night. Anil was going on the scooty carrying a food packet when the wall collapsed on him. Police registered a case and started an investigation in the matter. Locals alleged the botched-up work of the boundary wall was the reason it caved in during the spell of heavy rain.

RDC makes surprise visit to Dhenkanal DHH

Dhenkanal: Revenue Divisional Commissioner (RDC, Nothern range) Suresh Chandra Dalei made a surprise visit to Dhenkanal Thursday. He visited the district headquarters hospital (DHH) and inspected various wards. During the visit, the RDC interacted with patients and their attendants. Some patients and attendants alleged before the RDC that some medicines are not available at the DHH while doctors' shortage has affected healthcare services here. The patients also pointed out some other problems at the hospital. The RDC informed that new doctors will be recruited and after appointment of doctors, healthcare services will be streamlined.

cried foul over the death saying that some anti-social youths near the Dussehra ground of the town extorted money from him

Sources said that he returned home after appearing his half-yearly examination but was later found lving in a critical condition on the

Superintending

engineer in Vig net

Bhadrak: Vigilance sleuths detained the

superintending engineer of Bhadrak Salandi

unaccounted cash amounting to Rs 5 lakh. The

received complaints in his name of demanding bribe from consultancy agencies and

contractors. They nabbed the superintending

engineer and his brother-in-law when the

former was handing over Rs 5 lakh to his

brother-in-law, Vigilance superintendent

superintending engineer Srimanta Kumar

(shopkeeper) were found in possession of

lakh which Sethy could not account for

years," they rued.

suspected ill-ootten cash to the tune of Rs 5

Sethy and his brother-in-law Karunakar Sethy

Narahari Navak said, Reportedly,

Canal Division and his brother-in-law with

superintending engineer was identified as

Srimant Sethi and his brother-in-law as

Karunakar Sethi. The sleuths had earlier

found frothing from mouth when they found him in a critical condition on the rooftop with an injury mark on his neck.

However, among the 22 blocks in the district. Chhatrapur has not fared well in the execution of MGN-REGS, said the sub-collector.

died in two panchayats. The officials concerned have been asked to identify the deceased

beneficiaries

NOTIFICATION

This is for the information of all concerned that M/s Trident Properties has been accorded **Environmental Clearance from State Environment** Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Odisha for construction of Proposed Fourteen Blocks of (S+4) Storied Residential Apartment Building with built up area 70,174.51 Sqm. at Mouza-Paikarapur, Bhubaneswar, Dist- Khurda, Odisha. A copy of the said clearance Ref. No. 6361/SEIAA and File No. 27973/14-NCP-V/06-2018, Dated 30th November, 2018 is available with the website of the SEIAA at http://www.orissaseiaa.gov.in/ and Consent to Establish has been obtained from State Pollution Control Board, Odisha vide Letter No. 13094/IND-II-CTE-6533, dated 28.07.2022.

Trident Properties Pvt. Ltd.

OFFICE OF DEAN & PRINCIPAL SAHEED LAXMAN NAYAK MEDICAL COLLEGE KORAPUT-764020, KORAPUT, ODISHA Tel. 06852-250101// E-mail : slnmchkoraput.od@gov.in

No.3914 Date:28.09.2022

TENDER CALL NOTICE

No.E-502:Sealed Tenders are invited from the Registered firms for "Supply of Books" (Medical) for the financial year 2022-23 in two bid system (Technical & Financial) so as to reach the office of the undersigned within Twenty one days from the date of Publication of the advertisement till 5.P.M. The detailed Tender paper, Terms & Conditions and list of the Books can be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of Rs.2000/- cash + GST@18% (nonrefundable) at the Accounts Section. The details are also available in the website www.slnmch.nic.in. www.koraput.nic.in . Those who will download the tender documents from the website should enclose a DD for Rs.2000/- + GST@18% towards cost of the Tender paper in favour of Dean & Principal, SLN Medical College, Koraput.

The undersigned reserves the right to cancel of the Tender full or parts at any time without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd./- Dean & Principal SLN Medical College,Koraput OIPR-10121/11/0012/2223

CUTTACK MUNICIPAL CUKPUKATIUN					
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE					
No. C-1327 Tender ID: 2022_ORULB_81870					
Tender Call Notice No. 5586 (PW) Date: 28.09.2022					
Name of Works : Procurement of LED Flood Light Fittings with PVC insulated twin core flat aluminum wire etc for fixing at Baliyatra Ground ensuing Baliyatra Festival 2022.					
Bid Value : Rs.31.18 lakhs					
Period of Completion : Fifteen Days					
Date and Time Schedule :					
Start	End	Opening			
3.00 P.M. on Dt.29.09.2022	5.00 P.M. on Dt.10.10.2022	4.00 P.M. on Dt.13.10.2022			

AUTTAON MUNICIDAL CODDODATION

Tender details can be seen from the procurement portal www.tendersorissa.gov.in.

> **Executive Engineer, City Division-I** OIPR-13031/11/0078/2223



From 01/10/2022 to Available of bid documents in the website 5 PM of 12/10/2022 Date of Opening of Bid 11 AM of 13/10/2022 The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website

	Sd/- (Er. P.K. Majhi)
	Superintending Engineer,
OIPR-34091/11/0019/2223	Cuttack (R&B) Division No.I

provision in the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2006, the families facing displacement more than once are entitled to get usual financial compensation along with an additional 50 percent compensation amounts. FILE PHOTO "But this provision has been thrown

satisfactorily.

Kanpur irrigation project. A canal is being excavated on their land.

KANPUR IRRIGATION PROJECT

Land losers in Champua await damages

The land losers had first apprised the special land acquisition officer about the pending compensation in May, 2016.

the officer and the administration to pay our compensation, no step is being taken in this direction even after 10

"Though we have been reminding

to the winds here in our case. We had

been displaced earlier. Again we had to lose our land. This provision should be applied in our case," said Jagannath Tiria.

> The land losers sought to know why the project authorities are sitting pretty without paying compensation after acquiring the land. They urged the state government to pay heed to their problem.

They also pointed out that as per

by their supporters.

Live within: be not shaken by outward happenings.

SRI AUROBINDO

Populists in Denial

'n the run-up to Brazil's presidential election next month, President Jair

Bolsonaro is crafting his own version of former US President Donald Trump's

"Big Lie": the claim that a loss at the ballot box is fraudulent. Incumbents

who adopt this tactic might simply refuse to concede, while still leaving qui-

etly. Or, more dangerously, they can foment outrage and even incite violence

It is no surprise that Bolsonaro, dubbed the "Trump of the Tropics,"

would emulate Trump in this respect. Trump has demonstrated how an elec-

toral loser can remain a powerful – even domineering – force in a country's

politics. But accepting the results of elections is one of the most basic ele-

ments of democracy. If election denial is becoming a new global trend, we

must ask why so many citizens would accept leaders who fraudulently

cry "fraud." Bolsonaro is facing Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (better known as

Lula), a Left-wing former president who remains very popular, as demon-

strated by his large and consistent lead in opinion polls. While the gap could

still narrow, the Far-right Bolsonaro is expected to lose. But he has spent years

Most ominously, Bolsonaro has sown doubt about Brazil's electronic vot-

ing system, which has been used since 2000 and is widely considered reliable

priming his supporters not to accept that outcome.

and efficient. After the January 6, 2021, insurrection

in Washington, DC, he warned, "If we don't

have the ballot printed in 2022, a way to audit the

votes, we're going to have bigger problems than

the US." His politician son, Eduardo Bolsonaro,

has approvingly observed that if only the US

Capitol insurrectionists had been better or-

ganised and armed, they would have succeeded.

not to cry fraud, because the entire basis of

their appeal lies in the claim that they, and only they, represent "the real people" (or "the

silent majority"). It follows that all other con-

tenders for power are corrupt, and that citi-

zens who do not support the populist leader do

not truly belong to the people at all and hence

are not casting legitimate votes. Populism is

not just about criticising elites (which is often

justified). Rather, it is a fundamentally anti

pluralist stance: populists purport to be the

uniquely authoritative voice of a completely

homogeneous people that they themselves

According to this logic, if populists are the

only authentic representatives of the people

an election loss must mean that someone ("lib-

eral elites") did something ("rigged the vote")

to thwart the will of the supposed majority. For

example, after his party unexpectedly lost the

have conjured up

In fact, populist losers are more likely than

FOCUS ECONOMY

BUMPY ROAD TO RECOVERY

conomists are debating economic recovery, but the scenario is not all that encouraging as there are concerns about toughening conditions in the forthcoming months. There are hard realities that need to be tackled for achieving the desired growth expectations. Consumption growth has not picked up while private invest-ment too is lagging.

Meanwhile, the already high inflation, around 7% in August up from 6.71% in July, got a fresh impetus from a sharp energy shock and rocketing food prices as a result of which real GDP grew at the same rate as that of inflation The global situation is neither congenial with energy shocks continuing to radiate to other prices and major central banks deciding to significantly raise rates to restrain inflation. Even though it is reasoned that the Indian economy isn't as exposed and grows on the strength of domestic demand, it cannot escape the consequences of global economic woes that still exist and also despite the country's advantage of lesser foreign demand dependence than many other emerging market economies. **Recently**. Finance Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman too expressed concern about the industry holding back from investing in manufacturing, even though foreign investors are showing confidence in India. She said the Centre is willing to engage with industry and take policy action. Countries and industries abroad, she added, think India is the place to be in now and this is reflected in FDI and FPI inflows and confidence among stock market investors. "Post pandemic India is coming up with so many out-of-the-box solutions...We are willing to have our digital platform become interoperable between countries to enable crossborder transactions," she assured.

Delving into the matter, it can be discerned that apart from investment the trajectory of domestic demand is also not smooth. Private consumer spending, which has recovered insufficiently with sig-

nificant damage at the bottom-ofthe-pyramid, is likely to hurt some more by the weakening of exports. inflation and costlier funding Indications of uneven recovery have persisted into this quarter and could extend ahead. As is generally agreed, sustained growth depends mainly on a revival of capital investment by the business sector but unfortunately while there's improvement in health of the financial

sector, investment to the growing needs is not forthcoming. It remains to be seen if the lower income segments get back on their feet without government help. This brings into focus the role of government spending, which has been prominent in supporting the economy throughout the pandemic.

Though the RBI has been monitoring monetary policy to rein in inflation, the implications are that macro-economic policies can no longer replace the private growth drivers in any significant meas ure. There are expectations that the bank may again hike rates by another 25 to 50 points at its ongoing meeting. There has to be solid evidence on consumption recovery such that it draws in new in

vestments but this is vet to be seen. There is also a need to consider the condition of daily wagers. Some reports have indicated that labour work is scarce while wages are dropping, leading to indebt-

7.8% previously, citing elevated inflation levels and higher interest rates as it joined other agencies in reducing the forecast. It also forecast lower growth of 6.7% in 2023 24. However, it needs to be pointed out that both these forecasts may witness a further downtrend.

While it cannot be denied the economy is moving in the right direction, the growth momentum is lacking. This is principally due to the fact the lower segments of society, especially the economically weaker sections, do not have adequate purchasing power and food inflation has affected them badly. Only talking of the size of the economy without bothering to know the living standards of the masses has possibly no economic justification. Thrust has to be given on job creation and a sustained manner of development. In this connection Prime Minister Modi's focus on khadi and seeking to take it to the global market is a step in the right direction. More so, as Bangladesh has emerged as a leading exporter of textiles when India has far more potential and expertise It goes without saying cottage and village industries need to be encouraged in a big way and some Indian brands popularised at both the national and international levels

The economy has to bounce back, but it cannot be measured just by GDP growth. There has to be grassroots development, where the focus needs to be on rural and semi-urban sectors and people who live there and struggle for an existence. The government has to prepare an action plan for upgrading the conditions of those who work in the informal sector, attract more people to go in for self-employment, emphasise on branding and value addition and giving a thrust to exports. As is well known, there is a widening gap between exports and imports and this needs to be narrowed down.

Finally, in tackling the emerging challenges, simultaneously through enhanced government investment -even through deficit financing - the private sector should be persuaded to invest more in innovative manufacturing and exports

SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

The costs of environmental degradation -



their supporters never to trust the to assume that elites are manipulating outcomes behind the scenes

2002 general election, Hungary's current Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, claimed that "the homeland cannot be in opposition." And after his failed bid for the Mexican presidency in 2006, Mexico's current President, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, announced that "the victory of the right is morally impossible." After rallying "the real people" (that is, his own supporters) in the streets of

Mexico City, he then declared himself the "legitimate President of Mexico." It is important to recognise how populist rhetoric erodes a country's democratic political culture even when elections do not lead to January 6-style insurrections. Populist politicians are indoctrinating their supporters never to trust the system, and always to assume that elites are manipulating outcomes behind the scenes.

This is not to suggest that electoral laws and processes are above reproach. In the United States, especially, one can criticise everything from campaign-finance regulations to the practical difficulties citizens face when trying to vote (many of which are the result of laws intended to make voting more difficult). But there is a difference between criticising undemocratic features of the system and declaring the entire enterprise undemocratic simply because you lost. The former could well strengthen democracy. whereas the latter is intended only to undermine it.

Election denial becomes more likely when an electorate is polarised, be cause this creates opportunities for political entrepreneurs like Trump and Bolsonaro, neither of whom has ever been tethered to a political party. Bolsonaro has kept changing parties, and, for two years of his presidency, had no party at all; and while Trump now dominates the Republican Party, he has never shown any loyalty to it (he used to be a Democrat). Both men have built up cult-like followings through social media, thereby dispensing with the need for a proper party apparatus, which used to be essential for any serious political mobilisation. Absent properly functioning parties, neither man faces anyone from the same political camp who can restrain him; and neither has an actual governing philosophy or policy programme. Both essentially stand for endless, personality-led culture war; if they had a party programme they actually cared about, they might be willing to step aside for intraparty rivals more likely to win future elections and hence able to implement the programme. Such figures can be expected to go for broke and deny what they know to be an actual loss. Far more consequential is how others act. Trump has succeeded in making endorsement of the Big Lie a litmus test for being a real Republican. Accordingly, a slew of Republican congressional, senatorial, and gubernatorial candidates refuse to say whether they will concede an election loss this November. In Brazil, Bolsonarismo remains a minority position; but its protagonist has been manoeuvering to get the military on his side, and he enjoys significant support among the police. What populists present as "the silent majority" is often a loud minority, as in the case of both Trumpists and Bolsonaristas. And while minorities have every right to make themselves heard, it is incumbent on the actual majority not to remain silent when a minority becomes anti-democratic and violent.



Populist politicians are indoctrinating system, and always

Dhurjati Mukherjee **CONSUMPTION GROWTH HAS NOT PICKED UP** WHILE PRIVATE

INVESTMENT

TOO IS LAGGING

Only talking of the size of the economy without bothering to know the living standards of the masses has possibly no economic justification

> Bureau data showed that one in four suicide cases during 2021 was a daily wage earner. The share of daily wagers dying by suicide has increased from 12% in 2014 to 25% in 2021. Many social scientists be lieve that lack of jobs in the informal sector along with inadequate wages and high food inflation have hit people the hardest. Even the building of highways and roads across the country has been hit with the pace of construction falling by 15% between April and July this fiscal. As capital flows are a function of relative growth prospects and relative interest rates, if the global economy recovers and Indian economic growth also rebounds, the outflows would be more forthcoming. "Similarly, whether rising interest rates in the United States lead to outflows depends on the trajectory of Indian interest rates as well," an economist recently pointed out. Large domestic pools of savings and capital can help offset any capital outflows.

edness. It's the combination of fac-

tors that could be contributing to

the rising death of daily wagers.

Recent National Crime Records

But considering the huge requirement of resources to boost the economy at such a juncture, insufficient funds are a huge drawback. Meanwhile, Fitch Ratings slashed its India growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7% from

The writer is Professor of Politics at Princeton University.

WISDOM CORNER

- It always seems impossible until it's done. NELSON MANDELA Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal.
- Find a place inside where there's joy, and the joy will burn out the JOSEPH CAMPBELL

WORDS**WORTH**

By Jove

rom medieval times, Jove has been used in English as a poetical way of referring to Jupiter. It has also been linked to Jehovah, a form of the Hebrew name of God used in some translations of the Bible. By Jove was a mild oath, an exclamation that indicated surprise or gave emphasis to some comment, which dates from the sixteenth century. It was originally a neat way of calling on a higher power without using the blasphemous by God. Shakespeare used it in Love's Labours Lost in 1588: "By Jove, I always took three threes for nine". It's a very British expression. It's usually associated with bluff and hearty males from the nineteenth and early twentieth century, which seems to have been its heyday. As in J M Barrie's The Admirable Crichton: "By Jove! I say, John, what an observant beggar he is". By Joe is a wonderful variation, only possible in a period in which knowledge of classical matters is all but extinct.



Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

INDIA'S PROJECTED GDP LOSS DUE TO ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION **COULD BE OVER** 1.5% BY 2050 IF IT **CONTINUES ON THE 'BUSINESS AS USUAL' PATH**

etters

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

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B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

send in their valuable comments, opinior

105

4

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST

(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

into a special enclosure at the Kuno alarm for global biodiversity, show-Mumbai are among the top 20 most uninhabitable if emissions are not National Park in Madhya Pradesh as part of a programme to reintroduce the feline in India after it was declared extinct in the country in 1952. The Prime Minister has dubbed Project Cheetah as his government's endeavour toward environment and wildlife conservation and commitment to sustainable development. Although the Asiatic cheetah is not the same as the Namibian cheetah, the government's initiative is commendable. However, bringing the eight cheetahs is just a symbolic gesture and does not address the problem in its entirety.

September 17 released chee-

The PM stated that while the cheetah was hunted down and became extinct in India in 1952, no meaningful effort was made over decades to rehabilitate the animal. In 2012, a UPA government's plan to reintroduce the big cats was struck down by the Supreme Court after some conservationists argued that importing the African cheetah for reintroduction in India was against the International Union for Conservation of Nature's reintroduction guidelines. It is not only cheetah that has been extinct in India, but also many animals and birds that are either extinct or on the verge of extinction. Extinctions have been a natural ing an average 68% decline in population sizes of mammals, birds. fish, amphibians, and reptiles tracked over 46 years (1970-2016).

This catastrophic decline is largely due to the annihilation of natural habitats by human activities, such as hunting or illegal wildlife trade, environmental destruction such as unfettered deforestation, and unsustainable agriculture. The over-exploitation of mineral resources in the name of GDP growth, rapid urbanisation, and industrialisation are causing problems such as the greenhouse effect and global warming, ozone depletion and acid rain. The deteriorating air and water quality have exacerbated the situation.

The current dispensation has had a poor record of caring for the environment since it rode to power in 2014. According to an IndiaSpend analysis, as on May 2020, from July 2014, India has approved over 270 projects in and around its most protected environments, including biodiversity hotspots and national parks. At the same time, the Centre has undermined environmental safeguards, which has not only jeopardised habitat and ecosystems but also imperilled

polluted cities in the world, according to the latest "Air Quality and Health in Cities: A State of Global Air" report 2022

The Prime Minister on part of our planet's evolutionary public health. Air pollution is one ulation that will be affected by sea-September 17 released chee-history. The World Wildlife Fund of the leading causes of death in level rise, heat, and humidity. The

tahs brought from Namibia Living Planet Report 2020 sounds the India. New Delhi, Kolkata, and sea-level will rise and make India

According to the report, nearly 93% of Indians live in areas where air quality is below the WHO's standards. The report also revealed that air pollution had reduced life expectancy in India by 1.5 years. This is higher than the reduction in life expectancy from all cancers (1.39 years). Examining data from the Global Burden of Diseases Injuries and Risk Factors Study 2019 (GBD), the Lancet's study updated a 2015 estimate on premature deaths caused by pollution and revealed that Pollution led to more than 23 lakh premature deaths in India in 2019. Nearly 16.7 lakh deaths were due to air pollution alone, and more than 5 lakhs were caused by water pollution.

Environmental degradation is a cause for worry financially too. Extreme heatwaves, heavy rainfall, severe flooding, catastrophic storms, and rising sea levels are devastating not only livelihoods but also assets across the country and thereby imperilling growth. India is one of the most vulnerable countries globally in terms of the popcut, according to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports published in March 2022.

The World Bank has found in 2018 that India, which enjoys higher economic growth than many other countries, loses at least ₹3.75 lakh crore each year due to environmental degradation and pollution. New Delhi, the world's most polluted capital whose winter skies are often obscured by its filthy air, recorded the highest per-capita economic hit.

In 2019, lost output from premature deaths and morbidity attributable to air pollution in India accounted for economic losses of \$36•8 billion or 1•36% of India's GDP, according to the report titled "The health and economic impact of air pollution in the states of India," published in the journal Lancet Planetary Health. India's projected GDP loss due to environmental degradation could be over 1.5% by 2050 if it continues on the 'business as usual' path -- high environmental degradation and carbon emissions. It's high time the government thinks about the environment

The writer is an Odisha-based economist and columnist. Views are personal.

Preventable disease

Sir, Rabies is a dangerous and potentially fatal disease that is well-known around the world. It lives in wild animals and can be transmitted to humans and pets by a bite. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), rabies is completely preventable, yet more than 59,000 people die from it each year throughout the world. The goal of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control is "Zero by 30," which corresponds to zero deaths by 2030. Rabies is a fatal disease that can infect people by contact with infected animal saliva or other bodily fluids. The virus can then spread through the blood to other regions of the body, causing severe brain damage or death. There are various ways to avoid rabies infection, including getting vaccinated, avoiding contact with animals known to have rabies, and obtaining medical attention if bitten or scratched by an animal suspected of having rabies. Reporting wild animal and pet bites to your local health authority is the best way to safeguard human safety. While there are highly effective methods for preventing and treating rabies, greater knowledge and understanding of the disease and its dangers is required to eradicate it globally. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma, HYDERABAD

Long way to go

Sir, Indian cricket management should not gloat over the team's T20 series win against Australia. As per the present form, India may find it very tough to regain the T20 World Cup when it gets underway down under in October. Consistency is still a far cry; players are shining in patches. The team does not give a settled look, and a few top players are not at their best. The only heartening feature is that Virat Kohli appears to be back in form. Also, it is good to see Suryakumar Yadav finding his touch. But Kohli needs to score at a faster rate although his running between the wickets is second to none. Shuffling the batting order has not helped matters. It is important to persist with Dinesh Karthik who was given a raw deal in the Asia Cup. Rishabh Pant's prowess cannot be ignored but as far as the wicket keeping skills and scoring quick runs at the death overs are concerned, Karthik is quite ahead of Pant. Apart from Jasprit Bumrah, no other pacer inspires confidence, and on Australian pitches that can be a problem. Bowlers who can control the marauding opposition batters at the fag end of the innings are any country's dream. Skipper Rohit Sharma has the onerous task of lifting the morale of the boys when the chips are down

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA







Bhai Rajoana has been incarcerated for the past 26 years in an eight feet by eight feet cell without parole. Since he has completed a life sentence, he should be released immediately BIKRAM SINGH MAJITHIA SHIROMANI AKALI DAL LEADER

SERUM TO EXPORT MALARIA VAX TO UK

India's drug regulator has allowed the export of the first produced-in-India vaccine against malaria, developed by scientists at the University of Oxford and manufactured by Serum Institute to the UK, official sources said Thursday



uote

Gujarat has the longest coastline in the country, but no attention was paid for its development

for decades after India gained independence. As a result, the coastline created challenges for the people living along it

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER

With the expansion and doubling of the flyover, the traffic load on this part of the Ring Road Corridor will be

reduced significantly. Along with saving time for commuters, it will also reduce fuel consumption. This upcoming flyover will decongest the traffic in this part of Punjabi Bagh

MANISH SISODIA DELHI DEPUTY CM



will be moving all over the country NIRMALA SITHARAMAN UNION FINANCE MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

59 fall ill after ammonia leak

Aligarh (UP): Fifty nine workers fell ill after an accidental leakage of ammonia gas at a meat processing plant on the outskirts of Aligarh city Thursday morning, a senior official said. Six people including owner of the meat plant at Taklaspur area have been arrested.

ED to grill Partha's son-in-law again

Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) probing the multi-crore West Bengal School Service Commission (WBSSC) scam will summon Kalyanmoy Bhattacharya, the son-in-law of prime accused and former Education Minister Partha Chatterjee, again after the Durga Puja festivities

CONGRESS PRESIDENT ELECTION ASHOK GEHLOT OUT OF FRAY

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 29: In a day of frantic developments, Digvijaya Singh entered the fray for the Congress president's election as Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot opted out of the race and the suspense over his continuation at the helm in the state deepened with the party saying it would be decided in a day or two.

While Singh said he would file his nomination Friday, it remained unclear whether he or someone else would have the backing of Sonia Gandhi as her successor, with sources saying a Dalit candidate could emerge as a dark horse for the top party post.

Sources said Mallikarjun Kharge is being considered as a frontrunner for the post and will be meeting Gandhi Friday morning. The names of Mukul Wasnik and Kumari Selja are also doing the rounds. Shashi Tharoor, who will file his nomination on the last day Friday, had a meeting with Singh and the two leaders said theirs would not be a contest of rivals but of friends and the Congress

will finally win. Hours after Gehlot met Gandhi and also took moral responsibility for what is being seen as a rebellion by MLAs loyal to him in Rajasthan, his bete noire Sachin Pilot visited the Congress president's residence late evening and held discussions.



Polling for the post will take place October 17 while the result will be announced October 19

The party also issued an advisory warning of strict disciplinary action against leaders making public statements on internal matters of the party and against other party functionaries. After his half-an-hour meeting with Gandhi, Gehlot accompanied by AICC general secretary (or-

ganisation) K C Venugopal told re-

porters that he apologised to the Congress chief for the developments in Rajasthan where some MLAs loval to him held a parallel meeting and set some conditions to the party high command.

Gehlot also announced that he will not contest the Congress presidential polls after taking moral responsibility for the political crisis in his state. "I have decided that I will not contest the Congress president's election as I take moral responsibility for the events that took place Sunday," he said.

Eighty-two MLAs loyal to Gehlot participated in a parallel meeting

Cong warns Raj leaders

New Delhi: The Congress warned of strict disciplinary action against its leaders in Rajasthan for making public statements on the party's internal matters and against other functionaries. In an advisory, AICC General Secretary (Organisation) K C Venugopal said all Congress leaders at any level should refrain from making public statements against other leaders or about the party's internal matters. The advisory follows an open rebellion in Raiasthan with MLAs supporting Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot defying the central observers' attempts to hold a legislature party meeting for passing a resolution authorising Sonia Gandhi to decide on the next Chief Minister.

at a minister's residence in Jaipur instead of joining a meeting of the **Congress Legislature Party** convened for passing a resolution authorising the Congress chief to appoint a successor to Gehlot, who was to contest the Congress presidential election.

The three-time Rajasthan Chief Minister described himself as a disciplined soldier of the party and expressed his sadness over the turn of events in the state.

Polling for the post will take place October 17 and the result will be announced October 19.

Major crackdown against drug cartels

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 29: The CBI has led a massive countrywide crackdown on narcotics networks in coordination with the NCB, Interpol and police in multiple states, leading to the arrest of 175 alleged drug peddlers, officials said Thursday. As many as 127 FIRs have been

filed by the agencies involved in 'Operation Garuda' which started earlier this week to "disrupt, degrade and dismantle" drug networks with international linkages, CBI said in a statement.

The global operation was planned through a "rapid exchange" of intelligence on narco-trafficking and coordinated actions with enforcement agencies across international jurisdictions through Interpol, officials said.

Police of eight states and Union Territories, including Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) tracked around 6.600 suspects during the operation following which 127 cases were registered and around 175 people, including six absconders and proclaimed offenders, were arrested, they said.

The agencies targeted smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with a special focus on the Indian Ocean Region, the statement said. Drug trafficking networks with

international linkages require law



enforcement cooperation across international jurisdiction. Operation GARUDA, CBI-led global operation, seeks to target drug networks with international footprints for action against handlers, operatives, production zones and support elements," it said.

The CBI and NCB worked with intelligence agencies and police of different states for information exchange, analysis and operational information, they said.

Chinese loan apps: ED freezes ₹9.82 crore

New Delhi • The FD has frozen ₹9.82 crore worth funds kept in merchant IDs with certain online payment gateways as part of an ongoing money laundering investigation against a "Chinesecontrolled" investment token app. This is the second time that the ED has frozen funds kept in merchant IDs with certain online payment gateways.

Monsoon has withdrawn from **Delhi: IMD report**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: The southwest monsoon -- which gave highly uneven rainfall this year -- has withdrawn from Delhi, the Met department said Thursday. Usually, the monsoon starts re-

treating from northwest India by September 17 and withdraws from Delhi within a week.

"The southwest monsoon has withdrawn from Punjab; some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, west Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan and entire Delhi," India Meteorological Department said.





PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: A court here has discharged 10 accused from the offence of allegedly destroying house by fire in a case related to the 2020 northeast Delhi riots.

The court, however, said that they will face charges for rioting. The court was hearing a case where the accused persons allegedly engaged in rioting and torched the complainant's vehicle parked on a road in the Maujpur area on the morning of February 25, 2020.

Noting that the charge for the ffence of mischief by fire or explosive substance with intent to destrov house was not made out as the complainant's vehicle was allegedly burnt on the public road, Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat transferred back the case only for the offence of rioting to the magisterial court concerned. The case was transferred to the magisterial court as the maximum punishment for the offences for which the accused would face prosecution is less than seven years of imprisonment. "Thus, I am of the opinion that there is ground for presuming that the accused persons have committed the offence but not exclusively triable by the court of sessions," the judge said in an order dated September 28. Jafrabad police station had registered an FIR against the 10 accused persons, Md. Saleem, Mehrajuddin, Shoaib, Haji Islam, Anish Malik, Arif Saifi, Shanu Malik, Bobby, Furkan and Md. Salman under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code, including rioting.

ending October 5.

7 Naxalites surrender

Sukma: Seven Naxalites have surrendered in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh, a police official said Thursday. They laid down arms after being impressed with the state government's rehabilitation policy and the district police's 'Puna Narkom (new dawn in the local Gondi dialect) campaign, Sukma Superintendent of Police Sunil Sharma said.

Wanted shooter

Chandigarh: Punjab Police

have arrested Neeraj aka

shooter of the Davinder

involvement in multiple

Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said Thursday.

close relative of Canada-

based gangster Goldy Brar,

has triggered an inter-gang

rivalry between the Davinder

Bambiha gang and the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, leading to a spate

of murders in Punjab, Haryana,

Mukesh Ambani gets

Z+ security cover

New Delhi: The government

industrialist Mukesh Ambani

has upgraded the security

to the top category of 'Z+'

central intelligence and

sources said Thursday.

security agencies, official

after a review of perceived threat perception to him by

cover of billionaire

Chandigarh and the National

Capital Region (NCR) Delhi.

Bambiha gang, for his

Chaska, the top-most wanted

gang arrested

The Safdarjung Observatory, Delhi's primary weather station, logged 516.9 mm of rainfall this monsoon season, less than half of the precipitation received last year (1169.4 mm).

The capital recorded an overall rain deficit of 19 percent this monsoon season. Up to 19 percent of deficient and excess rain is considered 'normal'. According to the IMD. Delhi stared at a much larger rain deficit till September 20. However, a late spell of incessant rains from September 21 to September 24 -- due to an interaction between a cyclonic circulation and a low-pressure system -helped it cover the margin to a large extent.



Govt orders blocking of 67 porn sites AGENCIES New Delhi, Sept 29: The government has ordered internet companies to block 67 pornographic websites following court orders and for violating the new IT rules that were issued in 2021.

In an email sent to internet service providers, the Department of Telecom (DoT) has asked them to block 63 websites based on the order of a Pune court, and block 4 websites based on the order of the Uttarakhand High Court and directions issued by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

FREEZING THE MOMENT: Women click a selfie during the celebrations of 'Navratri' in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

"MeitY in compliance of the said (Uttarakhand High court) order read along with rule 3(2)(b) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, and in view of certain obscene material available in the below mentioned website that tarnish the image of modesty of women, has directed to immediately take down (block) the ... Websites/URLs," the DoT order

BIG MOVE tp://w dated September 24 said.

PTI PHOTO

The IT Rules 2021 invoked by MeitY mandates IT companies to remove or disable access to content hosted, stored or published by them which "shows such individual in full or partial nudity or shows or depicts such individual in any sexual act or conduct" and also content which is allegedly impersonated or artificially morphed.

The government mentioned that the ban has been imposed on these websites for violating the new IT rules issued in 2021.

murders, including the murder of student leader Gurlal Brar, RLD'S LARGEST SA YANA TO DEVEL The murder of Brar, who was a

The 10,000-acre curated safari park will come up in the Aravalli range and cover parts of Gurugram and Nuh districts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Sept 29: Haryana will develop the largest jungle safari park outisde Africa, the state government said Thursday.

"This project will be the largest such project in the world," the government statement claimed.

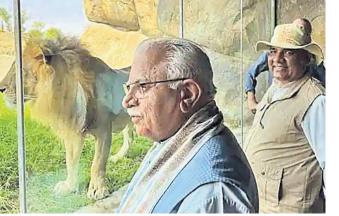
At present, Sharjah is home to the largest curated safari park outside Africa. Opened in February 2022, the Sharjah Safari covers an area of about 2,000 acres

"The proposed Aravalli park

would be five times more this size and it would include a large herpetarium (a zoological exhibition space for reptiles and amphibians), aviary/bird park, four zones for big cats, a large area for herbivores, an area for exotic animal birds, an underwater world, nature trails, visitors, tourism zones, botanical gardens, biomes, equatorial, tropical, coastal, desert, etc," the government claimed in the statement.

Union Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav and Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar visited Sharjah Safari in this regard, the state government said. Khattar reached Dubai on a day's visit Wednesday.

Upon his return Thursday, Khattar said the NCR region of



Haryana had immense potential for the development of a jungle safari.

The Jungle safari scheme will not only boost tourism but also provide employment opportunities to local residents, he said.

The Jungle safari project of Haryana would be a joint project of the Ministry of Environment,

Forest and Climate Change and the Haryana government. Under the scheme, the central government will also provide funds to Haryana for the project," said Khattar.

A global Expression of Interest was floated for the project and two companies with international experience in designing and operating such facilities have been shortlisted, the chief minister added.

"The companies will now compete in an international design competition for the designing, overseeing and operating of the park. An Aravalli Foundation will be set up to manage the project," said Khattar.

The Chief Minister added that the Central Zoo Authority had done an evaluation study of the area and agreed on the technical feasibility of setting up such a park.

On one hand, developing a jungle safari will help preserve the Aravalli mountain range while a large number of people from Delhi and adjoining areas will come for tourism, creating ample employment opportunities for local residents. he said.

"Furthermore, villagers in the surrounding villages will be benefited from the Home Stay Policy,' said the chief minister. The Aravalli mountain range is home to many species of birds, wild animals and butterflies.

According to the Haryana government statement, as per a survey conducted a few years ago, 180 species of birds, 15 species of mammals, 29 species of aquatic animals and reptiles and 57 species of butterflies were found in the Aravalli range.





Bengal BJP in revival mode 'Operation Garuda' set to dismantle drug networks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 29: The Bengal BJP, which has long been trying to combat infighting and exodus from its ranks, is, of late, making fresh attempts to challenge the ruling TMC, which is currently fighting corruption allegations and central agency raids.

The saffron party, which had been licking its wounds since last year's assembly poll defeat, is seeking to corner the TMC with a revival plan, with national general secretary Sunil Bansal hoping to breathe a new lease of life in the state unit. The situation will improve within the party in the days to come, said Bansal.

"I don't think there is any major problem. Whatever the issues... will be resolved. We will prepare a roadmap for next year's panchayat polls and 2024 Lok Sabha polls after Durga Puja," Bansal said.

BJP state spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya, too, said that the leadership is hopeful of coming up with a revival strategy for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls."Yes, there has been disarray within the party since the assembly poll defeat. But it will quickly overcome the situation. Post-poll violence unleashed by the TMC is one of the biggest reasons why the party lost its morale. More than 8,000 workers were rendered homeless, Bhattacharya said.

According to some BJP insid-



THE SAFFRON PARTY, WHICH HAD BEEN LICKING ITS WOUNDS SINCE LAST YEAR'S ASSEMBLY POLL DEFEAT, IS SEEKING TO CORNER THE TMC WITH A REVIVAL PLAN, WITH NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY SUNIL BANSAL HOPING TO BREATHE A NEW LEASE OF LIFE IN THE STATE UNIT BJP STATE SPOKESPERSON SAMIK BHATTACHARYA, TOO, SAID THAT THE LEADERSHIP IS HOPEFUL OF COMING UP WITH A REVIVAL STRATEGY FOR THE 2024 LOK SABHA POLLS

ers, however, the party, despite edly called for introspection, said, being the main opposition, has "The state leadership should take failed to corner the TMC so far, everyone along, both old and the "even when the corruption-ridden new. Sidelining experienced leadruling camp is going through its ers further worsened matters. worst crisis since coming to power". This situation has to change."We have to set our own house in order The party's national secretary, Anupam Hazra, who had repeatfirst and then put up a fight against the TMC," he said.

The party, which had been struggling to keep its flock together since the assembly poll debacle, with top leaders and legislators, including Babul Supriyo, Arjun Singh and Mukul Roy, switching over to the TMC, faced internal rebellion earlier this year as several leaders openly hit out at the leadership.

In addition, it has also been witnessing a slide in vote share in all elections held in the state since the last assembly polls. Sources in the BJP said that a campaign alleging that the TMC and the BJP have a "tacit understanding", after the Mamata Banerjee party skipped the vice-presidential polls "hurt our image".

BJP state president Sukanta Majumdar rubbished claims that the party had failed to put up a fight against the TMC."Despite all threats and intimidation, our party workers are putting up a tough fight against the corrupt TMC regime. And in the days to come, we would emerge victorious by overcoming all obstacles," he said.Senior TMC leader Kunal Ghosh, making light of BJP's assertions, stated that the saffron party is a "spent force" in the state.

"The BJP will soon cross its expiry date in the state," Ghosh maintained. Political analyst Subhomoy Maitra claimed that the lack of young faces has halted BJP's march in the state.

A senior CBI official says the global operation was initiated in close coordination with Interpol and Narcotics Control Bureau for combating smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with special focus on the Indian Ocean Region

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 29: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Thursday said that they have launched a multi phase 'Operation Garuda' to disrupt, degrade and dismantle drug networks with international linkages through rapid exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking and coordinated law enforcement actions across international jurisdiction through Interpol.

A senior CBI official says the global operation was initiated in close coordination with Interpol and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) for combating smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with special focus on the Indian Ocean Region.

"Drug trafficking networks with international linkages require law

COMBATING SMUGGLING



enforcement cooperation across

international jurisdiction. "In

Operation Garuda, CBI led a global

operation to target drug networks

with international footprints for

action against handlers, operatives,

production zones and support ele-

The CBI and the NCB have been

closely coordinating with all the

states and UTs police agencies for

information exchange, analysis

and development of operational

During the Operation Garuda,

searches, seizures and arrests were

carried out across multiple States

in India. Apart from the CBI and the

NCB, eight states/UT police, in-

cluding Punjab, Himachal Pradesh,

Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu,

Delhi and Manipur also partici-

ments," the official said.

information.

pated in this operation.

During this special operation by the NCB and several state police forces, including Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, around 6600 suspects were checked, 127 new cases registered and around 175 persons, including six absconders/proclaimed offenders were arrested.

Illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, including 5.125 kg heroin; 33.936 kg ganja, 3.29 kg charas, 1365 gm mephedrone, 33.80 smack, around 87 tablets, 122 injections and 87 syringes of Buprenorphine, 946 tablets Alpazolam, 105.997 Kg Tramadol, 10 gm Hash oil, 0.9 gm Ecstacy pills, 1.150 kg opium, 30 kg Poppy Husk, 1.437 kg intoxicant powder and 11,039 pills/capsules, were recovered.

STEMI scheme saves 6,000 rural folks from heart attacks, deaths

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Sept 29: A unique artificial-intelligence powered diagnosis and cardiac care initiative of the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government screened over 2.50 lakh people and detected at least 6,000 heart attacks with a turnaround time of just 6 minutes, compared with the 'golden hour' of 90 minutes.

First of its kind in India, the STEMI Maharashtra Programme is endorsed by the Centre's National Health Mission, and implemented in 12 districts since February 2021, in collaboration with Tricog Health Services Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru.

"In India, the average wait time for patients with ongoing heart at



First of its kind in India. the STEMI Maharashtra Programme is endorsed by the Centre's National

bat this epidemic through an AIpowered advanced diagnosis and care programme which would gradually cover all the 36 districts in the state, to arrest premature deaths and disabilities due to heart problems, said a health department officer, requesting anonymity."A total of 145 primary health facilities, including rural Hospitals, sub-District hospitals, district hospitals were upgraded as spokes for STEMI detection and thrombolysis, and are linked with 38 hubs - as the nearest tertiary care facility equipped with a CATH LAB facility for treatment," said Dr Bhograj.

This helps rapid diagnosis of heart disease in all government centres in the state along with timely treatment by teams of car-

Kolkata, Sept 29: In several pockets in West Bengal, be it Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri and Bagdogra in the North or Bankura, Purulia and Jhargram in the South, news about human-elephant conflict have been quite common for the last few years.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Such conflicts have been on the rise, following the increasing expansion of human establishments to the favourite corridors of the elephants. In the case of North Bengal, the tea gardens and the growing human habitations around them are the main hurdles. In South Bengal, the presence of railway tracks and agricultural fields. among others create obstructions to the hindrance-free passage of the tuskers

and Jhargram in South Bengal.

has emerged.



'FRIENDS OF ELEPHANTS'

ridors will not serve the purpose of restricting human- elephant conflict," Raha said. He explained why elephants often invade human habitations for food.

"These tuskers are excellent food managers. They know that they can compensate for the daily food requirement of around 300 kg of jungle flora with just 50 kilograms of paddy. So, if there is not enough food reserve for them in the proposed corridors, these elephants will invade human habitations in search of food," he explained.

However, he was positive about_ the "friends of elephants" scheme. "Advance information about an approaching elephant herd is surely a good proposal for taking precautionary measures to avoid human-tusker conflict as far as

tacks is 360 minutes (six hours), a far cry from the golden hour of 90 minutes (one-and-half hour), resulting in high mortality rates. This programme detected more than 6,000 heart attacks with a turnaround time of barely six minutes, allowing the victims to get timely treatment and saved lives,' Tricog CEO Dr. Charit Bhograj told IANS

Since implementation, it has screened more than 250,000 people in rural areas, to detect heart ailments and other complications to enable timely medical attention and prevent them from becoming victims of cardiac problems, said Dr Bhograj.

Under the programme, the number of heart cases detected and treated are: Pune (998), Nashik (860), Ratnagiri (683), Thane (663), Nanded (615), Kolhapur (500),

Health Mission, and implemented in 12 districts since February 2021, in collaboration with Tricog Health Services Pvt. Ltd., **Bangalore**

Nagpur (404), Aurangabad (373), Wardha (346), Solapur (343), Jalna (219), and Akola (140).

As per latest data, Maharashtra has witnessed an increase in cardiovascular diseases among men in 30-40 years and women in the 40-60 age group, while the WHO has estimated that of the 15-30 lakh deaths per year in India, 35 per cent of victims are young adults. The STEMI Maharashtra

Programme was intended to com-

diologists at the tertiary care facilities and help save valuable lives, he said. The strategy adopted by Tricog was to spread awareness among

patients with heart disease symptoms of chest pains, breathlessness, palpitations, among others, and approach the nearest government facility without delays.

Then followed a rapid detection using a cloud-connected 12 Lead ECG with 24-hour interpretation of the cases within a few minutes by medical experts, supported by AI and a digital platform for care coordination and analytics.

The system of STEMI management and protocols created by the state Steering Committee comprising top cardiologists, administrators and experts with other agencies ensured the timely transfer and treatment of the patients.

Despite several meetings between senior officials of the state start by November this year," forest department, union ministry Mullick said. of environment and forests and

The second project, according the Railways, among others, no to the minister, is the appointment long term solution to this problem of 600 local youths from these pockets as Gajamitras (friends of ele-The state forest department is phants). "The process of recruitbanking on two proposed projects ment will start shortly and after that it is hoping will minimize the recruitment they will be specially incidents of human-elephant contrained by an expert agency and flict. According to forest minister then inducted into the state forest Jyotipriyo Mullick, the first projdepartment. They will be provided ect is setting up dedicated elephant with special android sets with a corridors in North Bengal coverspecialized Gajamitra app developed ing mainly the forest belts of for that purpose installed. These Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri and Gajamitras will procure advance Bagdogra and Bankura, Purulia information about the movement of elephant herds, alert the state for-"The project to be implemented est department and local people, so at a cost of Rs 620 crore would be that preventive measures can be taken for avoiding human-elephant funded by the Japan International conflict," the minister said. He Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the project work is expected to added that of the 600 new recruit-

possible," he said. ments, 200 will be for areas in South

Bengal and 400 for North Bengal.

conservator of forests in West

Bengal Atanu Raha sounded scep-

tical about the ground-level im-

plementation and effectiveness of

the projects especially the one re-

lated to dedicated elephant corri-

According to him, the main dif-

ficulty in setting up such corri-

dors is getting long stretches of

land that are free of human en-

croachment and also have enough

food for the tuskers. He said that

there are already human habita-

tions in forest land especially the

ones that connect one forest with

the other. "I really doubt how far the

displacement of these encroach-

ments will be feasible and unless

it is done the dedicated elephant cor-

dors

However, former principal chief

According to him, ideally the state government should put in place a proper compensation scheme in case of damage to crops, residences or even loss of lives of the local people because of this human-elephant conflict.

"The schemes for compensation are there. But the problem lies in the exorbitant delay in payment of compensation, which often antagonises the people and they try to prevent these elephants from invading human habitation using methods like electrified wires around the agricultural fields. Without making the people aware no scheme will work to successfully restrict human-elephant conflict. And to create awareness there is the necessity of ensuring timely payment of adequate compensation," Raha added.

Myriad themes set to captivate minds this puja

EVERY YEAR, PREPARATIONS FOR THIS MEGA FESTIVAL RUN INTO MONTHS. WITH ORGANISING COMMITTEES BRAINSTORMING IDEAS, HIRING ARTISTS FROM FAR AND WIDE TO GIVE SHAPE TO THOSE IDEAS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 29: Besides grandeur and opulence, Durga puja in Kolkata is known for its captivating and diverse themes, each pandal depicting a different aspect of life or a top-of-mind subject.

Every year, preparations for this mega festival run into months, with organising committees brainstorming ideas, hiring artists from far and wide to give shape to those ideas. This time, too, it was no exception, as some of the city's crowdpuller pujas chose unique themes to enthral audience - be it the cycle of creation and destruction or the

human rat race.

At Hazra Park Durgotsab in south Kolkata, organisers have shown the proliferation of modern machines and its impact on everyday life."Our theme 'Tanday' shows the cycle of creation and destruction. Modern machines and technology have helped human civilization grow leaps and bounds. But nothing can escape the supreme power of Mother Nature. That is why Nature, by all means, should be nurtured and respected," Sayan Deb Chatterjee, the joint secretary of Hazra Park Durgotsab Committee, said.

Another big-ticket marquee in Kalighat area, 'Pratapaditya Road Trikon Park Sarbojanin', has de-

GRANDEUR AND OPULENCE



Devotees carry a goddess Durga idol through kans (wild sugarcane) plants for Durga Puja festival, in Nadia PTI PHOTO

cided to honour car mechanics who remain covered in soot all day long as they work hard round

the year to fix vehicles, sometimes for a paltry sum of money. "We recreated a garage with

rundown motorcycles, chassis of a truck, tyre parts, mobil cans. We wish to show people the daily struggle a mechanic has to go through via installations. The deity will be placed on a truck," Biswajit Mitra, one of the craftsmen in-

volved in the decoration, said. Close by, Tridhara Sammilani, this year, has decided to depict the maddening race called life. "Every person has a journey, a battle to fight... Our puja projects this truth in a symbolic way to show the effects of motion and this run for survival and success,' one of the organisers. Debashis Kumar, said.

At Chakraberia Sarbojonin in Bhowanipore, the committee has chosen the theme 'Bodhoday,' (realisation), trying to generate awareness about mental health."We wanted to talk about the issue of depression and frustration gripping us as we go about in our lives. Durga puja fills us with positive vibes. Hopefully, it will light our lives with happiness, too," one of the committee spokespersons said.

MAJOR INITIATIVE Maha to swap tigers for Asiatic lions

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Sept 29: In a major initiative, Maharashtra will exchange a pair of tigers from Mumbai with a pair of Asiatic lions from Gujarat's Junagadh, Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar said here.

The decision was arrived at during Mungantiwar's visit to the neighbouring state and discussions with his Gujarat counterpart Jagdish Vishwakarma on Monday.

The lion pair - a male and female - are currently housed at the Sakkarbaug Zoological Gardens ২ in Junagadh, while the tiger pair is presently resident in the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) in Mumbai. After the meeting, the two states' ministers have decided to jointly seek the approval ofthe Central Zoo Authority (CZA) for the project.



national



This is new India where terrorists, criminals and individuals who pose threat to the unity and integrity of the nation and the security are not acceptable YOGI ADITYANATH UTTAR PRADESH CM

AKHILESH BECOMES SP **PRESIDENT FOR 3RD TIME**

Akhilesh Yadav was Thursday unanimously elected as the Samajwadi Party President for the third consecutive term. Samajwadi Party's secretary general Prof Ram Gopal Yadav said Akhilesh Yadav was the only candidate for the post







issues regarding infrastructure development and investment opportunities in Haryana were discussed during our interaction

MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR HARYANA CM

The state government will give a major push to the agriculture allied activities for supplementing the income of farmers

BHAGWANT MANN PUNJAB CM

We tried to realise the dream of Ram Manohar Lohia and B R Ambedkar of bringing the Bahujan forces on one platform, but those in power misused the official machinery and we failed

AKHILESH YADAV SP CHIEF

SHORT TAKES

TRP scam spooks again: ED books 16

Mumbai: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has virtually 'exonerated' Republic TV and R. Bharat -- English and Hindi news channels owned by Arnab R Goswami, but the agency has booked 16 others of various private television channels and a market research group, for alleged money-laundering charges in the sensational TRP scam that erupted two years ago. The ED charge sheet was filed September 26 on behalf of Assistant Director Pawan Kumar before the Special PMLA Court Mumbai, and has sought initiation of proceedings, among others, to confiscate the provisionally attached properties of all the accused as stipulated under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, as they were bought from the proceeds of the crime.

TN govt denies nod for RSS route march

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu government Thursday de



BOOSTING SECURITY: Indian Army has inducted the M777 Ultra Light Howitzer (155mm) in harsh terrain of northern borders. The gun is highly transportable for rapid deployment to meet any operational contingency PTI PHOTO

SC seeks starvation death data from govt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: The Supreme Court Thursday asked the Centre to place before it data on deaths due to starvation and malnutrition across the country besides a model plan to implement the community kitchen scheme.

It had granted two weeks to all the state governments and Union Territory administrations to file an affidavit indicating the incidence of starvation deaths, if any, and malnutrition, with a copy in advance to the counsel for the petitioner as also the attornev general who will collate the national data for court's perusal.

Additional Solicitor General Madhvi Divan told a bench of Justices A S Bopanna and P S Narasimha the details were being sought from all state govissue of data on deaths, the bench ernments in terms of the earlier order, and sought some said it is not even discovered that more time to collate the matea death has been caused due to rial and file an appropriate report before the court. The bench took note of the fact that some states have not provided the information to the Centre and conceding the ASG's request listed the plea for further hearing November 3.

SC directs Navlakha to be shifted to hospital

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: The Supreme Court Thursday directed the Taloja jail superintendent to immediately Gautam Navlakha, shift incarcerated in connection with the Elgar Parishad-Maoist link case, to Mumbai's Jaslok hospital for treatment, after the activist's counsel said he has colon cancer.

Underlining that receiving medical treatment is a fundamental right, a bench of Justices K M Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy also allowed Navlakha's partner Sahba Husain and sister to meet him in the hospital.

"Having heard the counsel for parties, we are of the view that receiving medical treatment would be a fundamental right. We direct that the petitioner be taken immediately for thorough medical check-up.'

"Accordingly, we direct Superintendent Taloja jail to take the petitioner to Jaslok hospital so that he is able to undergo requisite medical check-up and receive treatment. We make it clear that the petitioner will remain in police custody," the bench said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

no casualty, police said.

Udhampur/Jammu, Sept 29:

Suspected terrorists triggered a blast

in a parked bus in Jammu and

Kashmir's Udhampur early Thursday

nine hours after a similar explosion

took place in the city but there was

Police (ADGP) Jammu region

Additional Director General of

originally planned, the road transport minister said Thursday. The move, aimed at improving safety in a country that has the world's deadliest roads, was initially planned for October 1, 2022, but faced resistance from some carmakers. "Considering the global supply Gadkari said.

chain constraints being faced by the auto industry and its impact on the macroeconomic scenario" the rules will be implemented from October 2023. Nitin Gadkari said in a statment. Draft airbag rules were made public in January and were

GOVT EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR 6 AIRBAGS BY A YEAR



expected to be finalised a month later but faced resistance from carmakers including Maruti Suzuki (MRTI.NS). Maruti said the move would increase vehicle prices and drive out a chunk of buyers.

In India, the world's fourth-largest car market, the majority of cars sold are priced below \$15,000. Two airbags - one each for the driver and front passenger - are already mandatory.

The government estimates adding four more would cost no more than \$75. Auto market data provider JATO Dynamics, however, estimates it could increase costs by at least \$231.

Several carmakers typically offer six airbags in higher, pricier variants, but not the base model.

"Safety of all passengers travelling in motor vehicles irrespective of their cost and variants is the foremost priority,'

Mandating six airbags is part of a renewed push by the road transport ministry to improve safety after Cyrus Mistry, the former chairman of Indian conglomerate Tata Sons, died in a recent car crash.

PFI module had allegedly conspired to attack judges, cops, say officials

AGENCIES

New Delhi/Mumbai, Sept 29: The now banned Popular Front of India(PFI) had allegedly conspired to attack high court judges and senior police officers while some incriminating documents seized during raids on the Islamic outfit outlines its 'roadmap' till 2047, according to central and state officials.

The officials also claimed Thursday that the PFI has been extensively using social media for recruiting youths for anti-national activities and one of its modules even had prepared to attack foreigners, especially Jews visiting Vattakkanal. a tiny hill station in Tamil Nadu.

As authorities sealed offices of the PFI in several states and initiated steps to freeze its funds, the Twitter handle of the Islamic outfit was taken down, a day after the group and its eight associates were banned by the Centre for five years for allegedly having "links' with global terror organisations



Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) chief Vineet Agarwal said that during its recent operation in the state incriminating documents were seized from people arrested for links with the PFI and one of the papers talked about the outfit's 'roadmap' till 2047.

According to the seized document, members of the group were planning targeted killings as part of their agenda, Agarwal, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), said without elaborating. The ATS also confiscated some gadgets from the accused persons and the anti-terror agency was in the process of retrieving data from them, he told PTI in Mumbai. Several state govern-

of terror modules.

The roof and the backside of the

bus were blown away by the blast

that occurred around 5.30 am but

no one was injured, police said.

The explosions took place days

ahead of the visit of Union Home

Minister Amit Shah from October

4. He was supposed to embark on

a three-day visit to Jammu and

Kashmir September 30 and hold

public meetings in Rajouri October

1 and Baramulla October 2. However,

the visit was rescheduled

ments also issued orders to imple ment the Centre's ban on the PFI and its associates and delegated powers to the district collectors and police commissioners in the respective states. In Tamil Nadu, Police said they received a letter threatening to hurl petrol bombs at 16 places in Pollachi town, near Coimbatore, after which security was beefed up in the area. DEPOSIT ₹5.2CRORE FOR DAM-

AGES IN PROTESTS: KERALA HC The Kerala High Court directed PFI to deposit ₹5.2 crores with the Home Department towards damages estimated by the KSRTC and the state government in connection with the hartal-related violence September 23, saying they must be held accountable for it. Expressing concern that the state administration "did virtually nothing to_ prevent the hartal organisers from going ahead with their illegal demonstrations and incidental road blockages" despite a 2019 HC order against it, the court said Abdul Sathar, ex-state general secretary of PFI, be made an accused in all the hartal-violence related cases

permission to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to take out its route march October 2 in the state and also declined nod for a counter agitation planned by the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) on the same day. The saffron organisation moved the Madras High Court with a contempt plea against senior state government officials, incliuding the Home Secretary, a day after it served legal notice to them on the matter.

5 sentenced to seven years RI

Bhopal: A Special CBI court in Bhopal Thursday convited five people and sentenced them to 7 years rigorous imprisonment in connection with the Vyapam scam. The court has also imposed a fine of ₹10,000 each, while their two co-accused were acquitted due to lack of solid evidence. Satish Dinkar. Special Public Prosecutor representing CBI in the court, said the the sentenced people were involved in scam in police constable exams held in 2013.

Terrorist held

Srinagar: A terrorist of Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGH) was Thursday arrested with arms and ammunition from Palpora area here. A police spokesman said acting on a reliable input, police and army set up special checkpoints in the Palpora area of Srinagar. "A suspect upon seeing the police and army party tried to escape towards paddy fields near Palpora Bridge, but he was tactfully apprehended," the spokesman said. The suspect revealed his name as Junaid Ahmad Parray, resident of Baripora Nawakadal, the spokesman said, adding that a pistol, a magazine and five pistol rounds were recovered from his possession.

At the outset, lawyer Ashima Mandla, appearing for PIL petitioner Anun Dhawan and others, said as per the latest data, the number of Indians who go to sleep hungry has increased from 19 crores in has to be taken care of"

She also said existing programmes like Mid-Day Meal Scheme, ICDS and others, provide food only to a limited class of population such as children till 14 vears of age, senior citizens, pregnant and lactating women. "Therefore there is no scheme to

provide cooked food to the general population," the lawyer said. On the

18 this year taken a strong note of the Centre's statement that no states have reported deaths due to starvation, quipping whether it should be taken as a "correct statement".

It had then asked the Centre to prepare a model plan to implement the Community Kitchen Scheme across the country and provide additional food grains to states to run it, saying the issue of "hunger

The top court had January 18

said the Centre will have a

role in drafting the model

Community Kitchens Scheme

and, particularly, exploring

the possibility of providing

additional food grains for it

The top court had January

starvation or malnutrition.

The bench was hearing a PIL seeking directions to the Centre, states and Union Territories (UTs) to formulate a scheme for running community kitchens to combat hunger and malnutrition. Prior to this, it had expressed strong displeasure over the Centre's response to framing a policy for the

Mukesh Singh visited both the sites and said high explosives might Community Kitchen Scheme. have been used in carrying out the like the ISIS and trying to spread communal hatred in the country.

Police inspect the site

blasts which were of the same pat-

tern. "Initial examination points

towards use of high explosives," he

said, adding probe is on to ascer-

tain whether it was the handiwork

PTI PHOTO

Twin blasts rock Udhampur Boat capsizes in Brahmaputra, A National Investigation Agency (NIA) team has been sent to Udhampur to probe the incident several go missing



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati/Dhubri, Sept 29: In Assam's Dhubri district, a boat capsized in Brahmaputra river Thursday morning and several people have gone missing since, officials said.

Manash Kumar Saikia, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dhubri told IANS that the accident happened at an under-construction Dhubri-Fulbari bridge on Brahmaputra river.

He informed that the boat hit a pillar of the under-construction bridge and capsized. Following the incident, at least five people could swim across the river and reach the shore. But, several others are still missing.

"There were reports of some 50 people on board the boat. But, we are still not sure about the exact number," he added.

It is learned that Dhubri Circle Officer Sanju Das, along with a land record official and an office \rightarrow staff were also on the boat to survey an erosion-hit area. All of them are missing after the accident.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) was deployed to rescue the people. According to a police source, around 15 people have been rescued so far.

HEALTHY HEART CHALLENGE Ensuring cardiac wellness, one stair at a time

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

2018 to 35 crores in 2022

New Delhi, Sept 29: A unique campaign to spread awareness about cardiac wellness is encouraging people to upload on social media videos of them climbing 60 stairs in a minute and tag five others inviting them to take up the challenge and check their heart health.

The 'Heart2Heart - Healthy Heart Challenge', launched September 22, is a JB Pharma initiative supported by HEAL Foundation which aims to address concerns about heart health and spread awareness around it on the occasion of World Heart Day. According to the organisers, 750 people have already undertaken the challenge and have uploaded their

videos on social media. According to a study published in a leading international cardiology journal, climbing stairs is According to the study, people who can climb 60 steps in under 1 minute may have optimal heart function

As part of the Heart2Heart -Healthy Heart Challenge, one needs to climb 60 stairs, which translates to around four floors, in a minute, make a video of it and share it on social media tagging five people, inviting them to take up the challenge

the simplest method for indicative assessment of heart health. It has highlighted that failing to climb four floors (60 steps) in 90 seconds can be a sign of suboptimal heart function, it stated.

"Although advances in care have spurred improvements in cardiovascular outcomes, cardiovascular disease remains the leading cause of death globally," said Dr S C Manchanda, senior consultant REPRESENTATIONAL IMAG

cardiologist at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi.

Of these deaths, 85 per cent are due to heart attack and stroke, the doctor said. Physical activities play a pivotal role in keeping the heart healthy. "Of many physical activities, climbing stairs, vigorously or at moderate speed, gives significant cardiovascular and muscular benefits as has been proven in a study by McMaster University.'

"During the research, it was

found that even in a short period, whether it was moderate intensity, continuous training or highintensity stair climbing, there were beneficial adaptations in muscles

of cardiac deaths in the world by 2030 with every fourth death occurring due to cardiovascular diseases, said Dr Vinod Sharma, the Vice Chief Executive Officer and Head of Cardiology Services. National Heart Institute, New Delhi.

"For certain heart conditions, exercise can be as powerful as some medications. Of many forms of physical activity, climbing stairs has been a scientifically proven exercise and is a simple and free test of one's heart health," Dr Sharma said

after a cardiac procedure," Dr Manchanda said. The severity of heart disease in India is at an all-time high and has been increasing gradually. India will have the notorious distinction of recording the highest number









international



LIFE HIT

I understand that families are struggling with their fuel bills and we had to take urgent action to get our economy growing and get Britain moving and also deal with inflation. And, of course, that means taking controversial and difficult decisions and I am prepared to do that as Prime Minister because what's important to me is that we get our economy moving LIZ TRUSS BRITISH PM

CURBS EASED

Taiwan Thursday said it will end mandatory COVID-19 quarantines for people arriving from overseas beginning October 13



uote

The need to reform the UN Security Council cannot be denied forever S JAISHANKAR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

The absolutely huge amounts of customer data companies held for years would have to be justified under the amended law. Companies need to look at data storage not as an asset, but as a liability or a potential liability

MARK DREYFUS ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA

Israel should fight terrorism with all the available means and it's time to use also this tool for deterrence

AYELET SHAKED | ISRAELI INTERIOR MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Lebanon fails to elect President

Beirut: Lebanon's Parliament Thursday failed to elect a new president, with the majority of lawmakers casting blank ballots and some walking out. The failure pointed out deep political divisions that threaten prolonged political paralysis and a leadership void at time where Lebanon is suffering an economic meltdown and has struggled to reach an agreement with the International Monetary Fund for a bailout. Parliament's deep divisions between Iran-backed Hezbollah and allies, traditional political adversaries, and a dozen reformist legislators continues to intensify.

Bishop accused of sexual abuse

Vatican City: A Nobel Peace Prize-winning Catholic bishop has been accused in a Dutch magazine article of sexually abusing boys in East Timor in the 1990s, rocking the impoverished nation and forcing officials at the Vatican and Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo's religious order to scramble to provide answers."We are here also in shock to hear this news," an official at the archdiocese of Dili, East Timor, said Thursday. The official said the archdiocese was unable to provide an officia statement without permission from the Vatican.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

St Petersburg (US), Sept 29: Hurricane Ian left a path of destruction in southwest Florida, trapping people in flooded homes, cutting off the only bridge to a barrier island, damaging the roof of a hospital intensive care unit and knocking out power to 2.5 million people as it dumped rain across the peninsula Thursday.

One of the strongest hurricanes to ever hit the United States threatened catastrophic flooding around the state. Ian's tropical-storm-force winds extended outward up to 415 miles (665 km), drenching much of Florida and the southeastern Atlantic coast.

Authorities confirmed at least one storm death in Florida. A 72year-old man was found dead early on Thursday in water in a canal behind his home in Deltona near Daytona Beach, the Volusia County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

It said he appeared to be using a hose to drain his pool into the wide canal and fell down an incline that was "extremely soft and slippery due to the heavy rain.' Another Florida sheriff said he believed the death toll would be "in the hundreds." Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno told ABC's "Good Morning America"

SHOW OF DEFIANCE NK fires missiles as Harris leaves S Korea

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seoul, Sept 29: In a show of defiance, North Korea fired two shortrange ballistic missiles into the sea on Thursday, hours after U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris flew home from a visit to South Korea during which she emphasised the "ironclad" U.S. Commitment to the security of its Asian allies.

It was the third round of missile launches by North Korea this week, extending a record pace in weapons testing as it accelerates a push to expand its arsenal and pressure Washington to accept it as a nuclear power.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North Korean missiles were fired nine minutes apart from an area near the city of Sunchon, just north of the capital, Pyongyang, and flew toward waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. It didn't immediately release more details. Japan's military said it also detected a launch. North Korea fired two shortrange ballistic missiles on Wednesday, while Harris was in Japan, and fired one before she left Washington on Sunday. Harris earlier capped her fourday trip to Asia with a meeting with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and a stop at the Demilitarised Zone dividing the Korean Peninsula, where she addressed the threat posed by the increasingly hostile North. There are also concerns that North Korea may conduct a nuclear test, which would move the country closer to being acknowledged as a full-fledged nuclear power Visiting the DMZ has become something of a ritual for American leaders hoping to show their resolve to stand firm against aggression. At the DMZ, Harris went to the top of a ridge, near guard towers and security cameras.



an's tropical-storm-force winds extended outward up to 415 miles (665 km), drenching much of Florida and the southeastern

mergency crews sawed through toppled Ltrees to reach people in flooded homes, but with no electricity and virtually no cell service, it was impossible for many people to call for help from the hardest hit coastal areas where the surge came in

that his office was receiving thousands of 911 calls from people needing rescue in the county that includes Fort Myers, but roadways were still impassable and bridges are compromised

Atlantic coast

"It crushed us," Marceno said. "We still cannot access many of the people that are in need." Emergency crews sawed through toppled trees to reach people in flooded homes, but with no electricity and virtually no cell service, it was impossible for many people to call for help from the hardest hit coastal areas where

the surge came in. "Portable towers are on the way for cell service. Chances are your loved ones do not have ability to contact you," said the sheriff's office in Collier County, which includes Naples. "We can tell you as daylight reveals the aftermath, it's going



In Lee County, which includes Fort Myers, just south of where Hurricane Ian made landfall, the sheriff's Office posted a phone number family and friends can call for welfare checks, and said "If the line is busy, keep trying."

The National Hurricane Centre said Ian became a tropical storm over land early on Thursday and was expected to regain near-hurricane strength after emerging over Atlantic waters near the Kennedy Space Centre later in the day, with South Carolina in its sights for a second US landfall.

A stretch of the Gulf Coast remained inundated by ocean water, pushed ashore by the massive storm. "Severe and life-threatening storm surge inundation of 8 to 10 feet above ground level along with destructive waves is ongoing along the southwest Florida coastline from Englewood to Bonita Beach, including Charlotte Harbour," the Miami-based hurricane centre said.

A chunk of the Sanibel Causeway fell into the sea, cutting off access to the barrier island where 6,300 people normally live. How many heeded mandatory evacuation orders was impossible to know in the storm's immediate aftermath



Locals and rescue workers navigate on boats at Curuca river after a bridge collapsed in BR-319 road in Careiro da Varzea, near Manaus, Brazil

Russia set to annex **2.5 mn without power as lan drenches Florida** more of Ukraine today



A view shows banners and constructions for a stage ahead of an expected event, dedicated to the results of referendums on the joining of four Ukrainian self-proclaimed regions to Russia, near St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square in central Moscow, Russia, Banners read: "Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson - Russia! REUTERS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, Sept 29: Russia planned to annex more of Ukraine Friday in an escalation of the seven-month war that seemed sure to further isolate the Kremlin, draw it more international punishment and bring extra military, political and economic support to Ukraine.

The annexation would come just days after voters supposedly approved Moscow-managed "referendums" that Ukrainian and Western officials have denounced illegal, forced and rigged.Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters Thursday that four regions of Ukraine Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia - would be folded into Russia during a Kremlin ceremony attended by President Vladimir Putin, who is expected to give a major speech. Peskov said the regions' pro-Moscow administrators would sign treaties to join Russia in the Kremlin's ornate St. George's Hall.

In an apparent response, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called an emergency meeting Friday of his National Security and Defense Council.

The US and its allies have promised to adopt even more sanctions than they've already levied against Russia and to offer millions of dollars in extra support for Ukraine as the Kremlin duplicates the annexation playbook it followed when it incorporated Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014.

Ukraine repeated its vows to recapture the four regions, as well as Crimea. For its part, Russia pledges to defend all its territory - including newly annexed regions - by all available means, including nuclear weapons

Heightening the tensions are Russia's partial military mobilization and allegations of sabotage of two Russian pipelines on the Baltic Sea floor that were designed to feed natural gas to Europe. Adding to the Kremlin's woes is the fact that Ukraine is succeeding in recapturing some of the very land Russia is annexing.

Ukraine's Western supporters have described the stage-managed referendums on whether to live under Russian rule as a bald-faced land grab based on lies.

They say some people were forced to vote a gunpoint in an election without independent observers on territory from which thousands of residents have fled or been forcibly deported.

"It's absolutely unacceptable," said Czech Foreign Minister Jan Lipavsky, whose country holds the European Union presidency. "We reject such one-sided annexation based on a fully falsified process with no legitimacy."

Lipavsky described the pro-Russia referendums as "theater play" and insisted the regions remain "Ukrainian territory." German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said at a conference in Berlin that Russia's moves were "the opposite of peace."

Three Russian cosmonauts back

Moscow: Three Russian cosmonauts returned safely on Thursday from a mission to the International Space Station. The Sovuz MS-21 spacecraft carrying Oleg Artemyev, Denis Matveyev and Sergev Korsakov touched down softly at 4:57 pm (1057 GMT) at a designated site in the steppes of Kazakstan about 150 kilometers southeast of the city of Zhezkazgan. The trio arrived at the station in March

BIG LEGAL VICTORY

Maryam Nawaz acquitted in graft case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 29: In a big legal victory for the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, its vice president Maryam Nawaz was Thursday acquitted by a high court in a corruption case which will allow her to contest elections.

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) accepted the appeal of Maryam, daughter of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, and that of her husband Muhammad Safdar who had challenged their convictions by an anti-corruption court in the Avenfield property case in July 2018. The Avenfield case refers to the

purchase of four posh flats in Avenfield House, Park Lane in London. A two-judge bench comprising

Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice



Mohsin Akhtar Kayani hearing their appeals said the opinion of the investigating officer could not be considered as evidence.

The Avenfield case refers to the purchase of four posh flats in **Avenfield House**, Park Lane in London

"The joint investigation team did not present any facts, it just collected information," Justice Kayani observed. At the conclusion of the case, the bench held that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), the prosecutor in the case, failed to establish the charges of corruption.

The NAB had accused the Sharifs of purchasing the flats with money over and above their known sources of income

The Sharifs rejected the accusation of wrongdoing but were unable to show where the money for the flats had come from.

The NAB in September had admitted before the IHC that the PML-N leader had no direct role in purchasing the Avenfield properties. Thursday's verdict has paved the way for Maryam, 48, to be eligible to contest elections

Lawyer Mirza Moiz Baig said: "A person who has been convicted of a crime involving corruption or moral turpitude is disqualified from contesting elections unless a period of five years has lapsed since their release."Maryam in a brief chat with the media outside the court said they had been "vindicated".

As she talked to the media, she also spoke to her father Nawaz Sharif in London and also received another call from her uncle Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who congratulated her on her acquittal.

The bank had also agreed to sur-

render its licence to operate a

branch in New York and unwind

its operations there. The branch had

In a strongly worded release is-

sued at the time, the Department

of Financial Services (DFS) of New

York State had harshly castigated

the bank and added that it "will

not stand by and let Habib Bank

sneak out of the US without hold-

ing it accountable for putting the

integrity of the financial services

industry and the safety of our na-

tion at risk". HBL had become the

target of an enforcement action

by DFS for 53 separate violations allegedly committed between

been operational since 1978.

Bangkok, Sept 29: A court in military-ruled Myanmar convicted former leader Aung San Suu Kvi in another criminal case Thursday and sentenced Australian economist Sean Turnell to three years in prison for violating Myanmar's official secrets act, a legal official said.



Suu Kyi received a three-year sentence after being convicted with Turnell under the secrets law, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorised to release information about the case.

Three members of her Cabinet were also found guilty, each receiving sentences of three years.

Turnell was also convicted of violating immigration law, for which he was given a three-year sentence to be served concurrently with the term for violating the secrets law. The 20 months he has already spent in detention will be deducted from his sentence, leaving him less than a year and a half to serve.

Turnell, 58, an associate professor in economics at Sydney's Macquarie University, had served as an adviser to Suu Kyi, who was detained in the capital Naypyitawwhen her elected government was ousted by the army on Feb. 1, 2021.

Pakistan's largest bank aided, abetted Al-Qaeda: Report

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Islamabad, Sept 29: Pakistan's largest bank, Habib Bank Limited (HBL), faces secondary liabilities in a terror financing case in the US in which the plaintiffs had alleged that it aided and abetted Al-Qaeda terrorism and joined a conspiracy to launch attacks that killed or injured 370 people, a media report said on Thursday.

Judge Lorna G. Schofield observed that bank faces the liabilities under the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act as a party that "aids and abets, by knowingly providing substantial assistance, or who conspires with the person who committed such an act of

international terrorism", Dawn news quoted the Bloomberg report as saying.

The Bloomberg report quoted the judge as saying that the plaintiffs in three consolidated cases "sufficiently" alleged that the attacks were planned or authorised by a 'Foreign Terrorist Organisation' such as the Al Qaeda or syndicates Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, the Afghan Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, and the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan.

"The plaintiffs sufficiently allege that the bank knew its customers were integral to al-Qaeda's overall campaign of terrorism, carried out directly and by proxy, which is sufficient to allege general awareness.



"The complaints also show that the bank knowingly and substan-

tially helped al-Qaeda and its proxies evade sanctions and engage in terrorist acts, which satisfies the eknowing assistance' requirement, the judge said.

Judge Schofield said the allegations were sufficient to show that HBL "joined in a conspiracy to commit the attacks". However, she turned down the plaintiffs' claims of primary liability because none of the alleged banking services provided by HBL "were themselves acts of international terrorism", the report added.

Prior to this, HBL had agreed to pay a fine of \$225 million, the largest ever imposed upon a Pakistani bank by regulatory authorities, in 2017 for various violations of New York's regulatory provisions, Dawn news reported.



2007 and 2017.



Suu Kyi convicted again

ASSOCIATED PRESS





It is a crucial step in achieving our 2.5 GW of renewable power by 2030. We are looking forward to collaborate with the best in the industry as we march ahead on our decarbonisation goals SUNIL DUGGAL | CEO, VEDANTA GROUP

AKASH AMBANI IN TIME100 NEXT LIST

Akash Ambani, Chairman, Jio has been named to the TIME100 NEXT - TIME's list of the world's rising stars. TIME100 Next highlights 100 emerging leaders who are shaping the future of business, entertainment, sports, politics, health, science and activism, and more. Akash is the only Indian to feature in the list

New Delhi, Sept 29: The govern-

ment Thursday raised rates on

some small savings schemes that

do not get income tax benefit as it

began passing the hardening of

While the interest rate for popular

PPF and NSC were retained, rates

for five other schemes where in-

come accruing is taxable have been

hiked by upto 30 basis points. Interest

rates for small savings schemes are

With the revision, a three-year

time deposit with post offices would

earn 5.8 per cent from the exist-

ing 5.5 per cent, an increase of 30

basis points for the third quarter

Senior Citizen Savings scheme

will earn 20 basis points more at 7.6

per cent from the existing rate of

7.4 per cent during the October-

December period (Q3), a finance

With regard to Kisan Vikas Patra

(KVP). the government has revised

The new rate for KVP would be

7 per cent and the maturity period

is 123 months, compared to the ex-

isting interest rate of 6.9 per cent

and maturity period of 124 months.

Monthly Income Scheme would

both tenure and interest rates.

ministry notification said.

of the current financial year.

notified on a quarterly basis.

interest rates to depositors.





The new stateof-the-art smart factory is testament to our commitment towards making Hyderabad a leading

manufacturing hub in the country. We will be investing over ₹300 crore in this project, which will in turn create additional 1,000 jobs

ANIL CHAUDHARY | CEO & MD, SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC

At TVS Motor Company it has been our endeavour to create future leaders and support them in their journey. Our collaboration with FCDO and the Government of United Kingdom is a

testimony to this commitment SUDARSHAN VENU MD, TVS MOTOR



VIKAS WADHAWAN CFO.

PROPTIGER.COM

SHORT TAKES

Adani secures fund for Ganga Expressway

New Delhi: Adani Enterprises Thursday said it's three wholly owned subsidiaries have achieved financial closure for the access-controlled six-lane greenfield Ganga Expressway Project in Uttar Pradesh under public-private partnership mode. The firm said it has secured finances of ₹10,238 crore from lenders, and the concession period of the project shall be 30 years with traffic link extension provision of six years, including three years of construction period. AEL's road portfolio has grown to 18 projects with more than 6,400 lane kilometres and an asset value exceeding ₹44,000 crore spread over ten states --- Uttar Pradesh. Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, West Bengal and Odisha.

TARGET LOWERED FOR FY23 **GOVT TO BORROW** ₹5.92L-CR IN H2

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: A day after doling out ₹44,762 crore for free ration to poor, the government Thursday cut its market borrowing target for the current fiscal by ₹10,000 crore in signs of buoyant tax collections.

In a statement, the finance ministry said the government will do total borrowing of ₹5.92 lakh crore during October-March period of the current fiscal or the second half, including from issuance of its maiden Sovereign Green Bonds of ₹16,000 crore.

The government had in Budget for 2022-23 projected a gross market borrowing of ₹14.31 lakh crore. Of this, the government decided to borrow ₹14.21 lakh crore during 2022-23 "Accordingly, the balance

amount of ₹5.92 lakh crore (41.7 per cent of ₹14.21 lakh crore) is planned to be borrowed in the second half of the fiscal year 2022-23 through dated securities, including ₹16.000 crore through issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) as per the announcement made in the Union Budget 2022-23," it said.

The government will continue to exercise greenshoe option to retain an additional subscription of up to ₹2,000 crore against each of the securities indicated in the auction notification.

The amount raised through this option will be limited to 3 to 5 per cent of the gross issuance for second half and within the gross borrowing limit for the 2022-23

The gross direct tax collections till September 17 grew 30 per cent to over ₹8.36 lakh crore.

Q1 CAD widens to 2.8% of GDP The increase in the current account deficit comes on the back of a

widening merchandise trade deficit and an

increase in net outgo of investment income payments, RBI said

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 29: India's current account deficit, an indicator of the balance of payment position, in the first quarter of the fiscal widened to 2.8 per cent of GDP at \$23.9 billion, mainly on account of a higher trade deficit.

The current account had a surplus of \$6.6 billion, equivalent to 0.9 per cent of GDP, in the first quarter (April-June) of 2021-22.

As per the data released by the Reserve Bank on India's Balance of Payments during the First Quarter (April-June) of 2022-23, the current account balance recorded a deficit of \$23.9 billion (2.8 per cent of GDP) in the first quarter, up from \$13.4 billion (1.5 per cent of GDP) in January-March period of the last fiscal.

"Underlying the current account deficit in Q1:2022-23 was the widening of the merchandise trade deficit to \$68.6 billion from \$54.5 billion in Q4:2021-22 and an increase in net outgo of investment income payments," the RBI said.

It also said net services receipts increased, both sequentially and on a year-on-year (YoY) basis, on the back of rising exports of computer and business services.

The current account registers the export and imports of goods and services, and international



Current account balance recorded External debt has risen by 7.1% as it a deficit of \$23.9bn in April-June, stood at \$617.1bn in June 2022, against up from \$13.4bn in Jan-March \$575.3bn YoY Current account surplus stood at \$6.6bn, equivalent to 0.9% of GDP

vate transfer receipts, mainly rep-

resenting remittances by Indians

employed overseas, amounted to

\$25.6 billion, an increase of 22.6

per cent from their level a year ago.

eign direct investment increased to

\$13.6 billion from \$11.6 billion a year

ago. Net foreign portfolio invest-

ment recorded outflows of \$14.6 bil-

lion against net inflows of \$0.4 billion

during the first quarter of 2021-22.

deposits recorded net inflows of

\$0.3 billion compared to \$2.5 bil-

lion in the April-June quarter

There was an accretion of \$4.6 bil-

lion to the foreign exchange re-

serves (on a BoP basis) in the April-

June quarter of 2022-23 compared

to \$31.9 billion in the year-ago period.

TOP

2.51 ITC

TOP

LOSERS

-1.69 Titan

5.22 Asian Paint

-1.49 Kotak Bank

-1.36 Bajaj Finance

-1.86 Tech Mahindra

GAINERS

1.68 Tata Steel

1.38 Sun Pharma

1.17 Nestle India

2.16 Dr Reddys Labs

of 2021-22.

The RBI further said non-resident

In the financial account, net for-

the largest component of external debt. with a share of 54.7%

> by 7.1 per cent as it stood at \$617.1 billion in June 2022, against \$575.3 billion during the corresponding period of last year, according to data released by RBI.

mained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 54.7 per cent at end-June 2022, followed by debt denominated in the Indian rupee (30.4 per cent), SDR or special drawing rights (6.3 per cent), yen (5.1 per cent), and euro (2.8 per cent)

Loans remained the largest component of external debt, with a share of 31.1 per cent, followed by currency and deposits (22.3 per cent), trade credit and advances (20.6 per cent) and debt securities (18.0 per cent).

Compared to March 2022, when external debt had stood at \$619 billion, there has been a marginal drop in external debt in June 2022 which was \$617 billion

BIZ BUZZ

CaratLane ready for the festive season

Chandrashekharpur: CaratLane - A Tanishq Partnership, India's leading omnichannel jeweller, is preparing for the upcoming festive season with the launch of brand new collections and unique designs, to cater to the high customer intent during the festive season. The festivities are finally in full force after a period of 2 years and CaratLane is gearing up with the launch of their new collection, Mogra. Mogra is crafted using diamonds and rice water pearls for the first time, using a micro-setting technique with invisible-to-the eye prongs to give the diamonds more radiance and sheen. All the designs are created with the minute details of the floral form especially from the veins holding the bud to the texture on the petals. "CaratLane designs are perfect for gifting as well as to be adorned at all family celebrations. Our customers love the fact that for all their intimate gifting needs - CaratLane has a wide range of designs, starting at ₹5,000. Be it for the first Diwali of a couple, or for gifting to family and friends, CaratLane has something for everyone," said Jennifer Pandya, VP Marketing at CaratLane. To make it



Centre hikes interest

rate on small savings

earn 10 basis points more at 6.7 per cent as compared to existing 6.6 per cent. However, Public Provident Fund (PPF) and National Savings Certificate (NSC) will continue to have an annual interest rate of 7.1 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively, in the third quarter of this fiscal.

The one-year term deposit scheme of the post office will continue to earn an interest rate of 5.5 per cent in the quarter, as offered in the previous three months.

Term deposits of five years will fetch an interest rate of 6.7 per cent, to be paid quarterly, while the five-year recurring deposits will earn interest of 5.8 per cent, the same as in Q2 FY23.

The interest rate on girl child savings scheme Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana was retained at 7.6 per cent, while savings deposits will continue to earn 4 per cent per annum. Interest rates on seven schemes

were retained while hike was effected in five schemes.

The Reserve Bank since May has raised the benchmark lending rate by 140 basis points, prompting banks to raise interest rates on deposits as well. The country's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) raised interest rate on one-year to less than 2 years fixed deposit by 15 basis points to 5.45 per cent in August from 5.30 per cent

RIL launches first in-house premium fashion store

REUTERS

Bangalore, Sept 29: Reliance Industries Ltd's retail unit launched its first in-house premium fashion and lifestyle store Thursday, as the billionaire Mukesh Ambaniled company continues to grab a bigger slice of India's luxury market.

The new store chain called Azorte. the first of which was launched in Bangalore, will compete with the likes of Mango and Industria de Diseno Textil SA-owned Zara, and cater to millenials and Gen Z.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 29: Benchmark indices failed to hold on to early gains and closed in the red for the seventh straight session

External debt rises India's external debt has risen

RBI POLICY IN FOCUS

A MODEST RECOVERY IN THE RUPEE CUSHIONED THE FALL. TRADERS SAID

BSE Sensex

Previous day close:

US dollar-denominated debt remained in Q1 YoY transfers. As per the RBI data, pri-

US dollar-denominated debt re-

SAIL logs turnover of over ₹1L-crore

.....

New Delhi: Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) produced 18.733 million tonne of hot metal and 17.366 million tonne of crude steel during 2021-22, its best ever production performance. During the Maharatna company's annual general meeting, it was informed that for the first time, it entered the elite club of Indian companies having a turnover of over ₹1 lakh crore. The company's turnover of ₹1.03 lakh crore during 2021-22 saw a substantial growth of more than 50 per cent over the previous best turnover of ₹68,452 crore, achieved during 2020-21.

HCL buys majority stake in GUVI

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New Delhi: IT company HCL Group has acquired a majority stake in vernacular edtech platform GUVI which offers technical courses, the company said Thursday. The IIT Madras and CIIE (IIM Ahmedabad) incubated company, GUVI offers technical courses such as Web Development, AI module, SQL, and various other courses created by industry experts in vernacular languages. It provides tailor made courses for learners, universities and employers. HCL aims to create skilled tech professionals in India and abroad with this investment.

Ford India loss widens to ₹4,229cr

New Delhi: The Indian arm of US carmaker Ford, which had last year decided to exit from the country, saw widening of its loss after tax to ₹4,229 crore in fiscal 2021-22, according to data provided by business intelligence platform Tofler.

Thursday, with participants remaining in wait-and-watch mode ahead of the RBI's interest rate decision.

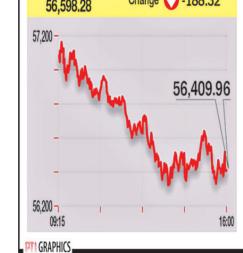
After rallying in early trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex came under selling pressure in the afternoon session and closed 188.32 points or 0.33 per cent lower at 56,409.96. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty dipped 40.50 points or 0.24 per cent to end at 16,818.10.

Asian Paints was the biggest laggard in the Sensex pack, tumbling 5.22 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Titan, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance, TCS, Wipro and Bajaj Finserv.

In contrast, ITC, Dr Reddy's, Tata Steel, Sun Pharma, Nestle India, M&M and NTPC were among the major winners, climbing as much as 2.51 per cent.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may take cues from its global counterparts, including the US Federal Reserve, to raise interest rate for the fourth time in a row Friday to tame stubborn inflation

The RBI, which has since May raised the short-term lending rate (repo) by 140 basis points (bps), may again go for a 50-bps increase to take it to a three-year high of 5.9



per cent, say experts. In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.63 per cent and the midcap index

cent.

Among

indices,

cent, followed

by power (1.30 per

Rupee rose 0.31 per recovered from record lows of 81.93 the BSE to settle 20 paise sectoral higher at 81.73 utilities fell against dollar by 1.38 per

cent), IT (0.60 per cent), consumer discretionary (0.47 per cent), teck (0.34 per cent) and financial services (0.33 per cent). Healthcare, FMCG, realty, commodities and industrials ended higher. Meanwhile, the international oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.45 per cent

to \$88.92 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors offloaded shares worth ₹3,599.42 crore Thursday, according to data available with BSE.

convenient for customers CaratLane now has three stores in Bhubaneshwa and five in Odisha that takes the total tally to 32 in the East region.



GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX 2022 India climbs six notches to 40th spot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: India climbed six notches to 40th position in the Global Innovation Index 2022 on account of improvement in several parameters, according to a report by the Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

It said that India's innovation performance is above average for the upper middle-income group in almost every innovation pillar, with the exception of infrastructure, where it scores below average.

"Türkiye and India enter the top 40 for the first time, placed 37th and 40th, respectively. India over-

takes Viet Nam (48th) as the top lower middle-income economy for innovation," it added.

It said that middle-income economies China. Türkive and India continue to change the innovation landscape; others like the Islamic Republic of Iran and Indonesia show promising potential.

"Within Central and Southern Asia. India continues to lead in 40th position, moving further up the rankings, from its 46th position in 2021, and its 81st rank in 2015," it added. In the rankings, the top posi-

tion was occupied by Switzerland. It was followed by the US. Sweden. the UK and the Netherlands. China was placed in the 11th position.

"The mid-premium fashion seg ment is one of the fastest growing consumer segments as millennials and the Gen Z are increasingly demanding the latest of international and contemporary Indian fashion," said Akhilesh Prasad, chief executive officer of the fashion and lifestyle arm of Reliance Retail.

The company plans to have up to 40 stores across 12 cities over the next nine months, he added.

In three years, Azorte will contribute to 15% incremental revenue of Reliance Retail's fashion and lifestyle business, Prasad said at the store launch in Bangalore.

The new store chain is a part of Reliance Industries' aggressive strides in the retail industry, forging partnerships with domestic and global brands

The company plans to build a portfolio of 50 to 60 grocery, household and personal care brands within this year and is in advanced talks to get the rights for LVMHowned French beauty brand Sephora in India.

Reliance's luxury and lifestyle foray has been led by Ambani's daughter Isha.

India a 'star' among emerging economies with 7.3% growth in FY23: S&P

The global ratings agency expects mild recession in US and noted that rising rates, increased European energy insecurity, and the

lingering effects of Covid-19 are hitting growth almost everywhere

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: S&P Global Ratings Thursday said rising rates and increased European energy in-

security are hitting growth in almost every country, but India with an estimated 7.3 per cent growth this fiscal, would be the 'star' among emerging market economies

In a report, S&P said global macro performance over the next few quarters points towards growth slowdown with tightening financial conditions amid rate hikes by central banks. Most leading and sentiment indicators are pointing toward slower growth as well.

Growth eased in the second quarter across emerging markets as inflation reduced real household



income, business confidence deteriorated, and the external environment became more complicated, it said Emerging-market central banks have been ahead of their advanced

country counterparts in hiking policy rates, and in Latin America they are now near the end of their tightening cycles.

Elsewhere, core inflation continues to rise, suggesting there is more work to do. Large recent hikes by the US Federal Reserve are exacerbating balance-of-payment strains across emerging markets.

"For the 16 emerging economies that we cover, excluding China, 2022 GDP growth will hit 5.2 per cent this year, in our view. This forecast is up 30 basis points from our previous round. India is the star of this group with growth of 7.3 per cent this fiscal year (ending in March 2023)," S&P said.

The US-based agency said as central banks aggressively raise rates to fight inflation, our confidence is waning that they can avoid generating a sharp downturn.

'We are now expecting a mild recession in the US," it said, adding that rising rates, increased European energy insecurity, and the lingering effects of Covid-19 are hitting growth almost everywhere. "This may be the most anticipated economic slowdown on record, but the data have yet to fully fall in line," S&P said.



First Jadeja, now Bumrah

Yet another huge blow for India as pace ace follows his colleague into injury list missing out on a place in the side for the T20 World Cup

with

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 29: India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah was Thursday ruled out of the T20 World Cup due to a back stress fracture, dealing a massive blow to team's chances at the ICC flagship event starting next month in Australia.

The 28-year-old fast bowler is the second senior star player to be ruled out after Ravindra Jadeja, who is recovering from a knee surgerv

A BCCI official told PTI that Bumrah will be forced out of action for six months due to the back injury. "Bumrah is not going to play the T20 World Cup for sure. He has a serious back condition. It's a stress fracture and he could be out for a period of six months,' a senior BCCI official told this agency on conditions of anonymity. Stress fracture is a tiny crack in

the bone, caused by overuse and is common in sports persons. When stress reaction (bone bruise) goes undetected for a considerable time, it develops into stress fracture.

Almost 50 per cent of sports injuries are caused by stress fractures. Back stress fractures do not require surgery but a lot of time to heal. Rest is best solution to treat stress fractures.

gious tournament by the BCCI.

Bumrah, who played

the second and third

T20 against

Australia.

had trav

elled

Thiruvananthapuram for the series-opener against South Africa but left for Bangalore to be at National Cricket Academy (NCA) for rehabilitation. It is understood that either The Indian team is already look-

Deepak Chahar or Mohammed ing unsettled at the moment and Shami could replace Bumrah in the Bumrah's injury has only compounded the woes for skipper Rohit main squad. Both were named as Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid. stand-by players for the presti-"Losing

Bumrah

the team to

and Jadeja will be huge for India. We didn't expect that things will pan out as they have. He was rested for the

Asia Cup precisely to manage his workload management. Now it remains a question if he was even fit enough to play the Australia series," the senior official said.

Many senior players have been given adequate rest, keeping in mind their workload. What is more interesting is the fact that Bumrah has played only five Tests, five ODIs and as many T20Is in 2022 apart from IPL games for Mumbai Indians

"That's not a lot of cricket, considering that he was rested for Asia Cup, West Indies tour and also some of the bilateral cricket played in India. That's a lot of rest. As of now he is at the NCA and the rehab will be a long and arduous one. Yes, World T20 is important but he is still young and India's biggest bowling asset. You can't take risk with him," the official said.

Bumrah, who has a slinging action, puts a lot of pressure on his back during loading. Former West Indies pace bowling great Michael injuries.



Masakadza seals Capitals win



SPLENDID KNOCK: India Capitals' Hamilton Masakadza watches the ball closely while playing a shot, Thursday

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 29: Former Zimbabwe batter Hamilton Masakdza (68 n o, 39b, 7x4, 4x6) played a splendid innings to help India Capitals script a comfortable seven-wicket win over Manipal Tigers in a Legends League Cricket match at the Barabati Stadium here, Thursday.

It was India Capitals skipper Gautam Gambhir who won the toss and elected to bowl first. Jesse Ryder (79, 56b, 5x4, 5x6) and Mohammad Kaif (67, 48b, 9x4, 1x6) played like they never went away from competitive cricket as they shared a 126-run partnership to help Manipal Tigers post 161/5. In response, Masakadza led the Capitals to a comprehensive victory with 16 balls to spare.

Chasing 162 for a win, Capitals were off to a quick start, Gambhir (15, 9b, 3x4) and Solomon Mire (28, 19b, 3x4, 1x6). Chris Mpofu () dismissed Gambhir in the third over. Mire was then joined by his former Zimbabwe teammate

Masakadza at the middle and the

duo shared a 28-run partnership. Dilhara Fernando (1/19) got rid of Mire to reduce the Capitals to 51/2in the sixth over.

However, Masakadza upped the ante helping the Capitals keep pace with the required run-rate. Ross Taylor (29, 27b, 1x4, 2x6) played the anchor's role with occasional boundaries. Sri Lankan bowling great Muthiah Muralidaran (1/15) broke the 86-run stand in the 15th over before Masakadza and Ashley Nurse (21 n o, 11b, 3x6) finished the job with ease.

Earlier, Ryder opened the Tigers' innings along with Tatenda Taibu. The New Zealander looked comfortable during his stay at the crease. but the same could not be said about the former Zimbabwe captain. Former Australia speedster

Mitchell Johnson (1/28) ended Taibu's stay at the crease in the first ball of the fifth over. That was when Kaif joined Ryder in the middle. The next 13-odd overs saw the Capitals try their best, but the pair of Ryder and Kaif remained unconquered. The Tigers did not get too many runs in the Powerplay Overs -46/1—and thereafter Ryder and Kaif concentrated on building their confidence at the crease. They did not get too many big shots, but perhaps that was their ploy — to preserve their wickets before launching the offensive in the last few overs. Till the 15th over, it seemed as if

the Capitals bowlers had done a fine job by keeping a tight leash on the Tigers, who could make only 117/1 after 15 overs of play. But Ryder and Kaif upped the ante in the last five overs, before both of them were dismissed in the 19th over bowled by Englishman Liam Plunkett (2/31).

However, the Tigers failed to make use of the final over of their innings, scoring just 4 runs and losing two wickets to medium pacer Rajat Bhatia (2/14).

BRIEF SCORES

Manipal Tigers 161/5 (Jesse Ryder 79, Mohammad Kaif 67; Rajat Bhatia 2/14, Liam Plunkett 2/31) lost to India Capitals 162/3 (Hamilton Masakadza 68 n o; Muthiah Muralidaran 1/15) by 7 wickets.

Buttler, Moeen not in CONTRASTING FORTUNES FOR BARCA, REAL favour of 'Mankading'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Sept 29: England white ball captain Jos Buttler and his deputy Moeen Ali said that running out a non-striker for backing too is

less I was really angry with someone. It's in the laws and there's nothing illegal so people that do it have the right, but I just hope it doesn't become a common thing, or something that's regularly done

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barcelona, Sept 29: European leagues will resume this weekend after the international break and the teams would be eager to perform well with the World Cup on the

horizon. In case of La Liga, all the eyes



this week in Finland to repair an abductor muscle in his right thigh that he damaged in Uruguay's 0-1___ loss to Iran Friday.

Over the next three weeks, Barcelona faces two Champions League group games against Inter Milan and a clasico against Real Madrid October 16.

not "their thing" and that they would rather call the player back if any of their teammates used it as a mode of dismissal.

Custodians of the laws of cricket MCC have re-affirmed that a nonstriker's run out while backing up is within the laws of the game but there has been no end to the debate in the aftermath of the third and final women's ODI between India and England where Deepti Sharma ran out Charlie Dean to complete clean sweep for visitors.

"No, I am calling the batsman back," the 32-year-old Buttler, who is recovering from a calf injury ahead of the World Cup, told TalkSPORT.

Incidentally, in IPL 2019, Buttler was at the receiving end as Rajasthan Royals opener when he was dismissed in a similar fashion by veteran Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Aswhin, who was back then playing for Kings XI Punjab.

"No one wants to see them (mode of dismissal) in the game because they always create such a talking point when it should be about the battle between bat and ball and watching great games of cricket. They always seem to happen at unsavoury times.

Moeen, the stand-in captain in their current T20I series against Pakistan, echoed similar sentiments: "No, it's not my thing."

"I don't think I'll ever do it un-

Moeen told the 'Telegraph'.

"You are not really working to get a wicket. At least with a run-out, there's a bit of work that has to be done, and with all the other dismissals. This is just waiting for the guy and taking the bails off. Even when I played cricket as a kid in the garden, it's not my thing to do.

The mode of dismissal currently listed in the MCC's 'Unfair Play' section of the laws (41.16.1) is to be moved to the 'Run Out' section from October 1, when an update to the ICC Playing Conditions comes into effect.

'Whilst (the dismissal) was indeed an unusual end to an exciting match, it was properly officiated and should not be considered as anything more," a statement from the MCC has said earlier.

"Where one person sees the bowler as breaching the Spirit in such examples, another will point at the non-striker gaining an unfair advantage by leaving their ground early.

While Indian skipper Harmanpreet Kaur has said that they have committed "no crime". Deepti on her arrival in Kolkata told reporters that they had "warned" Dean after she was repeatedly backing up at the non-striker's end. England's captain Heather Knight, who pulled out of the series, later shot back accusing Deepti of "lying"

will be on Barcelona and their arch-rivals Real Madrid-two of the most-followed teams in the world. However, the international break brought them contrasting fortunes.

Karim Benzema, the top scorer in the league last season for Real and the Ballon d'Or favourite, has returned to the squad after recovering from an injury. Barca, on the other hand, have to deal with a triple blow with Ronald Araujo, Jules Kounde and Hector Bellerin ruled out following injuries.

When Xavi Hernández oversaw the remodeling of Barcelona's squad this summer, the coach made sure he was so well covered at right-back that his club could afford to loan out United States defender Sergiño Dest to AC Milan.

But after a spate of injuries that has decimated Barcelona over the international break, Xavi may have a huge hole in his defense ahead of Sunday's game at Mallorca. Kounde, Araujo and Bellerin, who have played at right back this

season, are all out for an undetermined period of time. Kounde and Araujo, who can play at center back as well, were hurt while playing for France and Uruguay, re-

spectively, in games to prepare for Islands. the World Cup in November. Bellerin hurt his left leg while

their arch-rivals Real Madrid get boost with the return of Karim Benzema (right inset)

If not, Xavi may be forced to shoehorn a player with little or no experience at right back into the po-That leaves Barcelona waiting to sition, draft a player from see if veteran Sergi Roberto can re-Barcelona's youth team, or opt to cover from a muscle problem that play with three centerbacks and two has sidelined him for three weeks wing backs. in time for the trip to the Balearic

Barcelona will also be without

Barcelona manager Xavi Hernandez will miss the services of (left inset) Ronald Araujo (R) and Jules Kounde, while

midfielder Frenkie de Jong and forward Memphis Depay after they were both hurt while playing for the Netherlands. Neither has been a first-choice player for Xavi this season.

Of the injuries, Araujo's appears to be the most serious. The 23-yearold defender underwent surgery

The only good news for Xavi is that Robert Lewandowski returned in perfect shape from his stint with Poland. The striker leads the Spanish league with eight goals in six games.

Mallorca, coached by Mexican Javier Aguirre, has lost 12 of the last 13 visits by Barcelona to its stadium. Its only win during that stretch came in 2009 with Barcelona already crowned the league champion.

BENZEMA BACK

Benzema is back for Real Madrid after recovering from a tendon injury and a strained muscle in his right thigh that had kept him off the field for over three weeks. The Frenchman led Madrid to the Champions League and Spanish league double last season after scoring 44 goals in all competitions.

But his team has not missed him much and has kept up its perfect record this season of nine wins in as many games in all competitions.

Carlo Ancelotti's side leads the league by two points ahead of Barcelona before it hosts fifthplaced Osasuna Sunday.

Shiva wins WBC Asia Continental title **ODISHA EVES BEAT BENGAL**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangkok, Sept 29: Indian super middleweight boxer Shiva Thakran was crowned WBC Asia Continental champion after he clinched a Technical Knockout (TKO) victory over Malaysia's Adli Hafidz here.

Asian Pro Boxing circuit with the eighth round stoppage win over the former South East Asian Games medallist Wednesday.

The fight had been three months in the making and Thakran had moved up two weight divisions from his usual super welterweight for the contest.

The Indian caused ripples in the

'When this fight was made, no-



training for Barcelona.

body expected me to last more than six rounds, let alone win by a KO. A lot of people had written me off

as I hadn't fought in more than a year," Shiva said.

"People forget that I am only 25 years old, I started off on Pro Boxing quite early unlike the usual norms in India where you are expected to stick to amateurs. I climbed over two weights for this fight, it hasn't affected me at all.'

Since turning professional in 2016, Thakran (16-3, 8 KOs) has had a good run in the nascent Indian Pro Boxing circuit. The COVID induced lockdowns and restrictions have had an effect on Thakran, as he had to sit out and watch while his peers in the global circuit have gained considerable experience in the past three years.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 29: Odisha ended their losing streak with a four-wicket win over Bengal in their match of the invitational triangular T20 tournament. which also involves Jharkhand, at the KIIT Cricket Stadium here, Thursday.

Batting first, Bengal rode on the knocks by Kashish Agarwal (28, 37b) and Sansthita Biswas (24 n o, 19b) to post 96/8. Rasanara Parwin (3/18) was the wrecker-in-chief for Odisha and she was ably supported by Laxmipriya Naik (2/15). In response, the home team

notched up the win with four balls to spare. Madhuri Meheta (35, 39b)

was the top scorer for Odisha, while Subhra N Swain (16, 18b) also made useful contribution. Saika Isaque (2/14) was standout among the Bengal bowlers.

HARD-FOUGHT WINS

Sundargarh and KIIT/KISS University marched into the final of the Hockey Association of Odisha (HAO) Sub-Junior Men Hockev Championship Thursday after winning their respective semifinals at the Hockey Ground, KIIT Stadium here.

Sundargarh defeated Dhenkanal 3-1 in their last four contest, while the hosts overcame Deogarh test 2--0 to book their spot in the title clash.

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





