



## LEAVING COMFORT ZONE

Actor Parineeti Chopra had to learn an Israeli martial art form to perfect her role in 'Code Name Tiranga'

LEISURE P2



## IAN BATTERS FLORIDA

'Hurricane Ian' leaves a path of destruction in southwest Florida, trapping people in flooded homes

INTERNATIONAL P10



## BUMRAH TO MISS T20 WC

Fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah ruled out of T20 WC with a stress back fracture which will keep him out of cricket for 6 months

SPORTS P12

# 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



Chandrachud, JB Pardiwala and AS Bopanna said the rights of reproductive autonomy give similar rights to married women as that to unmarried 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 differently-abled 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 reserved 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 ensure padayatra's success



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 29:** On the sidelines of the BJP national president 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 padayatra which begins October 2. BJD president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, who was in Bangalore, virtually addressed the party workers.

Naveen asserted his party is with the people and working for the people. He asked the party leaders and workers to focus on how the message of various welfare programmes launched by the government can be conveyed to the people. The Chief

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 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 BJD 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 'kusan' (misrule), he claimed.

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



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# 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 filed a plea seeking relief immediately.

Moquim is also the managing director of M/s Metro Builders Pvt Ltd, a reputed real estate firm which also has been convicted in the misappropriation case.

Others who were sentenced were identified as Vinod Kumar, senior IAS officer and the then MD ORHDC, Swosti Ranjan Mohapatra, former company secretary of ORHDC, Peeyusdhari Mohanty, director of Metro Builders Pvt. Ltd.

The fraud was committed during the Vinod's tenure as MD of ORHDC between January 4, 2000 and May 15, 2001. Swosti Ranjan was also deployed as company secretary of the ORHDC during the same period.

Sources revealed that Moquim's Metro Builders



applied for a term loan of ₹1.50 crore for Metro City-II project at Nayapalli, in Bhubaneswar for construction of 50 flats which was scrutinised by Swosti Ranjan who prepared the loan appraisal report for approval.

"At the relevant time, Vinod Kumar was not delegated with any financial power for sanction and disbursement of the loan by the board of directors of ORHDC. Even, he did not have the power to sign the cheque. In spite of that Kumar in connivance with Swosti sanctioned and disbursed the loan amount ₹1.50 crore in haste by showing undue favour to the builder," said Hemant Kumar Swain, Special Public Prosecutor in the case.

It also came to fore that the loan documents were neither presented before the board of directors of ORHDC

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

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 whopping ₹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-diversity crisis worsens.



The research shows that in the past decade a land and environmental defender has been killed every two days. The worst 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

A TATA PRODUCT

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### 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.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

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#### ARIES

Whip up some excitement in your life — put on your walking shoes and go explore some unknown destination, suggests Ganesh. Keep yourself busy, but take care not to overdo anything. Today, you will be the centre of attention in group activities.

#### TAURUS

You will find yourself at the crossroads and each turn and twist will come with its share of pros and cons, says Ganesh. 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 Ganesh. 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 impulsive and spontaneous, feels Ganesh. You better get rid of your negative thoughts and beliefs and start taking charge of things at hand. Also, stop focussing so much on the pitfalls, and start working.

#### LEO

If one were to put an earnest spirit and a frank attitude together, the result would be a Leo; it's like your hallmark. And with qualities like these in your kitty, don't be surprised if you happen to reach a milestone or two today. Will it be marital bliss or career success? No matter what the area is, be assured that your societal standing shall get a heady boost today, assures Ganesh.

#### VIRGO

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 private parties, social-dos and even weddings, says Ganesh.

#### LIBRA

"Every man has specific natural 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 to 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 Ganesh.

#### SCORPIO

You will find yourself thinking with your heart rather than your head today, says Ganesh. 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 Ganesh.

#### SAGITTARIUS

The day may pan out to be more challenging than you had anticipated. An independent 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 self-confidence 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 Herculean tasks today, and Ganesh says you will do justice to work too.

#### AQUARIUS

Team work and cooperation bring out the best in you, so you 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 Ganesh.

#### 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 Ganesh.

## 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.

Parineeti says, "One of the key action techniques 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." "It is a very physically and mentally demanding form of martial arts as its not only just movements but it also needs a lot of mental awareness of the surroundings one is in which is what exactly an agent needs to do on a mission."

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."

Parineeti said that at the end of most days she had injuries and bruises all over her body.

The movie also stars Harry Sandhu opposite Parineeti and is set to release October 14.



## When Tiger came close to play Spider-Man

**Mumbai:** Tiger Shroff's only tryst with the superhero genre so far has been the 2016 release *A Flying Jatt*. But the actor recently revealed that he was almost a Marvel superhero even before that, as he auditioned for Spider-Man. In his own words, the actor says he came 'quite close' to playing the popular superhero.

Spider-Man has been played by Tobey Maguire, Andrew Garfield, and Tom Holland in three different film series, dating back to 2002.

In an interview with *ConnectFM* Canada, Tiger revealed that he had once auditioned for Spider-Man, even sending his tapes to the producers. "I had auditioned for Spider-Man. I had sent them my tapes also, my show reel. They were quite impressed as to what I could do. My pitch to them was 'I'd save you a lot of money on VFX because I can do most of what Spider-Man can do'," Tiger said.

While the actor did not clarify when this was, the only time Spider-Man has 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 Tara Sutaria and Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

do most of what Spider-Man can do," Tiger said. While the actor did not clarify when this was, the only time Spider-Man has 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 Tara Sutaria and Nawazuddin Siddiqui.



## 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 Tejaswi Prakash emerged winner and she was the 5th runner-up.



## NATIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL - DAY 4

### Based on Behmai massacre, *Agarbat* jolts audience

**Bhubaneswar:** Theatre aficionados were treated with Hindi play *Agarbat* 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 the ladies are doing and how their lives have turned out post the massacre is what kept the

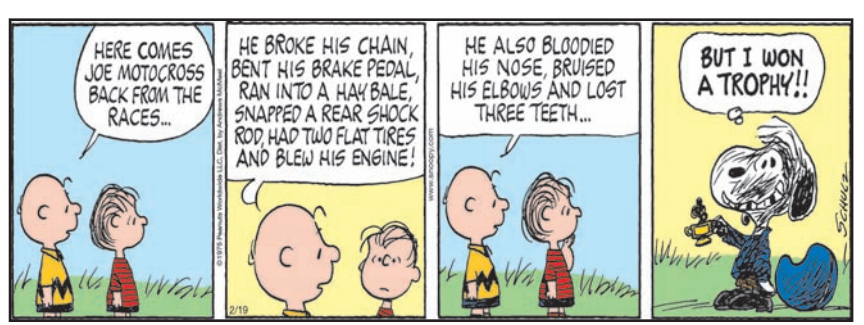


audience at the edge of their seats. Apart from director Swati Dubey, others who performed on stage included Mansi Rawat, Ayushi Rao, Shivanjali Gajbhiye, Sahshee Gupta,

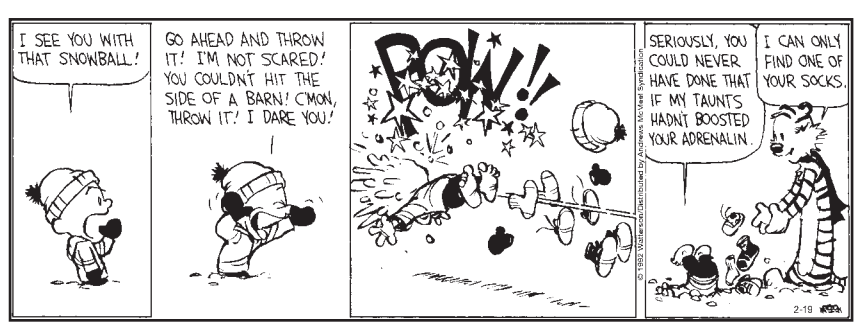
Bhawna Jain, Arpit Khatik, Vidhan Katare and Ankit Kumar. Culture Director Ranjan Kumar Das, Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi president Aruna Mohanty, ONS

president Haren Sahoo, treasurer Satya Jena and dramatists Mihir Meher & Sudhanshu Dwivedi were among the dignitaries who were present on the occasion.

### PEANUTS



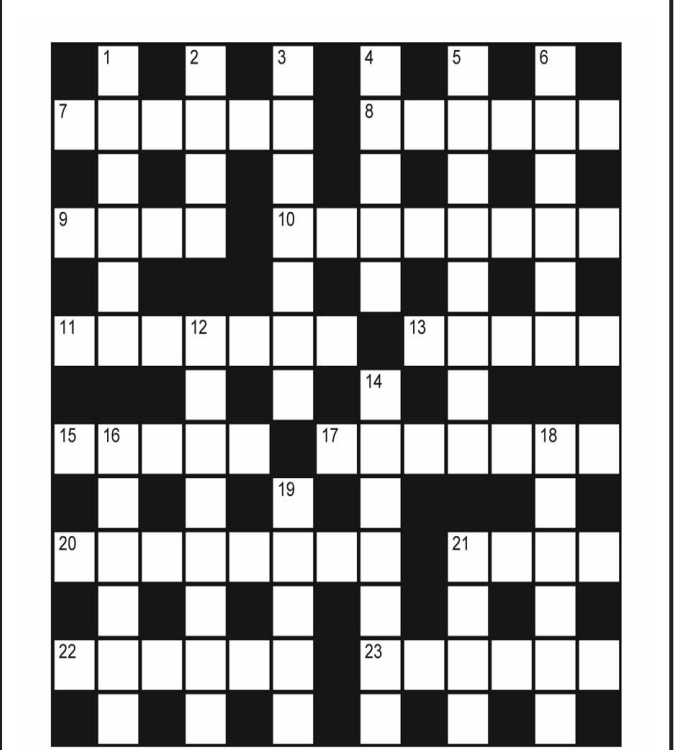
### CALVIN AND HOBBS



### BREVITY



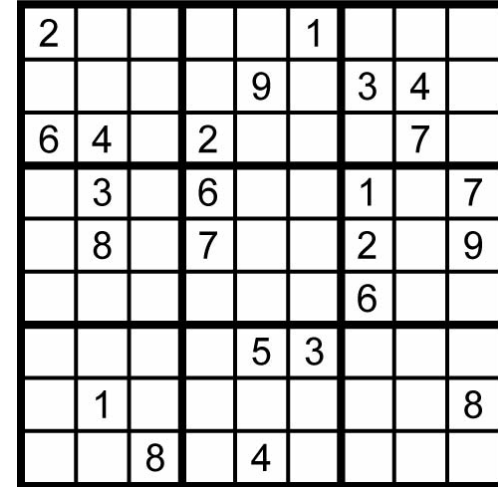
### FUN post CROSSWORD



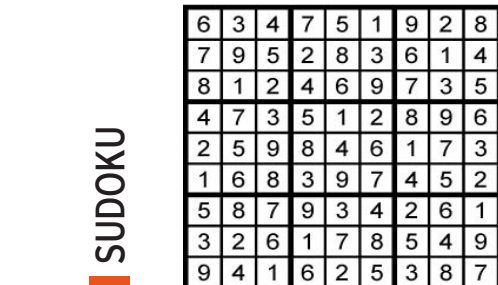
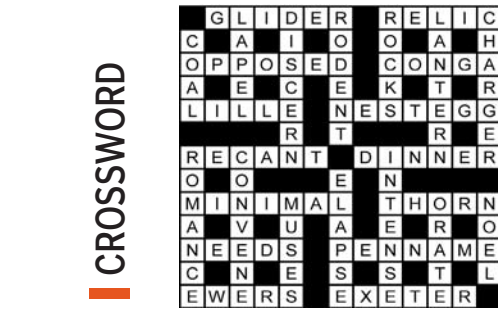
- Across**
- 7 Road work machine
  - 8 Retaliate
  - 9 Olympic sled
  - 10 Crack shot
  - 11 Ottoman empire
  - 13 Persian Gulf
  - 15 Big Bertha's birthplace
  - 17 Trinket
  - 20 Short cape or scarf
  - 21 Sea swallow
  - 22 Leafy vegetable
  - 23 Family relation
  - Down**
  - 1 Injury
  - 2 Edge tool
  - 3 Make a face
  - 4 Cavalry sword
  - 5 Comfort
  - 6 Large lizard
  - 12 Sugar apple
  - 14 Pipe filler
  - 16 Seafood dish
  - 18 Murky, as a liquid
  - 19 Roofing material
  - 21 Hoodlum

### SUDOKU

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



### SOLUTIONS



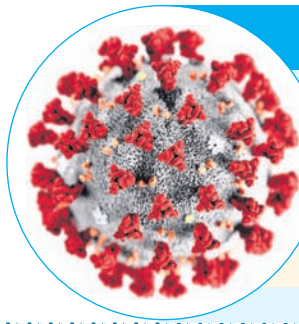
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

# downtown



## CARDIAC HEALTH FIRST

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



## COVID-19 TRACKER

|        | INFECTED     | RECOVERED    | DEAD      |
|--------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| World  | 62,20,07,653 | 60,19,51,358 | 65,45,947 |
| India  | 4,45,83,360  | 4,40,13,999  | 5,28,611  |
| Odisha | 13,33,887    | 13,23,437    | 9,192     |



BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra along with other party leaders inaugurating the padayatra preparatory meet at Baramunda Ground



BJP national president JP Nadda flanked by party functionaries waves at the crowd gathered at Janata Maidan in Bhubaneswar



Party's organisational secretary Pranab Prakash Das addressing the meet



BJD legislators and MPs at the venue



Food being distributed during the BJP meet



Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and other BJP leaders greeting Nadda at City Airport



Nayagarh MLA Arun Sahoo at the meet



BJD leaders attending the preparatory meeting

OP PHOTOS



Cultural programme at Bhubaneswar airport to welcome Nadda



People lending an ear to Nadda's speech

## 5 automated testing stations in state soon

state govt asks the transport commissioner to 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-

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

**T**he 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.

## Secy-level meeting fails to resolve Polavaram dispute

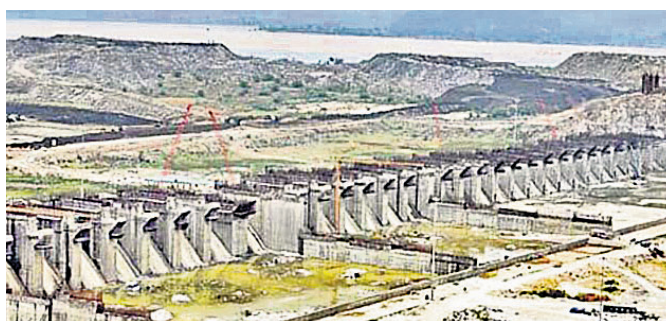
POST NEWS NETWORK

**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**

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.

## SC collegium recommends transfer of CJ S Muralidhar

POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi, Sept 29:** The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended transfer of Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar as the Chief 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 D Y 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 Haryana 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-



**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

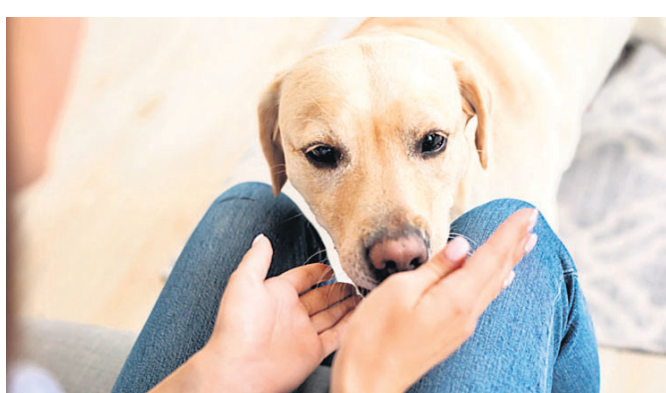
**D**ogs can smell stress from a human's sweat and breath, according to a study conducted in the UK.

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 correctly 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



**R**esearchers 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.

**T**hey self-reported their stress levels 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 service dogs and therapy dogs," Wilson said.

The research also helps to shed more light on human-dog relationship and adds to our understanding of how the canines may interpret and interact with human psychological states.

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

They self-reported their stress levels before and after the task and the researchers only used samples where the person's blood pressure and heart rate had increased.

The dogs were taught how to search a scent line-up and alert researchers to the correct sample. The stress and relaxed samples were then introduced but at this stage the researchers did not know

if there was an odour difference that 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 physiological measures from Zachary Petzel.

PTI

# 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

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.

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



**COMMONERS' CONCERNS :** Members of Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) Odisha state committee staging a sit-in protest seeking fulfillment of their various demands at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, Thursday  
OP PHOTO

# 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 allegations of amassing wealth disproportionate to 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.

# 'Complete Suando dev works by Dec'

**POST NEWS NETWORK**  
**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.

# AK Parija takes charge as KIIT-DU new chancellor

**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 Sasmata 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

**Parija is among the most respected advocates in the country having a long distinguished service spanning over 38 years**  
by the Government of Odisha in 2019. He served as the Bar Council of India chairman in 2011. Welcoming Parija, Samanta said, "Shri Parija is a renowned Odia person. In the capacity of chancellor, Parija will advise the university for the next five years. KIIT Deemed to be University will continue its journey towards educational, research and all-round excellence with renewed vigour under the able leadership of Shri Parija."

# Stolen Aus coke seized; 1 held

**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 Malaya 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.

# City AIIMS holds prog on polycystic ovary syndrome

**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 yet fully understood, 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

contest and inter-college quiz competition. A public awareness program was held in the O&G OPD for women suffering from PCOS where dietary counselling was provided, and yoga 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. In a study conducted at the City AIIMS, nearly 70 per cent women with PCOS were obese and one-third 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

# 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.

# 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-Cookiemann-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.

15K Birmaharajpur farmers left out of KALIA, PM Kisan

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



FILE PHOTO

ers are eligible, but only 821 have received assistance. Of 1,478 eligible farmers in Bahalpadar panchayat, only 52 have got assistance.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Amarpali, Sept 29: Both the state and Central governments have executed a host of schemes for welfare of farmers.

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.

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.



SOCCER TOURNEY: A block-level interschool football tournament underway at the mini stadium of People's High School in Buguda, Ganjam

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 Arjunbala Primary School under Ghatagaon block in Keonjhar district, Thursday.

Killer jumbo sent to Kapilash rehab centre

Dhenkani: The female elephant that had created mayhem killing three people in Jagatpur and Tangi areas of Cuttack was tranquillised Thursday and brought to the elephant rehabilitation centre at Kapilash.

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.

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).

EAST COAST RAILWAY E-AUCTION OF PARKING STAND. Table with columns: Station & Location, SI No., and Auction Start Date & Time.



STUDENTS' STR: 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

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 rumbled at the accident site as the patch has a history of several mishaps.

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

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

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

POST NEWS NETWORK

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 Nayak and a student of Class-VII at Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir at Arabinda Nagar in Parabedha. Family members cried foul over the death saying that some anti-social youths near the Dussehra ground of the town extorted money from him.

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.

The audit revealed that the administration had set a target to execute 814 projects under MGNREGS 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.

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 died in two panchayats.

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 scooter were parked near the boundary wall near Aahaar centre while heavy rain was lashing Wednesday night. Anil was going on the scooter 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.

Superintending engineer in Vig net

Bhadrak: Vigilance sleuths detained the superintending engineer of Bhadrak Salandi Canal Division and his brother-in-law with unaccounted cash amounting to Rs 5 lakh.

RDC makes surprise visit to Dhenkanal DHH

Dhenkanal: Revenue Divisional Commissioner (RDC, Nothern range) Suresh Chandra Dalei made a surprise visit to Dhenkanal Thursday.

The superintending engineer was identified as Srimant Sethi and his brother-in-law as Karunakar Sethi. The sleuths had earlier 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 Narahari Nayak said. Reportedly, superintending engineer Srimanta Kumar Sethi and his brother-in-law Karunakar Sethi (shopkeeper) were found in possession of suspected ill-gotten cash to the tune of Rs 5 lakh which Sethi could not account for satisfactorily.

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.

KANPUR IRRIGATION PROJECT

Land losers in Champua await damages

POST NEWS NETWORK

Joda/Champua, Sept 29: Land of some tribals has been acquired for Kanpur major irrigation project at Kainta village under Champua tehsil in Keonjhar. But for the last 10 years, the land losers have been complaining that they have not yet received their compensation.



FILE PHOTO

years," they rued. They also pointed out that as per 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.

Kanpur irrigation project. A canal is being excavated on their land. The land losers had first apprised the special land acquisition officer about the pending compensation in May, 2016.

"But this provision has been thrown 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.

NOTIFICATION. Trident Properties Pvt. Ltd. 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.

OFFICE OF DEAN & PRINCIPAL SAHEED LAXMAN NAYAK MEDICAL COLLEGE KORAPUT-764020, KORAPUT, ODISHA. 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% (non-refundable) at the Accounts Section.

CUTTACK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION '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 Balyatra Ground ensuing Balyatra Festival 2022.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CUTTACK (R&B) DIVISION NO.1: CUTTACK GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA 'e' PROCUREMENT NOTICE. No.B-647:1. The Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Division No.1, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in Single cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractor for Road works as mentioned below.



# national

## of the day quote

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

Next year, India is going to hold the chair for G-20. The 20 countries and multilateral institutions which are invited to participate 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 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 gang arrested

**Chandigarh:** Punjab Police have arrested Neeraj aka Chaska, the top-most wanted shooter of the Davinder Bambiha gang, for his involvement in multiple murders, including the murder of student leader Gurlal Brar, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said Thursday. The murder of Brar, who was a 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, Chandigarh and the National Capital Region (NCR) Delhi.

### Mukesh Ambani gets Z+ security cover

**New Delhi:** The government has upgraded the security cover of billionaire industrialist Mukesh Ambani to the top category of 'Z+' after a review of perceived threat perception to him by central intelligence and security agencies, official sources said Thursday.



**Bhaji 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



# CONGRESS PRESIDENT ELECTION ASHOK GEHLOT OUT OF FRAY

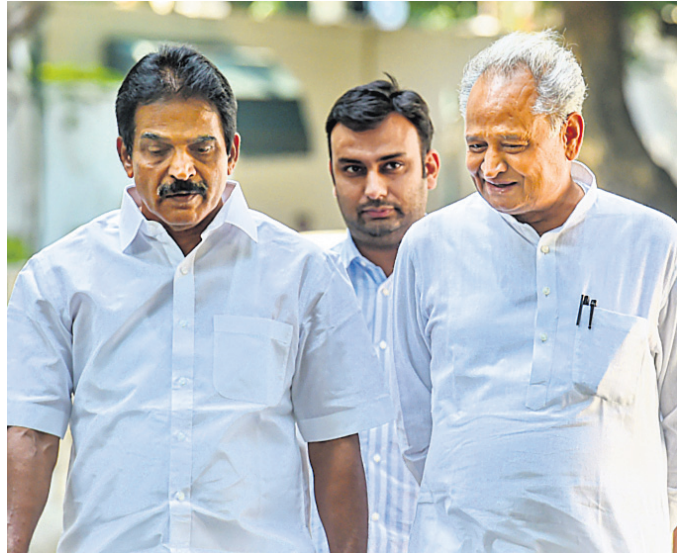
AGENCIES

**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 their 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.



## 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 functionalities. 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 Rajasthan 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.

## 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 functionalities.

After his half-an-hour meeting with Gandhi, Gehlot accompanied by AICC general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal told re-

porters that he apologised to the Congress chief for the developments in Rajasthan where some MLAs loyal 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

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.

## 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 retreating 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.

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.



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

PTI PHOTO

# Govt orders blocking of 67 porn sites

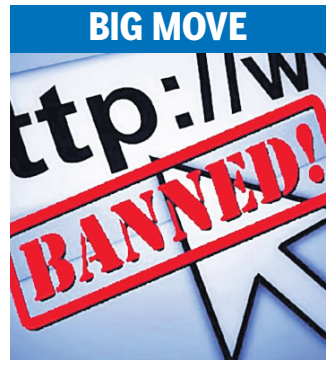
AGENCIES

**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 di-

rections issued by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

"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



dated September 24 said.

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.

# HARYANA TO DEVELOP WORLD'S LARGEST SAFARI

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 outside Africa, the state government said Thursday.

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

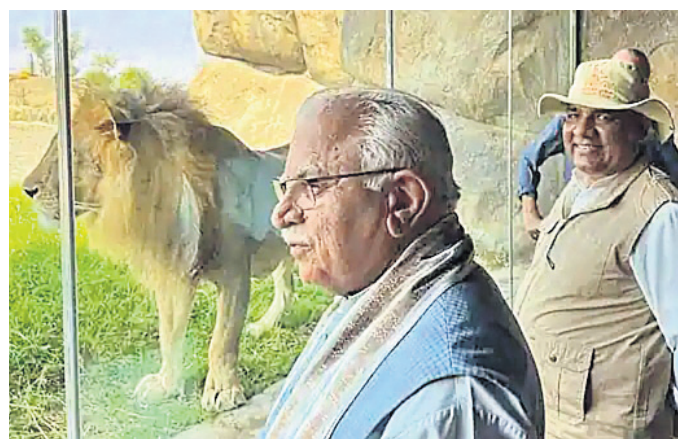
At present, Sharjah is home to the largest curated safari park outside Africa. Opened in February 2022, the Sharjah Safari covers an area of about 2,000 acres.

"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 pro-

vide 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 short-listed, 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.

## Court discharges 10 accused of vandalism in '20 Delhi Riots case

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 offence of mischief by fire or explosive substance with intent to destroy 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.







# international

## of the day quote

The need to reform the UN Security Council cannot be denied forever

**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



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



## LIFE HIT

# 2.5 mn without power as Ian drenches Florida

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 72-year-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"



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

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

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.

"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 elec-

tricity 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

## 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 short-range 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 Suncheon, 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 short-range ballistic missiles on Wednesday, while Harris was in Japan, and fired one before she left Washington on Sunday.

Harris earlier capped her four-day 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.



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

# 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 substantially helped al-Qaeda and its proxies evade sanctions and engage in

terrorist acts, which satisfies the 'knowing 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.

The bank had also agreed to surrender its licence to operate a branch in New York and unwind its operations there. The branch had been operational since 1978.

In a strongly worded release issued 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 holding it accountable for putting the integrity of the financial services industry and the safety of our nation at risk". HBL had become the target of an enforcement action by DFS for 53 separate violations allegedly committed between 2007 and 2017.

## 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.

## Suu Kyi convicted again

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bangkok, Sept 29: A court in military-ruled Myanmar convicted former leader Aung San Suu Kyi 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 Naypyitaw when her elected government was ousted by the army on Feb. 1, 2021.



