

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



People laughed at us when there were no party polls. Then party announced it. Now more people are laughing at us

Justice Jaswant Singh new CJ of Orissa HC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended appointment of Justice Jaswant Singh as the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court. The collegium headed by Chief Justice UU Lalit took the decision in its meeting held September 28. The collegium also recommended the transfer of Orissa HC Chief Justice S Muralidhar as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court. Justice Singh had taken oath as a judge of Orissa High Court October 8, 2021. He was elevated as judge of Punjab & Haryana High Court December 5, 2007. Justice Singh was enrolled as an advocate in 1986 and started practice at District Court, Sirsa.



Timeline for affixing HSRP extended

Bhubaneswar: For the convenience of vehicle owners the timeline for affixing the High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) has been extended by one month. The Odisha government Friday issued a notification extending the timeline for affixation of the HSRP on vehicles registered prior to 1st April 2019.

EMIs to rise further

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Sept 30: Home, auto and other loan EMIs are set to rise further after the RBI Friday raised the key interest rate by 50 basis points, the fourth straight increase since May, with more hikes expected to rein in inflation.

The monetary policy committee (MPC), comprising three members from the RBI and three external experts, raised the key lending rate or the repo rate to 5.90 per cent - the highest since April 2019 - with five out of the six members voting in favour of the hike. Since the first unscheduled mid-meeting hike in May, the cumulative increase in interest rate now stands at 190 basis points and mirrors similar aggressive monetary tightening in major economies around the globe to contain runaway inflation by dampening demand.



MORE TIGHTENING AHEAD

- RBI raises repo rate by 50 bps to 5.90%
- Lending rate highest in 3 yrs
- This is the fourth straight increase since May
- More hikes expected to rein in inflation

The MPC also decided by a majority of 5 out of 6 members to remain focused

Natural gas prices up by 40%

New Delhi: Prices of natural gas, which is used to generate electricity, make fertilizer and is converted into CNG to run automobiles, were Friday hiked by a steep 40 per cent to record levels, in step with global firming up of energy rates. The rate paid for gas produced from old fields, which make up for about two-thirds of all gas produced in the country, was hiked to USD 8.57 per million British thermal units from the current USD 6.1, according to an order from the Oil Ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

on the withdrawal of the accommodative policy stance to ensure that inflation remains within the target going forward, while supporting growth, said RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.

MORE ON P11

State changes OCS examination pattern

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: With an aim to help out students preparing for civil service examinations at state and national-levels, the state Cabinet Friday decided to change the pattern of Odisha Civil Services Examination at par with the civil services examination conducted by UPSC.

The Cabinet led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has approved eight proposals including amendment to the Odisha Civil Services (Combined Competitive Recruitment Examination) Rules, 1991, said Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra here. The amendment was made so

that candidates can prepare themselves for civil services examination conducted by OPSC and UPSC simultaneously, he said.

As per the decision, out of total 2000 marks, 1750 is for written tests and 250 is for personality test. The written test includes Odia, English, Essay, General Studies-I, II, III, IV and Optional Subject Paper-I & Paper-II. All written test papers consist of 250 marks.

Now, the unreserved category (UC) students can make six attempts for the exam while socially and educationally backward candidates (SEBC) can appear for nine times. There is no limit for the SC & ST category students, Mahapatra said. **More P3**

Ukraine's NATO move as Russia annexes 4 regions

AGENCIES

Kyiv, Sept 30: Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Friday that Kyiv is requesting fast-track NATO membership after Russia formally annexed four Moscow-held regions of Ukraine. "We have already proven our compatibility with (NATO) alliance standards," Zelenskyy said in a video posted by the Ukrainian presidency on social media.

"We are taking a decisive step by signing Ukraine's application for accelerated accession to NATO," he added. He also said that Kyiv would not negotiate with Russia - which sent troops into Ukraine February 24 - as long as President Vladimir Putin was in power. "Ukraine will not hold any negotiations with Russia as long as Putin is the president of the Russian Federation. We will negotiate with the new president," Zelenskyy said.

Meanwhile, the US sanctioned more than 1,000 Russians, firms, rejecting Putin's 'fraudulent' annexation of Ukrainian regions.

More P10



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Deemed to be University
(Declared U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956) Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

18th Annual Convocation

Date: 1st October 2022 | **Time:** 11.00 a.m.
Venue: KIIT Campus - 3 (Kathjodi Campus)

Chief Guest
Shri Naveen Patnaik
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha



Convocation Address (Virtual)
Dr. Rigoberta Menchú Tum
Hon'ble Nobel Laureate

Guests of Honour
Mr. John Desmond Forbes Anderson (Lord Waverley)
Hon'ble Member of British Parliament, UK
Mr. Himanshu Gulati
Hon'ble Member of Parliament, European Union
Mr. Andreas Jahn
Senior Foreign Policy Advisor, Germany

Conferment of D.Litt. (Honoris Causa) to:
Mr. Bishow Parajuli
Representative & Country Director, WFP India
Dr. Deepa Malik
Padma Shri, Khel Ratna and Arjuna Awardee;
President, Paralympic Committee of India
Mr. K. Subramanian
Executive Vice Chairman,
AFCONS Infrastructure
Mr. Prabodh Mohanty
Managing Director, S.N. Mohanty Group

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Website: www.kiit.ac.in | Email: kiit@kiit.ac.in



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DUA LIPA SPARKS ROMANCE RUMOURS WITH TREVOR NOAH

British singer Dua Lipa has sparked romance rumours with Daily Show host Trevor Noah. The two were spotted looking cosy during an 'intimate dinner' in New York which was followed by a kiss on the cheek goodbye outside the restaurant, reports *Mirror.co.uk*.

HAMILL CALLS RUSSIA 'THE EVIL EMPIRE'

Actor Mark Hamill has become an ambassador for United24, the official fundraising arm of the Ukrainian government as it continues its war against Russia. "Right now is the best time for everyone to come together and help Ukraine stand up in this war with the evil empire," said Hamill.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You will remain undecided today, which is quite unlike you, says Ganesh. This will lead to speculation, which is not a bad thing by itself, unless you put all your money into the bargain. Also, be careful not to take wild guesses in love and relationships.

TAURUS
This day you are going to be particularly conscious of your beliefs and principles. You will be very proud and sensitive, and are not likely to brook any adverse comment or criticism. Anyone who dares to question or deride them will get a fitting response from you.

GEMINI
You have been aching to arrange a family reunion or get-together at your house. Well, today is the perfect day to do it. And why just family? You are also likely to invite some of your close friends and important business associates over to your place.

CANCER
You are likely start the day in the best of spirits today. Your enthusiasm and cheerfulness will be infectious, and you will be able to lift the mood wherever you go. However, your enthusiasm can be short-lived and pummeled under the weight of some bad news, leaving you distraught.

LEO
Talk of being busy! It seems like today, you shall take the cake, and perhaps, be the icing on it as well, says Ganesh. It is likely that the day is going to be very hectic for you in terms of work and business. You may be engaged in official conversations and dealings.

VIRGO
You will spend most of today in the company of family and friends, says Ganesh. Students may focus on upcoming examinations and will learn to balance study and leisure time, in equal measure. It is a good day to buy real estate.

LIBRA
Today is the day when you seem to agree with everything that people say, without striking even a note of criticism. It's just one of those days when you are amazed by all things around you. Such an elastic approach will enable you to be reasonable in your views and sensible in your ways. Ganesh wishes you the very best.

SCORPIO
It may have been on the cards for long and finally, you may end up buying a state-of-the-art motor vehicle or a palatial house of your dreams today. In addition, your generous mood may also egg you on to buy an expensive gift for your life partner. If you do not let the generosity burn a hole through your pocket, you may have an overall satisfying day, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Today, your superiors at work are going to trust you with many complicated assignments. But, after exerting yourself, you are sure to come out with flying colors and have your work appreciated. Do not be surprised if cash incentives come your way. Such may indeed be your fortune, says Ganesh.

CAPRICORN
Creativity is your innate trait. But how creative can you get when dealing with day-to-day issues? You will not only answer this question with utmost modesty, but will make a great display of your creative skills by cleverly sorting out problems with your siblings, says Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
For a moment, it seems that you're swamped with problems. But you are brave enough to deal with any ugly issue that crops up suddenly. Ganesh hints at a romantic evening, which may just be time together in a jacuzzi, or simply preparing a meal together. Pure ecstasy!

PISCES
All the dieting that you have been undergoing will finally begin to show results, with compliments galore coming your way from your friends. Your energy and enthusiasm levels are likely to be high.

Shruti part of DC's Sandman: Act III

Chennai: Actress-singer Shruti Haasan has added another feather to her cap as she has now lent her voice to the international audio drama *Sandman: Act III*. This comes just days after Shruti released her English single *She is a Hero* which was loved by audiences and critics alike for its strong message and music.

The third instalment of the New York Times best-selling, multi part original audio drama series has been released exclusively on Audible by DC.

Shruti plays the character of a landlady at the World's End Inn in the series.

It has been a dream come true for Shruti, who has always mentioned in her interviews about how big a fan she is of the *Sandman* series and that she is a huge admirer of Neil Giaman.

This is Shruti's third international project after *Treadstone* and *Frozen 2* and the series also stars James McAvoy, Kat Dennings, Miriam Margoyles and Justin Vivian Bond among others.

Commenting on the same, Shruti said: "It feels great to be a small part of such

an iconic series written by Neil Giaman. *Sandman: Act III*, the makers have taken the series to another level. I have been a huge Neil Giaman fan since I was a teenager and being a part of a *sandman* audio franchise with such stellar cast is a dream come true for me." AGENCIES



Chitrangda recalls scary fan encounter



Mumbai: Chitrangda Singh is one of the most sought-after actresses in the industry today. She is known for her fitness and style sense. Over the years, the actress has starred in several films like *Inkaar*, *Saheb, Desi Boyz*, *Bazaar* and several others. Recently, during a media interaction, the actress revealed a strange fan encounter.

The *Bob Biswas* actress revealed that she had a terrifying fan experience when someone sent her legal papers for his land and transferred ownership to her: "I have not had many fan encounters but there was one scary one. Someone had sent me legal papers of his land where he had transferred the ownership of it to me. He also knew my address so it came directly to my house in Mumbai. It was very scary. We had to get that figured out," she said.

During the interview, the actress also shared her take on body shaming. She said, "I am not for body shaming. I don't like the zero sizes and all. Being fit, working out, playing some sport, and being aware of one's fitness goals are some things we should be encouraging."

68TH NATIONAL FILM AWARDS

Asha Parekh receives Phalke award

Ajay Devgn and Suriya shared Best Actor's award while Aparna Balamurali received the award for Best Actress



New Delhi: Veteran actor Asha Parekh was Friday honoured with the Dada Saheb Phalke award, the highest recognition in the field of Indian cinema.

Parekh, 79, was presented the award by President Droupadi Murmu during the 68th National Film Awards ceremony, held at Vigyan Bhawan here. The veteran said she is grateful to receive the prestigious award a day before her 80th birthday.

"It is a huge honour to have received the Dada Saheb Phalke award. It makes me very grateful that the recognition comes to me just one day before my 80th birthday.

"This is the best honour I could get from the Government of India. I would like to thank the jury for the recogni-

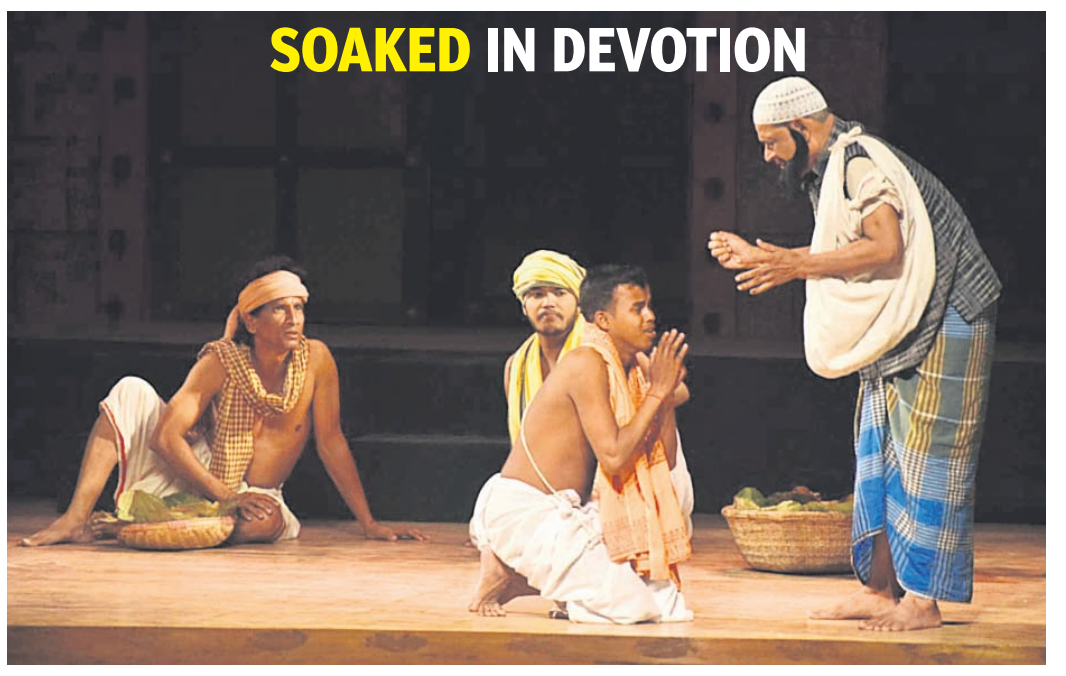
tion that they have bestowed upon me, my long journey and fulfilling the journey in the film industry," said Parekh, who is the recipient of the award for the year 2020.

The award for the Best Feature Film was bagged by Tamil film *Soorari Pottru* starring Suriya. He also shared the Best Actor Award with Ajay Devgn for his performance in *Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior*. This is the third time that Ajay is winning the National award after he won for films like *Zakhm* and *The Legend Of Bhagat Singh*.

Reacting to the news the Phool Aur Kaante actor wrote in his tweet, "Not counting the wins or the blessings, just feeling grateful for all of it. Most importantly, your love. I share this win with all of you."

"Honoured to receive my awards from the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu," the tweet further read.

Aparna Balamurali received Best Actress award for her role alongside Suriya in *Soorari Pottru*, while Biju Menon has bagged the Best Supporting Actor award for Malayalam film *Ayyappanum Koshiyam*. Lakshmi Priya Chandramouli took home the Best Supporting Actress award for her role in Tamil film *Sivaranjaniyum Innam Sila Pengallum*.



A scene from Odia play *Bhakta Jhulia Kabir*, staged at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar, Friday. The drama, based on the life of poor weaver Jhulia Kabir, a Muslim devotee of Lord Jagannath, was written and directed by Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalay ex-principal Nabin Parida. He also played the central character in the play. The drama, presented by Odisha Natya Sangha, was part of Jagannathayana, a monthly programme organised by Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi.

PEANUTS



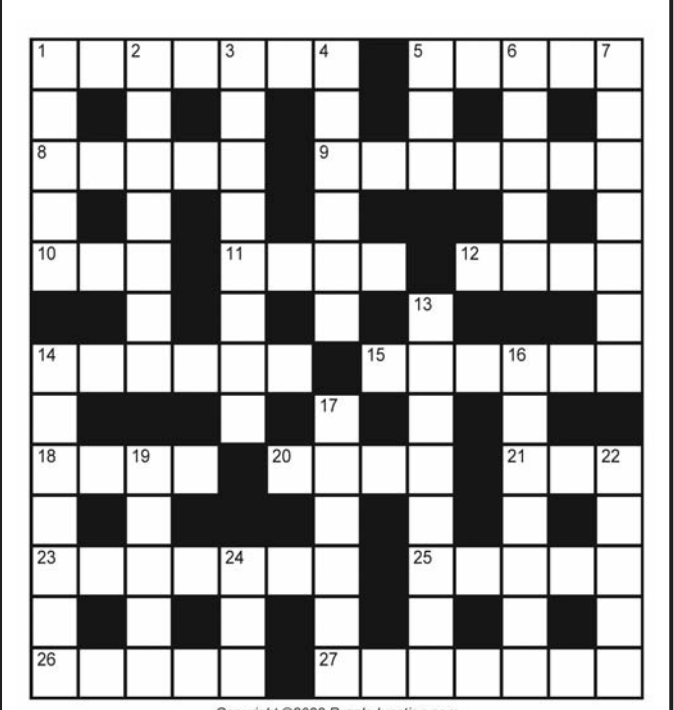
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



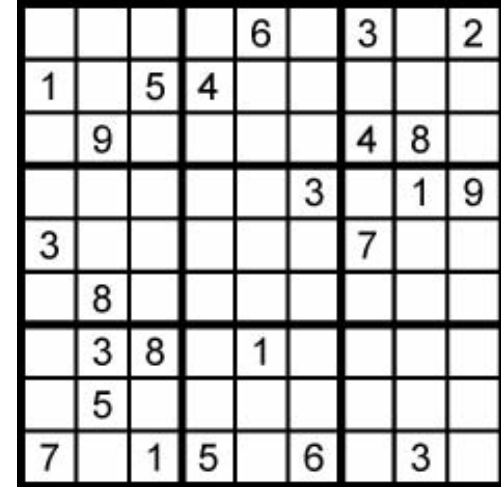
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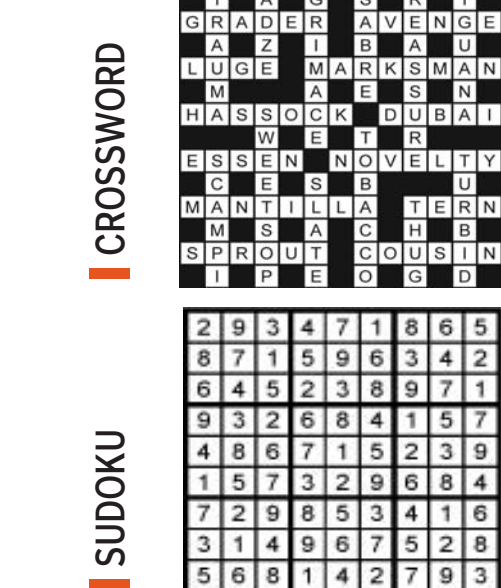
- Across**
- 1 Bluepoints
 - 5 Boxer's stat
 - 8 Trip planner's aid
 - 9 Scavenger (4,3)
 - 10 Lodge
 - 11 Cunning
 - 12 Rubella symptom
 - 14 Doctrines
 - 15 Fanatic
 - 18 Declare openly
 - 20 Galba's predecessor
 - 21 Milk giver
 - 23 Large hanky
 - 25 Habituate
 - 26 Ward off
 - 27 Himalaya sight
- Down**
- 1 Saudi neighbor
 - 2 Be quiet!
 - 3 Hollywoood legend Clint
 - 4 Provide, as food and drink
 - 5 Mythical bird
 - 6 Major artery
 - 7 Axe
 - 13 Learn by heart
 - 14 Gun part
 - 16 Sermon
 - 17 Argue
 - 19 Come clean (3,2)
 - 22 Toast choice
 - 24 Cobbler's tool

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

DISTRICT & STATE CADRE POSTS

Now, candidates allowed to write answers in Odia

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The state Cabinet Friday approved a proposal to frame an omnibus rule, namely the Odisha Civil Services (Method of Examination in Odia Medium Language) Rules, 2022, in order to facilitate candidates to write answers in Odia language.

In order to promote Odia language, the rule was framed to the effect that the candidates can answer the questions in Odia language except the language subject, Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra said.

However, the candidates who desire to answer the papers and/or to face the interview in English language, must exercise the option at the time of filling up the application form for the examination, he mentioned.

As per the present practice, answer papers (except the language papers) in the recruitment examinations are being answered by the candidates in English language only. In another decision, to streamline the recruitment processes and complete the recruitment examinations in a reasonable time frame, the state government has decided to conduct Combined Graduate Level Recruitment Examination instead of multiple examinations conducted by Odisha Staff Selection Commission (OSSC).

This will save the time both for the applicants and the government. It will also reduce the examination related expenditure, said the Chief Secretary. The Cabinet has approved the pro-

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Combined Graduate Level Recruitment Examination to replace multiple exams conducted by OSSC
- 120 Odisha Secretariat Service Cadre posts have been created in addition to existing 359 posts
- Directorates of Mines and Geology to be merged

Govt to procure 71 LMT paddy

The state Cabinet has approved the Food and Procurement Policy for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) of 2022-23, setting a target to procure 71 lakh metric tonne (LMT) of paddy. According to Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra, the government will procure paddy during Kharif and Rabi seasons separately during the period. The tentative target for procurement of paddy would be 57 LMT for Kharif, while it will be 14 LMT for the Rabi.

proposal for creation of 120 Odisha Secretariat Service (OSS) Cadre posts in addition to existing 359 posts. As per the decision, 70 under secretary, 33 deputy secretary, 15 joint secretary and two additional secretary posts have been created under Group-A posts.

The CM-led panel has also approved the proposal to merge the directorates of Mining & Geology Administration under the Steel & Mines department.

It also approved the proposal for the merger of Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (OMECL) with Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC).

Politics is a medium to serve people: Naveen

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: BJD president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday said politics is just a medium to serve the people. He said this while addressing the elected Zilla Parishad and urban local body (ULB) members on digital mode on the concluding day of the two-day workshop here.

Politics takes centre stage during elections to panchayats and ULBs. However, after the elections are over, all should work unitedly for the people, he said.

BJD, as a regional party, has always given priority to the interest and dignity of the state and will continue to do so in future, said Naveen.

Stating that BJD has remained with the people in their sorrow and joy, he appealed to the party leaders and workers to reach out to the



people following this principle and make the Jana Sampark Padayatra a success across the state.

BJD organisational secretary Pranab Prakash Das appealed to the party activists to apprise people in every nook and corner of the state about how the state is marching ahead due to the strong leadership and transparent administration.

"Naveen Patnaik's vision and ideology have helped the party win five times in a row," said Industries Minister Pratap Deb. He appealed to party activists to work

hard to win for the sixth time. Senior BJD leader Sanjay Das Burma highlighted the negligence of the Union government in various sectors and said the party will continue its fight against such injustice.

Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari said that the state is making progress due to better financial management. He said the state Budget has reached Rs 2 lakh crore from Rs 11.5 crore in 2000.

Rural Development Minister Pritranjan Ghadai said the government had given priority to communication in implementing various schemes. The budgetary allocation for the construction of roads has increased from Rs 298 crore to Rs 17,424 crore. Ghadai appealed to party leaders to apprise the people about such developmental activities.

Ensure BJD-free Odisha: Nadda to party workers

PNN/ AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Intensifying his attack against the 22-year-old Naveen Patnaik government in Odisha, BJP president JP Nadda Friday called upon party workers to ensure that the state becomes 'BJD mukt' (BJD free).

He also accused the BJD dispensation of re-branding central schemes as those of its own and making fake bills to misappropriate MGNREGA funds.

"If you sincerely want to see a developed state, you have to do hard work and make Odisha BJD mukt," Nadda told a gathering of the BJP's front organisations. Nadda charged the BJD government with hijacking the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and re-branding it as its own - Biju Pucca Ghar Yojana.

"Modi ji is facilitating houses for the poor and



needy while the credit is being taken by the BJD," he said and asked the front organisations to make people aware of this. He also claimed that the Centre sanctioned Rs 15,490 crore under MGNREGA in Odisha, but fake bills are being made to misappropriate funds.

He attacked the BJD government for not implementing the Centre's Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme.

"The government is depriving free of cost healthcare benefits to about 60 lakh families in Odisha. Should we allow a government to continue,

which denies health benefits to the poor?" Nadda said.

He also held the state government responsible for mismanagement in Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri, asserting that the original key of the shrine's 'Ratna Bhandar' (treasure chest) has gone missing.

"Today I can say with great pride that under the leadership of Modi ji, Odisha has got the privilege of becoming the home state of the country's first tribal woman President," he said referring to Droupadi Murmu. He alleged that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi goes to the people of the 'Tukde-Tukde' gang who want to break the country and raise slogans in support of terrorists.

"It is unfortunate that people with such ideological background are driving the Congress now," he said.

Producer Parija faces casting couch slur

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Noted Odia movie and web series producer Akshay Kumar Parija got embroiled in a fresh controversy after a girl brought casting couch allegations against him. In a video message, the alleged victim accused Parija of forcefully keeping physical relationship with her for the last several years.

The victim also claimed that she belonged to a lower caste. The girl alleged that Parija, who possesses her nude video, has been blackmailing her to keep sexual relationship with her.

A complaint copy, purportedly written by the victim, has been doing rounds on the social too. The complaint says that the victim has been staying in Bhubaneswar for the last five years. She alleged that Parija kept sexual relationship with her promising her role in movies and to help her establish a business.

However, she is yet to lodge any formal complaint with the police. Meanwhile, Parija filed a counter complaint with Nayapalli police, Friday, accusing the girl of demanding money from him.

"We have been investigating into the matter by registering a case of extortion and harassment under Sections 384, 385, 506 and 120 of IPC on the basis of the complaint lodged by Parija," told a senior police official.

Cuttack, Pipli ULBs bag awards

Bhubaneswar: Cuttack Municipal Corporation and Pipli Notified Area Council (NAC) have bagged awards for successful conduct of Indian Swachhata League activities being undertaken in more than 1,850 cities. A rigorous evaluation was undertaken and the Top City teams shortlisted for the Special facilitation held Friday at Talkatora Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. Kousal Kishore, Union Minister of State for Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs felicitated the winner urban local bodies. Executive officer of Pipli NAC Pujar Rout and Sanjeebita Ray, Deputy Commissioner of CMC, have received the awards.

Centre plans to impart skill training to differently-abled

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cuttack, Sept 30: Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Virendra Kumar Friday said the Centre is making efforts to impart skill training to the differently-abled persons or divyangs in order to make them 'Aatmanirbhar' (self-sufficient).

Kumar said this on the sidelines of the inauguration of a 100-bed Rehabilitation Annex, Therapeutic Park and unveiling of the statue of Swami Vivekananda inside the Swami Vivekananda National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research (SVNIRTAR) at Olatpur in Cuttack district.

He said the addition of 100 beds will further upgrade the status of SVNIRTAR.

"The ministry is making efforts to impart skill training to divyangs besides extending them financial assistance. Odisha has many types of handicrafts and handlooms. Divyaangs can be gainfully imparted training in such art and crafts," the Union min-

ister said, adding that once a divyang becomes Aatmanirbhar, his or her family to become Aatmanirbhar and hence the whole society becomes Aatmanirbhar.

He said a skill centre will come up in a few months and will be a great aid for the divyangs.

On SVNIRTAR, Kumar said the institute is serving the people of not only Odisha, but also people from across the country come here for treatment, training and rehabilitation of divyangs. Diploma, Degree and Masters programmes provided here are contributing in creating quality manpower, he said. Kumar said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken many initiatives for development of Divyangjan.

"Under Rights for Persons with Disability Act of 2016, the government has hiked the reservation for the divyangs from 3 to 4 per cent in government jobs and from 3 to 5 per cent in education sector," the Union Social Justice and Empowerment minister said.

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4-fold strategy in place to make roads safer: Naveen

Highlighting the state's performance in road safety initiatives, the CM said Odisha has scored 66% and has been categorised as 'high performer' in implementing road safety measures



SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday said that road safety is a high priority area for his government and that the state has adopted a four-fold strategy to make the roads safer through enforcement, improvement in road engineering and emergency care.

Naveen said this at SAFE convention organised by Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers' (SIAM) here. The Chief Minister inaugurated an exhibition of new safe technologies for automobiles.

Highlighting the state's performance in road safety initiatives, he said that Odisha has scored 66 per cent and has been categorised as 'high performer' in implementing

road safety measures during an audit conducted by the Supreme Court Committee on road safety. "The Supreme Court Committee has also rated some of our initiatives as best practices and suggested recommendations to neighbouring states. Our government has started a reward scheme for the people who help road accident victims. I am happy to share that more and more people are coming forward to help the road mishap victims," Patnaik said.

He thanked the SIAM for organising the event in collaboration with the Transport department. The convention will be a great occasion to address issues of road safety, environmental concerns and sharing solutions, he added.

Focussing on safety technologies, he said that with changing trends in the mobility sector, new technologies are being introduced for better and safer driving experiences.

"It would be indeed a great experience here to know about new technologies behind safer and high-performing vehicles."

Stating that road accidents are a serious cause of concern for all, Patnaik said many people lose their lives to road mishaps across the country every year. "This has a serious impact on families and the state's economy," he pointed out.

He expressed the hope that the automobile manufacturers would continue to partner in state's initiatives to make the roads safer and better.

Speaking on the occasion, Transport minister Tukuni Sahu said that 7 lakh new vehicles are being registered in the state every year. "They are contributing immensely to the state's economy. But for increasing accidents, the growth is undermined," said Sahu.

She expressed the hope that automobile manufacturers will bring in new and safe technology to help make the roads safer.



VOICING CONCERNS: Members of state Gramarakhi association staged a sit-in near PMG Square in Bhubaneswar to press for fulfillment of their seven-point charter of demands, Friday

ICAR-CIFA among top 10 agri research institutes

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar has been ranked ninth among 93 agricultural research institutes in India.

It is a combined rank of 2019-20 and 2020-21 released by ICAR. The ranking is based on a comprehensive index with a well-designed



scoring procedure having several dimensions like research performance, recognition and awards, output of research, impacts of research and future readiness of the institute, said ICAR-CIFA director Saroj Kumar Swain.

Swain congratulated staff members for the feat. He urged the scientists to work hard in order to accomplish the basic goals like sustainable improvement in farm productivity.

Earlier, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar, had bagged Outstanding Institution award at the Outlook Agritech Summit and Swaraj Awards 2022, held in New Delhi September 14, 2022. Swain had received the award from Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

The award was given in recognition of outstanding research carried out by the institute. Notable technologies developed by the institute like genetically-improved varieties like Jayanti rohu, Improved catla, freshwater prawn (GI-Scampi) and ornamental fish (Shinning barb) have been helping farmers double their income, it was learnt.

Moreover, the institute has been also actively pursuing training and outreach activities to spread the technologies among farmers and other farming stakeholders.

Increase cadet strength in state: Pujari to NCC DG

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh, AVSM, director general, National Cadet Corps (NCC), Government of India, met state Higher Education Minister Rohit Pujari at his official chamber in Loka Seva Bhawan, Friday, the second day of his three day tour to the state.

He was accompanied by Commodore Somen Banarjee, deputy director general NCC Directorate, Odisha, and other officials.

Pujari lauded the contributions made by the NCC Cadets in nation building. Both of them discussed how NCC has been making significant contributions to the state through various social services programmes organised in areas



such as clean environment, sports, gender equality, youth empowerment and skill development.

The minister requested the DG, NCC to take steps to sanction one Naval Unit at Sambalpur as well as to increase the overall Cadet strength in Odisha, so that more number of students can be enrolled in NCC.

He also requested for establish-

ment of another Air Squadron at Sambalpur and development of training establishments at Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Sambalpur, Berhampur, and Koraput.

He assured to extend all necessary help and cooperation from the state government for strengthening of the institution in state. The DG NCC presented an NCC Crest to the minister.

WFP dir calls on Food Supplies Minister

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: World Food Programme (WFP) country director Bishop Parajuli called on Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak at Lok Seva Bhawan here Friday.

Parajuli appreciated the steps taken by the state government towards implementing National Food Security Act (NFSA) for which Odisha has been ranked as the 'number 1 performing state' in the country.



He also admired the state government for providing support and cooperation for the activities of the WFP. Nayak said that the state government has already started rice fortification programme on pilot basis in Malkangiri and has requested for baseline and end-line survey of the programme under the public distribution system (PDS).

While thanking WFP for its support towards setting up of Grain ATM in Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Nayak requested the WFP to provide at least two setups each for the other five municipal corporations in the state.

Govt can hire retd employees to fill 50% entry-level vacancies

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Administrative departments in the state would be able to re-engage retired employees up to 50 per cent of entry-level vacancies without seeking permission from the Finance department.

A government circular issued Thursday said the departments would, however, require the approval of the Finance department if they engage retired employees beyond 50 per cent of the entry-level vacancies.

About 73,000 posts at the entry level are lying vacant in the state. The monthly consolidated remuneration of the retired employees who will be re-engaged was also revised.

The consolidated monthly remuneration for retired employees on re-engagement was revised to ₹50,000 for Pay level 17, ₹46,000 for Pay level 15 and 16.

The retired employees who will be given re-employment in Pay levels 11, 12, 13, and 14, will get ₹35,000 every month and those in Pay levels 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 will get ₹20,000. The superannuated employees



after re-engagement in Pay levels 1, 2, 3, and 4 will get a consolidated remuneration of ₹10,000 per month.

The remuneration of the retired employees shall exclude pension, the circular said.

"The quantum of remuneration in exceptional circumstances where the government may go for re-engagement of suitable retired government servants will be fixed by adopting the methodology of 'pay minus pension'. No allowances such as DA, HRA, etc shall be admissible in such cases," the circular said.

The tenure of such engagement shall be finalised after obtaining the concurrence of the Finance department with the approval of the government at the level of the chief minister, the circular said.

SCSTRTI director releases 3 publications on tribes



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Three publications of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) were released by AB Ota, director, SCSTRTI Friday.

The director released Advisi Volume 62 Issue 1, the bi-annual journal of SCSTRTI which is one of the oldest in the country, dedicated to empirical research on tribal matters.

This particular volume is designed as a special volume on millets that focuses on the age old association of the tribal people with millets. A book titled "Empirical study cum documentation on folklore of Khadia Tribe of Odisha" was also released by Ota.

Fire Services DG dedicates specialised Striking Fire Force

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Santosh Kumar Upadhyay, the Director General of state Fire Services, Friday formally inaugurated Striking Fire Force (SFF) at the Odisha Fire and Disaster Response Academy at Baramunda here. On August 30, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had given his approval for the creation of the specialised fire force.

The SFF, equipped with modern and advanced machines, has been created for quick response to all types of disaster situations, including special service calls. The forces, equipped with Fire Entry Suits, breathing apparatus, illumination equipment, would be engaged in rescue and evacuation operations during large fire incidents in cities and towns, during hazardous incidents of chemical and toxic liq-

uid spillage or gas leakage. The specialised force, with spreading and lifting gears, will also be deployed for rescue operations involving major mishaps on roads and railway tracks. They will be engaged to rescue people stranded in high-rise buildings during major disasters.

The force will also be deployed during cyclone and flood for rescue and restoration work.

"Striking Fire Force (SFF) is encompassing 3 (three) units manned by persons of Odisha Fire Service. The total strength of each unit is approximately 48 Fire Service personnel. Each unit is capable of self-contained specialised search and rescue operation, equipped with sophisticated equipments, appliances and advance rescue tender," in-charge of fire services official. These SFF units will be placed at Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur and Berhampur.

The SFF units will be placed at Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur and Berhampur

ASSOCHAM holds Industrial Decarbonisation Summit

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The Associated Chamber of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) in collaboration with State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) Friday organised 'The Industrial Decarbonization Summit 2022 - A roadmap to Net Zero'.

The summit envisioned for a decarbonised future across the globe, to inspire change, initiate action, and amplify a range of vital voices in the race to zero emissions. The summit brought together top industry players to exchange management strategy, new tools, and solutions for navigating the present environment's plethora of difficulties and accelerating the essential evolution to net zero.

In order to promote industrial decarbonisation, Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment and Fisheries and ARD Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain, Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA) chairman Siddhant Das were present to grace the occasion.

CM launches LVPEI-Infosys Eye Screening Programme



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the Urban Slum Eye Screening Programme and HomeCare Service at L V Prasad Eye Institute's Mithu Tulsi Chanrai campus. The Urban Slum Eye Screening Programme is supported by the Infosys Foundation; the philanthropic and CSR arm of Infosys.

L V Prasad Eye Institute, a World Health Organization collaborat-

ing centre for prevention of blindness, is committed to providing excellent and equitable eye care services to all those in need and eliminating avoidable blindness. 40,000 people stand to benefit from the Urban Slum Eye Screening Programme over year; though special focus will be on the vulnerable population - the elderly women, children, and the specially-abled. A team of trained optometrists will visit these areas, and in a community-based setting and perform basic eye screening for the identification of eye problems.

MARKET WATCH		
INDEX		VARIATION
SENSEX	57426.92	↑ 101.96
NIFTY	17094.30	↑ 276.20
DOLLAR	81.72	↓ ₹0.31
EURO	79.55	↓ ₹0.35
GOLD	₹50,105	↑ ₹111
SILVER	₹57,128	↑ ₹968

WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
TEMP	31.1°C	32.5°C
MAX	31.1°C	32.5°C
MIN	25.0°C	25.0°C
Humidity	91%	87%
Rainfall	0.7mm	0.0mm
Forecast	Light rain very likely	

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HONOUR TO THE LEGEND: The Koraput administration held rituals before sending soil and water collected from Tentuliguma, the birth place of Saheed Laxman Nayak, to Bhubaneswar. The soil will be part of the celebration of state-level Gandhi-Shastri Jayanti in Bhubaneswar October 2

Panic as six cows affected by lumpy virus in Saraskana

POST NEWS NETWORK

Saraskana, Sept 30: With lumpy skin disease spreading havoc across the country, six cows have been found infected with the virus in Saraskana block of Mayurbhanj district triggering panic among the locals.

The district administration is on alert about the spread of the viral disease while the Collector has been apprised of the development, sources said.

The virus has been detected in six cattle at a time when thousands of cattle are being smuggled from Bisoil and other areas of the district via Saraskana to neighbouring West Bengal.

A cow at Pandara village developed bulbous growth on its body. Villagers suspected it to be lumpy skin disease (LSD), which is transmitted by blood-feeding insects, such as certain species of flies, mosquitoes and ticks.

The cow's owner adopted traditional healing method to cure it, but it has not been vaccinated.

Contacted, block veterinary of-



The contagious viral disease is believed to be spreading from Bengal amid unabated smuggling of cattle

Locals demanded that the district admin and police should take immediate steps to stop cattle trading in the area

ficer Radhakrushna Sahu revealed that six LSD cases have been detected in Saraskana area.

"Six cows are being treated. The contagious viral disease is believed to be spreading from the neighbouring state. The border panchayats -- Jalada, Bhurasani, Bagchuda and Pakatia -- are most likely to face the effects of LSD. Vaccination of all cattle in these panchayats has been completed. Owing to shortage of vaccines, the cattle

in Pakatia panchayat are yet to be inoculated," he added.

Locals have expressed concern over the appearance of the infectious disease. They demanded that the district administration and police should take immediate steps to stop cattle trading in the area as a preventive measure. They feared that in the absence of alertness and preventive measure, LSD will affect whole of the cattle population in the region.

Kantia bridge dream inches towards reality

AN OUTLAY OF ₹47 CRORE HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR THE LONG-AWAITED BRIDGE ON THE CROCODILE INFESTED CREEK



POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara/Pattamundai, Sept 30: Thousands of people in Singhagaon panchayat under Pattamundai block of Kendrapara district have been facing commuting woes in the absence of a bridge across Kantia creek. A bridge on the river is their long pending demand. Their dream of a bridge is set to be realised soon as the state government has allocated ₹47.09 crore for the Krushnadaspur-Singhagaon bridge project. This development has brought cheers to the people of the riparian villages.

Authority of India (IWA). Pramesh Mallick, a resident of Singhagaon, said, "Our village is 26 km away from Pattamundai town. The villagers cannot access 102 ambulance service because of the creek. In emergency cases, patients and pregnant women are carried on cots across the creek to Andara primary health centre (PHC) which is 10 km away or 20 km away to Aul community health centre (CHC)."

He further added that in case of fire mishaps, fire tenders fail to reach Singhagaon, Rauliadhia and Krushnadaspur villages. Moreover, students of the three villages face hardship in wading across the creek to reach Brahmani College. For about eight months in a year,

people of these villages have to face severe commuting problems.

During monsoon, the Kantia river gets infested with crocodiles. People fear to venture into it in order to go out for any emergency. The bridge will pave way for smooth communication for all. He added that for lack of road connectivity, the three villages are plagued by absence of basic facilities.

Local resident Ganesh Chandra Samal blamed the lack of coordination between the state and Central governments for the inordinate delay in commencing the bridge project. The National Waterway-5 was a hurdle in its way to becoming reality.

In 2008, the NW-5 with a length of 623 km under Inland Waterways

Authority of India got the project approval. 532 km length of the NW-5 is in Odisha and the rest 91 km in West Bengal. Funds have been sanctioned for the NW-5 from Brahmani River (Talcher) to Dhamnagar in the first phase. As Kantia creek is part of the NW-5, bridge work had been halted, Samal added.

Former sarpanch Nirmal Chandra Jena said that the perennial commuting woes will come to an end after completion of the bridge and it will facilitate communication to various parts of Kendrapara and Jajpur districts. In 2008, the project faced land hurdle and the issue was sorted out in 2012 with help of some local leaders. However, the project failed to take off, leading to several rounds of protests from the people of the panchayat in front of the Collectorate.

ADM Pitambar Samal said that the land hurdle which had cropped up in the initial stage has been settled. As NW-5 passes through the area, the bridge work also got delayed. However, the district administration has been making sustained efforts to hasten construction of the bridge, he added.

NHRC NOTICE TO GANJAM DM, SP

Bhawanipatana: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Collector, the Superintendent of Police (SP) and the joint commissioner of the Labour department in Ganjam regarding a labourer losing his hand while working in a stone crushing unit in the district. The NHRC has sought a report from these officials within four weeks. According to reports, Mahendra Majhi, a daily wageer from Dureshpada village under Thumal Rampur block of Kalahandi district, was working in a stone crushing unit near Charimile Chhak in Bhanjanagar area. In April, while working, one of his hands got stuck in the cog wheels of the crusher. He lost his hand in the mishap. Taking note of this incident, Dillip Das, a human rights activist of Bhawanipatana, filed a petition at the NHRC seeking compensation to Mahendra.

D.D.C.E. UTKAL UNIVERSITY ADVERTISEMENT Temporary engagement of Academic Consultants at DCE, Utkal University. Details of qualifications, date of walk in interview, terms & conditions and online format of registration is available on www.ddceutkal.ac.in. Registration open upto midnight of 17.10.2022.

EAST COAST RAILWAY Tender Notice No: SBP-ELECT-2022-T-145 Name of Work: PROVISION OF LIFTS (02 NOS. AT EACH STATION) AT BALANGIR, KESINGA, BARGARH & KANTABANJI OVER SAMBALPUR DIVISION.

7 held as police crack murder

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Baripada, Sept 30: Police Friday arrested seven persons on the charge of killing a 33-year-old tribal man suspecting him of practising black magic in Mayurbhanj district, an officer said. Baripada SDPO Prakash James Toppo at a press meet said that the deceased was identified as Pandu Munda of Kothabila village. Munda's wife had informed the police about his missing since September 17. The SDPO said that a body stacked in a gunny bag was found floating in a canal of Subarnarekha Irrigation Project near village Kothabila Tuesday.

same village. The initial police investigation revealed that the residents of Kothabila village suspected Pandu Munda of practising black magic. They suspected his role in the death of two villagers and disturbance in the village.

In a 'Kangaroo Court' the villagers imposed a fine of ₹50,000 on Pandu Munda which he refused to pay. On September 17, the villagers performed a puja to drive away the evil spirits from the village in which Pandu Munda did not attend. On the same day Munda went to nearby village to watch football match, the police said, adding that while returning home in the evening, the villagers allegedly strangled Munda with a towel.

Nadda pays tribute to late Bishnu Sethi



Bhadrak: BJP national president JP Nadda paid tributes to late Dhamnagar MLA Bishnu Charan Sethi on 12th day of post-death rituals at his native Mangarajpur village, Friday. Nadda described the former legislator as a sensitive personality, politician, litterateur and culture lover rolled into one. Speaking at a ceremony organised on the premises of Tilidi College here, Nadda called upon youths to inspire themselves by the ideals of the late leader and dedicate themselves to social service. The BJP president was accompanied by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, former minister Manmohan Samal and BJP state unit president Samir Mohanty.

Public hearing for riverine jetty held

Paradip: The public hearing for the proposed 4.5 MTPA captive riverine jetty of ArcelorMittal/Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) on the bank of Mahanadi in Udayabata village of Paradip in Jagatsinghpur district has been conducted by the regional office of Odisha State Pollution Control Board (SPCB). Paradip ADM Dr Kanhu Charan Dhir presided over the meeting. Puskar Chandra Behera, RO, SPCB conducted the meeting in presence of Additional SP Niman Charan Sathy; Sabyasachi Rout, IIC, Paradip Lock PS; Bibechita Sarangi and Twinkle Mohanty, deputy environment engineers, SPCB, Paradip. From project proponent side of AM/NS India, Suresha G, Executive Director, Odisha operations; Akash Mohapatra, Head-Environment; Subhaktant Dash, Head-Ports; PK Mohanty, Joint General Manager, Corporate Affairs; Dr Vikas Yadvendu, Head-CSR and Suvendu Dash, Senior Manager-Environment were present. With an aim to minimise air pollution by negating road transport through trucks, AM/NS India has planned to come up with a captive riverine jetty at Paradip. This will help in reducing road traffic to Paradip port and also help in reducing carbon footprint.

Shaktimayee group of women entrepreneurs completes 6 yrs



Langjigarh: Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh, India's premier producer of metallurgical grade alumina, recently observed the sixth Shaktimayee Foundation Day. The event celebrated the achievements of the Shaktimayee Foundation, a collective of women Self Help Groups (SHGs) supported by Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh in partnership with the Mahashakti Foundation, an organisation working towards livelihood development among less-privileged groups. Commencing its operations in 2016, the Shaktimayee Foundation today is an enthusiastic group of nearly 4,000 women entrepreneurs across the districts of Kalahandi and Rayagada. Formed under Vedanta's Project Sakhi, an initiative to empower women through skill training and livelihood generation opportunities, the group has helped spark social transformation through its member network. As part of the Shaktimayee Foundation Day activities, Vedanta Lanjigarh organised several events including the release of the Foundation's Annual Report FY21-22, awarding best-performing SHGs, and recognising individual members who had successfully built income generation projects. The group's members also collectively brainstormed on its way forward and possible new projects. Commending the members of Shaktimayee Foundation, GG Pal, Deputy CEO, Alumina Business, Vedanta Limited said, "Through the Vedanta Sakhi project, we are expanding the income creation avenues available to women in Lanjigarh and its surrounding areas, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals of Gender Equality, Reduced Inequalities, Decent Work & Economic Growth, and Sustainable Communities."

NATIONAL SILKWORM SEED ORGANIZATION Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India CSB Complex, IV Floor, B.T.M. Layout, Madivala, Bengaluru - 560 068. TENDER NOTIFICATION Date: 01.10.2022 Extension of Bid Submission Date

Government of India Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion) PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVES SAFETY ORGANIZATION PUBLIC NOTICE

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that fireworks of foreign origin have been illegally imported into India under false declarations in the past. It is hereby informed that fireworks in India have been declared as restricted item under ITC (HS) in respect of import. Till date, no licence for import of fireworks has been granted for possession and/or sale under the Explosives Rules, 2008 by Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization.

The smuggled fireworks of foreign origin include the chemical 'Potassium Chlorate', which is a dangerous and hazardous chemical and can ignite or explode spontaneously. The fireworks can cause severe accidents and endanger lives in addition to posing a host of environmental and health issues to the country.

In the interest of safety and security of human lives and property, general public and stakeholders are requested to report the information about possession and/or sale of such fireworks to the nearest Police Station or District Authorities for suitable action.

Chief Controller of Explosives CBC 05209/12/0002/2223

SALIENT FEATURES OF NEW TIME TABLE 2022 Introduced by East Coast Railway W.E.F. 01st October. INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRAINS, EXTENSION OF TRAINS, REVISIED ARRIVAL TIME AT DESTINATION STATIONS, CHANGE IN TIMINGS AT IMPORTANT STATIONS, TRAINS SPEEDED UP, TRAIN TIMINGS ADJUSTMENT.

FOCUS ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE-RISK ACCOUNTING



The US Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed rules for climate-related disclosures would compel companies to standardize and report both the impact of their operations on the climate and the risks that climate change poses to those operations

anticipate that policymakers will want them to pay for greenhouse-gas emissions and other negative externalities instead of being permitted to socialize those costs.

Such measures inevitably will fall into the realm of politics, but economists must not confuse their political preferences with sound policy. Those who are ideologically inclined to look to the "free" market as a guiding principle for organizing society must recognize that a market can function well only when no externality is left unaccounted for and unpaid for.

Another Biden administration accounting initiative could help here. The US Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed rules for climate-related disclosures would compel companies to standardize and report both the impact of their operations on the climate and the risks that climate change poses to those operations. The SEC's effort stops short of asking all polluters to pay for their own pollution; instead, it leaves it up to investors to decide what to do with the new information.

Economists must defend the pivotal role their advice plays in policymaking. The political forces and special interests that bear on this issue will skew their advice and skewer the advisers. But that must not become an excuse for inaction. Intellectual honesty demands that economists and policymakers grapple with how new risks and uncertainties can and will affect outcomes.

Tallying what's known is hard enough. Accounting for hard-to-price risks and uncertainties like climatic tipping points is harder still. But recognizing those risks and uncertainties makes clear that political action must come sooner rather than later.

Gernot Wagner, a climate economist at Columbia Business School, while Tom Brookes is Executive Director of Strategic Communications at the European Climate Foundation.

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Economists are supposed to be good at understanding risk. Decision-making in the face of uncertainty, after all, is the discipline's bread and butter. Yet at a time when real-world risks - geopolitical, macro-economic, financial, public-health, and environmental - are piling up, many economists seem to be at a loss.

Although businesses and investors stand to make a lot of money if they can properly assess and navigate the current risk environment, no one seems to have a good explanation for why we are where we are. This is especially true in the case of climate change: It is now clear that the risks have been systematically underestimated, and thus mispriced, all along.

One explanation for this is that market participants have failed to understand the size and the probability of the risk, because they have been thinking about the issue in the wrong way. The climate system is not like a casino with well-defined outcomes and probabilities. As a 1987 comment in Nature put it, changes within our planet's systems may bring all kinds of "unpleasant surprises." It is as if we were playing with decks of cards that include some unknown number of jokers. Moreover, one also must account for the inherent conservatism of science. Climate researchers, especially, tend to err on the side of caution.

A classic case is the quantification of sea-level rise. Broadly speaking, sea levels rise for three reasons: melting polar ice caps, melting inland glaciers, and the fact that warmer water takes up more space. But in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's reports in the early 2000s, the headline figures fully accounted only for melting glaciers and thermal expansion. Scientists of course knew that global warming would melt polar ice, and that this effect might be the most consequential of the three. But because the estimates for how much faster the poles would melt differed by so much at

the time, they were excluded from the headline figures.

That omission has long since been corrected. But it is now economists who are lagging behind in quantifying the economic damages associated with rising seas and the many other interlinked risks and uncertainties accompanying climate change. Quantifying climate-related damage is painstaking work; and in an academic environment that prizes new ideas over what might seem like a mere "accounting" exercise, it is not the kind of work that brings much reward or recognition.

Nonetheless, economists going back to Simon Kuznets, the "father" of the gross domestic product, have been some of the leading critics of economic metrics that purport to represent overall well-being. GDP is central to macro-economic analysis, but it leaves out many other important indicators, such as those measuring human and planetary health. Standing forests and clean air and water have no value in national-income accounting unless they enter the economy directly as factors of production.

Fortunately, an initiative by US President Joe Biden's admin-

istration aims to correct this shortcoming by developing a new set of "statistics for environmental-economic decisions." While this effort is not the first of its kind in the world, it is among the most ambitious. The goal is to supplement GDP with a far more comprehensive set of accounts, and then to use this new metric to guide policy decisions.

Such a change is long overdue. Climate change might not have grown into the problem that it has become if its damages had been incorporated into national accounts all along.

This points to a second, equally important reason why climate and other risks have been mispriced. It is one thing for scientists, economists, and informed members of the public to recognize that many risks and uncertainties are not priced; it is quite another to adopt policies that discourage businesses from pushing those risks onto society.

For business leaders, the top climate risk, according to a recent Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco survey, is that climate change will influence "rules and regulations related to our business." Executives correctly an-



Gernot Wagner and Tom Brookes

SEA LEVELS RISE FOR THREE REASONS: MELTING POLAR ICE CAPS, MELTING INLAND GLACIERS, AND THE FACT THAT WARMER WATER TAKES UP MORE SPACE

UPSC Frowns

The IAS officers in Uttar Pradesh are increasingly restive. In less than a month, at least five senior IAS officers in the state have sought voluntary retirement from the service. That's perhaps indicative of the current relationship between the BJP government and the civil service, in which the babus often find themselves at loggerheads with the netas over many government decisions.

Now it appears that there is trouble brewing over the UP government's proposal for the appointment of a new Director General of Police (DGP). The Yogi sarkar had removed Mukul Goel from the post in May and named DS Chauhan as acting DGP. Sources have informed DKB that the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has reverted UP's proposal and instead demanded an explanation for why Goel was removed before the completion of his two-year term. The Supreme Court had directed in its 2006 order in the police reforms case that DGPs be appointed for a fixed tenure of two years.

UPSC had questioned the appointment of Chauhan and directed the state government to submit the names of all IPS officers who were considered for appointment as DGP. Apparently, it had sent 42 names, including IPS officers of the 1992 batch, and contained the names of acting DGP Chauhan as well as Goel.

But, sources say, the government is unwilling to retract on the issue and is planning to send a fresh proposal to the UPSC since Chauhan is retiring in March next year. Watch this space for updates.

Govt's silence over third EC post

The post of Election Commissioner has been vacant for the past four months after the retirement of Sushil Chandra in May earlier this year. The poll panel has been a two-member body since with Rajiv Kumar as CEC and Anup Chandra Pandey as the other EC.

A delay in appointing a new election commissioner is not unprecedented. The last time the Nirvachan Sadan functioned below its strength was in 2015 when a two-member EC conducted the Delhi Assembly elections.

However, observers say that any further delay could lead the EC vulnerable to a deadlock, especially when two state assembly elections are imminent. If the two commissioners are unanimous, the third becomes irrelevant. But when the serving two disagree, the third EC's view becomes important.

Polls in Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat are due before January and February, respectively, and are likely to be clubbed. In fact, CEC Kumar and EC Pandey have visited the two states recently to assess the readiness of their poll machinery for the elections. The Modi sarkar is maintaining a stiff silence on its intentions on the matter.

Adjustments and new alignments

Within less than a fortnight, the Modi sarkar has carried through two large reshuffles of the upper babudom. Yet, the secretary-level reshuffle seems to be more of minor tweaks and adjustments since it ignores key positions such as the Department of Defence Production, Coal, Corporate Affairs, New and Renewable Energy, Textiles and Food and Public Distribution, among others. Perhaps, this is a prelude to more changes in the coming days. But it does fill the vacancies that will come up at the Commerce Department and Ministry of Mines. Also, it was interesting to note that two officers have been brought in straight from the cadre while the rest were already serving at the Centre.

Still, there are many interesting aspects to the changes that may merit a closer look. The appointment of Sunil Barthwal as OSD Department of Commerce created a buzz as he will succeed BVR Subramanyam and will have a three-year term at the department. But Subramanyam is a big winner, who has been elevated to higher things. He is the new CMD of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO), a move made with an eye on the G20 Summit being held in India in September next year. Clearly, the government has high faith in him to deliver a successful summit.

Observers also noted that the government focused on officers from the 1987-1990 batches during this exercise. The 1991 batch babus will have to await the next reshuffle, which some believe could also be coming soon.

Also, the Centre effected a minor reshuffle of additional secretary-level posts. Notable was the appointment of L Satya Srinivas as additional secretary, Department of Commerce, and Ms V Radha as additional secretary at the Niti Aayog, and Ms Ranjana Chopra as Financial Advisor, Ministry of Culture.

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

WISDOM CORNER

- There is no failure, it is only un-finished success - RAJA RAVI VERMA
Beauty is truth's smile when she beholds her own face in a perfect mirror. - RABINDRANATH TAGORE
There is no friend as loyal as a book. - ERNEST HEMINGWAY

WORDSWORTH

Xenozoonosis

It's long been known that many communicable diseases - such as diphtheria, influenza, rabies, anthrax, chickenpox and mumps - were originally diseases of animals, which spread to humans once we began to domesticate them. The general name for such a disease is zoonosis (with plural zoonoses), which derives from the Greek words zoon, "animal", and nosos, "disease". As a result of current research into ways to transplant animal organs into humans, the risk of previously unknown diseases transferring with the grafts is greatly exercising medical minds, leading to calls for such techniques to be banned or at least closely monitored until the risk to health is better known. A disease which might be transferred in this way is a xenozoonosis, using the Greek xenos, "stranger", in the same specialised sense as it is beginning to be used in words such as xenotransplantation and xenograft, which means "something (transplanted) from a different species". The adjective is xenozoonotic.

Wanion

The first generation of editors of the Oxford English Dictionary were especially literate men and this shows in their definitions, which sometimes needed a dictionary to interpret them (luckily, the reader always had one immediately to hand, if a rather cumbersome one). Take wanion. Its still-current OED definition, written nearly a century ago, says: "An altered form of 'wanion' used in certain formulas of asseveration or imprecation." A modern dictionary aiming at plain English definitions might say instead that in set phrases it meant an emphatic statement or curse. In itself, wanion means "in the waning of the moon". It's from the Old English verb wanian, to lessen, from which we get wane. You may feel wanion is too mild and agreeable a word to be attached to a curse, but in bygone centuries the waning of the moon was thought to be an unlucky time. Various fixed expressions took on the word and the idea, such as with a (wild) wanion (with a plague or with a vengeance), a wanion on (a curse on) and fetch one a wanion (bring one a misfortune). By the early nineteenth century the phrases were old-fashioned, if not archaic.

SPECTRUM INDIA-CHINA-RUSSIA

New Delhi's late introspection



DK Giri

NEW DELHI SHOULD PORTRAY CHINA AS A SYSTEMIC THREAT TO THE WORLD; CONTINUE TO DECOUPLE RUSSIA FROM CHINA DESPITE HER DALLIANCES IN SCO AND BRICS

On my return from Geneva, Iran into a Russian diplomat at the airport as we were scrambling to find our boarding gate. We had some time at hand. Hence I grabbed the opportunity to probe the Russian on the war in Ukraine. The obvious reference and the starting point of our conversation was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's suggestion to the Russian President Vladimir Putin, "it is no time for war; diplomacy and dialogues are the best route to arriving at resolutions to conflicts." The diplomat's random and restrained responses are indicative of Russia's strategic thinking and whether India should go with it. Time for introspection indeed! South Block appears to be doing so, albeit a bit late, after Modi's profoundly philosophical chide of Putin.

I began by saying to the Russian, "we are sorry that the USSR broke up. We also understand the Russian attempt to reunite the Republic". Elaborating, I said, if Germany could reunite after 50-odd years of division of the country, and if 27 European countries can come together in a Union, why not the erstwhile constitutes of USSR rejoin! But the reunification should be done through dialogues and diplomacy, not by force.

The second point I referred to was their alliance with China. I said, "you had come close to the West, you are a member of the G-7 group, which became G-8 after you joined. India and Russia have been friends. Why do you have to rally behind China, a country that is authoritarian, aggressive and revanchist, when Russia was restructuring to be a part of the world of democracies?"

A significant sidebar to our conversation was the news broke to us by an Indian engineer sitting next to us and apparently eavesdropping on our talks. With no attention to any conversational protocols, he asked both of us, "have you heard that Xi Jinping is under house arrest? The Chief of the Chinese army is taking over". We were both startled. The news was indeed trending in social media.

The diplomat defensively said that it may not be possible for us to step back after the Ukraine war. We would not mind if Americans were manoeuvring in a far-off country, say even a hundred kilometres away. How can we not react when they do so at our doorstep? He added that India is our close friend and hoped that China and India will normalise the relations. In reaction to the rumoured coup, he said optimistically, "the Chinese foreign policy will not

change with the change of leadership at home." The pro-China Russian mood was evident.

If the diplomats' views are a sample of Russian Administration's strategic thinking, is New Delhi on the right track to win over the Russians and wean them away from the Chinese? Secondly, if the churn in China is taking place, in order to lessen the tensions with the USA and normalise their relations with the West, will it also lead to cooling off with India? The second assumption seems improbable and even undesirable for India's national interest.

India has major territorial dispute with China. Beijing has been in occupation of India's territory since 1962. New Delhi should reclaim those in time. India's interest is safeguarded by vivisection of China, at least by liberation of Tibet as an independent country, which it was. New Delhi should portray China as a systemic threat to the world; continue to decouple Russia from China despite her dalliances in SCO and BRICS etc. New Delhi should deepen the divide between China and the West.

So far New Delhi has been trying to be nice and friendly with both the blocs - USA and its Allies on the one hand, and Russia and China on the other. The strategic

shift is now called, 'from non-alignment to multi-alignment'. This causes loss of confidence and trust among partners. It also compromises India on principles, which are her core strength. That is why perhaps the USA has resumed arm supply to Pakistan.

The argument adduced by South Block is that the USA wants to distance Islamabad from Beijing. But it could also be that the USA is telling New Delhi, if you do not make up your mind vis-a-vis China and Russia we will arm Pakistan.

The EAM Jaishankar's speech at UNGA which was said to be a bold statement seemed actually rhetorical as there is no point saying, "on Ukraine, we are on the side of peace and sovereignty of a country, dialogue and diplomacy etc". Will such words wash when there is bloodshed everyday, mass graves are being dug, a country has been invaded? Even smaller countries of the world are publically naming Russia as an aggressor. If New Delhi is not naming Russia, the leadership should, with all the diplomatic and political capital at its command, broker a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine, and bring this war to an end. At this stage, mere statements will not work. It is time to take steps in either direction.

INFPA

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST B-15, Rusalgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Testing time

Sir, The Home Ministry's decision to ban the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its affiliates is a rushed one no doubt. But it was necessitated because of the intensity and the way it started spreading like wildfire with our country from all corners. There will be little reason for disquiet at the PFI being termed a radical Islamist organisation that propagates a politics of exclusivism and communalism even if it professes adherence to constitutional values and has, according to its claims, taken part in social and legal activities benefiting. National security and integrity should be given importance from the angle of national interest. The pathetic approach in India is to drag the non-existent saffron terror as a counter to Islamic terrorism to justify the violence of the Islamists. This has increased manifold ever since Modi came to power in 2014. Unfortunately, this biased approach has put Hindus in real peril the world over; as Islamists and left supporters are justifying violence against Hindus in the name of 'dismantling Hindutva'! It is a testimony of vested interests.

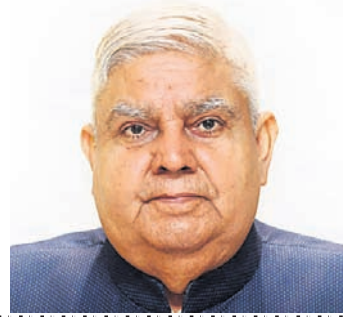
CK Ramani, COIMBATORE

A fine example

Sir, Cricket is just not about the three fundamentals of batting, bowling and fielding, but a game where respectful behaviour of a player is equally important, and which is why it is called a 'gentleman's game'. No wonder Indian cricketer Ajinkya Rahane has set a fine example of this aspect when he asked his teammate Yashasvi Jaiswal to leave the field for sledging South Zone batter Ravi Teja in the recent Duleep Trophy finals. Therein lies a lesson for the young Jaiswal that will come in handy through the length of his career: play the game hard, have the aggression, but never cross the proverbial line. Incidentally, legendary West Indian batsman Viv Richards was the best example of a player you should never sledge. Glamorgan fast bowler Greg Thomas once sledged Richards after bowling a couple of deliveries which had the Caribbean great playing and missing. Thomas piped up: "It's red, round and weighs about five ounces, in case you were wondering." The insulting remarks by Thomas were enough for Richards to get his competitive veins pumping. When the bowler pitched the next delivery where Richards wanted, the ball was out of the ground into a little river. Richards riposted: "Hey Greg, since you know the colour, shape and size, please go and find it."

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

national



There are some people who are allergic to sharing India's achievements

JAGDEEP THAKKAR | VICE PRESIDENT

RAHUL IN KARNATAKA

Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi entered Karnataka Friday amid a warm welcome by Siddaramaiah and his supporters, who in the process violated forest rules



of the day quote

Govt committed to providing facilities to special children

PRAMOD SAWANT | GOA CM



The statements issued about Eidgah have hurt the sentiments of local Muslim populace and they are watching the situation with lots of apprehensions and anything done against the wishes of the people and denying the space to the locals for prayers and for whatever use they have traditionally been putting it to will be fraught with dangers

MEHBOOBA MUFTI | PDP PRESIDENT



Around 8:30 a.m. today, Digvijaya Singh called me and said he would not file his nomination because Mallikarjun Kharge is filing his nomination for the president's post. Digvijaya Singh told me that he was going to meet Kharge. I congratulated him. As far as my view is concerned, I would support Kharge

KAMAL NATH | MADHYA PRADESH CONGRESS COMMITTEE CHIEF



SHORT TAKES

2 killed, 5 injured

Vadodara: Two persons were killed and five others injured in a blast in a tenement in Vadodara city Friday, officials said. The injured persons were rushed to government hospital for treatment. Vadodara Fire Officer Amit Chaudhary said that they received a call about a blast in tenement number 106 of Dev Nagar society.

Gas leaks from ONGC well

Mehsana: Gas leaked from a well of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) near a village in Gujarat's Mehsana district Friday, an official said. While the gas is not inflammable or poisonous, people in nearby areas have complained of burning sensation in their eyes and throat, he said. The leak began around 2 am at the well located near Kasalpara village and efforts are on by the staff to control it, Mehsana District Development Officer Om Prakash said.

PFI MEMBERS WENT TO ISIS STRONGHOLDS TO JOIN JIHAD

The PFI was banned by the government Tuesday for five years for allegedly having 'links' with global terror organisations like the ISIS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Popular Front of India (PFI) members, who joined the dreaded terror organisation ISIS, always took a long circuitous route to avoid the security dragnet before arriving in conflict theatres like Syria to take part in jihad, officials said.

The PFI was banned by the government Tuesday for five years for allegedly having 'links' with global terror organisations like the ISIS and trying to spread communal hatred in the country. According to documents prepared by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), there were a few cases of youths getting killed or arrested at foreign soil and later being deported back to India.

In 2017, Kerala Police received information that some Muslim youths had migrated



to Syria and some were planning to join hands with ISIS in its jihad and most of the accused in the case were members of the PFI.

Hamza, a Gulf returnee, was the alleged mastermind behind recruiting Kerala youths to ISIS. To execute his plans, Hamza befriended suitable PFI supporters who already harboured anti-national or anti-establishment sentiments, officials said.

The divisional president of the PFI, Md Sameer alias Abu Safvan, allegedly hatched and conveyed the plan to exit India and enter Syria after taking refuge in different countries to finally join ISIS in Syria. In the process, the accused went to Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Turkey and waited for final call to join jihad in Syria, the officials said.

Later, Abdul Manaf alias Abu Fathima and,



Mohammed Sameer alias Abu Safvan, both PFI leaders, were killed in Syria while participating in jihad. As investigation progressed, five persons including the mastermind were apprehended by the Kerala Police before joining the ISIS, they said.

The Kerala Police filed a charge sheet against 17 accused for supporting the ISIS or Daesh. Hamza, the alleged mastermind in the case was a "hardcore Salafi follower" who used to preach in support of the ISIS and Taliban.

After declaration of Islamic Caliphate in Iraq and Syria, Hamza convinced Mohammed Sameer and Abdul Manaf, both PFI members, about the need to perform 'hijra' from the land of 'infidels', the officials said. Sameer indoctrinated ISIS ideology to other PFI cadres like Shajahan VK, who was accused in another

terror case, and Mohammed Shajil.

Mohammed Sameer moved to Saudi Arabia along with the family on December 12, 2015 on the pretext of performing 'Umrah'. Before infiltrating to Syria, he directed other PFI associates to leave India where criminal cases were already pending against them. Later, Sameer was reportedly killed in Syria. Meanwhile Abdul Manaf alias Abu Fathima, an aggressive leader of PFI, joined ISIS in Syria after crossing Turkish borders.

RACE FOR CONGRESS PRESIDENT

It's finally Tharoor vs Kharge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The stage was set Friday for a contest between Mallikarjun Kharge and Shashi Tharoor for the Congress president's post with the Dalit leader from Karnataka emerging as the clear favourite.

The third candidate in the fray, KN Tripathi, a former minister in Jharkhand, is considered a lightweight for the contest. Kharge, Tharoor and Tripathi filed nominations on the last day which saw the AICC headquarters come back to life after long, with workers swarming the complex.



Congress leader Shashi Tharoor addresses a press conference after filing his nomination papers for the post of party president

The 80-year-old Kharge, flanked by top Congress leaders, filed 14 sets of nomination papers with the proposers including Ashok Gehlot, Digvijaya Singh, A K Antony, Ambika Soni, Mukul Wasnik and members from the G-23 ginger group comprising Anand Sharma, Bhupinder Hooda, Prithviraj Chavan and Manish Tewari.

Tharoor, who was also part of the G-23 group, filed five sets of



Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge files his nomination papers for the post of party president, at AICC headquarters

nomination papers, while former Jharkhand minister Tripathi filed a single set of poll papers with Madhusudan Mistry, the chairman of the Congress's Central Election Authority.

A majority of G-23 leaders put their weight behind Kharge by becoming his proposers instead of Tharoor, who was a prominent member of the grouping.

Among MPs too, a number of Congress leaders signed Kharge's papers, while Tharoor's backers were limited to a few including Karti Chidambaram, Mohammed Javaid and Pradyut Bordoloi.

Kharge with an experience of over 50 years in electoral politics appeared to be a clear favourite for the Congress presidential election as a galaxy of leaders were present by his side when he filed his nomination papers at the AICC headquarters here.

"I was encouraged by all lead-

Map blunder

New Delhi: The BJP Friday took a dig at Congress presidential candidate Shashi Tharoor over the country's map shown in his manifesto, saying he put a "mutilated map" not having parts of Jammu and Kashmir may be to "find favour" with the Gandhis. Later, Tharoor "apologised" unconditionally for the error, and said, "No one does such things on purpose. A small team of volunteers made a mistake. We rectified it immediately." Besides it, there was also a typo on the last page of the manifesto -- tomorrow was misspelled as "tomorow" in the tag line "Think Tharoor Think Tomorrow."

ers, party workers and delegates from key states to contest the elections. I thank those who were present by my side at the time of filing the nomination papers," Kharge told reporters here.

FEMA okays biggest seizure order against Xiaomi: ED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The competent authority under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) has approved an order of seizure of over Rs 5,551 crore worth of deposits of Chinese mobile phone manufacturer Xiaomi -- the highest amount frozen till date in India -- the ED said Friday.

The agency charged the popular Chinese phone maker with remitting foreign currency equivalent to Rs 5,551.27 crore to three entities -- one Xiaomi Group company and two US-based unrelated entities -- in the guise of royalty.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had first issued the order of seizure of these bank deposits on April 29 under the FEMA and later sent it for approval of the competent authority, as required under the law that



regulates foreign exchange violations in the country.

"The competent authority appointed under section 37A of the FEMA has confirmed the seizure order of Rs 5551.27 crore (dated 29.04.2022) passed by the Directorate of Enforcement against Xiaomi Technology India Private Limited under the provisions of FEMA." "This is the highest amount of seizure order in India which has been confirmed by the authority till

date," the federal agency said in a statement.

A competent authority under the FEMA is an officer appointed by the central government to adjudicate an ED seizure order issued under the law. Such an officer should not be below the rank of a joint secretary.

The authority, it said, while confirming the seizure order held that the ED is "right in holding" that foreign exchange equivalent to Rs 5,551.27 crore has been transferred out of India by Xiaomi India in an "unauthorised" manner and is held outside India on behalf of the group entity in contravention of Section 4 of the FEMA.

The agency charged that Xiaomi India did not avail any service from the three foreign based entities to whom such amounts have been transferred.

Flight delayed as man says 'bomb'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: A brawl between two passengers over keeping their luggage in the overhead cabin delayed a Malaysia-bound plane by more than two hours as one of them shouted "bomb" during the fight, setting off a thorough security check, officials said Friday.

Enforcement agencies were alerted about the "bomb" threat from the Malaysia Airlines's MH173 around 1 pm after which the Central Industrial Security Force inspected the flight, the officials said.

The aircraft finally departed for Kuala Lumpur after a delay of two hours and 40 minutes and four passengers allegedly involved in the incident were handed over to the local police, they said.

"A fight broke out between two passengers over keeping their bags in the overhead cabin of the aircraft. When one passenger asked the other what was in his bag, the other replied 'bomb'. The flight was then grounded as the pilot was informed about it and the pilot intimated the ATC (air traffic controller)," an official source said.

"A bomb threat assessment committee immediately probed the matter and the flight was put through checks after which the bomb call was declared a hoax," the source said.

A total of four passengers -- all Indians -- were handed over to the police, they added.

The passenger who made the bomb claim was identified as Varinder Sidhu, according to sources.

RLYS TO RELEASE NEW TIME TABLE



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The Railways will release a new all-India time table for trains which will come into effect from October 1, the national transporter said Friday. The 'Trains At A Glance (TAG)' will be released on the railway's official website www.Indianrailways.gov.in.

The time table will also reflect the 106 new services introduced during 2021-22, 212 services extended and frequency of 24 services increased.

A slew of premium trains has also been introduced like the Vande Bharat Express trains which are operating from New Delhi to Varanasi and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra.

One more Vande Bharat Express train has been introduced between Gandhinagar and Mumbai.

To provide sufficient time for the maintenance of the fixed infrastructure like track structure, signaling gears, overhead equipment, it has been planned to ensure provision of fixed

To clear extra rush and meet passenger demand, more than 65,000 special train trips were operated during 2021-22

corridor blocks.

The Railways converted 187 rakes of ICF to LHB during 2021-2022. "Necessary changes in the time table have been incorporated to improve punctuality. Due to concerted efforts the punctuality of Mail/Express trains has improved by about 9 pc as compared to the punctuality during pre Covid (2019-20)." The rakes at different maintenance depots have been standardized by integration of the rake links to improve flexibility in operations and thereby help in improving punctuality," it said. In 2021-22, 60 conventional passenger services have been replaced by MEMUs thereby increasing the overall mobility of the system, it said.

Advertisement for DSPL-204, Odisha State Power Corporation Limited, regarding electricity supply.

Advertisement for 'e-Procurement Notice' by the Office of the Municipal Council, Paralakhemundi, Gajapati.

Advertisement for 'Notice Inviting Tender' by Odisha Bridge & Construction Corporation Limited.

Advertisement for 'Notice Inviting Tender' by Odisha Bridge & Construction Corporation Limited.

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Delhi gears up to tackle air pollution

KEJRIWAL ANNOUNCED THAT TEAMS WOULD BE SET UP TO CHECK GARBAGE BURNING, DUST AND VEHICULAR EMISSION TO CURB AIR POLLUTION IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

New Delhi, Sept 30: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Friday announced a 15-point Winter Action Plan while calling for a coordinated effort with neighbouring states and the Centre to curb air pollution in the national capital.

The Chief Minister said certain steps by the government, including the introduction of an electric vehicle policy in 2020, 24-hour electricity supply, closure of thermal power plants, curbs on dust pollution and induction of electric and CNG buses had reduced pollution levels.

"There has been a significant improvement in air pollution of Delhi in 2021-22 as compared to 2017-18 as per the central government's National Clean Air Program (NCAP) report. The PM10 level has reduced by 18.6% in the past four years," he said during a digital briefing.

He added that the city government received significant help from the Centre, which built peripheral express highways to ensure that a large number of trucks no longer needed to enter Delhi to travel further.

Stressing on the need for a coordinated effort between states, he said the city government would work with the Centre, Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) and other states to check the pollution problem.

"I request all the neighbouring states to ensure that all those vehicles which enter Delhi are either CNG or electric vehicles. They can also stop industrial units from using fuel, which causes pollution, and direct them to use PNG (piped natural gas)," he said.

Kejriwal said the states could order brick factories to implement zig-zag techniques in manufacturing, prohibit diesel generators and added that "at least the NCR should have 24 hour supply of electricity".



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

AIR POLLUTION SOURCES TO BE TRACKED IN REAL TIME

New Delhi: Soon, sources of pollution at any location in the national capital can be tracked in real time as the Delhi government's source apportionment system will start providing data from October 20. Adviser to the Delhi government Reena Gupta told PTI that the real-time source apportionment study will help identify and locate the exact contribution of various polluting sources within the city on a real-time basis.

She said the air quality and Air Quality Index (AQI) at multiple locations will be forecast on an hourly basis for three days in advance and on a daily basis for a week in advance.

"Based on the apportionment and forecasting, control actions required to curb major polluting sources can be customised," Gupta told PTI. The Delhi government, in partnership with IIT-Kanpur, had come up with a supersite, capable of monitoring various compounds, at Rouse Avenue to monitor air quality in real time and also make forecasts.

Announcing the Winter Action Plan, he said the government would spray bio decomposer for free to tackle stubble, while the coverage area would be increased to 5,000 acres this year from 4,000 acres.

The government's anti-dust campaign will begin from October 6 with 586 teams regularly inspecting construction sites to ensure compliance.

The government has already announced a ban on production, storage, distribution and purchase of firecrackers and 210 teams have been formed for surveillance.

Sharing further details of the plan, Kejriwal said the government would deploy 80 road sweeping and 521 water sprinkling machines to curb pollution emerging from roads while 150 mobile anti-smog guns would go around the capital.

DELHI GOVT TO START TRIAL RUNS ON 26 NEW BUS ROUTES FROM OCT 2

New Delhi, Sept 30: Delhi government will start trial runs 26 new bus routes from October 2 with a fleet of 151 buses, according to an official order.

The proposed routes have been divided into six categories, based on the function and operational level of the services, an official said.

The Delhi government has also sought feedback on the route rationalisation from the public by November 21.



PTI PHOTO

The six route categories are — Central Business District (CBD) circulators, trunk routes, primary routes, airport service routes, last-mile feeder routes, and NCR routes.

The CBD circulators will provide or improve the connectivity between the major CBDs of Delhi and will operate with a bus frequency of five to 10 minutes.

The trunk routes will provide connectivity to the CBDs from the major hubs of the city, while the primary routes will provide connectivity to the sub-CBDs from residential areas or other sub-CBDs and will be operational at a frequency of 10-20 minutes.

The airport service routes will connect the airport with the major hubs of the national capital and will be operational at a frequency of 10 minutes.



PTI PHOTO

Retired teachers to be re-employed

The move will have multiple benefits, including their utilisation in schools facing shortage of teachers, including trained ones

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Sept 30: The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh has decided to re-employ retired teachers in state-run schools, including Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV).

According to an order issued by principal secretary, basic education, Deepak Kumar, the government plans to rope in dedicated retired teachers who are willing to



PTI PHOTO

be re-engaged for collaborative supervision of schools.

"As mentors they will be required to ensure peer learning, trigger intrinsic motivation and make the classroom student-centric. This will lead to improvement in the learning levels of students," said secretary, basic education, Vijay Kumar Anand.

The move will have multiple benefits, including their utilization in schools facing shortage of teachers,

including trained ones. It will also promote the concept of mentoring in schools with very little expenditure, claimed the official.

According to the notification, teachers below 70 years of age will be eligible for mentoring and their tenure will be of a year. Each selected teacher will undergo performance appraisal after one year, before their contracts are renewed.

In the selection, preference will be given to teachers who are state or national level awardees. Also, they should have, at least, five years of experience, either as assistant teacher or head teacher (principal). Selected teachers will be given Rs 2,500 as mobility allowance per month. No extra honorarium will be given.

Around 500 shop owners near Taj fear closing of biz

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Agra, Sept 30: With the Supreme Court's order to immediately stop all commercial activities within the 500-meter periphery of the Taj Mahal, the shop owners in this area are uncertain about the future of their businesses.

There are about 500 odd restaurants, emporiums, budget hotels, cafes and other business outlets in the area that might be affected by the court order.

The Supreme Court Monday directed the Agra Development Authority (ADA) to prohibit commercial activities within the 500-meter periphery of the Taj Mahal.



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

Accordingly to the order of the Supreme Court. The apex court's order was in response to the application by the 71 shopkeepers, who had alleged that they were removed from near the western gate in the year 1993, whereas other commercial ac-

tivities continued. On Wednesday, locals and business owners organised a meeting to chalk out further plans.

Haji Tahir Uddin Tahir, a resident at the South Gate told PTI that around 40,000 to 50,000 people will be affected due to the order of the apex court as the workers of the shops, factories, and hotels in the Tajganj area will lose their jobs.

We will look for legal options available and unitedly fight for these people, he said. Tahir added these shops have been running for many decades and have been set during the time of the Taj Mahal. A shopkeeper, who runs his

BIZARRE INCIDENT 63 spoons found in man's stomach

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Muzaffarnagar, Sept 30: In a bizarre incident, doctors who operated upon a man in Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar district found 63 spoons in his stomach.

Vijay Kumar, 32, underwent a two-hour-long operation in a private hospital after he complained of severe stomach ache.



The patient, who is in the ICU for post-surgery recovery, told doctors that he was forced to 'eat' the spoons in a deaddiction centre.

According to Ajay Chaudhary, the patient's nephew, "We had brought our uncle here in a private hospital as he complained of severe stomach ache and was diagnosed having numerous spoons in his stomach. We had admitted him to a deaddiction centre a year ago where it seems he was forced to consume these spoons."

Dr Rakesh Khurana, the doctor who operated upon Vijay, said, "He was brought to me 15 days back and in the X-ray, we found something metallic in his stomach and large intestines. When I asked the patient he said, he was made to eat those spoons. The operation went on for two hours. We have never done this kind of extraction before."

All the heads of all the spoons were removed before consumption. As of now, no police complaint has been filed in the matter. The doctors said they cannot say with certainty when the patient had consumed these spoons.

KEJRI'S FRESH CLAIM

Raghav Chadha likely to be 'held'



Kejriwal's claim comes after the CBI arrested the party's media communications in-charge Vijay Nair in connection with the alleged Delhi excise policy "scam" Tuesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Preparations are underway to arrest Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Raghav Chadha since he was appointed as the party's co-in-charge of political affairs in Gujarat, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal claimed Friday.

Kejriwal, however, did not specify which agency was working on the alleged plan to arrest Chadha and on what charges.

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia alleged that the BJP wanted to prevent its defeat in Gujarat by getting AAP leaders arrested, claiming that people of the state wanted to give their mandate to Kejriwal this time.

Chadha, a Rajya Sabha MP from Punjab, put up a brave face and said he was neither afraid of going behind bars or even facing death sentence.

The BJP has lost sleep seeing the growing support base of the AAP in Gujarat, he claimed.

Chadha, who is credited with playing a significant role in the AAP's victory in the assembly elections in Punjab earlier this year, was

recently appointed as co-in-charge of the party's political affairs in Gujarat where elections are due this year. "We are hearing that these people will arrest Ragav Chadha now since he has been appointed as co-in-charge of Gujarat and he has started participating in poll campaigns in Gujarat," Kejriwal, the AAP's national convener, said in a tweet in Hindi.

"In which case they will (arrest) and what will be the allegations, these people are working on these points at present," he added.

Kejriwal's claim comes after the CBI arrested the party's media communications in-charge Vijay Nair in connection with the alleged Delhi excise policy "scam" Tuesday.

"The BJP wasted 27 years of the people of Gujarat. Neither opened good schools nor hospitals (in the state). Be it youth wandering in search of jobs or farmers, cow keepers or rickshaw pullers, everyone now wants to give a chance to Arvind Kejriwal," Sisodia said in a tweet in Hindi following Kejriwal's claim. By getting AAP leaders arrested, the BJP wants to prevent its defeat in Gujarat, he added.

On his part, Chadha tweeted, "Gujarat is demanding change and the BJP has lost its sleep seeing the Aam Aadmi Party marching forward each day.

On Wednesday, Kejriwal slammed the BJP-led Centre over Nair's arrest and asked his party workers and leaders to be ready to go to jail, saying anyone from AAP could now be arrested on false charges as the BJP was scared of losing Gujarat.

NORTHEAST DELHI RIOTS

Processing of compensation expedited

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 30: The processing of unsettled claims of compensation for northeast Delhi riots victims has picked up pace with more than 550 applications being disposed within a month after the appointment of 40 loss assessors, officials at the lieutenant governor's office said.

In view of a large pendency of unsettled compensation claims, Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena had in August approved the appointment of 40 assessors and directed for disposal of all pending cases within three months.

"Of 40 assessors whose appointment was approved, 36 are working and have disposed over 550 applications for compensation in just over a month. The reports of the assessors will be submitted soon before the High Court for release of the compensation amount," an official said. Earlier there were 14 assessors to assist the North East Delhi Riots Claims



PTI PHOTO

- The northeast Delhi riots erupted in February 2020, in the backdrop of anti-CAA protests at various places in the city, claiming more than 50 lives, leaving over 400 injured and causing massive damage of public and private property
- The Delhi government had announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh for major damage to residential units, ₹2.5 lakh for substantial damage, ₹25,000 for minor damage, ₹50,000 for e-rickshaws and ₹5,000 for cattle
- In case of the death of an adult, the government had fixed compensation of ₹10 lakh, ₹5 lakh for the death of an infant, and ₹5 lakh for permanent incapacitation
- The government fixed ₹2 lakh for serious injuries and ₹20,000 for minor injuries

Commission (NEDRCC) and they had settled just seven per cent (200) of the total 2,775 claims filed by

the riot victims, officials said. The NEDRCC was set up by a notification in April 2020.

UP govt modifies madrasas' timings

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

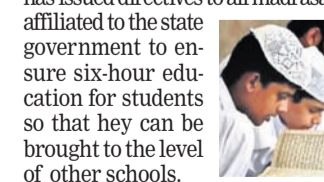
Lucknow, Sept 30: Iftekhar Ahmed Javed, chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board, has issued directives to all madrasas

affiliated to the state government to ensure six-hour education for students so that they can be brought to the level of other schools.

This order will come into effect from October 1. According to the new time table, the students will attend classes in the madrasas from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., which is an hour more. Teachers and staff will also be on duty for at least six hours. "The madrasa student should not feel inferior when he is moving in the society. He must

have good general knowledge, besides knowledge of math, science, English and Hindi along with religious subjects. We want to produce perfect students who can contribute to the development of the country," Javed said.

"We want madrasas to match the standards of other good schools so that even the people of the management committee can proudly admit their kids in madrasas for quality education. We must develop a respect for madrasa education first." Classes for science, math, English and Hindi will be held daily along with religious subjects like Arabic, Persian, Diniyat and Urdu, he added.



PTI PHOTO

The Supreme Court Monday directed the Agra Development Authority (ADA) to prohibit commercial activities within the 500-meter periphery of the Taj Mahal

of the day quote

As many as 6,067 Special Executives would be appointed in the state to assist the police force

The government has drawn up elaborate plans for improving civic and other amenities in the state's largest city Guwahati

Mumbai would undergo a transformation in 90 days under the new urban renewal plan unveiled by the state government

SHORT TAKES

Girl gangraped, sold for ₹50,000

Patna: Three people, including a woman, have been arrested in connection with the gangrape and selling of a minor girl in Madhubani district of Bihar.

Two quakes jolt NE

Guwahati: The northeast was jolted by two back-to-back earthquakes on Friday, officials informed.

Surgeon arrested

Medininagar (Jharkhand): The District Civil Surgeon of Palamu was arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) sleuths while accepting a bribe from a man to clear his outstanding bills on Friday, an official said.

Five rescued

Chaibasa: Five children were rescued and two suspected traffickers were arrested from a railway station in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district, police said Friday.

Arms recovered

Srinagar: Security forces Friday recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition including seven AK-47 assault rifles in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.



Primary aim of public servants should be to serve the nation and its people with utmost sincerity

DROUPADI MURMU | PRESIDENT

SHARJEEL IMAM GETS BAIL

Former JNU student and activist Sharjeel Imam was Friday granted bail by a Delhi Court in connection with a 2019 sedition case.



SC protects minors seeking abortion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The Supreme Court has extended the benefits of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act to minors who engage in consensual sexual activity by exempting doctors from disclosing their identity to the local police.

In a landmark verdict, the top court had included unmarried women for abortion between 20-24 weeks of pregnancy under the MTP Act, saying limiting the provision to cover only married women will render it discriminatory and violative of Article 14.

It has also held that the meaning of the words "sexual assault" or "rape" under the rules of the MTP Act includes a husband's act of sexual assault or rape committed on his wife. A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, A S Bopanna and J B Pardiwala said to ensure that the benefit of Rule 3B(b) is extended to all women aged below 18 who engage in consensual sexual activity, it is necessary to harmoniously read both the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences



(POCSO) Act and the MTP Act.

"For the limited purposes of providing medical termination of pregnancy in terms of the MTP Act, we clarify that the RMP (Registered Medical Practitioners), only on request of the minor and the guardian of the minor, need not disclose the identity and other personal details of the minor in the information provided under Section 19(1) of the POCSO Act (information to local police)", the bench said.

It provided a safeguard to the minors by exempting the RMPs from disclosing the identity of the minor in legal proceedings emanating under the POCSO law. "The

RMP, who has provided information under Section 19(1) of the POCSO Act (in reference to a minor seeking medical termination of a pregnancy under the MTP Act) is also exempt from disclosing the minor's identity in any criminal proceedings which may follow from the RMP's report under Section 19(1) of the POCSO Act," it said.

The bench said that such an interpretation of the MTP Act would prevent any conflict between the statutory obligation of the RMP to mandatorily report the offence under the POCSO Act and the rights of privacy and reproductive autonomy of the minor under

Article 21 of the Constitution. The top court said that it could not possibly be the legislature's intent to deprive minors of safe abortions.

"Rule 3B(b) includes minors within the category of women who may terminate their pregnancy up to 24 weeks. They have been included in the list of special categories of women because adolescents who engage in consensual sexual activity may be unaware that sexual intercourse often results in pregnancy or be unable to identify the signs of a pregnancy", it said.

The bench added that the POCSO Act is gender neutral and criminalises sexual activity by those below the age of 18. "Under the POCSO Act, factual consent in a relationship between minors is immaterial.

The proscription contained in the POCSO Act does not - in actuality - prevent adolescents from engaging in consensual sexual activity. We cannot disregard the truth that such activity continues to take place and sometimes leads to consequences such as pregnancy," it said.

Slain militants targeted Agniveer recruitment



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 30: Two local Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists planning to target the Army's Agniveer recruitment rally were killed in an encounter with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district on Friday, police said.

Speaking to reporters in the north Kashmir district, Senior Superintendent of Police, Baramulla, Rayees Bhat said security forces launched a cordon and search operation in the Yedipora area of Pattan in the early hours of Friday after information was received from intelligence agencies about the presence of terrorists there.

"During the searches, the terrorists opened fire and an encounter ensued. The operation went on for a long time and in the morning hours, two terrorists were killed," the SSP said. Bhat said the terrorists were planning to target the Army's Agniveer recruitment rally which concluded in Pattan's Hyderabad on Thursday.

"The information we have is that they (terrorists) had reached here to target the Army's Agniveer (recruitment) rally and they were planning to disturb the youth who are trying to join the mainstream and to make this rally unsuccessful. But we foiled their plans," he said.

The security forces recovered an AKS-74U rifle from the encounter site along with three magazines, a pistol, a pistol magazine and two

bullets, he said. "AKS-74U is a new version of AK-47, normally with the FTs (foreign terrorists), locally known as Karencov but actually called Kirinkov," he added.

Bhat appealed to the youth to not take the violent path. Asked if the terrorists were trying to show their presence ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Jammu and Kashmir, the SSP said the operation was successful because of an alert already issued by the security forces and the heightened security ahead of the visit.

Shah was scheduled to visit Jammu and Kashmir from September 30 to address two mega rallies in Rajouri and Baramulla. His visit, however, was postponed to October 4. Bhat said the identity of the slain terrorists is being ascertained.

However, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said the slain terrorists belonged to Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM). "01 more #terrorist killed (Total 02). Both the local terrorists linked with proscribed #terror outfit JeM. #Search operation in progress. Further details shall follow," Kumar said in a tweet.

Another encounter broke out in Chitragam in south Kashmir's Shopian district in the early hours of Friday following a cordon and search operation in the area on the basis of inputs about the presence of terrorists there, a police official said.

Cong files complaint against Ashok Pandit

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 30: Delhi Congress has filed a complaint against film director Ashok Pandit for allegedly spreading fake and distorted news about Rahul Gandhi.

In the complaint filed on Thursday, the party said Pandit incited, provoked the public, thereby creating enmity between groups, and such offences are punishable under the IPC 1860 and other legal provisions. Pandit had tweeted which he deleted later: "Janadhari Rahul Gandhi refusing to perform Aarti! The reason is clear!"

Delhi Congress alleged that the tweet was accompanied with maliciously distorted and clipped video of Rahul Gandhi, "wherein it was sought to portray Shri. Rahul Gandhi as refusing to partake in religious rituals being performed in Rajkot (Gujarat) while worshipping goddess Durga. It must be pointed out that the video was created by morphing (through deliberately editing) an older video in which Shri Rahul Gandhi was indeed offering prayers in direct contradiction to what was being portrayed by Ashok Pandit. 29/09/22."

The party said the impression that was sought to be conveyed from the mischievously captioned post and accompanying distorted video clip, was that Rahul Gandhi had refused to perform a sacred ritual during a religious ceremony and in doing so had offended the sentiments of other members of the Hindu community.

"This was nothing short of a deliberate and motivated attempt to outrage religious sentiments of members of the Hindu community using deliberately falsified videos," the Congress said. In a tweet on Friday, Congress spokesperson Jairam Ramesh said, "Last night, a police complaint was filed in Delhi against a totally fake video on Rahul Gandhi. The offender deleted his social media post after it was exposed, but he will face the law for his atrocious deed. We will not allow such people to get away lightly."

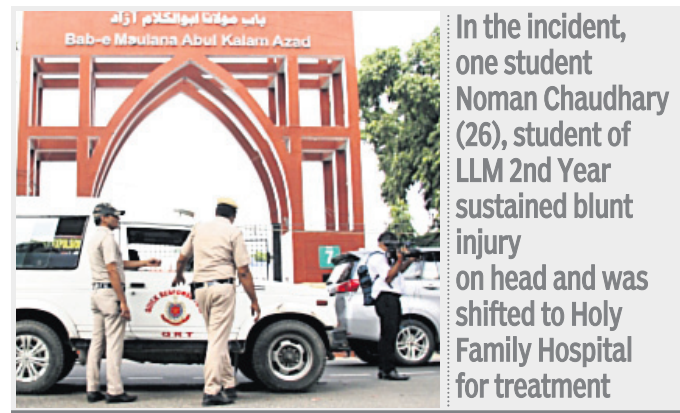
Jamia student shoots another at hosp

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 30: A Jamia Millia Islamia student was shot by another student inside a hospital in the national capital, an official said Friday.

According to the official, the incident took place late Thursday at the Holy Family Hospital, located in southeast Delhi. "A PCR call was received at Jamia Nagar police station regarding a quarrel at Jamia University Library inside Jamia Millia Islamia University. On inquiry it was found that the fight had ensued between two groups of students," Deputy Commissioner of Police (southeast) Esha Pandey said.

In the incident, one student Noman Chaudhary (26), student of LLM 2nd Year sustained blunt injury on head and was shifted to Holy Family Hospital for treatment. Another student Nauman Ali, friend of Noman Chaudhary



In the incident, one student Noman Chaudhary (26), student of LLM 2nd Year sustained blunt injury on head and was shifted to Holy Family Hospital for treatment

also visited the hospital to see him.

"In the meantime, one student of a rival group namely Zalal, a resident of Mewat, Haryana accompanied by his friends came to the Hospital and fired at Nauman Ali outside the Emergency ward inside Hospital Campus," the DCP said. In the firing, Nauman Ali received superficial injury on the

scalp and was rushed to AIIMS Trauma Centre.

"He was fit for the statement," the official said. "Meanwhile, a crime team of Delhi Police examined the area where the firing took place. A Legal action has been initiated accordingly at both Jamia Nagar and New Friends Colony police stations," the official added.



Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan inspects a Guard of Honour in New Delhi

Puja artisans see bleak prospects amid budget cuts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Sept 30: The deft hands of 67-year-old artisan, Tapas Pal, move with ease as he moulds the clay to give shape to divine forms at his workshop in Pandu area here but budget cuts, after two years of COVID-19 crisis, are leaving the idol-maker and his ilk dispirited.

Pal is worried that this year, too, business may see no revival amid rising prices of raw materials and shortage of labourers, with several organisers having curtailed their spending.

"We faced immense difficulties in the last two years due to the pandemic-induced lockdown. Last year, the administration's directive to mark the occasion with small-sized Durga idols had adversely affected our earnings,"



Pal said.

"Prices of raw materials - clay, hay, wood and even costumes and jewellery - have skyrocketed post pandemic but organising committees are not prepared to pay more," he lamented. Artisans in the potters' colony in the western

part of the city are still burning the midnight oil to ensure that idols of Goddess Durga and her entourage are crafted on time and sent to various pandals.

Some of the organisers placed orders really late and "we had to make last-minute purchases, which

also decreased our profit margins", Pal's 37-year-old son Kanchan said. The father-son duo received 19 orders this year and engaged fewer 'karigars' than they usually did during the pre-pandemic days.

"How are we supposed to pay workers their wages when we are not sure about the earnings ourselves? After covering the cost of raw materials and paying the wages, we will be left with almost nothing," the 67-year-old idol-maker said. Earlier, some exclusive idols would fetch as much as Rs 1 lakh each, but this year "we will be lucky if we get something in the range of Rs 50,000", the senior Pal said.

Sporadic rainfall last month had added to our woes, he added. Weather plays a vital role in the idol-making process as artisans can apply paint on the figurines only when the clay turns com-

pletely dry. In an adjacent workshop, 32-year-old Dipika Pal, the only woman idol-maker in the city, is seen busy sculpting the hands of the goddess.

"Traditionally women members of the family are not engaged in idol-making but after my father died, I had to take it up to support my mother and sisters," she said. Dipika was not trained in the art by her father but learnt it from other artists, including husband Dilip Das, with whom she manages a workshop.

"I faced no opposition from my family but had to endure snide remarks from neighbours. I did not pay much heed to them as I knew this was the only way to earn a living," she said. The last two years "almost broke the backbone of the community" and this year, too, the orders are fewer in number, she said.

BOY KILLED BY FIVE CLASSMATES

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 30: A 17-year-old boy studying in Class 10 was stabbed to death by his five classmates in the national capital, police said on Friday.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (northwest) Usha Rangani said a PCR call regarding the stabbing of a student by other students was received at Adarsh Nagar police station on September 29 after which the police staff reached the spot and the injured, identified as Deepanshu, a resident of Burari, was rushed to the hospital. "He was declared dead by doctors during treatment, due to multiple stab injuries," the DCP said.

Accordingly, the police registered a case under sections 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder) and 34 (common intention) at the Adarsh Nagar police station and during investigation, it was revealed that deceased had a quarrel with the five accused classmates in their school, due to which they murdered him to take revenge, while they were going home.

The senior official said that during the investigation, CCTV footage was analysed and on the basis of local intelligence, five juveniles were apprehended from Lal Bagh, Azadpur, within two hours of the incident.

"Weapon of offence - a button actuated knife - which was purchased online, has also been recovered," the official said, adding that further investigation of the case is in progress.



international



We continue to strive for a relationship with China, but one that is built on mutual sensitivity, mutual respect and mutual interest
S JAISHANKAR | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER OF INDIA

UK UNVEILS NEW COINS

New coins featuring the new British monarch, King Charles III, are expected to enter general circulation in the coming months as the portrait design was unveiled Friday



of the day quote

Turkey will re-inforce its military presence in northern Cyprus after the United States lifted defence trade restrictions on Cyprus
TAYYIP ERDOGAN | TURKISH PRESIDENT

I think Australians understand that given the fiscal and budget circumstances that we've inherited, it will take much more than one budget to turn that around
JIM CHALMERS | AUSTRALIAN TREASURER

The absence of a meaningful peace process to end the Israeli occupation and resolve the conflict is fueling a dangerous deterioration across the OPT (occupied Palestinian territory), particularly in the West Bank, and driving the perception that the conflict is unresolvable
TOR WENNESLAND | UN SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

SHORT TAKES

Pakistan arrests 16 Indian fishermen

Islamabad: Pakistan authorities have arrested 16 Indian fishermen and seized two trawlers for allegedly illegally fishing in the country's territorial waters, officials said Friday. Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) said one of its ships "apprehended two Indian fishing boats along with 16 crew members," during routine surveillance in maritime zones in Pakistan. The arrests were made Tuesday.

20 injured in market blast

Quetta: At least 20 people were injured in an explosion in the main market of Balochistan's Kohlu district Friday, an official in the Pakistani province confirmed. According to Balochistan Education Minister Mir Naseebullah Marri, the injured were moved to the Kohlu District Headquarters Hospital.

Sweden moves closer to NATO

Stockholm: Would-be NATO member Sweden Friday announced it will allow exports of arms to Turkey, which had threatened to block the Scandinavian nation's application to join the 30-member defence alliance. The decision means that Sweden, which has sought NATO membership along with neighbouring Finland, will lift an arms embargo it had imposed on Ankara in 2019 after Turkey's military operation against the Kurdish militia known as the YPG in Syria.

France registers spike in births

Paris: In 2021, 742,100 babies were born in France, which means that there were 2,033 births per day, a sojourn after six years of decline, the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) said in its annual report. In 2020, 735,000 children were born in France, the lowest number since World War II, reports said.

Japan's jobless rate declines

Tokyo: Japan's jobless rate dropped to 2.5 per cent in August, the government said in a report Friday. The unemployment rate edged down from 2.6 per cent in July, Xinhua news agency quoted the report by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications as saying. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in a separate report said Friday that the job availability ratio was up 0.03 point from the previous month to stand at 1.32 in August.

GRIM SITUATION



A child affected by the worsening drought due to failed rain seasons pulls a jerrycan of water at Sopol village in Turkana, Kenya

PTI PHOTO

Hurricane Ian veers toward Carolinas

REUTERS

Fort Myers, Fla., Sept 30: A resurgent Hurricane Ian barreled north Friday toward a second landfall in South Carolina, a day after carving a path of destruction across central Florida that left rescue crews racing to reach trapped residents along the state's Gulf Coast.

Ian, which had weakened to a tropical storm during its march across Florida, was upgraded to a Category 1 hurricane as it churned toward South Carolina above the Atlantic Ocean, with maximum sustained wind speeds of 85 mph (140 kph), the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) said.

The hurricane was forecast to hit near low-lying Charleston, South Carolina, about 2 p.m. ET (1800 GMT) Friday, bringing potentially life-threatening flooding, storm surges and winds. Hundreds of miles of coastline, stretching from Georgia to North Carolina, were under a hurricane warning.

Police in the Isle of Palms Friday posted a video showing dark skies above rough whitecap waves near the shoreline as gusty winds blew across the beachfront community on a barrier island in South Carolina.

Ukraine accelerates NATO bid

AGENCIES

Kyiv, Sept 30: Ukraine's President says his country is submitting an "accelerated" application to join the NATO military alliance.

The comment Friday by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy came just after Russia said it would annex four regions of Ukraine it seized amid its war and held gunpoint referendums viewed as illegitimate by the international community.

Zelenskyy said: "We are taking our decisive step by signing Ukraine's application for accelerated accession to NATO." It wasn't immediately clear what an "accelerated" application would mean, as ascension to NATO requires the unanimous support of the alliance's members. "De facto, we have already proven compatibility with alliance standards. They are real for Ukraine -- real on the battlefield and in all aspects of our interaction," Zelenskyy said.

Sheets draped over bodies

Hours before Putin spoke, missiles tore through a convoy of civilian cars preparing to cross from Ukrainian-held territory near Zaporizhzhia into the Russian-occupied zone, killing at least 23 civilians. Ukrainian officials called it a deliberate Russian attempt to sever the last links across the front. Moscow blamed the Ukrainians.



RUSSIAN ANNEXATION OF FOUR REGIONS CONDEMNED WORLDWIDE
MOVE IS 'DANGEROUS ESCALATION' JEOPARDISING PEACE - UN CHIEF
UKRAINE'S ZELENSKYY SAYS FOR WAR TO END PUTIN MUST BE STOPPED
ZELENSKYY SUMMONS EMERGENCY MEETING ON SECURITY, DEFENCE

ability with alliance standards. They are real for Ukraine -- real on the battlefield and in all aspects of our interaction," Zelenskyy said. "We trust each other, we help each other, and we protect each other. This is the alliance."

Zelenskyy also repeated his pledge to reunite all of the Ukrainian territory now held by Russia. "The entire territory of our country will be liberated from this enemy -- the enemy not only of

Ukraine, but also of life itself, humanity, law and truth," he said. "Russia already knows this. It feels our power. It sees that it is here, in Ukraine, that we prove the strength of our values." Responding to Putin's call for negotiations, Zelenskyy added: "We are ready for a dialogue with Russia, but ... with another president of Russia."

The war has rapidly accelerated Ukraine's shift toward the West. During Russia's seven-month war, the country has shifted off Soviet-era weapon systems and used NATO-standard ordinance and weapons, though the process is still ongoing.

In June, the European Union agreed to put Ukraine on the path toward EU membership. That swiftness of that move -- nearly unthinkable only months earlier -- required unanimous

US sanctions Russia

The US Friday sanctioned more than 1,000 people and firms connected to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including its Central Bank governor and families of National Security Council members. The Treasury Department named hundreds of members of Russia's legislature, leaders of the country's financial and military infrastructure and suppliers for sanctions designations. The Commerce Department added 57 companies to its list of export control violators, and the State Department added more than 900 people to its visa restriction list.



approval among the bloc's often fractious members.

While there is considerable overlap among the members of the EU and NATO, securing agreement to allow Ukraine into the security alliance and its guarantee of mutual defense could be considerably more difficult. One immediate impediment to Ukraine joining is that it is already engaged in an active military conflict on its soil.

Iran 'ruthlessly' suppressing protests

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dubai, Sept 30: Leaked government documents show that Iran ordered its security forces to "severely confront" anti-government demonstrations that broke out earlier this month, Amnesty International said Friday.

The London-based rights group said security forces have killed at least 52 people since protests over the death of a woman detained by the morality police began nearly two weeks ago, including by firing live ammunition into crowds and beat-



ing protesters with batons. It says security forces have also beaten and groped female protesters who remove their headscarves to protest the treatment of women by Iran's theocracy.

The death in custody of Mahsa Amini, who was detained for al-

legedly wearing the mandatory Islamic headscarf too loosely, has triggered an outpouring of anger at Iran's ruling clerics. Her family says they were told she was beaten to death in custody. Police say the 22-year-old Amini died of a heart attack and deny mistreating her; and Iranian officials say her death is under investigation. Iran's leaders accuse hostile foreign entities of seizing on her death to foment unrest against the Islamic Republic and portray the protesters as rioters, saying a number of security forces have been killed.

Pakistan PM House combed, debugged after audio leak

AGENCIES

Islamabad, Sept 30: A high-powered committee constituted to probe the leak of informal conversations from the Prime Minister's House in Pakistan is said to have combed and debugged the entire premises, a confirmed source said.

"They have conducted thorough inspection of the building," the source told Dawn news. The team was also monitoring

mobile phone data and laptops of employees and officers of the Prime Minister's House and Office.

Following a series of audio leaks over the last week, also featuring Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, PML-N leader Maryam Nawaz and former premier Imran Khan, a new standard operating procedure (SOP) has been implemented under which no staff and officer was allowed to take their mobile phone inside the building.

Nord Stream 'sabotage': Who's being blamed, why?

REUTERS

Warsaw, Sept 30: Major leaks that suddenly erupted in the Nord Stream gas pipelines that run from Russia to Europe under the Baltic Sea have generated plenty of theories but few clear answers about who or what caused the damage. Here is what we know and what has been said so far:

WHO IS BEING BLAMED?

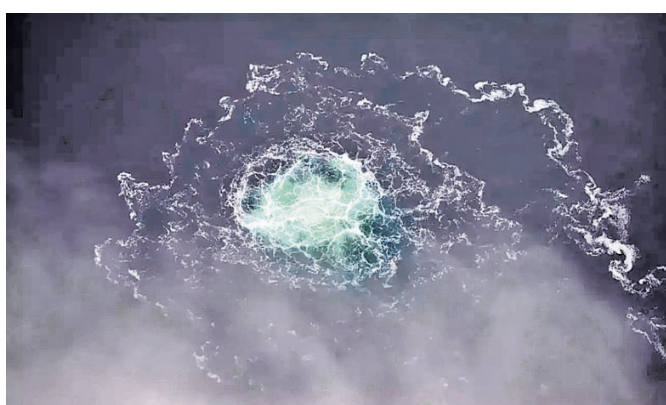
So far, most governments and officials have avoided pointing a finger directly, although some have made stronger hints than others.

European Union states say they believe the damage was caused by sabotage but have stopped short of naming anyone. Fatih Birol, the head of the International Energy Agency, said it was "very obvious" who was behind it but did not say who that was. The Kremlin said al-

legations of Russian responsibility were "stupid" and Russian officials have said Washington had a motive as it wants to sell more liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Europe. The White House has dismissed charges it was responsible.

WHY SABOTAGE A PIPELINE?

German Navy Chief Jan Christian Kaack told German daily Die Welt in Monday's edition, the day leaks were found although he was apparently speaking before that: "Russia has also built up considerable capacity underwater: At the bottom of the Baltic Sea, but also in the Atlantic, there is quite a bit of critical infrastructure like pipelines or submarine cables for IT." Alongside Nord Stream, a new pipeline has been built between gas producing Norway and Poland, which has been seeking to end its reliance on Russian energy, making



A gas leak from Nord stream 2 is seen in the Swedish economic zone in the Baltic Sea in this picture taken from the Swedish Coast Guard aircraft

REUTERS

the region highly sensitive for Europe's energy security.

However, if it was an act of sabotage, it has damaged pipelines that were built by Kremlin-con-

trolled Gazprom (GAZPMM) and its European partners at a cost that ran into billions of dollars.

The damage also means Russia loses an element of leverage it

still had over Europe, which has been racing to find other gas supplies for winter, even if the Nord Stream pipelines were not pumping gas when the leaks were discovered, analysts say.

Whoever or whatever is to blame, Ukraine may also be a beneficiary. Kyiv has long called for Europe to halt all purchases of Russian fuel -- even though some gas still runs to Europe across its territory. Disrupting Nord Stream brings Kyiv's call for a full Russian fuel embargo closer to reality.

Experts say the scale of the damage and the fact that the leaks are far from each other on two different pipelines indicate that the act was intentional and well-orchestrated.

Seismologists in Denmark and Sweden said they had registered two powerful blasts Monday in the vicinity of the leaks and the ex-

plosions were in the water, not under the seabed. Analysts say it is possible the damage was inflicted by devices that are available on the commercial market but that given the scale and precision, it was more likely carried out by an actor with access to more sophisticated technology. Russia says it believes a state actor was involved.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

At Russia's request, the UN Security Council meets on Friday to discuss the damage to the pipelines, while the Europeans are pressing on with their investigations.

For now, however, more direct finger-pointing between Russia and the West could worsen tensions that have already spiralled over the war in Ukraine, said Marek Swierczynski, a defence analyst for Polish think tank Polityka Insight.

India, Nepal agree to prevent misuse of their territories by 'anti-nationals'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, Sept 30: India and Nepal have agreed to prevent the misuse of their respective territories by "anti-nationals" as their top paramilitary officials discussed the mechanism to prevent illegal border crossing of third nation citizens through the Indo-Nepal border.

The joint Coordination meeting between Sashstra Seema Bal (SSB) Director General Sujal Lal Thakur and Nepal's Armed Police Force (APF) Inspector General Raju Arya, which concluded here Thursday, discussed measures for streamlining the mechanism to curb trans-border crimes, timely exchange of information and enhance security across the Indo-Nepal border.



Heads of both the forces agreed to develop the mechanism to prevent illegal border crossing of third nation citizens through the border, the SSB said in a statement.

During the three-day meeting, it was also decided that border forces will continue to reform methods used in view of present day challenges. "They mutually agreed to prevent misuse of their respective territories by anti-nationals," the statement said.

The Indian side requested Nepal to stop the entry of Pakistani and Chinese nationals into India through the border points, after engaging in illegal activities in the border areas, MyRepublica quoted a senior official who attended the meeting as saying.

of the day quote

India's jump to the 40th rank in the Global Innovation Index 2022 is a testament to the Prime Minister's commitment to making India an innovation hub

SUMAN BERY | VC, NITI AAYOG

We have focused on ease of doing business. We continue to reduce the compliance burden for our businesses

PIYUSH GOVAL | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

We are excited to work with Amp Energy India, one of the India's most successful renewable energy companies, to bring green hydrogen solutions to the Commercial and Industrial sector in India

ARNE BALLANTINE | CEO, OHMIUM INTERNATIONAL

SHORT TAKES

HDFC raises lending rate by 50 points

New Delhi: Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd Friday hiked its lending rate by 50 basis points hours after the Reserve Bank raised the benchmark interest rate to tame inflation. The move would increase EMIs for housing loans by the firm. "HDFC increases its Retail Prime Lending Rate (RPLR) on Housing loans, on which its Adjustable Rate Home Loans (ARHL) are benchmarked, by 50 basis points, with effect from October 1, 2022," the country's biggest housing finance company said in a statement. This is the seventh rate increase undertaken by HDFC in the last five months.

Air India mulls raising \$1 billion

Bangalore: Tata Group-owned Air India is considering raising at least \$1 billion in a funding round that could value the carrier at around \$5 billion, Bloomberg News reported Friday, citing people familiar with the matter. The airline is in discussions with potential investors including private equity funds and sovereign wealth funds, Bloomberg reported. The plan comes after Air India earlier in the day announced 20 additional weekly flights to Britain and the United States. The carrier had said it would expand its fleet by more than 25%.

LTTS joins hands with Qualcomm

Bangalore: L&T Technology Services Limited announced on Friday it is collaborating with Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. To deploy end-to-end solutions for the global 5G private network industry utilising their combined core expertise in the hi-tech & telecommunication domain. LTTS and Qualcomm will bring together core competencies in telecommunication solutions and services for the benefit of end-customers in the manufacturing and warehousing/ logistics sector, an LTTS statement said.

Sterlite Power defers IPO plans

New Delhi: Sterlite Power Friday announced deferring its ₹1,250 crore-IPO in view of current volatility in the stock market. In August 2021, the company had filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with markets regulator Sebi. The Initial Public Offer (IPO) was to be worth ₹1,250 crore. Pratik Agarwal, Managing Director of Sterlite Power, said that given the volatility in the current markets and the limited window available under the currently filed DRHP, it has been decided to withdraw the DRHP.



We are exporting \$16-20 billion of mobile phones by 2025-26 our exports in electronics will be \$120 billion

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR | UNION MINISTER

PM TO LAUNCH 5G SERVICES TODAY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the much-awaited 5G services in India October 1, 2022, an official release said Friday. According to the release, 5G to be launched by the PM in select cities, will progressively cover the entire country over the next couple of years. The cumulative economic impact of 5G on India is estimated to reach \$450 billion by 2035



RBI cuts growth hope to 7%

Reserve Bank raised key repo - the rate at which it lends short-term money to banks - by another 50 basis points to 5.90% with immediate effect to rein in rising inflation while supporting growth. RBI has raised repo rate by 190 basis points or 1.90% since May. The US Fed and European economies too have sharply raised interest rates, mainly triggered by supply side woes on Russia-Ukraine war

Benchmark interest rate hiked by 50 basis points to 3-year high at 5.90%

Economic growth projection for FY23 cut to 7% from 7.2% estimated in August

GDP expected to grow at 6.3% in September quarter, 4.6% each in Dec, March quarters

Inflation projection retained at 6.7% for ongoing fiscal year

Inflation to remain above upper tolerance limit of 6% till December

Average crude oil price for Indian basket expected at \$100 per barrel

"Taking all these factors into consideration, real GDP growth for 2022-23 is projected at 7.0 per cent with Q2 at 6.3 per cent; Q3 at 4.6 per cent; and Q4:2022-23 at 4.6 per cent, with risks broadly balanced. The growth for Q1:2023-24 is projected at 7.2 per cent," he said.

Real GDP grew 13.5 per cent in the first quarter of FY'23, surpassing the pre-pandemic level by 3.8 per cent. This was led by robust growth in private consumption and investment demand.

Observing that high frequency data for the second quarter indicates that economic activity remains resilient, Das said there was a sustained revival in urban demand which should get a further impetus from unfettered celebration of upcoming festivals after two and half years of living with Covid-19.

Rural demand is also gaining gradually and there is pick up in investment, he said, adding that bank credit grew at an accelerated pace of 16.2 per cent

as September 9, 2022 as against 6.7 per cent a year ago.

Total flow of financial resources from banks and non-banks to the commercial sector has improved significantly to ₹9.3 lakh crore in this financial year so far (up to September 9) from ₹1.7 lakh crore in the corresponding period of last year.

Despite unsettling global environment, the Indian economy continues to be resilient, he said.

In the last two and half years, the world has witnessed two major shocks - the Covid-19 pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine

Inflation forecast retained at 6.7%

Mumbai: The RBI Friday retained its inflation projection for FY23 at 6.7 per cent amid geopolitical concerns triggered by Russia-Ukraine war, and expected inflation to be under control from January. The central bank is mandated to keep retail inflation in a band of 2-6 per cent. Inflation has remained above RBI's upper tolerance level of 6 per cent since January 2022. It ruled over 7 per cent in April, May and June. July saw a breather with inflation sliding to 6.7 per cent. Last month, inflation touched 7 per cent. The consumer price index (CPI) based inflation is projected to further reduce to 5 per cent in first quarter of next fiscal year beginning April 2023. The RBI Monetary Policy Committee will meet and decide on the letter that it would write to the government on not meeting the four per cent inflation target, central bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said.

-- and these shocks have produced profound impact on the global economy, he said.

CAD expected to come under 3% in FY23

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank expects the current account deficit to be under 3 per cent of GDP in FY23, Deputy Governor Michael Patra said Friday. The CAD will modestly widen in the first half of the fiscal year and narrow in the second half, Patra told reporters in the customary post-policy press conference. Overall, we expect the current account deficit to be under 3 per cent of GDP (in FY23), Patra said. The comments come a day after official data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed that the CAD widened in the first quarter of the fiscal to 2.8 per cent of GDP. In FY22, the CAD had stood at 1.2 per cent of the GDP.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 30: The Reserve Bank of India Friday cut the economic growth projection for the current financial year to 7 per cent from 7.2 per cent estimated earlier on account of extended geopolitical tensions and aggressive monetary policy tightening globally.

The headwinds from extended geopolitical tensions, tightening global financial conditions and possible decline in the external component of aggregate demand can pose downside risks to growth, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said.

The central bank in April had cut GDP growth estimate to 7.2 per cent from its earlier forecast of 7.8 per cent.

Fiscal deficit touches 32.6% of annual target till August

FISCAL DEFICIT IS AN INDICATOR OF THE GOVT'S BORROWINGS FROM THE MARKET

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The central government's fiscal deficit touched 32.6 per cent of the annual target in the current financial year till August as against 31.1 per cent recorded a year ago, according to official data released Friday.

In actual terms, the fiscal deficit - the difference between expenditure and revenue - was ₹5,41,601 crore during the April-August period of this financial year. Fiscal deficit is an indicator of the government's borrowings from the market.

As per the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), the government's total receipts, including taxes, stood at ₹8.48 lakh crore or

37.2 per cent of the Budget Estimates (BE) for 2022-23.

During the year-ago period, the collection was 40.9 per cent of BE 2021-22. The tax revenue stood at about ₹7 lakh crore or 36.2 per cent of this year's BE. The central government's total expenditure was ₹13.9 lakh crore or 35.2 per cent of the BE 2022-23. It was 36.7 per cent of BE 2021-22.

For 2022-23, the fiscal deficit is estimated to be ₹16.61 lakh crore or 6.4 per cent of the GDP.

According to the data, capital expenditure was 33.7 per cent of the full-year budget target in the current fiscal compared to 31 per cent in the corresponding period last year, as per the monthly account of the Union government up to August.



ENERGY CRISIS IN EUROPE

EU adopts windfall levy; no deal on gas price cap

The measures include a levy on surplus profits made by firms producing or refining oil, gas and coal. It will not have an immediate effect on the gas prices that have been running wild as Russia reduced its supplies

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brussels, Sept 30: European Union energy ministers on Friday adopted a package of measures to soothe the energy crisis, including a windfall levy on profits by fossil fuel companies, but a deal on capping gas prices remained off the table.

With energy prices skyrocketing across Europe since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, EU member countries reached a deal on pro-

posals from the European Commission that the bloc's executive arm said could help raise \$140 billion to help people and businesses hit by the crunch.

The two other main elements of the plan are a temporary cap on the revenues of low-cost electricity generators such as wind, solar and nuclear companies, as well as an obligation for the 27 EU countries to reduce electricity consumption by at least 5 per cent during peak price hours.

Estonian Economic Affairs and Infrastructure Minister Riina Sikkut said that "the most promising measure to actually bring down the average price is still the reduction of peak consumption."

"This is just the first part of the puzzle and an immediate patch," said Czech Industry and Trade Minister Jozef Sikela, who chaired the meeting in Brussels.

A group of 15 member countries has urged the European Commission

According to the EU, Russian gas supplies have declined by 37% between Jan-Aug



We must not stop here; we are in an energy war with Russia; the winter is coming. We need to act now. Now means now. Now is not in a week and definitely not in a month

JOZEF SIKELA | INDUSTRY AND TRADE MINISTER, CZECH

—the EU's executive arm— to propose a cap on the price of wholesale gas as soon as possible to help households and businesses struggling to make ends meet.

"The price cap that has been requested since the beginning by an ever increasing number of member states is the one measure that will help every member state

Forex reserves register steepest dip in 6 months

Reserves have now fallen for eight straight weeks and are near their lowest levels since August 2020

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Sept 30: The foreign exchange reserves fell to \$537.52 billion in the week through Sept. 23, notching their steepest weekly fall in six months, the Reserve Bank of India's weekly statistical supplement showed Friday.

Governor Shaktikanta Das Friday said 67 per cent of the decline in the foreign exchange reserves since April was due to valuation changes arising from strengthening US dollar and higher American bond yields. The forex reserves, which stood at \$606.475 billion as April 2, have declined to \$537.5 billion as September 23. It was also the eighth straight week when the reserves declined.

In the current financial year up to September 23, the US dollar has appreciated 14.5 per cent against a basket of major currencies, causing turmoil in currency markets globally. The movement of the Indian rupee has, however, been orderly compared to most other countries, Das said while unveiling the latest bi-monthly monetary policy review.

The rupee has depreciated 7.4 per cent against the US dollar during the same period - faring much better than several reserve currencies as well as many of its EME and Asian peers, he added.

Das also said that a stable exchange rate is a beacon of financial and overall macroeconomic stability and market confidence.



Reserves were at \$606.475bn in April which have declined to \$537.5bn in Sept

Rupee depreciated 7.4% against dollar this year

Forex reserve down 67% at \$537.5 billion

Noting that in recent days, there have been divergent views on the exchange rate of the rupee and the adequacy of India's forex reserves, he said the rupee is a freely floating currency and its exchange rate is market determined.

"RBI does not have any fixed exchange rate in mind. It intervenes in the market to curb excessive volatility and anchor expectations," he said. Further, he said RBI's interventions in the forex market are based on continuous assessment of the prevailing and evolving situation from the point of view of the central bank's approach.

"The aspect of adequacy of forex reserves is always kept in mind. The umbrella (of forex reserves) continues to be strong," Das said.

Core sector growth slows to 3.3% in Aug; lowest in 9 months

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The output of eight core infrastructure sectors grew 3.3 per cent in August - the lowest in nine months - as against 12.2 per cent in the year-ago period, according to official data released Friday.

The previous low was in November 2021 at 3.2 per cent. It stood at 4.5 per cent in July.

The production growth of eight infrastructure sectors - coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity - was 9.8 per cent during April-August this fiscal, compared to 19.4 per cent a year ago.

Crude oil and natural gas production contracted by 3.3 per cent and 0.9 per cent, respectively during the month under review.

In August, the fertiliser output rose by 11.9 per cent against a contraction of 3.1 per cent in the same month last year.

The growth rates for coal, refinery products, steel, cement and electricity slowed to 7.6 per cent, 7 per cent, 2.2 per cent, 1.8 per cent and 0.9 per cent, respectively.

Commenting on the data, ICRA Ltd Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said a normalising base and weak demand for electricity and construction activity during the heavy rains appear to have dampened the core sector growth in August 2022.

Inflation hits record 10% in 19 EU countries using euro as power, gas prices skyrocket

Frankfurt: Inflation in the European countries using the euro currency has broken into double digits as prices for electricity and natural gas soar, signalling a looming winter recession for one of the globe's major economies as higher prices undermine consumers' spending power. Consumer prices in the 19-country eurozone rose a record 10 per cent in September from a year earlier, up from an annual 9.1 per cent in August, EU statistics agency Eurostat reported Friday. Only a year ago, inflation was as low as 3.4 per cent. Price increases were beyond what market analysts had expected and are at their highest level since record-keeping for the euro started in 1997. Energy prices were the main culprit, rising 40.8 per cent over a year ago. Food, alcohol and tobacco prices jumped 11.8 per cent. Inflation has been fuelled by steady cutbacks in supplies of natural gas from Russia and bottlenecks in getting supplies of raw materials and parts as the global economy bounces back from the Covid-19 pandemic.

to mitigate the inflationary pressure, manage expectations and provide a framework in case of potential supply disruptions, and limit the extra profits in the sector," they said.

The European Commission has warned in an analysis that such

a cap could weaken the bloc's ability to secure gas supplies on the global market. But it is open to the idea of introducing a price cap on Russian gas to mitigate the impact of the crisis while negotiating a lower gas price with other suppliers.

SL first for eves at Asia Cup Spurs test awaits Gunners



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sylhet (Bangladesh), Sept 30: An in-form India would look to carry forward the momentum of a historic ODI series sweep in England while trying to put behind the 'Mankading' controversy as they open their women's Asia Cup T20 campaign against Sri Lanka here Saturday. The Indian women haven't had a lot of success of late in the T20

format but at the continental level, Harmanpreet Kaur's team will start as clear favourites. Barring their only blemish in the last edition of the tournament, India have won all the Asia Cup titles since the event's inception in 2004 (4 titles in ODI format and 2 in T20 version). The Asia Cup was transformed from ODI to T20 format in 2012 and India have won twice, while losing to hosts Bangladesh in the last

edition in 2018. And, India would look to assert their continental dominance in the tournament, which returns after a hiatus of four years. The 2020 edition of the event in Bangladesh was first postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic before being cancelled altogether. After claiming a historic silver medal at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, where women's cricket made their debut

in T20 format, India suffered a 1-2 away defeat against England earlier this month.

But the Harmanpreet-led side made a fantastic turnaround in the ODIs, clean sweeping England 3-0 to record a historic series victory, which marked a glorious end to Indian bowling legend Jhulan Goswami's international career. The Indian series win, however, reignited an intense debate over the spirit of the game after all-rounder Deepti Sharma ran out Charlie Dean during the series-clinching third ODI as the English batter backed up at the non-striker's end. The Indian team would be desperate to move on from the incident and focus on the Asia Cup.

On the team's front, Harmanpreet has been in imperious form. Smriti Mandhana too is in good touch but Shafali Verma, Sabbhineni Meghana and Dayalan Hemalatha need their bats to do the talking. Jemimah Rodrigues' return to the side after missing the tour of England due to a hand injury, augurs well for India. Wicket-keeper Richa Ghosh, who made a comeback in England after being dropped from the Commonwealth Games, is also in the mix. India's seam bowling attack will be led by Renuka Singh, while Radha Yadav, Rajeshwari Gayakwad and Deepti will be in charge of the spin department.

The tournament involves seven teams - India, Pakistan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, UAE and hosts Bangladesh. All sides will play each other in a round-robin format - a total of six matches each - with the top four qualifying for semifinals.

THE SQUAD

Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana, Deepti Sharma, Shafali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Sabbhineni Meghana, Richa Ghosh (wk), Sneha Rana, Dayalan Hemalatha, Meghna Singh, Renuka Thakur, Pooja Vastrakar, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Radha Yadav & KP Navgire.



THE FRENIMIES: Arsenal's Gabriel Jesus (L) and his Brazilian teammate Richarlison (Spurs) are in fine form for their new sides



AGENCIES

London, Sept 30: The Premier League returns following the international break with a blockbuster North London derby by Saturday, as Arsenal play host to Tottenham Hotspur at the Emirates.

A week after the women's teams made history in their North London derby, the men's crops will battle for supremacy and the chance to sit pretty at the top of the Premier League table.

A total of 47,367 supporters made the journey to the Emirates to watch Arsenal Women thump Tottenham 4-0 during the men's international break, and if Saturday's contest is anything as lopsided as the Women's Super League version, the 'Gooners' - fans of Arsenal - are in for a treat.

Arsenal ran out 3-0 winners over Brentford September 18 ensuring that they would head into the interna-

A 3-1 Arsenal triumph in this fixture last season means that Spurs have failed to win any of their last 11 North London derbies away from home in the league, but they served their capital counterparts a slice of humble pie with a 3-0 win in May

tional break one point clear of Spurs and Manchester City in first place. Ending a four-game run without a clean sheet was also a sight for Mikel Arteta's sore eyes, as his Arsenal side continue to demonstrate a ruthless streak notably absent in teams gone by, even if their only Big Six clash so far this season ended in a 1-3 defeat to

Manchester United. The hosts have also prevailed in each of their last six Premier League matches at their Emirates headquarters, although they have conceded at least one goal in all of them, and Tottenham's famed attacking line have more than one incentive to silence the home crowd.

After facing countless calls from Tottenham fans to drop the goalless Son Heung-min to the bench due, Antonio Conte's bold move paid dividends against Leicester City, as the South Korea international ended his profligate streak in some style - a 13-minute hat-trick.

The Lilywhites bounced back from their Champions League disappointment at Sporting Lisbon in perfect fashion versus Leicester, but only two of their last seven competitive matches away from home have ended in victory, and the Emirates is not their happiest hunting ground.

SHARMA GETS OFF TO A ROUGH START

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

St Andrews, Sept 30: India's Shubhankar Sharma had a rough start as he carded two-over 74 in the opening round of the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship here.

Sharma was down five over after five holes, but made a valiant attempt thereafter. Teeing up at the Old Course, Sharma had pars on 10th and 11th but then bogeyed 12th and 13th. The Indian then dropped a triple bogey on Par-5. A birdie on 17th was followed by a bogey on second. He then had three birdies on fourth, fifth and seventh to finish at 74.

National Games: Odisha bag 3 medals

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 30: Odisha bagged three medals, including one gold and two bronze, Friday at the 36th National Games 2022 which is being held in different cities in Gujarat.

Odisha captured the gold medal in women's rugby sevens, trouncing Maharashtra 22-0 in the final match. Earlier in the semifinals, Odisha women stunned National champions Bihar 12-10.

Odisha won both the

bronze medals in weightlifting and that too by women. Sneha Soren secured the first medal for the State with a bronze in 49kg class. She lifted 73kg in snatch and 96kg in clean & jerk for a total of 169kg.

Olympic silver medallist Mirabai Chanu (Manipur) grabbed the gold in this weight category, while silver went to Sanjit Chanu (Manipur).

Pramila Krisani gave Odisha the second bronze, finishing third in 55kg

weight category, lifting 70kg in snatch, 97kg in clean & jerk for a total of 167kg. The gold and silver in this weight class were bagged by Ranibala Devi (Manipur) and Veerjeet Kaur (Chandigarh) respectively.

Odisha male weightlifter Muna Nayak secured the silver medal in 61kg class with a total lift of 255kg (snatch 108kg, clean & jerk 147kg). But the medal went to his employer's Services Sports Control Board (SSCB).

Sundargarh boys claim sub-junior hockey title



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: After their successful triumph in the Junior Championship, Sundargarh claimed the first championship title of the Hockey Association of Odisha Sub-Junior Men Hockey Championships 2022 by beating KIIT/KISS University 6-1.

Dhenkanal won the bronze medal by beating Sambalpur 6-1 in the 3rd/4th place match. Over 500 players from 29 teams participated in the championship. The tournament also saw the participation of players from 25 districts across Odisha, which is unprecedented in Odisha hockey history.

The final day also saw the distribution of some individual awards. The best goalkeeper award was given to Vivek Lakra, Sundargarh; best defender was bagged by Rohit Kullu, Dhenkanal; best mid-fielder claimed by Sanjiba Majhi, KIIT/KISS University;

best forward was given to Deepak Pradhan, Sundargarh and player of the tournament was claimed by Bilkan Oram, Sundargarh.

Guests for the finals included Achyuta Samanta, MP and founder KIIT University, Dilip Tirkey, President, Hockey Association of Odisha, Olympian Lajrus Barla, Roshan Minz, International Hockey Player officials from Sports and Youth Services Department, Sailendra Kumar Jena, Joint Secretary to Government and David John, Director Hockey.

Before the start of the closing ceremony, Achyuta Samanta felicitated Dilip Tirkey and congratulated him on becoming the newly elected President of Hockey India.

The selected players from the tournament will be called for a State hockey camp that would make up the Odisha State team competing in the Hockey India National Championships in 2023.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Siraj replaces Bumrah for SA T20Is

NEW DELHI: Mohammed Siraj Friday replaced injured pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah for India's remaining two T20 international matches against the visiting South African team. Bumrah was Thursday ruled out of the upcoming T20 World Cup due to a back stress fracture. "The All-India Senior Selection Committee named Mohammed Siraj as replacement for injured Jasprit Bumrah for the remainder of the T20I series against South Africa," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in the statement Friday. "Bumrah has sustained a back injury and is currently under the supervision of the BCCI Medical Team."

ICC announces T20 WC prize money

DUBAI: The winner of the upcoming men's T20 World Cup is Australia will take home a whopping prize money of USD 1.6 million, the game's governing body ICC announced Friday. The ICC said in a statement that the runner-up side will get half the amount of the winning team's prize purse. The losing semifinalists will each get USD 400,000 from the USD 5.6 million total prize pool. The eight teams who exit at the Super 12 stage will receive USD 70,000 each. "Like last year at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021, a win in each of the 30 games in the Super 12 phase will be worth USD 40,000," the ICC stated.

Provisional dates of MotoGP race

NEW DELHI: MotoGP Friday confirmed that it will race in India from 2023 with provisional dates set at September 22-24, marking the return of a big ticket motorsport event in the country after Formula 1's departure nine years ago. The world's premier two-wheel racing championship will be held at the Buddh International Circuit, which staged Formula 1 from 2011 to 2013. After MotoGP announced that India will become the 31st country to host a motorcycle Grand Prix next year, a provisional calendar was released. India has been listed as the 14th round, to be held in September, in a 21-race calendar. "It's a matter of great pride for Uttar Pradesh to host such a global event. Our government will provide full support to MotoGP Bharat," said UP CM Yogi Adityanath.

Sikki-Kapoor pair enters semifinals

HO CHI MINH CITY: Indian mixed doubles pair of Rohan Kapoor and N Sikki Reddy progressed to the semifinals of the Vitenam Open Super 100 tournament here Friday. The unseeded Indian duo of Sikki and Kapoor stunned third seeds Chan Peng Soon and Cheah Yee See of Malaysia 21-19, 21-17. The duo will face top seeds Rehan Naufal Kusharjanto and Lisa Ayu Kusumawati of Indonesia in the semifinals.

DPPL-202

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

ନାସନାଲ୍ ହେଲ୍ଥ ମିସନ୍

୧ ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୨୦୨୨ ଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ଵେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ ଦିବସ

ଅବସରରେ ସମସ୍ତ ରକ୍ତଦାତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ।

ନବନିର୍ମିତ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷାକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ ପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତିବଦ୍ଧତା

- ୫୫ଟି ସରକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସହ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ସମୁଦାୟ ୮୫ଟି ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ
- ୨୪ଟି ରକ୍ତ ପୃଥକକରଣ ଯୁନିଟ୍
- ୧୧ଟି ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରରେ NAT ଟେଷ୍ଟିଂ ସୁବିଧା
- ଗ୍ରାମାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ରକ୍ତ ଦାନ ଶିବିର ଆୟୋଜନ ପାଇଁ ଭ୍ରାମ୍ୟମାଣ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଯାନର ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା
- ସରକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରକୁ ଆସୁଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ଆଲାସେମିଆ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ବିନା ପଇସାରେ 'ଲ୍ୟୁକୋଫିଲ୍ଟ୍ରେସନ୍' ଚିକିତ୍ସା ସୁବିଧା
- ଆଲାସେମିଆ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କୁ ଡାକ୍ତରଖାନାକୁ ନେବା ଆଣିବା କରିବା ପାଇଁ ମାସକୁ ୫ ଶହ ଟଙ୍କା ସହାୟତା
- ସରକାରୀ ଡାକ୍ତରଖାନାରେ ଚିକିତ୍ସିତ ହେଉଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ରକ୍ତ ଏବଂ ରକ୍ତ ସଞ୍ଚାଳନ ପାଇଁ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ସମସ୍ତ ସୁବିଧା ବିନା ପଇସାରେ ଉପଲବ୍ଧ

ସ୍ଵେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଭାବେ ରକ୍ତ ଦାନ କରନ୍ତୁ । ଅମୂଲ୍ୟ ମାନବ ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷା କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ରକ୍ତଦାନ ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ସଚେତନତା ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବା ଓଡ଼ିଶାବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ସୁସ୍ଥ, ନିରୋଗ ରଖିବା ସୁସ୍ଥ ଓଡ଼ିଶା, ସୁଖୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଗଢ଼ିବା ।

ସାସ୍ତ୍ରୀୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ

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