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leisure



HILTON GOES DESI FOR HER PERFUME LAUNCH EVENT

American socialite Paris Hilton was busy promoting her fragrance, Ruby Rush, at Mumbai Thursday. She chose the perfect attire -- a red jumpsuit with a plunging neckline and sheer silver gloves, thereby bringing out the best of desi and chic moods.

NETFLIX CLARIFIES THE CROWN IS A FICTIONAL DRAMATISATION

Streaming giant Netflix has clarified that *The Crown* is a fictional dramatisation for viewers by adding a logline to its YouTube trailer for Season 5, which is set to launch November 9.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES

Today, you will focus your lens on the one you've taken a fancy to! You are high on energy, but low on commitment to work. It won't be surprising if your bosses are miffed. But still, says Ganesh, it's a day of flowers and love notes.

TAURUS

Light bulbs will flash relentlessly today, as you ideate in the fervour of a creative mood. Your business acumen will help you negotiate problems with ease. The reticent Taurus charm will ring out loud in your laughter, as you deal with your bosses and colleagues at the workplace, says Ganesh.

GEMINI

Today, your emotions will cloud your ability to reason. You may try to find a refuge in devotional and spiritual activities. A visit to a couple of religious places may help you restore your peace of mind. A laid-back mindset will work wonders for you today.

CANCER

Today is a fabulous day for your love life. Your happiness may make a few people go green with envy, but they can do you or your relationship no harm, so ignore them. However, it may be important for you to make sure that you safeguard your reputation.

LEO

No matter how far you go, there is always a horizon that you desire to reach. And what holds true for all outer projections of life most certainly holds true for one's inner self as well, reminds Ganesh. Bear this in mind as you strive to improve yourself in as many ways as possible.

VIRGO

Today, your power and finance will be greater than ever before, says Ganesh. You will also be inclined to make monetary provisions for any future economic instability that may arise. The people around you will stand up and take notice of the leader in you.

LIBRA

Today promises to be a busy day that will keep you occupied. You may also engage in written correspondence to re-establish some old contacts. Ganesh doesn't rule out optimum use of the phone for this purpose. When it comes to the work front, Ganesh predicts you will be asked to bring order to the workplace.

SCORPIO

You've been keeping things within for too long now, and today may just be the day when you vent it all out, says Ganesh. This overwhelming pressure may have an effect on your health. Ganesh counsels you to spend quality time with your loved ones to ease up a bit.

SAGITTARIUS

Ganesh sees a spectacular day in store for you, especially if you are an artist. Radio jockeys will be heard and cheered for. Television anchors will receive thundering applause and golden opportunities. Go ahead -- seize the day!

CAPRICORN

Opportunities are rare, and good opportunities rarer still. Today, you will run to grab an opportunity and will make the most of it, says Ganesh. This move will yield instant results, and place you better in comparison with your opponents. Rivals, in fact, will try to do you down but will fail miserably in their attempt. Your social standing, on the other hand, will grow manifold and all because of your extraordinary traits.

AQUARIUS

You have changed your approach towards life from materialism to mysticism. Your friends and family members are pleasantly surprised to see this change. Later on the day, you may plan to visit a temple or other religious places, foresees Ganesh. You are on the right track, keep on going, you'll find the solace you have been seeking.

PISCES

You are striving hard to influence your destiny. You are not going to kneel down without a fight against heavy odds. With persistent efforts you will succeed in achieving your goals. While victory is a given, hard work will be necessary.

Huma felt empowered despite insecurities

Mumbai: Huma Qureshi has made her presence felt with the strong characters she has played and which have broken one stereotype after another: In *Double XL* too, she plays such a role alongside Sonakshi Sinha.

The movie which is directed by Satram Ramani, features the two of them playing plus-sized women, and for that they had to gain considerable weight. Talking about her role, Huma confessed that she had to put on roughly 20 kg for the role.

Though she has mentioned multiple times, in jest, that this was the best prep she ever had to do for a role since she got to eat everything she wanted, the actress definitely had her set of reservations.

She talks about how even as a kid she was teased for being a 'big girl'. She had left those insults behind her but when it came to gaining weight for the role of Rajshri Trivedi in *Double XL* it all came back again.

She said: "I was scared because my closest confidantes and companions told me that I was making a mistake. And it would be the end of my career." But despite all this she made up her mind and decided to play the role.

Huma talked about how liberating and empowering it was to play the character of Rajshri. It was like

a nod to her younger self. She said: "I

wouldn't trade that experience for anything, shooting this film has been one of the most empowering experiences of my life and it only made me stronger and more confident of myself!"



Parineeti reveals why she refused RK's Animal

Mumbai: Parineeti Chopra is on cloud nine after the *Uunchai* trailer got a positive response. The film which celebrates life-long friendship also stars Amitabh Bachchan, Anupam Kher, Boman Irani, Neena Gupta, Sarika, Nafisa Ali Sodhi and Danny Denzongpa in pivotal roles. Directed by Sooraj R. Barjatya, the film is slated to release November 11. This apart, the actress has more films lined up in her kitty.

But recently, she mentioned that she has rejected Ranbir Kapoor's *Animal* for *Highway* director Imtiaz Ali's film. In an interview Parineeti revealed the reason but she also calls it "part and parcel of life".

Talking to a web portal, the actress said that such things happen and it is okay. "It is a part and parcel of life and we all make choices. You make the choice that is right for you," she was quoted saying. However, after she opted to be no more part of the film, South star Rashmika Mandanna is doing it. However, she is all set to work in Imtiaz Ali's much-awaited next titled *Chamkila*. It is a biopic on Punjabi folk singer Amar Singh Chamkila.

Shruti teams up with Rowley for int'l project

Mumbai: Actress Shruti Haasan, who earlier bagged her first international television series titled *Treadstone* in 2019, has now all set for another international project. The pan-India star will be headlining the international feature film *The Eye*. The Daphne Schmon directorial will be a psychological thriller.

From Fingerprint Content, the forthcoming film will feature actor Mark Rowley of *The Last Kingdom* fame opposite Haasan, reported entertainment news website Deadline. Confirming the news through her Instagram handle, the actress posted a snippet of the article. In the caption, she exclaimed, "Super stoked to be a part of 'the eye' with the loveliest team."

Haasan's caption further read, "Story telling is my fave thing in this whole world and to be a part of this one is pure." "Thankyou for making me a part of this!! You ladies are ?? so much fun with the super talented and caffeinated????@markrowley90 and the kindest and magical @elpidou." The conclusion of the write-up read, "SIMPLY PUT This whole team is so wonderful and can't wait for you'll see this. Ok bye."



Trailer, audio release of Pratikshya

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Makers of upcoming Odia film *Pratikshya* released the trailer and audio CD of the movie here, Friday.

Written by Gourahari Das and made under Amiya Patnaik Productions banner, the movie tells the aspirations of a middle class family of Bhubaneswar, production house sources said.

The plot revolves around Sanjay, a skilled but unemployed graduate. His father, who is about to retire, tries to convince him to take up a job but Sanjay doesn't pay heed. However, an incident changes the fate of Sanjay and his family. He goes into the darkest cor-



ners of his mind to find a solution to all his problems. Little does

he realise, the path he is on, the things that he wants will take away the things which are of much higher importance?

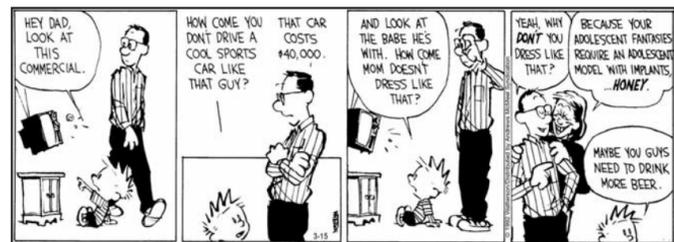
"The real life experience of losing my father to a deadly disease has been reflected in the movie which narrates the tragic death of the only earning member of a middle class family," said film's director and producer Anupam Patnaik.

The movie stars Dipanwit Dasmohapatra in the lead while Choudhury Jayprakash Das, Barsha Patnaik, Sreela Tripathy play other important roles. Siddhant Mohapatra will be seen in a cameo in the movie to be released December 2.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

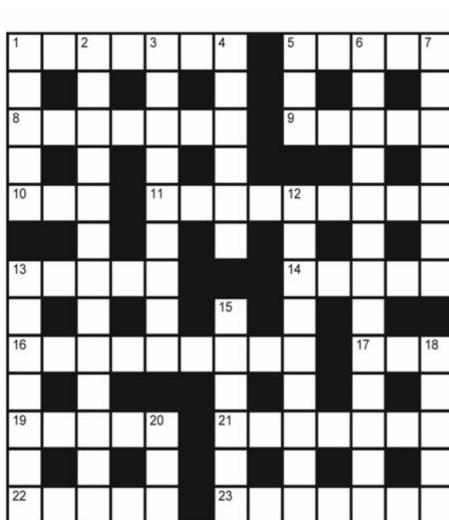


BREVITY



FUN post

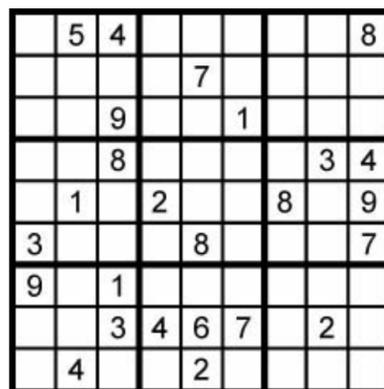
CROSSWORD



- Across
- 1 Witch's brew ingredient
 - 5 Cultural values
 - 8 Detected (5,2)
 - 9 Cholera
 - 10 Salon supply
 - 11 Destroy completely
 - 13 Pint-sized
 - 14 Roomy vehicle
 - 16 Underscore
 - 17 Doctrine
 - 19 Tartan
 - 21 V-shaped indentations
 - 22 Acclaim
 - 23 Type of luggage (5,2)
 - 6 Offensively autocratic (4-3-6)
 - 7 Medical specialist
 - 12 *The Pink Panther's* Clouseau, e.g.
 - 13 Spire
 - 15 Outdoor social gathering
 - 18 Brick worker
 - 20 Part of an email address
- Down
- 1 Sharpened
 - 2 Nacre (6-2-5)
 - 3 Musical group
 - 4 Alaskan brown bear
 - 5 Airport posting (Abbr.)

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



CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



GOING GLOBAL

Actor Shruti Haasan teams up with *The Last Kingdom* star Mark Rowley for her next international project

LEISURE



MUSK MAY CUT TWITTER STAFF

As part of his bid to acquire Twitter, Elon Musk is planning to lay off 75% of the microblogging site's workforce

INTERNATIONAL

P8

AUSSIES FACE KIWIS

Australia take on Trans-Tasmanian rivals New Zealand in the Super 12 stage opener of the ICC T20 World Cup

SPORTS

BACK PAGE

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BHUBANESWAR | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 2022

P1

SHORT TAKES

Man gets 25-yr jail for raping 5-yr-old

PHULBANI: A court in Kandhamal district sentenced a 42-year-old man to 25 years of imprisonment Friday for raping a five-year-old girl. Phulbani Pcoso court judge Sanjiv Behera also imposed a fine of ₹25,000 on Nileswar Pradhan, additional public prosecutor Asim Praharaj said. The court directed the District Legal Services Authorities to grant a compensation of ₹6 lakh to the rape survivor. On the evening of October 9, 2020, the girl was returning from her neighbour's house after watching TV when the accused dragged her to a nearby field and raped her. The judgement was based on the statements of 10 witnesses and the medical report.

Monsoon retreats from entire state

BHUBANESWAR: The southwest monsoon has completely retreated from Odisha, the IMD said Friday. The conditions are very likely to become favourable for further withdrawal of southwest monsoon from the entire country over the next 48 hours, it said. Though the monsoon has withdrawn from the state, Odisha is likely to experience heavy to very heavy rainfall October 24 and 25 under the influence of a possible cyclone over the Bay of Bengal. The Regional Meteorological Centre in Bhubaneswar has issued a heavy rainfall warning for several districts of the state.

Agni Prime test fired off Odisha coast

BALASORE: India Friday successfully test-fired indigenously-developed new generation medium-range ballistic missile Agni Prime off the Odisha coast, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sources said. The sleek missile was test fired from a mobile launcher from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island around 9.45 am, they said. The solid-fuelled canistered missile met all mission parameters during the test, they added. All its navigation was tracked and monitored by radars and telemetry equipment positioned along various points, the officials said. The missile's strike range is between 1,000 km and 2,000 km, they said. The last trial of the missile was conducted December 18 last year.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



What kind of democracy is this? Will any leader resign, unable to fulfill promises?

MARKET WATCH	
INDEX	VARIATION
SENSEX	59307.15 ↑ 104.25
NIFTY	17576.30 ↑ 12.35
DOLLAR	82.89 ↑ ₹0.12
EURO	81.11 ↑ ₹0.09
GOLD	₹50,406 ↑ ₹263
SILVER	₹56,859 ↑ ₹206

WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
TEMP	MAX 31.4°C	31.4°C
	MIN 22.4°C	22.5°C
Humidity	79%	73%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
	Forecast: Light rain very likely	



REAPING GOLD: Farm workers pluck marigold flowers from a field at Kival village in Karad, Maharashtra, Friday. The flowers are in high demand during the festival season.

PTI PHOTO

HEAVY RAIN IN COASTAL PARTS ON OCTOBER 24

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: In view of the possible cyclone, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Pramila Mallick said all districts and coastal region authorities were directed to be prepared to deal with the emerging situation.

The system is likely to trigger heavy rainfall when it crosses parallel to the state's coast Monday.

Mallick said personnel of the fire service department, the ODRAF and NDRF are on standby for any emergency situation.

A low-pressure system over the Andaman Sea is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm and reach West Bengal-Bangladesh coasts October 25, causing wind gusting to 110 km per hour, the IMD said Friday.

Briefing media persons, Special Relief Commissioner PK Jena said the cyclone is likely to pass about 200 km away from Dhamara in Bhadrak district. Under its impact, coastal areas of Jagatsinghpur, Bhadrak and Balasore districts may witness a wind speed upto 50 to 60 kmph, he said. Heavy rainfall would occur in some pockets in coastal Odisha October 24. However, he said, there is no need to panic.

SC calls for suo motu action on hate speech

Apex court warns any delay on the part of the administration in taking action on this 'very serious issue' will invite the court's contempt

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 21: Holding that the Constitution of India envisages a secular nation, the Supreme Court Friday directed Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand governments to come down hard on hate speeches, promptly registering criminal cases against the culprits without waiting for a complaint to be filed.

The apex court warned any delay on the part of the administration in taking action on this "very serious issue" will invite the court's contempt.

"The Constitution of India envisages a secular nation and fraternity among citizens assuring the dignity of the individual...The unity and integrity of the nation is one of the guiding principles enshrined in the preamble. There cannot be fraternity unless the members of the community from different religions are able to live in harmony. The petitioner

points out despite various penal provisions, no action has been taken and there is a need to serve constitutional principles. We feel this court is charged with a duty to protect the fundamental rights and also protect and serve the constitution where the rule of law is maintained," the top court said.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy also issued notices to Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand on the petition filed by journalist Shaheen Abdullah. Though Delhi is governed by the Aam Aadmi Party government, the national capital's police come under the Union Home Ministry.

The court said action must be

taken against those making hate speeches irrespective of their religion to preserve the secular fabric of the nation.

"Respondents 2-4 (the three states) will file a response as to what action has been taken for the speeches highlighted. They shall ensure that as and when any (hate) speech or action takes place without any complaint being filed, suo motu action is taken in such cases in future without waiting for complaints. Respondents will issue directions to their subordinates for appropriate action and such action will be taken irrespective of religion against the person who delivers such hate speech so that the secular character of this country as envisaged in the preamble is maintained," it said.

Abdullah has moved the top court also seeking direction to the Centre and states to initiate independent, credible and impartial probe into the incidents of hate crimes and hate speeches across the country.



SHOCKER FROM UP

Fruit juice given in drip, patient dies



AGENCIES

Prayagraj, Oct 21: A private hospital in Prayagraj where a dengue patient died after he was allegedly transfused fruit juice instead of blood platelets, has been sealed after a preliminary inquiry by the district administration into the incident revealed lapses on the part of the hospital authorities.

The family of the patient has appealed to the state government to take strict action against those responsible.

The relatives of the 32-year-old patient were allegedly supplied sweet lime juice in a bag marked as 'plasma' at the Global Hospital and Trauma Centre in Prayagraj.

The patient's family alleged his condition deteriorated after transfusion from one of the bags supplied by the hospital. The patient was shifted to a second private hospital, where he died, the family said, adding that doctors at this second hospital told them the 'platelet' bag was fake and actually a mix of chemicals and sweet mosambi juice.

State to create 125 additional OAS posts

With the creation of these additional posts, the total OAS cadre strength will be enhanced to 1,313 in the state

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: In view of increasing workload on revenue administration, specifically in districts and sub-divisions, the state Cabinet Friday decided to create additional 125 posts in OAS Grade A (Junior Branch).

With the creation of additional 125 posts, the total OAS cadre strength has been enhanced to 1313 in the state, said Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra. The government has decided to create 121 deputy collector posts -- two in each district headquarters, one post in each sub-collector's office and three ADM offices at Bhubaneswar, Paradeep and Rourkela. Besides, four under-secretary posts have been created at the Board of Revenue, Cuttack.

The Cabinet has also decided to return 206.685 acres of land in Kalipali village of Ganjam district to the original land owners or to the legal heirs as per the provision of Rule 20 of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Compensation, Rehabilitation and Resettlement and Development Plan) Rules, 2015.

The land was acquired two decades ago for Tata Steel. However, the land remained unutilised and farmers are now

cultivating the land, the Chief Secretary said.

In larger public interest, the Cabinet has decided to return it to the original land owners. The compensation amount paid to the land owners has been waived, he said.

The Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik-led panel also decided to pay the due to L&T for the strengthening and widening of Sambalpur-Rourkela road out of ADB assistance. After exhausting all the legal remedies, it was decided for payment of decretal dues amounting to ₹100.06 crore to Larsen & Toubro Ltd. for compliance of the

CABINET DECISION

arbitral award of Arbitration Tribunal, the Chief Secretary said. Similarly, the Cabinet has decided to amend the Odisha Pani Panchayat Act, 2002. Now, mega lift irrigation projects have been included under the Act. Spouses of water users, who are land holders in the area of a Pani Panchayat, can become members of the Panchayat. The tenure of Chak Committee and Executive Committee of the Pani Panchayats has been increased to five years.

Moreover, the government has decided to revise the scale of pay of judicial officers of the state with effect from January 2016. The state government will bear additional ₹93 crore for this purpose, said the Chief Secretary.

Next pandemic may come from melting ice

As global temperatures rise owing to climate change, it becomes more likely that viruses and bacteria locked up in glaciers and permafrost could reawaken

AGENCIES

London, Oct 21: The next pandemic may come not from bats or birds but from melting ice, according to latest research.

Genetic analysis of soil and lake sediments from Lake Hazen, the largest high Arctic freshwater lake in the world, suggests the risk of viral spillover -- where a

virus infects a new host for the first time -- may be higher close to melting glaciers.

The findings imply that as global temperatures rise owing to climate change, it becomes more likely that viruses and bacteria locked up in glaciers and permafrost could reawaken and infect local wildlife, particularly as their range also shifts closer to the poles.

In 2016 an outbreak of anthrax in northern Siberia that killed a child and infected at least seven other people was attributed to a heatwave that melted permafrost and exposed an infected reindeer carcass. Before this, the last outbreak in the region had been in 1941.

To better understand the risk



posed by frozen viruses, Dr Stéphane Aris-Brosou and his colleagues at the University of Ottawa in Canada collected soil and sediment samples from Lake Hazen, close to where small, medium and

large amounts of meltwater from local glaciers flowed in.

Next, they sequenced RNA and DNA in these samples to identify signatures closely matching those of known viruses, as well as po-

tential animal, plant or fungal hosts, and ran an algorithm that assessed the chance of these viruses infecting unrelated groups of organisms.

The research, published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, suggested that the risk of viruses spilling over to new hosts was higher at locations close to where large amounts of glacial meltwater flowed in -- a situation that becomes more likely as the climate warms.

The team did not quantify how many of the viruses they identified were previously unknown -- something they plan to do in the coming months -- nor did they assess whether these viruses were capable of triggering an infection.

Pakistan out of FATF's grey list

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 21: Pakistan has been taken off from the grey list of the FATF, the global watchdog on terror financing and money laundering, four years after the country was put in the infamous category.

Significantly, for the first time, the FATF put Myanmar in the "high risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action," often referred to as the watchdog's black list.

In a statement, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) said it welcomes Pakistan's significant progress in improving its anti-money laundering, combating financial terrorism regime.

MORE P8

JAJPUR RTO GOES GREEN

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/Jaipur, Oct 21: The Regional Transport Office (RTO) in Jaipur has become the first solar-powered transport office in the state.

As most of the offices depend on electricity for most of their energy consumption needs, installing solar panels on the rooftop of the RTO buildings will reduce electricity bills. "The idea was to adopt green energy and reduce energy bill. It will save a lot of money in the long run and improve the efficiency of the workplace as solar power can create unending flow of huge amount of electricity without fluctuations," said Jaipur regional transport officer NK Pradhan.

The RTO is still connected to the grid, but will only pay meter charges for air-conditioner usage or consume electricity from the grid during complete cloud cover. Pradhan further said, "A recurring cost of Rs 1,000 (Approx.) per day for 20 official days sum up to Rs 20,000 (Approx.) will be saved. Approx. 30 units power generation every day will reduce the grid energy bills. This may reduce more electricity bill - approximately 10 holidays X 25 units. These 250 units can be used by general public (one normal house consumption)."

None would be spared: DCP

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: In a significant development in lady black-mailer Archana Nag case, Bhubaneswar Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Prateek Singh Friday said that whoever is found involved in the episode would face action.

He said this while addressing the media following the arrest of Archana's husband Jagabandhu Chand from his Satya Vihar residence in Mancheswar area here Friday. Chand was arrested for his alleged role in sextortion and human trafficking case.

A team of the city police in mufti reached the house of Chand Friday morning before they picked him up and took him to an unknown place for interrogation.

Chand was arrested following interrogation by the cops for a few hours in the afternoon.

Speaking on the issue, the DCP said, "A case has been registered against Archana Nag December 2 and we arrested Archana December 6. The police team continues investigation in the matter. Archana's husband was facing same allegations like assault, blackmailing a lady, extorting money and making photos viral. We were analyzing facts and information fetched during investigation. After charges of conspiracy and abetment were prima facie established against Chand, he was arrested by Khandagiri police from his residence today (Friday)."



HONEYTRAP EPISODE

- DURING THE CRACKDOWN ON CHAND, THE POLICE SEIZED 4 CELLPHONES, ONE LAPTOP, A DIARY AND SOME DOCUMENTS
- STATEMENTS OF THE VICTIM (A LADY) HAVE BEEN RECORDED UNDER SECTION 164 OF THE IPC
- POLICE, HOWEVER, ARE YET TO ARREST OTHER ACCUSED PERSONS INCLUDING THE COUPLE'S CLOSE CONFIDANT AND NEIGHBOUR KHAGESWAR

conspiracy and abetment were prima facie established against Chand, he was arrested by Khandagiri police from his residence today (Friday)."

The police later produced Chand in the court that sent him to judicial custody after rejecting his bail plea in the evening.

His lawyer told the mediaper-

sons that they have requested the court to ask authorities to provide appropriate facilities to Chand in jail as he recently underwent neck surgery and suffering from lungs ailments. During the crackdown on Chand, the police also seized four mobile phones, a laptop, a diary and some documents from Chand's possession. The seizure

is expected to reveal vital clues to the blackmailing case. Singh also said that the victim's statements have been recorded under Section 164 of the IPC.

The police team led by inspector-in-charge (IIC) of Khandagiri police station is investigating the case.

"We have been investigating the allegations made in the case sincerely. We will take action whoever is found involved in the case including absconding accused Khageswar," stated Singh.

Singh claimed that the police have been examining the bank account statements of the couple and the financial transactions therein.

Meanwhile, police are yet to arrest other accused persons including the couple's close aide and neighbour, Khageswar.

Notably, a lady lodged a complaint with Khandagiri police accusing Archana and others of blackmailing her with intimate photos and forcing her to keep sexual relations with influential persons.

They later allegedly forced the victim to extort money from the clients. The rags to riches story of Archana was so intriguing that an Odia filmmaker has planned to make a movie on her life.

The court of the sub-divisional judicial magistrate (SDJM) here October 18 rejected the bail plea of Archana.

CM launches 9 WODC projects worth ₹14.69cr

About 40,000 projects have been executed through the WODC since 2000

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday inaugurated nine projects worth Rs 14.69 crore for West Odisha Development Council (WODC) through videoconferencing.

He also laid the foundation for nine other projects worth Rs 33.68 crore.

The projects include construction of schools, kalyan mandap, sports complexes, a millet processing unit at Komna, eco-parks, stadiums, handicraft malls among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Patnaik said the state government is working for the development of western Odisha with the aim to eliminate regional imbalance. About 40,000 projects have been executed through WODC since 2000, he added.

Stating that the council's annual grant has been increased from Rs 100 crore to Rs 2,000 crore last year, the Chief Minister said that this has created an opportunity to take up more projects.

He further said that the state government is giving special em-

phasis on agriculture, irrigation and industry sectors along with infrastructure for the development of western Odisha. Along with this, special schemes are being implemented for the development of tourism and handicrafts.

He said that work is also going on for the development of Harishankar, Nrusinghanath and Maa Samaleswari shrine.

Stating that the work of Biju Expressway would be completed soon, he said that it would speed up the economic activities in the region.

A special package for the investors, who would set up industries in western Odisha, will be announced at the upcoming Make in Odisha Conclave, he said.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister unveiled a special logo and project monitoring dashboard of WODC.

Among others, Planning and Convergence Minister Rajendra Dholakia, WODC chairman Asit Tripathy, Chief Secretary Suresh Mahapatra, Development Commissioner PK Jena and Chief Minister's Secretary (ST) VK Pandian attended the meeting.

Mahanadi drainage channel revival soon

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: The state government will rejuvenate a drainage channel of Mahanadi river in Cuttack district, a project that could help in irrigation, growing cash crops and fishing activities, an official release Friday.

The mouth of the channel Suka Paika, or dead river, was closed in 1950s as a high flood control measure and now a target has been set to complete the rejuvenation work within 18 months, it said.

Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra held a meeting with the engineers concerned at the Secretariat and directed the Water Resources department to float a tender soon for renovation of the channel. Rs 49.67 crore was approved for the purpose in the meeting, the release said.

A TARGET HAS BEEN SET TO COMPLETE THE REJUVENATION WORK WITHIN 18 MONTHS

He asked the engineers to keep the renovated channel filled with water throughout the year so that farmers can utilise it for irrigation. Mahapatra also asked them to be careful about the time of implementing the project to avoid any ingress of high flood water from Mahanadi river, it said.

Four bridges will be constructed to connect village roads on both sides of the channel.

The natural channel originated from the right embankment of Mahanadi river near Ayatpur village in the district. After flowing through about 30.45 km in three blocks, the channel merged again with the river at Bankala near Tarapur.



Newly-elected Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) president Pranab Prakash Das, who is also the BJD general secretary (organisation), poses for a photo with association's vice-president Pankaj Lochan Mohanty (middle), secretary Sanjay Behera (right) and other officials in Cuttack

SC bins plea for removal of Prez

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 21: The Supreme Court Friday dismissed a petition filed by an environmentalist seeking his appointment as the President of India after removing President Droupadi Murmu from the post.

A two-judge bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Hima Kohli called the petition "scurrilous" and an abuse of the process of the court.

"What kind of scurrilous petitions are these? How is this filed under Article 32," the bench asked. The apex court also directed the registry not to entertain such frivolous petitions in future.

"The petition is frivolous and an abuse of the process of the court. The allegations made are expunged from the record and registry is requested not to entertain such pleas in the near future," the bench ordered. The petitioner in his plea alleged that he was not allowed to contest the recent Presidential elections. He pleaded the court to hear him and that he will work for the betterment of the world.

"Please hear me for two minutes. Recent example of Sri Lanka where citizens entered President's home, what is happening in Russia, I will work for the whole world where things are messy. President's role needs to be redefined," he said. "If you are an environmentalist you can make speeches with your specialised knowledge but not this," the court said.

Spl vending zone for women SHGs in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) mayor Sulochana Das Friday visited CRP Square area to select a suitable location for a special vending zone for women SHGs.

BMC plans to inaugurate the vending zone on the International Women's Day in March next year. It will have shops selling food products and household articles prepared by the SHGs.

Currently, the BMC has 34 vending zones in different localities housing more than 1500 kiosks, including the ones along the Janpath, which were built in such a way that they have retained the aesthetic beauty of the stretch.

The mayor, along with deputy mayor, additional commissioners, DC market, ZDC SW and Team BMC also visited the Tarini market of Bharatpur ward-22. Discussion was held on market development and all vendors were advised to maintain sanitation.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before Notary, Bhubaneswar, I have changed my name from ANITA CHINTU KAMRA to ANITA PRADHAN for all purposes.

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before Notary Public, Bhubaneswar, I declare that Sumangala S.Kamat, Sumangala Shaw Kamat and Sumangala Shaw is one and same person. That the facts Stated Best of my knowledge, Henceforth above names shall be known for all purposes.

By virtue of an affidavit I, Sri Harikrushna Samala, S/o. Damodar Samala of Damodara Bihar, Ward-16, of Paralakhemundi declare that I have lost my interim document bearing No.2069 pertaining to schedule land, purchased from Bijaya Chandra Samala, S/o. Budhia Samala who alternatively had purchased the same scheduled land from Banchanidhi Das, son of Chandrasekhar Das of place Street is one and same. In spite of all my best effort it could not be recovered.

Naveen, CP pay tribute to martyrs on Police Commemoration Day

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: On the Police Commemoration Day, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressed his respect for the police personnel of the state for their bravery, heroism, sacrifice, while also paying homage to all the martyrs.

Through his Twitter account, the CM said, "Police personnel play an instrumental role in the society by maintaining law and order situation and by providing protection to people. On Police Commemoration Day, I salute their bravery, heroism, sacrifice, and



pay homage to all the martyrs and their family members."

On the occasion of 63rd Police Commemoration Day, twin city Commissioner of Police (CP) Saumendra Priyadarsi and other senior officers of Odisha Police

also paid homage to the three martyrs of Odisha Police - Sepoy Majhi Kaibarta, Sepoy Sitaram Murmu and Havildar Surjyakanta Champati and others of various police establishments who laid down their lives for the safety of the people.

October 21 commemorates the sacrifices of ten CRPF personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty on October 21, 1959, ten Indian policemen were killed during an attack by Chinese troops in the Hot Springs region close to Ladakh after an argument between the troops.

Hybrid hearing in tehsils from Nov 1

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 21: The state government has asked the district Collectors to ensure revenue courts in 60 tehsils offer a hybrid mode of hearing from November 1 this year.

In a letter to the Collectors, Revenue and Disaster Management (R&DM) department Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Satyabrata Sahu said the department has undertaken a host of e-governance initiatives to reduce physical interface between citizens and government offices, and enable citizens to apply and avail its services from anywhere.

Services of the Revenue department can be availed without visiting government offices except in

cases of statutory requirements. "So, the government has been pleased to allow hearing of parties through virtual mode at the option of parties. Hybrid mode—both physical and virtual modes—is allowed," Sahu said.

The tehsildars have been asked to facilitate such virtual hearing through Bharat Net, MS Team, Google Meet or Zoom from November 1, 2022. Sahu has asked the Collectors to circulate the information to all sub-collectors and tehsildars so that they can create public awareness for the virtual hearing.

The Collectors have also been asked to review the number of such virtual hearing cases heard by each tehsildar during the district revenue review meeting.

Share of fair sex in organised workforce up: Data

Female participation in the organised workforce has recorded a rise in August as net membership of women in organised workforce has increased by 22.60 per cent in August 2022 as compared to the corresponding period last year.

The provisional payroll data of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) released Thursday showed an increase of 14.40 per cent in net membership addition in August 2022 as compared to the corresponding month during last year in 2021. EPFO has added 16.94 lakh net members in August 2022.

Of the total members added during the month, around 9.87 lakh new members have come under the ambit of EPFO for the first

time. Out of 9.87 lakh new members added, approximately 58.32 per cent are from the age-group of 18-25 years of age.

This age-group signifies a crucial stage for an individual's potential in terms of earning capacity and joining organised workforce in large numbers following their education.

The data shows that during the month, approximately 7.07 lakh net members exited but rejoined EPFO by changing their jobs within the establishments covered by EPFO and opted to transfer their funds from previous PF account to the current account instead of submitting claims for final settlement. This may be attributed to various e-initiatives taken by EPFO for seamless and uninterrupted serv-



ice delivery. Gender-wise analysis of payroll data indicates that enrolment of net female members has been

3.63 lakh in August 2022. State-wise payroll figures highlighted that month-on-month growing trend in net member addition

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Goolle Mart-9778056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugadai-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Jagapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemana-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-750457743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

REHAB GONE WRONG

B'deshis get land at Bagapatia

RAJNAGAR POLICE ASKED TO PROBE, SUBMIT REPORT ON FIVE SETTLERS



report has been forwarded to the police station.

Rajnagar police have been asked to investigate about Tarapad Raptan and five others having familial link with him, tehsildar Ashwini Kumar Bhuyan said. "We want to know about their real identities and nationality. After investigation report is submitted, action will be taken against the people if their identities are found forged," he added.

It may be noted here that post seventies, infiltration of Bangladeshis in coastal pockets under Rajnagar and other areas of Kendrapara district has been increasing. Illegal settlers have managed to obtain voter cards, Aadhaar and ration cards and spread to almost all panchayats under Rajnagar block during the nineties, it was alleged. Some of them have even been elected as people's representatives over years.

In 2016, an investigation had revealed that Tarapad Raptan had come from Bangladesh. However, according to the Gupti RI's report, Tarapad's kin like Haripad Raptan, Nalini Raptan, Maya Raptan and Itika Raptan are Indian nationals. This confusion has drawn sharp reactions from various quarters.

One Dharanidhar Rout of Satabhaya area had complained before Collector Amrit Rituraj that Tarapad and his kin Haripad Raptan, Nalini Raptan, Maya Raptan and Itika Raptan are Bangladeshis nationals, but these people have been rehabilitated as Indians using political pressure. The Collector has taken the issue seriously and asked the tehsildar to look into the matter and submit a report.

Bagapatia along with the Charigharia villagers.

Locals have alleged that if a person was officially found to be a Bangladeshi, how the kin of the person concerned could be treated as Indian nationals. Many wondered and argued how the tehsil administration failed to know about the nationality of these five suspected Bangladeshis before their rehabilitation along with local people at Bagapatia.

After some reports on the matter appeared on media, the tehsil administration has woken up from its slumber. Strangely, Bijay Jena, revenue inspector (RI) of Gupti, in his investigation report had earlier claimed that these five people are Indian nationals who had been living at Charigharia for over 35 years.

The Gupti RI in his report even tried to prove their Indian nationality by producing voter identity cards, Aadhaar cards, ration cards and other official documents issued to the five people.

To verify the report of the RI, the Rajnagar tehsildar Ashwini Kumar Bhuyan has issued a letter to Rajnagar police Thursday to look into the matter and submit a report on the identity of the five. The RI's



PUBLIC IRE: Hundreds of tribals staged a protest outside the Collectorate in Sundargarh against proposed land acquisition for expansion of a limestone mine at Rajgangpur, Friday

HUGE CACHE OF MAOIST ARMS, EXPLOSIVES SEIZED



POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Oct 21: A huge cache of arms, explosives and other Maoist items was recovered during a combing operation by security forces near Tulasi hill in Kartanpalli panchayat under Mathili block of this district, Friday.

Acting on specific information October 19, police and security forces had conducted an intensive search operation in Tulasi reserve forest under Mathili police station bordering Chhattisgarh.

One major Maoist dump was

uncovered in a forested area of Katwapadar village under Kartanpalli gram panchayat in the wee hours of Friday.

This has led to recovery and seizure of huge quantity of IEDs, arms and ammunitions, laptop, notebook, a multimeter, umbrellas, mobile chargers, Maoist literature, a pair of uniforms, medicines and other incriminating items. All these items belong to Maoists of Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee. This was stated by Malkangiri SDPO Subhendu Kumar Patra at presser here Friday.

Man dies in cracker explosion; wife critical

ANGUL: A man was killed while his wife was critically injured Friday after a firecracker in the making exploded. The deceased was identified as Tripura Behera (45). He and his family members were making the explosives at Sanda village under Khamar police limits in Angul district. Reports said that Tripura Behera was making firecrackers when a bomb exploded all of a sudden while it was being wrapped with rope. Following this, Tripura sustained severe burn injuries and succumbed on the spot whereas his wife was critically injured. The woman was rushed to the district headquarters hospital (DHH) in Angul. Police visited the spot and initiated an investigation.

VIMSAR to get 33 new ICU beds in Nov



Sambalpur, Oct 21: The Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical

Sciences and Research (VIMSAR) in Sambalpur will get 33 new beds at its intensive care unit next month, an official said Friday.

At present, there are only 20 beds in the central ICU of Vimsar, which caters to patients from across western Odisha and neighbouring Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

Out of the 33 new ICU beds, 22 will be dedicated for patients of the medicine department and the rest for the surgery department, Vimsar Director Lalit Meher said.

The medical institute is planning to make the new beds functional by the first week of November, Meher said.

Campaigning acquires feverish pitch

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, Oct 21: Electioneering for the bypoll in the Dhamnagar Assembly constituency in this district has acquired feverish pitch Friday while state and central leaders of the BJP and the senior leaders of BJD have been campaigning relentlessly for their respective candidates for last four days. The seat is going to see a four-cornered contest as Congress and Independent candidates in the fray are leaving no stone unturned to woo voters.

Streets, lanes and bylanes of the coastal seat have worn a festive look as they are dotted with banners and posters of the candidates. Bike rallies, meetings and road shows are being organised on a regular basis by the BJP and BJD.

Friday, Union Education and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan held a meeting of party functionaries and workers at Agrasen Bhawan in Bhadrak and reviewed the execution of their strategies and campaigning for Suryavanshi Suraj, son of late MLA Bishnu Sethi.



Pradhan advised party workers to woo voters by highlighting the popularity of late leader Bishnu Sethi and welfare schemes of the Central government while canvassing for party nominee Suryavanshi Suraj.

The youth BJP leader was seen visiting houses well before his name was announced by the party. He is the first one to launch campaigning. Suraj has pinned hope on his father's public relations for his victory. He is also maling all-out efforts to woo voters. He along with his supporters and party workers is seen going around villages seeking people's support for him. BJD state president Samir Mohanty, former state prabhari (in-charge) D Purandeswari, former

minister Manmohan Samal, state leaders like Golak Mohapatra, Kalindi Samal, Abhimanyu Sethi, Sipra Bajpai and many other leaders were seen hitting the campaign trail.

At the same time, BJD has engaged many star campaigners for party's pick Abanti Das. The party leaders and workers are organising bike rallies and road shows in several panchayats. BJD leaders like Pritiranjana Ghadei, Pranab Balabantray, Revenue Minister Pramila Mallick, MP Majulata Mandal, Rajya Sabha MP Sulata Deo, Prafulla Samal, Sanjib Mallick and Amar Satpathy were seen participating in road shows and rallies in various parts of Dhamnagar. BJD says it is confident of the party

candidate's victory by a huge margin. On the other hand, Congress candidate for the bypoll, Baba Harekrushna Sethi has not fallen behind. He along with his army of supporters and party workers has stepped up campaigning in several panchayats.

Independent candidate Rajendra Das, who was expelled from the BJD for anti-party activities, is also campaigning and leaving no stones unturned.

He is visiting all panchayats and villages along with his supporters, claiming that the voters in Dhamnagar are always with him. According to political observers, Das has made the fight tougher for the state's ruling party.

Nalco launches yoga and wellness centre

BHUBANESWAR: National Aluminium Company Limited (Nalco), the Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Mines, has been proactively undertaking various cleanliness drives across all its units and offices with special focus on disposal of scraps and freeing of office spaces. As part of the month-long Special Campaign 2.0, which started October 2, the company led by CMD Sridhar Patra has been undertaking various activities related to cleanliness, timely disposal of pending matters, record management, efficient use of office space and restriction on single use plastic. As part of this special drive in NALCO's smelter & power complex at Angul, the Suniamunda lake has been cleaned and a yoga and wellness centre has been made functional at the training institute.



Sambalpur women turn agripreneurs

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Oct 21: The state government has launched various schemes to make women self-reliant as part of its women empowerment drive.

The move has instilled a sense of confidence among the women to take up independent economic activities and become self-reliant.

As such, women in Sambalpur district are increasingly getting drawn towards agriculture which has helped them earn their livelihood and become self-reliant. They have shown how agriculture can become life changing and bring about a turnaround in their lives and community.

The women are receiving help in their endeavour from over 15 state-owned departments like Mission Shakti, Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM), Horticulture, Agriculture and Fisheries departments as well as Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA).

There are 57 producers' groups of state government with four producer companies of Centre having over 7,000 women members.



The Sanatanpali Farmers' Producer Company under Jujumura block which has over 740 farmers including 400 women is a case in this point. As many as 25 SHGs have also joined this group, said Prachi Patel, the chief executive officer of this group. The women farmers here are being supplied with types of seeds and pesticides either free of cost or at subsidised rates, she said. A cold storage has also been established in the village which the farmers use to store their farm produce.

The women farmers here have taken up vegetable, mushroom and fish farming. They are selling vegetables and mushroom everyday and earning cash in exchange.

This has given them a confidence and power to manage their families. As a result, the women members are earning around ₹2 lakh to ₹5 lakh each from the cultivation, she said.

They have been awarded for their efforts in state and national levels and have adopted agriculture as their means of livelihood. Irregular rainfall, climate change, pest attacks and drought have failed to deter them.

When contacted, ORMAS district coordinator Sribanta Hota said all help in government level is being provided to the producers' group. Establishment of better marketing facilities, cold storage and processing units in every block will be done in phases, he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public at large that my client **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited (JSFB)**, Khandagiri Branch/ Office, is going to consider granting/ granted certain credit facilities to Mr. Biswakalyan Behera against the mortgage of the property more particularly described in the schedule hereunder written ('said property') owned by ... Mr. Biswakalyan Behera. However, further the original chain title following documents pertaining to the said property is lost and/or misplaced and are not traceable.

a) Sale Deed No. 11132205321
Any entity/ person including any Bank or Financial Institution having any right, title, benefit, interest, claim, or demand in respect of the said property or any part/ thereof and/or the said property by way of sale, transfer, exchange, lease, sub-lease, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, inheritance, bequest, succession, gift, maintenance, easement, trust, tenancy, sub-tenancy, license, occupation, possession, possession of original title deeds, family arrangement/ settlement, decree or order of any court of law, contracts/agreements, partnership, acquisition, any writing and/or arrangement or otherwise howsoever, is/are hereby required to make the same known in writing, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the undersign within 10(Ten) days from the date hereof either by hand delivery against proper written acknowledgement of the undersigned or by RPAD or through electronic mode, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such entity/ or person/s will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and my client shall proceed to enter into the transaction.

SCHEDULE
District: Khurda, Tahasil: Bhubaneswar, SRO: Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar PS: Chandaka, PS No. 48, Odisha Sarkar, Khetwat No.1, Mouza: GOTHAPATNA, Khata No. 176/339 (One Hundred Seventy Six By Three Hundred Thirty Nine), Stitban Plot No. 576/758/1276 (Five Hundred Seventy Six by Seven Hundred Fifty Eight by One Thousand Two Hundred Seventy six).
Sd/-
Advocate for JSFB
BIJAYA KUMAR JENA
North: Plot No. 756,
South: Plot No. 763,
East: Road,
West: Plot No. 770
Mobile - 94370 24302
Email : bijay.basudha@gmail.com
Bhubaneswar - 751014

FORM No. 13
BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, CUTTACK, ORISSA
C-71, SECTOR - 7, CDA, CUTTACK, ODISHA
O. A. No. 313/2022

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. ... Applicant
Versus
M/s Balaram Sahoo & Another ... Defendant(s)

To,
1) Balaram Sahoo, AI/PO-Khandeswar, Debidwar, Jaipur, Odisha - 755001
2) Sabitri Sahoo
W/o Balaram Sahoo
AI/PO-Khandeswar, Debidwar, Jaipur, Odisha - 755001

SUMMONS BY PAPER PUBLICATION FOR SHOWING CAUSE AS TO WHY THE RELIEF PRAYED SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED

Take Notice that the applicant has instituted an O.A. No. 313/2022 in the Court of the Debts Recovery Tribunal, Cuttack for recovery of Rs. 35,15,698.64 only together with current and future interest, costs and other reliefs. The above mentioned defendants are therefore, directed to appear before this tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorised agent, in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the publication or on 18.11.2022 at 10.30 a.m. as to why reliefs prayed should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in their absence.

Given under my hand seal of this Tribunal on this 03rd day of October, 2022

Sd/-
(M. K. Patnankar)
Registrar

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.H. DIVISION, KORAPUT
Tel/Fax: 06852-250740, e-mail: eephrkp@nic.in, eephrkp@gmail.com
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e" Procurement Notice
No C-1435
e-Procurement Notice for 2022-23
Bid Identification No. EE, P.H.KPT - 12 of 2022-23 Dt. 17.10.2022

- No. of the works : 1 No.
- Estimated Cost : Rs. 8.88 lakh (Approx.)
- Period of Completion : 3 months
- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal : From 11.00 A.M. of 25.10.2022 to 05.00 P.M. of 07.11.2022
- Last date/time of receipt of bids in the portal : 05.00 P.M. of 07.11.2022
- Date & time of opening of bids : 11.00 A.M. of 09.11.2022
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Executive Engineer, P.H. Division, Koraput

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in".

Sd./- (Er. Chiranjibi Mahali)
Executive Engineer,
P.H. Division, Koraput

OIPR-13008/11/0019/2223

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA DEMAND NOTICE
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
Plot No.: 778, First Floor, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007

Notice under Sec 13 (2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/Legal Heirs of deceased Borrower who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loan has been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 on their last known addresses but one notice has been returned unserved & as such all are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

BALUGAON BRANCH / A/c. No. / Name & Address of the Borrower/Legal Heirs of Deceased Borrower	Details of Property / Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	Date of Notice / Date of NPA	Amount outstanding + Intt.
A/c. No.: 40116953885 (Housing Loan) Borrower: Mr. Biranchi Narayan Pradhan, S/o.: Late Khali Pradhan, Deceased Borrower: Jagannath Pradhan, Both are At: Gumusarpadar, P.O.: Gniakhalala, P.S.: Balugaon, Dist.: Khurda-752030 / Legal Heirs of Jagannath Pradhan (Deceased Borrower) : 1) Mrs Kabuli Pradhan, W/o.: Late Jagannath Pradhan, 2) Mr. Sanjib Ku Pradhan, S/o.: Late Jagannath Pradhan, 3) Mr. Ranjib Ku Pradhan, S/o.: Late Jagannath Pradhan, 4) Mr. Basanta Ku Pradhan, S/o.: Late Jagannath Pradhan, all are at At: Gumusarpadar, Balugaon, Khurda-752030	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Homestead Land as per record of rights situated at Gnumusarpadar, Balugaon, Mouza: Singeswar, Khata No.: 276/265, Plot No.: 329, for Area: 0.239 Dec, Total Area Measuring Ac.0.239 Dec, standing in the name of Late Sri Jagannath Pradhan & Sri Biranchi Narayan Pradhan, Bounded by South: Land of Harihara Mishra & Others, North: Land of Sri Malikeswar Dev, East: Road, West: Land of Sri Radhakanta Dev	25.07.2022 / 24.07.2022	₹30,34,123/- as on 24.07.2022 + interest

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower/Legal heirs of Deceased Borrower are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub section (4) of section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section(8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Place : Bhubaneswar, Date : 21.10.2022 Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

FOCUS RUSSIAN AGGRESSION

SIRENS OF APPEASEMENT



As the West considers its options for avoiding World War III, it must not repeat the mistakes it made back in 2008, when it did practically nothing about Putin's war of aggression against Georgia

practically nothing about Putin's war of aggression against Georgia. In claiming to have annexed large swaths of Ukrainian territory through sham referendums and arguing that Ukraine is a fake country, Putin has made no secret of his ultimate intentions. Yet according to those calling for peace negotiations, Putin might be "reconciled" to the continued existence of some rump Ukrainian state if it means that he can keep the illegally annexed territories, and if NATO commits never to admit Ukraine.

Such arguments are music to Putin's ears. He is gambling that a cold winter, high energy prices, and war fatigue will undermine the West's unity and make the sirens of appeasement irresistible. The less chance there appears to be for a timely military victory (by either side), the greater the impetus for Western diplomats to intervene and start pushing Ukraine to negotiate and settle.

But the 2008 Georgia War and the 2014 annexation of Crimea should have proven by now that appeasement only begets more aggression. The sole way for the West to secure peace is to maintain unity and support Ukraine (militarily, economically, and diplomatically) until it regains all of its territory.

That means not giving in to Putin's nuclear threats (which smack of desperation), and not countenancing any short-term deals that help him create the illusion of victory. Like a half-treated cancer, Russia will simply regroup and strike back even more aggressively if Putin is appeased.

Ukraine has already paid a staggering price for its freedom – and for the cause of freedom everywhere. The least the West must do is give it a chance to secure a viable, long-term peace. That starts by not selling Ukraine out to those who deny its very right to exist.

The author is former head of Georgia's Mission to the European Union.

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Wars are easier to start than to finish, and their finale rarely follows any prescribed script. But if you are the aggressor, a clear zero-sum victory is rarely an option.

Nonetheless, with no end in sight for the Russian-Ukrainian War, calls by some in the West to give Russian President Vladimir Putin a "face-saving off-ramp" out of the conflict are growing louder. Most of these arguments start with the flawed presumption that Putin had a valid reason for his war, which would justify a peace that compromises Ukraine's sovereignty yet again.

The 2008 NATO Summit in Bucharest supposedly incited Putin's ire by granting Georgia and Ukraine a promise of eventual membership in the alliance. Never mind that there was no membership action plan for either country put forward, owing to lack of support from Germany and France.

While NATO's non-decision signaled to Putin that he should do whatever he could to make such promises impossible, France and Germany's reluctance gave him an opportunity to drive a wedge between the alliance's members. He seized it by launching a war in Georgia in 2008, occupying territory that remains under Russian control to this day. Sadly for the world, that gambit worked: most NATO members took a decisive step back from political support of the accession process for Georgia and Ukraine.

The world likely would be in a very different place today if the Bucharest Summit had actually put Georgia and Ukraine on a path to NATO membership. The West would have responded to the invasion of Georgia with more than declarations, and Ukraine most likely would have been spared today's bloodshed.

That didn't happen. While Georgian officials warned in 2008-09 that impunity for Russia for its invasion and land grab would lead to more acts of aggression against Ukraine and others, they were

dismissed as being paranoid or solely concerned with their own political survival following a disastrous war. As Georgia's ambassador to the European Union between 2005 and 2013, I was often told by senior European policymakers that Russia would never dare to annex Crimea or invade Ukraine.

Not only did the EU ignore our pleas for sanctions and a revision of its Russia-dependent energy strategy; some European officials even started making excuses for Russia. When the EU launched an Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia, Russia successfully manipulated the final report to suit its own interests. Then, US President Barack Obama's administration took office and pursued its ill-fated "reset" with Russia, sending an unambiguous signal that Putin would face no meaningful accountability for launching a war to carve up Georgia.

In 2012, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, whom Putin often described as a personal foe, was voted out of office. Some in the West took his defeat as a sign that relations with Russia should be normalized further.

No one seemed to have noticed at the time that Saakashvili's pro-Western government was replaced by a Russia-friendly oligarchy that has since stalled Georgia's progress toward democracy and integration with the West. Over the past decade, the Georgian government has undermined projects of great strategic importance to NATO in the Black Sea region – such as the Anaklia Deep Sea Port – while showing only lukewarm support for Ukraine in its fight for survival.

Similarly, Germany's decision to press ahead with the Nord Stream 2 pipeline – first following Putin's invasion of Georgia, and then again following his illegal annexation of Crimea – now stands out as a completely feckless strategic blunder (though it certainly isn't the only one). All these missteps helped bring us to where we are today. As US President Joe Biden recently warned, the prospect of nuclear "Armageddon" now looms larger than it has since the Cuban Missile Crisis of 60 years ago this week.

As the West considers its options for avoiding World War III, it must not repeat the mistakes it made back in 2008, when it did

PUTIN IS GAMBLING THAT A COLD WINTER, HIGH ENERGY PRICES, AND WAR FATIGUE WILL UNDERMINE THE WEST'S UNITY AND MAKE THE SIRENS OF APPEASEMENT IRRESISTIBLE



Salome Samadashvili

Deputation Blues

The annual conference of principal secretaries of states and union territories held recently had one theme that overrode other discussions on administration and administrative reforms-related work.

Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh asked the states to spare more IAS, IPS and IFS officers for Central deputation, which has become a major issue in recent months. And as 2024 approaches, the Modi sarkar is hastening to address gaps in governance. Singh is now trying to urge babus to overcome their reluctance to serve at the Centre. The Union government has been facing a shortage of IAS officers and to tide over the crisis, it even tweaked the rules in 2021, which stated that state government permission is not necessary for a posting at the Centre. But clearly, that carrot has not worked, with even babus from the BJP-ruled states, preferring to keep their distance from Delhi. Meanwhile, reportedly, the Centre has to confront a shortage of 1,472 IAS officers and 864 IPS officers.

Clearly, the periodic pep talks and admonitions by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Singh to the babus have failed to dispel the perception in the states and UTs that a Central posting is desirable for upward career mobility. Until the Centre solves this conundrum, it will continue to suffer from deputation blues.

Show your face: AP to senior babus

Fingerprint scanning is passe. Facial recognition is now the next step in recognising the identity of employees. The Andhra Pradesh government has reportedly made facial attendance mandatory for senior IAS officers of the state. Those in the secretary rank and work in the state Secretariat may soon be required to face a camera and mark their attendance.



BABUDOM BYTES
Dilip Cherian

Sources have informed DKB that the Jagan Reddy government has prescribed this new standard operating procedure to mark the daily attendance of the secretary, principal secretary and special chief secretary-rank IAS officers. As far as DKB can tell, while fingerprint scanning is prevalent in some states, this is a first-of-its-kind system for senior babus in the country. The government has bought a facial recognition system mobile application with geographical information system tagging to mark the daily attendance of these very senior babus. For now, this system has been implemented in the Secretariat, but it will soon be rolled out to cover other IAS officers as well.

Apparently, the system has been in the works for more than a year, sources say. Chief Secretary Sameer Sharma has been issuing frequent instructions, on the directions of Chief Minister Jagan Reddy, asking special chief secretaries, principal secretaries and secretaries of all departments to "get organized and make things effective."

Intrusive or just sensible? And what next, some wonder. Iris scanners?

Low-key but powerful

Even if it is not formally mandated, Narendra Modi's PMO is the focal point, controlling all decision-making of the Modi sarkar. Even the ministries have either conceded their domain or the PMO has simply overridden their decision-making authority, in most cases. Naturally, the men and women who comprise today's PMO invite a lot of interest.

For those who want to know how the Prime Minister manages to look at so many decisions on a continuous basis, perhaps a look at the structure below the Big Three is the obvious thing to do. While many of the high-profile names who made waves during Modi's first tenure have moved out of the PMO, the current lot carefully handpicked by Modi now spearheads his flagship programmes and lends their expertise to their given responsibilities.

At the top of this select group is PK Mishra, now Principal Secretary to the PM, who has continued his association with the PM since the Gujarat days and accompanied Modi to the PMO in 2014. Besides him, two other senior advisors in the PMO are retired IAS officers Amit Khare and Tarun Kapoor. Besides them are four additional secretaries, three joint secretaries, two private secretaries, 10 directors and four officers on special duty, drawn from all services including the IAS, IPS, IFS and IRS. Interestingly, there is one woman officer Punya Salila Srivastava, who was inducted last year. She oversees social and welfare programmes and is in charge of the various announcements made by the PM. It is this team that Modi relies on most for the implementation of government policy. It is these low-profile babus who are pulling the strings behind the scenes.

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

WISDOM CORNER

- In a conflict between the heart and the brain, follow your heart. **SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**
- Every man who has become great owes his achievement to incessant toil. **MOKSHAGUNDAM VISVESVARAYA**
- For wise and good men always feel disinclined to hurt those that are of much less strength than themselves" **RAM MOHAN ROY**

WORDSWORTH

Woebegone

Woebegone is first recorded in The Romance of Guy of Warwick, of about the year 1300. At that date, people would say things like "me is woe begon", grief has beset me. Notice the word order, with me as the indirect object of the sentence, but put first. The verb here is bego, which has been obsolete for something like four hundred years, but which in medieval times had a variety of senses, such as to go round, surround or beset. Over time, the link between woe and begone, the past participle of bego, became so close that they fused into a single adjective, so tightly linked that they survived shifts in language and the loss of the verb bego. For some centuries it retained this sense of "afflicted by grief", oppressed with misfortune, distress, sorrow or grief. We're now a long way from that medieval romance, but in continuing to use the word we retain a small vestige of middle English as a linguistic fossil. Several other archaic forms in woe have also survived, such as "woe is me" and "woe betide you", presumably because there's a continuing need for formulaic lamentatory utterances.

Allohistory

Other names for this idea are counterfactualism, virtual history, and uchronia, though the most common term is alternative history (alternate history in the US). It's a "what if" approach, which works out what might have happened if some nodal event in history had not occurred or had turned out differently – what if Napoleon had won at Waterloo, for example (it was "a damn close-run thing", you may recall). It has long been a staple plot type for science fiction, from Ward Moore's Bring the Jubilee, through Philip K Dick's The Man in the High Castle and Keith Robert's Pavane, to Orson Scott Card's Pastwatch and Kim Stanley Robinson's recent The Years of Rice and Salt. In scholarly historical circles, "what if" speculation has in the past been unpopular to the point of derision, though this is now changing, in particular in the field of military history. The British historian Niall Ferguson wrote a book in 1997 in which he defended allohistory – he argued that if the study of history is ever to be able to predict future events on the basis of past ones, it is important to analyze what might (or should) have happened, as well as what actually did. The prefix allo- is from Greek allos, "different, other", as in allegory and allergy.

SPECTRUM HEALTH INFRA

Liberal funding critical

Writing on the health sector always starts with the poor outlay and the appalling infrastructure that exists in the rural and backward regions of the country. While many economists would give priority to utilise the scarce resources available in the country for developing social infrastructure, it has to be admitted that the Union government as also the states can strain their purse a little bit, keeping in view the fact that health has a very positive effect on the economic process.

In her Budget speech two year ago, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated that the government proposed to set up hospitals in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in select underserved districts where at present there are no hospitals covered by the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY). It was also said that medical colleges would be attached to district hospitals in PPP mode to address shortage of qualified medical doctors. However, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) expressed concerns through public health experts that inviting the private sector to manage public hospitals was tantamount to backdoor corporatisation of civil hospitals and would not help the poor.

At that time, the IMA asked the

government to revise its decision. While there has been a steady fall in the outlay of the National Health Mission during the past four years or so, except the expenditure incurred in tackling the pandemic, both the district and sub-divisional health infrastructure has deteriorated.

The 15th Finance Commission allocated Rs106, 606 crore for strengthening the public health infrastructure, accounting for 0.1 percent of the GDP based on recommendation of the Working Group for Health.

Therefore, The Pradhan Mantri Atmanirbhar Swasthya Bharat Yojana (PMASBY) is expected to undertake strengthening 29,000 primary healthcare facilities, establish integrated labs in districts and blocks, nine bio-safety labs, four Regional Institutes of Virology, strengthen the surveillance system and the National Centre for Disease Control etc. However, reports indicate that not much has been achieved till date, obviously due to resource crunch and other factors which include the mushrooming of nursing homes to compensate for poor health infrastructure in blocks and villages.

It is understood that the Family Caregivers grant for strengthening primary care through local bodies is conditional on the states

establishing the State Finance Commission regarding property tax. It should be mentioned here that such an attempt of releasing conditional grants for local bodies by earlier Commissions failed as devolution of functions, funds and functionaries as required under the 73rd and 74th amendments is seen to be a politically risky reform that most states are reluctant to undertake.

In such a scenario, health sector remains a cause for serious concern. With the government's unwillingness to spend on health together with doctor's unwillingness to work amongst the poor in the villages as facilities are inadequate – and virtually non-existent in the backward regions of the country – it is a big challenge.

In India, the weakening of the public health system and collapse of the three-tier health system combined with rampant privatisation of healthcare has been disastrous, especially for the poor. India's obsession with the quantity of doctors has resulted in the opening of a large number of colleges with poor facilities and infrastructure, inadequate patient load and not enough faculty, leading to thousands of poorly trained doctors being churned out every year. The colleges for nursing and paramedical staff are said to be

in a worse state, as about 90 percent of these are private and clearly substandard. Though on paper the numbers available to the health system are constantly increasing, in reality, in rural India, where two-thirds of the population lives, the acute shortage of doctors and nurses remains unaddressed. Doctors either work in metros and big cities or look for opportunities overseas.

Like education, health has become a safe zone of business with virtually no risk. It is quite distressing that the system seeks to ignore violation of rules and regulations insofar as health is concerned for the ordinary people.

The health of a nation is intrinsically connected to wealth and prosperity. Though the government may have taken positive steps in relation to tackling the pandemic by allocating necessary resources in this direction, there is need to continue with this liberal spending in the rural hospitals.

Keeping in view the imperative need to reduce the quantum of diseases, the government must also come forward with an integrated plan of action for the marginalised section in the coming five years in collaboration with all agencies working in the field. This should be applicable in all states and Union Territories.

INFPA

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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Testing time for Truss

Sir, The resignation of Suella Braverman, an important figure on the Right of the Tory party, has been a hammer blow to Liz Truss's faltering premiership. Ms. Braverman said she had resigned after using her personal email to send an official document to a colleague. The UK's headline Interior Minister Suella Braverman quit the government, heaping more doubt on the survival chances of Prime Minister Liz Truss after her right-wing economic agenda unravelled. Britain is about to get its third Prime Minister in three months, with Prime Minister Liz Truss announcing that she will quit the post. We have seen four chancellors, three home secretaries and two monarchs quitting in the last four months of mess prevailing over there. Sad state indeed.

CKS Maniam, CHENNAI

Return Kohinoor

Sir, The British got a 5-year-old Indian prince to gift the Kohinoor diamond to them. Hence, it's no longer morally defensible for the UK to hold on to this loot. The Kohinoor was mined in India and was one of the largest diamonds ever mined. After changing hands among various Muslim rulers in India, it found its way to the legendary Ranjit Singh who ruled Punjab. The British conquered Punjab after his death in 1849 and put his five year old son, Daleep Singh as the king under the regency of the British. Later, they got this child to gift the diamond to them. They also moved Daleep Singh to England, converted him to Christianity and did not allow him to meet his mother or any other Indian relative so that he wouldn't be aware of his heritage. The honourable thing to do is to return it from where they took it from – India.

Jubel D'Cruz, MUMBAI

Looming economic crisis

Sir, Dismayingly enough, India's foreign exchange reserves are getting depleted due to the wrong economic policies of the BJP government, and if the problem continues to be ignored, the country will face a severe economic crisis like Sri Lanka. Despite a continuous inflow of foreign money into Indian markets, the country's expanding current account deficit hasn't helped to halt the decline in import cover. The dollar is soaring to new highs against global currencies, and naturally therefore attention will likely stay on India's diminishing foreign exchange reserves for the near future. The present crisis is far from over, and it is possible that India's forex reserves may get tortured more.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

national

of the day quote

New facilities will take the teachers' training standards to new heights in the national capital
MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

There are some jumlebaaz (rhetoricians) who hoodwinked people with false promises of two crore jobs every year and Rs 15 lakh in every bank account
TEJASHWI YADAV | BIHAR DEPUTY CM

We chanted Har Har Modi, Ghar Ghar Modi and he became the Prime Minister. What we got is a jump in the price of cooking gas, from Rs 500 to Rs 1,300 per cylinder.... If he gets elected for yet another term in office, the price may reach Rs 2,000 per cylinder
PRASHANT KISHOR | POLITICAL STRATEGIST-TURNED-ACTIVIST

SHORT TAKES

Four teens drown

Thane: In a tragic incident on Diwali eve, a group of young students, celebrating a birthday party with a swim, drowned in a temple pond in Ambarnath town here on Friday afternoon, police said. The tragedy occurred around 1.30 p.m. at the Kondeshwar Shiv Temple water tank where the Mumbai boys - all aged 19 - had gone to celebrate the birthday of their friend Akash R. Zinga. According to Kulgaoon Police Station, Friday afternoon, three of them, birthday boy Zinga, along with Suraj M. Salve and Linus B. Uchchapawar, had dived into the temple tank for a swim.

Restrictions on Spicejet lifted

Mumbai: India's air safety watchdog has lifted its restrictions on budget carrier SpiceJet Ltd's operations and will allow the airline to operate at full capacity from October 30, reports said Friday. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation had halved the airline's approved fleet in July this year for a period of eight weeks, citing safety concerns. The restriction was extended till October 29.

Mehbooba asked to vacate bungalow

Srinagar: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti has been served a notice to vacate her official bungalow in the high-security Gupkar area here. "The notice to evict from Fair View was served to me a few days ago. This has not come as a surprise and is along the expected lines," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said. She said although the notice mentions that the bungalow is meant for the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, that is not the case. "This place was allotted to my father (Mufti Mohammad Sayeed) in December 2005, after he relinquished the chief minister's office. So the grounds mentioned by the administration are not correct," Mufti said.

Pregnant woman, mother killed

Chennai: In a tragic incident, a pregnant woman and her mother died when an ambulance taking them to hospital rammed into a roadside tree in Tamil Nadu's Sivaganga district Friday. The incident occurred at Senkulam in the district. Nivedha, 24, had labour pains on Friday morning and an ambulance was called from the Sivaganga Government Hospital to bring them. The driver Malaikarasam lost control on the way and hit a tree. Nivedha, her unborn baby, and her mother Vijayalakshmi died on the spot.

RISING ASSAULT ON DOCTORS SC seeks Centre's reply on pleas

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: The Supreme Court Friday sought responses from the Centre and others, including the Medical Council of India, to petitions alleging rising assault on doctors and seeking framing of guidelines for their protection across the country.

A bench of Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit and Justice Bela M Trivedi also issued notice to the Rajasthan government as the petitions filed by the Delhi Doctors Forum, Indian Medical Association (Dwarka) and Suneet Kumar Upadhyay sought a CBI probe into the alleged suicide of a gynaecologist in Dausa in the state.

Upadhyay's wife Archana Sharma, a gynaecologist, had ended her life by suicide in Rajasthan after being harassed by a mob following the death of a woman patient during the delivery on account of excessive bleeding. "Issue notice on the petitions returnable on November 23. Dasti in addition," the bench said. In legal parlance, 'Dasti' means delivery of a notice by hand.

Lawyer Shashank Deo Sudhi, appearing for Medical Association (Dwarka), said doctors are being attacked across the country even if a patient dies on account of health reasons which are beyond the control of medical professionals. "There are no medical cells in



police stations either. The police officers do not understand medical terminology," he said, adding there was a need for framing comprehensive guidelines to protect doctors.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for the husband of the deceased doctor, said the child was delivered healthy and the mother had pre-conditions which led to the death. Still the gynaecologist was hounded.

The petitioners pleaded for the Centre and other stakeholders to take remedial steps. "Issue a direction in nature of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order/direction or directions for constituting a CBI enquiry into the circumstances which led to unfortunate death of young gynaecologist doctor by committing

suicide under the mysterious conditions in order to find out the actual perpetrators of the entire incident and bring them to justice to deter other such potential wrong doer," one of the pleas said.

It also sought a direction to stakeholders for evolving a mechanism to compensate the family and dependents of doctors who lost their lives to the cause of public service. A pregnant woman, Asha Bhairwa, aged about 22 years, had died at Anand Hospital at Lalsot in Dausa, Rajasthan during delivery due to post-delivery hemorrhage on March 28.

Protests were held outside the hospital against the treating doctors who were also threatened with the registration of a murder FIR, the plea said, adding the gynaecologist died a day later allegedly by suicide.

Opposition parties denounce action on aspiring teachers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Oct 21: Opposition parties and prominent personalities of West Bengal Friday condemned the police action while removing primary teachers' job applicants from their agitation site, saying the TMC government had "flouted" the democratic rights of the protesters.

The opposition parties hit the streets against the police action, while the prominent personalities deplored the police crackdown on the agitating Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) 2014 candidates on the intervening night of Thursday and Friday terming the manhandling of "would-be teachers" as an attack on democracy.

A strong police contingent had removed the protesters, who claimed to have qualified for the 2014 TET exams but were still omitted from the merit list, after 84 hours of sit-in near the head office of the West Bengal Board of Primary Education in Salt Lake area here.

The police had dispersed the protesters, saying section 144 of the CrPC had been imposed in the area.

Around 20 of the 500-odd protesters, who sat on one flank of the road from October 17, were on fast from the next day and five of them were shifted to hospital after they fell ill Thursday.

Meanwhile, leaders of DYFI, the youth wing of the CPI(M), Meenakshi Mukherjee, and Kalatan Dasgupta were among 10 activists who were detained by the police for obstructing traffic by staging road blockade and violating prohibitory orders in the Karunamoyee area of Salt Lake.

Members of the state BJP also took out a protest rally in central Kolkata.



Security personnel detain Teacher Eligibility Test 2014 qualified candidates from their sit-in protest in Kolkata PTI PHOTO

AIIMS withdraws letter on treatment of MPs

In a recent letter to Y M Kandpal, joint secretary at the Lok Sabha Secretariat, AIIMS Director M Srinivas listed the SOPs for outpatient department (OPD), emergency consultation and in-patient hospitalisation of members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: The AIIMS administration Friday withdrew a set of standard operating procedures (SOPs) it had issued that included providing a nodal officer to coordinate and facilitate treatment for MPs, a day after facing flak from a section of doctors.

In a recent letter to Y M Kandpal, joint secretary at the Lok Sabha Secretariat, AIIMS Director M

Srinivas listed the SOPs for outpatient department (OPD), emergency consultation and in-patient hospitalisation of members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

In his letter, Srinivas has said duty officers from the department of hospital administration will be available at the AIIMS control room round-the-clock to coordinate and facilitate arrangements. The move drew sharp criticism from several associations of doctors who called

Helicopter crash: 4 bodies recovered

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Itanagar, Oct 21: Four Army personnel were killed in an defence chopper crash in Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh on Friday and search is on for a fifth person, a defence spokesperson said.

The bodies of the four Army personnel have been recovered from the crash site in a densely wooded mountain area 35 km from the borders with China, he said. The cause of the crash is not yet known and details are being ascertained, he said.

The advanced light helicopter (ALH) WSI, carrying five Army personnel including two pilots, was on regular sorties when it crashed at 10.43 am around Migging, around 25 km south of Tuting, the district headquarters.

"There were five Army personnel onboard. The mortal remains of four personnel were recovered from the crash site so far. Search for the other person is on," Tezpur based defence spokesperson Lt Col A S Walia said.

A joint search and rescue operation by the Army and Air Force was immediately launched in which a MI-17 and two ALHs along with three columns of the Indian Army were deployed and the four bodies were found, he said.

The district police sent a team to the spot for the search operation, Upper Siang superintendent of police Jummar Basar said.

School derecognised after sexual assault



The incident came to light after the parents of the victim noticed behavioural changes in her. When enquired, she told them that Rajani Kumar had been sexually assaulting her for last three months. He used to take her from classroom to digital classroom

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad, Oct 21: The Telangana government Friday derecognised a private school in Hyderabad where a four-year-old girl was sexually assaulted by driver of the school's principal.

Education Minister P Sabitha Indra Reddy ordered the Hyderabad District Education Officer to cancel recognition of DAV Public School. However, to ensure that the education of students studying at the school is not affected, the minister directed DEO to make arrangements to shift them to other recognised schools. She asked the DEO to take all necessary steps to allay the apprehensions of the parents.

The education minister also asked the officials to make sure that such incidents are not repeated. She said a committee would be constituted to recommend measures to the government to ensure safety and security of the students in schools.

The committee, which will be headed by the education secretary, will submit its report to the government within a week. She said after the receipt of the report, the government would take appropriate measures for the protection of school children. The minister's

order came three days after the police arrested driver of the school's principal for sexually assaulting the LKG student. The principal was also arrested for negligence.

Banjara Hills police on Tuesday arrested driver of the school principal for the sexual assault on the child. Following protest by the victim's relatives and others, the police on Wednesday arrested the principal for negligence. According to police Beemana Rajani Kumar (34) was arrested and sent to jail. He has been booked under section 376 A and B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and section 6 read with 5(1)(m) of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

The incident came to light after the parents of the victim noticed behavioural changes in her. When enquired, she told them that Rajani Kumar had been sexually assaulting her for last three months. He used to take her from classroom to digital classroom. Sometime, the accused took her to a room inside the school, removed her clothes and sexually assaulted her.

Enraged on learning about the assault, the victim's parents and other relatives rushed to the school and beat up the driver. He was later arrested by the police. The parents also staged a protest demanding the arrest of Principal S. Madhavi. Police also took her into custody and booked her under section 21 POCSO Act for negligence.

Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Thursday sought a report from the state government on the incident. She was deeply distressed after going through various media reports about the incident.

The governor expressed her dismay and deep anguish over the incident and called for immediate action against the culprit who perpetrated the heinous crime. She has sought a detailed report on this incident from the government.



of Resident Doctors Association (FORDA) tweeted: "So, Special Privilege stands withdrawn. Proud of everyone who supported." In another tweet, it said, "A voice of reason, rationale and resolve can make a big difference. We thank everyone for their support and stand against the VIP culture in healthcare. It's a shared success!"

The Federation of All India Medical Association (FAIMA) said, "We always stand against #VIP culture! We will never compromise with our stand! ... Director had to withdraw letter of Special treatment for #MPs (sic)!" The FORDA had Thursday questioned the SOP, highlighting that the special privilege to MPs might come at the cost of ordinary patients.

of Parliament in AIIMS may be treated as withdrawn with immediate effect," the latest letter signed by Chief Administrative Officer Deo Nath Sah wrote.

Soon after this, the Federation

Centre simplifies nearly 500 rules, earns ₹250cr under special drive

The special campaign 2.0 is being undertaken from October 2-31, 2022 in remote outstation offices, foreign missions and posts, attached and subordinate offices of the central government among other organisations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: The Centre has simplified nearly 500 rules and processes to ensure "ease of living" besides earning a revenue of more than Rs 250 crore from disposal of scrap under the ongoing special Swachhta campaign, senior bureaucrat V Srinivas said Friday.

He said around three lakh public grievances have been redressed in the campaign. "Of these, 4,500 public grievance cases pertain to

pensioners," said Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).

He said the scale of the campaign is vast and comprehensive. "Nearly 500 rules and processes have been simplified across government for improving ease of living. Each of these steps will benefit millions of India's citizens," Srinivas said.

The special campaign 2.0 is being undertaken from October 2-31, 2022 in remote outstation offices, for-



ign missions and posts, attached and subordinate offices of the central government among other organisations.

"As many as 61,532 cleanliness

campaign sites, earning Rs 252.25 crore through scrap disposal and also freeing up of 34.69 lakh sq feet of space are significant achievements during three weeks of im-

plementation of the campaign," said Srinivas, a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Rajasthan cadre.

The special campaign 2.0, in its three weeks, was holistic in size and scale, witnessed widespread participation from thousands of officials and citizens who came together to create a movement for 'swachhta' in government offices, he said.

"The most significant outcome of the campaign has been the institutionalising of swachhta in government offices and significant minimising pendency across government," Srinivas said.

He said it has been an inspiring experience to see so many common citizens come together to work with the government. In Guwahati,

hundreds of pensioners aged above 80 participated in the campaign to use the face authentication application to submit Jeevan Praman (proof of life to ensure continuity of pension) online, said Srinivas, who is also Secretary, Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare.

"At railway stations, post offices, krishi vigyan kendras - which have significant public interface - the feedback from citizens has been extremely supportive of the initiatives undertaken under the special campaign," he said. Records management and weeding of lakhs of files, conserving historical records and digitisation makes for cleaner office spaces, where work environment is conducive and healthy are the outcome of the campaign, the senior officer said.

GEARING UP

Workers preparing firecrackers at a Sivakasi manufacturing unit ahead of Diwali in Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu

PTI PHOTO



'Climate change increased J&K's average temp in last 28 years'

AGENCIES

Jammu, Oct 21: The average mean temperature in Jammu and Kashmir has increased in the last 28 years due to climate change, a senior official said Friday.

He said agriculture is the only sector that can help reduce poverty by raising incomes and food security for 80 per cent of the world's poor populace.

"J&K is also witnessing the brunt of climate change and average mean temperature in last 28 years has climbed up by 2.32°C and 1.45°C in Jammu and Kashmir region, respectively", Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Atal Dulloo said after inaugurating a two-day international conference on "existing climate change scenario and its arising risks" here. He said in 2014, we witnessed a devastating flood situation in Kashmir and almost every year due to untimely rainfall, the crop of paddy in Jammu and apple in Kashmir suffer huge losses. "We should prepare ourselves and our farmers to adapt to these weather changes so that they do not suffer on the economic front," Dulloo said. He said agriculture is an integral part of the world's economy and is the life-line of underdeveloped and developing countries like India.

"But, today the prosperity of agriculture and future of our farmers is being threatened by numer-

ous impending challenges like climate change which needs to be tackled collectively", he added.

ACS said the yield of rain-fed and irrigated rice in India has been projected to reduce by 2.5 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively, by 2050.

Further, the wheat yield has been projected to be lessened by 6 to 25 per cent and maize yields by 18 to 23 per cent in 2100, he added.

Dulloo informed the government have constituted a high-powered committee under the chairmanship of Dr Mangla Rai, former di-

rector-general of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and secretary Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) for formulating a comprehensive policy for holistic agriculture development in J&K.

He appreciated the vice-chancellors of both farm universities for playing an outstanding role in drafting proposals with the target to enhance the incomes of farmers in the union territory.

A study that maps climate hotspots over the forest cover in India using computer-model-based temperature and rainfall has been conducted for the three future time periods i.e. years 2030, 2050, and 2085. It has been observed that the biggest temperature rises are expected in Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Himachal Pradesh are expected to witness the smallest increases in rainfall if any at all.

Climate change has accelerated the already rising temperature, and unstable precipitation patterns and worsened the vulnerabilities to drought, thereby bringing the Himalayan ecosystem to naught



Dengue cases surge in Jammu

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Oct 21: Dengue cases in the district have witnessed a surge in recent weeks with one medical expert calling it the biggest epidemic since 2013.

More than 3,000 patients are admitted in hospitals with dengue while the district has already recorded six deaths, a health official said. The trend has emerged as a grave concern with cases, tests and admissions increasing every week, the official said. "Six people have died in Jammu till today (Friday)," Jammu Chief Medical Officer Harbaksh Singh told PTI.

He said the district had so far recorded 3,376 cases. "Of these, 2,796 cases have been reported from rural areas," Singh said. Besides, a few hundred cases have also been recorded in private hospitals.

In the city, over 80 per cent of the cases have been reported from Sarwal, Janipur, Rehari and Ploura areas, the official said.

Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Jammu, Principal Dr Shashi Sudhan



In the city, over 80 per cent of the cases have been reported from Sarwal, Janipur, Rehari and Ploura areas

Sharma said.

"Since last week, there has been an upward trend in dengue cases. There has been an increase in positivity among patients coming with fever. Hospital admissions have increased too," she said.

She said the mosquito-borne seasonal viral disease had spread rapidly to all regions and the number of patients in hospitals was rising every day. "Around 80-90 children and nearly 50-60 adults

are being admitted in hospitals daily," she said, adding that it was the biggest epidemic after 2013 the way it was spreading. Sharma attributed the deaths to late hospital admission.

She added that the hospital was fully prepared to cope with the situation. "Cases are being controlled and all measures are being taken to avoid the spread," she said. She also appealed to the general public to follow all precautions. Chief Medical Officer Singh said all measures had been put in place to deal with the situation.

NEET Give grace marks to SC aspirant: HC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai, Oct 21: The Madras High Court has directed the authorities concerned to award 4 grace marks to an unsuccessful SC aspirant for MBBS course for prescribing a wrong question in NEET conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).

The bench was allowing a writ appeal from T Udhayakumar, who abstained from answering question no. 97 as none of the key answers appeared correct. Fearing deduction of one mark for giving wrong answer, he preferred to leave it unanswered. He, however, had secured 92 out of 720, one short of the cut-off mark of 93 for SC candidates.

He sent a representation online. But it was not considered. Hence, he filed a writ petition, but his counsel withdrew it later without



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obtaining liberty from the court to move it again at a later stage. Hence, the present appeal.

"When the appellant/writ petitioner hailing from a downtrodden community has secured 92

marks in the National Entrance-cum-Eligibility Test (UG) 2022 examination, in view of the wrong key answers given to question No.97, he failed to secure the four marks."

"It is also the admitted case of both parties that the key answers to the question have been wrongly given. It is not out of context to mention herein that Article 46 of the Constitution says that the State shall protect the economic interests of the weaker sections of the society in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes," the first bench of Acting Chief Justice T Raja and Justice D Krishnakumar said in a recent order, while allowing the appeal as a special case.

The NTA, being an instrumentality of the State, cannot refuse to award the four grace marks to the appellant who belongs to the weaker section of the society, the bench said.

TN govt passes Bill to prohibit online gambling

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai, Oct 21: The Tamil Nadu Assembly Wednesday passed a bill to prohibit online gambling and regulate online games in the State.

The state government had earlier this month promulgated an ordinance to prohibit online gambling and regulate online games in Tamil Nadu and said an online gaming authority will be set up to exercise powers conferred by the ordinance.

Online games and gambling ruined families, led to suicides, caused gaming addiction affecting public health, disturbing social order and prejudices the maintenance of public order. Hence, the need for the present ordinance, the government had said.



AT PRESENT, 744 CASTES ARE CATEGORISED AS STs IN THE COUNTRY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Oct 21: In addition to Paharis, the GD Sharma commission has also recommended ST status for Paddari tribe, Gadda Brahmans and Kolis in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sources said the inclusion of these tribes along with Paharis as STs has been recommended by Sharma commission and these recommendations have been received by the Union ministry of tribal affairs. "The draft recommending the inclusion of Paharis, Paddari tribals, Kolis and Gadda Brahmans as STs will have to be approved by the Union cabinet after which it will be tabled before Parliament."

"This can happen during the November-December winter ses-



sion of the Parliament," sources added. For inclusion of these communities as STs in J&K as per the recommendations of the Sharma commission, Parliament will have to pass an amendment to the country's Reservation Act.

Gujjars and Bakarwals had reservations in jobs and education even before the abrogation of Article 370, but they did not have any political reservation. The delimitation commission has given them political reservation by including 9 seats, 4 in Kashmir division and 5 in Jammu division, in the 90-member J&K for STs. The Assembly elections are

likely to be held next year in the UT. At present, 744 castes are categorised as STs in the country.

The GD Sharma commission recommendations follow the report of the delimitation commission headed by Justice (Retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai that has reserved 9 seats for STs and 6 for the SCs in the 90-seated J&K Assembly.

With the inclusion of Pahari tribals, Paddaris, Kolis and Gadda Brahmans, it is possible that the number of seats reserved for the STs in the J&K Assembly might go up.

In job reservation, the STs get 10 per cent while the SCs get 8 per cent. During his recent visit to J&K, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had promised ST status for the Pahari community. Shah also said that the grant of ST status to Paharis would not undermine the ST rights of the local Gujjars and Bakarwals in any manner.

Heavy rain lashes Erode

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Oct 21: A 65-year-old woman, who was sleeping at her residence, drowned to death when water gushed into her house after heavy rains in Tamil Nadu's Erode district Friday.

Rangammal (65) of Ashokapuri was drowned to death at 1.30 a.m. This, according to district officials was due to the flooding in the Perumpallam canal in the district and water entering around 75 houses located in low-lying areas near the canal. The body of the deceased Rangammal was sent to the Government Hospital, at Erode for post-mortem. Water also entered 200 houses in Rangampalayam, Sathya Nagar, Moolapalayam, Senathipalayam and Cehittipalayam in the morning. People were shifted to relief camps set up by the district administration.

Many people complained that their household equipment were damaged as water entered their residences. Several people also complained of water entering shops



Water entered 200 houses in Rangampalayam, Sathya Nagar, Moolapalayam, Senathipalayam and Cehittipalayam in the morning

People were shifted to relief camps set up by the district administration

leading to destruction of material including grains. Some shops selling electronic equipment including television sets, refrigerators and other appliances also complained that sudden water flow into their shops have led to these materials being damaged and demanded compensation from the district administration.

Snowfall, rains in Kashmir bring in early winter

THE EARLY SNOWFALL HAS BROUGHT CHEER TO THE FACES OF TOURISTS WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN KASHMIR TO ESCAPE THE POLLUTION CAUSED BY DIWALI CRACKERS ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Oct 21: Snowfall in higher reaches of Kashmir, including popular tourist destinations like Gulmarg and Sonamarg, and rains in plains brought wintry conditions earlier than usual in the valley, officials said Thursday.

"There was significant snowfall in many areas of Kashmir including Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Gurez, and Karnah during the interven-



ing night," the officials said.

The officials said more than two inches of snow had accumulated in the Gulmarg bowl while the snowfall was heavier in higher reaches of the valley. They said even the Zabarwan mountain range in the city had received traces of snowfall during the night.

Srinagar city and other areas of the valley received moderate rainfall since the early hours of Thursday, bringing down the temperature by several degrees. People have slipped into winter wear like

sweaters and heavy jackets earlier than usual.

The early snowfall has brought cheer to the faces of tourists who have arrived here to escape the pollution caused by Diwali crackers elsewhere in the country.

"We had come to enjoy the autumn hues of Kashmir while escaping the pollution caused by firecrackers back home. This snowfall is an unexpected bonus for us," S Arvind, a resident of Hyderabad, told PTI.

Shoabi Ali, a travel agent, said

the reports of snowfall have led to renewed interest in Kashmir's winter tourism this year. "The first snowfall in the mountains was on Tuesday and I had a busy day attending to calls from regular clients Wednesday about winter packages. Hopefully, there will be good snowfall this winter to sustain winter tourism," Ali said.

However, apple farmers in south Kashmir are worried lot as heavy snowfall before December will not only destroy the crop this year but cause damage to trees.

"We have had early snowfall now for three years in a row. I hope it was just a passing event as a heavy snowfall at this time will damage the trees which are still full of fruit," Bashir Ahmad, an apple farmer from Shopian, said.

He said while early harvesting this year has ensured against any major loss, 20 per cent of the crop was still on the trees. The weatherman has forecast improvement in the conditions later in the day and predicted a dry week.

E-service centres in all 234 MLA offices

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai, Oct 21: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated e-service centres in the MLA offices across all 234 Assembly constituencies in the state Thursday.

Also, he handed over latest desktop computers, user IDs and passwords to nine legislators as a token gesture to mark the inauguration in the presence of Assembly Speaker M Appavu at the Secretariat here. The Chief Minister, who represents Kolathur constituency in the city, received the computer from IT Minister Mano Thangaraj on the occasion.

Services will be provided through tnevai.Tn.Gov.In/Default.aspx. The state government went paperless for the first time last year during the Assembly session.

Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, principal secretary of IT department Neeraj Mittal, and Praveen B Nair, director of e-governance/CEO, were among those who participated.

of the day quote

We cannot fight terrorists and terrorism globally unless there is a common definition of both. Commitment to fight terrorism and differentiating good or bad terrorism or classifying terror attacks as big or small cannot go together

AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

Utmost caution is important as divisive forces have crept into all the fields and every police constable involved in the repression of terrorism should be extra cautious

BASAVARAJI BOMMAI | KARNATAKA CM

Drunken driving cases have reduced by more than 60 to 70 per cent in the state following intensified checks at night by police

PRAMOD SAWANT | GOA CM

SHORT TAKES

3 PFI members held

Guwahati: At least three members of the banned organisation Popular Front of India (PFI) along with a linkman were arrested in Assam's Kamrup district on Friday, officials said. A police officer said that based on a specific input, the police had launched a search operation at several places in the Nagarbera area of the district. Following the operation, the police team arrested four people. The arrested individuals have been identified as Nazrul Islam, Hafizur Rahman, Rafiqul Islam, and Mominur Islam.

Prez to visit Mizoram

Aizawl: President Droupadi Murmu will pay a two-day visit to Mizoram from November 3 and address the state Assembly, an official said Friday. This will be Murmu's maiden visit to the state since assuming office in July. The president will attend the convocation of Mizoram University (MZU) and inaugurate certain facilities after her arrival on November 3, the official said. She will address the state Assembly on November 4, he said. Murmu will be the third president to address the state Assembly, its commissioner and secretary H Lalrinawma said.

Tiger killed

Chandrapur: A tiger was run over by a train in Rajura forest range of Maharashtra's Chandrapur district on Friday, a senior forest official said. The death came to light in the morning hours, when a gangman of the Railways spotted the carcass of a tiger on the railway track on Hyderabad-Ballarshah route, the official said. The matter was reported to the forest department and a team rushed to the spot for inspection. The tiger was a sub-adult, said Suresh Yelkarwar, the range forest officer of Rajura Range.

Heroin seized

Aizawl: More than 5.6 kilograms of heroin valued at over Rs 28 crore was seized by the Mizoram police in Champhai district bordering Myanmar, an officer said on Friday. Altogether six people, including a Myanmar national, were arrested for possessing the contraband. The seized heroin was believed to be smuggled from Myanmar, he said. The officer said that 5.4 kilograms of heroin was recovered by the Champhai police from a vehicle near Tuipui village, about 20 kilometres from Champhai town, on Wednesday night.



Those trying to justify innocent killings for personal gains can face legal action

MANOJ SINHA | J&K L-G

Patil's jihad remarks unacceptable: Cong

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: The BJP Friday stepped up its attack against the Congress over its leader Shivraj Patil's claim that Bhagavad Gita also spoke of jihad, saying that this is one more attempt to smear Hindutva by the opposition party, which disassociated itself from the remarks, terming them as "unacceptable".

The Congress also said the former governor and former Union home minister has clarified his comments and asserted that Bhagavad Gita is a key foundational pillar of Indian civilisation. Attacking the Congress, BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi demanded that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge or its leader Sonia Gandhi should respond to Patil's comments. He noted that Mahatma Gandhi in his commentary on the Hindu epic had described it as a source of 'Anasakti Yoga' (selfless action) while Bal Gangadhar Tilak expounded his philosophy of 'Karma Yoga' through his study of Gita and added that Congress leaders now see jihad in it.

BJP national spokesperson Prem Shukla alleged that the Congress has long been involved in the conspiracy to "insult Hindu, Hindutva and Hindustan" and Patil's remarks are yet another chapter towards this. Congress leaders in the past have drawn a parallel between Hindutva with terror organisations like Boko Haram and Taliban, he alleged. Former Union ministers Sushilkumar Shinde and P Chidambaram had spoken about "saffron terror", he said. Gita is the philosophy of humanity, Shukla



Attacking the Congress, BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi demanded that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge or its leader Sonia Gandhi should respond to Patil's comments

asserted. The BJP also accused it of playing vote bank politics. With the BJP seizing on Patil's remarks also to corner it, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh took to Twitter to give the party's view.

"My senior colleague Shivraj Patil reportedly made some comments on Bhagavad Gita that's unacceptable. Subsequently, he clarified. The Congress's stand is clear. Bhagavad Gita is a key foundational pillar of Indian civilisation," he said.

He also shared on Twitter excerpts from Jawaharlal Nehru's book 'The Discovery of India', wherein the former prime minister wrote: "The message of the Gita is not sectarian or addressed to any particular school of thought. It is universal in its approach for everyone, Brahmin or outcaste. 'All paths lead to me,' it says. It is because of this universality that it has found favour with all classes and schools."

Patil on Thursday claimed that the concept of jihad was not just in Islam but also in Bhagavad Gita and Christianity. Speaking at the

launch of Congress veteran and former Union minister Mohsina Kidwai's biography, Patil, also a former Lok Sabha Speaker, said it is said there is a lot of discussion of jihad in the religion of Islam.

The concept comes to the fore when despite having the right intentions and doing the right thing, nobody understands or reciprocates, then it is said one can use force, he said. "It is not just in Quran, but in Mahabharata also, the part in Gita, Shri Krishna also talks of jihad to Arjun and this thing is not just in Quran or Gita but also in Christianity," he claimed in his remarks in Hindi. Reacting to Patil's comments, BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla on Thursday tweeted, "after AAP's Gopal Italia & Rajendra Pal, not to be outdone in Hindu hatred & vote bank politics, Congress' Shivraj Patil says Shri Krishna taught 'Jihad' to Arjun!"

"Congress coined Hindu/Saffron terror, opposed Ram Mandir, Questioned Ram Ji's existence, said Hindutva=ISIS," Poonawalla tweeted.

TN fisherman hurt in firing by Navy

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Oct 21: A fisherman from Tamil Nadu was injured after he was reportedly fired at by a patrolling team of the Indian Navy in the Palk Bay on Friday, sources said. K. Veeravel, the 30-year-old fisherman from Vanagiri in Mayiladuthurai district, has been hospitalised. According to the sources, the incident occurred when the patrolling team from a station in Uchipuli opened fire at a fishing boat with 10 persons on board, after it did not heed to their signal to halt.

Veeravel received bullet injuries on his thigh and stomach. In a statement, the Navy said: "The Indian Navy maintains a continuous vigil over the crucial waters of Palk Bay, which separates India and Sri Lanka."



"During the early hours of October 21, 2022, a suspicious boat was observed by an Indian Navy ship on patrol in Palk Bay near the India-Sri Lanka International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). Despite repeated warnings, the boat did not stop. The ship, as per standard operating procedures, fired warning shots to stop the boat.

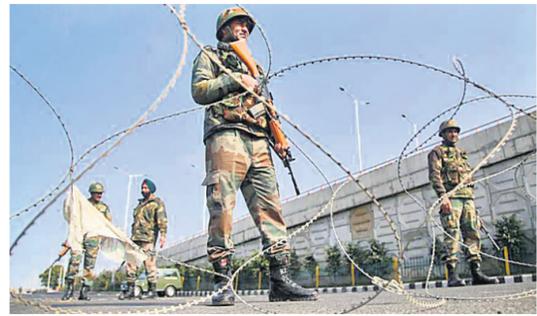
"One of the crew onboard the suspicious boat is reported to have sustained an injury. The injured person was administered first aid by the ship and evacuated by an Indian Navy Chetak helicopter to INS Parandu at Rannad and was shifted to the Government Hospital, Ramanathapuram for further medical management. His condition is reported to be stable."

SSF TO GUARD RELIGIOUS SITES

The Special Security Force (SSF) set up by the Uttar Pradesh government, will soon take charge of guarding prominent pilgrimage sites, religious centres, the high court and other important establishments in the state



Alert on border after ISIS operative's arrest



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Maharajanj (UP) Oct 21: An alert has been issued on the Indo-Nepal border following the arrest of an ISIS operative from Varanasi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's parliamentary constituency on Wednesday, an official here said.

Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Assistant Commandant Lalit Mohan Doval said Friday that the alert had been sounded on the Sonauli border in the district. Every passing citizen is being thoroughly screened and the jawans have been instructed to remain alert, he added. Permission to enter India is being issued only after intensive investigation and inquiry at the Sonauli main gate, Doval said.

SSB personnel are keeping a close watch on the routes from Bhaganpur, Shyamkot, Danda Head, Khanua, Hardidali, Sundi, Mudila, Chandithan and Sampatitha villages. People acting in a suspicious manner are being questioned and allowed to cross the border only after their identities are confirmed, Doval said.

Another senior official said officers from intelligence agencies

SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL (SSB) ASSISTANT COMMANDANT LALIT MOHAN DOVAL SAID FRIDAY THAT THE ALERT HAD BEEN SOUNDED ON THE SONAULI BORDER IN THE DISTRICT

ANOTHER SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID OFFICERS FROM INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES ARE CAMPING ON THE BORDER WHILE THE 22ND AND 66TH BATTALIONS OF THE SSB HAS INCREASED PATROLLING

are camping on the border while the 22nd and 66th battalions of the SSB had increased patrolling. A "highly radicalised" operative of the ISIS 'Voice of Hind' module was arrested after the National Investigation Agency raided two locations in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi on Wednesday.

Basit Kalam Siddiqui (24), a resident of Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, was arrested in a case related to a conspiracy by the proscribed terrorist organisation to radicalise and recruit youngsters to wage violent jihad against the Indian State by carrying out acts of terrorist violence, an agency spokesperson had said.

UP GIRL BEATS SISTER TO TOP BOARD EXAM

Dissatisfied with the marks in her Hindi paper, Divya applied for re-evaluation in which she got 38 more marks and now she has got two marks more than her sister Divyanshi and emerged as the state topper, District Inspector of Schools (DIOS) Devki Singh said



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Fatehpur (UP), Oct 21: Divya from Fatehpur district has become the new topper of the Class 12 Uttar Pradesh board exam, taking away the top spot from her twin sister Divyanshi after gaining two more marks than her following re-evaluation.

Dissatisfied with the marks in her Hindi paper, Divya applied for re-evaluation in which she got 38 more marks and now she has got two marks more than her sister

Divyanshi and emerged as the state topper, District Inspector of Schools (DIOS) Devki Singh said.

Divyanshi, a student of Jai Maa Saraswati Gyan Mandir Inter College, Radhanagar, had secured the first position in the state by securing 477 marks out of 500 in the examination, but now the student of the same school and her twin sister Divya has got this rank, the DIOS said.

With this, the first and second place in the state topper list has come to the students of Jai Maa Saraswati Gyan Mandir Inter College, Radhanagar. Divyanshi has now got the second position in the state. She had achieved the top position among about 22 lakh candidates in the board examination results declared on June 18.

Although Divyanshi's twin sister Divya had got better marks than her in all subjects, she had got only 56 marks in Hindi and had failed to get a place on the merit list. In such a situation, Divya had applied for scrutiny, the DIOS said, adding that Divya has been declared a topper now with her marks increased to 94 in the Hindi subject. Now the sum of Divya's marks has reached 479 against her sister's 477.

The board has issued the second mark sheet by uploading the revised number on the board's website, the DIOS added.



An artisan prepares the head of an Asura at a workshop ahead of Kali puja in Nadia district

PTI PHOTO

Anil Deshmukh denied bail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 21: A special court here Friday rejected the bail application filed by former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh in an alleged corruption and misuse of official position case being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Deshmukh (71) had sought bail in the case as soon as the Bombay High Court granted him bail on October 4 in a money laundering case registered against him by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Special CBI court judge S H Gwalani rejected his plea after hearing arguments from both sides. The court's detailed order is not available yet. The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader was arrested on November 2 in 2021 and has been in judicial custody. He was admitted to a private hospital last week for coronary angiography.

In March 2021, senior IPS officer Param Bir Singh had alleged that Deshmukh, the then home minister, had given a target to police officers to collect Rs 100 crore per month from restaurants and bars in Mumbai.

Former assistant police inspector Sachin Waze, arrested in the 'Antilia' bomb scare case in March 2021, had levelled similar allegations against him.

SC dismisses 'publicity interest litigation' on Taj Mahal

A bench of justices M R Shah and M M Sundresh refused to interfere with the Allahabad High Court order that had dismissed the plea

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: The Supreme Court Friday junked a plea seeking a "fact-finding inquiry" into the history of the Taj Mahal and the "opening of 22 rooms" on the monument's premises, terming it "publicity interest litigation".

A bench of justices M R Shah and M M Sundresh refused to interfere with the Allahabad High Court order that had dismissed the plea. "The high court was not

in error in dismissing the petition, which is more of a publicity interest litigation. Dismissed," the bench said.

The high court had, on May 12, said petitioner Rajneesh Singh, who is the media in-charge of the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Ayodhya unit, had failed to point out which of his legal or constitutional rights were being infringed.

It had also pulled up the petitioner's lawyer for filing the



Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition in a "casual" manner and said it could not pass an order under Article 226 of the

Constitution in the matter. The article empowers a high court to issue orders or writs to any person or authority in the area

under its jurisdiction to enforce fundamental rights. Several Hindu right-wing outfits had claimed in the past that the Mughal-era mausoleum was a temple of Lord Shiva.

The monument is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The petition had also sought the setting aside of certain provisions of the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act, 1951 and the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, under which the Taj Mahal, Fatehpur Sikri, the Agra Fort and Itimad-ud-Daulah's tomb were declared historical monuments.



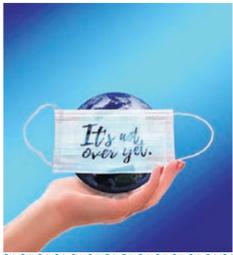
The high court had in April 2021 directed the CBI to carry out a preliminary inquiry. The CBI, based on this inquiry, registered a first information report (FIR) against Deshmukh and his associates for alleged corruption and misuse of official power. Deshmukh had resigned as the home minister in April 2021 after the high court ordered a CBI probe into the corruption charges levelled against him by Singh, former Mumbai police commissioner.

international



The UK is Ireland's closest neighbour and a relationship of partnership between the British and Irish governments is vital for peace and prosperity on these islands
MICHAEL MARTIN | IRISH PRIME MINISTER

'COVID NOT YET OVER'
A World Health Organisation official Friday warned that the Covid-19 pandemic is not yet over, adding that the continued emergence of sub-variants "poses a risk of resurgence and overwhelming health systems"



of the day quote

The international community should step up efforts to promote women's participation in conflict-prevention and peacebuilding
AMINA MOHAMMED | UNITED NATIONS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

The country has not reported any Covid-19 deaths since April this year
HUN SEN | CAMBODIAN PM

I will meet Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson to discuss the Nordic country's bid to join NATO
TAYYIP ERDOGAN | TURKISH PRESIDENT

FATF removes Pak from 'grey list'

AGENCIES

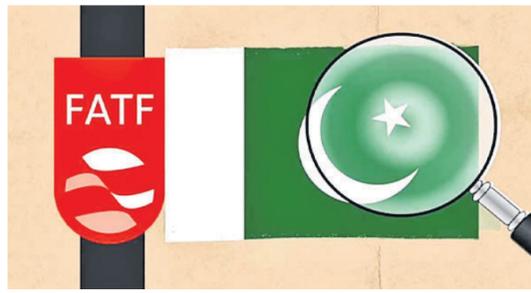
Islamabad, Oct 21: Global money laundering and terror financing watchdog, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Friday removed Pakistan from a list of countries under "increased monitoring", also known as the "grey list", media reports said.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari made the announcement prior to an FATF press conference, congratulating the country on the achievement, Dawn reported.

Pakistan was included among jurisdictions under the increased monitoring list in June 2018 for deficiencies in its legal, financial, regulatory, investigation, prosecution, judicial and non-government sectors in fighting money laundering and combat terror financing, which are considered serious threats to global financial system.

Islamabad made high-level political commitments to address these deficiencies under a 27-point action plan. But later the number of action points was enhanced to 34. The country had since been vigorously working with FATF and its affiliates to strengthen its legal and financial systems against money laundering and terror financing to meet international standards in line with the 40 recommendations of the FATF, Dawn reported.

A 15-member joint delegation of the FATF and its Sydney-based



In a statement, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) said it welcomes Pakistan's significant progress in improving its anti-money laundering, combating financial terrorism (AML/CFT) regime

Russia has been barred from participating in future projects of FATF

For the first time, the FATF put Myanmar in the "high risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action", often referred to as the watchdog's black list

regional affiliate Asia Pacific Group paid an onsite visit to Pakistan from August 29 to September 2 to verify the country's compliance with the 34-point action plan committed with the FATF.

The authorities which kept the countrywide visit of the delegation low profile later termed it as "a smooth and successful visit". The delegation had detailed discussions with the relevant agencies pursuant to the authorisation of onsite visit by the FATF Plenary in June 2022.

Pakistan believed that as a result of strenuous and consistent efforts over the past four years, it has not only achieved a high degree of

technical compliance with FATF standards, but also ensured high level of effectiveness through implementation of two comprehensive FATF action plans.

In June this year, FATF had found Pakistan "compliant or largely compliant" on all the 34 points and had decided to field an onsite mission to verify it on ground before formally announcing the country's exit from the grey list that finally took place in August and September. In terms of technical compliance with FATF standards, Pakistan was rated by APG as "compliant or largely compliant" in 38 out of 40 FATF recommendations in August this year, which

Pak's election panel disqualifies Imran

Islamabad: In a major setback to former Prime Minister Imran Khan, Pakistan's top election body Friday disqualified him from holding public office for five years in the Toshiakhana case for hiding proceeds from the sale of gifts he received from foreign leaders. After the consensus ruling by a four-member bench headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sikander Sultan Raja, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman cannot become a member of the parliament for five years. The decision was taken unanimously by the five-member bench. However, the member from Punjab was not present for the announcement.



placed the country among the top compliant countries in the world. Last month, the Foreign Office in Pakistan had said that a FATF technical team had conducted a "successful" visit and Islamabad was expecting a "logical conclusion" of the evaluation process in October, Dawn reported.

Boris, Sunak leading race to become UK's next PM

REUTERS

London, Oct 21: Boris Johnson and his former finance minister Rishi Sunak were leading potential contenders to replace British Prime Minister Liz Truss Friday, with candidates canvassing support to become Conservative Party leader in a fast-tracked contest.

Truss, chosen by party members to succeed Johnson after he was ousted by his lawmakers in July, quit herself Thursday after six turbulent weeks in power.

Those who want to replace her must secure 100 nominations from Conservative lawmakers by Monday to run in a contest which the party hopes will reset its ailing fortunes.

With opinion polls suggesting the Conservatives would be all but wiped out if a national election were held now, the race is on to become the fifth British premier in six years. An election is not due to be held for two years. The winner will be announced Monday or next Friday. In what would be an extraordinary comeback, Johnson, who remains popular with party members was being touted alongside Sunak as a likely candidate.

But Johnson, who left office comparing himself to a Roman dictator twice brought into power to fight crises, might not reach the 100 nomination threshold after his three-year premiership was blighted by scandals and allegations of misconduct. The Financial Times said a Boris comeback would be "farfical". One of his former advisers,



No candidates have yet declared their intention to run

The Financial Times said a Boris comeback would be "farfical"

Sunak is the bookmakers' favourite
Winner would be fifth British PM in six years

Johnson, who no longer speaks to Walden, who also once worked for Johnson, said the former leader was returning from holiday and taking soundings.

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace ruled himself out of the running and said he was leaning towards backing Johnson, who led the party to a large majority at a 2019 national election.

Sunak, the former Goldman Sachs analyst who became finance minister just as the Covid-19 pandemic arrived in Europe and was runner-up to Truss in the summer's leadership contest, is the favourite with bookmakers, followed by Johnson.

SHORT TAKES

Japan, Oz to boost ties

Tokyo: Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who is travelling to Australia for talks with his counterpart Anthony Albanese, said on Friday he wants to bolster military and energy cooperation between the two countries amid their shared concerns about China. Kishida said he hoped to update their 2007 bilateral security pact to factor in the progress they've made and further promote their partnership. Australia's liquefied natural gas and coal exports are key to a stable energy supply for resource-scarce Japan, and Kishida said he hoped to discuss the future of Japanese resources and energy stability with Albanese.

Roslyn likely to be a hurricane

Mexico City: Tropical Storm Roslyn is gaining strength off Mexico's Pacific coast Friday and forecasters expected it to be a hurricane when it makes a likely weekend landfall between the resorts of Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan. The US National Hurricane Centre said Roslyn's maximum sustained winds had increased to 65 mph (100 kph) early Friday. It was centred about 295 miles (475 kilometres) south-southeast of Cabo Corrientes — the point of land jutting into the Pacific south of Puerto Vallarta — and moving west-northwest at 7 mph (11 kph).

Dissident Iranian cleric dies at 96

Dubai: Ali Tehrani, a dissident cleric and brother-in-law of Iran's supreme leader, has died at age 96, local media reported. Tehrani had been a critic of Iran's authoritarian ruler, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and of the Islamic leaders who toppled the shah in 1979. Tehrani advocated for a more liberal political system after the Islamic Revolution. He opposed clerics having a role in government and supported the freedom of activity of all political groups, including Marxist and secular factions.

UN demands end to violence in Haiti

United Nations: The UN Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution Friday demanding an immediate end to violence and criminal activity in Haiti and imposing sanctions on a powerful gang leader. The United States and Mexico, which drafted the 10-page resolution, delayed the vote from Wednesday so they could revise the text in hopes of gaining more support from council members — and they succeeded in getting approval from all 15 nations.

Zelensky calls on West to warn Russia not to blow up dam

REUTERS

Ukraine, Oct 21: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky called on the West to warn Russia not to blow up a huge dam that would flood a swath of southern Ukraine, as his forces prepare to push Moscow's troops from Kherson in one of the war's most important battles.

In a television address, Zelensky said Russian forces had planted explosives inside the huge Nova Kakhovka dam, which holds back an enormous reservoir that dominates much of southern Ukraine, and were planning to blow it up.

"Now everyone in the world must act powerfully and quickly to prevent a new Russian terrorist attack. Destroying the dam would mean a large-scale disaster," he

said. Russia accused Kyiv earlier this week of rocketing the dam and planning to destroy it, in what Ukrainian officials called a sign that Moscow might blow it up and blame Kyiv.

Neither side produced evidence to back up their allegations. The vast Dnipro bisects Ukraine and is several km wide in places. Bursting the dam could send a wall of water flooding settlements below it, towards the city of Kherson, which Ukrainian forces hope to recapture in a major advance.

The alarm has echoes of a World War Two disaster at another huge dam further upriver, which Ukrainian historians say was dynamited by Soviet sappers as their troops retreated, causing floods that swept away villages and killed thousands of people.



A satellite image shows a view of the location of the Kakhovka dam

Musk plans to cut 75% of Twitter workforce: Report

MUSK HIMSELF HAS ALLUDED TO THE NEED TO CULL SOME OF THE COMPANY'S STAFF IN THE PAST, BUT HE HADN'T GIVEN A SPECIFIC NUMBER — AT LEAST NOT PUBLICLY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Francisco, Oct 21: Elon Musk plans to lay off most of Twitter's workforce if and when he becomes owner of the social media company, according to a report Thursday by The Washington Post. Musk has told prospective investors in his Twitter purchase



that he plans to cut nearly 75 per cent of Twitter's employee base of 7,500 workers, leaving the company with a skeleton crew, according to the report. The newspaper cited documents and unnamed sources familiar with

the deliberations. San Francisco-based Twitter and a representative for Musk attorney Alex Spiro did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment. While job cuts have been expected regardless of the



HAPPY DIWALI: People gather for Diwali festival celebrations at Times Square in New York City, USA. Diwali celebrations have started in the United States from the iconic Times Square, with the Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump celebrating the festival of lights at their residences Friday

Bannon sentenced to four months in prison

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, Oct 21: Steve Bannon, a longtime ally of former President Donald Trump, was sentenced Friday to serve four months behind bars after defying a subpoena from the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

US District Judge Carl Nichols allowed Bannon to stay free pending appeal and also imposed a fine

CAPITOL RIOT CASE

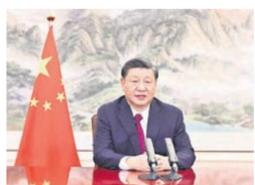


of \$6,500 as part of the sentence. Bannon was convicted in July of two counts of contempt of Congress:

one for refusing to sit for a deposition and the other for refusing to provide documents. Nichols handed down the sentence after saying the law was clear that contempt of Congress is subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of at least one month behind bars.

Bannon's lawyers had argued the judge could've sentenced him to probation instead. Prosecutors had asked for Bannon to be sent to jail for six months.

Jinping likely to be endorsed for third term



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Oct 21: The all-important 20th Congress of China's ruling Communist Party, which is widely expected to endorse an unprecedented third five-year term for Xi Jinping putting him on course to be in power for life, will conclude Saturday after electing the party's Central Committee, a powerful body comprising top leaders.

The Standing Committee will meet on the same day to elect the General Secretary, who will be the top leader of the 1.4 billion people country.

The present Political Bureau has 25 members and the Standing Committee comprises seven members, which included the 69-year-old Xi, who remained the party's General Secretary since 2012. It is widely speculated that Xi will be formally endorsed as the General Secretary for an unprecedented third-five-year term by the new Standing Committee Sunday.

business

of the day quote

I have always maintained that the Dwarka Expressway will change the equations of realty demand in Gurugram. In the current phase, we are investing more than Rs 1,800 crore in various projects

PANKAJ BANSAL | DIRECTOR, M3M INDIA

Raising a meaningful amount from existing partners and DFC validates our brand's commitment to prioritise menstrual hygiene access, product, people, and communities

SAHIL DHARIA | FOUNDER & CEO, SOOTHE HEALTHCARE

Our world-class mining assets backed with our zeal for operational excellence has enabled us to deliver consistent results in the toughest of circumstances

ARUN MISRA | CEO, HINDUSTAN ZINC

SHORT TAKES

SBI raises retail term deposit rates

Bangalore: State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, said Friday it will raise interest rates on retail term deposits below Rs 20 million by up to 80 basis points from October 22. While loan growth in India was at a multi-quarter high with a 16.4% jump in the fortnight ended September 23 from a year earlier, according to the central bank data, deposit growth across the industry has remained comparatively tepid at 9.2%.

Bid deadline for Future extended

Mumbai: The resolution professional for India's debt-laden Future Retail Ltd has extended the deadline for potential buyers to submit their bids for the retailer, due to tepid interest, two banking sources said Friday. The deadline had ended October 20, but has been extended to November 3, according to an updated document released by the resolution professional (RP). There were hardly any bids and none from any significant ones so it has been decided that we should allow more time to see if more bids come in, said a senior executive at a state lender that has exposure to the Future group.

JSW Steel posts quarterly loss

Bangalore: India's JSW Steel reported a surprise consolidated quarterly net loss compared to a year-ago profit Friday, mainly due to a sharp fall in steel prices. Consolidated net loss came in at Rs 8.48 billion (\$102.40 million) for the three months to September 30, while total revenue from operations rose to Rs 417.78 billion from Rs 325.03 billion a year earlier. Analysts on average had expected the Mumbai-based steelmaker to post a profit of Rs 8.99 billion, according to Refinitiv IBES data.

Adani looks to raise \$10bn debt

Bangalore: Indian billionaire Gautam Adani's group plans to raise at least \$10 billion in new debt through the next year to refinance large borrowings and fund projects in its pipeline, Bloomberg News reported on Friday, quoting people in the know. The Adani Group plans to use several vehicles including foreign currency debt and green bonds to raise up to \$6 billion to swap its current high-interest debt with lower-cost borrowings and deploy the rest for project financing, according to the report.



The import of dry fuel which has declined considerably will be stopped by 2024

PRALHAD JOSHI | COAL MINISTER

'MUHURAT TRADING' ON DIWALI

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE will conduct a one-hour special muhurat trading session Monday, marking the beginning of a new Samvat 2079 -- the Hindu calendar year that starts on Diwali. The symbolic trading session would be held between 18:15 hrs and 19:15 hours, the stock exchanges said in separate circulars



₹1,338 CRORE PENALTY ORDER CCI decision 'major setback' for India: Google

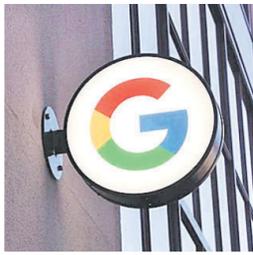
In its first official response after the CCI order, Google said Android has created more choices for everyone and supports thousands of successful businesses in India and around the world

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: Google Friday said it will review Competition Commission's (CCI) decision to impose a Rs 1,338 crore penalty for alleged anti-competitive practice, and termed the order a "major set-

back" for Indian consumers and businesses.

"The CCI's decision is a major setback for Indian consumers and businesses, opening serious security risks for Indians who trust Android's security features, and raising the cost of mobile devices



for Indians," a Google spokesperson said in an email statement.

Google said it will "review the decision to evaluate the next steps".

The competition watchdog Thursday slapped a steep penalty of Rs 1,337.76 crore on Google for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets in relation to Android mobile devices and ordered the internet major to cease and desist from various unfair business practices.

The regulator, which passed the order after ordering a detailed probe more than three years ago, has also directed Google to modify its con-

duct within a defined timeline.

Android is a popular open-source, mobile operating system installed by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of smartphones and tablets.

CCI, which had started probing the case in April 2019, has directed that OEMs should not be restrained from choosing from among Google's proprietary applications to be pre-installed and also not be forced to pre-install a bouquet of applications on their smart devices.

Forex reserves drop by \$4.5bn to \$528.37bn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 21: India's forex reserves dropped by \$4.50 billion to \$528.37 billion for the week ended October 14, the RBI said Friday.

The overall reserves had increased by \$204 million to \$532 billion in the previous reporting week, which was the first weekly increase in the kitty since August this year.

To help arrest rupee's record fall, the Reserve Bank of India has also burned \$117 billion from its forex coffers

In October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of \$645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments.

Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves, saw a drop of \$2.828 billion to \$468.668 billion during the week to October 14, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Gold reserves, whose value had risen by \$1.35 billion in the previous reporting week, saw a decline of \$1.502 billion in the value to \$37.453 billion.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by \$149 million to \$17.433 billion, the apex bank said. The country's reserve position with the IMF were down by \$23 million to \$4.813 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.

HURTING RUPEE

Exporters hold off dollar sales eyeing better outcomes

A WEAKER RUPEE WILL HELP EXPORTERS AS IT INCREASES THEIR EARNINGS. SO WITH A STEADY FALL SEEN AHEAD, THEY PREFER TO HOLD ON TO THEIR DOLLARS FOR LONGER

REUTERS

Mumbai, Oct 21: Indian exporters are holding back on dollar sales on hopes of a further slide in the rupee, eyeing a windfall as the local currency plumbs record lows this year.

The rupee breached the 83 per dollar mark in a dramatic fashion Wednesday, once the Reserve Bank of India stopped protecting it at 82.40 levels. It hit a record low the next day and is expected to decline further to about 84.50 by the end of this year.

Brokers and bankers alike said they are advising their exporter clients to either hedge less or not at all, as predicting rupee's eventual normal range has become difficult, while the only certainty was that it would decline.

"We are advising exporters to hedge only partially, about 15-20% of their exposure," down from anything between 40%-60% during normal times, a treasury sales executive at a large private bank said.

The rupee's woes are many - the US Federal Reserve remaining on its aggressive rate hike path, widening current and trade account deficits domestically and foreign in-



Rupee has fallen nearly 12% against the dollar, almost in line with its Asian counterparts

RBI allows exporters to keep their overseas earnings in an EEFC account for up to a month

vestors continuing to dump risk assets on fears of a global recession.

RBI WORSENS TROUBLE

To protect the rupee from sharp falls, the RBI has been intervening in both the spot and forward markets. The buy/sell swaps in the forward market has led to a fall in forward premiums to their lowest in more than a decade, turning dollar sales even more unattractive. USD/INR 1-year forward implied yield currently stands at 2.45%, declining from 3.07% earlier this month and down sharply from 4.75% at the start of 2022.

The declining premium has created a shortfall in dollar supply, further hurting the local unit.

While the demand for imported goods remains intact, exporters are unwilling to part with their dollars, leading to an artificial imbalance. Abhishek Goenka, founder and CEO of forex advisory firm IFA Global said. "That's why the rupee is weakening."

DECADE OF STABILITY IN DANGER

India rice export curbs to trigger global prices

In India, dry weather conditions delayed the sowing of rice, with many farmers not planting the crop at all, and then torrential rains damaged ripening paddy fields, raising concerns about food inflation

REUTERS

Mumbai, Oct 21: India's recent curbs on rice exports could trigger a rally in global prices after more than a decade of stability, traders said, as New Delhi's protectionist move coincides with falling output in other major producers and rising global demand.

Uneven monsoon rains hit rice planting in India, prompting the export restrictions in September, and floods have cut output in Pakistan even as consumption has grown in top importers such as Bangladesh and the Philippines. That's why forecasters are saying global demand will outstrip production in 2022/23.

This is bad for Asian and African countries that use rice as a staple, some of which import as much as 60% of their supply.

Since India - the world's biggest rice exporter - banned exports of broken rice and slapped a 20% export tax on some non-basmati varieties, global rice prices have jumped more than 10%. Last month, the Food and Agriculture Organization's global rice price index rose 2.2% to hit an 18-month high.



- Since Indian ban, global rice prices have jumped over 10%
- Global rice inventories could fall to lowest in 5 yrs -traders
- Rival exporters can't make up loss of India rice shipments
- Global demand will outstrip supply - Exporters Assoc

The international market has gone up and it will go up further. Since India cornered 40% of the global trade, it's not easy for others to replace falling Indian shipments when demand is rising from leading importers

NITIN GUPTA | VP (RICE BUSINESS), OLAM INDIA

Governments worldwide had already been struggling to tame food inflation because of COVID-19 disruptions to production and supply chains, and then Russia's invasion of Ukraine removed millions of tonnes of foodstuffs from global markets, pushing inflation to a record earlier this year.

Before India implemented its export curbs a few months ago, industry and government officials in Asia were saying rice prices would hold steady due to ample stocks.

Rice, unlike wheat, was insulated from the Russia-Ukraine war as neither country is a big producer, and supplies of the grain had remained relatively steady during the Covid-related disruptions for other foodstuffs.

Now, however, top exporters Thailand and Vietnam sit on insufficient inventories to make up for India's curb on exports and widespread output losses. Global rice inventories could fall to their lowest in at least five years in 2023, three global traders said, citing internal assessments.

OUTPUT FORECASTS LOWERED

The US Agriculture Department (USDA) has cut its global rice production estimate for 2022/23 to 508 million tonne, the lowest in four years. Just a month ago, the agency was expecting output for the year at 512 million tonne.

Some top global trading houses, though, expect a sharper fall to around 500 million tonne because of the extreme weather conditions that threaten crop yields in nations such as China, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

India's summer-sown rice output is likely to fall to 105 million tonne in 2022/23, down 6%, the farm ministry said in September, and private traders estimate it could fall as low as 100 million tonne.

This is a big change from last year, when India's record 21.2 million tonne of rice exports - 30% cheaper than rival suppliers - helped cap global prices while other food commodities soared due to supply disruptions. After the September curb, India's rice exports are set to fall by around a quarter this year.

Union Bank celebrates 'Hindi Fortnight'

Sambalpur: Union Bank of India, Regional Office organized 'Hindi Fortnight 2022' at Sambalpur from September 16. Regional Head Pankaj Kumar Kapsime inaugurated the programme and all the staffers took *Rajbhasha* oath on this occasion. He appealed to all the staffers for doing most of their office work in Hindi. Many competitions were organised during the celebrations. The gala function and prize distribution ceremony was organised October 14 at Hotel Apsara, Sambalpur. The function was inaugurated with lighting the lamp by Regional Head Pankaj Kumar Kapsime, Dy Regional Head Harendra Kumar Jena and other senior executives. Kapsime while addressing the function stressed about Hindi being a very important language which can connect the whole nation. He also added that being in banking industry, it's a very good tool for growing our business. Sanarbh Sahitya on 'Nari Shakti scheme', one of Union Bank's loan scheme was inaugurated by Regional Head and other executives. The programme was operated by official language officer of Regional Office, Sambalpur, Rohit Shaw. The programme ended with vote of thanks by chief Manager, Shrikant Panigrahi.



Reliance Q2 hit by windfall tax

REUTERS

Bangalore, Oct 21: Reliance Industries Ltd, India's most valuable company, Friday posted a near-flat quarterly profit as export tax on refined fuels and weak refining margins dented performance at its mainstay oil-to-chemical business.

The Mukesh Ambani-led conglomerate said consolidated profit was Rs 136.56 billion in the second quarter ended September 30, compared with Rs 136.3 billion a year earlier. A bigger shock came in the form

of windfall tax on exports of gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel levied by the government. The export duty adversely impacted profit for the quarter by Rs 40.39 billion, it said.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization for the Q2C segment dropped 5.9% year-on-year to Rs 119.68 billion.

The retail business, which suffered the most during Covid, saw revenue growth of 42.9% in the quarter as footfalls continued to surge, while the telecom unit Reliance Jio reported a 28% rise in profit.

India's defence-related stocks get indigenisation boost

ANALYSTS OPINED THAT BROADLY DEFENCE RELATED STOCKS HAVE BEEN OUTPERFORMING AND ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO DELIVER GOOD RETURNS FOR INVESTORS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 21: Shares of companies related to the defence sector gained in the past two days, with the government's efforts to indigenise more defence equipment as well as boost their exports energising investor sentiment.

The 'Fourth Positive Indigenisation List' of 101 defence items was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, which also means that domestic players related to the multi-billion dollars worth defence segment, will have increased business opportunities.

An analysis of the stocks of com-

panies that have businesses related to the defence space showed that most of them have gained in the past two days.

Mazagon Dock, Bharat Dynamics, Cochin Shipyard, Mishra Dhatu Nigam, Bharat Electronics, Bharat Forge, Astra Microwave Products and Paras Defence and Space Technologies, are among the companies that have gained as much as 5 per cent in last two trading days, Wednesday and Thursday.

Since the end of trade October 18 till the close October 20, shares of Mazagon Dock rallied 5.39 per cent and BEML jumped 4.43 per cent on the BSE.

Similarly, Bharat Dynamics



climbed 3.32 per cent, Cochin Shipyard gained 2.82 per cent, Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd advanced 2.18 per cent and Bharat Electronics went higher by 1.93 per cent during the period.

The stock of Bharat Forge gained

1.44 per cent, Astra Microwave Products spurred 0.84 per cent and Paras Defence and Space Technologies (0.26 per cent) in the last two days.

Meanwhile, a few stocks remained muted. Shares of Data Patterns

The dependence on developed nations is reducing day by day and is providing easy availability and margin support for the Indian defence sector

ASHWIN PATIL | SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST, LKP SECURITIES

(India) fell 3.86 per cent and Hindustan Aeronautics dipped 1.18 per cent during the period under review.

On Friday, however, most of the stocks ended in the negative territory largely due to profit-taking.

Bharat Electronics tanked 4.07 per cent, Mishra Dhatu fell 3.80 per cent, BEML ended 2.57 per cent lower and Cochin Shipyard declined 2.30 per cent.

Shares of Data Patterns dipped 2.24 per cent, Astra Microwave fell 2.12 per cent, Hindustan Aeronautics (1.91 per cent), Mazagon

Dock (1.80 per cent), Bharat Forge (1.50 per cent) and Paras Defence (0.97 per cent). However, Bharat Dynamics jumped 3.76 per cent.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has taken numerous steps to achieve 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence and Positive Indigenisation Lists is one of the landmark initiatives towards achieving that vision.

The 'Fourth Positive Indigenisation List' of 101 items was announced by the Prime Minister October 19. "All the items included in the lists will be procured from indigenous sources as per provisions given in Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020. This list provides continuous impetus towards self-reliance in defence," MoD said in a release Wednesday.

MoD had earlier promulgated 'First, Second and Third Positive Indigenisation Lists', comprising 310 items August 21, 2020; May 31, 2021 and April 7, 2022 respectively.

AFTER SOME THRILLING CONTESTS AND FEW UNEXPECTED RESULTS IN THE QUALIFYING ROUND, THE ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP MAIN ROUND - SUPER 12 - IS ALL SET TO KICK OFF TODAY AS HOSTS AUSTRALIA TAKE ON TRANS-TASMANIAN RIVALS NEW ZEALAND IN THE OPENER BEFORE ENGLAND FACE AFGHANISTAN TO ROUND OFF THE MATCHDAY



BOWLERS SET TO RULE IN WET WINTER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Melbourne, Oct 21: A bit of discomfort and apprehension is expected in the absence of a reference point in certain conditions.

That's exactly the case with India and other teams as they gear up for the battle ahead in the T20 World Cup. They do not just need to plan to tackle rival teams but also the wet Australian winter.

International cricket, white or red ball has hardly been played in Australia in October and that's the reason for apprehensions but what is certain is that the batters will not dominate the contests, which usually happens in T20 matches. Instead, the bowlers will play a key role in the outcome of the matches.

The pitches at all venues have

different characters. Perth, Brisbane are out and out pacers' and seamers' tracks while MCG, SCG and the Adelaide tracks will assist spinners.

Add to that the big grounds Down Under, just relying on big shots would not suffice since running between the wickets will be key.

Australia has three different time zones. The climate in the state of Western Australia (Perth) is slightly different from Queensland (Brisbane), South Australia (Adelaide), New South Wales (Sydney) and Victoria (Melbourne), where India will meet Pakistan Sunday.

While the local Met department has predicted 80 per cent chances of rain, the MCG track, in case there's a full match, will have enough juice to keep the bowlers - both pacers and spinners in business.

RAIN THREAT LOOMS OVER INDO-PAK TIE

MELBOURNE: The much awaited marquee clash between India and Pakistan may have an anti-climactic end as 'rain gods' threaten to play spoilsport during the Super 12 clash of the T20 World Cup Sunday. According to local Met department, there is 80 to 90 per cent chance of rainfall, volume of which could be between 1mm to 5 mm. There is also prediction of thunderstorm, which is, however, a lowly 13 per cent. Friday evening, there was sharp spell of shower in Melbourne and something like this Sunday could spell doom for the cricket fans. However, the locals, who have a fair idea about change of weather, are confident that even if the heavens open up, there could still be a curtailed

IRELAND KNOCK OUT WINDIES



Hobart: Ireland sprang the biggest upset of the T20 World Cup, eliminating two-time champions West Indies with a stunning 9-wicket win that also sealed their Super 12 berth here Friday. It was their 32-year-old veteran opener Paul Stirling who smashed an unbeaten 66 from 48 balls (6x4, 2x6) to seal the chase with 15 balls to spare after leg-spinner Gareth Delany's career-best figures of 3/16 restricted the Windies to 146/5.

A traditional Australian wicket does produce steep bounce along with some lateral movement till the stitches on the seam of the white kookaburra don't flatten. However the true bounce makes these tracks batting belts.

Batting maestro Sachin Tendulkar feels that bowlers will have an upper hand. "The pitches could have lateral movement and it might not be as hard as we are used to seeing. There would be a tad softness," Tendulkar shared his observation with this agency dur-

ing an interaction.

"I was watching one of the games in Geelong (Namibia vs Sri Lanka) and I felt that seamers were getting good lateral movement off the pitch and spinners got a couple of balls to turn because the pitch isn't as hard as we are expecting.

"They have left a bit of grass on the surface and when the ball is new and seam is upright, ball does something which is true for both pacers and spinners," said Tendulkar.

The batting great's analysis would force one to think whether

ZIMBABWE OUST SCOTLAND

Hobart: Zimbabwe made it to the Super 12 stage of the T20 World Cup for the first time after an easy 5-wicket win over Scotland in a Group B match here Friday. For Scotland, it was the end of their campaign after the loss. Pacer Tendai Chatara, who also became the first from Zimbabwe to take 50-plus wickets in T20is, led a spectacular bowling show with figures of 2/14 as Zimbabwe restricted Scotland to a below-par 132/6. In reply, Zimbabwe cantered home in 18.3 overs with their star all-rounder Sikandar Raza slamming a 23-ball 40 (3x4, 2x6).



a finger spinner like Ravichandran Ashwin will be more effective on tracks like MCG and Sydney in case there is enough moisture retention.

During the iconic 2020-21 series in Australia, Ashwin came into the attack within the first hour of the MCG Test and executed coach Ravi Shastri and bowling coach Bharath Arun's strategy of making full use of the moisture. Ashwin made full use of the damp and moist conditions as the odd ball would grip the surface and there

was appreciable turn and bounce.

But that was December and there was rain in Melbourne. This is one Australian city where one would often witness three different weather conditions in a single day. There would be nip in the air the mornings and evenings, the occasional steady drizzle and also bright sunshine, which bakes the track well. But that is for Test matches but in an evening T20 game, there won't be such luxuries.

However, finger spinners, who can get more side spin and drift (sideways movement) will stand to gain more at least during the first half of the group league stage.

While the Round 1 games, featuring minnows (save Sri Lanka and West Indies) have been moderately low-scoring ones mostly, it is expected that average innings score would significantly improve as the ability and skill sets of batters in teams featuring in main round are much better.

“We are currently having a lot of wet weather in Australia and during the first phase we might see some rain, and because of rain, wickets will be a lot more sportier than usual but I am expecting good contests in the main round as there will be good traditional wickets”

BRETT LEE

NUMBERS' GAME

260/6 Sri Lanka's team total against Kenya at Johannesburg in 2007, the highest in any edition of T20 World Cup

39 The Netherlands' team total against Sri Lanka at Chattogram in 2014, the lowest in any edition of T20 World Cup

847 Runs scored by Rohit Sharma in 33 matches at T20 World Cup, most by an active player in the tournament. Virat Kohli (845 in 21 matches) is second in the list followed by David Warner (762 in 30 matches)

123 Former New Zealand skipper Brendon McCullum's score against Bangladesh at Pallekele in 2012, highest at the event's history

41 Wickets taken by Shakib Al Hasan in 31 matches, most by any bowler at the showpiece event

6/8 Bowling figures of former Sri Lanka international Ajantha Mendis against Zimbabwe at Hambantota in 2012, best in the event's history

Lewandowski brace lifts Barca

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madrid, Oct 21: Barcelona needed only seven minutes to get back on track in the Spanish league. After losing to Real Madrid in the 'clasico' Sunday, Barcelona rebounded by scoring three goals in a seven-minute span in the first half of a 3-0 win over Villarreal Thursday.

Robert Lewandowski scored in the 31st and 35th minutes, and Ansu Fati added one in the 38th to give Barcelona the victory and move the Catalan club back within three points of defending champion Madrid.

Madrid had taken their lead to six points after a 3-0 win at last-place Elche Wednesday. The rivals had entered the first 'clasico' of the season tied on points and Madrid won 3-1 at the Santiago Bernabeu to take sole possession of first place.

Sunday's loss had compounded Barcelona's disappointment after they saw their hopes of advancing in the Champions League all but end with a 3-3 home draw against Inter Milan last week.

Lewandowski opened the scoring with a low shot from near the penalty spot after clearing two defenders with a nice first touch off a cross by Jordi Alba.

The Poland striker added to the lead with another beautiful goal as he moved away from a defender and a fired a curling right-footed shot from outside the area into the far corner.

Fati sealed the victory from close range after a buildup started by Ferran Torres. It was Fati's first goal



SPLENDID OUTING: Robert Lewandowski celebrates one of his goals against Villarreal at Camp Nou, Thursday

since September.

It was Barcelona's eighth win in 10 league matches so far, with the other setback in addition to the 'clasico' loss being a 0-0 home draw against Rayo Vallecano in the first round.

Barcelona will next host Athletic Bilbao before welcoming Bayern Munich in the Champions League in a match in which it might already be eliminated depending on Inter

Milan's result earlier in the day.

Villarreal dropped to ninth place. Unai Emery's team had beaten Osasuna in the previous round to end a four-game winless streak in the league.

The three goals Villarreal conceded matched the number of goals they had allowed in all other league games so far. It had arrived at the Camp Nou with the league's best defense.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BOOST FOR PRO LEAGUE WINNERS

NEW DELHI: The winners of FIH Pro League from 2023-24 season in both men's and women's categories will directly qualify for 2026 World Cups and 2028 Olympic Games, said hockey world body's CEO Thierry Weil Friday. "From season 5 and season 6, the winners of the men's and women's Pro League will directly qualify for 2026 World Cup. The winners of seasons 7 and 8 will get direct entry into 2028 Olympics," International Hockey Federation (FIH) CEO Weil said in a virtual interaction. Besides, the FIH has also planned major changes in the Pro League as from the fourth edition - 2022-23 season - the world body will introduce relegation and promotion system. The last-placed team at the end of the season in both men's and women's competitions will be relegated to the Nations Cup, while the winners of the Nations Cup will be promoted to the Pro League.

HALEP SUSPENDED

LONDON: Two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep was provisionally suspended by the International Tennis Integrity Agency after failing a drug test during the US Open in August. The ITIA announced the punishment Friday for Halep, a former No.1 player who is currently No.9 in the WTA rankings. In a social media post, Halep called the news of her positive test "the biggest shock of my life," adding: "Facing such an unfair situation, I feel completely confused and betrayed." "I will fight until the end to prove that I never knowingly took any prohibited substance," Halep wrote.

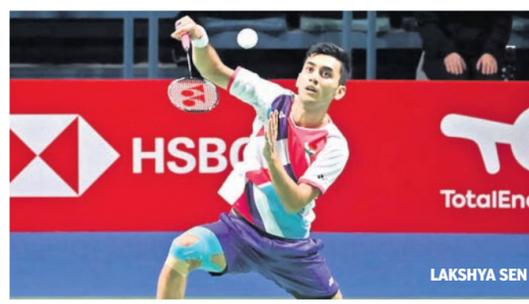
BLOW FOR GERMANY

MUMBAI: Germany's head coach Friederike Kromp Friday tested positive for COVID-19 and was isolated as the ongoing FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup had its first coronavirus case. Kromp tested positive for the virus hours before Germany's quarterfinal clash against favourites Brazil at the DY Patil Stadium here. Kromp will not sit in the team dug out on Friday and she will be replaced by Melanie Behringer as head coach while Julia Simic will be the assistant on the sideline. Behringer had represented Germany in 123 international games, winning the World Cup in 2007 in the process.

DANGI STEALS SHOW, BAGS GOLD AND SILVER

CAIRO: Sagar Dangi bagged a gold and silver in the junior men's 10m Air Pistol team and individual events at the ISSF World Championship here Friday. India picked up four more medals, including one gold. India now have a tally of 30 medals - 11 gold, seven silver and 12 bronze - and are behind China in second place in the standings. Dangi (silver) and Varun Tomar (bronze) in the junior men's 10m Air Pistol, Nancy and Sri Karthik Sabari Raj Ravishankar (bronze) in the 10m Air Rifle junior Mixed Team and Dangi, Tomar and Samrat Rana - gold in the men's 10m Air Pistol junior Team event - fetched medals for India.

Lakshya beats Prannoy to enter quarterfinals



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Odense, Oct 21: Commonwealth Games gold medallist Lakshya Sen got the better off his senior compatriot HS Prannoy in straight games to progress to the men's singles quarterfinals of the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament here.

Sen, a 2021 World Championships bronze medallist, beat World No.13 Prannoy 21-9, 21-18 in a 39-minute clash to set up a last eight clash with Japan's Kodai Naraoka.

The two came into the match with a 2-2 head-to-head count in four meetings but the younger Sen proved to be the better player on the day as he made a rollicking start to put Prannoy on the back foot Thursday World No.8 Sen zoomed to a 5-1 lead early on before swelling it to 11-3 at the mid-game break. He kept moving ahead as Prannoy's game crumbled.

In the second game, Prannoy gave a better account of himself as he kept breathing down his opponent's neck

with slender leads of 5-4 and 11-10. Things remained the same after the interval but Sen broke off at 17-17 to shut the door on Prannoy.

INDIA FINISH 13TH

NEW DELHI: The Indian team notched up a 4-1 win over Germany to sign off at the 13th position at the World Junior Mixed Team Badminton Championships in Santander, Spain Friday. Mixed doubles pair of Samarveer and Radhika Sharma starting the proceedings, beating Germany's Jarne Schleyvoigt and Julia Meyer 21-18, 21-16 to give India a 1-0 lead. In men's singles, Bharat Raghav saw off Germany's Sanjeevi Padmanabhan Vasudevan 14-21, 21-17, 21-8. Men's doubles combination of Arsh Mohammad and Abhinav Thakur, however, went down 14-21, 22-24 to Jonathan Dresp and Simon Krax. But Unnati Hooda crushed German hopes with a 21-8, 21-6 win over Selin Hubsch and then women's pair of Shreya Balaji and Srinidhi Narayan prevailed 21-13, 21-13 over Julia Meyer and Cara Siebrecht.