



PC FACES CRITICISM

Actress Priyanka Chopra attracts criticism on 'activism of convenience' after her post on the Iran protests

LEISURE P2



COLLIDING GALAXIES

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope captures a stunning pair of two interacting galaxies that may collide soon

INTERNATIONAL P10



EVES IN SEMIFINALS

Shafali Verma helps Indian women's cricket team beat Bangladesh by 59 runs and enter semis of Asia Cup

SPORTS P12



IAF UNVEILS NEW DIGITAL COMBAT UNIFORM

Chandigarh: The Indian Air Force (IAF) unveiled Saturday during its 90th anniversary celebrations here, a new combat uniform for its personnel. Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari revealed the first look of what is known as a digital camouflage uniform. Earlier this year, the Indian Army too switched to a digital camouflage uniform for its personnel. "We already have a combat uniform, but the pattern has been changed into something called digital camouflage," an IAF official said. "The new uniform is different from its earlier versions, with pixelated designs replacing the older organic patterns. Most combat forces and militaries the world over have adopted digital camouflage uniforms. The new design pattern allows military personnel to move with greater flexibility irrespective of the nature of the terrain," he added.

MORE P7



EC JOLT FOR THACKERAY, SHINDE

New Delhi: The Election Commission (EC) barred Saturday the Shiv Sena factions led by Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde from using the party name and its election symbol, the bow and arrow in the Andhra East Assembly bypoll. In an interim order over the claims by the rival factions for control of the organisation, the EC asked them to suggest by Monday three different name choices and also as many free symbols for allocation to their respective groups. "The Commission is duty bound to ensure that all electoral steps of the bye election are free of any confusion and contradiction and thus its next step is necessarily agnostic to the possibility of either of the faction participating in the poll," the EC interim order said. The interim order came on the Shinde faction's request seeking it be allocated the symbol in the bypoll.

MORE P7

VANDE BHARAT TURNING INTO 'MISHAP EXPRESS'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The New Delhi-Varanasi 'Vande Bharat Express' was taken out of operation Saturday after it suffered a snag in a traction motor that jammed its wheels and damaged their perfect roundness, a situation officials described as 'flat tire'. This was the third successive day when the much-touted train was involved in some form of accident or snag.

The officials said the semi-high speed train left the New Delhi station at its scheduled time of 6.00am but it had to be withdrawn at Khurja station in Uttar Pradesh, just after travelling about 90 km. All 1,068 passengers had to be de-boarded and shifted to a 'Shatabdi Express' rake brought from Delhi for their onwards journey, which started around 12.40pm.

"Varanasi Vande Bharat rake (Train No. 22436) has suffered a failure due to bearing defect in Traction Motor of C8 coach between Dankaur and Wair stations of North Central Railway," the Railways said in a statement. "The bearing jam was rectified. However, due to development of a flat tire of 80 mm, the train has been moved at a restricted speed of 20 kmph up to Khurja. A detailed investigation of the failure will be done after taking the rake back to maintenance depot," the statement further said.

This is the third day in a row that the Vande Bharat train has been in the news. Earlier, the newly-launched Gandhinagar-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express ran into buffalo and cattle herds Thursday and Friday. In the process the nose of the train suffered damages. "At around 12.40am, all the 1,068 passengers were deboarded and shifted to a Shatabdi Express rake which was brought from Delhi for their onwards journey," an official said. He added that incident will be probed by a panel.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



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Ukraine hits 'Bridge of Hate'

Key Zelenskyy aide states that the attack is just the beginning to take back the Crimean Peninsula which has been illegally occupied by Russia since 2014

AGENCIES



Smoke billows from the portion of the Kerch bridge damaged by a truck bomb

AP PHOTO

Kharkiv, Oct 8: Russian authorities said Saturday that a truck bomb caused a fire and the collapse of a section of a bridge linking Russia-annexed Crimea with Russia. It is a key supply artery for Moscow's faltering war effort in southern Ukraine.

The attack on the bridge comes a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin turned 70, dealing him a humiliating blow that could lead him to up the ante in his war on Ukraine. It could also spur the embattled Russian president to

turn to nuclear weapons. Kyiv straightaway claimed responsibility for the truck explosion that damaged a portion of the Kerch bridge, also referred to as the 'Bridge of Hate'. According to Ukrainian officials the bridge from Russia to Crimea is a 'hated' symbol of the Kremlin's occupation of the southern Ukrainian peninsula.

It is just 'the beginning', President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's aide Mikhail Podoliak said in Kyiv.

"Crimea, the bridge, the beginning. Everything illegal must be destroyed, everything stolen must be returned to Ukraine, everything occupied by Russia must be expelled," Podoliak said in a tweet. Russia's national anti-terrorism

committee said that the truck bomb caused seven railway cars carrying fuel to catch fire, resulting in a 'partial collapse of two sections of the bridge'.

The Crimean Peninsula holds symbolic value for Russia and is the key to sustaining its military operations in the south. The bridge is both highly symbolic to Russia

13 charred to death in Maha

ILL-FATED BUS CATCHES FIRE AFTER HITTING TRUCK, CARGO VAN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Nashik, Oct 8: Thirteen passengers, including a two-year-old child, were charred to death and 43 others injured as a private bus travelling to Mumbai caught fire after hitting a trailer truck in this city of Maharashtra early Saturday, police officials said. The accident took place at Nandur Naka on Nashik-Aurangabad Highway around 5.15am when the sleeper bus was coming from Yavatmal in eastern Maharashtra, they said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives in the bus tragedy and announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased and ₹50,000 each for the injured. Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced a financial assistance of ₹5 lakh to the families of the dead and said the medical expenses of the injured would be borne by the state government.

"A luxury bus travelling to Mumbai from Yavatmal hit a trailer truck going to Pune at an intersec-

tion on Nashik-Aurangabad Highway Soon after ramming into the truck, the bus caught fire in which 12 passengers died and 43 others suffered injuries. One of the injured died in the hospital while undergoing treatment," a police official informed.

Most of the injured persons have been admitted to the District Civil Hospital. Some however, are undergoing treatment in private hospitals, officials informed. Before catching fire, the bus also hit a mini cargo van, due to which the latter got overturned, he added.

Supplementary Budget in Nov

All departments have been asked to submit proposals by October 31

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: The Odisha government has initiated the process for preparation of Supplementary Budget 2022-23. It is likely to be presented before the Assembly in November.

Finance department Principal Secretary Vishal Kumar Dev has issued detailed guidelines for the departments to prepare their supplementary proposals in accordance with the prevailing economic condition. All the departments



have been asked to submit their proposals by October 31.

Informing about the present condition of the state's economy, Dev said, "Despite the challenges of in-

flationary pressures, external spillovers and geopolitical risks, the Indian economy remains on the path of recovery. India's growth would be around seven per cent as per forecasts of different multilateral agencies."

However, Dev pointed out that the growth expectation of Odisha can be pegged at 8 per cent during the 2022-23 fiscal. He informed that Odisha's tax revenue collection till August, 2022 has shown an increase of about 16 per cent.

Continued on P4

Couple booked for torturing 8-yr-old

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Oct 8: A couple in this city has been booked for allegedly torturing their eight-year-old nephew and branding him with a hot iron rod. The couple, the paternal uncle and aunt of the victim were staying in CDA Sector 7 here under Markat Nagar police limits. The boy's maternal grandfather lodged a police complaint Saturday in this regard.

Sources said that the boy's mom had died four years back and his father got married a second time. He was staying with his maternal grandfather and grandmother since then, but recently his uncle and aunt had brought him to their rented accommodation here on the pretext of providing him with better education.

"We came to know about the torture when our grandson visited us during the Dussehra festival. He refused to return to Cuttack. There were injury marks all over his body," the boy's grandmother Baijayanti Rout said.

The victim's aunt Srutibala Sahu, a faculty at the Ashwini School of Nursing however, denied all the allegations. "We have always treated him like our own child even though at times he was very mischievous. We have never tortured him in any manner," Srutibala asserted.

Police have registered a case against the boy's uncle and aunt under Sections 323, 324, 506 and 34 of the IPC and Section 24 of the Juvenile Justice Act and have launched a probe into the matter. The boy has been sent for medical examination.

The victim however, claimed that he was regularly tortured by his aunt and her sister and his uncle. "My uncle used to force me on my knees while my auntie and her sister beat me up," the victim, a Class-III student, told reporters here. "They have used a hot iron rod and a spoon to brand me," he added.

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ARIES
You may be alone, but not necessarily lonely. You may want to listen to your inner voice, and express your true self creatively. Spend the evening with a loved one who can hear the music in your silence too, suggests Ganesh.

TAURUS
Today, you may experience the juxtaposition of pleasure and pain. Household tasks may weigh you down around afternoon. Later in the day, you will be able to achieve whatever you desire solely on account of your determination and mental strength.

GEMINI
You need to pay more attention to yourself today. Your kind and generous nature means you often think about others rather than about yourself. Now is the time to pay attention to your own needs. You need to spend more time with your family and friends as well, says Ganesh.

CANCER
You will secure your place with hard work in your job or business. Ties with partners will improve. Closeness with spouse is indicated. Melody and joy will mark domestic bliss. You will spend the evening with your beloved. Ganesh's blessings are with you.

LEO
The pressure at work will be high. Some person may try to tempt you with lucrative offers to go against your principles. However, you will be able to resist the lure of easy money. Your health may suffer today, so be on guard, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
You will stay calm and steady today, and there is hardly anything that can disturb your peace of mind. Your family and friends will back you fully and motivate you to overcome hurdles. You will work with devotion, says Ganesh. You may ask for work that others may find very difficult to do.

LIBRA
Ganesh says people will try to take advantage of your amiable nature and disposition. Small issues will crop up today making your nature a little tensed and enhance your anger too. You will be inspired to take chances in monetary matters. Ganesh says you need to keep your mind steady and regain your lost charm soon.

SCORPIO
Your imagination runs wild today. Though you do not travel geographically, your mind travels beyond boundaries. Think and act according to your will, advises Ganesh. However, practice caution before taking any major step.

SAGITTARIUS
You will be loaded with responsibilities at work today, fore sees Ganesh. But, you are pro challenges and will take it up sportingly. On personal front, the list of your friends is likely to get longer. All in all, Ganesh sees you in an active avatar today.

CAPRICORN
Don't let your emotions play a spoilsport while deciding about the future. Think practically, otherwise, your expectations and reality will not be on the same boat, guides Ganesh. Friendly and supportive, today you will spread happiness and win the love of one and all. Whenever you get confused about which path to take, take advice from the experienced people around you.

AQUARIUS
Set any target, take up any activity or accept any challenge; you will succeed in any of them with flying colours, foresees Ganesh. Your well-wishers will shower praises upon you for those hard earned achievements. Friends are like family to you, take them out and have a gala time before another busy day begins.

PISCES
You will be busy with romance throughout the day. While singles are likely to find the person of their dreams, those who are married will establish a new closeness in their relationship. Your attitude towards work will begin to change.



KEVIN FACES NY JURY IN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE

Kevin Spacey appeared in a New York court on to face an accusation by fellow actor Anthony Rapp that he was sexually abused by the actor as a minor. Discovery star Rapp (50) filed a complaint against Spacey in 2020

KINGSLEY SET TO STAR IN SCREEN ADAPTATION OF 'VIOLENT CASES'

Ben Kingsley, Oscar and Grammy winning English actor has been signed to star in a feature film adaptation of 'Violent Cases'. This will be the first ever graphic novel from Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean, reports



Priyanka draws flak for her Iran stand

Mumbai: Actress Priyanka Chopra receives flak for 'activism of convenience' after post on Iran protest; Twitterati say actress ignores similar issues rampant in India. Priyanka made headlines when she lent her support to the "courageous women" of Iran and encouraged everyone to "add your voice to this critical movement."

While many in India have lauded the actress for taking a stand, there were many others who asked, "Has anyone heard Priyanka Chopra speak up on any pressing issue in India?"

Priyanka Chopra encourages more people to join Iran's women protestors; says "I am in awe of your courage and your purpose"

Calling the actress a 'hypocrite' for not speaking up during the hijab row in the country, another trending tweet read, "@priyankachopra your activism of convenience is pukeworthy. This means nothing when you choose to look away from the plight of hijabi women in India who are denied education for wearing a piece of cloth over their head, harassed by hindutva goons and state. You are a Hypocrite!"

Another said, "Priyanka Chopra's concern for Iranian women is hugely appreciated, but her silence on Bilkis Bano and the state enabled persecution of Muslims, especially marginalised women in her home country, India is worth introspection."



Film sets carved the artiste in me: Devgn

Mumbai: Actor Ajay Devgn shared that having grown up on film sets has armed him up with various skills of filmmaking. From being an actor, director to producer, Ajay Devgn is known for donning multiple hats. In 2008, he directed and produced 'U Me Aur Hum', he also produced and acted in 'Raju Chacha' and in 2022 he directed 'Runway 34' which is inspired from an incident of a flight from Doha to Kochi in 2015.



The actor said, "I have grown up on film sets, from assisting to handling the camera, from editing to taking up small tasks on the sets. These experiences have contributed to the kind of artiste I have transformed into today. As an actor, I've always liked the challenges." IANS

Kalki, Deepti team up for movie on dementia

Los Angeles: Indian actresses Kalki Koechlin and Deepti Naval will star in the upcoming film 'Goldfish' directed by cinematographer Pushan Kripalani. The film will explore the subject of dementia. The film follows the story of Anamika, a half-Indian half-English

woman, who returns home to the UK, to deal with her mother's dementia and the scars of her childhood.

"It's very difficult to make independent cinema, as it does not get funded easily and so it's taken me this long to get to make this film. I

feel that dealing with larger questions is only possible by examining the smaller parts of human relationships. I feel that my job is to further the human conversation and this was a wonderful way to attempt to do that, Kripalani said.

"Dementia is also going to be one of the greatest concerns in the next decade or two. I think everybody will soon have if they haven't already had a contact with someone with this condition," Kripalani added. IANS



Isha reveals her fitness mantra

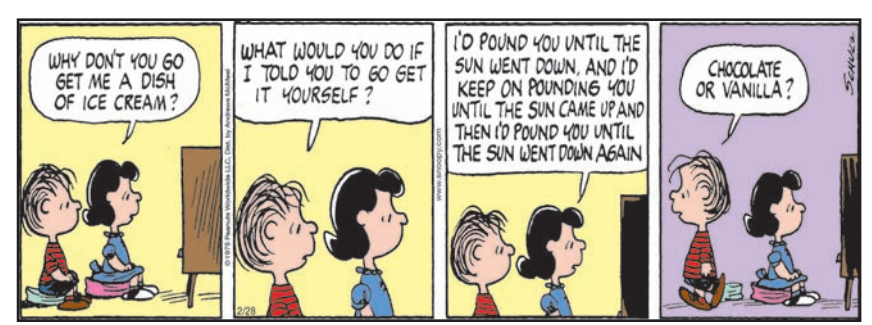
Mumbai: Actress Isha Koppikar, who's particular about her workouts, shares hers. The last part of the year is always full with parties, events and of course festivities. While there is no escaping the food and delicious traditional sweets. She says, "I think it's all about finding balance. While I love all sweets that we make during this time, I ensure I don't pack in the extra sugar and I also do more than 10K steps every day to stay fit." I love the entire aura that the festival brings'.

The Krishna Cottage actress admits she loves the whole vibe at this time. "My fave part of the festive season would be the entire aura that the festival brings.

Decorating the house, cleaning up and removing the unwanted stuff from the house and even our minds is what holds priority for everyone. People are dressing up, they make rangolis, etc - I love that, too," she admits.



PEANUTS



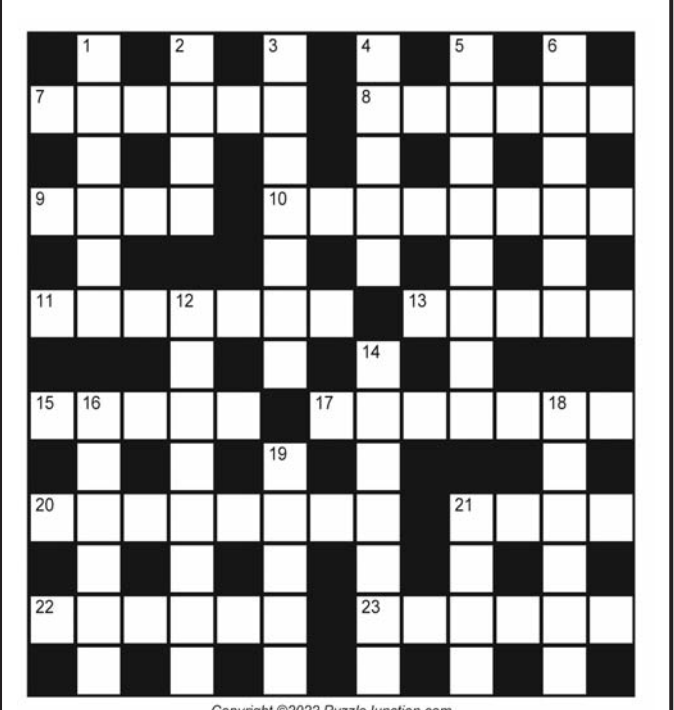
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



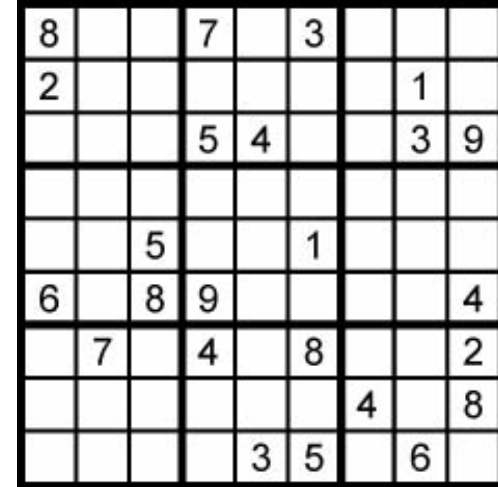
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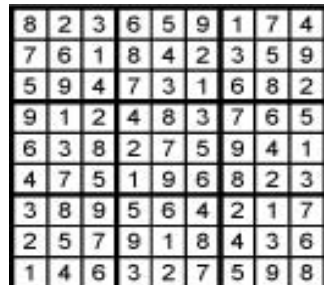
- Across**
- 7 Brow feature, at times
 - 8 Furnish
 - 9 Compassion
 - 10 Irish stout
 - 11 Prevails
 - 13 Silenus, e.g.
 - 15 Question
 - 17 Saltwater lake (4,3)
 - 20 Below decks area
- Down**
- 21 Mozart's "Madamina," e.g.
 - 22 Esophagus
 - 23 Emergency
 - 1 Podiatrist's concern
 - 2 Heavy cart
 - 3 Bluster
 - 4 Old Roman port
 - 5 Don Quixote, e.g.
 - 6 Melting snow woe
 - 12 Bumbershoot
 - 14 Mother of Jacob and Esau
 - 16 Get away, maybe
 - 18 Magical drink
 - 19 Appetizing
 - 21 Zealous

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



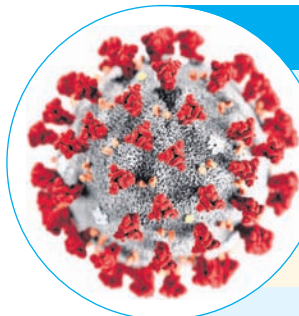
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown



COURTESY VISIT

Indian Super League side Odisha FC hand over a signed jersey to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at his residence in Bhubaneswar



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	62,62,33,155	60,57,38,158	65,59,992
India	4,46,09,257	4,40,51,228	5,28,778
Odisha	13,34,787	13,24,912	9,199

Acid attack on Cuttack youth

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Oct 8: A 20-year-old youth sustained severe burn injuries following acid attack on him over past enmity at Balubazar here, Saturday.

The victim was identified as Satyaban Sahu of Balubazar area. On being informed, Lalbag police rushed to the spot and sent

Sahu to a hospital. Lalbag police station IIC Rabimarayan Bhanja said, "We received information around 12 O' clock in the noon that a painter at work was attacked with acid over past enmity. A police team visited the spot and enquired about the matter, but we have not received any complaint in this regard so far." The youth has been hospitalised, he added.

"We will take action against the accused once we receive a complaint," the IIC said.

Mangaraj appointed as member of Parl panel

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 8: In a recent reconstitution of the various Parliamentary panels, Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Rajya Sabha MP Manas Mangaraj has been appointed as a member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.

This apart, BJD MPs like Sulata Deo, Niranjana Bishi and Sasmit Patra have been appointed as members of other standing committees. While Deo has been appointed as a member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, Bishi has been picked for Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

Likewise, Sasmit Patra has been appointed as a member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas.

BJD's Rajya Sabha members Prashanta Nanda, Amar Patnaik, Sujeet Kumar, Muzibulla Khan

Sulata Deo, Niranjana Bishi and Sasmit Patra have been appointed as members of other standing committees

and Mamata Mohanta have also been allocated various committees. Nanda has been appointed the member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways while Patnaik got the membership in Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance.

Similarly, Sujeet Kumar has been appointed as a member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home, Muzibulla Khan - Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Mamata Mohanta Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

Notably, Parliamentary standing committees are significant as they review the functioning of ministries.



LAXMI PUJA TODAY: An artisan gives finishing touches to a clay idol of Goddess Laxmi in Kalpana area of Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

Food, crude, weak ₹ fuel inflation

India's retail inflation, which touched 7% in August, has been beyond the RBI's tolerance limit of 6% for 8 months in a row

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 8: Inflation in India has been on the rise consistently for the past several months and various reasons can be attributed to it such as soaring food and oil prices, among others.

However, most importantly, the sharply depreciating rupee against the dollar is one of the most significant reasons behind it.

India's retail inflation rose to 7 per cent in August from 6.71 per cent in July and this was due to higher food prices. In fact, retail inflation has been beyond the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance limit of 6 per cent for eight months in a row.

A rise in food prices has led to a spike in retail inflation and this is evident from the fact that inflation in food basket was 7.62 per cent in August, up from 6.69 per cent in July, and more than double from 3.11 per cent in August 2021.

Earlier this year, crude oil price had touched \$130 a barrel. However,



THE VICIOUS CIRCLE

Oil prices may rise again as OPEC+, the group of oil-producing nations, has decided to cut down oil production

As crude oil prices start to rise, imports will also go up, which in turn will widen the current account deficit (CAD)

Widening CAD will further weaken the rupee, as in the face of widening deficit, the country will be forced to sell rupee and buy dollars. A weak rupee has fuelled inflation in India

in September; it slid to less than \$85 per barrel. But now they may rise again as OPEC+, the group of oil-producing nations, has decided to cut down oil production.

Rising oil prices directly impact inflation in India. This can be gauged from the fact that India imports more than 85 per cent of its oil requirement.

As crude oil prices start to rise,

imports will also go up, which in turn will widen the current account deficit (CAD).

Widening CAD will further weaken the rupee, as in the face of widening deficit, the country will be forced to sell rupee and buy dollars.

A weak rupee has fuelled inflation in India.

The RBI September 30 had decided to hike the repo rate by 50

basis points to 5.4 per cent and focus on withdrawal of accommodation to keep inflation within tolerance limits.

In order to control inflation, the RBI has been hiking repo rates since May this year.

Last week, the central bank had also retained its retail inflation forecast for the current financial year at 6.7 per cent.

More skeletons tumble out of Archana's closet

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: Although the twin city Commissionerate Police is tightlipped on the arrest of Archana Nag, a viral video purportedly featuring the 25-year-old woman striking a deal with a prospective client in a hotel here sheds light on her modus operandi to honey-trap the bigwigs.

The video also shows another woman with Archana during the negotiation. Except for Archana, neither of the two—the other woman and the prospective client—could be identified.

Sources said that Archana's husband Jagabandhu Chand used to live a lavish life with the money extorted from the bigwigs.

A senior police official, requesting anonymity, said that Jagabandhu has lent out crores of rupees at high rate of interest.

"Jagabandhu has invested a huge chunk of the extorted money in a used car showroom near Puri-Bhubaneswar bypass and sand

mining on Kuakhai riverbed," said the official, adding that Jagabandhu, his brother and four of their friends were actively involved in sextortion.

Meanwhile, Jagabandhu's Facebook profile claims him to be a worker of a political party.

Several telephonic queries to senior police officials on the issue went unanswered.

Notably, Archana was arrested for her alleged involvement in the blackmailing of several high-profile political leaders and officials in the Capital city.

Archana along with her husband has been residing at a multi-storey building at Satya Vihar under Mancheswar police limits here.

The cops who carried out a raid at Archana's residence here Thursday were left awestruck after coming across the luxurious interior of the building. The couple also owns several expensive vehicles including Toyota Fortuner, BMW and a Harley Davidson motorcycle.



BALIYATRA PREP: Electricity connection to Baliyatra Lower Ground in progress in Cuttack, Saturday, as the Silver city is bracing for a curbs-free maritime fair after two years of Covid-19 pandemic

OP PHOTO

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRDS DAY

Naveen reaffirms pledge to protect coastal habitats

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: On the occasion of World Migratory Birds Day, Saturday, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik reaffirmed the government's commitment to preserve the state's unique coastal habitats to welcome the birds. He also asked people to minimise light pollution, which is crucial to bird migration.

Through his Twitter account, Patnaik said, "Billions of birds migrate across the globe every year signifying our connected world. On World Migratory Bird Day, let's join the global pledge to minimise light pollution and reaffirm commitment to protect Odisha's unique coastal habitats to welcome these winged guests."

Fewer migratory birds came to Chilika Lake, the biggest waterfowl habitat in India, this winter as compared to the previous year, according to the annual bird census carried out in the lake January 4, 2022.

The census found that the lake hosted as many as 10,74,173 birds of 183 species this winter. These included 10,36,220 migratory birds of 107 species and 37,953 resident birds of 76 wetland-dependent species.

Chilika had hosted a record 12,42,826 birds of 190 species last winter. That included 12,04,351 migratory birds of 111 species and 38,475 wetland-dependent birds of 79 species.

The 15.53 sq km Nalabana bird sanctuary area in the lake hosted the highest congregation of 3,58,000 birds of 97 different species this time. It had recorded 4,06,000 birds of 114 species last winter.

Ultrasound can now move, break up kidney stones

THE TECHNIQUE COMBINES THE USE OF TWO ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGIES TO OFFER AN OPTION TO MOVE KIDNEY STONES OUT OF THE URETER WITH MINIMAL PAIN AND NO ANAESTHESIA

A simple ultrasound technique can be used to move, reposition or break up kidney stones, all while the patient is awake, a new study has revealed.

The technique combines the use of two ultrasound technologies to offer an option to move kidney stones out of the ureter with minimal pain and no anaesthesia, according to doctors from University of Washington School of Medicine (UW Medicine).

In the procedure, the physician uses a handheld transducer placed on the skin to direct ultrasound waves towards the stone.

The ultrasound can then be used to move and reposition the stones to promote their passage, a process called ultrasound propulsion, or to break up the stone, a technique called burst wave lithotripsy (BWL).

Unlike shock wave lithotripsy, which is the standard procedure now in use and requires sedation, this technology doesn't hurt, said lead author Dr M Kennedy Hall, an emergency medicine doctor at UW Medicine.

"It's nearly painless, and you can do it while the patient is awake, and without sedation, which is critical," Hall said.

The research team hopes that, with this new technology, the procedure of moving or breaking up the stones could eventually be performed in a clinic or emergency room setting.

Stones in the ureter, which leads from the kidney to the bladder, can cause severe pain and are a com-



IN THE PROCEDURE, THE PHYSICIAN USES A HANDHELD TRANSDUCER PLACED ON THE SKIN TO DIRECT ULTRASOUND WAVES TOWARDS THE STONE

THE ULTRASOUND CAN THEN BE USED TO MOVE AND REPOSITION THE STONES TO PROMOTE THEIR PASSAGE, A PROCESS CALLED ULTRASOUND PROPULSION, OR TO BREAK UP THE STONE, A TECHNIQUE CALLED BURST WAVE LITHOTRIPSY

mon reason for emergency department visits.

Most patients with ureteral stones are advised to wait to see if the stone will pass on its own.

However, this observation period can last for weeks, with nearly one-fourth of patients eventually requiring surgery, Hall noted.

Twenty-nine patients participated in the new study. Sixteen were treated with propulsion alone and 13 with propulsion and burst wave lithotripsy. In 19 patients, the stones moved.

In two cases, the stones moved out of the ureter and into the bladder.

Burst wave lithotripsy fragmented the stones in seven of the cases. At a two-week follow up, 18 of 21 patients (86 per cent) whose stones were located lower in the ureter, closer to the bladder, had passed their stones.

In this group, the average time to stone passage was about four days, the study noted.

One of these patients felt "immediate relief" when the stone was dislodged from the ureter, the study stated.

PTI

Continued from P1

Ukraine hits 'bridge of hate'

Russia opened the first part of the span to car traffic in May 2018. The parallel bridge for rail traffic opened the following year. The USD 3.6-billion project is a tangible symbol of Moscow's claims on Crimea.

Zelensky and other members of his team meanwhile said that Ukraine will use force to retake Crimea, which overwhelmingly voted to reunite with Russia in a referendum in 2014, 'RT News' reported.

Even though Russian officials tried to downplay the damage, video footage taken from the road span appeared to show fires burning fiercely in several wagons along the length of the train, numbering at least half a dozen with the train stationary on the bridge, 'The Guardian' reported.

Supplementary Budget in Nov

The total expenditure (other than debt servicing) till August, 2022 is 24 per cent of the Budget Estimates, 2022-23 compared to 28 per cent previous year, he added.

Dev said the state government's mid-term still is to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) through faster reduction of poverty, increasing farmers' income by crop diversification and direct benefit transfers, providing piped drinking water to all, providing quality and affordable health care facilities, enabling quality education and skill development, and providing quality physical infrastructure for improving economic activities.

Dev said the Odisha government is in mission mode to empower women in every sphere of economic activities and also provide quality primary education at village level, so that the state can achieve an inclusive growth.

Though there is availability of additional fiscal space for more borrowing during the 2022-23 fiscal, the facility would be used at the appropriate time to fund the development expenditure requirements of the state, Dev informed.

However, the expenditure relating to livelihood and completion of the ongoing capital expenditure projects are to be assessed by the departments in a holistic manner, so that economic activities in Odisha will get the required boost, pointed out the principal secretary.

The government departments have been asked to recoup the advance taken from Odisha Contingency Fund (OCF) in the supplementary budget.

Dev also informed that the proposals involving additional requirements under units, where expenditure till September, 2022 is less than 40 per cent of budget provision, will not be considered for inclusion under the supplementary budget for the year 2022-23.

Body of missing Bhadrak youth found



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhadrak, Oct 8: The body of a 22-year-old man, who went missing during the immersion of Durga idols in Salandi river in Odisha's Bhadrak district, was found Friday, police said.

Two men were swept away in the river Thursday night during the immersion of idols, they said.

While one of them was rescued by villagers immediately, the other person could not be found. Rescue teams of ODRAF and Fire Services found his body Friday evening.

The deceased was identified as Ramananda Sahu, a resident of Janaganj village, said Bhadrak's tehsildar Madhusudan Nayak. Bidyasarathi Nayak, 22, was rescued by the villagers of Baudapur, nearly 400 metres away from the ghat.



YOGA COMPETITION: Participants during a Yoga competition organised by Odisha Yoga Association on the premises of Kalinga Gymnasium at Choudhury Bazar in Cuttack, Saturday

Rainfall warning for 22 districts

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: Predicting heavy rainfall and thunderstorm, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Friday issued yellow warning for 22 districts of the state for Sunday.

According to bulletin of IMD's Bhubaneswar Centre, heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Gajapati, Ganjam, Puri while thun-



derstorm with lightning would occur at few places of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Gajapati, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar,

Dhenkanal, Kandhamal, Rayagada, Angul, Koraput and Malkangiri districts. However, no warning has been issued for the next three days till October 12. The Met department said light to moderate rain/thundershower is very likely to occur in many places over several districts.

In between 8:30am and 5:30pm of Saturday, highest 32.4 mm rainfall recorded at Bargarh, followed by 16 mm at Daringbadi, 10 mm

each at Titlagarh and Talcher, 9.2 mm at Gopalpur, 6.2 mm at Paralakhemundi and 3 mm at Angul.

As per IMD, the cyclonic circulation over northern parts of Madhya Maharashtra and neighbourhood now lies over Gujarat Region and neighbourhood. Similarly, the cyclonic circulation over central parts of south Bay of Bengal persists and is now seen between 1.5 km and 5.8 km above mean sea level.

State logs 82 new Covid-19 cases

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: The state's Covid-19 tally rose to 13,34,787 Saturday as 82 more people, including 10 children, tested positive for the infection, a health department bulletin said.

The death toll remained at 9,199 as no new fatality due to the disease was reported in the last 24 hours, it said. Besides, 53 other coronavirus patients have died due to comorbidities so far, the bulletin said.

Odisha now has 623 active cases, while 13,24,912 patients have recovered from the disease, including 176 in the last 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was at 0.93 per cent as fresh cases were detected from 8,840 sample tests.

Meanwhile India Saturday logged

2,797 fresh Covid-19 infections that pushed its tally to 4,46,09,257, while the number of active cases dropped below 30,000 after 122 days, according to Union health ministry data. The toll due to the viral disease climbed to 5,28,778 with 24 fatalities, including 12 deaths reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8am stated.

There are 29,251 active Covid-19 cases in India which comprise 0.07 per cent of the total infections. The national recovery rate has increased to 98.75 per cent, the ministry said. A decline of 1,111 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.05 per cent. The weekly positivity rate was recorded at 1.30 per cent, the ministry said.



AFTER IMMERSION: Heaps of garbage strewn near Kuakhai temporary ponds following the immersion of idols in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

Air pollution now linked to deadly health risks: Study

From dementia to altering brain structure in kids, from sudden heart attacks to autism risk - the health impact of long-term exposure to air pollution is not just respiratory illnesses, as several new studies have documented this year alone.

These new investigations raise a fresh alarm for the governments and agencies in India to fast-track their efforts to safeguard the population from air pollution.

Exposure to above-average levels of outdoor air pollution increases the risk of death by 20 per cent, and the risk of death from cardiovascular disease by 17 per cent, according to a team of researchers, including one of Indian origin.

The study, published in the journal 'PLOS ONE' in June, showed that using wood or kerosene-burning stoves, not properly ventilated through a chimney, to cook food or heat the home also increases the overall risk of death (by 23 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively) and cardiovascular death risk (by 36 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively).

"Our study highlights the role that key environmental factors of

indoor/outdoor air pollution, access to modern health services, and proximity to noisy, polluted roadways play in all causes of death, and deaths from cardiovascular disease in particular," said researcher Rajesh Vedanthan from NYU Langone Health.

In a first-of-its-kind study, published in the peer-reviewed journal 'Environmental Pollution' in September, researchers linked exposure to air pollutants like particulate matter PM2.5 - particularly in the first five years of life starting from the womb - and alterations in the brain structure that may put children at psychiatric and cognitive disorder risks later in life.

The study, led by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), found an association in children aged 9-12, between exposure to air pollutants in the womb and during the first 8.5 years of life and alterations in white matter structural connectivity in the brain.

Abnormal white matter microstructure has been associated with psychiatric disorders (depressive symptoms, anxiety and autism spectrum disorders).



Exposure to above-average levels of outdoor air pollution increases the risk of death by 20 per cent, and the risk of death from cardiovascular disease by 17 per cent, according to a team of researchers

The study found exposure to any level of four common air pollutants - fine particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide - could quickly trigger the onset of acute coronary syndrome (ACS)

In April, China-based researchers claimed that exposure to air pollutants - even at levels below World Health Organization (WHO) air quality guidelines - may trigger a heart attack within an hour.

The study, published in the American Heart Association's journal 'Circulation', found exposure to any level of four common air pol-

lutants - fine particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide - could quickly trigger the onset of acute coronary syndrome (ACS).

ACS is an umbrella term describing any situation in which blood supplied to the heart muscle is blocked, such as in a heart attack or unstable angina, chest pain

High academic performance by KISS students

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: The world's largest residential tribal institution, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) has always excelled in various fields due to the proper care of students and a conducive educational environment.

This year the students of KISS have achieved high academic performance. Four KISS students have succeeded in Odisha Civil Services Examination.

They are Raimat Tudu, Mantu Khamari, Hemant Puta and Nilamadhav Patra. Raimat Tudu come from Mayurbhanj district, Mantu and Hemant come from Balangir district and Nilamadhav come from Kalahandi district and studied in KISS.

This year, a total of 392 candidates have passed the Odisha Civil Services Exam, including four students of KISS.

Apart from this, 25 students of KISS have qualified for the National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribes (NFST) for the year 2021-22, the results of which were announced today. Each successful candidate will receive a fellowship of Rs. 35,000/- per month from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), New Delhi.

Similarly, 17 KISS students have succeeded in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), while 3 students cleared JEE Advanced.

Founder of KISS, Achyuta Samanta has always striven to



THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 392 CANDIDATES HAVE PASSED THE ODISHA CIVIL SERVICES EXAM, INCLUDING FOUR STUDENTS OF KISS

provide quality education to students. From time to time appropriate training and coaching are given for the overall development of these students with the advice of Samanta. These students have been consistently achieving success in academics, sports, and employment.

The students who have achieved success in various academic fields this year thanked the authorities and expressed their gratitude to the founder Samanta. This success brings glory to not only KISS, but the entire tribal community.

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Admin braces to reclaim Lord Gopinathjew's land

Nayagarh admin has set October 26 as the deadline for receiving public grievances on the encroachment issue



Meanwhile, a notification to this effect was issued, by the Endowment department stating that the land of Lord Gopinath Jew will be made free of encroachment and be handed over to the executive officer of the Endowment department of Nayagarh.

The administration has set October 26 as deadline for receiving public grievances on the issue. Various quarters have demanded immediate step to reclaim the land.

As per reports, the Autonomous College has grabbed 9 acre and 48 decimal of land. A girls' hostel of the college has been set up on a part of the land while a cashew forest has come up on another portion of the land.

Contacted, Principal of Nayagarh Autonomous College Suresh Kumar Pradhan said that 7.50 acre of Lord's land is part of the college.

"The Endowment department leased out the land to the college. In 2013, the lease was cancelled and a case was filed at the court. We have kept the land of the Lord in safe custody. Otherwise, the land would have been sold a long time ago," he added.

Notably, the delay on the part of the administration in reclaiming land had triggered resentment among people.

Taking note of the public resentment on alleged inaction of the administration in reclaiming the land, former sub-collector Manas Ranjan Debata had moved a petition (253/2011) in 2011 at the court of Hindu Religious Endowment Commission, appealing for removal of encroachment by Nayagarh Autonomous College from Lord's land. Sub-collector Dillip Kumar Sahu had also moved a petition (OA case no-154/2016) at the same court in 2016.

The hearing of the two cases was finally held after a long time.



FAVOURITE PASTIME: Children enjoy playing with a ball provided by the district administration after they were rehabilitated with their family members on Hatimunda school premises under Daringbadi block in Kandhamal district following landslides in Kumaripadar village

Woman chops off hubby's genitals, kills him

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jajpur, Oct 8: A 33-year-old woman allegedly chopped off the genitals of her husband before stabbing him to death in Jajpur district, police said Saturday.

The incident took place at Pubola Mundaasahi village Friday night. The deceased has been identified as Raju Champia (39) of the village, police said.

The accused woman, identified as Kuni Champia, allegedly murdered her husband with a sharp weapon late Friday night. She

also chopped off her husband's genitals and threw them on the spot before fleeing from the scene, the police said.

The incident came to light after some local people found the body with multiple injury marks lying in an isolated place near Rungurunga canal Saturday morning. The locals then immediately informed the Sukinda police station about the incident.

A police team seized the body. During the inquest the police found that the genitals of the body were chopped off and the private part was lying near the body.

Meanwhile, the family members of the deceased have lodged a complaint with Sukinda police station alleging that Raju was killed by his wife. In his complaint with the police, the deceased's younger brother, Jayiram Champia said that Raju had married Kuni Champia of Karadagadia Jharanasahi after his first wife left him three years ago.

After his second marriage, Raju was staying at his in-law's house with his wife Kuni in Karadagadia village. Raju had come to his native Pubola village with his wife Friday. "On Friday night the accused

picked up a quarrel with my brother over some domestic issue. The quarrel continued till late at night and later my brother went to sleep. The accused then chopped off his genitals and killed him with a sharp weapon. She dumped the body and the chopped genitals in an isolated place and fled from the scene," said Jayiram in his complaint.

Sukinda Police station Inspector in Charge Kabuli Charan Barik said police have launched a manhunt to nab the culprit. A case has been registered in connection and further investigation is underway, he said.

MISAPPROPRIATION OF MADHUBABU PENSION

Probe to intensify after 3 officials sacked

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nabarangpur, Oct 8: Amid allegations about irregularities in disbursement of pension funds under social security scheme, three officials were sacked from service in Chandahandi and Dabugaon blocks of Nabarangpur district.

Collector Kamal Lochan Mishra has dismissed social security officer-in-charge of Chandahandi block Prakash Chandra Dhali, programme assistant of the same block Dharmendra Sahu and block social security officer-in-charge of Dabugaon block Atanu Dehuri. Significantly, after such irregularities came to the fore, the administration has decided to look into disbursement of pension money to beneficiaries in last several months in the two blocks.



Reports said, pension money was credited into the bank accounts of beneficiaries of Madhubabu Pension Scheme in September. However, these officials had credited the pension money of some of the beneficiaries into accounts of their family members. These beneficiaries deprived of their entitlements

were upset and fuming.

Acting on the allegations about the irregularities, district social security officer Sudhansu Patra looked into the matter. The preliminary investigation revealed that social security officer-in-charge of Chandahandi block Prakash Chandra Dhali had misappropriated ₹42,500 and his

Dabugaon block counterpart Atanu Dehuri had embezzled ₹93,000. Chandahandi additional social security officer Dharmendra Sahu was complicit in such irregularities.

The preliminary investigation report was submitted to the collector who took prompt action against the errant officials.

After such irregularities came to the fore, the administration has decided to investigate if the funds sanctioned in the months other than September have also been misappropriated in the two blocks.

It was earlier alleged that the block social security officers did not send in time the monthly official details about pension disbursement to the office of the district social security officer.

Grooming sports talent in Keonjhar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Oct 8: The district administration has initiated steps for promotion of sports in Keonjhar. It has set up a sports academy at Barbil to train youths of mineral bearing areas like Joda and Barbil, who are interested in Wushu and kick boxing.

All necessary arrangements for their training on the two sporting activities have been put in place at the academy. The fund has been allocated by the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) for the academy which has come up on 10,000 sq ft area.

Initially, 150 youths of mining affected areas are receiving training. They have been chosen from



Fund for building a sports academy spread over 10K sq ft area has been sanctioned by District Mineral Foundation

among the youths who have taken part in Khelo India scheme, National Wushu championship-2020, Youth Asian Games-2021 and sub-Junior Wushu national competition.

Significantly, Bablu Munda, who has bagged silver at the World Wushu Championship-2020 in Brazil was made part of the training here.

Keonjhar Collector Ashish Thakare said that such sports academy is aimed at developing and grooming sports talent and the mineral bearing areas. The academy is expected to produce sportspersons in Wushu and kick boxing who will do the state proud by their spectacular performance at the state and national level competitions.

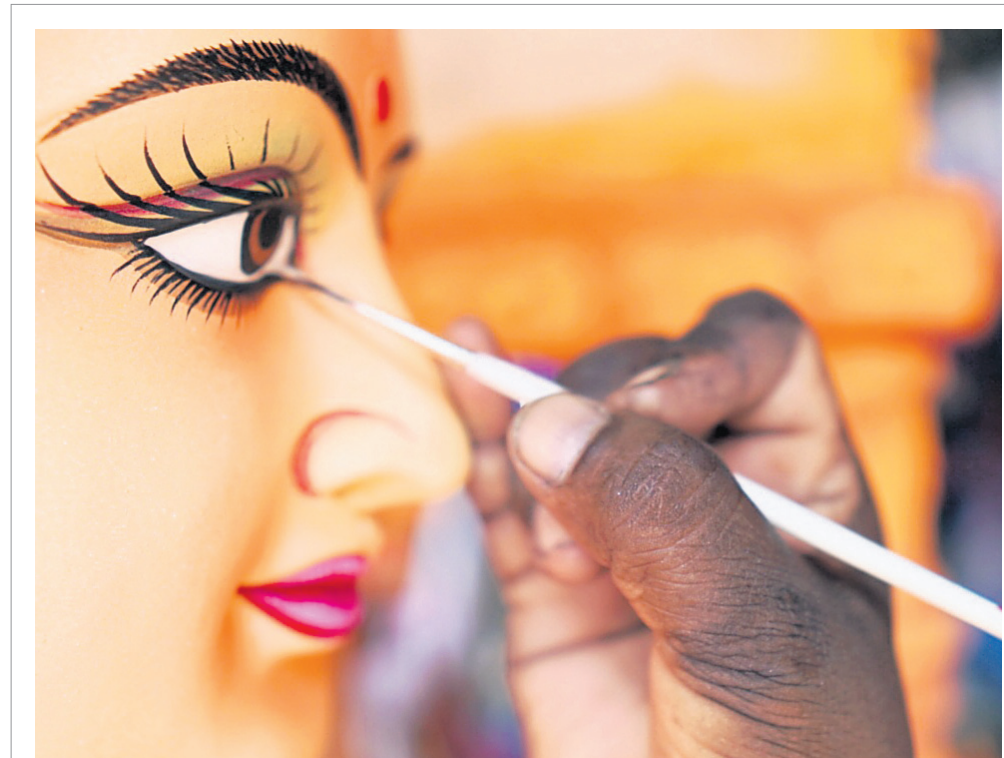
Woman accountant siphons off teachers' salary worth ₹39 lakh

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatna, Oct 8: A woman accountant at the office of Bhawanipatna Sadar Block Education Officer (BEO) in Kalahandi district went absconding after allegedly transferring over ₹39 lakh meant for the payment of salaries to teachers to her personal account.

The matter came to the fore after the BEO Thakur Sahu lodged a complaint at the Town police station in Bhawanipatna, Friday. The BEO in his complaint has alleged that the woman accountant has transferred around ₹39,30,468 towards one month salary of ex-cadre teachers and other allowances to her personal bank account.

Meanwhile, the accused accountant identified as Suchismita Suar went absconding leaving behind her scooter parked in the office. Town police registered a case and started an investigation, IIC Pradip Dharua said.



FINAL BRUSHSTROKE: A sculptor gives finishing touches to an idol of Goddess Lakshmi on the eve of annual Lakshmi Puja in Angul, Saturday

BJD holds 'Jansampark Padyatra' in Dhamnagar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhamnagar, Oct 8: Though the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) has not yet announced the name of its nominee for the Dhamnagar Assembly by-poll, party leaders have started holding hectic parleys at the grassroots level for victory of the party candidate. Nomination filing has started since Friday for the by-poll.

The ruling party organised a 'Jansampark Padyatra' Saturday at Dohal panchayat to strike rapport with people to ensure victory of the party candidate. The BJD leaders called upon people to elect the party nominee in the upcoming bypoll so that various developmental works in the constituency will be carried forward.

BJD workers and many state leaders started the 'Jansampark Padyatra' from Bada Bazaar and took round of several villages in the afternoon. A meeting was held at Sodha village where BJD leaders garlanded the statue of former



BJD leaders highlighted various welfare measures and developmental works being done by the state government

Chief Minister Biju Patnaik.

Excise Minister Ashwini Patra, party's district observer, Dharmasala MLA Pranab Balabantray, Rajya Sabha MP Munna Khan, Bhadrak MP Manjulata Mandal, Bhadrak MLA Sanjib Kumar Mallik,

Bhandaripokhari MLA Prafulla Samal, former MLAs of Dhamnagar Rajendra Kumar Das, Mukhtikant Mandal and scores of sarpanchs, samiti members and zilla parishad members addressed the meeting. They highlighted various welfare measures and developmental works being done by the state government. They dwelt upon how the welfare measures and development works have induced positive changes in the rural areas.

The BJD leaders exhorted people to vote in favour of the party candidate in the by-election to Dhamnagar Assembly seat.

Woman beaten to death by son for not serving chicken

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhanjanagar, Oct 8: A woman was beaten to death by his son allegedly for not serving chicken curry during dinner at Gajapadar village under Tarsingh police limits in Ganjam district, Friday night.

The deceased was identified as Triveni Nayak of the village. On being informed, police sent the body for post-mortem and detained the deceased's son Sana Nayak, Saturday. Sources said Sana often used to come home drunk and beat up his mother and wife after picking up fights. Fed up, his wife left

for her parents' house a few months back while his elderly mother went to stay with her brother-in-law at Nabarangpur.

The incident occurred after the woman returned to the village, four days back. Sana again came home drunk and asked his mother to serve him chicken or egg curry for dinner. The woman expressed her inability due to rain in the area. Enraged, Sana picked up a lathi and beat up his mother to death. A case has been registered in this connection while the youth will be arrested after completion of interrogation, IIC PK Das said.

Forest dept installs hanging solar fence in Joda

POST NEWS NETWORK

Joda, Oct 8: In a bid to ward off elephants from facing accidents on railway tracks, the Forest department has installed a hanging solar fence along a 750-metre railway track on both sides of the railway crossing at Jurudi Creche Hutting in Joda forest range of Keonjhar district.

Keonjhar Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Dhanraj HD and Joda Block chairman Kabindra Nayak inaugurated the hanging solar fence on the last day of National Wildlife Week Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, the

DFO said, "This is the first such hanging solar fence in Odisha. The wires have been fixed at such a height that when an elephant comes in contact, it will receive an electric shock of 10,000 volts for 3 milliseconds. If the jumbos come in contact with the wires once or twice, they won't come near again, that's what we are hopeful of."

"After installation of the solar fence, elephants would not cross railway tracks or roads. So, we expect that they won't get killed in accidents as earlier," the DFO added.

Notably, May 19, a female elephant and two elephant calves

ELEPHANT SAFETY ON RAILWAY TRACKS



After installation of the solar fence, elephants would not go near rly tracks or roads and they won't get killed in accidents as earlier: DFO

were killed after being run over by a goods train at Joda while a 22-member herd was crossing the railway track. Wildlife activists and locals have lauded the initiative of the Forest department to ensure safety of the elephants in the mineral rich district.

FOCUS AUTHORITARIANISM

ALL THE KING'S GAMES



Tyrants always appear to have more support than they do until they are gone, because feigning support is a survival strategy. We saw this in Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's Tunisia and Hosni Mubarak's Egypt before both were overthrown in 2011

But a shrewd and ruthless ruler would divide the population into ten separate groups: opposition leaders, newspaper editors, trade union officials, and so on. Suppose the leader announces that he will arrest only opposition leaders who are caught joining the uprising. If the members of that group stay home, then he will target protesting newspaper editors, and so on, until he incarcerates ten protesters or the revolt ends.

It is not difficult to guess what would happen. The opposition leaders will not join the protest, because they are sure to be arrested. At that point, the newspaper editors will not join, either, because they now know for certain that they will be arrested if they do. With the opposition leaders and newspaper editors staying off the streets, trade union leaders will do the same. This inexorable process of backward induction will ensure that no one feels safe protesting. And the ruler will portray the absence of protest as a sign of popular support.

The point of this hypothetical exercise is to highlight the methods that allow authoritarian rulers to repress political dissent. Those of us who care about protecting democratic norms must develop constitutional mechanisms that prevent authoritarians from pursuing such tactics in the real world. To block their rise, we must first understand the games they play.

The writer, a former Chief Economist of the World Bank and Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India, is Professor of Economics at Cornell University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

PROJECT SYNDICATE

A spectre is haunting Russia – the spectre of dissent. Anti-draft protests have broken out in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and other Russian cities, large and small. Thousands of young men are fleeing the country. And more than 2,000 Russians have been arrested after protesting against President Vladimir Putin's attempt to mobilise 300,000 reservists to fight his war against Ukraine.

It is too early to speculate about whether the current civil unrest will lead to Putin's ouster. If he is indeed deposed, it would be a blessing for the people of Ukraine and for billions of people worldwide suffering the economic fallout of his war. But among the main beneficiaries would be ordinary Russians whose lives and prospects have been diminished under his corrupt, authoritarian regime.

Do Russians want to oust Putin and restore democracy? If you ask people familiar with Russia, they will most likely say that most of the population still supports him. I have my doubts. Tyrants always appear to have more support than they do until they are gone, because feigning support is a survival strategy. We saw this in Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's Tunisia and Hosni Mubarak's Egypt before both were overthrown in 2011. During the height of McCarthyism in the United States in the early 1950s, more people mimicked support for Senator Joseph McCarthy's oppressive views than actually supported them.

Even so, authoritarian rulers have a knack for staying in power despite their brutality. In the summer of 2020, a popular uprising threatened to end the oppressive reign of Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko, but he

survived. Myanmar's military regime, one of the world's most brutal dictatorships, has outlasted multiple attempts at democratisation.

In an era of democratic backsliding, it behooves us to comprehend the forces that entrench authoritarian regimes. By better understanding why some tyrants endure while others succumb to popular uprisings, we could design better laws and constitutions that ensure leaders cannot hold on to power against their people's will. After all, constitutional tweaks have strengthened the foundations of democracy in the past. For example, the Twenty-Second Amendment to the US Constitution limits presidents to two terms, thus limiting the authoritarian temptation one sees in countries like China, where President Xi Jinping will seek – and almost certainly gain – an unprecedented

third term this month.

What explains the longevity of dictators like Lukashenko and Putin? In a recent paper, I developed an allegory I call the Incarceration Game to show how abstruse philosophical reasoning can illuminate the shadowy machinations and oppressive tactics that help authoritarian rulers stay in power.

The Incarceration Game boils down to a simple thought experiment. In a country with a population of 100 adults, every person opposes the leader. If even ten citizens take to the streets, the leader will be deposed, but the leader can incarcerate up to ten dissenters. So, if fewer than ten people protest, there is a high probability that they will be arrested. But if every citizen is willing to protest, the likelihood of being caught drops so much that people are no longer afraid to dissent, and the leader does not stand a chance.



Kaushik Basu

AUTHORITARIAN RULERS HAVE A KNACK FOR STAYING IN POWER DESPITE THEIR BRUTALITY



Aakar Patel

What was the response of the government to this revelation that the exports boom of one single year had come to a halt? There was nothing of course, and nothing is really expected

SPECTRUM SOCIETY

Age at marriage in Odisha – a data point

The marriage of adolescent girls as soon as they attain puberty and before the age of 18 years remains in vogue though pre-pubertal marriages have almost been eliminated. One can discern variations among socio-religious groups and rural-urban locations as far as the incidence of adolescent marriages is concerned. The interventions and involvement of the government to prevent child marriage have not impacted this cohort of women. The consequences of this phenomenon are far-reaching and can adversely impact the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 5 of Gender Equality. Especially because, the serious impact of an early marriage is early pregnancy. And Odisha is a state where one can find 1/5th of the women aged 20-24 in this category (of child marriage).

According to recent data of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) released for the fifth round (2019-21), 20.5 per cent of the women aged 20-24 years (21.6 per cent in rural areas and 14.3 per cent in urban areas) were married before the age of 18 years in Odisha, though it registered a decline from 21.3 per cent in NFHS-4 (2015-16). The decline is marginal i.e., 0.8 per cent. Within social groups, the incidence is more among the women belonging to Scheduled Tribe (28.1 per cent), followed by Scheduled Caste (20.3 per cent), Other Backward Class (18.4 per cent), and others (12.0 per cent). In terms of religion, the instance is high among Christians (30.8 per cent), followed by Muslims (21.4 per cent) and Hindus (19.9 per cent). Wealth index categorisation also shows very interesting facts – the prevalence is more among the poorest

Women of age 20-24 years married before 18 years

Indicators	Details	Women of Age 20-24 yrs Married Before 18 yrs (%)
Residence	Urban	14.3
	Rural	21.6
Social Category	Scheduled Caste	20.3
	Scheduled Tribe	28.1
	Other Backward Classes	18.4
	Others	12.0
Religion	Hindu	19.9
	Muslim	21.4
	Christian	30.8
Wealth Index	Poorest	32.1
	Poor	23.5
	Middle	19.1
	Rich	16.6
	Richest	12.1

wealth category (32.1 per cent) followed by poorer (23.5 per cent). It is lowest among the richest category (12.1 per cent).

Though the proportion of women of age 20-24 years married before the age 18 years in Odisha is less than that of the national average (23.3 per cent compared to 20.5 per cent in Odisha), 2/5th of the districts in the state (i.e. 12 districts out of a total 30), namely, Dhenkanal (23.7 per cent), Angul (25.0 per cent), Boudh (25.3 per cent), Balasore (26.4 per cent), Gajapati (28.1 per cent), Keonjhar (29.0 per cent), Mayurbhanj (31.3 per cent), Malkangiri (32.4 per cent), Rayagada (33.2 per cent), Koraput (35.5 per cent), Nayagarh (35.7 per cent) and Nabarangpur (39.4 per cent), have prevalence of child marriage which is more than the national average of 23.3 per cent.

The ranking of the districts based on prevalence of this issue indicates Nabarangpur (a tribal dominated district with a relatively low literate population, accounting for only 38.5 per cent of literate women and 15.5 per cent of women with 10 or more years of schooling as per NFHS-5) is the bottom most district with 39.4 per cent of women falling under this cohort. The evidence from the districts also indicates huge disparities – such as the top district i.e., Sambalpur registers a prevalence of 7.4 per cent (a district with 71.1 per cent women who are literate and 36.5 per cent of the women with 10 or more years of schooling), fares much better than the bottom district. In other words, the prevalence in the bottom district is more than five times that of the top district. This is a cause of concern.

There have been various interventions on behalf of the government in terms of policies, schemes, programmes. These have emphasised on improving infrastructural and institutional mechanisms to deal with underage marriage. These concerted efforts, however, have not translated into increasing the age at marriage among women. This has led to underage pregnancies, abortions, deliveries, increased mortality among newborn at birth and post birth as well as infant mortality. This also results in severe physical and mental stress among women at a very young age for which they are completely unprepared.

A close correlation exists between the level of education and age at marriage. NFHS-5 reveals a higher incidence of women age 20-24 years married before the age of 18 years (45.3 per cent) with no schooling than those with less than five years of complete schooling (37.4 per cent). There is a sharp decline from 37.4 per cent to 19.6 per cent of women with 10-11 years of completed schooling whereas only 3.4 per cent of women reported child marriage with 12 or more years of completed school education. In other words, 12 or more years of complete school education reduces the incidence of child marriage by more than 13 times compared with no education. Hence the need of the hour is to formulate policies and interventions that contribute towards girls' higher education opportunities and investments.

The writer is a Professor at Council for Social Development, Hyderabad.

Do not give way, hold tight. It is when everything seems lost that all is saved.

THE MOTHER



Claiming Credit

In 2004, when Manmohan Singh took over as Prime Minister, India's merchandise exports stood at \$63 billion. In 2014, when Singh left, India's merchandise exports were \$312 billion. Meaning that under the UPA government exports grew by 17 per cent each year for 10 years. In March 2020, merchandise exports were \$314 billion. Meaning there was no growth in merchandise exports in six years. This stagnancy is not entirely the fault of policy and governance in India. The fact is that global trade, which rose during the UPA decade, stagnated in this period. However, it is also the case that other nations did well in these same years. For instance, Bangladesh and Vietnam were able to grow their exports and their share of global trade in the period that we stood still. In some months in this long period of stagnancy when India registered growth, the NDA ministers would come out and make much of it. Then Minister for Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu tweeted on 13 October 2017 that "India's growth story is back! Exports grow by 25.6% in September '17 as compared to Sep'16. #Leadership @narendramodi."

So what were exports for that full year? They were \$302 billion, lower than in 2014, but that the minister did not say because it would reveal that there had been a fall since Modi had taken over. In August 2018, he promised exports would double in the next five years without explaining what the government was doing to bring this about.

After the first wave of the pandemic, global trade shot up in 2021. It grew by a quarter after years of stagnancy. The prices of commodities and oil also rose. India's merchandise exports in 2021 crossed \$400 billion for the first time because of this.

On 4 April this year, the Press Information Bureau put out a release headlined: "India achieves an all-time high annual merchandise exports, touching USD 417.81 billion in FY 2021-22, an increase of 43.18% over USD 291.81 billion in previous fiscal."

Note that in 2020-21, seven years after Modi took office, merchandise exports were lower than when he had taken over from Singh. And yet once again, the government rushed in to claim credit for the Prime Minister's magical policies which had achieved this feat. "India targeting \$1 trillion exports by 2030: Piyush Goel" was a story reported by a news agency. Now 1 trillion is 1000 billion. "We are in the game for around \$100 billion each way in the next six to seven years. We are in the game for at least \$250 billion bilateral trade. I would like all our industry people to set the timeline. I think it's possible and I come with renewed enthusiasm after having achieved India's historic high of \$400 billion plus exports for the first time ever," Goyal said. He padded this with the usual bombast: "We focus a lot on public investments. Our budget this year was largely about government funded infrastructure projects on the back of which we see the multiplier effect helping us on the demand side and that is leading to more investments to meet the supply constraints."

Notice the absence of all reference to why this growth had happened, the avoidance of mentioning why it hadn't happened for all the years before the pandemic, and the evasion of an explanation of how this growth would happen. To go from \$417 billion to \$1000 trillion by 2030 would mean growing exports annually at 13 per cent. Goyal spoke at the end of March, when the numbers for the previous financial year came in. What has happened since? A few days ago, on 3 October, the PIB put out a release where it revealed that merchandise exports in September 2022 were lower than a year ago. In August also exports were lower than in 2021. This should surprise nobody, given the state of the world, the war in Ukraine and the fear of slowdown and even recession in the developed world, especially the United States.

What was the response of the government to this revelation that the exports boom of one single year had come to a halt? There was nothing of course, and nothing is really expected. This is how this government functions. It jumps to claim credit when there is some good news, even though that may have nothing at all to do with government policy, and they run away and hide when there is either bad news or nothing to report.

The World Trade Organisation has cut its growth forecast of global trade for 2023 to 1 per cent and said that the war in Ukraine could darken things further. Meaning that unless India does something proactively that affects our exports positively, trade growth will decline as it has with the world trend for the last several years before COVID.

The subject here is exports but they illustrate the manner in which most things, particularly those concerning the economy, have been projected since 2014. For whatever reason, media in India, including the business press, does not report the longer term issues. This allows the government to say the sorts of things it does, and get away with its performance, as it has on the side of the economy.

WISDOM CORNER

- When the flower blooms, the bees come uninvited. **SRI RAMAKRISHNA**
- Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own actions. **DALAI LAMA**
- We cannot change anything until we accept it. Condemnation does not liberate, it oppresses. **CARL JUNG**

WORDSWORTH

Cadge

In falconry, a cadge is a frame on which hawks are carried. In shape, it's traditionally a square, padded wooden frame on which the hooded hawks perch; it's hung from a man's shoulders by straps. Nobody is entirely sure where its name comes from, but the experts believe it was an alteration of cage under the influence of the old verb to cadge, meaning to carry things. If you trace that verb back, it starts its recorded life about 1600 in reference to men named cadgers in Northern England and Scotland, a noun which is known slightly earlier, from the late fifteenth century. They were itinerant hawkers and peddlers with a horse and cart or a packhorse, who collected butter, eggs, poultry and other farm produce for sale in the local market and who in return took out small items to farms from the local shops. They did not enjoy a high reputation: often hard bargainers and hard swearers, they were at the bottom of the social order. An old Scots proverb says "the king's errand may come to the cadger's gate yet", meaning that even the highest in the land may sometimes need the help of the most humble. In the nineteenth century the word went even further downhill, if that were possible, when it started to be applied in England to men who pretended to be hawkers or street traders but who were actually beggars or tramps. An early example, of 1860, is in The Roman Question, by Edmond About: "Pray give something to yonder sham cripple; give to that cadger who pretends to have lost an arm; and be sure you don't forget that blind young man leaning on his father's arm!" Falconers sometimes like to say that their cadge is linked to the verb to cadge and also to cadger, since those who carried them were often old men good for nothing better. Though it's true that the man who carried the cadge was indeed a cadger, there's no direct connection between it and cadger, nor with the modern sense of somebody who likes to get something for nothing.



Sujit Kumar Mishra

A CLOSE CORRELATION EXISTS BETWEEN THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION AND AGE AT MARRIAGE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

'Newspaperless Day'

Sir, It was a life off the routine for me on October 5 and 6 without being able to read the e-version of Orissa Post, as the newspaper office was closed on the preceding two days for the Dussehra festival. For hardcore readers like me, a 'Newspaperless Day' would be gloomy and downcast, rendering them out of tune with the world, although there are electronic channels, which naturally cannot provide in-depth news. Like in Chennai, it must have been a rare sight elsewhere across India with morning newspaper dumps largely wearing a deserted look, which normally would hustle and bustle with activities, with hawkers and vendors unpacking the newspaper bundles, sorting them and inserting supplements in a jiffy, and leaving in a flash for deliveries at home. For die-hard newspaper readers, it has become so much part of their system that its absence, even for a day, makes them feel disoriented and disconnected from the actual world.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Game-changer

Sir, The RBI's decision to launch a 'sovereign' cryptocurrency pilot to counter the growth of private digital currencies and check money laundering could prove to be a game-changer. RBI will introduce the digital rupee or Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) for specific use cases in a phased manner. CBDC's introduction could lead to reduced dependency on cash, lesser overall currency management cost, and reduced settlement risk.

NJ Ravi Chander, BANGALORE

Address mental health issues

Sir, Asian giants China and India lead the global mental health disorders. Anxiety, schizophrenia and bipolar disorders dictate the mental health scene in India. It is predicted that the next decade will witness a surge in mental illnesses in India. The bare truth, however, is that very few Indians go to the doctors for getting treated for mental deviations because of stigma and lack of awareness. Many symptoms are passed off as contributed by day-to-day tension. Substance use disorders, like drug consumption and alcohol abuse, are ignored at the individual's peril. It is imperative to distinguish between social drinkers and alcohol addicts because alcohol is an important trigger for, as well as an offshoot of, many mental disorders. Women and the elderly need special attention as they are vulnerable to drug abuse and dementia respectively.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

national

of the day quote

There is no intention of making Hindi alone the national language and threaten the identity of regional languages like Kannada

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

The state GDP has increased by ₹3 lakh crore in three years in Rajasthan. Total state GDP today stands at ₹12 lakh crore. It is a symbol of development in the state. The state's happiness index has also increased, making it a suitable destination for investment and business

ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CM

We have a big responsibility. People have not imposed their faith and trust on other political parties. They have seen the stunts of other political factions. They have seen how other parties have ruled the country for 70 years. People have lost faith in other political parties and regional parties of our state as well as other states

BSAVARAJ BOMMAI | KARNATAKA CM

SHORT TAKES

Trekkers stuck in Himachal

Shimla: Two trekkers from Belgium, Peter Van Geit and Sneha, have been trapped in the high mountains of Bara Bhangal in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra district for five days, officials said. In a message, they have requested for their timely evacuation. In the message, Geit said he and his friend Sneha crossed over the Kaili Pass on October 5 after hiking from Sangchar to Bara Bhangal. Kangra Superintendent of Police Khushal Sharma said that the district administration is in touch with the trekkers over phone.

Mountaineer's body recovered

Shillong: The body of Shillong mountaineer, who went missing since the Uttarakhand avalanche, was recovered Saturday, family sources said. Tiklu Jyrwa, was among many other mountaineers who went missing after the avalanche hit them on Droupadi Ka Danda in Uttarkashi on October 4. Condoling the death of the mountaineer, state Chief Minister Conrad Sangma tweeted, "We are in touch with the family and are facilitating the transportation of his mortal remains to Shillong. My prayers for his family and loved ones during their hour of grief. May the departed Rest In Peace."

Girl gangraped

Bangalore: A 17-year-old girl was allegedly gangraped in Bangalore by a group of boys known to her, the police said Saturday. The parents of the victim have lodged a complaint with the Byatarayanapura police station demanding action against the accused persons. The police have lodged a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and launched a manhunt for the accused persons, few of whom have been taken into custody.

Maoists nabbed

Nagpur: In a big breakthrough, police in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli have arrested two dreaded Maoists with a combined reward of ₹10 lakh on their heads, a top official said here Saturday. The two are Krishna Shyamal Narote, 24, of Sawargaon with a bounty of ₹8 lakh and Surya Ghasen Narote, 22, carrying a reward of ₹2 lakh, said Superintendent of Police Ankit Goyal.



It appears that the BJP bears the evil intention of destroying regional languages. It seems they are filled with hate for southern languages, including Kannada. They intend to bury the three-language formula

HD KUMARASWAMY | JD-S LEADER

12 HELD FOR FRAUD

Twelve people have been arrested from across the country in four separate operations for allegedly duping people by creating fake websites and email IDs of leading firms, police said Saturday



'GOD SENT ME TO FINISH OFF KANSA DESCENDANTS'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Vadodara, Oct 8: AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal Saturday said he was born on Janmashtami and God has assigned him a special task to finish off "descendants" of demon Kansa on a day posters calling him "anti-Hindu" surfaced in poll-bound Gujarat.

Amid a row over his cabinet colleague in Delhi purportedly denouncing Hindu deities, Kejriwal's 'Tiranga Yatra' cum roadshow in Vadodara city was opposed by BJP workers in the evening who shouted 'Modi, Modi' and waved black flags at him in various localities.

The yatra, scheduled to start at 4:30 pm from the Nyay Mandir area, was delayed by almost two hours as workers of BJP and AAP came face to face. Some posters of AAP were torn. Addressing the yatra from an open truck in the Nyay Mandir area, Kejriwal said he was a 'staunch devotee of Lord Hanuman' and claimed the posters have used words that are insulting to God.

Referring to the posters, he said the 'Asuri' (demonic) powers are

Lord Hanuman's infinite grace is upon me. All these 'Asuri' (demonic) powers are united against me. They are the sons of Kansa who insult God and his devotees, and indulge in hooliganism and violence

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CM

united against him who are the sons of Kansa. "They insult God and his devotees and indulge in hooliganism and violence". Banners terming Kejriwal "anti-Hindu" and showing him wearing a skull cap surfaced in Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Surat, and Vadodara cities on Saturday.

"I would like to tell them that I was born on Krishna Janmashtami. And God has sent me with a special task-- to finish off these descendants of Kansa, to rid the public of corrupt people and hooligans," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener said and shouted "Jai Shri Ram" and "Jai Shri Krishna".

As the yatra proceeded towards



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal speaks during a public meeting in Dahod

its destination-Polo Grounds, workers of Bharatiya Janata Party shouted 'Modi, Modi' at various spots. Kejriwal and his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann are on a two-day visit to poll-bound Gujarat beginning Saturday.

Many state AAP leaders accompanied Kejriwal during the yatra. Interestingly, Kejriwal's invocation of Lord Ram and Lord

Krishna came against the backdrop of a video clip purportedly showing Delhi Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam at an event where hundreds took a pledge to convert to Buddhism while denouncing Hindu deities went viral.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)'s national convener also said that he would work with people to ful-

fil God's desire. "God is with me. People are with me. People want a change, which is why they are so upset," he said on the first day of his latest visit to the state.

Along with Kejriwal's pictures, some banners carried lines like "I consider Hindu religion as madness", while some others had an "anti-Hindu Kejriwal go back" message. Kejriwal claimed posters and hoardings were put up against him as soon as he planned to visit Gujarat.

"The words used in these posters were against God. They have insulted God. Whosoever is behind these posters have become so blind in their hatred for me that they did not even spare God and used abusive words against Him," he alleged. Kejriwal said he is a staunch devotee of Lord Hanuman.

"Lord Hanuman's infinite grace is upon me. All these 'Asuri' (demonic) powers are united against me. They are the sons of Kansa who insult God and his devotees, and indulge in hooliganism and violence," he said. According to mythology, Kansa, a tyrant ruler of Mathura, was killed by Lord Krishna.

LAND-FOR-JOBS 'SCAM'

CBI questions Tejashwi's aide

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The CBI Saturday questioned the private secretary of Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav in connection with land-for-jobs 'scam' in the Railways when his father Lalu Prasad was the minister, officials said.

Sanjay Yadav was summoned to appear before the agency on Saturday, a day after the CBI chargesheeted Lalu Prasad, Rabri Devi and their daughter Misa Bharti in the case, they said. Sanjay, who served as Tejashwi's PS during his first tenure as Deputy CM in 2015 as well, was summoned earlier also but he had challenged the CBI notices before the Delhi High Court, they said.

Officials said Sanjay arrived at the agency headquarters here in the morning where he is being questioned. In the charge sheet filed before a special CBI court here, the agency has also named Prasad's daughter Misa Bharti, former general manager of Central Railways Sowmya Raghvan, former CPO Railways Kamal Deep Mainrai, seven aspirants appointed as substitutes and four private individuals.

"During investigation, it has been found that the accused, in conspiracy with the then GM Central Railways and CPO, Central Railways, engaged persons as substitutes in lieu of land either in their name or in the name of their close relatives," CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

The agency has kept the investigation open with respect to other suspects, they said. "This land was acquired at prices lower than the prevailing price rate and much lower than the market rate. It was also alleged that the candidates have used false TC and submitted false attested documents to the Ministry of Railways," the spokesperson said.

During the probe, the agency claimed to have found a hard disc from 10 Circular Road Patna, the then camp office of Prasad when he was Union Railway Minister, carrying a list of 1458 candidates who were engaged in Railways during his tenure. The CBI has alleged that residents of Patna, Bihar were appointed as 'Substitutes' in Group-D posts in different zones of Railways who were regularised during the period 2004-09.

Ox turns wild; one killed, 8 hurt

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kolkata, Oct 8: One person was killed and eight others got severely injured after an ox went for a rampage at a Durga idol immersion carnival at Raiganj in North Dinajpur district of West Bengal, late evening Friday.

The dead person has been identified as Sadhan Karmakar. He was admitted to Raiganj Medical College & Hospital in critical condition where he soon died.

The eight other injured persons are currently undergoing treatment at the same hospital, though they have been reported out of crisis.

One community Puja committee, Anushilon Club, which participated in the immersion carnival arranged carrying of the idols on ox-drawn carriages.

According to eye-witnesses, the problem started when one of the oxen suddenly got wild. It freed itself from the carriage and started attacking people assembled there. In the process, several persons were injured and one person was killed.

The Goddess Durga idol placed in the carriage was damaged severely. Eye witnesses said that the entire incident took place for less than a minute before the ox ran away from the scene after the rampage.

Local Trinamool Congress MLA and the West Bengal Cabinet Minister of State Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education Department, Md Ghulam Rabbani was present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, several citizens of Raiganj have slammed the district administration for the mishap and they have claimed that authorities should not have allowed the community Puja committee concerned to use ox-drawn carriages.



Commuters wade through the waterlogged Delhi-Gurugram Expressway service road after heavy rains in Gurugram

EC freezes Shiv Sena's symbol

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The Election Commission Saturday barred the Shiv Sena factions led by Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde from using the party name and its election symbol in the Andheri East assembly bypoll.

In an interim order over the claims by the rival factions for control of the organisation, the commission asked them to suggest by Monday three different name choices and also as many free symbols for allocation to their respective groups.

The interim order came on Saturday on the Shinde faction's request seeking it be allocated the symbol as the Andheri East assembly bypoll is approaching. "The Commission is duty bound to ensure that all electoral steps of the bye election are free of any confusion and contradiction and thus its next step are necessarily agnostic to the possibility of either of the faction participating in the poll," the interim order said.

The rival factions had approached the Commission after the split in the Shiv Sena ranks in

June, claiming to be the 'real Shiv Sena'. The Commission had earlier asked the rival groups to submit documentary proof on legislative and organisational support by August 8 to back their claims.

The deadline was extended to October 7 after the request of the Thackeray faction.

On October 4, the Shinde faction had moved the Election Commission seeking the allocation of the bow and arrow poll symbol in view of the Andheri East assembly by-election that was notified on Friday.

The Thackeray faction had sub-

mitted its response to the claim on Saturday and had sought four more weeks to carefully understand the documentation submitted by the rival faction. The Commission said the interim order was necessary to address the statutory spaces generated by the schedule of bye-elections notified on October 3.

Accordingly, in order to place both the rival groups on an even keel and to protect their rights and interests, and going by precedence, the Commission said neither of the two groups be permitted to use the name of the party Shiv Sena.



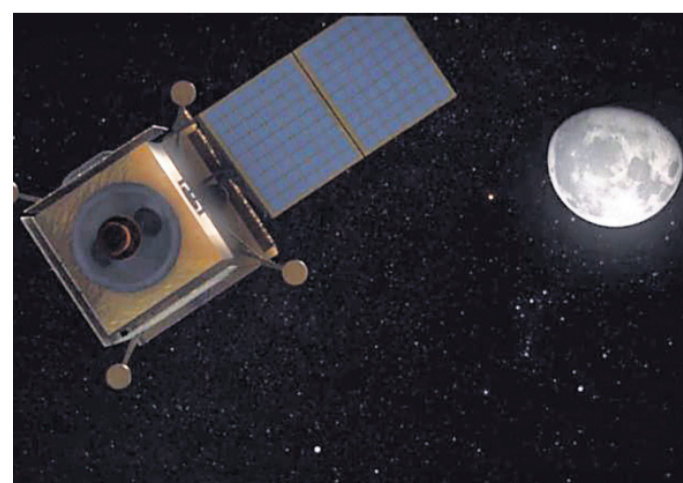
Chandrayaan-2 detects sodium on moon for first time

Chandrayaan-1 X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (CLASS) detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays which opened up the possibility of mapping the amount of sodium on the moon, ISRO said

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Oct 8: The X-ray spectrometer 'CLASS' on the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter has mapped an abundance of sodium on the moon for the first time, according to the Indian Space Research Organisation.

Chandrayaan-1 X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (CLASS)



detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays which opened up the possibility of mapping the amount of sodium on the moon,

ISRO said.

In a recent work published in 'The Astrophysical Journal Letters', Chandrayaan-2 mapped the abun-

dance of sodium on the moon for the very first time using CLASS (Chandrayaan-2 Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer), the national space agency said in a statement on Friday.

"Built at the U R Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO in Bengaluru, CLASS provides clean signatures of the sodium line thanks to its high sensitivity and performance," the statement said. The study finds that a part of the signal could be arising from a thin veneer of sodium atoms weakly bound to the lunar grains.

These sodium atoms can be nudged out of the surface by solar wind or ultraviolet radiation more easily than if they were part of the lunar minerals. Also shown is a diurnal variation of the surface sodium that

would explain the continuous supply of atoms to the exosphere, sustaining it, the statement said.

An interesting aspect that widens the interest in this alkali element is its presence in the wispy atmosphere of the moon, a region so thin that the atoms there rarely meet. This region, termed an 'exosphere', begins at the surface of the moon and extends several thousand kilometres merging into the interplanetary space, the statement noted.

"The new findings from Chandrayaan-2 provide an avenue to study surface-exosphere interaction on the moon which would aid development of similar models for mercury and other airless bodies in our solar system and beyond," the ISRO said.

of the day quote

North-East Leaders Connect over the decade has paved the path as a facilitator for growth and development in the region

N BIREN SINGH | MANIPUR CM

You (the Shiv Sena) won using the pictures of Modi. Uddhav Thackeray has no moral right to talk about Hindutva. Why did they go with the Congress and NCP? He ditched Hindutva for the chief minister's post

NARAYAN RANE | UNION MINISTER

Enthusiasm is high among party workers and leaders (about the Bharat Jodo Yatra) and all the MLAs and their constituencies have expressed their desire to take part in the march

ASHOK CHAVAN | CONGRESS LEADER

SHORT TAKES

Doctor booked

Thane: The police Saturday registered an offence of culpable homicide not amounting to murder against a doctor for allegedly giving a wrong sonography report of a pregnant woman leading to her death in Maharashtra's Thane district, an official said. An offence under section 304 (A) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) has been registered against a doctor who runs a sonography centre in Kalyan town, the official from Kogaona police station said.

Girl found dead

New Delhi: An eight-year-old girl, who went missing, was found murdered in Narela in the national capital, police said Saturday. A senior police official said that they got a PCR call in this respect from outer North Delhi at around 10 p.m. on Friday night. The official said that a police team was immediately sent to the spot and CCTV footage of nearby areas was analysed.

Baby rescued

New Delhi: A newborn baby girl was rescued from a garbage dump in southwest Delhi and is currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital here, an official statement issued Saturday said. The baby, whose umbilical cord was attached, had been exposed to the rain, was extremely weak and in a hypothermic state, according to doctors at the Fortis Hospital in Vasant Kunj.

Gangster killed

Patna: A dreaded gangster Raja Thakur has been killed during a gang war in Bihar's Muzaffarpur, the police said Friday. The police learnt about the incident when some residents of Jialal Chowk found a body with a pool of blood, and informed the police. Thakur was invited to a party by his friends to Jialal Chowk under Ahiyapur police station on Thursday night and was allegedly beaten to death.

Karnataka Cabinet okays hike in quota

Bangalore: The Karnataka Cabinet Saturday accorded its formal approval to increase the Scheduled Castes and Tribes (SC/STs) quota in the State. The State government would issue an order with which quota for SCs would go up from 15 per cent to 17 per cent and for STs from 3 per cent to 7 per cent. Following this, it would also initiate the process to have the quota included under the 9th Schedule of the Constitution by making a recommendation to the Centre.



Smooth transfer of power according to people's mandate has been a specialty of India's Constitution and democracy OM BIRLA | LOK SABHA SPEAKER

Kharge or Tharoor won't be remote-controlled: Rahul



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Turuvekere (Karnataka), Oct 8: As Mallikarjun Kharge and Shashi Tharoor fight it out for the Congress chief's post, Rahul Gandhi Saturday described both as people of stature and understanding, and asserted that it was insulting to suggest that either of them can be remote-controlled by the Gandhi family as party president.

Addressing a press conference here during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, he said lakhs of people have joined the yatra as they are tired of the type of politics being done under the BJP and the prevailing unemployment, price rise and economic inequality.

A day after Gautam Adani pledged huge investments in Rajasthan, Gandhi, who has often accused the Modi government of favouring the industrialist, said the Congress government in the state has not given any preferen-

Both the people who are standing (in the polls) have a position, have a perspective and are people of stature and people of understanding. I don't think either of them is going to be a remote control (chief) and frankly, this tone is insulting to both of them

RAHUL GANDHI | FORMER CONGRESS CHIEF

tial treatment to the businessman, and asserted that he is not against corporates but monopolies.

Asked about criticism from certain quarters that the next Congress president could be remote-controlled by the Gandhi family, the former party chief said, "Both the people who are standing (in the polls) have a position, have a perspective and are people of stature and people of understanding. I don't think either of them is going to be a remote

control (chief) and frankly, this tone is insulting to both of them." Asked why he did not contest the polls, Gandhi said his reasons are there in his resignation letter that he gave while quitting the party chief's post in 2019. Elections to the Congress president's post will take place on October 17 and results will be announced on October 19.

Gandhi said by nature he believes in 'tapasya' and wanted an element of suffering in this communication to people through the Bharat Jodo Yatra which seeks to cover a distance of about 3,500 km from Kanyakumari to Kashmir on foot. He also said the party is opposing the new education policy as it is "an attack on the ethos of our country, it distorts our history, culture".

"We are opposing the policy as it concentrates power in the hands of a few people and centralises the education system. We want a decentralised education system. We want an education system that reflects our history, tradition and languages," Gandhi added.

Asked about reported infighting in the Congress unit in poll-bound Karnataka, with former chief minister Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar engaged in a tussle, Gandhi said, "We are not a fascist party, we are a party that believes in conversation, we are a party that believes in discussion and we are perfectly happy to have different viewpoints in the party."

DELHI EXCISE POLICY ED seizes ₹1 cr cash after raids

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The Enforcement Directorate has seized about Rs 1 crore in cash after raids conducted in connection with a money laundering investigation into the alleged irregularities in the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy, official sources said Saturday.

The searches were launched on Friday at about 35 locations in Delhi-NCR, Punjab and Telangana's capital Hyderabad.

About a crore cash has been seized from a location during the raids conducted against liquor businessmen, distribution companies and linked entities, sources said.

Some digital devices and documents were also seized, they said without disclosing the locations of all the recoveries.

Premises linked to a director of a Delhi-based TV news organisation, who is also on the board of a Telugu daily, a city-based businessman whose company imports and distributes various alcoholic beverages and a former Punjab MLA were also searched by ED officials, they said.

The federal agency has conducted more than 103 raids in this case till now and last month arrested Sameer Mahandru, a liquor businessman and managing director of liquor manufacturing company-Indospirit.

The money laundering case stems from a CBI FIR that had named Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia as an accused among others.

Heroin worth ₹350 cr seized from Pak boat



The ATS said in a release that as per the primary investigation, the seized heroin was sent by Pakistan-based drug mafia Mohammad Kadar, who intended to use the Gujarat coast to supply it further to north India and Punjab

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Oct 8: The Indian Coast Guard and Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad have seized 50 kilograms of heroin worth Rs 350 crore from a Pakistani boat off the state coast and apprehended its six crew members, officials said on Saturday.

In the operation conducted during the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, the ICG and ATS personnel intercepted the boat Al Sakar, where the drug was found concealed in five gunny bags, they said.

The ATS said in a release that as per the primary investigation, the seized heroin was sent by Pakistan-based drug mafia Mohammad Kadar, who intended to use the Gujarat coast to supply it further to north India and Punjab.

The boat and six crew members were brought to the state's Jakhau port for further investigation. The apprehended Pakistani nationals are from Sindh and Karachi of the neighbouring country, officials said.

A release issued by the ICG said the joint operation was carried out during the intervening night of October 7 and 8, when a Pakistani boat was found moving suspiciously in Indian waters, five nautical miles inside the notional International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) and 40 nautical miles from Jakhau.

"On being challenged, the Pakistani boat started evasive manoeuvring. Two fast interceptor class of ships - C-429 and C-454 - deployed by the ICG for patrolling in areas close to the IMBL, intercepted the Pakistani boat and forced it to stop," it said.

Following a search of the boat, 50 kg narcotics was found concealed in five gunny bags. The market value of the seized drug is estimated to be Rs 350 crore, it said, adding that the boat was brought to Jakhau for further joint investigation by all agencies along with the six crew members, who were apprehended.

Talking to reporters, Gujarat Director General of Police (DGP) Ashish Bhatia said the ATS team was working on the input since the last 4-6 days, and the action was taken after it received exact co-ordinates of the apprehended boat.

"After receiving the exact co-ordinates, the boat was challenged and apprehended. The crew members threw the (satellite) phone in the water. Since we were alert, 50 kg of the contraband worth Rs 350 crore could be recovered from the boat," he said.

He said the receiver of the contraband is yet to be identified. "We will try to get information through the interrogation of apprehended crew members. A case will be registered and further action will be taken," he said.

This is the sixth such joint operation by the ICG and state ATS in the last one year and second such operation in less than a month when 40 kg drugs was seized from a Pakistani boat on September 14. Such operations have been a result of effective coordination and synergy amongst security agencies, the ICG said in a release.

Since 2019, the Gujarat ATS has arrested 100 accused in different cases related to drug smuggling, of whom 60 are foreign nationals, 39 of them Pakistanis, 16 Iranians, four Afghans and one Nigerian. The state's anti-terror agency has seized 1,975.8 kg of drugs since 2019, out of which 423.29 kg of heroin were seized so far this year alone, which were worth Rs 2,216.47 crore.

IEDs, STICKY BOMBS SEIZED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Oct 8: Three each Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and sticky bombs, part of a consignment dropped by drones from across the border, were recovered Saturday in Kathua, a senior police officer said.

The recovery was made on the disclosure of a Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist, who was arrested from Kathua on October 2, Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh said.

According to police, the terrorist Zakir Hussain Bhat alias Umar Farooq of Billawar village was in multiple contacts with JeM operating from Pakistan through different social media apps and had received a consignment of IEDs and sticky bombs to carry out attacks in the Jammu region.

"He was earlier convicted in a case and was lodged in Kot Bhalwal jail for 14 years and was released in 2019. He had developed relations with JeM terrorist Fareed who had returned to his country, Pakistan after serving his jail term in J&K," the police said. He was planning to revive old terrorist activities in his area by roping in other old terrorists at the behest of Pakistan-based commanders, they added. A police official said the latest recovery was made from the Malhar village of Kathua and the search operation was underway at the time the last reports were received. "An operation was launched on the disclosure of the arrested terrorist and a total of six explosive devices - three each IEDs and three sticky bombs - were recovered so far," he said.

ANXIOUS WAIT



Vendors selling earthen lamps wait for customers ahead of Karva Chauth and Diwali in Jammu

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The Supreme Court has held that statement of a witness, including cross-examination, has to be recorded either on the same or the following day and there should not be any ground for adjournment on this.

The apex court, which was hearing two pleas seeking quashing of bail granted by the Allahabad High Court to two persons in a murder case, was informed that it took almost three months to conclude recording of statement of one of the prosecution witnesses.

"The mandate of law itself postulate that examination-in-chief

followed with cross-examination is to be recorded either on the same day or on the day following," a bench of justices Ajay Rastogi and C T Ravikumar said.

"In other words, there should not be any ground for adjournment in recording the examination-in-chief/ cross-examination of the prosecution witness, as the case may be," the top court said in its order passed on September 30.

The high court, in its two separate orders passed in February and March, had granted bail to the two persons in connection with the case lodged at Bhadohi district in Uttar Pradesh for the alleged offences including that of murder.

Record witness statement either on same or next day: SC



During the hearing before the apex court, the bench was informed that there are three eye-witnesses according to the list of witnesses and charge sheet has been filed in the case. The bench was also told that statement of one of the prosecution witnesses has been recorded and it took almost three months to

conclude.

It was apprised that so far as statement of another prosecution witness is concerned, part of the examination-in-chief was recorded on September 21 and despite request been made, the mandate of section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) was not being fol-

lowed which has been considered by the apex court in a judgment delivered in 2014. Section 309 of the CrPC deals with power to postpone or adjourn proceedings.

In its order, the apex court noted that it would like to observe that the trial judge may take a note of the top court's judgment in reference to section 309 of the CrPC. It noted that the trial judge may not only expedite the trial but the examination-in-chief or cross-examination of a witness is to be recorded either on the same day or on the day following but no long adjournment should be granted while recording the statement of prosecution witnesses.

Nine leopards serving 'life imprisonment' in U'khand!

These leopards are released into open space for a few hours in daylight and then imprisoned in cages. They are fed chicken, mutton and meat on six days of a week

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Haridwar, Oct 8: Many would find it surprising that Uttarakhand has a transit and rehabilitation centre where nine Guldars (leopards) are kept in cages on charges of killing humans or entering into human settlement areas.

The Chidiyapur Transit and Rehabilitation Centre built on Haridwar-Najibabad Highway

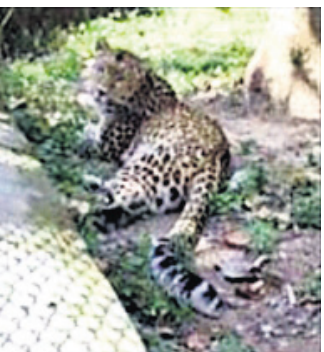
houses nine leopards serving their "prison term". The imprisonment is such that the hope of release is negligible, and thus it becomes "life imprisonment".

These "convicted" leopards include Ruby, Rocky, Dara, Munna, Jat, Mona, Gabbar and Joshi. A female leopard named Ruby, caught on charges of "human homicide" in 2015 when she was just six years old, is serving a sentence for the last



seven years.

These leopards are released into open space for a few hours in daylight and then imprisoned in cages. They are fed chicken, mutton and



meat on six days of a week. While on Tuesday, all nine leopards have to observe a fast.

Thirteen-year-old man-eater Rocky was caught in Tehri's Santala

village in 2017. Similarly, Dara, aged 12, was caught from Kotdwar's Lalpani in 2017. Four-year-old Munna Guldar is locked here since birth due to separation from mother.

On the other hand, 6-year-old Mona was taken to the centre after she had entered DPS School in Rishikesh in 2020. Similarly, 10-year-old Gabbar was caught from Haridwar Forest Division in 2020.

An eight-year-old leopard was caught from Joshimath in 2020 has been named Joshi. Uttarakhand's Chief Wildlife Warden Sameer Sinha says that this is a rehabilitation centre for wildlife. "Here animals injured in different incidents are brought for treat-

ment and they are again released in their natural habitat after treatment."

However, in the case of leopard, Sinha says that since they become man-eaters, these leopards are imprisoned in cages here and then their release becomes impossible. Due to human touch and being in a cage for a long time, these leopards have become more dreaded under mental stress. Now it is not even possible to release them in the wild.

On Tuesday's fast, the Chief Wildlife Warden says that the animals do not get prey daily in the forest, so they are kept on fast for one day. This also improves their health.

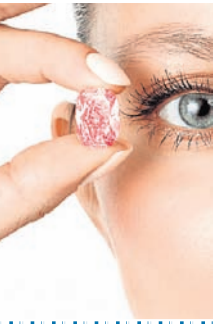
international



The situation is going from bad to worse. Pakistan is on the verge of a public health disaster
ANTONIO GUTERRES | SECRETARY-GENERAL, UN

RARE PINK DIAMOND SELLS FOR RECORD \$57.7 MILLION

A rare pink diamond has sold in Hong Kong for nearly \$58 million, setting a record for price per carat paid at auction for any diamond or gemstone, according to Sotheby's. The 11.15-carat Williamson Pink Star Friday fetched HK\$453.2 million (\$57.7 million), the second-highest price paid at auction for any jewel



of the day quote

I have noted reports and want to stress that the issues related to Xinjiang are not related to human rights there but are countering violent terrorism, radicalisation and separatism

A key meeting of the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee in Mumbai later this month will be a tribute and statement to the horrific 26/11 terror attacks and members of the powerful UN organ will place a wreath in memory of the victims of the attack

We must give peace a chance by developing a mechanism to resolve all our bilateral issues peacefully. Moreover, as opposed to fighting each other, we should collectively fight hunger, poverty, illiteracy, population explosion, climate change and disease

SHORT TAKES

UK trade min fired
London: British Prime Minister Liz Truss has sacked her trade minister, Conor Burns, with immediate effect after a complaint of "serious misconduct" made against him. In a case reminiscent of a similar complaint against a senior aide in Boris Johnson's team that ultimately ended in his resignation as Prime Minister, Downing Street said the Conservative Party MP for Bournemouth West has also had the party whip suspended Friday while the complaint is investigated. This means Burns is now an independent member of Parliament until the investigation is completed.

Emergency in New York City
New York: New York City Mayor Eric Adams declared a state of emergency Friday in response to thousands of migrants bused to the city in recent months from the US southern border in a political dispute over border security. The city expects to spend \$1 billion to manage the influx of the migrants, Adams said in a speech at City Hall. More than 17,000 have arrived in New York since April; an average of five or six buses each day since early September, with nine buses pulling into the city Thursday, said Adams, a Democrat, straining the city's homeless shelter system.

Ireland gas station explosion kills 10
London: The death toll in an explosion at a gas station in a small village in northwest Ireland has risen to 10, police said Saturday, as emergency workers combed piles of rubble for more victims. Irish police said they did not expect to find more survivors from Friday's explosion in Creeslough, County Donegal. Eight people are in hospitals after a blast tore through the Applegreen service station in the community of about 400 people.

Two Palestinian teenagers killed
Jerusalem: The Israeli army fatally shot two Palestinian teenagers during confrontations in the occupied West Bank Friday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. The teenagers were among the more than 100 Palestinians killed in the territory so far in 2022 - the deadliest spasm of violence in seven years.

'Story of our shared American dream gone wrong'

Indian organisations in the US are warning of a rise in hate-crimes against the community, following a string of attacks involving communal and physical abuse

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

San Francisco, Oct 8: "This is the story of our American dream gone wrong," the grieving wife of an Indian-origin Sikh man killed along with three members of his brother's family, including an 8-month-old baby, has said. Bodies of 36-year-old Jasdeep Singh, 27-year-old Jasleen Kaur, their eight-month-old child Aroohi Dheri and the baby's uncle, 39-year-old Amandeep Singh were found Wednesday evening in an orchard after they were kidnapped Monday.

Jaspreet Kaur, Amandeep's widow, said in a GoFundMe fundraiser that her husband and his brother had been in the United States for 18 years and supported not only their families in California but also their elderly parents back in India. "This is the story of our shared American dream gone wrong," she wrote. "Our loving family was violently taken away from us on October 3rd," the family's go-fundme page said. Kaur said her husband routinely donated food to the local food bank and never missed Sunday service



in the local Sikh temple. They had a 9-year-old daughter and an 8-year-old son. The family's gofundme page said the two brothers were "the primary bread earners for the fam-

ily (and) supported their elderly parents," the appeal said. Jaspreet has organised this fundraiser. The suspect in the killing of the Sikh family has been arrested. He once worked for the family's truck-

The family, originally from Harsi Pind in Hoshiarpur, Punjab, was kidnapped at a business in Merced County, California and later found dead

ing business and had a longstanding dispute with them that got "pretty nasty" and culminated in an act of senseless killing, authorities and a relative said. Jesus Manuel Salgado, 48, was formally arrested late Thursday on four counts of murder and four counts of kidnapping in the case, Merced County sheriff's spokesperson Alexandra Britton said.

Five HK teenagers sentenced in first nat'l security case involving minors



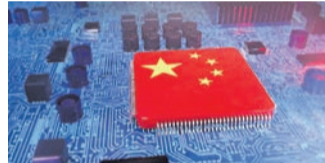
Hong Kong, Oct 8: Five teenagers with a Hong Kong group advocating independence from Chinese rule were ordered by a judge Saturday to serve up to three years in detention at a correctional facility, for urging an "armed revolution" in a national security case. The five, some of whom were minors aged between 15 and 18 at the time of the alleged offence, had pleaded guilty to "inciting others to subvert state power" through a group named "Returning Valiant". Sentences for two more, aged 21 and 26, will be delivered at a later date. Justice Kwok Wai-kin detailed how the defendants had advocated a "bloody revolution" to overthrow the Chinese state at street booths, and on Instagram and Facebook after adoption of a sweeping, China-imposed national security law. Kwok called the alleged incitement a serious crime, but nevertheless took into account their "age and immaturity" as he sentenced them to a training center, or detention facility for young people, rather than jail. The length of stay, capped at three years, is left to correctional authorities to decide. "Even if only one person is incited by them, the social stability of Hong Kong and the safety of residents may be seriously endangered," Kwok added. "There's no evidence to directly prove that anyone was incited by the defendants to subvert state power, but this real risk exists." Four of the five have already been remanded in custody for more than a year, with only one granted bail. At least 22 people linked to the group were arrested last year. Several face a separate charge of conspiring to commit terrorism under the security law. Authorities in Beijing and Hong Kong say the security law has restored stability to the global financial hub after mass anti-government and pro-democracy protests in 2019.

China lashes out at US export controls on chips

US-China relations have deteriorated in recent years over technology and security issues

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing, Oct 8: China Saturday criticized the latest US decision to tighten export controls that would make it harder for China to obtain and manufacture advanced computing chips, calling it a violation of international economic and trade rules that will "isolate and backfire" on the US. "Out of the need to maintain its sci-tech hegemony, the US abuses export control measures to maliciously block and suppress Chinese companies," said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning. "It will not only damage the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies, but also affect American companies' interests," she said. Mao also said that the US "weaponisation and politicisation" of science and technology as well as economic and trade issues will not stop China's progress. She was speaking after the US Friday updated export controls that included adding certain advanced, high-performance computing chips and semiconductor manufacturing equipment to its list, as well as new license requirements for items that would be used in a supercomputer or for semiconductor development in China. The US has implemented a raft of measures and restrictions designed to prevent China from obtaining chip technology, while



The tensions have impacted semiconductor companies in the US and globally which either export chips or manufacture chips in China

Semiconductor firms such as Nvidia and AMD has seen a 40% decline in stock price over the past year

Taiwan signals its chip companies will follow new US rules

Taipei: Taiwanese semiconductor companies attach "great importance" to complying with the law, the island's government said Saturday, signalling they would comply with new US export controls that aim to hobble China's chip industry. Taiwan, a major chip producer, is home to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co, the world's largest contract chipmaker and a major supplier to companies including Apple Inc. In a statement in response to the US announcement, Taiwan's Economy Ministry said Taiwanese firms were law-abiding. China has earmarked billions for investment into the production of semiconductors. The US said that the export controls were added as part of ongoing efforts to protect US National security and foreign policy interests.

UNREST RAGES

Women students tell Iran Prez to 'get lost'

The death of 22-year-old Amini, an Iranian Kurd, has ignited nationwide demonstrations, marking the biggest challenge to Iran's clerical leaders in years

REUTERS

Dubai, Oct 8: Female students in Tehran chanted "get lost", according to activists, as Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi visited their university campus Saturday and condemned protesters enraged by the death of a young woman in custody. As nationwide demonstrations that have rocked Iran entered a fourth week, Raisi addressed professors and students at Alzahra University in Tehran, reciting a poem that equated "rioters" with flies. "They imagine they can achieve their evil goals in universities," state TV reported. "Unbeknownst to them, our students and professors are alert and will not allow the enemy to realise their evil goals." A video posted on Twitter by the activist 1500 tasvir website showed what it said were women students chanting "Raisi get lost" and "Mullahs get lost" as the president visited their campus. An Iranian state coroner's report denied that Mahsa Amini had



ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST A DEEPLY ENTRENCHED THEOCRACY ENTERED ITS FOURTH WEEK

OVER 150 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED, HUNDREDS INJURED AND THOUSANDS HELD BY FORCES CONFRONTING PROTESTS

died due to blows to the head and limbs while in morality police custody and linked her death to pre-existing medical conditions, state media said Friday. Women have removed their veils in defiance of the clerical establishment while furious crowds called for the downfall of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. After a call for mass demonstrations Saturday, security forces shot at protesters and used tear gas in the Kurdish cities of Sanandaj and Saqez, according to the Iranian human rights group Hengaw. In Sanandaj, capital of Kurdistan Province in northwest Iran, one man lay dead in his car while a woman screamed "shameless", according to Hengaw. One of the schools in Saqez city's

square was filled with school girls chanting "woman, life, freedom," it reported. Amini was arrested in Tehran September 13 for "inappropriate attire", and died three days later. Hengaw said Saturday that Iranian security forces had launched crackdowns in two Kurdish cities. "Security forces are shooting at the protesters in Sanandaj and Saqez," the group said. It said riot police were also using tear gas. The government has described the protests as a plot by Iran's enemies including the United States accusing armed dissidents - among others - of violence in which at least 20 members of the security forces have been reported killed.

UN: Ukraine N-plant loses external power link

THE BIGGEST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT OF EUROPE IS NOW RELYING ON EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATORS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Berlin, Oct 8: Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the biggest in Europe, has lost its last remaining external power source as a result of renewed shelling and is now relying on emergency diesel generators, the UN nuclear watchdog said Saturday. The International Atomic Energy Agency said that the plant's link to a 750-kilovolt line was cut at around 1 am Saturday. It cited official information from Ukraine as well as reports from IAEA experts at the site, which is held by Russian forces. All six reactors at the plant are shut down but they still require

electricity for cooling and other safety functions. Plant engineers have begun work to repair the damaged power line and the plant's generators - not all of which are currently being used - each have sufficient fuel for at least 10 days, the IAEA said. "The resumption of shelling, hitting the plant's sole source of external power, is tremendously irresponsible," IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi said in a statement. Grossi visited Kyiv Thursday. He said he will soon travel to Russia, then make another trip to Ukraine, to further his effort to set up a "nuclear safety and security protection zone" around the plant, which



he has advocated for weeks. "This is an absolute and urgent imperative," he said. The IAEA didn't apportion blame for the shelling. Zaporizhzhia is one of four regions that Russian President Vladimir Putin has annexed in violation of international laws. While the nuclear plant has been under Russian control for months, the city of the same name remains under Ukrainian control. Putin signed a decree Wednesday declaring that Russia was taking over the plant. Ukraine's Foreign Ministry called it a criminal act and said it considered Putin's decree "null and void." Ukraine's state nuclear operator, Energoatom, said it would continue to operate the plant.

The resumption of shelling, hitting the plant's sole source of external power, is tremendously irresponsible

RAFAEL GROSSI | DIRECTOR-GENERAL, IAEA

Sabotage halts rail traffic in Germany

REUTERS

Berlin, Oct 8: Cables vital for the rail network were intentionally cut in two places causing a near three-hour halt to all rail traffic in northern Germany Saturday morning, in what authorities called an act of sabotage without identifying who might be responsible. The federal police are investigating the incident, Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said, adding the motive for it was unclear. The disruption raised alarm bells after NATO and the European Union last month stressed the need to protect critical infrastructure after what they called acts of sabotage on the Nord Stream gas pipelines. It is clear that this was a targeted and malicious action,



Transport Minister Volker Wissing told a news conference. A security source said there were a variety of possible causes, ranging from cable theft - which is frequent - to a targeted attack. Omid Nouripour, leader of the Greens party, which is part of Chancellor Olaf Scholz's federal coalition, said anyone who attacked the country's critical infrastructure would receive a decisive response.

NASA's Hubble clicks spectacular pair of galaxies set to collide

The flying observatory snapped a pair of interacting galaxies in deep space as light from distant stars and galaxies make for an out worldly background

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, Oct 8: NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has captured a stunning pair of two face-on galaxies, providing spectacular views of their spiral arms, background stars and galaxies. The two interacting galaxies, making up the pair known as Arp-Madore 608-333, seem to float side by side in this image from the

Hubble Space Telescope. "Though they appear serene and unperturbed, the two are subtly warping one another through a mutual gravitational interaction that is disrupting and distorting both galaxies. Hubble's Advanced Camera for Surveys captured this drawn-out galactic interaction," NASA said in a statement. "The interacting galaxies in Arp-Madore 608-333 are part of an effort



to build up an archive of interesting targets for more detailed future study with Hubble, ground-based telescopes, and the James Webb Space Telescope," Nasa said in a release with the image. To build up this archive, astronomers scoured existing astronomical catalogues for a list of targets spread throughout the night sky. They hoped to include objects already identified as interesting and that would be easy for Hubble to observe no matter which direction it was pointing. "Deciding how to award Hubble

observing time is a drawn-out, competitive, and difficult process, and the observations are allocated to use every last second of Hubble time available," said NASA. However, there is a small but persistent fraction of time - around 2-3 per cent - that goes unused as Hubble turns to point at new targets. Snapshot programmes not only produce beautiful images but also enable astronomers to gather as much data as possible with Hubble, according to the space agency. The Hubble Space Telescope was launched into low-Earth orbit in 1990 and remains in operation.

of the day quote

The Ladakh region has immense solar, geothermal energy and green hydrogen potential which needs to be harnessed

RK MATHUR | LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, LADAKH

FY22 was spectacular in terms of business growth and expanding the brand's omnichannel presence. We now aim to continue with the same growth trajectory this year as well and work towards our vision of making WoodenStreet reach closer towards its audiences

LOKENDRA SINGH RANAWAT | CEO, WOODENSTREET

We believe that we are witnessing the beginning of a long-term upcycle for quality housing driven by strong job creation, good affordability, and low levels of existing home ownership in urban areas

ABHISHEK LODHA | MD & CEO, MACROTECH DEVELOPERS

Puri talks tough on oil buy

With imports meeting 85% of its oil needs, India has been diversifying its sources of oil purchases. Its refiners snapped up discounted Russian oil that was shunned by some Western buyers over Moscow's Ukraine invasion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Oct 8: India, the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, will continue to buy oil from any country that it has to, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said asserting that no country has told New Delhi to stop buying oil from Russia.

India, which has not publicly condemned Moscow for its 'special military action' in Ukraine, has become Russia's No 2 oil buyer after China as Western buyers stopped trading with that country and its oil prices fell.

Puri, who is here for talks with the US authorities on clean energy, said the government has a moral duty to provide energy at affordable rates to consumers. He also expressed confidence that India would be able to mitigate a two million barrels per day cut in production by oil producers' cartel OPEC and its allies, known as OPEC+.

"If you are clear about your policy, which means you believe in energy security and energy affordability, you will buy from wherever you have to purchase energy from sources," Puri said after his bilateral meeting with the US Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm.

On the production cut by OPEC+ which has reversed the downward trend in international oil prices, Puri said it was the sovereign right of the producers to decide on the output. "India is not a part of OPEC. India is at the receiving end of OPEC decisions," he said in response to a question.



We have signed agreements worth around ₹11 lakh crore. Of this, we will try to achieve 50 percent of the investment

ASHOK GEHLOT | CM, RAJASTHAN

UBER CHARGES ₹32L FOR 15-MIN RIDE

A British man was left stunned when he checked his bank account and found that Uber had intended to charge him almost \$39,317 nearly ₹32 lakh for just a 15-minute ride, according to a report from New York Post. Oliver Kaplan, 22, also claimed that the app's pricing was between \$11 and \$12 which is between ₹900-1000



WhatsApp's cloned app spying on Indians

GB WhatsApp, a malicious clone, has a wide range of spying capabilities, including recording audio and video

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 8: India is among the countries with highest number of Android trojan detections and a cloned, third-party unofficial version of WhatsApp is leading in spying on people's chats in the country, a new report has warned.

Behind a large portion of Android spyware detection in the past four months was 'GB WhatsApp' -- a popular but cloned third-party version of WhatsApp, according to the report by cyber-security firm ESET.

"The cloned app is not available on Google Play and, therefore, there are no security checks in place compared with the legitimate WhatsApp, and versions available on various download websites are riddled with malware," said the report.

India (35 per cent) was also ranked second after China (53 per cent) as the geolocation for bots making up the largest internet of things (IoT) botnet called 'Mozi' from May to August 2022.

The IoT botnet 'Mozi' saw the number of bots drop by 23 per cent from 500,000 compromised devices to 383,000 in May-August.

However, China and India continued to have the highest number of IoT bots geolocated inside the respective countries.

"These statistics confirm the as-



Telegram founder slams WhatsApp

Founder of instant messaging service Telegram, Pavel Durov, said in his Telegram channel that WhatsApp has been a surveillance tool for 13 years and people should stay away from the messaging app. He said that every year there is an issue with WhatsApp that puts its users' data at risk. "I'm not pushing people to switch to Telegram here. With 700M+ active users and 2M+ daily signups, Telegram doesn't need additional promotion. You can use any messaging app you like, but do stay away from WhatsApp -- it has now been a surveillance tool for 13 years," said Durov in his channel. He said that hackers could have full access to everything on the phones of WhatsApp users because of a security issue that the platform disclosed last week. All a hacker needs to do to get access to all the data on one's phone is to send a malicious video or start a video call.

sumption that the 'Mozi' botnet is on autopilot, running without human supervision since its reputed author was arrested in 2021," said the report.

Even with declining numbers, Russian IP addresses continued to be responsible for the largest portion of remote desktop protocol (RDP) attacks.

Reliance Jewels re-launches flagship Janpath showroom

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 8: Reliance Jewels, India's fastest growing jewellery brand, re-launched its flagship showroom at Janpath in Bhubaneswar. This premium showroom, one of the brand's oldest units, has been given a completely new look to elevate the jewellery shopping experience in City. It is one of the largest showrooms of Reliance Jewels out of its 300+ stores in about 150 cities across India.

Odisha is among the top-performing states for the brand. It currently has 15 stores in the state and plans to expand its presence. It has two stores in Bhubaneswar and one in Cuttack. The brand also has ambitious plans in pipeline for the state to cater to the needs of its customers.

The new revamped showroom will treat its consumers with exquisite designs based on the culture of Odisha and will also showcase exclusive Gold & Diamond collection. The customers can avail upto 25% off on Gold Jewellery making & Diamond Jewellery invoice.

Sharing his thoughts on the re-launch of the showroom, Sunil Nayak, CEO, Reliance Jewels said, "We have received a lot of love and affection from



Odisha is among the top-performing states for the brand

Odisha. We feel proud to have re-launched our decade-old showroom and the response is overwhelming. We strive to push ourselves to cater to the needs of our customers who have shown immense trust in us. We have exclusive designs for our customers, which are inspired by the various art and culture, traditions and beliefs that personify India's rich and diverse heritage. We are expanding our presence in the Odisha market."

PRE-PACKED FOOD ITEMS COMPANIES GO FOR 25 KG PACKS TO AVOID 5% GST

CUSTOMERS ARE ALSO BUYING 25 KG PACKETS AS RETAIL FROM GROCERY SHOPS WITHOUT HAVING TO PAY ANY GST

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Noida, Oct 8: After the Centre imposed 5 per cent GST on unbranded labelled and pre-packed food items weighing less than 25 kg in July, most of the companies are now packing their goods, in excess of 25 kg, in a single packet to be exempted from the tax levy.

In a notification, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) had clarified that pre-packed food items like cereals, pulses and flour weighing more than 25 kg and packed in a single packet will be exempted from GST, said a senior GST department official.

Five per cent GST is applied only on packaged food items weighing less than 25 kg.



If a retailer buys a 25 kg packet directly from the distributor or product manufacturer and sells it in retail quantity, then the customers are saved from the GST, but if a person buys a packet of 10 kg of a food item from the market, then he pays 5 per cent from his/her pocket.

While imposition of GST on food items lightens the pockets of the public, a huge amount recovered as tax directly reaches the government coffers. However, the retail traders and manufacturing companies found a way out to counter the Centre's move.

Since food packets weighing

more than 25 kg does not attract GST, most of the companies are resorting to packing their goods, weighing more than 25 kgs, in a single packet.

Rakesh Singh, a grocery shop owner in Greater Noida, said that he buys heavier packets directly from companies to avoid the charges.

Companies selling branded cereals and pulses pack food items in packets weighing more than 25 kgs and sell them to kirana stores.

Customers are buying 25 kg packets as retail from grocery shops without having to pay any GST.

CNG, piped cooking gas prices up by ₹3

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 8: The prices of CNG and cooking gas piped to household kitchens in the national capital on Saturday hiked by ₹3 each in step with rise in input natural gas prices.

The ₹3 per kg increase in CNG price is the first hike in rates in over four months, while a ₹3 per standard cubic metres increase in piped natural gas (PNG) was the first raise in two months.

CNG in the national capital territory of Delhi now costs ₹78.61 per kg, up from ₹75.61 per kg, according to the information posted on the website of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL) -- the firm which retails CNG and piped cooking gas in the national capital and adjoining cities.

This is the 14th increase in price since March 7. Rates were last increased by ₹2 per kg on May 21. In all, the CNG price has risen by ₹22.60 per kg during this period. Since April 2021, CNG prices have increased by ₹35.21 per kg or 80 per cent, according to data compiled by PTI.

Simultaneously, the rates of gas piped to household kitchens, called piped natural gas (PNG), was increased to ₹53.59 per standard cubic metre in Delhi from ₹50.59 per scm, according to IGL. It is the 10th increase in PNG rates since August 2021. In all prices have gone up by ₹29.93 per scm, or almost 91 per cent.

TRADE DEAL WITH BRITAIN INDIAN CARMAKERS PROPOSE TAX CUT ON IMPORTS

It is the first time Indian car makers have backed such cuts, caving to pressure from a government that wants them to give up their protectionist position and lower entry barriers

REUTERS

New Delhi, Oct 8: Indian car makers have proposed cutting to 30% the tax rate on imported cars as part of a trade deal with Britain, sources told Reuters, an unprecedented move that could ease access to one of the world's most protected automobile markets.

Import taxes from 60% to 100% in the world's fourth-largest car market rank among the highest globally, drawing criticism from companies such as Tesla Inc, which shelved entry plans because of the high tariffs.

Lobby group the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) has written to the government backing phased cuts to 30% over five years, following a grace period of five years with none, three sources said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

It was not immediately clear if India had presented the offer to Britain in trade talks due to end soon, with the signing of a final deal expected by the end of the month.

For years, Indian car makers have resisted tax cuts so as to protect their turf, while arguing that such a move would dry up invest-



ment in domestic manufacturing by making imports cheaper and easier for global automakers.

While Britain has few car factories run by the likes of Nissan,

BMW and Tata's Jaguar Land Rover, companies fear the move could set a precedent in negotiating deals with others like the European Union (EU), Japan or South Korea,

Car makers propose tax cuts to 30% over a decade -sources

India has some of the highest import taxes of 60%-100% on cars

Govt wants companies to lower entry barriers -sources

High tax on cars was one of the deal breakers in EU trade talks that ended in 2013

the sources said.

The shift in stance comes weeks after commerce minister Piyush Goyal firmly told senior executives of companies such as Maruti Suzuki, Tata Motors and Mahindra that India needed to make some kind of offer to Britain on autos.

"The message from Goyal was clear - if companies don't come up with a proposal on lowering taxes,

the government will do it for them," said one person who attended an August meeting between the minister and company executives.

However, the plan to cut tax rates to 30% over 10 years "is not enough", said a government source, while conceding that not reducing tax rates this time was "not an option".

India's push comes in an effort to boost trade ties globally, that saw deals recently signed with Australia and the United Arab Emirates, so as to attract investment from companies seeking to diversify beyond China.

India has resumed talks with the region, home to firms such as Volkswagen AG and Mercedes-Benz that count India as a major growth market, and hopes to finalise a deal by the end of 2023.

